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TRUST IS A BURDEN

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home this week

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FRONT PAGE COMMENT

Ethnic cleansing at Kuru Karama

SLOWLY, the gory details of wanton destruction of people and property in the recent crisis in Jos is emerging. It makes for grim viewing on international television, such as the BBC and Al-Jazeera, forcing some of the local media to wake up from self denial.

Last week's clashes in Plateau State followed the familiar pattern, Christian indigenes battling it

against Hausa-Fulani settlers, who are mostly Muslims. As in previous incidences in 1994, 1997, 2001, 2004 and 2008, the causes and consequences are already shrouded in half-truth and outright lies. But according to a human rights body, to whom all lives are sacred, whether indigene or settler, defenceless civilians were butchered by armed gangs in many

isolated villages such as Kuru Karama.

It is a shame that while we are mostly keeping quiet about the events in Kuru Karama, an international human rights body seems to be on top of the situation as the following 2 paragraphs from their own reports show.

"Something extremely serious has happened in the
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PDP tackles former President:

Obasanjo is ridiculous

By Muideen Olaniyi

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

due to ill-health.

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

sector since Yar'adua took over, and he denied that he imposed a sick man on the nation as president in 2007.

Speaking in Abuja yesterday, PDP's National Publicity Secretary Prof. Rufai Ahmed Alkali said "General Obasanjo has been a subject of ridicule despite his pre-eminent position in society is unfortu-

nate and indeed a great disservice to all the accolades he has garnered for himself over the years. It is even worse that the odium he currently faces from friends and foes alike is self inflicted because his comments are generally perceived as unwarranted and an insincere attempt at self exoneration."

Continued on page 5



DISPLACED persons from the crises in Plateau State-taking refuge at Boto, Bauchi State, yesterday.

FG orders increased security in states

From Ismail Adebayo, Birnin Kebbi

THE Federal Government has ordered all state governors to beef up security in their respective states to stem tension in some states over possible reprisals over the Jos crisis.

FCT Minister Senator Adamu Aliero disclosed this at the weekend while speaking with newsmen on the Jos crisis during a visit to

Birnin Kebbi. The minister said the Federal Government did not want what happened in Jos to spread to any other part of the country and had already given advance warning to the governors to ensure adequate security to maintain peace in their states. He noted that the governors had so far responded to this by ensuring that all security measures are in place. He however blamed the Plateau State Govern-

ment for not doing enough to curtail a repeat of the violence which happened almost a year ago in Jos. According to him, "This is one crisis too many. If measures had been taken by the state government, there wouldn't have been a repeat of the violence. There is serious laxity, lack of political will on the part of the state government, that is why the violence is happening very often", he noted.

Senator Aliero explained that if government must stop the Jos violence from happening again, the sponsors and perpetrators of the crisis must be arrested and punished. "We want this to stop and the only way to do this is to take stern measures against those who are promoting the violence in the name of promoting religious, political or ethnic agenda", he added.

On the calls for emergency rule in Plateau State, the minister said he would support it if it would bring lasting peace to the state. Aliero regretted that there was little the Federal Government could do to bring those behind the violence in Plateau State to book because it was within the jurisdiction of the state government who lacked the political will to fish out the perpetrators of the violence.



FROM left: Ondo State Governor Olusegun Mimiko, Governor of Kano State, Alhaji Ibrahim Shekarau and former Civilian President, Alhaji Shehu Shagari, during the turbaning of Shekarau as the Sardauna of Kano on Friday.

Winnie Mandela thanks Nigeria for S/Africa's liberation

By Austine Odo

LEGENDARY South African freedom fighter, Winnie Madikizela Mandela, has acknowledged Nigeria's role in her country's struggle for liberation from white dominance, saying her countrymen were not grateful enough to Nigeria.

Expressing gratitude on behalf of her people, Winnie Mandela who spoke at the Media Trust 7th annual dialogue in Abuja Thursday said, "I feel very guilty because I do not recall our country acknowledging the role played by this country (Nigeria) towards our liberation. My daughter and son, Danladi, reminded me that long ago, before the 'coup', His Excellency, Tafawa Balewa secretly donated 260 British pounds to the ANC, now our government, for the purchase of 'hardware' or 'AK 47' for our military wing of the ANC and the army continued to support us underground! We owe so much of our freedom to you! On behalf of South Africa, thank you Nigeria!", she said.

Winnie Mandela also showered praises on Nigeria's former first lady, Maryam Babangida, with whom she said she had

a "very special relationship". She recalled that she met Maryam for the first time soon after her Nelson Mandela was released from Robben Island prison in 1990. She described Maryam as a strikingly warm and charismatic woman who embraced her as if they had known each other for years.

"By the time we attended our first rally here, she had changed my wardrobe, from then on I had stunning outfits which she continued to send to me in South Africa to the extent that the outfit I am wearing before you was her last one to me when we were awarded doctorates together at Igbinedion University about four years ago", she said.

She said Maryam on the occasion spoke to her about her women's development projects which she was extremely passionate about, and she promised to invite her to see these and other numerous welfare projects. Winnie said Maryam's legacy should continue to live in everyone, especially Nigerians, and suggested official dialogue channels between South African women democratic structures and those of Nigeria to protect her rich legacy for the continent.

Arrested armed men are hunters, Kaduna police say

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

THE 17 armed men that were arrested at Mando Garage by officers of the "Operation Yaki" security outfit around 8:00 pm on Saturday were hunters and not gangs that wanted to cause trouble in Kaduna as widely speculated, the state police command has said. A joint military and police patrol team apprehended the armed men at Kubarachi fuel station on Saturday and took them to the nearby Air Force base, heightening tension around the Lagos garage area of Mando. It was rumoured that the

armed men were planning a reprisal in Kaduna following the crisis in Jos. Narrating the incident, Wing Commander Edward Gabkwete, the Public Relations Officer, Headquarters Training Command, told our correspondent that it was the personnel of "Operation Yaki" and not the Air Force that arrested them. He said they were only taken to the Air Force base for custody, where they were interrogated and it was found out that they were travelling to Auchi. Thereafter, the Air Force handed them over to police, he added.

Confirming the arrest, the police

public relations officer DSP Aminu Lawal said dane guns, machetes, bows and arrows as well as catapults were found on the men. According to him, it was established that they were hunters but they are still being held because of the prevailing security situation in most northern states arising from the crisis in Jos. The PPRO said they would be released soon.

Although people are going about their businesses in Kaduna, security has been beefed up as men of the "Operation Yaki" are almost everywhere, patrolling on motor cycles, vans and security cars.

Gunmen abduct Edo CAN chairman

From Vincent Egunyanga, Benin

EDO State Chairman of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) Bishop Peter Imasuen was yesterday abducted by gunmen.

Bishop Imasuen who is also the Bishop of the Benin Diocese of the Anglican Communion was said to have been abducted in front of his official residence, 'Bishops' Court'

at Iyaro area in Benin City at about 12:30pm while returning from a church service.

He was said to have been trailed by the gun men from the St Matthew's Cathedral located along Sakponba Road to his residence.

Witnesses told our correspondent that the kidnappers entered the church premises with guns and seized the gaitman on duty.

The witnesses said Bishop Imasuen was dragged down from his vehicle and driven to an unknown destination.

A family member who pleaded anonymity confirmed the story and said the abductors were demanding N50m ransom. He said a statement would be issued today.

Edo State Police spokesman ASP Peter Ogboi could not be reached for comments.

Africa must unite against terrorism – Dr Salim

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

DR Salim Ahmed Salim, former Organization of African Unity (OAU) Secretary General has called on Africans to unite against all forms of terrorism.

Dr Salim who was accompanied by the Chairman of Media Trust limited, Alhaji Kabiru Yusuf was in Minna Friday to condole

former military president, retired General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida over the death of his wife Hajiya Maryam.

Salim maintained that Africans needed to work together as one family as he stressed that the world was shrinking on a daily bases and actions by other countries spread across countries.

'Fulanis massacred in front of Jang's house'

BY Muideen Olaniyi

MANY Fulani herdsmen were killed by Berom youths in the vicinity of Governor Jonah Jang's house in Du District of Jos South Local Government during last week's communal crisis in Plateau State, Secretary of the Sultan's Farmers/Cattle Rearing Conflict Resolution Committee Alhaji Sale Bayari said in Kaduna yesterday.

He said the committee has established with the help of security agents that one hundred and twenty innocent Fulani herdsmen including women, little children and elderly persons were massacred in cold blood by the Beroms in Jos South, Riyom and Barikin Ladi Local Government Areas of Plateau State on Tuesday and Wednesday last week during the ethno-religious crisis that engulfed the State.

He said the Committee's preliminary investigations "found with great shock the direct participation and involvement of Governor David Jonah Jang's tribal men and relations in the genocide against the Fulanis in areas fully occupied by the Beroms, including the Governor's village of DU, where he currently resides as the Governor of Plateau State, where 11 Fulanis were confirmed killed in cold blood on Tuesday, among many others in DU District where the Gbong Gwom

Jos, Da Gyang Buba also resides."

According to the committee, "the same thing happened in Foron, Barikin Ladi where 7 other Fulanis were confirmed killed by the Governor's tribal people. The Berom also killed 11 Fulanis at Gembos Village, Barikin Ladi; 19 at Kuru, Jos South; 7 at Dorowa, B/Ladi; 7 at Waram, Riyom LGA; and 17 at Vom, Jos South LGA. In Bassa LGA, 10 Fulanis were also killed, according to casualty figures in this Committee's interim report."

The Committee said it was "baffled that despite the fact that the Fulani cattle rearers do not lay any claim to ownership of land or any political office in Jos, particularly in Berom areas, the Berom agenda of religious and ethnic cleansing of Muslims and the Fulanis as is being executed under Governor Jang's leadership is most tragic and most unfortunate and a clear case of failed leadership. It should be recalled that on April 27th and 28th 2009, the Jang Administration officially ordered and carried out forcefully the expulsion of Fulanis in Wase to other parts of Nigeria."

The committee said "during a similar crisis in Jos on September 7th 2001 in Jos, the same Berom in these areas killed in cold blood 150 non-combatant Fulanis whose names now appear in the Niki Tobi Commission Report and Plateau State Government White Paper recently released but so far

no action has been taken to prosecute the killers whose names were submitted to the Commission during its sittings."

The committee said "this unprovoked killing of the Fulanis in the three Berom-dominated Local Government Areas (Jos South, Barkin Ladi and Riyom) by the Berom people and especially within the immediate environment of the Governor where the Hausa/Fulani Community of Anguwan Doki of Bukuru Town also lost their entire homes and means of livelihood to Berom youth arsonists, speak volumes of the complicity and involvement of the Governor in these dastardly acts." It said Governor Jang "must explain to the world what wrong did the Fulanis do to him and his people and why he failed to protect them." It said the governor's threat in Tuesday's state broadcast "that perpetrators would be dealt with decisively should commence by his fishing out and handing over the killers of the Fulani around the vicinity of his house to the security agents immediately."

The Committee also asked the Plateau State government to "immediately stop the rustling of hundreds of thousands of livestock (including cattle, sheep and goats) and the looting of properties belonging to the Fulanis by the Beroms and ensure their immediate return to their rightful owners and pay full compensation for any lost cattle and property that have been destroyed by the Beroms."



GROUP Managing Director/CEO designate, United Bank for Africa Plc, Mr. Phillips Oduoza (left), with wife Jummai and Group Managing Director/CEO UBA Plc, Mr. Tony Elumelu and wife, Awele at the 3rd UBA Awards for Excellence in Lagos at the weekend.

How we escaped from Kuru Jenta, by witness

By Suleiman M. Bisalla

KURU Jenta, in Jos South Local Government never had a history of the kind of bloodletting that characterised many parts of Plateau State in the last eight to nine years. The ancient mining town is co-habited by Christians, mainly the Beroms, and a Muslim population that is mainly Hausa. But the village was not so lucky last Tuesday when fighting between Christians and Muslims left in its wake scores of corpses dumped in wells as well as fleeing persons that were deeply injured.

Many accounts of the violence said 150 were killed in the most brutal manner. But Jibrin Abubakar, a resident of Kuru Jenta who was caught up with the fighting yesterday that the death toll is even higher as he put it at 250 to 300.

"We know the killers and we can identify them any day. In fact we are in the same business of selling vegetables with some of them. *Amma Allah Shi zai saka mana*," he said.

Malam Jibrin who sells vegetables at the railway crossing near the Government Science School Kuru said the attackers came in around 10 am and engaged the village until close to midnight. All through the attacks, there was no security presence, he said, alleging also that the police serving in the village had participated in the shootings rather than quell the violence.

Giving a brief account he said: "Our leaders including the Imams and their pastors had met and decided that we should live in peace. So when they came in, the pastors made effort to pacify the angry youths. The Imams also took turn to appeal to Muslim Youths not to even answer the abuses being hauled at them.

"But because there was determination to kill, the youths first attacked our Imam, Mallam Abubakar. Within few minutes many of us had sustained injuries and we concluded that they were serious so we had to put up some resistance. But we soon discovered that we had been encircled.

"Fighting continued until about 11 pm when they succeeded in setting ablaze a house where we kept some women, children and the old. The occupants had made attempts to escape but many of them were hacked down in the process.

"Many of us who were already injured were able to rescue some of them with varying degrees of injuries when the fighters retreated after setting the house ablaze. We loaded the wounded into waiting vehicles of some Muslim brothers who came from nearby villages that were not attacked in order to provide some help. We finally left Kuru at about 3.00 am to Bisichi through a short cut in the bush. Even as we trekked, we never knew what awaited us on the way," he concluded.

AC upbraids Obasanjo over Yar'adua

By Muideen Olaniyi

THE Action Congress (AC) yesterday criticised former President Olusegun Obasanjo for advising President Umaru Musa Yar'adua to take the path of honour and resign.

AC National Publicity Secretary, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, said the former President was only trying to exonerate himself from the mess in which his self-centredness and lack of visionary leadership have landed Nigeria.

Mohammed said Obasanjo is being clever by half by suddenly turning against President Yar'adua, whom he imposed on Nigerians.

He said: "The old fox is at it again, trying to ride on the crest of widespread disenchantment with the constitutional crisis that has been created by President Yar'adua's failure to legally transfer power to his deputy while on a prolonged medical treatment in Saudi Arabia.

"Obasanjo cleverly waited until Nigerians have started massive demonstrations against the crisis, which has left Nigeria without a leader for nearly 60 days, before making

his clearly cheeky statement in which he asked President Yar'adua to take the path of honour and resign.

"Obasanjo, ever willing to reap where he did not sow, waited until the courts have started ruling on the several cases aimed at ending the unnecessary crisis, before suddenly pitching his tent with Nigerians. In other words, he wanted to know where the tide will turn before taking a public stand on the issue. But Nigerians are not deceived.

"Had Obasanjo himself taken a path of honour, he would have first apologised to his compatriots for short-changing them through the imposition of a sick and incompetent leadership; Had Obasanjo taken the path of honour, Nigeria would not have been in this mess in the first instance, because he would have allowed the people to freely elect their leader.

"Therefore, let Obasanjo lead by example: He should take the path of honour by owning up to his shenanigans that left Nigerians saddled with a President consigned to spending a better part of his tenure attending to his own failing health rather than serving a country desperately in need of purposeful leadership," he further stated.

Ibru engaged 19,000 unwanted workers – CBN

From Auwalu Umar, Kano

EMBATTLED former managing director of Oceanic Bank Mrs Cecilia Ibru engaged 19,000 workers for the bank through a job consultancy firm fronting for her and the bank did not need such employees, according to Central Bank governor Sanusi Lamido Sanusi.

Fielding questions on a Freedom Radio's special programme in Kano at the weekend, Sanusi also said the bank at present had 199 branches spread all over the country that were yet to be completed. Of the number, he said, only 66 were approved by the Central Bank for their construction.

The CBN boss said Mrs Ibru collected N20 billion as rent for the bank's new branches that are under construction. Sanusi said the former bank chief executive also paid herself huge amount of money through the job consultancy company for the employment of workers who are yet to assume office in the bank's new branches that are yet to be completed.

Sanusi said the ongoing reforms in the country's banking sector became imperative given the level of decay in the sector. He said CBN cannot allow corruption to continue there and doing so, he said, would indicate that the apex bank approves of the dirty deals in the financial sector.

Giving more lights on the ongoing retrenchment in the country's banks, the CBN governor said the exercise was in order because most banks used depositors' monies to pay staff salary which he said was totally contrary to the banking ethics. He cited the example of Oceanic Bank that pays N4.2 billion every month as staff salary, saying the profits the banks generates are not enough to pay such huge monthly staff emoluments.

He also said his major challenge today was to continue to develop the micro-finance institutions in order to tackle the problem of poverty in the country, saying Malaysia and Tunisia are today better off because of the impact the micro-finance institutions they established had made in poverty eradication.

Police dismiss rumour on attacks in Abuja

By Misbahu Bashir

THE police in Abuja said there was no plan by any group or individual to attack others as vengeance over the recent clashes in Jos Plateau State, where hundreds of people were killed and thousands displaced.

The FCT Commissioner of Police John Haruna said in Abuja weekend, that Short Message Service (SMS) being circulated on possible attack by one group of people on others as vengeance over the killings in Jos clashes was false. He said people should discountenance the messages and go about their businesses as police have taken strategies to prevent any form of violence in the Territory. He

also said detectives are being drafted at various locations including religious and business places to monitor the movement and the utterances of people with a view to preventing nervousness and violence.

The police also said another SMS circulated which said poisonous foodstuffs are being sold in Abuja is false and people behind all untrue messages will be arrested and prosecuted.

Haruna said the police have intensified foot and vehicular patrols within the Territory. The mounted police, Police Mobile Force, Anti-Terrorist Police Squad and the Bomb Disposal Police Squad have also stepped up patrols.

Arewa Youth Forum chides Obasanjo

By Nasir Imam

A socio political group, Arewa Youth Forum (AYF), yesterday chided former president, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo for calling on President Umaru Musa Yar'adua to resign from office on account of his ill-health.

A press statement titled "Obasanjo: Redefining African Tradition of Honour signed by the group's National President, Gambo Ibrahim Gujugu said that it was constrained to join issues with Obasanjo.

The group warned that Nigeria has come a long way as a nation and vowed that Youths of Northern Nigeria,

would collaborate with all like minds in the country to resist the third time attempt by Obasanjo to fool Nigerians by trying to come back to power through the back door.

The Northern Group declared that Obasanjo stands out as most ungrateful human being on earth because "no African has been blessed like him but he has been the most ungrateful to God's endowments" adding that "in all the two instances that he led Nigeria, he wasn't a factor in the determination of his becoming a leader but he still betrayed the nation throughout all the tenures".



A fuel hawker in Kano siphoning fuel from his motorcycle to a buyer after acquiring the product from a filling station.

Jos crisis: 31 women give birth in camps

FROM Mahmud Lalo, Jos

THIRTY one pregnant women displaced by the Jos sectarian crisis were delivered of their babies at different Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) Camps in Bukuru, Jos South Local Government Area of Plateau state, the spokesperson in charge of women in IDP's camps in Jos South, Hajiya Binta Hassan said.

Hajiya Binta who made the assertion yesterday in an interview with our correspondent in Jos said the women who gave birth were earlier taking refuge at police stations, and the premises of Bukuru Central Mosque before they were later taken to another house which was converted to serve as a temporary maternity.

porary maternity.

"All the women were initially seeking shelter at various police stations and the premises of the Bukuru Central mosque, we then move them to a safer place where they can deliver in comfort. Although out of the 31 women that put to bed only two babies could not make it, however the two mothers are in very good shape".

Hajiya Binta also stressed the need for the authority to come to the aid of the mothers and their new born babies "because we still need to give them some drugs and most especially nutritious food because of their condition".

On the condition of the mothers and the babies, she responded thus "We really thank Allah because all of them are in good condition including the babies, but our major problem

is food and drugs". She stressed.

One of the mothers, Wasila Abdulkarim confirmed to our correspondent in a telephone interview that she has delivered safely and the baby is in good condition.

The 22 year old mother added that their major problem is that "we don't have sufficient food, therefore we are calling on well to do people to come to our aid".

The nurse in charge of the temporary maternity centre created mainly to cater for the women who have delivered, Maryam Ahmed Muhammed Oma told our correspondent that they had to remove some bullets in some of the mothers and stitched them and further stated that most of the new born babies were males.

DMO offers N75bn FGN bonds

By Sunday Williams

THE Debt Management Office (DMO) has resumed its monthly bond auctions, offering a total of N75 billion Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) bonds, made up of N20 billion for the 3-year tenor,

N25 billion for the 10-year tenor and N30 billion for the 20-year tenors.

A statement from the agency at the weekend said that the variety of the tenors on offer was to give investors wide choice of the bond(s) most suitable to their needs and investment objectives.

It said: "The auction was very successful as evidenced by the subscription levels of each tenor. Sixty-five bids for N40.43 billion were received for the 3-year bond while for the 10-year bond the corresponding figures were 74 and N42.10 billion

respectively".

The DMO also noted that the range of bid rates for each tenor was fairly consistent with those of the last auction held in November, 2009 which indicated that the liquidity and interest levels in the market are stable and that investors' per-

ception of the bonds as safe and liquid has not changed.

According to DMO, as a mark of increasing confidence in FGN Bonds, investors oversubscribed the N65 billion bonds offered in tenors of 3, 10 and 20 years by the DMO at the final auction for 2009.

The auction was very successful as evidenced by the subscription levels of each tenor. Sixty-five bids for N40.43 billion were received for the 3-year bond while for the 10-year bond the corresponding figures were 74 and N42.10 billion respectively.

I did not collapse during campaign — Ali

FORMER Peoples Democratic Party national chairman Dr. Ahmadu Ali last night dismissed claims by former President Olusegun Obasanjo that he was run-down during the party's nationwide presidential campaign in 2006, saying Obasanjo only said it to embellish his story.

Obasanjo said at the Annual Trust Dialogue in Abuja last Thursday that it was not only Malam Umaru Yar'adua who was run down during the campaign because Dr. Ali was also run down, only that he did not go abroad for treatment.

Responding to *Daily Trust's* question by text message, Ali said, "I did not [collapse]. He is making up his stories. I toured every state; he did not! He only said that to spice his story."

AU appoints Fayomi as special representative to Liberia

By Aisha Umar

THE Chairperson of the African Union Commission has appointed a senior Nigerian diplomat, Ambassador Akin O. Fayomi, as the Special Representative to Liberia.

A statement signed by foreign ministry Assistant Director Press, Tony Onyekwere said the new role of, Ambassador Fayomi would include interface with the top echelon of the Liberian Government and would also, as the African Union's top Envoy, liaise and interact with the United Nations Mission in Liberia, the ECOWAS Mission, the European Union Mission as well as ambassadors of other countries accredited to Liberia.

"His appointment is also, recognition of the role Nigeria has played and still continue to play in the West Africa sub-region and in particular in the Liberian crisis which culminated in the democracy that the country enjoys today. With the appointment, Nigeria will also continue to be in the forefront of the concerted efforts led by the African Union to put Liberia on a firm footing politically, economically and socially.

Ambassador Fayomi, is currently Director, Africa Multilateral Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is a career diplomat with over 31 years in the Diplomatic Service.



FROM left: Executive Director, Maritime Safety, Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency, Mr. Isyaku Shekarau, maritime lawyer, Mr. Chima Nwona and Chairman, House Committee on Marine Transport Ifeyin Ugwuayi, during the House Committee on Marine Transport's oversight visit to Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency's (NIMASA) office in Lagos at the weekend.

Yar'adua returns home this week

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar

PRESIDENT Umaru Yar'adua's controversial two-month stay in a Saudi Arabian hospital will shortly come to an end when he returns to the country later this week, most likely on Friday, *Daily Trust* learnt from senior officials in Abuja and Jeddah last night. The sources said elaborate arrangements have been made for the president's return, including a facelift of his office at the State House.

Sources said in Jeddah said Nigerian diplomatic officials there have been running around in recent days making final preparations for the president's impending departure. Although the officials said Yar'adua's health has improved a lot, it was not clear whether his impending return was hastened by increasing political pressure at home, including the two-week deadline given to the Federal Executive Council by Chief Judge of the Federal High Court Justice Dan Abutu to take a position on the president's ability

to discharge his duties.

Incidentally, the Senate will tomorrow hold a crucial debate on the relevant sections of the 1999 Constitution and take a final position on the ill health of President Umaru Musa Yar'adua, which has kept him out of the country for 62 days today.

Chairman of the Senate Committee on Information and Media, Senator Ayogu Eze (PDP, Enugu North) told *Daily Trust* last night that the Senate would check what its powers are under the constitution and invoke the relevant sections to deal with the crisis.

After a closed door meeting with the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF) Mahmud Yayale Ahmed last Thursday, *Daily Trust* gathered that Senate gave a Tuesday deadline to the Federal Executive Council (FEC) to come up with a concrete solution to the president's absence or face stiff legislative action.

Some senators have been pushing for activation of Sections

143 or 144 of the 1999 Nigerian Constitution which could see the president either impeached for refusal to comply with Section 145 or have his health status investigated. Ahead of the debate, Senate has denied allegations that some members of the National Assembly have been bribed to compromise their stance in the matter. Reacting to reports that some lawmakers have been paid to influence their views during the debate, Chairman Senate Committee on Information and Media, Senator Ayogu Eze (PDP, Enugu North) said the allegation is false and unfounded.

He said, "The Senate cannot be compromised. Besides, there is no issue to contemplate settling anybody, outside the few individuals who have become accustomed to the culture of being settled on every issue."

Eze also said, "This is false and the figment of the fertile minds of some fifth columnists who think that by discrediting the National Assembly, they will have a field day in the polity.

"The Senate, being a responsible institution, is and will always be guided by the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. I am aware that our constitution has guaranteed certain freedoms, including the information to hold and impart information. But in exercise of these freedoms we must have respect for other people's freedom."

On the proposed debate on the Presidents' health scheduled for tomorrow in the Senate, Eze said every member shall be entitled to his or her opinion "at the end of which we shall base our action on the aggregate view of all senators.

Even then, we shall be guided by the constitution in whatever we shall do or say. I urge Nigerians to be patient and shun self-seeking people who will always exploit every situation for their selfish gains. I have no doubt that some of the views in the papers were sponsored to cause panic and thereby stampede some people to seek out people for settlement."

Obasanjo is ridiculous

Continued from page 1

Alkali wondered why "a revered statesman like the former President would prefer making unguarded statements on sensitive issues openly to using the party's channel of communication."

He said as a major and undisputed beneficiary of Nigeria's democracy, the minimum expected from General Obasanjo even in the face of provocation is a measured and calm demeanour, wise counsel and a demonstration of good faith aimed at enhancing national unity and stability.

He also said the focus of the PDP BOT Chairman at this point

in time should have been on the grave security situation in Jos, Plateau State where scores of innocent citizens were being killed or maimed in a senseless war of attrition by people who otherwise should have been their brothers' keepers. Alkali, who said the party distanced itself from the BOT Chairman's statements and would engage Obasanjo through the channels of communication it had with him, however ruled the possibility of engaging him on the issues he raised in public.

He said, "When our attention was initially drawn to the remarks he made at the 7th Trust annual lecture, we dismissed it as mere

speculations and that the former leader must have been quoted out of context. However, since General Obasanjo has not come out to deny these statements credited to him nearly one week after, we believe them to be a true reflection of what he said at that event.

"It is regrettable, indeed sad that for the second time in less than a year, our Chairman of the BOT has chosen to abandon established channels of communication to comment on very sensitive matters which are capable of causing disharmony and disaffection in the country," he further stated.

Alkali added: "The general

condemnation which his statement has attracted nationwide in the last few days shows that his comments are ill timed, in bad taste and have not in any way added value to the dominant issues of the day. The PDP therefore finds it difficult to understand what his motives are, and what he seeks to achieve by these needless pronouncements.

"We however wish to distance our party from his statements and wish to advise all our leaders to weigh their opinions before they utter them in order not to undermine our democratic gains and expose our country to ridicule," the PDP spokesperson stated.

JNI, CAN caution on inciting text messages

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

KADUNA State chapter of the Jama'atu Nasril Islam (JNI) and the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) at the weekend enjoined the people of the state to ignore text messages being circulated by some individuals meant to cause crisis in the state.

In a press conference jointly addressed by Reverend, Joseph

Hayab, the CAN Secretary and Alhaji Ja'afaru Makarfi, the JNI Chairman, they described the messages as untrue.

"All the SMS that Christians should not buy food from Muslims as they are poisoned, Governor Jonah Jang has ordered the stoppage of water supply to Muslim dominated areas in Jos are lies, please disregard them," they said.

They said the text messages were circulated with the intent of stirring hatred and causing mistrust between the two religions in the state.

"We are living peacefully in Kaduna. There is no iota of truth in the text messages being circulated. Let both Christians and Muslims not believe it. God is the only one who can protect us all, so let us all believe in Him and go

about our daily activities without hindrance. Even if you gather the whole weapons to protect yourself and God does not protect you, it is useless", he said, urging Christians to go out and worship as well as pray to God.

Alhaji Makarfi of the JNI urged the people to stop forwarding the messages and appealed to those who still have the text messages in their phones to delete

them. He appealed to media practitioners in the state to verify their stories before going to press in order to forestall breakdown of peace.

Makarfi said information from Jos showed that the situation was under control with the mobilization of soldiers to the troubled spots and called on all not to take the laws into their hands.



PROFESSOR Chukwuma Soludo greeting the crowd at Ekwuluobia during the People's Democratic Party candidate's campaign tour of communities in Aguata Local Government Area of Anambra State at the weekend.

Etsako re-run, forerunner to Anambra guber - Oshiomhole

From Vincent Egunyanga, Benin

EDO State Governor Comrade Adams Oshiomhole has said that the outcome of the Etsako Central re-run election in Edo State is an indication of what to expect in Anambra State in next month's gubernatorial election.

Oshiomhole who spoke to newsmen in Fugar shortly after the result of the election was announced said it showed that "with a courageous police force and a determined INEC, we can rid the country of the shame we have all been wallowing in for the past years." "We saw a very courageous police force, officers and men who were determined to uphold their oath of office and put the nation first. We saw officers and men telling people to come out and vote and that they would be protected, giving people confidence that no one would harm them if they come out to vote," he said.

"It shows that the police are capable of helping to ensure that the rights of our people are upheld. We can also see that INEC under favourable security conditions can perform like any electoral umpire anywhere in the world", he added. Oshiomhole noted that the sight of people queuing under the sun to cast their votes showed that Nigerians had accepted democracy as a way of life.

...Says election was free, fair

From Vincent Egunyanga, Benin

EDO State Governor Comrade Adams Oshiomhole has expressed his appreciation to the Federal Government for creating an enabling environment for a free and fair House of Assembly re-run election in Etsako Central at the weekend. The governor spoke to newsmen shortly after INEC's returning officer in Etsako Central, Glenn Ukomadu, declared the candidate of the Action Congress, Mr Johnson Egwakhide Oghuma, winner of the election after polling 7,884 votes. "I want to appreciate the Federal Government for creating an enabling environment for the freest and fairest election in the history of our state", he said. The governor added that he was more interested in the process of the election rather than the end of it. He gave kudos to the electorate for "waiting patiently in the heat; waiting for hours to cast their votes; no noise, no fighting. For me, it was more of celebrating the process."

Bafarawa faults Obasanjo over Yar'Adua

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

FORMER Governor of Sokoto State and DPP presidential candidate in the last presidential election, Alhaji Attahiru Dalhatu Bafarawa, has faulted former President Olusegun Obasanjo over his recent call on President Yar'Adua to resign.

Speaking with our correspondent in Sokoto yesterday, Bafarawa said, "For him to say Yar'Adua should resign, he is not being fair to him and Nigerians.

What I expected Obasanjo to do as an elder statesman, as Chairman Board of Trustees of the ruling party before he tells Nigerians what

Yar'Adua should do, is to go to Saudi Arabia and meet the president and ask him to resign and bring a letter to Nigerians so that we praise him for a job well done", he said.

He added, "But for him now to tell us on air that Yar'Adua should resign, which step did he take to prove that he is an elder states-

man and that he wants Yar'Adua to resign?" The former governor noted that Obasanjo had the right and privilege to go and see Yar'Adua and advice him on what to do, adding, "if he fails to do that, I think it is better he puts his resignation letter as Chairman Board of Trustees of the ruling party, PDP."

...Shema Foundation too

From Aliyu Machika, Katsina

THE Shema Foundation, a political movement of Governor Ibrahim Shema of Katsina State yesterday described as unguided, the statement credited to former President Olusegun Obasanjo last week asking President Umar Yar'Adua to resign.

Obasanjo had Thursday asked President Yar'Adua to take

the path of honour and resign as Nigeria's president following a long absence from the country as a result of ill-health.

At news conference held at the Foundation's corporate head office in Katsina, the Director of the Foundation Ahmed Shehu Shema said while Obasanjo had a right to express himself he was in no position to ask Yar'Adua to resign.

Shema said the leadership of Yar'Adua had a legitimate mandate from Nigerians who equally hold the right to ask him to resign and not Obasanjo who was adjudged to violate constitutional provisions in office.

Shema said, "Obasanjo merely expressed his view which he is entitled to in a democracy. We in the Shema Foundation disagree with such self serving view of his.

We call on the former leader to instead concentrate on apologizing to Nigerians the wrongs he did while in office.

"While the Foundation supports the constitutional provision with regard to formal handing over to the Vice President, we call on Obasanjo and his likes to also allow support the constitutional provision on the matter and stop using personal interest," he added.

Police debunk Jos link to Sokoto attack

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

SOKOTO State Police Commissioner Alhaji Abubakar Muhammed has debunked rumours that the attack on two houses in Tudun-Wada area of the state had links with the recent crisis in Jos.

The police boss said the incident was a clear case of house break-

ing and theft, stressing that it had no religious or tribal affiliation as speculated.

The commissioner who spoke with journalists shortly after meeting with leaders of the resident communities in his office warned members of the public against spreading rumours that are capable of creating tension in the state.

He said the police command

would not spare anyone found trying to disrupt the prevailing peace in Sokoto State and that they were on the alert to ensure the recent Plateau crisis does not spread to the state.

Speaking on the incident, he said the command received a distress early Saturday that some miscreants broke into the house of one Umaru Sylvester and beat up

his wife, Hajiya Jummai Umaru. He said the miscreants collected N14,500, a handset and TV set while one Abdul-Kadir Abdullahi sustained injuries on his hand.

The police boss disclosed that the miscreants also went to the residence of one Malam Sambo Yaro and that when they could not gain entrance into house, they set it ablaze.

Civil society group asks Yar'adua to hand over or be impeached

By Abbas Jimoh & Muideen Olaniyi

ABOUT 24 Civil Society Organizations in Nigeria at the weekend demanded that ailing President Umaru Yar'adua transmit a letter to the National Assembly, enabling the Vice President Goodluck Jonathan to act in his absence or face impeachment.

This was coming on the heels of announcement by the Minister of State for Information, Alhaji Ikra Bilbis, alerting the nation of planned attempt by a group of people to destabilize the government.

At a news conference in Abuja at the weekend, the group under the auspices of Stakeholder Consultative Forum and led by Centre

for Democracy and Development (CDD) tasked the judiciary to rise up by protecting and upholding the Nigerian Constitution.

They said the cabal precipitating the constitutional crisis in the absence of ailing President Yar'adua should be combated by all democratic forces in the country and not be allowed to destabi-

lise the peace and democracy in the country.

The Director of Centre for Democracy and Development, Dr Jibrin Ibrahim and Prof. Umar Udongo, General Secretary of West Africa Civil Society Forum, also expressed concern over the continued absence of President Yar'adua.

The Executive Director of Centre for Peace Building and Socio-Economic Resources Development (CePSEED), Dr Kunle Fagbemi noted that the current constitutional crisis has grave implications beyond the country, adding that the absence of Yar'adua has led to postponement of the ECOWAS Summit.

ANAMBRA: Monitoring board denies calling for INEC's chief removal

By Abbas Jimoh

THE Anambra Electoral Monitoring Board has denied a newspaper report that it recommended that the commission should drop one of its directors, Okey Ndeche, from the team that would conduct the February 6 governorship election in the state.

It was reported that the

board had asked INEC to bar a National Commissioner, Victor Chukwuani, and the newly re-deployed Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC), in Anambra State, Josiah Uwazuruonye, from conducting the election.

Reacting to the report in Abuja at the weekend, a member of the Board, Mr. Anselm Okolo, said the board only advised

the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to strengthen the REC in Anambra with two or three other members from other states, for effective conduct of the election.

He said the clarification became necessary so that members of the public should be aware that the information was not coming from the Board.

ANPP slams Obasanjo, demands apology

By Abbas Jimoh

THE All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) yesterday condemned former President Olusegun Obasanjo for deliberately adding to the pains of Nigerians by trying to absolve himself from the lingering impasse resulting from President Umaru Yar'adua's ill health, demanding that Obasanjo should apologise to Nigerians.

National Publicity Secretary of the party, Emma Eneukwu, while reacting to Obasanjo's comment on President Yar'adua's health at the 7th Annual Trust Dialogue in Abuja last week said

the former president was only playing to the gallery as usual pointing out that one of his greatest disabilities is the penchant to see himself as Nigeria's messiah.

"Obasanjo has once again shown the great deceitful that he is, by publicly declaring that he had no hand in the political brigandage which he supervised in 2007, through his infamous "do or die" political philosophy, which helped to force Alhaji Umaru Yar'adua as the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. If that outburst by Obasanjo was meant for the Nigerian audience, then the former

President owes the Nigerian people an un-quantified apology because his views at that occasion was an insult to our citizenry.

He said it was Obasanjo's display of hypocrisy and deception when he attempted to distance himself from the imposition of Yar'adua, first on his party, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), through the manipulation of the party's convention in 2007 and later on Nigerians through the fraudulent Presidential election which he directed the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to conduct on April 21, 2007.

Court begins contempt trial of IG and CGP

By Shehu Abubakar & Abdulkarim Badsha Mukhtar

A Federal High Court presided by Justice U.D Owokoro will today begin hearing a contempt suit filed against the Inspector General of Police and the Comptroller General of Prisons over their continued refusal to produce in a court a serving Inspector of Prisons, Mr Danjuma Micah.

Counsel to the accused, Barrister Ben Jones Akpan told the court that both the police and the prison authorities were served with the court order directing the immediate production of Micah before it or his arraignment before an appropriate court but thrice the order was flouted.

Micah was arrested in his office in Jos by armed prison officials and whisked to Abuja on November 2, 2009 over allegations that he sent a text message to the Comptroller General of Prisons (CGP), Mr Olu-sola Adigun Ogundipe that he was going to kidnap the CGP's daughter studying in Jos if the service continues to delay his promotion. The alleged text message that sent fears into the family of Ogundipe, was said to have originated from Micah's cell phone.

Micah was said to have been detained at the prison headquarters in

Garki area 1 in Abuja for a day on arrival before he was later transferred to a condemned criminals' cell in Kuje prison where he was allegedly tortured by prison officials before he was later transferred to the Inspector General of Police for prosecution. Micah has since November 5, 2009 been kept in police detention at the Force Criminal Investigation Department (FCID) at Garki area 10 in Abuja.

The continued detention of Micah by the police without prosecution prompted Barrister Akpan to sue the police and the prisons asking the court to declare that the detention of Micah in Kuje prison on the orders of the CGP without a court order, his arrest and prolonged detention by the police without prosecution were illegal.

The court in making the declaration, ordered the police and prison authority to either produce Micah before it and show reason why he must not be released on bail or arraign him before a competent court for prosecution. Neither of the two orders by the court has so far been complied with as both the police and prison officials refused to make appearance in the court.

But the Service Public Relations Officer of the Nigeria Prison Service,

Mr Odeyemi Kayode said the CGP is not in any way connected to the continued detention of Micah by the police. He said the CGP only lodged a complaint with the police on the matter and does not influence police investigation in any way. Kayode denied claims that Micah was detained in Kuje prison over the matter.

He also denied that a committee has already been set up by the CGP to try and dismiss Micah. "I never know of any committee been set up, as I told you the matter is handled by the police. Yes, the matter started over the issue of promotion. Micah has been on that rank for long because he is not promotable. The service cannot promote him because he failed to further his study to qualify him for any promotion."

Micah's wives, Justina and Tina who were in court along with their eleven children to witness the trial of their breadwinner who the police and prison officials could not produce in court, said their children have not been able to go to school since the arrest and detention of Micah. Justina 43, who has 7 of the 11 children for Micah, said she visited the FCID where her husband is being held seven times to solicit for his bail but her request was not granted by the police.

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Kaduna judiciary workers suspend strike

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

MEMBERS of the Judiciary Staff Union of Nigeria (JUSUN) Kaduna State chapter at the weekend pulled out of the ongoing nationwide strike by the union. It would be recalled that JUSUN embarked on a nationwide strike late last year to ask for improved welfare and salary package for its members.

The strike paralysed activities at all the courts. Prisoners at the popular Kaduna Central Prison last Friday staged a demonstration to protest what they called, "over congestion".

The suspension of the strike followed an agreement reached between the state government and officials of the union at the weekend. The state Head of Service Alhaji Habibu Balarabe repre-

sented the state government while the Chairman of the union Comrade Adamu Mohammed Kachia led the union.

Speaking after the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed, Comrade Kachia said the union decided to suspend the strike after the state government agreed to accede to 50 percent of their demands.

"First of all, I have to apolo-

gise to the leadership of our great union at the national level because we ought to have invited them here before we agreed to suspend this strike. Our desire is to get 100 percent of our demands, but the state government agreed to give us 50 percent now and promised to see to the remaining in March," he said. He urged members of the union to resume duties today and assured that the union offi-

cial would do everything within their powers to ensure that their demands are fully met.

The state Head of Service Alhaji Habibu Balarabe thanked the union for their understanding and maturity.

"We have agreed to pay the new salary scale, CONTIS. Under this scale, the minimum wage will be N10,867 and we are starting it by March 1, 2010" he said.

Shema signs 2010 budget into law

From Aliyu Machika, Katsina

KATSINA State Governor Ibrahim Shema has signed the 2010 budget into law.

Shema had earlier presented an initial budget amount of N81.1 billion which was increased to N82.2 billion by the Assembly.

According to the Chairman of the Assembly's Appropriation Committee, Sirajo Sani Doro, the "omission of personnel cost of the state independent electoral commission and the 10 per cent local government internally generated revenue in the draft estimate", were part of the factors that informed the increase.

Doro said the increase would be sourced from anticipated increase from the federation account, capital receipt from World Bank and counterpart funding for girl child education.

Governor Shema who assured the House that the 'budget of accelerated development' would receive accelerated implementation, revealed that the state government was not indebted to any organisation in and outside the country.

The Assembly Speaker Yau Gojo-Gojo expressed optimism that the budget would be properly implemented and assured of the readiness to intensify the House's oversight functions.



Lagos State Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Mr Opeyemi Bamidele (middle) with Senior Special Assistant to Lagos State Governor on Inter-governmental Affairs and Political Relations, Rev. Tunji Adebisi (right), and Mrs. Barbara Naomi King (left) at the Martin Luther King Award of Excellence in Leadership held in Atlanta, Georgia, United States of America...recently.

JNI dispatches relief materials to Jos

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

THE national headquarters of the Jama'atu Nasril Islam (JNI) has dispatched relief materials to victims of the Jos crisis with a call on Muslims in the country to assist them.

The relief materials include bales of cloth, blankets and food items. The Acting Secretary General of JNI Malam Abdulkarim Mu'azu Palladan said the items would be distributed immediately to the victims.

"We are appealing to Muslims to come to the aid of their fellow brothers by donating relief items to the victims.

The donation can be either through the JNI headquarters in Kaduna or directly to the Plateau State chapter office at the central mosque," he said.

He urged the government to implement all the previous recommendations submitted by panels of investigation and punish should anyone found wanting no matter highly placed.

It urged all Muslims in the country to disregard all kinds of rumour and remain peaceful and law abiding.

"Muslims should be prayerful and cooperate with security agents in order to restore law and order."

Gombe to provide electricity to 50 towns

From Aliyu M. Hamagam, Gombe

ABOUT 50 towns and villages in Gombe State will soon be provided electricity to facilitate the establishment of small and medium scale industries.

The Chairman of the state House of Assembly Committee on Appropriation Alhaji Muhammad Dan'azumi Adamu said this in Gombe at the weekend while commenting on the state's 2010 budget.

Alhaji Adamu said provision of electricity to those towns and villages would improve socio-economic activities in the state. He said the present administration had in the last five years provided electricity to about 300 towns and villages in the state, adding that they decided to take quite a number of towns and village this year to ensure the provision of dividends of democracy to the people.

The Chairman of the Appropriation Committee of the state Assembly also disclosed plans by the government to ensure the completion and immediate take off of the over 10 hospitals established within the last two years by the Danjuma Goje administration.

The facilities according to him are located in Kashere and Talase. Other cottage hospitals are in Bambam, Bojude, Degri, Hinna,

Mallam Sidi and Tumu as well as the primary healthcare centres in Biri, Kuri and Tula.

Speaking on unemployment in the state, the law maker pointed out that it had been discovered that there were a lot of vacancies to be filled up in the state, especially with the state Assembly having at least 60 vacancies.

This according to him compelled the Assembly to advice the state government to set up a committee to ascertain the extent of manpower shortage and embark on massive recruitment.

He disclosed that one N1 billion had been earmarked for the payment of compensation to property owners for various projects this year which comprised military barracks, roads and a vegetable processing plant.

Alhaji Adamu said provision of electricity to those towns and villages would improve socio-economic activities in the state.

IBB to ensure continuation of wife's project

By Ben Atonko

FORMER Military President retired General Ibrahim Babangida Thursday assured Nigerians that his family is ready to work with agencies to ensure the continuation of his late wife's pet project.

Babangida who spoke through his eldest son Mohammed, said this when members of the National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCON) visited Minna, Niger State to con-

sole him over the death of his wife. Leader of the group, Ambassador Dickson Akor, praised late Maryam Babangida for her contributions to the welfare of women and youths in the country.

He urged the family to do everything possible to keep her dream alive, adding that youths in the country would miss her.

Akor submitted a condolence letter on behalf of youths in the country to the Babangida family.



GOV Ibrahim Shema

Adamawa spends N10bn on primary education

From Abdullahi Tasiu Abubakar, Yola

OVER N10 billion has been spent in funding primary education in Adamawa State since the inception of the present administration, the Executive Chairman of the Universal Basic Education (UBE) board in the state Dr Salihu Bakari Girei said in Yola.

Speaking to journalists ahead of the commissioning of school projects in the state by the Minister of State for Education Hajia Aishatu Dukku, the chairman said government's commitment to primary education was responsible for securing such funding.

He said the state government had recently

released N531 million as its counterpart funding of primary education to ensure that the board execute its programmes successfully.

The state government, he said, was paying special attention to girls' education, committing about N53 million to offer them free uniforms in their first year of schooling to encourage enrolment. The board had built 54 new primary schools, 14 girls' primary schools and 17 girls' junior secondary schools, he added. A total of 100 new projects executed by the board at the cost of N3.6 billion would be commissioned by the minister, he further disclosed.

The state government committed about N2 billion while the Federal Government's funding of those new projects amounted to N1.6 billion, the chairman added.

He said educational materials, particularly text books, would be distributed to all the primary schools in the state. Dr Bakari also announced the board's commitment to manpower supply and development, saying 1,200 new teachers had been employed and another 3,000 would be hired to teach in the schools.

According to him, 262 motorcycles had been purchased by the board for distribution to supervisors and additional 500 bikes would soon be offered to them.

Kogi to reposition civil service

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

PLANS are underway to reposition the Kogi State civil service to ensure efficient delivery. This was contained in a communiqué issued Friday at the end of a joint meeting of the office of the Head of Service and the state Civil Service Commission in Lokoja. According to the communiqué, no establishment has the statutory responsibility to recruit officers on grade level 7 and above, adding that the promotion of senior officers was the sole responsibility of the state Civil Service Commission. On training and re-training, the communiqué said present administration under Governor Ibrahim Idris was prepared to give civil servants the opportunity to improve themselves for better delivery. The joint meeting which had in attendance the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission Mr Ayo Benjamin, the Head of Service Mallam Isa Nchaba, Permanent Secretary of the commission, commissioners and principal officers of the commission as well as those of the office of the Head of Service also resolved that written examinations would henceforth take place before any civil servant is promoted.

... Tops HIV infection in North-east

FROM Abdullahi Tasiu Abubakar, Yola

THE people of Adamawa State have been warned of the increasing danger of getting a dual infection of HIV and tuberculosis, as the state emerges with the highest rate of HIV/AIDS prevalence in the Northeast zone.

The Control Officer of the State Tuberculosis and Leprosy Control Dr Stephen John issued the warning in Yola at an HIV preventive workshop, organised by Optimum Healthcare Initiative in collaboration with the National Agency for Control of AIDS.

According to a WHO-supported survey, Adamawa has the highest HIV prevalence in the Northeast with 6.8 per cent, and places ninth in Nigeria where Benue State tops with

10.8 per cent followed by Nasarawa with 10 per cent and the Federal Capital Territory with 9.9 per cent. Ekiti has the lowest rate with 1 per cent. The national average is 4.6 per cent.

Dr John said this puts the people of Adamawa State at a high risk of HIV-tuberculosis co-infection, which he said has already reached 29 per cent in the state.

He said about 1.8 billion people in the world have tuberculosis, 40 million HIV infections, and 11 million people have HIV/TB co-infection.

Nigeria, he said, has the highest cases of tuberculosis infection in Africa with about 400,000 people getting infected every year.

The control officer noted that HIV infec-

tion results in higher risk of TB infection, "much higher risk of rapid progression (and) much higher risk of reactivation".

It also leads to diagnostic difficulties, lower cure rates, increased drug side effects, high morbidity and mortality, he said.

Dr John equally noted that tuberculosis infection on HIV-positive person fastens the progression of the HIV infection and increases side effects of drugs.

Other effects of tuberculosis on HIV, he added, are increased mortality and morbidity and increased interruption of treatment by patients.

"Co-infection is a serious problem," he said. "It is a problem that requires urgent intervention".



LAGOS State Governor Babatunde Fashola (second left) with the President, Lagos Country Club Ikeja, Mr. Babatunde Okunuga (left) and a member of the Board of Trustees, Chief Idowu Sofola (right), during the 2010 New Year Party and Award Nite at the club's premises in Ikeja on Friday.

FUT to name center after Maryam

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

THE Federal University of Technology (FUT) Minna is to name a development center after late Hajiya Maryam Babangida.

The move was disclosed by the Vice Chancellor of the university Professor Muhammadu Audu who led a 20 man delegation to condole the family of former military president retired General Ibrahim Babangida yesterday in Minna.

Citing reasons for immortalising Maryam, the vice chancellor said it

was in recognition of her enviable contributions to rural development in the country through her pet project, the Better Life for Rural Women (BLRW). He maintained that the centre would perform the functions of documentation and dissemination of impact of projects implemented by the BLRW to continue to carry out research and development in core areas.

Professor Audu said the institution had approved the allocation of 50 hectares of land for the project. While seeking the support and approval of the former military

president, the vice chancellor said the university management would carry out research on gender related issues and infrastructure in the rural areas.

Audu added that the centre would partner with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), National Building Research Institute of Egypt, the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation in India and link with Agricultural Extension and Rural Development Centre (AERDC) of Reading University, UK.

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1. A 4-BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED DUPLEX WITH A B/Q AT ASONORO (NILLA) = N250MILLION
2. A BLOCK OF 4 UNITS OF 3 BEDROOM FLATS AT ENGBO, LAGOS = N20MILLION
3. A PLOT OF LAND AT DAPE DISTRICT (LIFE CAMP EXTENSION) BEHIND TREM MEASURING 1,200M² WITH C OF O = N15MILLION
4. A PLOT OF LAND AT DAKIBIYU, JABI MEASURING 1,300M² WITH C OF O = N20MILLION
5. A PLOT OF LAND AT AWOLAYA EPUTU IBEI U (MAYFAIR GARDENS) LAGOS STATE MEASURING 576,337M² = N15MILLION
6. 2 BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW AT KARU = N8MILLION
7. A 3 BEDROOM FLAT AT UROMI CLOSE AREA 2 WITH C OF O = N16MILLION
8. SPECIALIZED SHOP (UP & DOWN) AT GUDU MARKET BEHIND APO QRTS = N7MILLION
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Online Reactions

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ON www.dailytrust.com



Obasanjo to Yar'adua: Take the path of honour

I don't agree with Obasanjo; he played with the intelligence of the audience. What path of honour is his preaching now? He did not allow for a free and fair election during his Period!

Jibril Ndah S.

jibhusna@yahoo.com

Obasanjo cannot exonerate himself from what is happening now. He contributed to the emergence of Yar'adua as president, even against our collective wishes. Trying to exonerate himself instead of apologizing is totally unacceptable by us.

Usman Katagum

ulimacong@yahoo.com

As far as I am concerned, Nigeria is a country full of godfatherism; you put whoever you want in whatever position you want and that was exactly what happened in the case of Obasanjo and Yar'adua. To say that He (Obasanjo) was not aware of Yar'adua's state of health is not true because everyone knows that Yar'adua has always had problems with his health even while he was a governor. Obasanjo did whatever he did for his own self interest. One thing they should understand is the fact that Nigerians are wise people and cannot be cajoled. I pray that others will learn from this so that it doesn't happen again in the future. God help Nigeria.

Helen O.

lenpety2ky2k@yahoo.com

Why in the first instance did Obasanjo not allow Nigerians to choose their own President instead of imposing his candidate? In civilized nations of the world, unlike Nigeria, the power of the electorates matters a lot and the votes of the masses determine who becomes a leader.

Charles

comoni@aol.com

Now it is getting clearer. It's good to speak out and tell everyone the situation that led to and is on ground

Jos crisis contained – Army chief

KUDOS should be given for the prompt response by the COAS. But for this effort, the end to this carnage might not have been in sight.

Naibi Zubairu

naibizubairu@yahoo.com

Gov Jang, had it been that serious measures were taken last time this crisis will not keep repeating itself. Mark you, people are suspecting you that you have a hand in this.

Umar Ibrahim Aliyu

umar.ibrahimaliyu@yahoo.com



FORMER President Olusegun Obasanjo launching the Kilanjaru magazine at the Trust Dialogue in Abuja on Thursday.

so that people will not be blaming you out of knowledge. Who else will know what Obasanjo just revealed if he had not said it loud and clear? That is why there is the clamor for the Freedom of Information Bill so that people will know what is happening in their country, with their lives and to their wealth! Ironically, the National Assembly is not taking some of these critical bills seriously. The Petroleum industry Bill, the Terrorism Bill and other developmental bills must be taken seriously. Our new constitution must take care of critical areas of life i.e election, corruption, religions crises, citizenship and land ownership, power vacuums, etc. We need to move forward as a nation. We must thrive in justice and peace!

Aji Isuwa Suleiman

suleimanaji@yahoo.com

Thank you Baba; you have said the truth.

Kabir Assada

tsumagiya@yahoo.com

Your Excellency, yes indeed you have spoken, but my reservation on your statement is that you did not really help Yar'adua since you knew his health status by handing over the office of the president to him. I have not for once agreed with people who have been telling the kidney transplant story until you mentioned it now. On those

qualities you mentioned, I believe God has endowed Nigeria with many people who possess them but I know too that there political affiliations might have hindered you from choosing them.

Ibrahim Hamza

hamzaib2001@yahoo.com

Obasanjo did not tell the truth. He should provide as evidence, the report that was presented to him saying Yar'adua was no longer on dialysis. Whether he likes it or not, history will never forget him for spearheading the choice of an unhealthy president.

Abubakar M. Bello

abubakarsk2001@yahoo.com

I am not be suprised to hear this from the former president, Chief Olusegun Aremu Obasanjo but I will not agree with his assertion that he did not pick Yar'adua despite his health status deliberately.

Abubakar Chika Maru

abubakarsuleiman2009@yahoo.com

Obasanjo now wants us to believe that Yar'adua had given him a forged medical report about his health.....which contradicts what he could not deny: his run-down while campaigning.

Ahmed A. Maradun

ahmedamaradun@yahoo.com

The explanations given on the

choice of Yar'adua as our President by Obasanjo are not tenable. Does Obasanjo want to tell the world that there is no other person with those qualities in the whole North except President Yar'adua? The best thing for him (Obasanjo) is to accept that he made a mistake and apologize to Nigerians for that. Telling Yar'adua to resign now is belated.

Mukhtar Musa

elmukhtar_musa@yahoo.co.uk

Now that OBJ has hit the gavel by informing us the truth about Yar'adua's health, he should also have the decency to apologize to Nigerians for keeping this vital information from us all this while.

Why on earth did he impose someone with the history of a kidney transplant – such a vital organ of the body - to the hapless people of Nigeria?

Hamza Zubairu

imanhamza006@yahoo.com

Obasanjo's comments only confirm the rumors about the motives of his choice of Yar'adua.

Sani M Makarfi

babanfati2001@yahoo.co.uk

The issue is not even about hand picking anybody but it is about the imposition of that person both at the party and national levels and the rigging of votes as well. His health status is not my problem. Was he the one chosen by Nigerians? In fact was he even the choice of the majority of P.D.P members?

Usman Ahmed Danbaba

danbaba1986@yahoo.com

I absolutely reject what Chief Olusegun Obasanjo said. Where is the medical report that the president showed you. Nigerians want to see it. Secondly did you mean that there is no other person with such qualities as you listed than other than Yar'adua in the whole of Nigeria?

Aliyu Jibrin Tela

jibril88ali@yahoo.com

eral Government. So does that mean that we're content to leave this issue to Jang and Anyanting to handle amicably? If we can't depend on our voted Representatives in Abuja to weigh in with something more than words, can't we at least trust the press to pressure them? How many lives would have been saved since the crisis began if only a state of emergency was declared?

Ibrahim Tijjani

ibrahimpasse@yahoo.co.uk



SUPER Eagles Coach Amodu Shuaibu

I've silenced my critics –Amodu

AMODU Shuaibu should not laugh yet. Yes he has beaten Mozambique but the Eagles were expected to beat Mozambique. Next is Zambia, let us see.

MI Tarfa

gilitarfa71@gmail.com

Some governors don't read security reports –Gov Aliyu

YES I quite agree with what Babangida Aliyu said. Many of our governors don't care to know the current situation their states are facing. They know that even if there is a crisis in their state, it will not affect them or their families so they don't care.

Abubakar Chika Maru

abubakarsuleiman2009@yahoo.com

Is the servant leader telling us that he did not read his security reports on the Boko Haram incidences in Minna?

Rakiya

raksdan@yahoo.com



NIGER State Governor Babangida Aliyu

Jos: Jonathan orders army into crisis-prone areas

DR Goodluck Jonathan, please let this not be for the sake of your political desire. We want serious action. Bring the accused to justice.

Aminu Hussain

alamin900@yahoo.com

Jos: Playing with Fire



PLATEAU State Governor Jonah Jang

IF I deduced properly, this article is blaming a large part, if not whole of this crisis, on failure of leadership and I would say you did a little justice to the topic, even though you ended most of the criticism at state level.

I vividly remember during the Mutallab saga, the entire press was wailing as to why President Yar'adua was not present to handle the crisis. Yet now that the lives at stake are not American but fellow Nigerians, there is hardly any agitation for a Fed-



By Hamidu Dansarki

At least, a sustainable technical education

Nigeria's long-running quest for technological development is now getting more realisable principally because the educational pre-requisite for the attainment of this strategic advantage is also being given due attention and diligent preparation. The best news to have come in this context was released at the latest meeting of experts on UNESCO's Technical and Vocational Education (TVE) initiative in the ECOWAS sub-region hosted in Kaduna by the National Board of Technical Education (NBTE). As a Nigerian with a keen interest in a technological breakthrough for Nigeria, it was a matter of pride and confidence to sit in the audience at the opening of the meeting and hear the UNESCO lead-consultant, Dr Hashim Abdulwahab hailing Nigeria's pioneering efforts in the provision of a qualitative foundation for the smooth take-off and systematic development of TVE in the sub-region, which he described as an unprecedented success. The UNESCO Consultant was referring to the rich array of on-line educational materials, specially produced for TVE curricula and programme delivery, painstakingly produced under the supervision of TVE National Project Coordinator, Dr Nuru Yakubu and the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) of which he is the Executive Secretary.

The most impressive aspects of the educational foundation thus laid are the production of 356 e-books and the development of 76 curricula for courses in the polytechnic sub-sector. The significance of this achievement looms even larger against the background of the formidable challenges facing TVE in Nigeria, especially in terms of inadequate curricula, poor teacher preparation, gross inadequacy of facilities and insufficient resource input. It is indeed a quantum leap to have moved from such a dismal situation to one in which the requisite curricula and instructional materials are not only being produced but in the latest e-format for online accessibility. It is little wonder that the UNESCO Lead Consultant described this remarkable initiative as a model not only for the sub-region and Africa but the entire developing world. This was further supplemented with similar successes in the establishment of a system of continuous staff training through six staff development centres which have trained up to 10,000 staff so far. The challenges of inadequate curricula, poor teacher preparation and inadequacy of facilities have been addressed in one comprehensive action initiative of the TVE National Programme supported by UNESCO.

There is now good ground to make feasible projections for the systematic development of technical and vocational education as a major pillar for the technological aspirations of our citizens and a meaningful approach towards addressing related challenge of youth unemployment through the opportunities for self-sustenance and enhancement of quality of manpower available for development programmes in general. The added advantage of e-books and other online accessible resource materials means that technical and vocational education delivery can be rid of the curse of being perpetually outmoded and cumbersome which has also constituted a cog in the wheel.

By virtue of the statutory regulatory functions of the National Board for Technical Education, it is arguably best suited to coordinating such well-thought out initiatives for the establishment and development of qualitative and modern framework operational blueprint for technical and vocational education in Nigeria. Under the leadership of Dr Yakubu as Executive Secretary, himself a proud and committed product and proponent of enhanced technical education for a realistic response to the development challenges facing Nigeria and indeed the developing world, the Board has already firmly embedded a stringent quality assurance mechanism for technical institutions in Nigeria for the award of certificates and diplomas. In the process, seemingly intractable problems bedeviling technical education such as lack of enforcement of carrying capacity guidelines and widespread violation of the 70/30 enrolment ratio in favour of science and technology programmes stipulated in the National Policy on Education.

By far its most recent significant achievement is the development of curricula and course specifications for 215 programmes across the spectrum of National Diploma and certificate programmes for vocational and innovation enterprise courses thereby upgrading and realigning the archaic and unrealistic curricula of the 80s and 90s which retarded technical education in the country for almost two decades. In particular the broadening of the scope to include vocational and innovation enterprises education with full certification captured the essence of designing curricula to suit the local demands while incorporating latest global trends.

Dansarki wrote from Abuja

Your Letters

Ojukwu can't save Peter Obi

Nigerian politicians see four years as eternity, without knowing that it is so short a time. After the judicial struggle in Anambra state, Governor Peter Obi of Anambra state took over power from Dr Chris Ngige as the bonafide winner of April 2003 gubernatorial election in Anambra state.

It is now the fourth year, but this young man is afraid of leaving this exalted office. And the only way he thinks he can come back is by dragging an old man (Ojukwu) about. But, the best thing for him to do now is to leave, because he has nothing to show for his four years in Awka.

We should throw sentiment away and say the gospel truth. Obi became the governor of Anambra state through the courts, consolidated his seat through the courts, but the judiciary in Anambra state often go on strike. It's ridiculous.

I have nothing against him as a person, but as a concerned citizen, I know that Anambra is not where it should be. I don't see any tangible project Obi is leaving behind. I don't know any physical structure he has raised. All he does is planning, planning and planning.

As the battle for the seat of governor rages on in Anambra, Obi's only campaign promise is 'Vote him, for another four years, he is my son, it is my last wish'-by Ojukwu.

Obi should stop hiding in Ojukwu's shadow and tell us what he has achieved in the last four years and what he intends to achieve if given another four years. I say this because the interest of the generality of Anambrarians cannot be slaughtered at the altar of family friendship.

Ojukwu is somebody I respect so much because of his courage and intellectual accomplishments, but this 'last wish' to me is too expensive and unrealizable because we can not afford to waste another four years in what I call 'political slumber'.

Other contestants are doing well individually, and none is hiding under any big personality to win the election except the incumbent. To show the extent of Obi's failure in Anambra state, after four years, Obi has not built a political empire or structure for himself, something Oshiomhole has done under one year, even APGA his party is not a strong political force. What he believes in is to hide under an established personality to win election, just like a pupil hiding under his headmaster to pass general exam. It is a failure at the highest level.

Comparatively, Ngige is relying on his works while in office to form his campaign theme, Soludo is relying on his Midas-touch which he used at CBN to stabilize our banking industry, where as Ekwunife (iyom) is relying on her good works both at UBA and House of Representatives. But Obi is relying solely on Ojukwu.

Can Ojukwu save Obi? Your guess is as good as mine.

Ben Chukwu, Awkuzu, Anambra State.

Text us on 08 131 8000 30

No kid gloves for Jos crisis

THE frequent crises in Jos clearly show the incompetence of the Plateau State government to rise to the occasion before it got out of hand. Now that it has, what needs to be done is for appropriate security measures to be taken, including, I'm afraid, the declaration of a state of emergency, and all the consequences that entails. YAHYA Mohammed, Bida, Niger state, 08097693275.

Fie you!

SHAME on those who are calling for state of emergency on the Plateau; their real intention is for the state to be balkanized. Long live Plateau state; long live Nigeria. 08038119059.

Stop and think

WE should be thankful to God that we are in this corner of the world. We should stop fighting one another and learn from what is happening in Haiti and the rest of the world. ABDULHAFIZ Yusuf Hassan, Kano, 08068080382.

Why tarry?

THERE is no need waiting for all the culprits in the Jos crisis to be rounded up before some of judicial process is begun; those that have already been caught should be made to face the music, whatever it sounds like. Let's have them, even if they scapegoats; others would be cautious. U. Sadiq, IBB University, Lapai, Niger State, 07035803535.

What's in a name?

PLATEAU State does not deserve the motto: "Home of peace and tourism". With so many lives lost in an unending crisis that the government is unwilling or incompetent to end. SADIYYA K., 08069111702.

Obasanjo cannot hoodwink us

IT'S sad that Daily Trust would give Obasanjo the platform to play without our intelligence by trying to re-write history in his favour. All he said are lies. The script to write for power to stay in the South is now in the open. May Allah heal Yar'adua and return him safely back, as both life and death are in His hands alone. GARBA Usman, Katsian, 08033065912.

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Ethnic cleansing at Kuru Karama

Cont'd from front page

town," said Corinne Dufka, senior West Africa researcher at Human Rights Watch. "The authorities need to act now both to bring those behind these heinous crimes to justice and to protect both the survivors and those at risk of renewed violence." Witnesses interviewed by Human Rights Watch said that groups of armed men attacked the largely Muslim population of Kuru Karama around 10 a.m. on January 19, 2010.

After surrounding the town, they hunted down and attacked Muslim residents, some of whom had sought refuge in homes and a local mosque, killing many as they tried to flee and burning many others alive. The witnesses said they believed members of the armed groups to be Christians.

Community leaders from Jos and journalists who visited the town under military escort later in the week told Human Rights Watch that they saw bodies, including several charred corpses of young children and babies, strewn around town, including dozens stuffed down wells or in sewage pits. According to various eyewitnesses those who attacked the unarmed and defenceless residents of Kuru Karama were well-armed, with guns, machetes and other weapons. They descended on the hapless and helpless residents. The attackers hacked their victims as they tried to flee. They burnt their remains or dumped their bodies in wells. By the time the mayhem ended, the entire Kuru Karama settlement was a crime scene: 150 bodies were recovered from wells. In previous clashes in Plateau State and even after this one, governments from that of Joshua Dariye to Jonah Jang, are quick to claim that "foreign mercenaries" were often involved in the fighting. It is important to find out where this killers of the innocent at Kuru Karama and other villages came from. Are they once again from Chad? And if so have they returned home after their murderous rampage?

Propaganda has its limits, it can certainly not explain away hundreds of corpses either stuffed into wells or burnt beyond recognition! This is a major crime against humanity, and we urge the Federal government to take quick and decisive action to find and punish these killers, some of whom, the victims claim, were policemen. It's one thing for combatants to fight for supremacy as may have happened inside Jos, it's quite another, to swoop on a small and unarmed community and systematically murder men, women and children.

Unless this crime is punished, we are all by our silence encouraging an agenda of ethnic cleansing on the Plateau. Those who have done this and those who have encouraged it with a wink and a nod, may celebrate the efficiency of this cold blooded massacre. But it will be an empty victory, if all it does is take the conflict in Plateau to a new level of bestiality and vengeance.

We are concerned that unless we all recognise the gravity of what has happened in the small village of Kuru Karama and ensure that those who organised or sanctioned it are identified and punished, this senseless act could well join the list of similar bestial acts that are swept under the carpets of the business as usual commission of inquiries that have failed to stop the bloody cycle of violence on the Plateau. We note that the government is already treading an all-too-familiar line. Vice President Goodluck Jonathan has ordered soldiers to take over internal security issues from the regular police, and pledged that government would bring the perpetrators to book.

Having heard similar assurances which only sowed the seeds of yet new and more vicious crises, we are not confident that those old assurances are enough. Today, we are caught in a more horrific situation that demands the harshest of sanctions. We should make clear that what is required here is an inquiry into the Kuru Karama massacre by a body separate from the one that may be set up to investigate the larger recurring Jos crisis; the Kuru Karama incident bears the hallmarks of a bigger crime, one that might need the intervention of the United Nations to unravel. The Federal Government must move decisively to reassure the rest of Nigerians that such barbarity cannot be condoned anywhere in the country. Doing anything short of that is no option as it will give the impression that people should resort to self help in matters of life and death.

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Nostalgia for Dan Maraya Jos

Issa Aremu, *mni*

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Today, Jos is almost a byword (and indeed metaphor) for indiscriminate and obviously avoidable human tragedy and bad governance of unimaginable proportions. An average student of contemporary affairs remembers the ancient city for its addictive mayhems and notorious *Tears, Sorrow and Blood* trademarks rather than the home of the prestigious National Institute for Policy and Strategic studies (NIPSS) whose motto paradoxically reads: *Towards a Better Society*. Before the latest strategic system/governance failure in the state (that hosts strategic Institute!), Jos was actually a byword for success, progress and human capital. The city (and its beautiful environs including Kuru where NIPSS is situated) was once a good society such that the National Institute established in late 70s could not have chosen an appropriate place to envision a better society for Nigeria and Africa. Virtually all industries have compassed in Plateau state like other hither promising industrial cities in the North. Many houses and properties have been burnt. Scores of thousands of lives have been wasted in recent time. This is certainly not the best of time for good memory and reflection about the great Tin city. What with unprovoked attacks, war of annihilations and genocide/ serial killings and the urge for revenge?

But even at this hour as we cry let see with the benefit of hindsight. There is a living human capital (indeed a legend) whose rise and rise tells the story of once prosperous, peaceful and governed Plateau state. As we rebuild from the ashes of the old of destroyers let's remember that there was once a legacy worthy of a reinvention.

His name is Dan Maraya Jos, which means "The Little Orphan of Jos". He was an orphan not as a result of the recent type intolerable premeditated mayhems. On the contrary, he was born in 1946 in B'ukuru, near Jos in Plateau State, by a father who died shortly after his birth. His mother also died in quick succession while he was still an infant, hence the name, orphan by which everyone knows him. Born into a family of artistic heritage (Dan Maraya's father (Adamu Waya, was a court musician) it was not surprising that Dan Maraya showed an early interest in music and came under the influence of local professional musicians. Dan

Maraya's story can make volumes of books but what is clear is that from grass he emerged into global prominence, branding and rebranding Jos in a way that no Governor (Plateau state has produced 19 governors since inception) can claim. We know Jos through Dan Maraya more than any other person.

Dan Maraya's song themes are diverse, not ethnicity or religion bound but remarkably all inclusive. "His first and perhaps still his most famous song is "Wakar Karen Mota" ["Song of the Driver's Mate"] in praise of the young men who get passengers in and out of minivan buses and do the dirty work of changing tires, pushing broken down vans, and the like. During the Nigerian Civil War, he com-

launched by the Gowon regime and *Munafikin Yaki*, among others, to depict war as a bad phenomenon".

With his local violin Dan Maraya shows that a difference a one-man good band and indeed one-man good governance can do for Nigeria.

Dan Maraya represented Nigeria at both local and international festivals like FESTAC '77, Commonwealth Games and the 1978 Horonzonte International Festival in Berlin, performed in United States, Jamaica, Cuba, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Venezuela, The Netherlands, and prominent European cities like; Geneva, Bonn, Frankfurt and most African countries and cities. A man with a long list of awards to his credit, pray can Nigeria produced a worthy musician like Dan Maraya who will represent Nigeria all over

“Dan Maraya's story can make volumes of books but what is clear is that from grass he emerged into global prominence, branding and rebranding Jos in a way that no Governor (Plateau state has produced 19 governors since inception) can claim

posed numerous songs in praise of soldiers of the federal army and incorporated vivid accounts of scenes from the war in his songs".

"Many of his songs incorporate social commentary." *Gulma-Wuya* ["The Busybody"] describes a neighbourhood gossip who works in collusion with a *boka* (a practitioner in casting spells, removing evil spirits, etc.) to disrupt marriages by sowing dissension between women and their husbands. The latter song is amusing in that Dan Maraya performs it as a drama, imitating the voices of the different characters as they speak, a technique that he has used in other songs as well. To add a Northern touch to any show, the one and obvious choice was Dan Maraya Jos".

He had over 1000 songs and 150 released singles and records, to his credit just like late Mamman Shata and Fela Anikulapo-kuti. "He sang; Pereshan " *Fidoneshan* when the Obasanjo regime launched the 'Operation Feed The Nation. *Yara Manyan Gobe* to stress the importance of the U.P.E (Universal Primary Education) Programme

the world and indeed contribute greatly to the development and growth of Nigeria in the present reality of carnage in present day Plateau state? Dan Maraya's growth and development is proportionally related to the growth and development of development. He was born and survived during developmentalist all inclusive regional government of Ahmadu Bello, the late Premier. Subsequent governors of Plateau states from late Dan Suleiman, founding governor to worthy good governor, Solomon Lar were committed to peace and development that attracted and developed the likes of Dan Marayas who passed through the great railway terminus of Jos through trains, the unifying means of mobility in developmentalist Nigeria searching and contributing to development. The point cannot be overstated: the current Jos crisis is not religious or ethnic but purely crisis of governance.

Governor Jonah Jang has made more orphans, widows out of citizens he is paid to protect while his predecessors with less endowment over the years have made Dan Marayas transformed to acknowledged global achievers. Any better evidence that Governors that preside over serial mass burials of their citizens rather than saving an orphan should not last a day longer in office? Nostalgia for Dan Maraya is a personal solidarity with the victims of the latest Jos madness and a reminder that what is needed is message of peace, unity, and development for Nigeria more than ever before.

“A man with a long list of awards to his credit, pray can Nigeria produced a worthy musician like Dan Maraya who will represent Nigeria all over the world and indeed contribute greatly to the development and growth of Nigeria in the present reality of carnage in present day Plateau state?

INTERNATIONAL

Darfur peace talks yet to kick off in Qatar

DIRECT peace talks between the Sudanese government and Darfur rebel groups did not resume yesterday as expected, with the two sides holding separate consultations with mediators instead.

"(Sunday) we have had consultations" with Qatari mediators and the chief negotiator for the United Nations and African Union, Djibril Bassole, said Ahmed Hussein Adam, spokesman for the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), the main rebel group in Darfur.

"The talks were constructive and transparent ... We hope, among other things, to resolve questions of procedure before entering into direct political negotiations with the Sudanese government," he said.

A source in the Sudanese government delegation confirmed to AFP that there would be "no direct negotiations yesterday with rebel groups but only consultations with the mediators."

A source in the UN-AU mediation meanwhile told AFP: "There is no real cancellation. We are working with the government and with the armed movements to get them working together towards an effective dialogue."

"This is still ongoing... and we will hope to find an appropriate format by which they can make progress," the source said.

The Sudanese delegation,

which is headed by Ghazi Salaheddin, the government's pointman on Darfur, met with Bassole on Saturday.

Darfur rebels had two rounds of talks with Sudanese government officials in Qatar -- in February and May of 2009.

But other factions have refused to join the mooted talks in Doha and the JEM later said there is no point in taking part if there is no unity among the rebels.

Rebels and government officials were also due to meet in November but the talks failed to

take place.

Bassole said earlier this month that talks to settle the festering conflict in the Darfur region would resume in Doha before the end of the month, with January 24 set as a date for direct talks.

The United Nations says up to

300,000 people have died and 2.7 million fled their homes since the ethnic minority rebels first rose up against the Arab-dominated government in Khartoum in February 2003.

Sudan's government says 10,000 people have been killed.



A convoy of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) crosses a river in southern Darfur.

HRW says 'abuse' undermining free Sudan election

HUMAN Rights Watch yesterday accused the Sudanese authorities of carrying alleged abuses ahead of a general election due in April and called on them to ensure "free and credible" polls.

"Violations of civil and political rights by Sudanese security forces throughout the country are seriously undermining prospects for free, fair, and credible elections in April 2010," HRW said in a report.

"The Khartoum government

is still using its security forces to harass and abuse those who speak out against the ruling National Congress Party," said Georgette Gagnon, Africa director for the New York-based rights watchdog.

"That is no environment for holding free, fair, and transparent elections," she was quoted as saying in the report.

HRW also criticised the authorities in southern Sudan, where it said "soldiers and police

arbitrarily arrested, detained, and mistreated members of political parties opposed to the southern ruling Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM)", a former rebel group.

The mostly Muslim north and largely Christian south signed a Comprehensive Peace Agreement on January 9, 2005 to end a 22-year civil war that was fuelled by religious, political and economic differences and cost two million lives.

Egypt, Libya slammed by rights group

EGYPT must revoke its "draconian emergency law" and Libya should free unjustly detained prisoners, Human Rights Watch said yesterday.

"Both Egypt's and Libya's human rights records will come under intense scrutiny by the UN Human Rights Council in 2010," said Sarah Leah Whitson, Middle East director at Human Rights Watch. Whitson was in Cairo to present the world report review of countries in the Middle East, entitled "Egypt and Libya: A Year of Serious Abuses" which details

the state of human rights in 2009.

"Egyptian security services need to understand that their thuggery confirms the international image of Egypt as a police state, while Libyan security forces continue to dominate political space in Libya in an atmosphere of fear," she said.

Egypt has been operating under a state of emergency since the 1981 assassination of president Anwar Sadat, and it has been renewed repeatedly since then despite protests from rights groups and regime opponents.

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International



THIS is an undated photo of al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden.

Bin Laden claims airline bomb attempt at Christmas

OSAMA bin Laden claimed responsibility for the attempt to bomb a Detroit-bound airliner on Christmas Day in a new audio message released yesterday threatening more attacks on the United States.

A senior U.S. intelligence official in Washington said there is "no evidence whatsoever" that bin Laden had any involvement on the Christmas Day attack — or even knew about it beforehand.

The message suggests the al-Qaida leader wants to appear in direct command of the terrorist group's many affiliates around the world at a time when some analysts have suggested he is mostly a figurehead.

In the minute-long recording carried by Al-Jazeera Arabic news channel, bin Laden addressed President Barack Obama saying the Christmas attack was meant to send a message similar to that of the Sept. 11 attacks. "The message delivered to you through the

plane of the heroic warrior Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab was a confirmation of the previous messages sent by the heroes of the Sept. 11," he said. "America will never dream of security unless we will have it in reality in Palestine," he added.

"God willing, our raids on you will continue as long as your support for the Israelis continues."

On Christmas Day, Nigerian Abdul Mutallab attempted to blow up his Northwest Airlines flight as it approached Detroit Metro Airport. But the explosive powder he was hiding in his underwear failed to detonate.

He told federal agents shortly afterward that he had been trained and given the explosives by al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, an al-Qaida affiliate in Yemen. "Today the operational relationship has somewhat suffered, but the ideological relationship is very strong and that is why bin Laden claimed this attack," Gunaratna said.

Anti-Chavez channel removed from cable

A cable television channel critical of President Hugo Chavez was yanked from the airwaves early yesterday for defying new regulations requiring it to televise the socialist leader's speeches.

Venezuelan cable television providers stopped transmitting Radio Caracas Television, an anti-Chavez channel known as RCTV, because it did not broadcast Chavez's speech Saturday to a rally of political supporters.

"They must comply with the law, and they cannot have a single channel that violates Venezuelan laws as part of their programming," Diosdado Cabello, director of Venezuela's state-run telecommunications agency, said at the weekend.

The agency "doesn't have any authority to give the cable service providers this order," RCTV said in a statement.

"The government is inappropriately pressuring them to make decisions beyond their responsibilities."

The new broadcasting laws were approved last month by the telecommunications agency.

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(Sardaunan Kano)
The Executive Governor of Kano State

ABCON

ASSOCIATION OF BUREAUX DE CHANGE OPERATORS OF NIGERIA

NORTH WEST ZONE
SUIT 10, NO 42 ZOO ROAD, GIDAN MAITANGARAN KANO
TEL: 064-976672, 07039212644, e-mail: abconforexkano@yahoo.com

Congratulations
Sardaunan Kano

On behalf of the entire members of the **ASSOCIATION OF BUREAUX DE CHANGE OPERATORS OF NIGERIA (ABCON) NORTH WEST ZONE**, and members of the Executive Council, heartily rejoice with his Excellency, *The Executive Governor of Kano State, Malam (Dr) Ibrahim Shekarau* on his conferment and turbaning ceremony of the traditional title of **SARDAUNAN KANO**, by His Royal Highness,

The Emir of Kano Alhaji (Dr) Ado Bayero, CFR, LLD, JP
on Friday 22nd January, 2010

May Allah continue to guide, protect and give the courage to forge ahead, Ameeen.

SIGNED

YUSUF IBRAHIM ABUBAKAR
Executive Secretary,

Association of Bureaux de Change Operators of Nigeria (ABCON)
North West Zonal Office Kano.

Saluting The First Ever
Sardauna of Kano



Malam (Dr.) Ibrahim Shekarau
(Sardaunan Kano)
The Executive Governor of Kano State

On behalf of the entire people of the Republic of Benin resident in Nigeria, I Alhaji Muntari Ali Daura, the *Honorary Consul-General, Benin Republic to Nigeria*, wishes to share joy with his Excellency, *the Executive Governor of Kano State Malam (Dr) Ibrahim Shekarau* on his Turbaning as the first ever *Sardauna of Kano*, by His Royal Highness, *The Emir of Kano Alhaji (Dr) Ado Bayero, CFR, LLD, JP*

May Allah in His Infinite wisdom, guide and protect you on this noble assignment.



SIGNED

Alhaji Muntari Ali Daura
Honorary Consul-General, Benin Republic to Nigeria

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 Kano Co-operative Building, Kano-Nigeria

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT: 52a, Ikorodu Road, Fajeyi,
 Yaba-Igbo P.O.Box 6118, Shomolu
 Tel: 7732876, Fax: 2643303 e-mail: nantanig@yahoo.co.uk
 website: www.nanta-nig.com

Congratulations

Sardaunan Kano



Malam (Dr) Ibrahim Shekarau
(Sardaunan Kano)
Kano State Governor

On behalf of the entire members of
National Association of Nigeria Travel Agencies
NANTA (Northern Chapter)
 Felicitate with *His Excellency, the Executive Governor*
 of Kano State Malam (Dr) Ibrahim Shekarau
 on the conferment and turbaning ceremony of the
 traditional title of **SARDAUNAN KANO**
 by His Highness The Emir of Kano
Alh. (Dr) Ado Bayero, CFR, LL.D, JP

on 22 January, 2010

Allah Ya taya riko Amin.

Signed:

Alh. Aminu Agona
Vice President (North)

Abdulaziz Sabitu Mohd
Zonal Secretary (North)

Scenes from the 7th Annual Trust Dialogue

PIX: AFOLABI SOTUNDE



FROM right: Hajiya Naja'atu Mohammed, former OAU secretary general Dr. Salim Ahmad Salim, former Lagos State deputy governor Mrs. Kofoworola Bucknor-Akerele, Mrs. Samia Nkrumah, former President Olusegun Obasanjo, anti-apartheid legend Mrs Winnie Mandela, Niger State governor Dr. Muazu Babangida Aliyu, Sokoto State deputy governor Barrister Mukhtari Shagari and Media Trust Chairman/COE Malam Kabiru Yusuf [standing] at the 7th Annual Trust Dialogue in Abuja on Thursday last week.



FORMER Nasarawa State governor Abdullahi Adamu with former PDP women leader Mrs. Josephine Anenih at the 7th Annual Trust Dialogue in Abuja.



WINNIE Mandela's Personal Assistant Mrs. Zodwa Zwane, Mandela's daughter Zindziswa and the South African High Commissioner to Nigeria Kinsley Mamanbolo at the Dialogue in Abuja.



DIRECTORS of Media Trust Ltd. Alhaji Rabi'u Garba, Alhaji Shu'aibu Abdullahi, Malam Mannir dan-Ali and Malam Umar Abdullahi at the event.



SOUTH Africa High Commissioner in Nigeria Kinsley Mamanbolo, Managing Director, Media Trust Ltd Alhaji Sadiq Ishaq Ajibola, a guest, publisher Vanguard newspaper Mr. Sam Amuka, Gbenga Adefaye, President, Nigeria Guild of Editors and Bolaji Adebisi, Special Assistant to the President at the event.

Scenes from the 7th Annual Trust Dialogue

PIX: AFOLABI SOTUNDE



FORMER Minister of State, Sen. Isaiah Balat, former GMD/CEO, Union Bank, Alhaji Mohammed imam Yahaya and Director, Media Trust Mal Umar Abdullahi at the event.



DAILY Trust columnist, Malam Mohammed Haruna, Alhaji Bashir Yusuf Ibrahim at the Dialogue



DIRECTOR of DG NIPSS (right) Prof. Ahmed Danfulani with Chairman, Daily Trust African of the Year Award Committee Dr Salim Ahmed Salim at the function.



DR Salim Ahmed Salim (centre) Hajia Naja'atu Mohammed (right), former Deputy Governor Lagos State, Senator Kofo Bucknor-Akerele (second left) and Mrs. Samia Nkrumah, at the function.



FROM left: Prof. Kwame Karikari, Prof Abdoulaye Bathily, Ms Muthoni Wanyeki, Prof. Tandeka Nkiwane and Prof. Okello Oculi at the Dialogue.



DR Omar Faruk Ibrahim, SA to the Petroleum Minister (third right with Mal. Nasiru Abdul, Special Adviser, Media to Katsina State Governor right,)



SENATOR Khairat Gwadabe and other dignitaries at the occasion



MRS. Charity Shekari, wife of the late Deputy Governor of Kaduna State, former Nasarawa Governor Abdullahi Adamu and Alhaji Shehu Liberty, Special Adviser to Borno State Governor at the Dialogue.

Scenes from the 7th Annual Trust Dialogue

PIXS: AFOLABI SOTUNDE



PROFESSOR Shamsudeen Amali, VC, Nassarawa State University, Keffi (left) and wife at the dialogue



PRINCESS Elizabeth Ogbon-Day, President, Nigerian Women in Politics and Becky O. Ebojoh, Media Group Secretary, Nigeria Women in Politics at the dialogue.



HAJIYA Bilikisu Magoro (second right) and Mrs. Julie Cole at the occasion.



SPECIAL guests at the Dialogue.



EDITOR, Daily Trust Mahmud Jega (right) welcomes the Vice Chancellor, Nassarawa State University, Prof. Shamsudeen Amali to the dialogue. With them is Chairman/CEO Media Trust Limited, Maiam Kabiru Yusuf (middle).



MANAGING Director of Media Trust Limited, Alhaji Isiaq Ajibola, delivering the vote of thanks at the end of the 7th Annual Media Trust Dialogue in Abuja.



MUSLIM LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (MULAN)

This is to invite the general public particularly our distinguished guests specially invited by His Lordship Hon. Justice Dahiru Musdapher JSC, CON that the inauguration ceremony programme of the board of trustees of Muslim Lawyers' Association of Nigeria and National Secretarial fund raising dinner will Insha Allah hold as follows:

Date: 27th January, 2010 (safir 12, 1431AH)
 Time: 7:30pm
 Venue: NICON Luxury Hotel, Area 11, Garki Abuja

Chairman of the occasion: Hon. Justice S.M.A Belgore, GCON, Former Chief Justice of the Federation

Special Guests

His Excellency, Rt. Hon. Dimeji Bankole- Speaker House of Representatives

His Excellency Governor of Lagos State
 His Excellency Governor of Bauchi State
 His Excellency Governor of Kebbi State
 His Excellency Governor of Katsina State
 His Excellency Governor of Benue State
 His Excellency, Governor of Adamawa State

His Excellency Governor of Gombe State
 His Excellency Governor of Kogi State
 His Excellency Governor of Niger State
 His Excellency Governor of Sokoto State
 His Excellency Governor of Jigawa State
 His Excellency Governor of Kano State

His Excellency Governor of Kaduna State
 His Excellency Governor of Kwara State
 His Excellency Governor of Zamfara State
 His Excellency Governor of Yobe State
 His Excellency Governor of Nasarawa State
 His Excellency, Deputy Governor of Niger State

Attorney General of Kaduna, Kogi, Kebbi, Zamfara, Sokoto, Benue, Nasarawa, Kano, Gombe, Bauchi, Kwara, Niger, Katsina, Yobe, Jigawa and Adamawa States
 Hon. Justice U.A. Kalgo (JSC) Rtd
 Hon. Justice A.M. Mukhtar (JSC)
 Hon. Justice Mahmud Muhammad (JSC)
 Hon. Justice IT Muhammad (JSC)
 Hon. Justice M. S Muntaka Coomassie
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 Hon. Justice Uwani Mua Abba-Aji
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 Mallam Yunus Ustaz Usman, SAN
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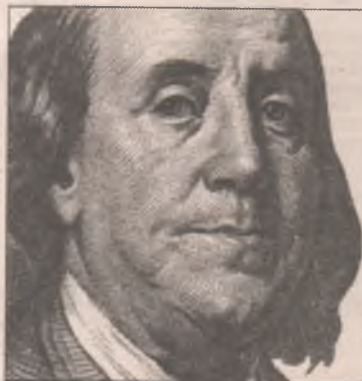
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NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION MISSING PERSON



MR SAMUEL OLUWALE ADELANA
 (Assistant Director, Budget)

This is to inform the general public that the person whose photograph appears above is Mr. Samuel Oluwale Adelana an Assistant Director (Budget) with the National Planning Commission. He was reportedly abducted on Sunday, January 2, 2010 in Area 2, Garki, Abuja and taken away in his Toyota Camry by unknown persons.

Mr. Adelana, who is 42 years old, dark in complexion, of average height and hails from Ondo State, has not been seen since that day.

We hereby appeal to anyone who may have information on his whereabouts to kindly contact the National Planning Commission, FCT Police Command Abuja or any Police Station in the Country.

Signed
PROF. SYLVESTER MONYE, MFR
 Secretary to the Commission



FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY ADMINISTRATION OF NIGERIA
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT SECRETARIAT
THIRD NATIONAL FADAMA DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
FCT FADAMA COORDINATION OFFICE, FRCN ROAD, GWAGWALADA,
ABUJA FCT

CREDIT NO: 4494-NG

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ON ADVISORY SERVICES ACTIVITIES

The Federal Government of Nigeria has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of implementation of the 3rd National Fadama Development Project (NFDP-III). Part of the credit has been on-lent to the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) who intends to apply part of the proceeds to eligible payment for contracts to be awarded for Advisory Services Activities (ASAs) and other service provision in the 19 Fadama Development Areas of FCT as follows:

- A. Advisory Services Activities
B. Input and Asset Provision
C. Small Owned Rural Infrastructure.
- A. The Advisory Services requirement in Fadama communities shall include (but not limited to) the following fields:

Food crop production, Commercial seed production, Specialized horticultural crop (and fruit tree) production, Seeding production, Crop production, Integrated pest management (IPM), Livestock production, Veterinary care, Livestock feed, Fish production, Fingerling production, Fish feed, Special production (wild life domestication, bee keeping, snailery, cheese making etc), Agro-forestry production, Soil and Water conservation, Irrigation, Water management, Water conveyance system, Input supply linkage, Credit linkage, Procurement Services, Storage and processing, Business management, record keeping and accounting, Agricultural marketing, Management and leadership for group and associations, Savings and Credit, Nutritional Health, Building and construction works.

B. Input and Assets Provision such as:

- Crop Production:**
i. Seed and seedlings
ii. Fertilizer and Manual
iii. Agro-chemicals for the protection of crops and livestock.

Livestock Production:

- i. Foundation stock (day old chicks, winners and calves etc)
ii. Feeds
iii. Drugs.

Pastoralist:

- i. Pastors seeds
ii. Fertilizer and manual

Fisher folks:

- i. Fingerlings
ii. Feed
iii. Fertilizer including lime.
iv. Drugs.

Forestry (e.g bee keeping, snarling etc)

- i. Parent stock
ii. Feed and Drugs

C. Productive/Pilot Asset Acquisition such as:

- i. Water lifting and distribution equipment,
ii. Agro-processing equipment/machinery
iii. Equipment for small holder fishing, livestock, dairy production, bee keeping and mixed farming.
iv. Irrigation and drainage infrastructure (e.g well, small dams, pond, surface water management systems).
v. Improved storage, preservation and conservation infrastructure (e.g handling, storage, preservation/conservation facilities, collection centers (etc).
vi. Other non-farm income generation activities.

D. Small Owned Productive Infrastructure Investment:

- i. Low-cost rehabilitation and/or construction of feeder and/or fadama access roads, culverts and small budget and rural markets.
ii. Infrastructure for sustainable natural resources management, including improved conservation of soils and agronomic practice, and water harvesting techniques

The selection of Advisory Service Providers (ASPs) for the Project will be carried out by the FCT Fadama Coordination Office and only selected ASPs may bid for Advisory Services Activities contracts under the Project in the Fadama Communities.

The FCT Fadama Coordination Office now invites sealed "Expression of Interest" from interested firms, Persons, NGOs or Public Agencies. The "Expression of Interest" is required to state clearly the field of interest and the qualification for such role(s), attaching photocopies of documentary evidences. Prospective ASPs may be required to show original copies of submitted documents in the selection process.

Interested firms, persons, NGOs or public agencies should submit their Expression of Interest in sealed envelop marked Expression of Interest for any of the following areas:

- A. Advisory Service Activities
B. Input & Asset Provision
C. Small owned Rural Infrastructure

to the Coordinator, at the address below on or before 26th February, 2010 between the hours of 8.00am 4.00pm, Mondays -Fridays.

FCT Fadama Coordination Office
FCT Fadama Development Project (FCT-FDP)
PMB 630, Garki/Abuja,
Along FRCN Road,
Opp. Gwagwalada Market
Gwagwalada, Abuja.



FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY ADMINISTRATION OF NIGERIA

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT SECRETARIAT

THIRD NATIONAL FADAMA DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
FCT-FADAMA COORDINATION OFFICE, FRCN ROAD,
OPP. GWAGWALADA MARKET, GWAGWALADA,
ABUJA P.M.B 630, GARKI ABUJA.

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Country: Nigeria
Project: NFDP/III
Contract: Procurement of Office Equipments
Project ID: P096572
Credit No: 4494-NG
Bid Issue Date: January 25, 2010
IFB No: FCT/FCO/NFDP/III/NCB/G/02/2010
Last Date of Bid Submission: February 26, 2010

- This Invitation for Bid follows the General Procurement Notice for the Project that appears in the DG market of June 19, 2009 and the Thisday Newspaper of July 3, 2009.
- The Federal Republic of Nigeria has received a Credit from the International Development Association (World Bank) in various currencies to finance the cost of the Third National Fadama Development Project (NFDP). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this Credit will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for the Procurement of Office Equipments.
- The FCT Third Fadama Coordination Office (FCT-FCO) now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for the supply of Office Equipments as listed below:

Lot/No	Item No	Description of Items	Quantity	Bid Security	Delivery Period	Delivery Location
1	1	Desktop Computers and Accessories.	15	At least 3%	60 Days	FCT Fadama Coordination Office, FRCN Road, Opp. Gwagwalada Market, Gwagwalada, Abuja FCT
	2	Laptop Computers	9	At least 3%	60 Days	FCT Fadama Coordination Office, FRCN Road, Opp. Gwagwalada Market, Gwagwalada, Abuja FCT
	3	Printers (Heavy Duty)	2	At least 3%	60 Days	FCT Fadama Coordination Office, FRCN Road, Opp. Gwagwalada Market, Gwagwalada, Abuja FCT
2	4	Generator Sets 4045 KVA	1	At least 3%	60 Days	FCT Fadama Coordination Office, FRCN Road, Opp. Gwagwalada Market, Gwagwalada, Abuja FCT
	5	Digital Photocopy Machine (Heavy duty)	2	At least 3%	60 Days	FCT Fadama Coordination Office, FRCN Road, Opp. Gwagwalada Market, Gwagwalada, Abuja FCT
4	6	Global Positioning system	10	At least 3%	60 Days	FCT Fadama Coordination Office, FRCN Road, Opp. Gwagwalada Market, Gwagwalada, Abuja FCT

- The FCT Fadama Coordination Office now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Office Equipments to be procured
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures 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.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from FCT Fadama Coordination Office, FRCN Road, Opp. Gwagwalada Market, Gwagwalada, Abuja FCT 08033858784, e-mail: dsabdallaah@yahoo.com (Coordinator), 08066029902 e-mail: ejembijosh@yahoo.com (Procurement Officer); and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from the hours of 8:00AM to 4:00PM Mondays -Fridays.
- Qualifications requirements include: bidders must be a legal entity, have at least three (3) years of audited account and must have annual turnover often Million Naira (N10,000,000.00).
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in *English language* 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 of **Ten Thousand Naira (N10,000.00)**. The method of payment will be in cash. The Bidding Documents will be obtained on payment.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 12 Noon February 26, 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 12:00 Noon February 26, 2010. All bids must be accompanied by a *Bid Security of not less than 3% of bid price or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.*
- The address referred to above is

FCT Fadama Coordination Office,
FRCN Road, Opp. Gwagwalada Market,
Gwagwalada, Abuja
PMB 630, Garki, FCT.
Abdullahi D. Salisu: 08033858784, e-mail: dsabdallaah@yahoo.com
(Project Coordinator),



**FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY
ADMINISTRATION OF NIGERIA**

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT SECRETARIAT
THIRD NATIONAL FADAMA DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
FCT-FADAMA COORDINATION OFFICE, FRCN ROAD, OPP.
GWAGWALADA MARKET, GWAGWALADA,
ABUJA P.M.B 630, GARKI ABUJA.

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Country: Nigeria
Project: NFDPIII
Contract: Procurement of Motorcycles
Project ID: P096572
Credit No: 4494-NG
Bid Issue Date: January 25, 2010
IFB No: FCT/FCO/NFDPIII/NCB/G/01/2010
Last Date of Bid Submission: February 26, 2010

- This invitation for Bid follows the General Procurement Notice for the Project that appears in the DG market of June 19, 2009 and the Thisday Newspaper of July 3, 2009.
- The Federal Republic of Nigeria has received a Credit from the International Development Association (World Bank) in various currencies to finance the cost of the Third National Fadama Development Project (NFDP). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this Credit will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for the Procurement of Motorcycles.
- The FCT Third Fadama Coordination Office (FCT-FCO) now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for the supply of Motorcycles as shown below:

Lot/No	Item No.	Description of Items	Quantity	Bid Security	Delivery Period	Delivery Location
1	1	Motorcycles 125CC	60	At least 3%	60 Days	FCT Fadama Coordination Office, FRCN Road, Opp. Gwagwalada Market, Gwagwalada, Abuja FCT.

- The FCT Fadama Coordination Office now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Motorcycles to be procured.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures 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.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from FCT Fadama Coordination Office, FRCN Road, Opp. Gwagwalada Market, Gwagwalada, Abuja FCT 08033858784, e-mail: dsabdallaah@yahoo.com (Coordinator), 08066029902 e-mail: ejembijosh@yahoo.com (Procurement Officer); and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from the hours of 8:00AM to 4:00PM Mondays Fridays.
- Qualifications requirements include: Bidder must be a legal entity, have a least three (3) years audited account and have annual turnover of Ten Million Naira (N10,000,000.00).
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in *English language* 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 of **Ten Thousand Naira (N10,000.00)**. The method of payment will be in cash. The Bidding Documents will be obtained on payment.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 12 Noon February 26, 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 12:00 Noon February 26, 2010. All bids must be accompanied by a *Bid Security of at least 3% of bid price or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.*
- The address referred to above is
FCT Fadama Coordination Office,
FRCN Road, Opp. Gwagwalada Market,
Gwagwalada, Abuja
PMB 630, Garki, FCT.
Abdullahi D. Salisu: 08033858784, e-mail: dsabdallaah@yahoo.com (Project Coordinator),



**FEDERAL COLLEGE OF FISHERIES
AND MARITIME TECHNOLOGY, LAGOS**

**INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT FOR
VACANCIES IN THE ACADEMIC AND NON ACADEMIC
DEPARTMENTS**

- MARINE ENGINEERING**
(a) Lecturers Principal Lecturer, Lecturer I & II
(b) Instructors
- FISHERIES TECHNOLOGY**
(a) Lecturers Principal Lecturer, Lecturer I & II
(b) Instructors
- NAUTICAL SCIENCE**
(a) Lecturers Principal Lecturer, Lecturer I & II
(b) Instructors
- GENERAL STUDIES**
(a) Lecturers Senior Lecturer, Lecturer I & II (Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Sociology or Political Science, Geography and Economics, Electrical/Electronics.)
- ADMINISTRATIVE**
(a) Administrative Officers - CONTISS 7
(b) Assistant Planning Officer - CONTISS 7
(c) Higher Data Processing Officer - CONTISS 7
- ACCOUNTS**
(a) Higher Executive Officer (Accounts) - CONTISS 7

QUALIFICATIONS

Principal Lecturers/Lecturers I & II must possess Ph.D degree in their relevant areas of specialization plus relevant publications and cognate reaching experience at institutions of comparable standard. Instructors must possess a Higher National Diploma in their relevant areas from a recognized Institution. All Applicants must show evidence of NYSC or Exemption.

SALARY

Principal Lecturers	-	CONTISS 13
Lecturer I	-	CONTISS 11
Lecturer II	-	CONTISS 09
Instructors	-	CONTISS 07

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Applicants must possess at least B.Sc degree in any of the Social Sciences, Economics, Sociology, Political Science, Psychology etc. from a recognized University. Membership of a relevant professional body, computer literacy and cognate experience will be an added advantage.

ASSISTANT PLANNING OFFICER

Applicant must possess at least a degree in any of the following: Statistics, Economics, Geography, Sociology and Political Science. Knowledge of Computer operations will be an added advantage.

DATA ASSISTANTS

Applicants must possess at least HND in Secretarial Studies including a Pass at 120 and 60 words per minute in Shorthand and Typewriting respectively from a recognized Institution. Evidence of the NYSC or exemption must be provided. Possession of qualifications in Computer operations especially in Desktop Publishing is required.

HIGHER EXECUTIVE OFFICER (ACCOUNTS)

Applicants are expected to possess at least HND in Accountancy from a recognized Institution and shows evidence of NYSC or exemption. Membership of Professional Body and Knowledge of Computer operations will be an added advantage.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

Interested Candidates should submit with their applications **fifteen (15) copies of their Curriculum Vitae** containing the following details among others:

- Full Names with Surname first in block letters
- Post desired and Department
- Date and Place of Birth
- Nationality/Sex
- Permanent Home Address
- Marital Status and Number of Children (with ages)
- Educational Institutions attended with Dates
- Specific areas of Specialization/interest
- Previous Employers
- Position held with dates
- Present Employers
- Present Status and Salary
- List of Publication with relevant details
- Extra Curriculum Activities
- Names and Addresses of three referees (Competent to attest to Candidate's Academic and Professional abilities)
- Professional Membership
- Signature and date of application

All applications are to be forwarded under confidential cover with the position sought and Departments marked at the upper left hand corner to the Registrar, Federal College of Fisheries and Marine Technology, Wilmot Point Road, P.M.B. 80063, Victoria Island, Lagos not later than **Four (4) weeks from the date of this publication.**

- Candidates should request their referees to forward their reports under Confidential Cover to reach the Registrar before the closing date of the applications.
- Candidates are to attach two sets of photocopies of all their credentials.
- Only applications of candidates short-listed for interview will be acknowledged.

Signed
I.I.Y. OHIOKPEHAI
Registrar



ALHUDA PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (APDAN)

Tel: 08035962767

C/o Financial Secretary
National Mosque Complex,
Abuja.

23rd January, 2010

ADVERTORIAL

URGENT NEED TO ASSIST MUSLIM VICTIMS OF JOS CRISIS

The crisis in Jos has once more resurfaced and as usual weighed heavily on Muslims who lost hundreds of precious lives and properties; there is a large number of people that sustained irreparable injuries that would hardly be curable for the rest of their lives. Consequently, the crisis has created:

- Countless Widows/Widowers and Orphans
- Numerous homeless people who become refugees in their own country
- Seriously injured people (Men, Women, Aged and Children) who need urgent medical attention to survive.
- Serious food and water scarcity that need to be addressed to save the victims from the tragic consequences of the adverse effect of hunger and shortage of water.
- Abject poverty among people that were formally successful entrepreneurs.
- Intensive unemployment and under-development.

We therefore appeal to individuals, groups and organizations, to come to the aid of the victims in whatever way possible, especially with the followings:-

- Foods and Water
- Clothes, Beddings, Detergents and other toiletries
- Medicines and other Medical Supplies
- Building Materials especially, Zinc, Woods, Nails, Cement etc
- Cash payments.

Donations to be sent to any of the following addresses:

1. **Jos** -Coordinating Committee, Jos Central Mosque, Jos
2. **Kano**- (i) Dr. Sheikh Aminuddeen, Tel: 08034511973 (ii) Sheikh Ibrahim Khalil, Tel: 08033436190 (iii) Dr. Muhammad Sani Umar Rijiyar Lemo
3. **Kaduna** - Secretary, Supreme Council for Shari'a in Nigeria, Kaduna.
4. **Abuja**- (i) Shehu Usman Muhammad, (Coordinator) Alhuda Peoples Development Association, National Mosque, Abuja. (ii) Dr. Sheikh Musa Muhammad, Chief Imam, National Mosque, Abuja.

SPECIAL NOTE:

After collection, everything should be forwarded and handed to the **Relief Coordinating Committee**, Central Mosque, Jos, for distribution to the victims. For further information, Alhuda Peoples Development Association officials should be contacted on the following telephone numbers:

1. 08053533535 (2) 08032107120 (3) 08033119009 (4) 08035962767 (5) 08033230583. * Donations may also be paid into Alhuda Peoples Development Association Coordinator's Account Number: Bank PHB: 15543733

N.B PLEASE COLLECT OFFICIAL RECEIPT FOR DONATION
May the Almighty Allah reward you abundantly as you donate.

Signed: Chairman

BAUCHI INVESTMENT CORPORATION

RC No. 21450

37, Abdulkadir Ahmed Road,
P.M.B. 0162, Bauchi,
Nigeria.



Telephone: 077 542956, 541740
077 - 548226
E-mail: info@bicnigeria.com
Web: www.bicnigeria.com

LEASE OF PROPERTY – INVITATION FOR INTENT TO MANAGE

BIDS/PROPOSALS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF A 2.7 HECTARE PROPERTY SITUATED AT NO. 1A INDEPENDENCE WAY KADUNA ARE INVITED.

THE PROPERTY IS CURRENTLY OPERATING AS A 42 ROOM HOTEL CONSISTING OF 27 BUSINESS SUITES, 5 PRESIDENTIAL SUITES, 3 EXECUTIVE SUITES AND 7 ROYAL SUITES. ALSO INCLUSIVE ARE SHOPPING MALL, RESTAURANT, DISCO HALL, CONFERENCE HALL, GARDEN BAR, FISH POND, LAUNDARY AND ATTACHED RESIDENTIAL QUARTERS.

ONLY PROSPECTIVE CLIENTS WHO HAVE SUBMITTED WRITTEN INTENTIONS WILL BE ALLOWED TO INSPECT THE PROPERTY. SUBMISSION OF INTEREST SHOULD BE RECEIVED WITHIN FOUR WEEKS FROM THE DATE OF THIS PUBLICATION.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/INQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT:

BAUCHI INVESTMENT CORPORATION LIMITED, NO 37
ABDULKADIR AHMED ROAD PMB 0162, BAUCHI
E-MAIL: info@bicnigeria.com
G.S.M 08036291318, 08036169768, 08023622255

MANAGEMENT
ANNOUNCER



MARIE STOPES
Nigeria

Unit 2, Erisco Bonpet Plaza, Herbert Macaulay
Way, Wuse, Abuja, FCT
098702650
www.mariestopes.org

ARE YOU CONFIDENT AND
MOTIVATED WITH A PROVEN
TRACK RECORD IN SALES
AND MARKETING?

WANT TO EARN EXTRA
INCOME?

WANT THE FLEXIBILITY OF
EITHER FULL-TIME WORK OR
EVENINGS/ WEEKENDS
ONLY?

Marie Stopes Nigeria is looking to recruit experienced sales staff to help promote its products and services in FCT. Candidates should be highly motivated self-starters with a proven track record in sales. Applications, in the form of a CV only, should be submitted at the Marie Stopes Nigeria office at Erisco Bonpet Plaza by 17.00 on Friday January 29 2010. Interviews will be held on Wednesday, February 3 2010. Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

**FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION,
P.M.B 2014 KATSINA**

**INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION
AND FINANCIAL BIDDING OF CONTRACTORS**

The Federal College of Education, Katsina intends to execute the under listed project under the 2009 Capital Appropriation.

1. Purchase of 1no. 52 seater 30 standing manual diesel engine Mercedes Benz MBO1721.
2. Purchase of serviceable parts of diesel engine vehicle.
3. Sinking of 1no Manually operated Borehole and maintenance of 3 (three) others.

Tender documents can be obtained from the office of Head Procurement Department after payment of non refundable fees of N20,000.00 for the first project and N5,000.00 each for the others.

PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS

All interested, experienced and reputable suppliers/contractors are hereby invited to submit the following documents for above projects in order to qualify for pre-qualification.

- i. Certificate of incorporation or business name registration.
- ii. Company Audited Account for three (3) year.
- iii. Tax Certificate for the last three (3) year.
- iv. Evidence of financial capability and banking support.
- v. Company profile including technical qualification and experience of key personnel.
- vi. Similar projects/supplies executed and evidence of knowledge of the industry (please attach copies of award letters for on-going projects).
- vii. Equipment and technology capacity where applicable.
- viii. Annual turn over.
- ix. VAT registration and evidence of past VAT remittances.
- x. Any additional information that may enhance the change of the Company.

**SUBMISSIONS OF PRE-QUALIFICATION/FINANCIAL
BIDDING DOCUMENTS**

Pre-qualification documents should be submitted in sealed envelope marked at the top left hand corner with the Procurement Department, Federal College of Education, Katsina on or before 12:00noon of four (4) weeks from the date of this publication.

All submitted documents shall be publicly opened at 12:01pm of the closing date in the conference room. Tenderers or their representatives are advised to be present.

Signed

**Alh. Abdullahi Abubakar
Registrar**

**FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
P.M.B 2014 KATSINA**

**INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION
OF CONTRACTORS**

The Federal College of Education, Katsina intends to execute the under listed project under the E.T.F 2008 Library Intervention project.

Procurement of four hundred and thirty two (432) No. various volumes of assorted books and Library furniture.

PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS

All interested, experienced and reputable contractors are hereby invited to submit the following documents for the above projects in order to qualify for pre-qualification.

- I. Certificate of incorporation or business name registration.
- ii. Company Audited Account for three (3) years.
- iii. Tax Certificate for the last three (3) years.
- iv. Evidence of financial capability and banking support.
- v. Company profile including technical qualification and experience of key personnel.
- vi. Similar projects executed and evidence of knowledge of the industry (please attach copies of award letters for on-going projects).
- vii. Equipment and technology capacity.
- viii. Annual turn over.
- ix. VAT registration and evidence of past VAT remittances.
- x. Any additional information that may enhance the change of the company.

**SUBMISSION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION
DOCUMENTS**

Pre-qualification documents should be submitted in sealed envelope marked at the top left hand corner to the Procurement Department, Federal College of Education, Katsina on or before 12:00noon of six (6) weeks from the date of this publication.

All submitted documents shall be publicly opened at 12:01pm of the closing date in the conference room. Tenderers or their representatives are advised to be present.

Signed

**Alh. Abdullahi Abubakar
Registrar**



Office of the Accountant -General of the Federation Abuja

Final notice for the verification and collection of the 5 years Pension Buyout entitlements to staff and Pensioners of NITEL/MTEL

This is to inform all staff and pensioners of NITEL who have not yet collected their entitlements and beneficiaries of Death Insurance Claims since the payment exercise commenced in February 2007, that final verification and payment exercise will be conducted one day in each month from January to March, 2010. The days for the Exercise are 27th January, 24th February and 31st March 2010. Beneficiaries are to come to the Office of the Accountant General of the Federation, Treasury House Abuja, for verification. For the avoidance of doubt those who are to come for this final exercise are as follows.

- i. Next of kin of staff who died on duty who have now secured letters of administration,
- ii. Staff and pensioners living outside the country who could not come during the various payment exercises;
- iii. Staff and Pensioners who have not yet collected any entitlement since the exercise commenced ;
- iv. Death Insurance Claim beneficiaries.

In the case of staff living abroad that may not be able to come for the exercise, they should forward in writing their contact address in their countries of residence. Arrangements are being made to pay them through the Nigerian High Commission and Embassies located in their countries of residence.

Documents to be produced by staff and pensioners for the exercise are:

- i. Letter of first appointment;
- ii. Letter of retirement/Disengagement;
- iii. Identity card;
- iv. Letter of last promotion;
- v. Letter of administration for deceased entitlements and insurance claims only;
- vi. Letter of Identification from NITEL for the Next of kin.
- vii. Payslip for Pensioners

PLEASE, NOTE THAT THIS VERIFICATION AND PAYMENT IS NOT A NEW PAYMENT EXERCISE. IT IS ONLY FOR BENEFICIARIES WHO HAVE NOT YET COLLECTED THEIR ENTITLEMENTS (FIVE YEAR PENSION BUY OUT).



JUSTICE PARTY

MOTTO: Justice for All

Suite B13, Dansarari Plaza, Ziguinchor Street, Wuse Zone 4, Abuja
Tel: 0805 9511777, 0803 3303834

NATIONAL CONVENTION

The national convention of our great party Justice Party (JP) shall convene on January 29th, 2010 to transact the following business.

1. To receive the Chairman's Report
2. To receive the Audit Reports for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008
3. To dissolve the Executive Committee and elect the new executive committee
4. To receive the new Chairman's acceptance speech and the new strategy to move the party forward.
5. Any other business

Date: January 29th, 2010
Venue: Safari Garden's Hotel, 6 the Ridgeway GRA, Enugu

Note: Official Delegates shall be accredited starting 8am till 11am

Chief Francis Okey Okereke
Chairman
Convention Committee

SALE OF PROPERTIES BY SEALED BID

Sterling Asset Management & Trustees Limited is desirous in selling the under listed properties through competitive bid process.

S/N	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
1	2 UNITS OF 4 BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSES	17, YESHAYAHU LASODE CRESCENT OFF LIGALI AYORINDE STREET, VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS.
2	21 UNITS OF 3 BEDROOM TERRACE DUPLEX + 2 UNITS OF 5 BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED DUPLEX	PLT 480, UMARU DIKO STREET, OFF EBITU UKIWE STREET, JABI, ABUJA

<p>INSTRUCTION TO BIDDERS</p> <p>1. Bid package should include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Completed bid form ii. Copy of identity card, certificate of incorporation (for companies) iii. N10,000 Draft in favour of Sterling Asset Management & Trustees Limited 	<p>SUBMISSION OF BIDS</p> <p>All bids must be enclosed in a properly sealed envelope marked at the top left hand corner thus "BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF (address of property) and addressed to:</p> <p>Manager in charge SALE BY BID PROCESS Sterling Asset Management & Trustees Ltd Plot 1703A, Adetokunbo Ademola Street, Victoria Island, Lagos OR Sterling Asset Management & Trustees Ltd, Plot 17, Sheda Close Area 8 Garki, Abuja</p>
<p>INSPECTION/BID FORM</p> <p>Prospective bidders are free to pick up bid form at Sterling Asset Management & Trustees Limited office located at Plot 1703A, Adetokunbo Ademola Street, Victoria Island. And all Sterling Bank Plc Branches in Abuja</p> <p>Inspection of property can be carried out from Tuesday 26th January 2010 till Thursday 11th February 2010, between the hours of 9am and 5pm daily.</p>	<p>DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION</p> <p>All bids must be submitted on or before 4.00pm on Thursday 11th February 2010.</p> <p>OPENING OF BID</p> <p>DATE: Friday 12th February 2010 Time: 10.00am Venue: Sterling Asset Management & Trustees Limited, Lagos office BOARD ROOM</p>

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES CONTACT:
08023458887, 08033036057, 08058047017 and 08023125493



Kainji Hydro Electric Plc

PUBLIC NOTICE

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE REHABILITATION OF 80MW HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER GENERATING UNIT 1G7 AT KAINJI HYDRO ELECTRIC PLC

INTRODUCTION

The Management of Kainji Hydro Electric Plc as part of its effort to Rehabilitate Unit 1 G7 Hydro Turbine Machine wishes to invite qualified and reputable Consultant with good track record for expression of Interest to draw up the Bill of Engineering Measurement and Evaluation as well as supervise a Retrofit project of 1 G7 from its beginning to the end.

SCOPE

- a. To establish the Bill of Engineering Measurement and Evaluation (BEME) based on the scope of work drawn up by Alstom Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM).
- b. To supervise the Execution of the Project from its beginning till the end.

3. GOALS/OBJECTIVES/JUSTIFICATION

The Project when eventually completed will add 80MW to the National Grid phase 1 of the Project.

4. REQUIREMENTS

Interested International/National Consultancy Firms that wish to participate in this competition should submit their forms profile which must include but not limited to the following documents.

- (i) Evidence of Incorporation of the Company with Corporate Affairs Commission
- (ii) Evidence of current Tax Clearance Certificate
- (iii) VAT Certificate and Evidence of Remittance to FIRS (Original document to be sighted during Opening session)
- (iv) Evidence of firms corporate registration with Appropriate Professional body.
- (v) Details of staff strength including their CV and profile of key staff
- (vi) Details of previous similar job undertaken including Scope
- (vii) Clear indication of Head Office Address
- (viii) Evidence of up-to-date Annual Returns
- (ix) Sworn Affidavit that the firm and its Directors are not bankrupt
- (x) Sworn Affidavit that Non of the Directors is an ex-convict or bankrupt
- (xi) Evidence of Financial Capability and Banking Support (Bank reference and Recent Statement of Accounts)
- (xii) Evidence of possession of both technical and Managerial competence to perform the Contract.
- (xiii) Evidence of possession of Equipment and other physical facilities including post Contract Consultations/Services as appropriate.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

ALL Qualified Firms among these that express interest will be invited to submit Technical proposal.

ALL submissions for expression of Interest should be made in three (3) Hard Copies Binded (Spiral/Non Spiral) and marked on the top left of the Envelope "EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR 1G7 CONSULTANCY SERVICES" Addressed to THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, KAINJI HYDRO ELECTRIC PLC. AND SUBMITTED TO THE PROCUREMENT OFFICE within Six (6) Weeks from the first date of this advert.

NOTE:

This Invitation for Expression of Interest shall not be constituted as a condition for the award of the Consultancy Services by any Responding Firm. For inquiries contact PM (Proc) GSM No. 07057494242

MANAGEMENT



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF AVIATION

FEDERAL SECRETARIAT, PHASE 1, ANNEX III,
SHEHU SHAGARI WAY, MAITAMA - ABUJA.

The Honourable Minister of Aviation,
Mr. Babatunde Omotoba hereby invites
all Aviation Stakeholders and the
General Public to the Ministry's
Ministerial Press Briefing under the
Distinguished Chairmanship of the
Honourable Minister of Information and
Communications, Prof. Dora Akunyili.

Venue:

National Press Centre,
Radio House, Area 10,
Garki - Abuja

Date:

Tuesday, 26th
January, 2010

Time:

10:00 am
prompt

All are cordially invited.

Signed:

Idris A. Kuta
Permanent Secretary
Federal Ministry of Aviation



MINISTRY OF INTERIOR NIGERIAN PRISONS SERVICE

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF PRISON OFFICERS MESS AT NO 5 BANK ROAD IKOYI-LAGOS UNDER THE BOT SYSTEM

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Nigerian Prisons Service (NPS), a parastatal under the Ministry of Interior intends to enter into business relationship with any qualified concessionaire to Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) of the Prisons Officers Mess at NO 5, Bank Road Ikoyi, Lagos.
2. The Design and construction are to be done in accordance with the already set specifications of the Nigerian Prisons Service Architectural standard designs and National building codes as approved. Also the preferred concessionaire shall maintain and operate the facilities to a high standard on a financial sound basis over an agreed concession period.
3. In this regard therefore, the Nigerian Prisons Service hereby invites any qualified, competent and reputable private developing company to submit expression of interest for the above mentioned project.
4. The prospective concessionaire is expected to demonstrate financial, legal and technical competence to undertake the project.
5. The expression of interest submission should include but not limited to the following:-
 - i) Full Details of Company Profile
 - ii) Name, e-mail address and telephone number of contact person for the project.
 - iii) Evidence to show company's registration in Nigerian (Certificate of Incorporation with CAC)
 - iv) Potential concessionaires are to provide copies of tax clearance certificate for the immediate past three (3) years (2007, 2008 & 2009)
 - v) Copies of VAT Registration/Evidence of Past Remittance for Projects completed
 - vi) Company financial details and certified audited accounts for the last three (3) years (2007, 2008 & 2009)
 - vii) Organizational Structure, available manpower with a list of technical staff with their resumes, CVs of Principal Officers and their experiences
 - viii) Detailed evidence of the company's ability to perform the identified services, including; Facilities Software, Hardware, Visualization facility, equipment and personnel available to support the services where necessary.
 - ix) Evidence of relevant experience in similar service and list of BOT project(s) executed in the last five (5) years with verifiable evidence.
 - x) Satisfactory performance documents or letter of commendation for previous works if any (from at least one or two clients)
 - xi) Availability of support services for engineering workshop.
 - xii) Any additional information that will enhance the potential of the concessionaire.
 - xiii) A Sworn affidavit certifying that none of the Prison Procurement Staff is a present Director or staff of the company.
 - xiv) Original Treasury Receipt of non-refundable tender processing fee of N100,000.00.
6. Upon receipt of EOI from interested firms, the Service shall evaluate and pre-qualify applicants. Thereafter, pre-qualified applicants shall be issued with Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Technical and Financial Proposals.
7. **Please Note:-**
Interested Applicants must indicate their company's name on the sealed envelop clearly marked 'concession of Prison officers mess (BOT)'.
On the account that documents are submitted in any other location other than the address given hereunder makes the submission invalid.
Notwithstanding the submission by the applicant, Nigerian Prisons Service is neither committed nor oblige to make your company the winner.
Prisons will deal only with authorized officers of the companies and NOT through individuals or agents.
Nigerian Prisons may decide to cancel the DBOT project at any stage if the need arises.
8. Prospective concessionaires are to pay non refundable processing fee of N100,000.00 only into Nigerian Prisons Service Account No. 0090010010640 with the Access Bank and obtain a Bank Teller. Thereafter obtain treasury receipt at the Prisons Cash Office PHQ, Abuja.
9. Completed EOIs in six (6) copies should be signed, sealed and delivered in separate envelopes clearly marked "CONFIDENTIAL" and boldly written EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR REDEVELOPMENT OF PRISON OFFICERS MESS IKOYI-LAGOS (BOT) which should be addressed to:
Head of Procurement,
Nigerian Prisons Service,
Prisons Headquarters,
Block F, New Extension,
Area 1 Old Secretariat,
P. M. B. 16 Garki-Abuja.
10. Submission and collection of expression of interest shall close at 12.00 noon, Tuesday, February 16, 2010.

Opening of Prequalification documents follows immediately:

This advertisement of 'Invitation for Expression of Interest shall not be construed as a commitment on the part of the Ministry of Interior/Nigerian Prisons Service, nor shall it entitle applicant to make any claim(s) whatsoever and/or seek any indemnity from Interior Ministry/Prisons and/or any of their partners by virtue of such applicants having responded to this advertisement. Neither will the Ministry nor Nigerian Prisons Service incur any liability in an event that the project is cancelled.

Only Pre-qualified concessionaire will be contacted.

SIGNED
CONTROLLER GENERAL OF PRISONS
For: Honourable Minister of Interior

BUSINESS

0805 1000 536

For helicopter Flights to Anywhere in Nigeria call:

OAS HELICOPTERS
 Nnamdi Azikwe Airport, Abuja
 GSM: +234 803 446 3432
 +234 705 666 9020
 Web: www.oas-helicopters.com
 E-mail: contact@oas-helicopters.com

Oil: Nigeria loses N6.3bn monthly to pre-shipment contract

By Hamisu Muhammad

ASSIGNING a private company by the Nigerian government officials to monitor pre-shipment of crude oil and gas export is a colossal loss to the country and is against the law of the land, an industry expert has warned.

The Managing Director of Telemetry Nigeria Limited Engineer Yabaji Y.Sani said Nigeria is currently losing about \$42million (about N6.3bn) every month to pay the contractors who add no value to the oil and gas export monitoring in the country.

He said the contractor, Cobalt International Services Limited is taking away 0.1 per cent on Freight on Board (FOB) amounting to 2,000 barrels of crude oil per day (pd), based on the daily export of 2 million barrels per day (bpd).

He said for over a year now the shipment of crude and gas from terminals has not changed. "The contractor is yet to put a single device that can detect the crude oil and gas for effective monitoring," he said.

Sani, who was among the team that recently inspected the oil and gas terminals and well heads in the Niger Delta and Lagos, said the contractor has not introduced anything different from the conventional method used by Department of Petroleum Resource in the past, "using pen and sheet of papers". He said: "The worst is that the contractor has not involved the Weight and Measures Division of the Federal Ministry of Commerce, which amounts to violation of the Pre-shipment Inspection Act".

He said: "Section 16 (3) of the Pre-shipment Act CAP, P25, LFN 2004 empowers the Weights and Measures Division of the ministry to carry out functions relating to the calibration of crude oil prior to export in collaboration with government appointed inspection."

Several calls made by our reporter to the telephone line made available at the Cobalt International website were unattended, but information from the site gives step-by-step guidelines for oil and gas export among which is that Cobalt International will issue a Clean Certificate Of Inspection (CCI) in respect of the export within 3 working days following the inspection, which the exporter should collect from the Divisional Office of Cobalt International in Lagos. And the



ODEIN Ajumogobia

exporters should also provide Cobalt International with a copy of the Commercial (Final) Invoice.

The federal government appointed the Cobalt International Service Limited in November 2008 to monitor the shipment of crude oil and gas from the country.

The government circular entitled: "Pre-shipment Inspection of crude oil exports" said: "Further to the CBN circulars referenced TED/AD/117/2004, TED/AD/126/2004 and TED/FEM/GEN/FPC/011/07 dated 11th October and 8th November, 2004 and 26th January, 2007, respectively, Authorised Dealers and the general public are hereby notified that the

Federal Government of Nigeria has ratified the appointment of Messrs Cobalt International Services Limited for the Pre-shipment Inspection of oil exports in Nigeria with effect from November 1, 2008.

Yabaji said in an interview with Daily Trust

that based on their findings from the inspection tour, the activities of the pre-shipment agent is not enough guarantee to safe-guard the oil resources of this nation. He said if the intention was to monitor and check the rampant oil theft at the terminals, the government need to rethink because, no any device to monitor such actions by the culprits was installed.

Daily Trust recalls that the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) branch of the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers Union (NUPENG) and Petroleum and National Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria (PENGASSAN) regarded the contract as unacceptable to them as it amounted to colossal economic waste to the country. Both unions noted that pre-shipment inspection function was already being statutorily performed over the years by the Department of Petroleum Resources.

My appointment humbled me — New UBA CEO

From Chris Agabi, Lagos

"I wasn't particularly happy about my appointment even though it is the ambition of every professional to aspire to higher positions," the new Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer United Bank for Africa (UBA) Plc Mr. Phillips Uduoza has said.

He told Daily Trust Saturday evening in Lagos at the UBA CEO Award night that based on the circumstances surrounding his appointment, he wasn't happy and added that he greeted his appointment with mixed feelings.

He said the appointment is humbling considering the circumstances around his appointment. Uduoza was announced Friday as the new GMD/CEO of UBA and his appointment takes effect from August 1, 2010 after the current GMD/CEO Mr. Tony Elumelu would have retired successfully after ten years of stewardship in the bank July 31st.

Mr. Elumelu's retirement is in compliance with the CBN new directive that "all CEOs would have served for 10 years by July 2010 shall cease to function in that capacity and shall hand over to their successors."

The policy further held that where a bank is a product of a merger, acquisition or takeover or another form of combination, the ten years shall include the pre and post combination service years of the CEO provided the bank, which he served as a CEO, was part of the new banks that emerged after the combination. Based on this, Mr. Elumelu would effectively complete ten years in office by July 31st 2010.

Phillip Oduoza has a First Class Degree in Civil Engineering and an MBA (Finance) from the University of Lagos. He is also an Alumnus of the Advanced Management Programme of the Harvard Business School amongst other world class trainings. The new GMD Mr. Uduoza with 22 years financial services experience before his appointment was UBA's deputy managing director in charge of Southern operations in Nigeria.

According to Mr. Tony Elumelu, the Southern operations accounts for 68 percent of the bank's workforce and also contributes the highest revenue to the bank hence Mr. Uduoza's appointment as the new GMD.



PHILLIPS Uduoza

CBN FX EXCHANGE RATES				BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES	
	Buying (NGN)	Central (NGN)	Selling (NGN)	BUYING	
CFA	0.3014	0.3114	0.3214	DOLLAR.....	N152
DANISH KRONER	28.7781	28.8757	28.9733	EURO.....	N218
EURO	214.231	214.9577	215.6843	POUNDS.....	N250
POUNDS STERLING	238.4799	239.2888	240.0977	SELLING	
RIYAL	39.3093	39.4427	39.576	DOLLAR.....	N153
SDR	231.8759	232.6624	233.4489	EURO.....	N220
SWISS FRANC	145.003	145.4948	145.9866	POUNDS.....	N253
US DOLLAR	147.41	147.91	148.41	Source: Seb J Bureau de Change, Wuse Zone 4, Abuja.	
WAUA	228.6019	229.3773	230.1527		
YEN	1.595	1.6004	1.6058		

Stock Market Index	
Date:	Friday, January 22, 2010
Index:	22,030.18
Deal:	33,672
Volume:	358,355,533
Value:	N 1,786,840,302.46
Cap.:	N 5,305,585,671,179.59

Business

Abuja all-suites 'privacy hotel' gulped N1.5bn-MD

By Jibrin Abubakar

CAN you tell us about this new hotel?

Hawthorn Suites is a hospitality franchise that we bought from the United States. It is the current market leader in the United States in hotel business. Our hotel is suites. Rather than just getting a room, what you get is suites. The idea is that about ten years ago, we started thinking about quality accommodation in Nigeria and in Abuja specifically. So we decided that we should build this project ourselves. So we got our engineers and got the financing through a combination of debt, equity, and presells.

How much does it cost you to put up this hotel?

In terms of financing we've sunk in about N1.5 billion. It's more of a family business. The project promoters are my humble self, Urban Shelter Limited which is a real estate and property development company of repute. That is what makes it easy for us because we actually borrow from the expertise of our shareholders. Actually some of our staff are from them. We also have Malam Ibrahim Aliyu who is the current chairman of our board. So it is more of a family thing.

What is the capacity of the hotel?

It is a 108 suites ranging from one to two bed rooms. What you get includes flat screen TVs, and complimentary breakfast. We don't sell alcohol but people who want alcohol can buy from outside.

Young people of Northern extraction are making in-road into the hospitality industry in Nigeria. The 108-suite capacity hotel is dubbed by its promoters as the first ever all-suites hotel in the country that offers privacy to businessmen and Nigerians who seek a comfortable conference halls and board rooms as well. Malam Faruk Aliyu, the Managing Director of Hawthorn Suites, who says in this interview that the hotel is alcohol-free, adds that his group is rewriting the history of hospitality industry in Nigeria.



L-R: Managing Director, Hawthorn Hotel and Suites, Mr Faruk Aliyu and Director Sales and Marketing, Miss Maryam Aliyu, at a Press Briefing on the Hawthorn Suites in Abuja last week.

What edge do you have over other hotels in Abuja?

We have beautiful suites with fully equipped kitchenettes, complimentary wireless Internet access, in-room experience with satellite channels. I think our selling point is the privacy that we give because all the things you see here are only available to our guests. Only our guests can use our

swimming pool and our gym. Privacy and exclusivity and security are our biggest selling point. Other advantages we have include, ADA accessibility, VIP Lounge on each floor, wellness and exercise centre, gift store, etc.

When people ask me I say I am not in the hotel business, I am in the people business, because it is all about people and your guests you know.

What about power supply?

We've got standby plant which switches on automatically as soon as the power is off. It is a five star hotel. It has all the amenities that make it a five star hotel. We have Internet and 16 satellite channels.

How affordable is it?

What we are doing now is that we are

the most affordable for the class of hotel and services. A suit costs N43, 125 including VAT and service charge. If you look at it, you will see that we are the most affordable. We are doing weekend discount as well. We also have conference halls and board rooms that can accommodate 80 and 30 people respectively. We want people to come and will wish that they don't leave. Our hotel is located behind Sahad stores in area 11 Abuja.

What is your staff strength?

Now we are 113 and only two are not Nigerians. The GM and the front desk officer are South Africans. We believe in providing employment for our people in Nigeria.

Why Hawthorn as a name?

Hawthorn is a franchise from the US. It is the current market leader in hospitality industry. One of the reasons why we chose Hawthorn and not Sheraton or Hilton is that they don't give you management, they give you brand standard.

They will say you have to meet certain criteria. They come here to inspect, so if you fail the inspection they can take the name away. But they make you source your own management.

What we are doing now is that we have started from the state capital. We are also going to the commercial capital of Nigeria, Lagos. We use Hawthorn's expertise but source our management and that is a big difference between Hawthorn and other franchises. They are flexible.

Dangote borrows \$350m from Standard Chartered Bank

By Sunday Williams

STANDARD Chartered Bank said it has provided \$350 million loan to Obajana Cement Company as part of the Dangote Group, which is one of the largest manufacturing conglomerates in sub-Saharan Africa.

Obajana Cement is currently the largest cement manufacturer in Nigeria.

A statement from the bank said: "Part of the \$350 million loan facility will be applied towards the expansion and the construction of

a power plant for the Ibese Power Plant project which is part of a new 5 million metric tonnes cement plant being built by the company."

Vis. Shankar, Group Head, Origination & Client Coverage, Standard Chartered Bank while speaking on the occasion said: "We are very pleased to be able to provide this corporate facility to Obajana Cement as it is one of the largest manufacturing conglomerates in sub-Saharan Africa.

Our established footprint in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East,

along with our long history of supporting trade flows to and from these regions are factors that have placed us in a unique position to provide critical funding to our core clients.

After a year of turmoil in the international debt markets, we see a clear need for transactions of this nature to support growth of the financial and economic markets. Standard Chartered Bank is delighted to be part of this transaction and clearly demonstrates our long term commitment to our business in Nigeria."

Commenting on the transaction, Alhaji Aliko Dangote, President/CEO of the Dangote Group said: "We are delighted to have obtained this corporate facility from Standard Chartered Bank. The terms of this facility will provide us with additional capacity to optimise our productivity, enhance our operations and increase our cash flows.

The loan will fund our capital expenditure requirements and will further facilitate the achievement of our growth strategy. We are encouraged by Standard Char-

tered Bank's support and commitment to our business in the current global financial market conditions.

We look forward to continuing our strong relationship with Standard Chartered Bank in the future."

Standard Chartered Bank has over 1600 branches and outlets located in over 70 countries. It employs around 70,000 people, nearly half of whom are women. The Group's employees are of 125 nationalities, of which about 70 are represented in the senior management, the statement added.

...plans expansion of milling capacity to 7,300mt

From Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

DANGOTE Flour Mills Plc has announced plans to expand its current 4,800 metric tons of milling capacity per day to 7,300 metric tons.

Chairman of the company, Alhaji Aliko Dangote, who announced this recently during its Annual General Meeting [AGM] in Lagos, said the development is born out of the need to grow the company as well as satisfy the ever-increasing needs of its customers in the country.

He explained that the visible ease in the spate of the global financial meltdown put paid to his company's expansion plan.

"The global financial meltdown is showing signs of easing in 2009. Oil prices are inching up and the price of wheat is stabilizing. This should translate to increased purchasing power in the local economy and also facilitate our ability to manage our material cost better.

"We are using this opportunity provided by the improved prospects to expand the business. Our noodles factories in Ikorodu, Kano and Calabar were all commissioned in 2009."

According to him, the expansion of the company's noodles production capacities in Apapa, Calabar and

Apapa factories is ongoing. Dangote, who described the company's financial performance in the year under review as impressive, said Dangote Flour would continue to play its part in the society as a responsible corporate citizen by not only complying with required standards in product quality but also by engaging with the larger society to continue to contribute positively to the improved social welfare of its operating environment.

He further promised to ensure that the company is customer-centric in line with the corporate policy of the organization.

"Customers/Dealers are considered indispensable partner in this difficult but interesting journey of progress. We shall continue to hold this wonderful group of people in high esteem."

Business

N200b Agric Fund: FG approves 5 more banks

THE Federal Government has given approval to five additional banks to join First Bank of Nigeria (FBN) and United Bank for Africa (UBA) in disbursing the N200 billion Agriculture Fund.

The five commercial banks are GTB, Union Bank, Fidelity Bank, Oceanic Bank Plc and Unity Bank.

Dr Sayyadi Ruma, the Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources, announced this Friday in Abuja while speaking to newsmen.

He said the inclusion of the five banks was an indication that the fund had become a reality.

The minister said in accordance with the new guidelines

for disbursing the fund, N40 billion would be released to smallholder farmers while N160 billion would be given to commercial farmers.

"Based on the new guidelines, interested farmers are now free to contact any of the banks directly to access the money," he said.

Ruma said the estimated \$5 billion Nigeria expends annually on food importation is a challenge and a consequence of government's inability to achieve food security.

He said success in the drive to attain the goals of food security and economic development was hinged on good

agricultural policy and adequate financial backing.

"One of the major causes of failure in past efforts to revitalise agriculture was poor financing arrangement," he said.

The report said that government's decision to review the modalities for disbursing the N200 billion and the inclusion of additional banks may not be unconnected with criticisms by stakeholders.

The stakeholders had insisted that the number of banks saddled with the responsibility to administer the fund be broadened to make the scheme more responsive to emerging challenges. (NAN).

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Business/Finance

Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE)

Friday, January 22, 2009

COMPANY Name	No of Deals	Quot. (N)	Quantity Traded	Value of Shares (N)
2ND-TIER SECURITIES				
CAPITAL OIL PLC	2	0.51	70,200	35,802.00
MCNICHOLS PLC	1	1.02	5,000	4,850.00
SECTOR Totals	3		75,200	40,652.00
AGRICULTURE				
ELLAH LAKES PLC	1	4.26	12,951	52,451.55
FTN COCOA PROC. PLC	22	0.72	565,548	400,326.08
LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	4	0.62	54,362	32,073.58
PRESKO PLC	11	5.06	132,500	670,450.00
SECTOR Totals	38		765,361	1,155,301.21
AIR SERVICES				
AIRL/SERVICES & LOG. PLC	5	2.80	158,650	442,570.00
NIG. AV. HAND. COY PLC	90	8.85	1,148,822	10,247,657.97
SECTOR Totals	95		1,307,472	10,690,227.97
AUTOMOBILE & TYRE				
DN TYRE & RUBBER PLC	18	0.50	7,000,767	3,500,383.50
INCAR NIGERIA PLC	1	2.64	90,000	237,600.00
R.T. BRISCOE (NIG.) PLC	11	6.26	235,316	1,433,905.52
SECTOR Totals	30		7,326,083	5,171,889.02
BANKING				
ACCESS BANK PLC	157	8.11	4,026,456	32,634,253.98
AFRIBANK NIGERIA PLC	39	2.63	984,138	2,588,282.94
DIAMOND BANK PLC	83	7.69	13,703,848	105,194,645.88
ECOBANK NIGERIA PLC	7	9.12	247,461	2,256,844.32
F/CITY MON. BANK PLC	90	8.80	3,886,011	32,969,436.10
FIDELITY BANK PLC	152	2.50	15,542,261	37,645,597.95
FIRST BANK OF NIG. PLC	704	14.49	19,412,145	280,385,136.34
FINBANK PLC	89	0.66	27,223,265	17,428,881.68
GTBANK PLC	316	16.52	4,264,410	70,437,134.17
STANBIC IBTC BANK PLC	43	7.80	680,596	5,358,038.92
INTERCONT. BANK PLC	228	2.01	4,706,567	9,237,084.41
OCEANIC BANK INT. PLC	128	2.25	3,374,642	7,675,873.54
BANK PHB PLC	41	1.99	998,019	1,979,277.81
SKYE BANK PLC	120	5.82	4,357,923	25,377,231.79
SPRING BANK PLC	7	0.94	185,167	174,056.98
STERLING BANK PLC	48	1.43	2,721,230	3,757,953.67
UNT. BANK FOR AFR. PLC	175	11.20	3,309,260	36,941,943.29
UN/BANK OF NIG. PLC	152	6.57	1,361,419	8,905,624.97
UNITYBANK PLC	45	1.00	8,279,218	7,970,922.12
WEMA BANK PLC	71	1.08	4,298,030	4,362,576.70
ZENITH BANK PLC	251	14.36	21,820,293	337,812,223.77
SECTOR Totals	2,946		147,382,859	1,031,093,021.28
BUILDING MATERIALS				
ASHAKA CEMENT PLC	61	13.00	1,095,903	14,343,315.91
BENUCEMENT COY PLC	42	49.05	1,467,344	73,052,744.69
CEMENT CO. OF N/NIG. PLC	60	14.60	2,269,818	33,175,278.50
NIGERIA ROPES PLC	1	9.34	150	1,303.50
LAFARGE WAPCO PLC	32	30.00	213,622	6,432,153.49
SECTOR Totals	196		5,046,837	127,004,796.09
CHEMICAL & PAINTS				
BERGER PAINTS NIG. PLC	2	3.36	5,956	20,965.12
DN MEYER PLC	1	5.13	4,023	19,632.24
NIG.-GERMAN CHEM. PLC	3	15.04	1,162	16,604.98
SECTOR Totals	6		11,141	57,202.34
COMMERCIAL/SERVICES				
AFROMEDIA PLC	1	0.70	400	292.00
COURTVILLE INV. PLC	1	0.50	50,000	25,000.00
RED STAR EXPRESS PLC	6	2.53	39,500	103,063.70
SECTOR Totals	8		89,900	128,355.70
COMP. & OFFICE EQUIP.				
NCR (NIGERIA) PLC	1	8.51	100	892.00
OMATEK VENTURES PLC	6	0.63	75,217	48,511.05
THOMAS WYATT PLC	1	1.84	3,135	5,486.25
TRIPPLE GEE AND COY PLC	3	4.60	1,763	7,704.31
SECTOR Totals	11		80,215	62,593.61
CONGLOMERATES				
A. G. LEVENTIS (NIGERIA) PLC	8	2.56	49,110	121,432.80
JOHN HOLT PLC	4	9.28	16,729	147,549.78
PZ CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC	49	25.00	794,565	19,865,672.62
SCOA NIGERIA PLC	1	8.71	281	281.52
TRANSN. CORP. OF NIG. PLC	39	0.50	3,303,584	1,665,017.84
UAC OF NIGERIA PLC	69	40.00	1,221,374	48,918,282.10
UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	90	25.09	1,016,087	25,612,722.27
SECTOR Totals	260		6,401,483	96,330,958.93
CONSTRUCTION				
COSTAIN (WA) PLC	36	3.87	515,027	1,985,482.82
G. CAPPA PLC	2	14.46	452	6,535.92
JULIUS BERGER NIGERIA PLC	16	28.50	30,143	816,272.44
MULTIVERSE RESOURCES PLC	6	0.50	16,344,249	8,172,124.50
ROADS NIGERIA PLC	1	3.46	29	95.41
SECTOR Totals	61		16,889,900	10,980,511.09
ENGINEERING TECH.				
CUTIX PLC	3	3.63	24,000	87,220.00
NIG. WIRE AND CABLE PLC	2	0.94	5,600	5,040.00
SECTOR Totals	5		29,600	92,260.00
FOOD/BEVERAGES & TOB.				
7-UP BOTTLING CO. PLC	3	29.40	1,284	39,202.08
BIG TREAT PLC	4	0.82	220,000	180,400.00
CADBURY NIGERIA PLC	56	15.50	517,815	7,983,559.77
DANGOTE FLOUR MILLS PLC	198	11.98	5,740,260	68,937,110.85
DANGOTE SUGAR REF. PLC	88	15.00	1,134,810	17,010,247.14
FLOUR MILLS NIGERIA PLC	49	38.00	1,023,007	38,865,337.04
H/WELL FLOUR MILL PLC	3	8.07	21,600	182,666.00
NAT. SALT COY NIG. PLC	94	6.70	3,437,596	22,624,325.91
NIG. BOTTLING COY PLC	24	26.00	396,177	10,307,418.19
NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	37	252.00	25,986	6,593,634.00
TANTALIZERS PLC	11	0.82	536,100	466,377.00
UTC NIGERIA PLC	5	0.90	31,880	29,014.60
SECTOR Totals	572		13,086,521	173,219,292.58
HEALTHCARE				
EVANS MEDICAL PLC	6	1.14	154,484	176,111.76
FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	51	2.16	667,368	1,436,748.27
GLAXOSM. CONS. NIG. PLC	9	22.01	19,107	429,250.77
MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC	14	5.50	152,791	864,102.60
NEIMETH INT. PHARMA. PLC	8	1.75	97,734	177,773.70
UN/DIAG. & CLIN. SERV. PLC	19	0.67	534,573	361,013.91
SECTOR Totals	107		1,626,057	3,445,001.01
IND/DOMESTIC PRODUCTS				
ALUM. EXTRUSION IND. PLC	1	13.04	2,000	24,780.00
ALUMACO PLC	1	23.77	82	1,852.38
NIG. ENAMELWARE PLC	1	52.85	550	27,615.50
FIRST ALUM. NIGERIA PLC	2	0.50	130,442	65,221.00
VITAFOAM NIGERIA PLC	20	5.28	328,887	1,794,453.87
VONO PRODUCTS PLC	2	0.66	5,016	3,160.08
SECTOR Totals	27		466,977	1,917,082.83
INF. & COMMUN. TECH.				
CHAMS PLC	53	0.64	5,215,000	3,323,150.90
E-TRANZACT INT. PLC	1	5.78	500,000	2,890,000.00
IHS NIGERIA PLC	1	4.24	300	1,137.00
MASS TEL. INNOV. NIG. PLC	4	0.50	230,400	115,200.00
STARCOMMS PLC	12	2.05	683,984	1,395,360.36
SECTOR Totals	71		6,629,684	7,724,848.26
INSURANCE				
AFRICAN ALLIANCE INS. PLC	6	0.76	25,005,500	19,004,180.00
AIICO INSURANCE PLC	51	0.91	1,235,459	1,130,309.29
CONTINENTAL REINS. PLC	6	1.03	296,296	305,394.88
CORNERSTONE INS. CO. PLC	14	0.55	2,097,592	1,116,023.76
CUST. AND ALLIED INS. PLC	28	2.70	2,518,165	6,847,700.50
EQUITY ASSURANCE PLC	1	0.50	500,000	250,000.00
GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	5	0.56	57,000	31,920.00
GUAR. TRUST ASSUR. PLC	47	2.12	41,961,300	90,295,847.00
GUINEA INSURANCE PLC	2	0.50	40,000	20,000.00
CONS. HALLMARK INS. PLC	1	0.50	10,000	5,000.00
INT. ENERGY INS. COY PLC	18	0.63	547,611	336,091.03
LASACO ASSURANCE PLC	22	0.53	2,681,917	1,427,167.68
L/UNION & ROCK INS. PLC	2	0.55	102,342	56,288.10
LINKAGE ASSURANCE PLC	3	0.50	63,856	31,928.00
MUTUAL BEN. ASSUR. PLC	8	0.64	878,997	562,558.08
N.E.M. INS. CO. (NIG.) PLC	16	0.55	582,228	323,321.21
NIGER INSURANCE CO. PLC	5	0.92	512,433	471,438.36
PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	4	3.80	69,775	251,887.75
REG. ALL. INS. COY PLC	3	0.50	98,456	49,228.00
SOVEREIGN TRUST INS. PLC	2	0.50	52,000	26,000.00
STACO INSURANCE PLC	1	1.04	400	396.00
STAND. ALL. INSUR. PLC	38	0.59	848,750	508,181.00
UNIC INSURANCE PLC	26	0.72	3,276,491	2,364,577.12
UNIVERSAL INS. COY PLC	6	0.50	356,000	178,000.00
INTERCONT. WAPIC INS. PLC	13	1.00	215,581	217,382.38
SECTOR Totals	328		84,008,154	125,810,820.14
MEDIA				
DAAR COMMUNIC. PLC	28	0.54	158,800	85,752.00
SECTOR Totals	28		158,800	85,752.00
OTHER FINANCIAL INST.				
CRUSADER NIGERIA PLC	17	1.19	818,836	975,862.88
ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC	17	0.63	22,144,869	12,913,252.71
SECTOR Totals	34		22,963,705	13,889,115.59
PETROLEUM(MARKETING)				
AFRICAN PETROLEUM PLC	65	36.50	442,298	16,081,549.88
BECO PETR. PROD. PLC	7	2.18	17,300	37,704.00
CHEVRON OIL NIG. PLC	7	69.79	5,255	369,847.50
CONOIL PLC	16	33.57	12,331	408,952.50
ETERNA OIL & GAS PLC	22	6.00	144,350	872,084.30
MOBIL OIL NIGERIA PLC	9	99.95	3,962	388,276.00
OANDO PLC	18	93.99	41,722	3,921,450.78
TOTAL NIGERIA PLC	11	150.00	28,250	4,240,685.00
SECTOR Totals	155		695,468	26,320,549.96
PRINTING & PUBLISHING				
ACADEMY PRESS PLC	10	7.21	193,503	1,354,332.90
LONGMAN NIGERIA PLC	4	9.76	99,577	972,176.88
UNIVERSITY PRESS PLC	12	5.02	94,950	474,429.00
SECTOR Totals	26		388,030	2,800,938.78
TEXTILES				
UNITED NIGE. TEXT. PLC	5	1.64	142,000	232,880.00
SECTOR Totals	5		142,000	232,880.00
THE FOREIGN LISTINGS				
ECOBANK TRANS. INCORP.	27	14.52	528,247	7,773,582.90
SECTOR Totals	27		528,247	7,773,582.90
OVERALL Totals	33,672		358,355,533	1,786,840,302.46

What is Beta?

A measurement of the relationship between the price of a stock and the movement of the whole market.

Google

GAINERS

GUINNESS	0.70
CADBURY	0.69
FCMB	0.37
ACADEMY	0.34

LOSERS

UNILEVER	1.32
BCC	0.97
NB	0.88
DANGFLOUR	0.52



MINNA EMIRATE EDUCATION FOUNDATION



Late Maryam Babangida
Former First Lady Federal Republic of Nigeria

To Minna Emirate education foundation (MEEFO), you were a great pillar of support, a mother and a big sister.

As one of our great Matrons, your advice and wise counsel were sound and invaluable.

Your material contribution and inspiration to the foundation which saw you mobilize community support and participation in all MEEFO activities were inestimable.

By establishing the El-Amin international school, your vision was to set standards of excellence that could be described as world-class anytime, any day, anywhere. It is therefore no gainsaying the fact that you realized that vision as the school has taken education to a higher level in Niger and Nigeria, in terms of focus, curriculum content, discipline, socio-cultural orientation and the inculcation of positive value in our youths.

The MEEFO body patrons, the board of trustees, the executive committee, members of the central working committee, and indeed all members of the foundation and the good people of Minna emirate will surely miss you for what you stand for and shared freely with all of us. We however take solace in the fact that the almighty Allah took you away from us so that you would rest in His bosom while your legacies continue to propel us to greater heights in the service of humanity.

On behalf of all MEEFO members and good people of Minna Emirate, we pray Allah (Subahanahu-wata'ala) to grant your gentle soul eternal peace and rest while giving the remaining members of your family and the rest of us the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss. Amen

His Royal Highness
Alhaji (Dr) Umaru Farouk Bahago, CON,
Emir of Minna and
Grand Patron (MEEFO)



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ONE LANGUAGE.
ONE CUP.



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act:ionaid

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ActionAid Nigeria (AAN) is one of ActionAid Country Programmes around the world. ActionAid is an International Non-Governmental organisation registered in The Netherlands with headquarters in Johannesburg South Africa. ActionAid International works in 50 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas. 22 of these country programmes, affiliates or associates are in Africa and are led by Africans. We have been doing development work on the continent since 1972 and in Nigeria since 1999. ActionAid works with the poor and excluded in Africa, promoting values and commitment in civil society, institutions and governments with the aim of achieving structural changes in order to eradicate injustices and poverty in the world.

To effectively consolidate on the new country strategy, AAN is inviting applications from qualified candidates to fill the following positions:

Health System Strengthening (HSS) Project

1. Programme Advisor (2 positions Abuja & Enugu)

Person Specifications

Education/Qualifications

- Degree in Health Sciences, Social Sciences, Arts or Humanities is **essential**.
- Masters degree in a related field is **essential**.

Experience

- Seven years post NYSC experience is **essential**
- Four years experience in a similar position in the development sector preferably in community based health work is **essential**

Skill/Abilities

- Ability to maintain donor relationship and accountability in line with funding policies and standards is **essential**
- Strong oral and written communication skills is **essential**

Personal Qualities

- A person of integrity, creative and takes initiative, able to work effectively in a diverse team environment are **essential**

2. Monitoring & Evaluation Advisor (2 positions Abuja & Enugu)

Person Specifications

Education/Qualifications

- Degree in Health Sciences, Social Sciences, Arts or Humanities is **essential**.
- Masters degree in a related field is **essential**.

Experience

- Seven years post NYSC experience is **essential**
- Five years experience in a similar position in the development sector preferably in monitoring & evaluation of community based health work. is **essential**

Skill/Abilities

- Strong analytical/problem solving skills is **essential**
- Strong oral and written communication skills is **essential**

Personal Qualities

- A person of integrity, creative and takes initiative, able to work effectively in a diverse team environment are **essential**

3. Project Accountant (Abuja)

Person Specifications

Education/Qualifications

- Degree in Accounting or Finance is **essential**. Chartered Accountant (ICAN) is **essential**
- Experience

- At least seven years post NYSC experience with at least five years as an accountant and 3 years in a similar position in the development sector. Sound Practical Knowledge of SUN accounting software and Spreadsheets. (MS Office in general) & experience in handling cash are **essential**.

Experience in working with international development of NGO agencies is **desirable**.

Skill/Abilities

Attention to details; knowledge of management accounting practices, strong financial management skills, fluency in spoken and written English language; ability to work independently and in a team & highly numerate skills are **essential**.

Excellent planning and prioritisation skills & strong analytical/problem solving skills are **desirable**.

Personal Qualities

Excellent oral and written communication skills; well developed and proven interpersonal & organisational management skills; able to work effectively in a diverse team environment; creative and should be able to take initiative; should be ready to work additional hours at crucial times & and high integrity are **essential**.

4. Programme Administrator (2 positions Abuja & Enugu)

Person Specifications

Education/Qualifications

- Degree in Social Sciences, Arts or Humanities is **essential**.

Experience

- At least three years post NYSC experience in Administration and/or programmes & Excellent working knowledge of Excel, Word & Outlook (MS Office in general) & experience in handling cash are **essential**.
- Office administration experience & Experience in working with international development of NGO agencies are **desirable**.

Skill/Abilities

- Attention to details; fluency in spoken and written English language; ability to work independently and in a team & highly numerate skills are **essential**.
- Excellent planning and prioritisation skills & strong analytical/problem solving skills are **desirable**.

Personal Qualities

Excellent oral and written communication skills; well developed and proven interpersonal & organisational management skills; able to work effectively in a diverse team environment; creative and should be able to take initiative; should be ready to work additional hours at crucial times; must be willing to travel extensively, confident to train staff effectively in a fast-paced environment & high integrity are **essential**.

5. Drivers (3 positions Abuja & Enugu)

Person Specifications

Education/Qualifications

- GCE 'O' level with minimum of 4 credits is **essential**

Experience

- A minimum of 3 years working experience preferably with an NGO is **essential**

Skill/Abilities

- Demonstrable computer skills is **essential**
- Good knowledge of FRSC rules and guidelines is **essential**

Personal Qualities

- Creative and takes initiative.
- Ability to work effectively in a diverse team environment
- Willing and able to travel extensively

Other Positions

1. Women's Rights Officer (Abuja)

Person Specifications

Education/Qualifications

- Degree in Social Sciences, Arts or Humanities is **essential**.
- Masters degree in a related field is **essential**.

Experience

- Seven years post NYSC experience is **essential**
- Four years experience in a similar position in the development sector preferably in Women's Rights work is **essential**
- Experience in national level advocacy & campaigns is **desirable**

Skill/Abilities

- Strong oral and written communication skills is **essential**
- Excellent skills in programme information management is **desirable**

Personal Qualities

- A person of integrity, creative and takes initiative, able to work effectively in a diverse team environment are **essential**

2. Food Rights Officer (Abuja)

Person Specifications

Education/Qualifications

- Degree in Social Sciences, Arts or Humanities is **essential**.
- Master degree in development is **desirable**

Experience

- Five years post NYSC experience is **essential**
- 2 years experience in a similar position in the development sector is **essential**
- Campaign & social action experience is **essential**

Skill/Abilities

- Strong communication & writing skills is **essential**
- Computer skills with good working knowledge of Microsoft office is **essential**
- Knowledge of structures of government agencies is **essential**

Personal Qualities

- A person of integrity who is able to work in a diverse team environment.

All interested candidates should fill in the application form as accessed from the application pack on www.actionaid-nigeria.org The application pack contains the Vacancy announcement, Job Description and Application form. **Subject line of emails should clearly state position applied for otherwise application will not be considered**

ActionAid offers competitive terms of employment. **Applications from women are particularly welcome.** In line with the GIPA principle, applications are also particularly welcome from candidates living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHAs).

Closing date for receipt of application forms is 6th February, 2010. Interview date will be communicated to shortlisted candidates. Note that only short listed candidates will be contacted. Only electronically completed application forms will be entertained and should be mailed to vacancy.nigeria@actionaid.org. Applications will **ONLY** be considered if submitted on AAN's Standard Application forms.

REQUEST FOR CREATION OF A NEW STATE OUT OF THE PRESENT BORNO STATE

1. PREAMBLE

We the undersigned, with the mandate of the entire people of the twenty LGAs in Borno and Dikwa Emirates, hereby present this Memorandum requesting the creation of a new State (to be known as Borno State), consisting of the two Emirates, out of the present Borno State.

In making this request, we are responding to the genuine needs and aspirations of the generality of our people who are strongly convinced that it is very necessary for us to have our own state if we are to maintain our common social and cultural heritage/values.

2. INTRODUCTION

Our request for a new State is informed by the size of the present Borno State, population, ecology, and the need for accelerated development. We believe that the creation of a new State out of the present Borno State will provide us a great opportunity to develop our state through effective and efficient utilisation of resources available to the new state.

3. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The present Borno State is made up of seven emirates, namely: Borno, Dikwa, Dikwa, Shani, Askira, Uba and Gwoza. These emirates are domains of different ethnic

groups consisting of the Kanuri, Shuwa Arab, Gamaru, Falani, Bahama, Katsina, Marghi, Wala, etc. in Borno and Dikwa, Babur-Bornu in Borno, the Kanakuru in Shani, Marghi in Askira and Uba and the Gwoza in Gwoza respectively. In the administrative set up, however, the State comprises twenty seven local government areas each of which is divided into a number of culturally distinct districts and village units. It is important to note that the emirates, districts and village units, are still effectively administered by traditional rulers who assist the LGAs and the state government on matters affecting general security and land matters.

4. Physiographic Characteristics

Borno State occupies an area of 60,135 sq km of which the two emirates cover 59,000 sq km while the rest occupy 9,135 sq km. It shares borders with Adamawa State to the south, Gombe State to the south west and Yobe State to the west. It is also the only state in Nigeria that shares common borders with three countries namely the Republics of Niger, Chad and Cameroon to the north, north-east and east respectively.

Borno State topographically is within the Chad Basin formation. The State has two basic relief formations consisting of the Borno Plateau and Mandara mountains in the southern part rising to about 650m above sea level and the Lake Chad plains covering a vast area in the northern part of the State with an average height of 200m above sea level.

5. ECONOMY

Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy of Borno State. Majority of the people are peasant farmers, herdsmen and fishermen. The State has about 1,794,000ha of land under crop cultivation and 1,812,300ha of land under grazing and forest reserve. Main crops produced are onion, tomatoes, pepper, maize, millet, sorghum, beans, rice, wheat and groundnuts among others. Furthermore, Borno is known for the production of Gum Arabic, Hides & Skins, livestock and fish.

In addition to annual rainfall, Lake Chad water greatly assists the states economy in fishing, cattle rearing and agriculture.

Borno has enormous human and untapped natural resources. It is also endowed with a virile and enterprising population, majority of whom are farmers. In addition to natural gas and potential of crude oil, the state has such other mineral resources as clay, salt, asbestos, limestone, potash, calcium, kaolin, iron ore, uranium and mica whose exploitation we believe will be expedited in a new state.

The realisation of this will certainly enhance the expansion of the present industries such as flour mills, shoe factory, enameware and Borno Plastic, revive the dormant ones and establish new ones.

6. SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

a. Education

Borno State is classified as one of the educationally disadvantaged States in the country. Official statistics show that in the year 2006, there were only 1,276 public primary schools with a total enrolment of 844,411 pupils and 88 secondary schools with an enrolment of 115,821 students and seven tertiary institutions.

Accordingly, because of the large land mass and high population, the level of development in the two emirates has been very discouraging.

The foregoing statistics notwithstanding, the distribution of these institutions and the enrolment into them do not favour the two emirates. The creation of a new state will enable these institutions to be populated by children from the localities.

A similar glaring imbalance obtains in the case of scholarships. For instance, out of a total of 4990 scholarships awarded in 2005/2006 in the State, only 1653 indigenes of the 20 LGAs in the two emirates benefited, all the rest went to the remaining seven LGAs. Actually, some Local Governments within the two emirates had no more than 10% of total students in schools located within their areas. In addition, out of a 26383 civil servants in the state service during the same period only 11063 were from the two emirates.

b. Health

The general health establishment in the state consists of 258 health clinics and dispensaries, thirty general hospitals, seven leprosaria and fourteen maternal and child health care centres. In addition, there are specialist facilities comprising eye, dental, psychiatric and chest and infectious diseases hospitals as well as a neuropsychiatric hospital and a university teaching hospital both of which are federal government establishments. Most of the secondary health care facilities are in the urban areas while the

primary health care facilities are rural based.

The main problem with the health sector is staffing. The creation of a new state will offer us the opportunity to train our staff for these institutions.

7. POPULATION

According to the 2006 National Census, Borno State has a population of 4,151,193 with an average density of 69 persons per square kilometre. The two emirates, in which the state capital is located, are attributed 3,132,794. As to be expected, this figure has been widely disputed as a gross under statement of the actual population.

THE DESIRE FOR NEW BORNO STATE

Since its creation, a lot was done by successive governments to bring the State up to its present level. However, due to its geographical location and historical antecedents and several other socio-cultural factors, its level of progress and development in relation to that of its contemporaries, and even to the progress made by some later generation states, is not encouraging. We want our own state in order to correct this situation.

Borno seriously suffers from desert encroachment and desertification problems inflicted on it due to its geographical location. This is having a devastating effect on farming activities and the availability of water for both human and animal consumption. Our people depend to some extent on dry farming and irrigation, thanks to what remains of the Chad Basin Development Authority irrigation scheme.

The people of the two Emirates' request for a state, if granted, will enthrone social, cultural and religious homogeneity in the new State, having regard to our common origin, socio-cultural ties and historical associations for over one thousand years. Such a cohesive and homogeneous state will be that much easier to harness and develop. We trust that this request received your favourable consideration during your deliberation on the review of 1999 constitution.

Long live Federal Republic of Nigeria! Long live New Borno State!

THE PROPOSED NEW BORNO STATE COMPRISING

20 LGAs AS FOLLOWS:

L.G.A	AREA	POPULATION
Abadam	2575	100120
Bama	6770	259926
Dikwa	1065	305009
Gubio	2400	152778
Guzamala	1981	95648
Jere	245	211204
Kaga	2713	90015
Kala Baje	1750	68797
Konduga	6000	156564
Kukawa	2350	203064
Mala	3120	103518
Magumeri	5055	140231
MMC	800	521942
Marte	1586	129370
Mobbar	2625	116654
Monguno	2540	100071
Ngain	1500	237871
Nganzai	1729	99799
Dambo	6000	161,303
Chibok	No	66,105
Total	55410	3,132,794

[NOT NOTIFICATION YEAR BOOK, 2007-2008, FBN Official Gazette No. 24, Vol. 94 May 2007]

THE PROPOSED MAP OF A NEW BORNO STATE



S/NO	NAME	LGA	SIGNATURE
1.	Alh. (Dr.) Shetima Ali Monguno, CFR	Monguno	[Signature]
2.	AVM Allamin Daggash, CFR	Marte	[Signature]
3.	Prof. Emeritus Umaru Shehu, CFR	Marte	[Signature]
4.	Brig. Gen. Abba Kyari (Ret)	Monguno	[Signature]
5.	Alhaji Mohammed Goni, CON	Marte	[Signature]
6.	Alhaji Ashraf Ahmad	Marte	[Signature]
7.	Asst. Usman Gaji Galimari, CON	Jere	[Signature]
8.	Alhaji Kyari Sandabe, OFR	Marte	[Signature]
9.	Alhaji Shettima A. Mekar Liberty, OFR	Marte	[Signature]
10.	Alhaji Bakar Bolei, OON	Marte	[Signature]
11.	Alh. Gashu Abba Sami, OON	Konduga	[Signature]
12.	Alhaji Mala Aina	Marte	[Signature]
13.	Alhaji Gumbo Gubio, zmi, OFR	Gubio	[Signature]
14.	Alhaji Muhammad Adam	Marte	[Signature]
15.	Prof. Muhammad Nur Akali, CON	Marte	[Signature]
16.	Prof. Abubakar Mustapha, mri, OFR	Marte	[Signature]
17.	Alhaji Bakar Gana	Marte	[Signature]
18.	Alh. Ibrahim Abba El-Zubairu	Marte	[Signature]
19.	Alhaji Mohammed Rijya, President BOCCIMA	Marte	[Signature]
20.	All. Abba Tor Shehu Masta	Marte	[Signature]
21.	Alhaji Tijani Bolori	Marte	[Signature]
22.	Alhaji (Dr.) Bulama Mali Gubio, mri	Gubio	[Signature]
23.	Alhaji Modu Kamshe	Marte	[Signature]
24.	Alhaji Abba Yusuf	Marte	[Signature]
25.	Alhaji Shetima Mohammed Kullira	Marte	[Signature]

26.	Major. General Muhammad Shuwa (ret), OFR	Kala Baje	[Signature]
27.	Dr. Kalli A. Y. Gazali	Dikwa	[Signature]
28.	Alhaji Bashir Laman	Marte	[Signature]
29.	Sheikh Goni Muhammad Gabcha	Jere	[Signature]
30.	Sheikh Abubakar Kyari	Marte	[Signature]
31.	Muhammad Mustapha	Marte	[Signature]
32.	Al-Barnawi	Marte	[Signature]
33.	Sheikh Goni Muhammad Sa'adu Ngandu	Marte	[Signature]
34.	Ibrahim Baba Gana Adam Asil Al-Sansiyu	Marte	[Signature]
35.	Prof. Shetima Umaru Bulkarjima	Marte	[Signature]
36.	Alhaji Kaumi Damboa	Marte	[Signature]
37.	Alhaji Ibrahim Mustapha	Marte	[Signature]
38.	Hajja Ganama Bakar Ali	Marte	[Signature]
39.	Dr. Khalifa Ali Dikwa	Dikwa	[Signature]
40.	Hajja Fati A. K. Yerma	Bama	[Signature]
41.	Hajja Maryam Bakar Petro	Kala	[Signature]

BORNO STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

11 M. C. 1150, Chamber Way, Maiduguri, Borno State. Tel: 234 95 230445 e-mail: bornoassembly@bornostate.gov.ng

HON. MEMBERS, BORNO STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY FROM BORNO AND DIKWA EMIRATE COUNCILS

S/N	NAME	CONSTITUENCY	SIGNATURE
1.	Hon. Goni Ali Modu	Abadam	[Signature]
2.	Hon. Idrissa Jidda	Ngala	[Signature]
3.	Hon. Mustafa Ali Ba'ale	Jere	[Signature]
4.	Hon. Ayumu Lawan Gwasha	Dambo	[Signature]
5.	Hon. Moh'd Bukar Kola	Magumeri	[Signature]
6.	Hon. Umar Kelgema (Yarema)	Bama Central	[Signature]
7.	Hon. Dala Mutah	Chibok	[Signature]
8.	Hon. Mohammed Zakariya	Dikwa	[Signature]
9.	Hon. Fugu Bura	Gubio	[Signature]
10.	Hon. Rawu Goni Buhar	Guzamala/Woyi	[Signature]
11.	Hon. Abubakar Adam	Guzamala	[Signature]
12.	Hon. Moh'd Ali. Sarda	Kaga	[Signature]
13.	Hon. Diego Mohammed	Kala/Baje	[Signature]

14.	Hon. Ali Bulama Yajjwa	Konduga	[Signature]
15.	Hon. Ali Darni Abba Saleh	Kukawa	[Signature]
16.	Hon. Baba Ali Modu	Mala	[Signature]
17.	Hon. (Engr) Moh'd Gamboni	Marte	[Signature]
18.	Hon. Abba Ali Mangal	Monguno	[Signature]
19.	Hon. Umar Abatcha Modu	MMC	[Signature]
20.	Hon. Mariam Bakar Gana	Mobbar	[Signature]
21.	Hon. Wakil Bukar Lawan	Nganzai	[Signature]

Signed: YERWA CITIZENS ASSOCIATION MAIDUGURI

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS

Delivered to the National Assembly by a Group of Concerned Nigerians

on the 20th January 2010

Mr. Senate President/Honourable Speaker, for two years now, our nation has captured global headlines for mostly the wrong reasons. At the beginning of President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua's administration, the nation and indeed the world were entertained with the probe of alleged monumental corruption in the power sector, among others. Then there was the ferocious militancy in the Niger Delta, which impacted security of life and property in the region and peace and progress in Nigeria at large. As if these were not enough, the world was again hit by the news of an alleged attempt by a young Nigerian to bomb an American airline, leading to the categorization of Nigeria as a "country of interest" in the global campaign against terrorism by the US government.

The latest in this series of dramatic and worrying events is the tension being generated by the continued absence of President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua on account of ill-health, without effectively transmitting power to the Vice President to act. There have been mild and wild speculations in the media. Several court cases have been instituted. Some civil society groups have taken to the streets within and outside Nigeria, with some even calling for civil disobedience. All these have not only put us again on the global spotlight, but they have also shaken the foundations of our nation and threatened our nascent democracy.

Some of these reactions can be celebrated as inherent rights enjoyed in a democratic society. However sweet the enjoyment of these democratic rights may appear, we are concerned that the style and approach adopted in some of these reactions reveal a pursuit of narrow and personal interests. Our worry is that some of these reactions are neither based on wider national interest nor on serious regard for the advancement of our democracy.

Mr. Senate President/Honourable Speaker, we are as much concerned as those who have one way or the other reacted to the multifaceted national challenges thrown up by these developments. For the records, may we assure you that if we think that concrete solution could be found in protests, we would have joined those who protested, and even those planning for more protests. If raising alarm through paid advertorials would have resolved the matter, we would have put up many. If civil disobedience would suffice, we would have been in the forefront.

What we are saying is that though we are as worried as our other compatriots who have expressed concerns through numerous means including the ones mentioned above, we believe that the challenges confronting us as a nation today require more reasoned and practical actions. We think the approaches to be adopted in a situation as the one at hand should first and foremost have due regard for the unity of the nation and the preservation of our nascent democracy. With this in mind, we believe that care must be taken not to overheat the polity.

Mr. Senate President/Honourable Speaker, some Nigerians have made presentations to the National Assembly. We think that is the best way to go, for we strongly believe that the National Assembly represents the WILL and the MIGHT of the people in democracy. In a circumstance where the nation is in trauma, the people should no doubt depend on their elected representatives for reasonable, quick and responsive actions. Mr. Senate President/Honourable Speaker, this is the reason why we join some of our fellow countrymen and women to present our thoughts and suggestions to you. It is our fervent belief that reasoned dialogue is not only necessary for moments like this, but it is also critical for national cohesion and democratic advancement. Our aim therefore is to encourage the National Assembly to do the following:

1. Take practical and pro-active measures to defuse the tension in the polity in the interest of democracy and national stability;
2. Based on the lessons of the present experiences, the National Assembly should quickly analyze and critically assess the issues and their various dimensions with a view to effecting necessary legislations or constitutional amendments to forestall future occurrences.
3. Reassure our countrymen and women that you are indeed willing and able at all times to manage our collective interests in accordance with the demands of rule of law and democratic best practices;

In the light of the above, it is our humble desire to share our thoughts with you on the following most critical issues confronting our nation today:

I. The Transmission of Power in the Absence of the President/Governor

Mr. Senate President/Honourable Speaker, Section 5 and Section 148 of the 1999 Constitution empower the President to exercise his executive powers either directly or by delegation to the Vice President and his appointees. Section 144 prescribes the

procedure which the Federal Executive Council (FEC) could adopt to remove the President/Vice President from office in circumstances of permanent incapacity. Please note that when a declaration to this effect is made by FEC, it is subject to verification by a medical panel. The Constitution under this circumstance reposes a great deal of responsibility and confidence in Mr. Senate President to appoint such a medical panel.

Another very relevant section of the Constitution in this regard is Section 145. This section refers to a circumstance when the President is away from office either on vacation or on condition of incapacity. In this circumstance, the President should transmit a letter to the National Assembly to this effect and once that is done, it automatically confers on the Vice President the powers to act as President until the President transmits another letter to the National Assembly to the contrary. Mr. Senate President/Honourable Speaker, because of the importance of this section, let us reproduce it as follows:

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

Mr. Senate President/Honourable Speaker, the situation before us today is that President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua has been out of the country for over 50 days on grounds of ill-health. It is now evident that at the time Mr. President was leaving he did not transmit such a letter to the National Assembly as a consequence of which the Vice President was not empowered to act for him. This situation has been variously described as creating a vacuum in leadership.

Consequently, concerns have mounted, such that many people or groups of people have cashed in on the situation to engage in dangerous reactions and speculations which no doubt have become a serious threat not only to the stability of our nation but also to our nascent democracy. We believe, like many others do, that it is not in the best interest of this nation—or any other nation for that matter—to be without concrete authority at any time, more so in an executive presidential system of government. We also believe that the leaders of this nation and more so our elected representatives have a very serious duty to manage our national challenges to ensure national stability and democracy.

Mr. Senate President/Honourable Speaker, a careful examination of Section 145 will reveal the following:

- That the section grants a lot of discretion to the President to transmit this notice to the National Assembly;
- In addition to the above, that section does not contemplate a circumstance where the President is not capable of transmitting such written declaration for reasons of health, haste or any other circumstances beyond his control.

Mr. Senate President/Honourable Speaker, we want to emphasize that the present state of affairs in Nigeria has exposed the weakness of our Constitution in this regard and the most cogent step to take is to prepare its amendment with a view to preventing future occurrences. In the interim, what is required is a letter under the signature of Mr. President. You can agree sir that neither the letter nor the signature can be obtained through protest, threat or even bringing down our democracy.

In view of the above, we recommend as follows:

1. That the leadership of the National Assembly should take concrete steps to uphold the Constitution with due regard to national stability and democracy;
2. That, in addition to the resolutions already adopted by both chambers of the National Assembly and the court judgment in this matter, the National Assembly should come out boldly to assure the nation that the machinery they have set in motion is capable of yielding the desired results;
3. That the National Assembly should appeal to all those who are agitated to please down tools while the National Assembly expedite efforts to resolve the impasse. This, we believe, will calm down the tension and forestall the possibility of people taking laws into their hands; and
4. That every effort should be made to effect the amendment of necessary sections of the Constitution in this regard to forestall a reoccurrence in the future.

II. The Issue of Farouk Umar Abdul-Mutallab

Mr. Senate President/Honourable Speaker, another burning issue we must not gloss over but share our thoughts with you on is the issue of the young Nigerian alleged to be involved in an attempt to bomb a Detroit-bound American airline on 25th December 2009. To say the least, this is a tragic development. It indicates that the war against terror is indeed far from being over. We must further confess that the fact of the involvement of a young, well-educated Nigerian is depressing.

Consequent upon this development, Nigeria is now classified as "a country of interest" in the war against terror by the US government. Mr. Senate President/Honourable Speaker, we are concerned. In this circumstance, we believe that such issues as the state of our educational system and the criteria applied in listing Nigeria as a country of interest must challenge the National Assembly as the representatives of the people. May we quickly examine these two issues with a view to putting up our humble suggestions.

Our Educational System:

Mr. Senate President/Honourable Speaker, we were told that the young man left Nigeria when he was about 10 years for his secondary education in the Republic of Togo before proceeding to the United Kingdom for his university education. We are sure that a number of our children are in various countries like Ghana, Togo, South Africa, US and many countries in Europe for not only their university education, but even their secondary and primary education. Mr. Senate President, if we may ask, for children that are brought up without adequate parental care, under the influence of foreign culture and unguided adolescence, how would they not come under social trauma? It is time for us to rethink whether or not we want a future for Nigeria. We must rethink the state of our educational system with a view to overhauling it at least to provide quality primary and secondary education for our children.

Mr. Senate President/Honourable Speaker, we must again fall back on the National Assembly not only as the bastion of democracy but as the representatives of the people. We can inform you that the nation is traumatized by this event. We think that this situation requires urgent attention. In view of the above, we recommend the following:

1. That there must be a deliberate policy to overhaul our educational system which will lead to the restoration of confidence in the system. In order to achieve this, adequate budgetary provisions will be necessary.
2. That the National Assembly should consider limiting by law the circumstances under which any Nigerian child can attend primary or secondary school abroad;
3. That the National Assembly should enact a legislation prescribing appropriate punishment for anyone found guilty of cultism and indeed a special court be created for this purpose, given the fact that our tertiary institutions have become dens of cultists, and recognizing that the graduates of these institutions will provide our future workforce and leadership.

Our Classification as a Country of Interest:

When the news of our country's classification as a country of interest broke, the nation was obviously astonished. Reactions came from various quarters condemning the classification as unjustifiable. Mr. Senate President/Honourable Speaker, we make bold to say that from available evidence there is no local implication in the whole story of the young Mutallab. However, it appears that America in arriving at this classification may have taken the following into consideration: (1.) the spate of religious upheavals leading to unnecessary loss of human lives in Nigeria; (2.) the fact that government appears to lack adequate responses or control mechanism in such situation; and (3.) the fact that Nigeria has been on global political watch-list for some time.

After a careful review of the above situation, we strongly recommend as follows:

1. That every effort should be made to expedite action on the Nigeria Anti-terrorism Bill, the National Maritime Security Bill and other related bills that are presently before the National Assembly;
2. That various authorities in the country should take pro-active actions on all probes on religious and ethnic conflicts with a view to prosecuting sponsors and perpetrators of these crises.
3. That the National Council on Inter-religious Affairs should be empowered to effectively contain religiously motivated challenges in the country;
4. That legislation should be put in place prescribing appropriate punishment for those found guilty of involvement in religious crises, including those remotely or overtly implicated thereto.
5. That, as a matter of urgent imperative, there should be an overhaul of our security system as to enhance its capacity to forestall incessant cases of religious violence and unlawful use of arms.

III. Electoral Reform

A major impediment to democratic consolidation in our country is the inability of the electoral system to adequately reflect the wishes of the electorate. This is a fundamental problem, which predated this Administration, and which we should strive to put behind us as we approach the next general elections. We note and commend President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua on his commitment to this issue, which culminated in the setting up of the Justice Muhammed Uwais Committee on Electoral Reform. The committee's report has generated much debate. Since the draft bills and the report are now before the National Assembly, we urge you to concentrate efforts on areas requiring legislation or amendments of the constitution to ensure free and fair elections in Nigeria in time for the next general elections.

IV. The Niger Delta

We commend the Administration of President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua for the amnesty programme and the stability it has engendered in the Niger Delta region. This is very important for peace and progress in the region and the country at large. It is worthy of note that the National Assembly has supported this Administration tremendously by providing timely and necessary finances for the development of the Niger Delta region. You deserve all the credit for this. But the momentum must not be lost. We therefore urge the National Assembly to encourage the appropriate agencies of government to take necessary steps to keep this important initiative alive by ensuring speedy and faithful implementation of all the commitments made to the Niger Delta region. We also urge the people of the region to continue to uphold the peace. The amnesty programme is too important to fail.

In conclusion, we wish to appreciate the patience of our fellow compatriots who have again shown that Nigeria is greater than anyone. We, on our part, pledge our best towards addressing the challenges at hand. We appreciate the efforts of other well-meaning Nigerians who are acting in the same vein. Our sole commitment is to advance the cause of democracy in our country; and this commitment is heightened when we see millions of our country men and women who continue to have abiding faith in democracy, despite the occasional challenges. We appeal to all Nigerians to continue to show patience as the nation navigates through this trying moment. We strongly believe that this moment too shall pass, and will pave the way for a greater Nigeria.

We thank you for giving us this opportunity, and we wish Mr. President speedy recovery.

Signed

Senator Anyim Pius Anyim, GCON
 Amb (Dr.) Hassan Adamu, CON (Wakllin Adamawa)
 Chief Shuaib Oyedokun
 Major General Mohammed Magoro (rtd.), OFR, (Galadima Zuru)
 Hon. Chibudom Nwuche
 H.E./Senator Jim Nwobodo
 Hon. Justice Peter Akere (rtd.)
 H.E. Rev. Jolly Nyame
 H.E. Garba Nadama
 Rear Admiral Peter Ebeleme (rtd.)
 Alhaji Ibrahim Bunu
 Chief (Mrs.) Remi Adiukwu-Bakare
 Senator Isaiah Balat
 General Chris Garba (rtd.)

H.E. Dr. Rabiu Kwakwanso
 Chief (Mrs.) Helen Esuene
 Alhaji Mantu Ibrahim, CFR
 Senator Walid Jibrin, OON
 Alhaji Yaro Makama
 Chief (Engr.) Charles Ugwu, OON
 General A.B. Maman, (rtd.)
 Professor Emeka Okoli
 Senator Zigo Aziz
 Barr. Danladi Ochekepe
 Lady Ime Essien Udom
 General Paul Tarfa (rtd.)
 Hajia Zainab Maina, MFR
 H.E. Amb. Adamu Aliyu, mni, (Walin Katagu)

Hon. Austin Opara
 Alhaji A. Alhaji
 Professor Tunde Adeniran
 Alhaji Shaba Lafiagi
 Gen. Sam Teidi, (rtd.)
 Mr. Abu Shuluwa (Sema-Wan-U-Tiv)
 Chief G. Adukwu, OON
 Comrade Pascal Bafyau, mni
 Prof. Mrs. Chinwe Obaji
 Hajia Hawa Kida
 Chief Innocent Anoliefo
 Alhaji Bala Abdullahi
 Captain Paul Tahal

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

RTI International (www.rti.org/idg) is an independent organization dedicated to conducting innovative, multidisciplinary research that improves the human condition. With a worldwide staff of more than 2,500 people, RTI offers innovative research, development, and a full spectrum of multidisciplinary services. Founded in 1958, RTI is the first scientific organization in and centerpiece of the Research Triangle Park, USA.

RTI International was recently awarded a USAID funded Leadership, Advocacy, Empowerment, and Development (LEAD) project in Nigeria. LEAD aims at improving governance and service delivery at the local government level. We are seeking expressions of interest from highly qualified professionals for the positions of **Deputy Country Director/Deputy Chief of Party** and **Human Resource Manager**.

Position Description: Deputy Country Director/Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP)

Primary responsibilities of the DCOP will be to:

- Under the direction of the Country Director, oversee the technical and management aspects of the project in the Sokoto Office.
- Lead efforts in setting up systems; ensure timely implementation and smooth operation of program activities.
- Provide technical assistance in the design of project activities.
- Act as Country Director as necessary.
- Develop and implement field office policies and procedures in concert with the Country Director and Headquarters' support staff.
- Assist with strategic work planning efforts.
- Work, under the supervision of the Country Director, to ensure that project activities meet client expectations and that project results are proactively disseminated.
- Serve as a point of contact for other project stakeholders and other donors.

Required Qualifications and skills:

- Previous experience managing large, complex projects for USAID or similar international organizations.
- Previous experience with and knowledge of RTI and USAID reporting systems.
- Bachelors degree plus 16 years or a Masters degree plus 12 years experience
- Advanced degree in a relevant field.
- Experience in Northern Nigeria preferred.
- Excellent technical and managerial skills.
- Excellent communication (verbal and written) and interpersonal skills.
- Team player.
- Fluency in English. Hausa language proficiency a plus.

The DCOP reports to the Country Director and will be based in Sokoto. The position is at grade 12. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. We are proud to be an equal opportunity employer.

Position Description: Human Resource (HR) Manager

The Human Resources Manager is responsible for the administration of HR activities and initiatives. The individual will work under the general direction of the Chief of Party and will collaborate with RTI HR Manager in the US to facilitate efficient and effective HR administration for the project.

Primary Responsibilities of the HR Manager will be to:

- **Manage and direct all HR activities.**
- Facilitate recruitment and training of staff – drafting of employment contracts requests and tracking their return once signed.
- Ensure documents required for employment are submitted by candidates.
- Track Private Medical Insurance (PMI) expiry dates and follow up on renewals.
- Support the development of project staff.
- Manage employee personnel files, including ensuring their accuracy and completeness.
- Manage performance and appraisals process.
- Maintain RTI's electronic personnel database and supporting use of its information by project staff for planning and administration purposes.
- Establish and update the HR tracker.
- Support the payroll process by ensuring that correct data is provided to the finance department.
- Maintain HR (non-personnel) files.
- Supervisory Responsibilities include the overall direction, coordination, and evaluation of HR staff in-country.
- Other duties as assigned by the COP or DCOP.

Required Qualifications and Skills:

- Bachelors degree plus 10 years or Masters plus 6 years direct experience in Human Resource management and administration.
- Degree in HR, Management, or related course. A professional qualification in HR is a plus.
- Knowledge of local human resources practices and laws.
- Excellent organization, communication, and problem solving and skills.
- Team Player.
- Ability to handle sensitive information and situations in a confidential manner.
- Ability to work well independently and in a team environment.
- A working knowledge of Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Outlook, and internet applications.
- Experience with USAID or other major donors a plus.

The HR Manager reports to the Country Director and will be based in Bauchi. The position is at grade 10. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. We are proud to be an equal opportunity employer.

Closing date for receipt of application is 10th February, 2010.



POLICE PENSIONS OFFICE

VERIFICATION EXERCISE OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS & NEXT-OF KIN(S) OF DECEASED OFFICERS

The Police Pensions Office will undertake a **Nation-Wide Verification Exercise of Retired Police Officers and Next-of-Kins of deceased officers on the Police Pensions Payroll from the 1st to 14th February, 2010.**

2. The verification exercise will take place in state capitals of the 36 states of the Federation and Abuja the FCT.
3. Retirees and next-of-kins on the Police Pensions Payroll should report at their state capitals where they will be required to complete the verification form and also submit the following documents:-
 - i. Pension advice
 - ii. Letter of Retirement
 - iii. 4 passport size photographs.
 - iv Statement of Bank account
4. It is important to note that anyone who fails to turn up for the exercise or to give any acceptable explanation will cause his/her name to be deleted from the payroll.
5. Your co-operation towards the conduct of a successful exercise will be highly appreciated.

Signed.

Atiku A. Kigo, fwc

Director

Police Pensions Office

STATE OF THE NATION: ELECTORAL REFORM IS THE PRIORITY

Being Text of Press Conference by Civil Society Coordinating Committee on Electoral Reform CSCC
Abuja, January 12, 2010

ELECTORAL REFORM/SENATE ZONAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

Representative democracy is a system born and continuously nurtured by the popular will of the people. In our country this system of popular will has been hijacked by Organized Crime. Every aspect of the system, from the electorate to the parties, to the election management bodies and security agencies are in the captivity of Organized Crime. The acclaimed democracies of the world have at one time or the other passed through this kind of captivity and were only returned to the path of popular democracy by foresighted leadership and a value driven people.

Nigerians are united about the necessity and urgency for electoral reform that must be completed in time for the 2011 general elections. Nigerians are also united on the Uwais Committee recommendations as the minimum template for any meaningful electoral reform. We note that both leadership of the Senate and the House have assured Nigerians that they will unfailingly complete legislative process on the reform by March this year. We have no reason to doubt them but to re-emphasize the point that they cannot afford to fail Nigerians on this critical assignment.

We however note with serious concern that the Senate Public Hearings on the Constitutional/Electoral Reform were poorly conducted. Across the country, many citizens and groups were denied the opportunity to make their presentations. In most centers civil society organizations had to struggle had to get on the list, and even at that many were shut out of the process. In the North West center for example, civil society organizations were systematically excluded from making presentations.

We observed that a number of the Senators did not demonstrate the seriousness with which the process deserved. Hearings commenced late, in some instances starting as late as 1pm (against the 9am starting time) and closing as early as 2pm (against the advertised 5pm closing time).

Notwithstanding these shortcomings, the CSCC believes that the National Assembly has sufficient materials and broad consensus from Nigerians as to what direction and form the electoral reform should take. We urge members of the National Assembly to not only remain faithful to the true yearnings of Nigerians by delivering an electoral reform that will ensure credible elections 2011 but also do this within the March 2010 deadline they have given to themselves.

Issues for electoral reform that require urgent attention can be divided into two broad categories as follows: integrity of the electoral system and; inclusivity of the system.

On the integrity of the electoral system the following recommendations are critical for genuine reform: (a) the involvement of the National Judicial Council in the short listing and interview of candidates for appointment as INEC Commissioners (b) the inclusion of representatives of trade unions, lawyers, journalists, women and civil society groups working on elections as members of INEC (c) INEC funds as first line charge to the federation account (d) the transfer of the onus of proof from petitioner to INEC (e) the establishment of electoral crimes' commission (f) the conclusion of election petitions before swearing in newly elected public officers (g) the adoption of modified open ballot system (h) the immediate display of election results at the polling station after counting and (i) the custody of used ballot papers and election results by

banks at the directive of election petition judge seven days after each election.

On the integrity of the electoral system the following recommendations are of utmost importance: (a) adoption of 30% proportional representation (b) adoption of 20% affirmative action for women and (c) 10% affirmative action for people living with disabilities.

We ask the legislators as we requested from the Uwais Panel to bequeath to this nation a true democracy based on a peoples' INEC; a true democracy where a nation in darkness will have the opportunity to choose leaders who will create the conditions for the megawatts that will power our civilization and dignity; a true democracy where women that have been enslaved by centuries of patriarchy will have the opportunity of liberation; a true democracy where our vivacious youths admired all over the world for their breathtaking skills can have the opportunity of nation building employment; a true democracy where poverty will have no stay in the midst of plenty, where our children will go to schools with roofs over their heads.

CONDITIONS FOR CREDIBLE ELECTIONS IN ANAMBRA STATE

We see Anambra governorship election as a crucial test of the willingness of the politicians and officials of INEC to play by the rules of electoral politics. The whole world will be watching and Nigerians are eager to see what happens. There are a couple of things already wrong with the system but we think that if certain things are done we will have a good election in Anambra state.

For instance we have always known that the voter register is deeply flawed not much has been done since 2007 to remedy the situation. However we believe that the Anambra governorship election will live up to acceptability if the following things are done:

1. The voter register should be displayed once more as a confidence building measure for the public
2. The exact polling stations and their locations should be published in the media and displayed for people to verify their actual existence
3. The voter register should be made available to the political parties if that has not been done already
4. The results of elections must be publicly displayed at the polling station after counting and copies of the results given to party agents, observers and journalists. INEC must issue a statement committing itself to this duty
5. All collated election results must be broken down to polling stations at every level of collation and tabulated results displayed at the collating centers
6. Anambra resident electoral commissioner chief Rowland Uwa was reported by the media to have said that INEC has equipments for rapid transmission of results from the polling booths. According to him results will be transmitted from the booths straight to the headquarters and the collation centers at the local governments. We hope that this is not the same dummy that INEC sold to the public in 2007 elections
7. The final election results should be announced within 24 hours
8. As a matter of social responsibility we call on all editors of both electronic and print media houses in the country to go to Anambra and monitor the governorship elections
9. The Police Service Commission should send adequate number of observers to monitor the conduct of police officers on election duty in Anambra governorship election.

CSCC
CIVIL SOCIETY COORDINATING
COMMITTEE ON ELECTORAL REFORM
NLC, ACE, TMG, ERN, NCAA, GERCORN,
CFCR, JONAPWD, FOMWAN

Sponsored by the Joint Donor Basket Fund (JDBF)
Financed by EU, DFID, CIDA & UNDP.





HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JOINT COMMITTEE ON BANKING & CURRENCY,
CAPITAL MARKET & INSTITUTIONS & FINANCE

INVITATION FOR MEMORANDA & PUBLIC HEARING

RE: A BILL FOR AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE ASSET MANAGEMENT CORPORATION OF NIGERIA FOR THE PURPOSE OF EFFICIENTLY RESOLVING THE NON PERFORMING LOAN ASSETS OF BANKS IN NIGERIA AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

The House of Representatives on Wednesday 16th December 2009 read the above Bill the Second time and referred same to the Joint Committee for further legislative action.

Consequently, the Joint Committee wishes to invite the following:

- Minister of Finance
- Governor, Central Bank of Nigeria
- Chairman/Director General Securities Exchange Commission
- Director General Nigerian Stock Exchange
- Managing Director Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation
- MDs/ CEOs of All Licensed Banks & Development Finance Institutions.
- All other Financial Regulatory Agencies
- All other Operators including Stock Brokers, Registrars
- All other stakeholders & the General Public,

To submit memoranda and attend the Public Hearing scheduled as follows:

Date: 28th January, 2010

Time: 10 am

Venue: House Hearing Room 1, (White House) NASS Complex Abuja

All Memoranda should reach the Joint Committee Secretariat at House Committee Room 6 (Zero Floor, White House) NASS Complex, Abuja, on or before 27th January 2010 or by e-mail to: obotujames@yahoo.com

Hon. Ogbuefi Ozomgbachi
For: The Joint Committee



NIGERIA LABOUR CONGRESS KADUNA STATE COUNCIL

Motto: Labour Creates Wealth

State Chairman: COM D.D. BISALLA (JP)
State Treasurer: COM ADE MARTINS ODIGBE (JP)
STATE SECRETARY: COM HENRY U SHEKARAU (JP)

STATE SECRETARIAT:
No. 1 Lafia Road,
Off Independence Way,
Kaduna
Tel: 08036172895

NEW YEAR MESSAGE TO GOVERNOR NAMADI SAMBO (FNIA) OF KADUNA STATE BY THE NIGERIAN LABOUR CONGRESS (NLC). KADUNA STATE COUNCIL, KADUNA

The entire Labour Organizations in Kaduna State under the umbrella of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) Kaduna State Council wishes to felicitate with you on your administration's achievements within the period under review.

Without any fear of contradictions we wish to state clearly that your leadership style in the state for over two years has been a thing of joy to all and sundry and wishes to commend you for attaining this feat. Although no human being is perfect your administration human face in tackling the problems in Kaduna state headlong without any sentiments attached cannot go unnoticed.

However, there is the need to put more efforts in carrying out your development projects hinged on the eleven-point agenda in order not to give room to your detractors to have a field day. As an organized labour union, we have been keen observers of your government total commitment to make life better for the people of Kaduna in all spheres of life and you should not be deterred by pocket and arm-chair critics whose stock in-trade centered on blackmail.

We want to quickly add here also that you should not ignore genuine critics who may have noticed certain anomalies in the execution of some projects or your style of administration, such criticisms should be taken in good faith and where there is the need for adjustments your Excellency should not hesitate to make corrections.

Congress is aware of the monumental debt sand projects abandonment you inherited from the immediate administration in the state, and we are also aware that your administration had commence the payment of the debt running into billions of naira and completed all the abandoned projects by your predecessor. These, some of your critics may not know or they may only want to be mischievous.

As we said earlier Sir, criticism based on blackmail and mischief should be ignored so that your administration can concentrate on major issues that affect the people of the state.

The Congress has taken time to peruse your eleven-point agenda and come to the conclusion that if it is holistically followed and those delegated to carry out their duties do it with all honesty your name and that of your administration will remain inedible in the minds of all Nigerians and foreigners alike who reside in Kaduna State for a very long time.

TASK BEFORE YOUR ADMINISTRATION 2010 - 2011

1. The 2010 budget sent to the Legislature for approval is a welcome development but it must not be misplaced.
2. The Congress agreed that the 2010 budget promised a better future for the people of state, if carried out successfully
3. The budget should be hinged towards the completion of the government eleven-point agenda to the letter
4. The Congress suggested that a joint committee of government functionaries including members of NLC be put in place to look into the implementation of the 2010 budget

5. The Congress commended the administration's foresight on the welfare of the state workforce, but wish to use this opportunity to remind His Excellency that there is the need to act fast on the report of the committee on the Review of workers wages and take home critically.

6. UNEMPLOYMENT

The economic indices all over the world and with particular reference to Nigeria show that there is a nosedive that has made the issue of unemployment a monster especially among the teeming youths.

The Congress noted with concern this development and called on the government to look into the issue and find solutions to the menace in order to reduce crime rates.

7. REFORMS

The Congress agreed that there is the need for reforms in all sectors of our economy but expressed wariness at a reform targeted at sacking people from their job. It was the believe of the Congress that the reform needed in this country Today is the one that will provide more employment opportunities.

8. THE BANKING SECTOR

The Congress express Sadness over the action of the Governor of Central Bank Sanusi Lamido Sanusi whose Banking reforms is targeted at creating massive unemployment in that sector which the result may not augur well for the entire nation. The Congress noticed that this action, if not quickly checked will pose a serious threat to the security of the entire nation.

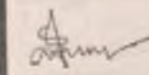
The Congress appealed to His Excellency to use his good office and take the case of the CBN Governor to the Federal Government for quick intervention

9. FOREIGN DEBT.

The Congress agreed that obtaining loans to execute any meaningful projects are not new, but advised that such loans should be used for what it is meant for. The Congress believed that projects such as power generation, health and education among many others gigantic projects may attract loans either foreign or domestic to execute.

And finally, the Congress call on the government to focus its attentions on all its developmental projects and be wary of sycophants, but always listen to genuine criticisms which are made to put the government on its toes in order to achieve success all the way. The Congress once again expressed satisfaction at your administrations performance in the last two and half years under review and wishes you success in the years ahead.

Thank you.
Yours' in the struggle,


COMRADE D.D. Bisallah JP
State Secretary, NLC



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON BANKING & CURRENCY

CALL FOR MEMORANDA/INVITATION FOR PUBLIC HEARING

RE: 1) A BILL FOR AN ACT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL CONSUMER CREDIT REGULATORY COMMISSION (NCCRC) FOR THE GENERAL REGULATION OF CONSUMER CREDIT AND INFORMATION IN NIGERIA, REGISTRATION OF CREDIT BUREAU AND CREDIT PROVIDERS, PROMOTION OF FAIR ACCESS TO CONSUMER CREDIT AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF NIGERIANS, PROHIBITION OF UNFAIR CREDIT MARKETING PRACTICES AND OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH, 2009 (HB.209)

- 2) A BILL FOR AN ACT TO REPEAL THE BANKS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ACT 1991 AND TO RE-ENACT THE BANKS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ACT, 2009 AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH, 2009 (HB.232)

The House of Representatives on Wednesday 22nd July and Thursday 30th July 2009 respectively read the above Bills the second time and referred them to the committee for further legislative action.

Consequently the Committee wishes to invite the following:

- Governor, Central Bank of Nigeria
- Managing Director Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation
- MDs/CEOs of all licenced Banks/Micro Finance Banks
- Nigerian Bar Association
- National Association of Nigerian Traders
- All other Financial Regulatory Agencies
- All other operators
- All other stakeholders of the General Public

To submit memoranda and attend the Public Hearing Scheduled as follow:

Date: 4th February, 2010
Time: 10.00am
Venue: House Hearing Room 1 (White House)
NASS Complex, Abuja

All memoranda should reach the secretariat of the Committee at House Committee Room 6 (Zero Floor, White House) NASS Complex, Abuja, on or before 3rd February 2010 or by e-mail to obotujames@yahoo.com.

Hon Ogbuefi Ozomgbachi
Chairman

DIGEST

Women in childbirth 'should be allowed to eat and drink'

WOMEN should be allowed to eat and drink what they want during labour, according to researchers.

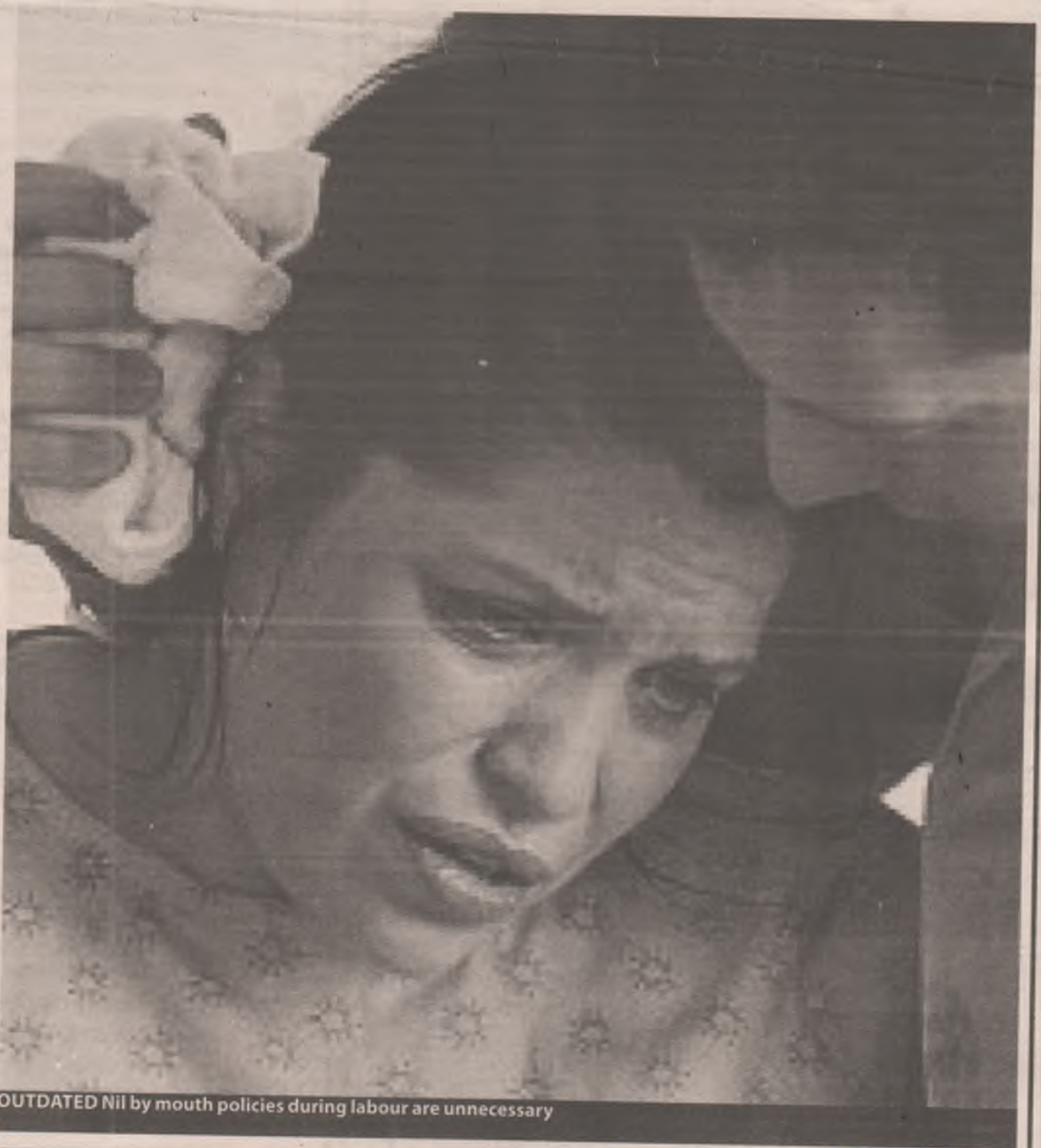
Outdated ideas about restricting consumption of food and drink should be consigned to the history books, they say.

Although attitudes are changing, some maternity wards still insist on 'nil by mouth' policies for women who may spend many hours in labour.

The only exception should be women who may need general anaesthesia during delivery, says the Cochrane Review, which analyses health research.

Consuming food and drink during labour was clamped down on during the last century because of concerns about choking, or regurgitating food that might

“Although attitudes are changing, some maternity wards still insist on 'nil by mouth' policies for women who may spend many hours in labour



OUTDATED Nil by mouth policies during labour are unnecessary

cause fatal damage to the lungs.

The review looked at five studies and a total of 3,130 women at low risk of complications.

It found no evidence of any risk or benefit associated with eating or drinking.

The National Childbirth Trust said it had been raising awareness on the issue of eating and drinking during labour for many years.

'Withholding food and drink is an intervention that has been imposed on healthy women in normal labour without justification,' said Mary Newburn, head of research and information at the NCT.

Pain pill risk to drivers after experts link codeine to fatal road accidents

A drug used in common painkillers has been linked to an increased risk of fatal car crashes.

Research shows motorists killed in accidents were more likely to have been driving dangerously after taking codeine, a morphine-like medicine used in well-known brands such as Solpadeine and Nurofen Plus.

The study suggests the painkiller can make drivers sleepy,

slower to react to danger and more likely to make mistakes.

On its own, codeine is available only on prescription, but is also used in low doses with paracetamol in products such as Solpadeine, or with ibuprofen in Nurofen Plus, which can be bought over the counter at pharmacies.

Around 27million packets of painkillers containing codeine are

sold every year in the UK.

The drug is a mild opiate, which puts it in the same class as morphine and methadone, the heroin substitute given to drug addicts. For the latest research, scientists at Lakehead University and Northern Ontario School of Medicine in Canada, analysed the details of thousands of U.S. road deaths since 1975.

More than 2,100 drivers killed were found to have taken an opiate painkiller such as codeine, morphine or methadone.

The researchers then matched these details to accident reports and found that those with the drugs in their systems were much more likely to have been veering across the road, going too fast, turning dangerously or driving

recklessly.

Women on painkillers were up to 42 per cent more likely to have committed an 'unsafe driving action' and men up to 74 per cent more likely.

The Canadian study, published in the journal Accident Analysis and Prevention, said young and middle-aged drivers were most likely to be affected

Sign Language



Five Star Garage? No comment.
Photo location: Chipata, Zambia, by Bjorn Lindqvist.
Culled from www.signspotting.com

SUDOKU

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

71

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

EASY CROSSWORDS

- ACROSS**
- Haughty
 - Major engineering school (abbr.)
 - Killer whale
 - "... down!" ("Hush!")
 - Eccentric
 - ... admiral
 - Actor Alda
 - Not out of the question
 - Cookbook entry
 - Stitches
 - Music's ... Speed-wagon
 - Small chess piece
 - Ship's
 - pronoun
 - Blue-pencil
 - Cooking measurement (abbr.)
 - Wish undone
 - "The ... a Thousand Faces" (2 wds.)
 - Spain's cont.
 - Pen fluids
 - Brief note
 - Gypsy Rose
 - Obey
 - Sluggish stat
 - Author Ferber et al.
 - Venus's sister
 - Orphan's hope
 - Tennis's Lendl
 - Identical
 - ... Paulo
 - Out of shape
 - Eagle-...
 - Andrews, for one (abbr.)
 - Distinctive years
 - Bride's vow (2 wds.)
 - Grid coupe (abbr.)
 - The East
 - Singer McEntire
 - Composed
 - Greek god of war
 - NNE's opposite
 - Keats creation
 - Yearned (for)
 - ... bomb
 - ... Lanka
 - Attila, e.g.
 - Barone's wife
 - One who has faith
 - "Sioux City"
 - Prior to (prefix)
 - Goffer's warning
 - Formed
 - New York time (abbr.)
 - Grease someone's palm
 - Comfort
 - 6/6/44 (hyph.)
 - Iditarod destination
 - Snoopy one
 - "Peter Pan" dog
 - Active insects
 - "This ... recording" (2 wds.)
 - Dunderhead

59

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18				19				20		
24	25			26	27			28	29	30
32				33				34		
36				37				38		
				40	41			42	43	
44	45	46						47	48	49
50				51	52			53		
54				55				56		
57				58				59		

Solution to Easy Crosswords

58

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

Solution to Sudoku 70

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



Kogi Harvests:

GOV. IDRIS PERFORMANCE IN COMMERCE, SPORTS & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



Tractors to boost mechanised farming in the state



Governor Ibrahim Idris



Some units of the 1,250 tricycles distributed to youths



House of Assembly Clinic & Cafeteria



A set of jeeps for 1st Class Traditional Rulers



One of the transformers provided for rural electrification



Gov. Idris inspecting an ecological control site in Ankpa



Fertilizers for farmers

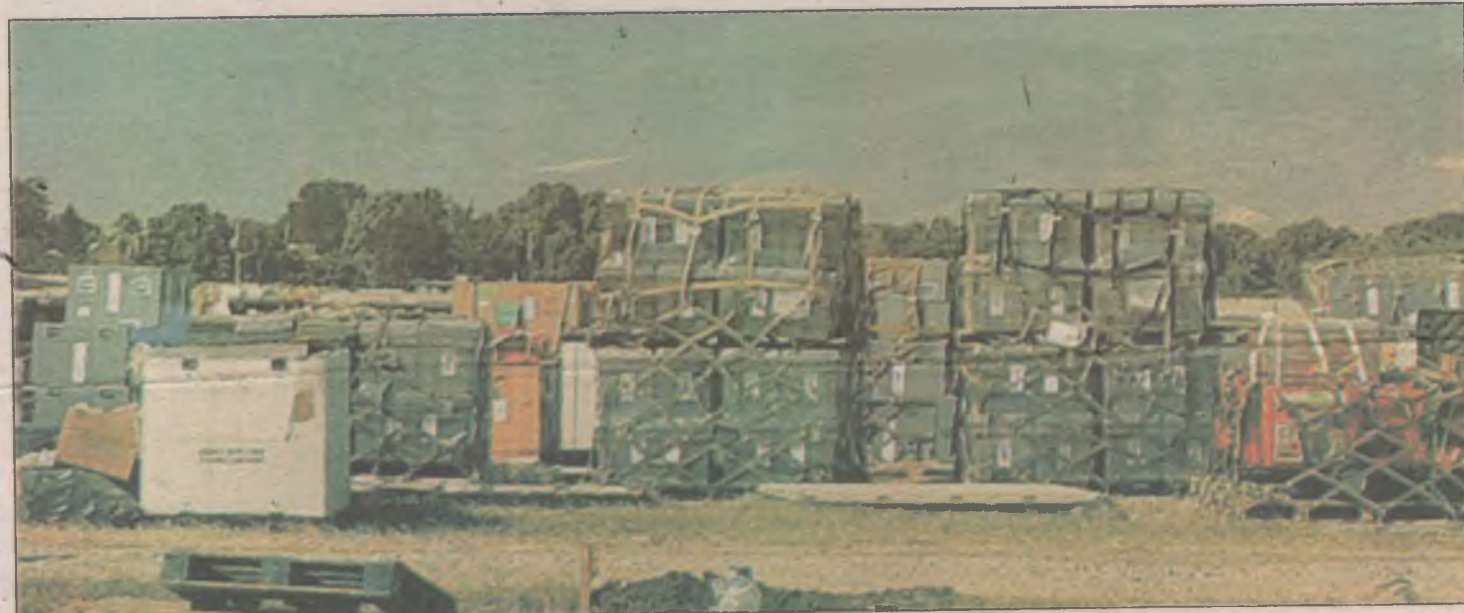
Pictures don't lie!

A publication of Press Unit Government House, Lokoja

News Extra

Aid piling up at UN's compound

... As red tape keeps aid from desperate Haitians



SUPPLIES sit at the airport, with authorities unable to send it out to people who need it



IN more than 20 years of covering disasters, never has the void between the Westernised world and the people they have been mobilised to 'save' been more obvious to *Mail on Sunday's* Caroline Graham, pictured

It is a tale of two cities. One has ice-cold beers, internet access, thousands of men and billions of dollars' worth of gleaming machinery, together with piles of food, blankets, generators and other aid relief from around the globe.

This is the heavily fortified US-controlled Port-au-Prince airport and neighbouring United Nations compound.

The other is the devastated city of Port-au-Prince, where the stench of death fills the air and starving people are in utter despair, still in need of the basic necessities of food, water, shelter and medical care.

Never, in more than 20 years of covering disasters, has the void between the might and power of the Westernised world and the penniless and pitiful people they have been mobilised to 'save' been so glaringly obvious to me.

This nearly two weeks after the earthquake that devastated Haiti's capital, leaving an estimated 100,000 dead in the rubble and another 1.4million homeless.

Despite a vast worldwide aid effort - spurred on by pleas from celebrities such as George Clooney in Friday night's Haiti Telethon - the lack of help reaching those who need it is such that even aid agencies on the ground are now admitting they have fallen woefully short.

Alejandro Chicheri, Press officer for the UN-funded World Food Programme, said: 'Of course we would like to be doing more to help the people on the streets but the logistics are a nightmare.'

'These things take time and we are going as fast as we can.'

As I landed at Port-au-Prince airport on Friday on a charter flight funded by the charity World Vision from the neighbouring Dominican Republic, the tragedy was visible even before our jet touched down.



A forlorn child in a makeshift camp yet to receive any aid



PEOPLE crowd around a Sri Lankan United Nations unit as they deliver food yesterday



A US paratrooper gives water to a girl in Cite Soleil, a sium in Port-au-Prince

Vast swathes of the city are flattened and huge areas of makeshift 'tent towns' are visible from the air, along with long lines of people wandering aimlessly along

the roads and gathering outside Western-controlled compounds like the UN's in desperate hope of handouts.

The airport, now fully under

the control of the US military, is like something out of a Hollywood action film. Choppers whirl overhead.

Huge vehicles rumble around

filled with men in uniform. Large passenger and cargo jets, emblazoned with flags from around the globe, sit on the tarmac.

Some were being emptied of their crates of food, milk powder, rice and water. Others just sat idle.

Swarms of US military personnel and coastguards were busying themselves by working on their gleaming vehicles and aircraft. Hundreds of blue-helmeted UN soldiers lined one edge of the runway but, during the hour I watched them, went nowhere as they visibly started wilting in the blazing 32C Caribbean heat.

The airport compound is, by any standards, an astonishing feat of organisation.

I spoke to Christian minister Brent Gambrell who was one of the first to arrive, just eight hours after the earthquake hit.

He has a long-established ministry in Haiti and is friends with US golfer Zach Johnson who loaned him his private jet to get there.

Mr Gambrell said: 'I brought in aid supplies and when I landed there was a plane-load of Canadians here looking confused and asking me "Where do we go?"'

'It was chaos for the first few days. The airport closed down because they couldn't handle the flights wanting to come in. There was no organisation until the US military got involved.'

'But it has become more difficult to actually move the stuff out of here and get it to the people who need it. There is so much red tape and bureaucracy.'

He estimated the number of troops and aid workers now living and working inside the airport at around 8,000. 'There were more,' he said, 'but most of the search-and-rescue teams are pulling out as there's little chance of finding anyone else alive at this stage.'

News Extra

Guinea army loses its swagger

Guinea's military junta has named a civilian prime minister to steer the country towards elections but the troubled country's future remains shrouded in uncertainty.

Under intense international and domestic the army has agreed to leave power in six months but there are reports of division within the military.

"The army has to be persuaded to back the road map and to return to barracks," says Richard Moncrieff of the International Crisis Group.

If any part of Guinea's fractious armed forces does not accept the transition, things could go badly wrong. But already there are signs of change, according to residents of the capital, Conakry.

"The soldiers are still around, but they're not patrolling like they were before; they've lost their swagger," said one man in the capital.

Soldiers abused

In the end, the brutality of the military junta was its undoing. Despite being the world's largest exporter of bauxite, Guinea was not high on the international agenda.

All that changed on 28 September when soldiers killed more than 150 opposition demonstrators.

The world was outraged and called for the army to step down. Sanctions followed.

Among those injured on 28 September was Jean-Marie Dore, a veteran opposition leader and the man named as the new prime minister.

Far from being cowed by the violence, Mr Dore and other members of the civilian opposition where hardened in their resolve.

In the weeks after the September killings, there was fear of the army's brutality, but also contempt. Families of soldiers were openly abused in the streets of Conakry.

The army was under pressure from all sides, with the international community calling for the junta to step down and for those with blood on their hands to face justice.

Pragmatist

On 3 December, Capt Moussa Dadis Camara was seriously wounded when shot by an aide who feared he would be forced to take the blame for the September killings.

Capt Camara was flown to hospital in Morocco and nothing was heard from him for weeks.

Defence Minister Gen Sebouka Konate assumed leadership of the junta.

Though a central power in the military government and a key figure in the coup that brought it to power in December 2008,



GUINEA junta chief Captain Moussa Dadis Camara (left) and Guinea interim junta chief General Sekouba Konate (right) hold the hands of Burkina Faso President Blaise Compaore after a meeting in Ougadougou, recently.

Gen Konate has turned out to be a pragmatist.

During the negotiations between the powers of the military government in Burkina Faso - where Capt Camara is convalescing - it is reported that Gen Konate was imploring his fellow soldiers to realise that the military government had virtually no support in Guinea.

Criminal charges

Even before the Burkina Faso negotiations that saw the army sign its way out of power, Gen Konate had offered the opposition the post of prime minister.



JEAN-MARIE Dore has a huge job on his hands

But the choice of prime minister has brought to the fore the divisions within Guinean society, with politicians and trade unions at loggerheads.

Jean Marie Dore has been categorical that what happened in Burkina Faso was an agreement between members of the military government.

"No agreement between us and the military was concluded in Ougadougou, but there are some starting points for a rapprochement between the Forces Vives (opposition) and the CNDD (the

junta)."

It is not yet known much power the new prime minister and the other civilian members of the transition government will have. But Jean Marie Dore has a reputation for toughness and will not want to be taken for a ride.

"We don't yet know how capable the politicians are," says Mr Moncrieff.

"They have shown resilience and a willingness to stick to a coherent line - we'll have to wait to see if they can provide a road-map to get Guinea out of this crisis."

So far there is not much more

ries and ethnic tensions.

The UN says the exiled Capt Camara and two aides bear direct responsibility and others bear secondary responsibility.

The International Criminal Court is to send a team to Guinea

in February.

The military might swallow losing power, but the threat of criminal charges is another matter.

Culled from bbc.co.uk

CAMARA'S RULE

23, 24 December 2008

STRONGMAN President Lansana Conte dies, Capt Camara takes over, promises 2010 election

15 August 2009

SAYS he may stand for president

28 September

SOLDIERS kill protesters in Conakry, reports of atrocities and rapes

OCTOBER

US, EU, African Union and Ecowas impose sanctions on junta

3 December

CAPT Camara shot in the head in apparent assassination attempt

4 December Flown to Morocco for surgery

12 January 2010

CAPT Camara leaves hospital in Rabat and is flown to Burkina Faso

15 January He agrees to let Gen Konate remain in charge

21 January Jean-Marie Dore officially appointed prime minister



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Executive Governor Kano State on his
TURBANING as the **SARDAUNAN KANO**
by His Royal Highness The Emir of Kano
Alhaji (Dr) Ado Bayero CFR, LLD, JP.

Malam (Dr.) Ibrahim Shekarau
(Sardaunan Kano)
The Executive Governor of Kano State

*May Allah guide you and give you the
courage to forge ahead, Ameen.*

MANAGEMENT



NO, THANK YOU!

We have an in-house policy of rewarding staff who keep to the straight and narrow path.



The practice of journalism today in Nigeria has acquired some odium due to the "brown envelope syndrome". For those who may want it spelt out, "brown envelope," is the practice whereby journalists, or those who pass off themselves as such, insist on being paid to cover events, write news report or feature articles (that are clearly not to be paid for). This practice is not limited to the lowly reporter; it obtains also at the high echelons in media organisations.

Similarly, many reporters and editors are offered gift and gratification, sometimes with the overt aim of influencing their work. Some of these gifts could be described as "token." If not, it may be offered in ways it would be rude or self-righteous to reject there and then.

In the circumstances, it has become necessary for us to make public our company's policy on gift-taking, so that our numerous readers, newsmakers, advertisers and other well-wishers can help us with its implementation.

It is the policy of Media Trust that its editors and reporters should not solicit for gift or gratification either through begging, flattering, cajoling or blackmailing those they encounter in the course of their work. Where a gift can be graciously declined, we expect our staff to do so. However, where it is pressed on them, they will declare it so that the company can write a letter thanking the giver and donating the gift to charity.

However, we sincerely expect those who patronize our publications as readers, advertisers and newsmakers, not to seek to influence our reporters and editors with bribe, gratification and gift.

We have an in-house policy of rewarding staff who keep to the straight and narrow path. You can assist us by reporting anyone who claims to be our staff, yet engages in such unethical conduct.

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Thank you.

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Management

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NIPOST partners Glo, Equatel for improved services

By Yunus Abdulhamid

THE Nigeria Postal Service will pursue its partnership with critical stakeholders in 2010 especially in the development of ICT infrastructure in major Post Offices nationwide, Public Relations Manager of NIPOST, Hussaina Charity Ato has said.

She said the move "is part of

NIPOST management's desire to serve the people better and make the Post office a one-stop-shop."

Some telecom stakeholders who have signed Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with NIPOST include Messrs Equatel Telecommunications Limited and Globacom Limited. Equatel is handling the installation of Public Pay Phones in major Post offices

across the country and is expected to provide alternative power source in areas that are yet to be connected to the national grid.

Hussaina in a statement said "at present, about 170 Post offices have been fully installed with functional Public Pay Phones.

"Globacom Limited on its part is to leverage on NIPOST's wide spread to reach the rural populace

and offer wide range of services which include sale of recharge cards, SIM replacement and broad access to Internet browsing."

To ensure that Postal outlets are not used as conduit for money laundering, drug trafficking, proliferation of arms and ammunition including terrorism financing, NIPOST will embark on a more effective interface with critical

security agencies in the country to beef up security in major Post offices, she said.

NIPOST management believes that the Postal Sector Reform Bill currently with the National Assembly will be given adequate attention this year to enable the post make greater positive contribution to the growth of the Nigerian economy.

Zinox Telecoms takes over Enugu Wifi

From Zakariyya Adaramola, Lagos

ZINOX Telecoms has taken over complete control of Enugu CoalCity Wifi project following a buyout of the Enugu State Government in the Joint Venture.

Zinox telecoms was launched two years ago with a mandate to cost effectively connect the next 30 million non-served Nigerians in rural areas to the global knowledge domain. It has kept its commitment by buying out the state government's 80% in the JVA by paying over N140m.

By this acquisition, Zinox is now solely responsible for the implementation of the Coalcity-Wifi in support of the vision of the Enugu State Government. These clarifications were contained in a statement by the Chief Operating Officer of Zinox Telecoms, Engr. Theophilus Nweke who said that at the moment, the network has been demobilized to enable the Management of Zinox telecoms do a system - capacity and inventory audit and re-strategize on how best to run the network in a capital city with few major industries. "We want to make sure that at the end of the day we do not totally compromise the social responsibility minded intentions with which we launched the partnership even though we have bought out the Enugu state Government.

"This network remains the fastest, clutter and stress free network in Enugu and Zinox would upgrade the network systematically on the basis of supply and demand, and generally ensure that the Coalcity Wifi offers the best platform to those living in the capital city," Mr. Nweke said. He added that "We are concerned more with how the geniuses from poor families in Enugu like any other city shall have global access at N10, 000 per annum in order to facilitate Enugu as the knowledge Hub of the South East."

Nigeria prepares to host science Olympiad

By Hamisu Muhammad

MINISTER of Science and Tech, Dr. Alhassan Bako Zako has said the Federal Government is committed to hosting the 7th Edition of the International Junior Science Olympiad Competition (IJSO) in December 2010.

The minister said this while inspecting the construction works at the IJSO Headquarters, Jabi in Abuja. He said, that hosting the prestigious competition by Nigeria would expose the country positively to the rest of the world and also redeem Nigeria's dented image with the recent happenings in the country.

He noted that the competition would also provide an opportunity for Nigerian children to learn from the competition. The Minister who was impressed by the works done so far at the site urged the contractor handling the building project to hasten up and keep the quality of work high, insisting that the Federal Government would not tolerate shoddy jobs.

A statement from the Chief Press Secretary of the ministry, Mr. Tai Shobajo said the competition, which is scientific and media centered, needed to be publicized to the public. "The media also has an important role to play to keep the public informed on the importance of the event", he said.



DIRECTOR General of National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP), Engr. Umar Buba Bindir (right) with the Chancellor of the Covenant University, Bishop David Oyedipo when NOTAP launched the Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Offices in the school recently.

Starcomms introduces voice chat service

From Zakariyya Adaramola, Lagos

IN a bid to add value to telephony in Nigeria, Starcomms Plc has introduced the voice chat service to help its customers foster relationships among other Starcomms subscribers whose personal traits align with theirs.

Named Starcomms Afritalk, the service would enable customers relate by voice with people who are not on their phone lists and so extend their span of influence.

To enjoy this service, subscribers are to dial *3333 and follow the voice prompt to create their profile in their own format and get their identity number which would be their number to reach by anyone after the invitation has been accepted by both the Starcomms AfriTalk service subscribers.

Starcomms Afritalk enthu-

siasts will be able to find friends, based on the criteria they request, who match their profile and their invitation to be able to connect with the new contact on Starcomms network through voice chat. To call their contact on Afritalk, one would need to dial the allocated numeric Afritalk ID from their Starcomms phones and continue talking without revealing the real identity.

Speaking about the service, the CEO of Starcomms Mr. Maher Qubain said: "Telephony is a major factor in networking socially. We recognized this fact and launched previously the Starcomms Africhat service connecting people through SMS mode and now have come up with Starcomms Afritalk voice chat service as a way of linking up people with kindred spirit on Starcomms network.

Ndukwe retires in April

By Yunus Abdulhamid

THE Chairman, Alhaji Ahmed Joda and Executive Vice Chairman, Engr. Ernest Ndukwe of the Nigeria Communications Commission (NCC) are preparing to vacate their respective offices come April, 2010, Daily Trust learnt.

Engr. Ndukwe has been in charge of the NCC since year 2000. He was re-appointed for a second term in office in April 2005 by the federal government having completed a first tenure of five years.

The appointment letter signed by the then Communications Minister, Chief Cornelius Adebayo indicated that his second and last tenure ends in April, 2010, Daily Trust learnt. Nigeria telecoms sector has witnessed remarkable growth since his appointment in 2000 and has moved up from the bottom of the ladder to the top 10 fastest growing mobile subscriber-base countries in the world.

PROPERTY

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FMBN increases loan limit to N15m

By Sunday Williams

THE Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria (FMBN) Board has increased the maximum loan amount per contributor to N15 million from N5 million.

The Board has also recognised other financial institutions such as pension fund administrators, insurance companies, microfinance banks and univer-

sal banks as mortgage loan originators.

Addressing newsmen in Abuja, the Managing Director/Chief Executive of FMBN, Mr Abdulsalam Y. Ahmed, said in reviewing the loan amount, the Board has taken cognisance of the fact that N5 million is inadequate to purchase or build a decent 3-bedroom houses in Nigeria owing to inflationary

trends over the years.

Represented by the Executive Director, Organisational Resources, Magaji Bello, the Managing Director said, the increase will provide relief to contributors who have had to bear with significant equity contributions to home ownership acquisition since the previous ceiling was insignificant to total house prices especially in major

cities of the country.

He said that there is no bottom limit to the NHF loan amount as every Nigerian contributing to the scheme can still borrow any amount under N15 million to build, purchase or renovate houses of their choice.

He said the recognition of other financial institutions as mortgage loan originators expands the loan delivery channel and will over-

come present constraints encountered by contributors.

He said: "What this implies is that contributors can in addition to primary mortgage institutions, approach any universal bank, pension fund administrator, insurance companies or microfinance institutions to packaged NHF mortgage loans through any of these financial institutions that will be duly accredited by FMBN."

IBBU needs N3bn for multi-campus project

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

THE management of Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University (IBBU) has said the institution needs a total of N3 billion for its multi-campus project as part of efforts to make it a world class university.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Ibrahim Kolo made this disclosure in his address yesterday at Lapai, Niger State during the fourth matriculation ceremony held in the main campus of the school.

"Conservatively, we need the sum of over N3 billion to put the university to the standard of a world class high institution of learning with multi-campus and state-of-the-art learning equipment.

Conservatively, we need the sum of over N3 billion to put the university to the standard of a world class high institution of learning with multi-campus and state-of-the-art learning equipment.

In whatever form, first class and solid infrastructure are a first step to our aspiration of a world class university, producing quality human capital for Niger state, Nigeria and even the world at large", he said.

Professor Kolo disclosed that the university has made contacts with a South Korean foundation to establish partnership arrangement on supplying mega ICT network to serve a multi-campus.

He urged parents and other stakeholders in the institution to assist as he explained that Niger state government alone cannot execute all the projects in the school but stated that with help, it would actualize its dream faster.

Kolo said the school is also set to establish standard in its administration of academic input as he added that it targets a hitch free timetable that will not only conform with Nigerian University Commission (NUC) standard but will aim at going far ahead of it.

The University, matriculated a total of 1500 students cutting across four faculties which includes; Agriculture, science and applied science, education/arts and management and social science.

Maitama Amusement park to build hotel, shopping mall

By Ogechi Ohalee

THE board of directors of the Maitama Amusement Park in Abuja has said it has initiated plans to invest over 300 million USD to build a hotel, shopping mall and expand its theme park including the water sports/games.

According to a statement from the management of the park, the project is expected to be completed within 2 years.

The statement said since incep-

tion eighteen months ago Maitama Amusement Park has become the first relaxation venue of choice in Abuja, Nigeria with a record attendance of over 100,000 visitors who not only enjoyed the Rides and the Games but also found the place safe and conducive.

The park has also commissioned its 5-A-Side football pitch, which is attracting a lot of clients in addition to three additional eateries to meet the growing demand for tasty meals.



FCT Minister Senator Adamu Aliero, left, when he received the British High Commissioner to Nigeria, Mr Bob Dewar who paid the minister a courtesy visit to his official residence in Abuja... recently.

ILC lists considerations for land acquisition

By Tina A. Hassan

THE International Land Coalition (ILC) said recent increase in commercial pressures on land in may offset ecological balance and increase hunger if governments and corporations do not regulate "land grabbing".

The organization that the rise in wave of large scale land acquisitions whereby governments and government-backed continuously grab lands without recourse to its implication on ordinary individuals is a failure of domestic policies to recognize land use rights.

Due to these failures and changing motivation for acquiring land, ILC said that special considerations should be made to protect the rights of the poor and ensure that invest-

ment is fair and has no adverse effect on the local population.

Continued research and monitoring of the trend and the impacts of land acquisition in order to ensure that the future is protected, the body suggested.

A code of conduct for investors and even governments need to be put in place to enable countries comply with international human rights law and covenants as well as other frameworks for land policies in Africa under the African Union.

Another consideration ILC suggested is that local people should be viewed as valuable partners in investment and not obstacles so that community-investor relationship can be build with so that local agriculture and resource management could be sustained.

Securing the rights of the poor by governments in Africa is another issue that should be considered for legal protection of their land rights and to avoid a situation where also every land is owned by the government.

According to ILC, building organizations and unions by farmers and landless people is an essential step in ensuring that local farmers are represented in land negotiation process and that governments most ensure that foreign investment in land does not have an adverse affect on host country food security.

The body also insisted that the first thing to consider when it comes to land-based investment is the land rights of the poor especially as it relates to agriculture.

Idris tasks residents on drainage system

From Isiaka Wakili

GOVERNOR Ibrahim Idris of Kogi State has urged the people living around erosion waterside in Ankpa Local Government Area to protect the drainage system.

The governor recently made the appeal while inspecting the ongoing erosion control project in the area.

He urged the people of the community to ensure the durability of

the project in view of the government's huge investment in the project.

He said that his administration embarked on the project to reduce the menace of erosion in the area.

At Owene, the governor expressed displeasure at the indiscriminate dumping of refuse in the drainage system and called on the chairman of the council to ensure that it is evacuated immediately.

The governor attributed the

problem to lack of enlightenment by the people and urge them to shun such attitude.

He expressed satisfaction on the quality of job done at the erosion control sites at Ajobe, Ogachi, and opposite the state college of education.

The Commissioner for Environment and Physical Development, Architect Muhammed Sule, said that his ministry would not relent in its efforts to reduce environmental hazard.

PROPERTY

'Developing pro-poor land management, key to economic reform'

Professor Stig Enemark is the President of Denmark based International Federation of Surveyors (FIG). He spoke to some journalists on sundry issues bordering on the surveying profession. Excerpts:-

From Chgs Agabi, Lagos

TELL us about the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG)

IT is the world-wide organisation of surveyors. Our members belong to associations, institutions in our member countries. We have representatives from over 85 countries globally and over 100 associations. The only countries that I will say are missing are some less developed countries in Central Asia and Central Africa, which haven't yet reached the level of establishing a surveying professional association because of their level of development, especially the francophone countries in Africa which haven't got a full programme in surveying. But, we are trying to help them



PROFESSOR Stig Enemark

establish the profession. The United Nations Economic officially recognises FIG and Social Council (ECOSOC) and we have international cooperation with some United Nations organisations and the World Bank, among others.

We are largely funded through members' yearly membership fees. There are several benefits for membership of FIG, like international recognition, access to the international surveying community for exchange of experience and new development, and continuous professional development, among others. Our general administration, which is headed by me as an elected president, is done

with the support of the General Assembly and a council, which is elected for four years. Each country has a vote and an elected president sets an agenda once he receives the mandate. For me, I have a slogan, and that is: We should both fly high and keep our feet on the ground. Flying high is about addressing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and partnership with the United Nations Development Council at that level and keeping our feet on the ground is about supporting our member associations and individual surveyors in their own understanding of the society in their own countries and

the issues as they unfold.

On Nigeria's rating in FIG
Nigeria has a special status, because the delegation from Nigeria at our conferences is quite strong and big. It's probably the only country that provides a delegation of that size. Normally in a conference, you will have quite a lot of delegates from the host country, but sometimes, the delegates from Nigeria would outnumber the host country. So, the standing of Nigeria is high from that perspective. It's very important for developing countries like Nigeria to play a key role; because of our contributions to the global agenda, it is important for us to have member countries that are committed to making things go on well and Nigeria is such a country.

On surveyor's role in a country's economic development

The surveyor's role is two; one is that you serve the client as necessary; but the real role is to serve society. Surveyors know the issues about land. And they have the responsibility to advise the politicians on developing the right policies and taking right decisions on dealing with land issues. And the more you demonstrate your commitment in this

area to the politician, the higher the standing you have.

On Nigeria's hosting right for FIG's working committee in 2013 and its significance

To host our working week means that the global surveying community comes to Abuja, Nigeria. That means the whole surveying world would be focused on Abuja; it's just like hosting the Olympics; everybody will be talking about that city. That means that in the whole world, you have the chance to present to the worldwide surveying community your achievements, your problems and how you have dealt with issues. And everybody will listen, because, now, you are on stage. Whatever you ask for, whatever you present, you have a lot of attention.

That's what the hosting means for Nigeria. And for NIS, it affords an opportunity to show to the government that the whole surveying community is around to support the efforts of NIS. And they can arrange for people like me and other experts to meet with decision makers and high-level politicians, because we are all here. And you know that bringing over 1,000 international professionals to a city like Abuja will attract some political attention.

A BOLD MOVE IN TRANSFORMING BASIC EDUCATION IN ADAMAWA STATE

The Adamawa State Universal Basic Education Board (ADSUBEB) made history on Friday when it invited the Minister of State for Education Hajiya



(L-R) Deputy Governor Bala James Ngilari, Minister of State for Education, Hajiya Aishatu Jibril Dukku, Executive Chairman Adamawa State Universal Basic Education Board (ADSUBEB) Dr Salihu Bakari, Executive Secretary Universal Basic Education (UBE) Dr Ahmed Modibbo (holding microphone), Permanent Secretary Adamawa State Ministry of Education Mohammed Bello (backing the camera) and Adamawa State PDP Chairman, Alhaji Umaru Kugama at the distribution of motorcycles to school supervisors in Yola.

Aishatu Jibril Dukku to commission numerous school projects, executed by the board, and distribute instructional materials to the schools and present motorcycles to supervisors and school uniforms to school girls in the state.

Among the projects commissioned by the minister include model schools, newly established primary schools and boarding junior secondary schools. Although tight schedule did not allow her to commission most of the projects executed by board, the minister was able to flag-off the distribution of 262 motorcycles for school supervisors, procured by the board at the cost of N30 million, distribute some school uniforms to girls and see the bulk of the instructional materials, including 603,000 copies of textbooks, purchased by the board for the

advancement of primary education in the state.

The commissioning ceremony was attended by Deputy Governor Bala James Ngilari who represented Governor Murtala Nyako, the Executive Secretary Universal Basic Education (UBE) Commission Dr Ahmed Modibbo, the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Education Mohammed Bello who represented the State Commissioner of Education Honourable Gabriel Hama Adama, the Adamawa State Chairman of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) Alhaji Umaru Kugama, many top government officials and numerous educational administrators.

Speaking at the ceremony, ADSUBEB chairman Dr Salisu Bakari said: "The State has established 54 new primary and 110 new junior secondary schools under the leadership of Admiral Murtala Nyako and has additionally constructed about 1,800 classrooms, 250VIP toilets and upgraded 14 Central Primary Schools to Model Primary Schools in line with the National Education Roadmap, developed by the Federal Ministry of Education".

Similarly, he said, "Governor Nyako has also implemented the 27.5% teachers' inducement allowance and has promptly released Teachers Leave Transport Grant amounting to N300 million in 2009.

"In terms of professional development of teachers, the State Government acting alone and in collaboration with the Universal Basic Education Commission and the FME, has retrained about 20,000 teachers every year since 2007," he said.

"The State has also procured about 53,000 furniture for basic education schools. It has also procured 389,000 copies of textbooks, using the 2008 State-FG UBE intervention funds. This is in addition to the sum of N359,000,000 released by the State Government to meet furniture requirements of our junior secondary schools. Let me also inform you that

we have received 214,000 textbooks of English, Mathematics and Integrated Science free of charge from the UBE Commission," the chairman added.

"We will also distribute 951 units of desktop computers and generators, jointly procured using the 2008 State-FGN UBE Matching Grant," he said.

Dr Bakari also said that as part of effort to eliminate gender disparity in education, the state government has established 17 girls only Primary Schools and 14 girls only Junior Secondary Schools in order to encourage girl-child enrolment and completion of the basic education cycle," he said.

Both the minister of state for education and the executive secretary of UBE expressed satisfaction with the way the Adamawa State Universal Basic Education Board was executing its basic education programme. The minister said: "It is gladdening to note that the Adamawa State government is complementing the efforts of the Federal government in the basic education sub-sector".



One of the boarding junior secondary schools built by the board and commissioned by the Minister of State for Education Hajiya Aishatu Jibril Dukku on Friday.

CITY NEWS



HOTLINES: 0803-3493-462 & 0703-8927-513
email: citynews@dailytrust.com
News about your capital city

Abuja Leasing Coy records N51m profit

By Nasir Imam

THE Abuja Leasing Company (ALC) has said that its profit before tax rose from N39.6 million in 2008 to N51.2 million in 2009.

ALC's Chairman, Adamu Abubakar Alkali, disclosed this at the fourth annual general meeting of the company recently held in Abuja.

He said gross earnings grew by 29 percent, that is from N371 million in 2008 to N479 million in 2009, adding that in the same way, net interest margin grew from N148 million to N240 million, against a background of total assets reducing from N3.66 billion to N3.15 billion last year.

The chairman announced further that based on the company's performance, directors of the organisation recommended a dividend payment of 0.9kobo per share, a slight increase from 0.5kobo per share last year.

"We are embarking on aggressive debt recovery, deploying more vehicles to run in-house taxi services for inter-city, and intra-estate services, creating more public awareness of our modern maintenance workshop along Kubwa Road," he explained.

He said the company is not immune to the difficult economic times and ageing fleets of vehicles as well as the challenges experienced with the LTI models, resulting in default rates. He listed another challenge as the continued operation of unregistered private vehicles used for commercial activities (kabu kabu), notwithstanding the efforts of the FCT Administration to rid Abuja of these category of illegal transport operators.

Fire guts UniAbuja female hostel

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

AN early morning fire that engulfed a female block at the University of Abuja mini campus, Gwagwalada, yesterday destroyed property worth hundreds of thousands of naira as well as valuable documents belonging to female students.

A victim, Lami Shehu of the department of Biology, said the fire started from a naked wire in a room where some students charge their hand sets.

According to her, students in a room saw thick smoke billowing from the next room at 2 am and screamed to alert the security men at the campus.

She said the fire razed down the entire block before officials of the Federal Fire Service arrived.

"All our belongings, vital

documents as well as books were burnt and the clothes I wore to bed is all I have now," she lamented.

Another victim, a 400 level student of Theatre Arts, Jennifer Sombo, who spoke amidst tears, said all her vital documents that include projects meant to be presented for final approval were also burnt.

City News however gathered that the sparked wire caused a loud explosion in the hostel, which attracted other male students that came to the rescue of their female counterparts.

Officials of the Federal Fire Service were stoned and booed by the crowd for responding late to the distress call.

Reacting, the Area Commander in charge of Gwagwalada/Kuje Fire Service, Mr. Segun Akinola, said

he received a phone call at around 4 am and quickly mobilized firemen to the scene, adding that while his men were making efforts to put out the fire, some students started hurling stones on them and broke their vehicles windscreens.

He said firemen had to pass through the back fence of the hostel to break into the place to quench the fire.

Commenting on the incident, acting Dean of Students in the university, Dr. Abu Malam, expressed shock and said the school's management is making arrangements to get the affected students accommodated.

He said the school's management is already taking stock of items destroyed by the fire in order to compensate those affected and will investigate the cause of the fire.

In another development, a technician was last Thursday evening electrocuted in the premises of the new FCT High Court, near the Ministry of Justice.

A witness said the technician was attending to an electrical fault in the building's control room at 5pm, when his head touched a naked wire and burst open.

"He was found of saying that people from his village are attacking him and on that day we jokingly asked him why he was still at work, as his closing time was up," the witness added.

When our reporters visited the court premises on Friday, electricity in the building was still cut out early in the morning and most cases in courts inside the building had to be stood down until the electricity was restored at 11 am.

DRTS tells motorists to encode vehicles

By Abubakar Yakubu

THE Directorate of Road Traffic Services (DRTS) at the weekend informed motorists in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) to encode their vehicle's documents in preparation for electronic enforcement that will take effect as from April 1, 2010.

Spokesperson of the directorate, Vivian Uttah, said motorists in the FCT have been given three months grace to visit the DRTS to carry out the encoding processes.

According to her, the sum of N2,000 is charged for encoding all vehicle documents while N1,000 is charged for encoding the driver's licence.

"Enforcement of

renewal of expired vehicle documents that was normally done manually, would now be done electronically and the advantage is that traffic congestion would be reduced drastically, while conflicts between road traffic officers as well as motorists will be lessened," she said

Uttah also disclosed that the directorate is transiting its registration of number plates to online registration, where scratch cards will be bought for transactions to be carried out.

She advised motorists and customers to only deal with desk officers in DRTS buildings in the course of their transactions with the directorate.



THE burnt UniAbuja female Hostel at mini campus, Gwagwalada.

Court orders SSS to return Peace Corps property

By Abubakar Yakubu

AN FCT High Court Friday ordered the State Security Service (SSS) to return items seized from the Peace Corps office and ruled that the body does not pose a threat to the country's security.

Justice Muhammed Umar in

a 20-minute judgement said the Peace Corps operates legally, as they are duly registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission and should not be harassed or intimidated in that respect.

The court however ruled that the SSS has the right to investigate the activities of Peace Corp but added that such investiga-

tions must be done within the ambit of the law and by due process.

Justice Umar however did not grant the N10 million damages asked by Peace Corps, adding that arguments to that respect were not proved to the court's satisfaction.

Reacting to the ruling,

Ambassador Dickson Akor, national coordinator of Peace Corps, described the ruling as historic and a victory to democracy.

"When in 2004, SSS officials invaded Peace Corps office to remove our belongings as well as arrested and locked me in their underground cell for 18 days, we

decided to go to court and thank God that at last justice has been delivered to show that Peace Corps is not a violent organisation," he added.

Ambassador Akor said efforts will be made to reach out to the State Security Service in order to renew their relationship and engage in confidence building.



AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA

(Office of the Registrar and Secretary to Council)



INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE POST OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA.

The Governing Council of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria hereby announces that the position of Vice-Chancellor of the University is vacant. In keeping with the provision of the Universities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993 as amended, the Council has directed that applications be invited from suitably qualified distinguished academics with cognate experience in university teaching and administration.

1. THE JOB.

The Vice-Chancellor is the Chief Executive and Academic Officer of the University, ex-officio Chairman of the Senate and Member of the Governing Council of the University. Among his other functions, the Vice-Chancellor shall:-

- (i) be competent at all times to advise the Council on any matter affecting the policy, finance, and administration of the University;
- (ii) be generally responsible to the Council for maintaining the efficiency and good order of the university and for ensuring the proper enforcement of Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations;
- (iii) be responsible for discipline in the University;
- (iv) regulate the admission of the students in accordance with the guidelines and procedures approved by the Senate.

2. QUALITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF THE CANDIDATES.

Interested candidates for the position of Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, are expected to be:

- (i) Distinguished scholars who are Professors with demonstrated ability to provide exemplary academic leadership and proven management capacity.
- (ii) Scholars of the highest moral standards and unassailable character and proven integrity with irrevocable commitment to best practices in corporate governance, with particular emphasis on accountability, transparency and probity, and must be scholars who can ensure optimum utilization of scarce resources for maximum public good.
- (iii) Scholars who are information and Communication Technology (ICT) proficient, committed to the mainstreaming of ICT into University-wide programmes and activities.
- (iv) Scholars who will be able to attract research grants and complementary funds from local and international agencies, and further uplift the academic stature of the University.
- (v) The scholars should be able to relate effectively and productively with the government, non-governmental agencies, the Alumni and other national and international facilitation.
- (vi) The scholar should be persons who are not likely to foster personal, racial, ethnic, political, religious or other sectional interest and who are also capable of inspiring the members of University community towards the attainment of its goals.
- (vii) The scholars should have a good understanding of the Vision and Mission of the University.
- (viii) The scholars should be individuals who, judging from their tract records, are likely to command the respect as well as loyalty of members of staff, students and University community.
- (ix) Be persons who enjoy excellent, physical and mental health.

3. CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

The salaries and conditions of service are as applicable to the post of Vice-Chancellor in Nigerian Federal Universities as determined by Government and the Governing Council of the University from time to time.

4. TENURE

The Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a one-term period of five (5) years.

5. METHOD OF APPLICATION

Interested candidates are invited to note and comply with the following conditions:-

- (a) Each application letter (30 copies) should be accompanied by 30 copies of the candidate's detailed "Curriculum Vitae" (CV), signed and dated by the candidate. The CV must contain, among others, the candidate's name in full, age, marital status, nationality, educational attainments with dates, number of Ph.D candidates supervised and graduated, research output, academic and non-academic recognition, professional achievements, scholarly publications in renowned domestic and international journals with dates, and books.
- (b) Each application should be accompanied by a certificate of birth or statutory declaration of age, and certificate of medical fitness based on documented comprehensive medical examination from a government hospital.
- (c) A statement of the candidate's Vision for the Ahmadu Bello University in the 21st century of not more than 1500 words (30 copies).
- (d) In the case of a nominated or "searched candidate", the CV must be accompanied by a letter of consent duly signed and dated by the candidate.
- (e) Each candidate must have three (3) referees who should be requested by the candidate to forward their referee's reports directly to the REGISTRAR under confidential cover. Such referees should be in a position to attest to the candidate's claim to high academic standard, managerial capacity and moral uprightness. A referee's report that highlights the candidate weakness will command higher credibility.
- (f) All shortlisted candidates will be required to make themselves available for interaction with the Joint Council/Senate Selection Board.

All applications are to be forwarded by Courier under confidential cover in an envelope marked at the upper left hand corner "Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria" to reach the Registrar and Secretary to Council NOT later than six weeks from the date of this publication.

Idris Ahmed

REGISTRAR AND SECRETARY TO COUNCIL

Tipper crushes two at Dutsen-Alhaji

By Hussein Yahaya & Usman A. Bello

AN unidentified commercial cyclist and his passenger were last Thursday crushed to death at Sokale Junction, when a tipper lost control and ran into the bike.

The two were said to have died on the spot, while the driver of the ill-fated tipper ran into a nearby bush immediately the accident occurred, leaving his wounded conductor at the

scene of the accident.

Eyewitnesses told our reporters that the tipper which was coming from Bwari and heading towards Dutsen-Alhaji, suddenly lost control, crossed its lane, before hitting the motorcycle.

Mr. Azeez Sanni, a bus driver, said the corpses were removed from under the wheels of the tipper and blamed the driver of the tipper for the accident.

Our reporters further learnt that the tipper was

immediately set ablaze by an irate mob.

Meanwhile, the officer-in-charge of Dutsen-Alhaji market police out post, John Ijibla, who confirmed the accident, blamed the tipper driver for over speeding, adding that the corpses have been deposited at a hospital's morgue.

He cautioned drivers to always observe speed limits and avoid reckless driving, saying most accidents are caused by dangerous driving and over speeding.

Aliero gives depts deadline over budget

By Nasir Imam

AHEAD of the 2010 budget appropriation, the FCT Minister, Senator Muhammad Adamu Aliero has directed all Secretariats, Departments and Agencies (SDAs) under the FCT Administration (FCTA) to conclude all procurement processes on or before April 30, 2010 in order to give enough room for project implementation and supervision.

The minister, who stated this on Thursday at the FCT Executive Committee Extra-Ordinary meeting in Abuja, warned all categories of staff on the employment of the FCT Administration to brace-up to achieve 100 per cent of its implementation.

Senator Aliero revealed that the extraordinary meeting was scheduled to ade-

quately plan and appraise the challenges for the 2010 budget implementation because he wouldn't want to be taken unawares.

"No staff, no matter his/her position would be spared when it is discovered that he/she stands on the way of smoothly implementing the 2010 budget," he said.

The minister recalled that as at December 2009, the FCT Administration was able to achieve 90 per cent of budget implementation and with the extension given by the National Assembly, it hopes to achieve 100 per cent.

Senator Aliero thus commended the National Assembly for extending the 2009 budget implementation to March 2010; and urged all stakeholders to have a change of attitude to accelerating development in all sectors of the country.

Group canvasses more prayers for Yar'adua

By Hussein Yahaya

PIC: HUSSEIN YAHAYA

A Christian Non-Governmental Organisation, Neighbourhood Intercessory Ministries International (NIMI) Friday concluded its annual inter-denominational prayer and fasting camp held at Kubwa NYSC Orientation camp, Abuja with a call for more prayers for ailing President Musa Yar'adua.

Addressing newsmen shortly after the three-day camp exercise, the group's President, Mrs Josephine Ojinadu Nwaeze, said Nigerians should continue to pray for their leaders, irrespective of religious and political affiliations as directed by the Holy Scriptures.

Mrs. Nwaeze also disclosed that the programme participants also prayed for peace in Nigeria's troubled areas and other parts of the world, stressing that since there is no alternative to peaceful co-existence, Nigerians should cultivate the habit of living peacefully with their neighbours, irrespective of ethnicity or religion.

Tracing the history of the organisation, Mrs



PARTICIPANTS at the annual prayer and fasting session in NYSC Orientation Camp, Kubwa Friday.

Nwaeze said the group which started about 12 years ago in Minna, Niger State, now has zonal offices in seven centres including Abuja, Aba, Minna, Sokoto, Kaduna, Umuahia and Abakaliki with an annual co-ordinated programmes in all the centres.

Apart from the camping conference, she listed other activities of the group to include all night prayers tagged "Night of Blessedness," leadership retreat, sponsoring of indigent students in various tertiary institutions among others.

"Our organisation is a ministry that is into prayers and we are a non-profit as well as non-governmental body where Christians from different denominations come together to pray as well as assist the indigent," she clarified.

The three-day programme tagged 'Back to the Altar 2010' with the theme 'Extra Mile 2010', was attended by a large number of Christians from different churches and featured fasting, prayers and inspirational songs.



AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA
(Office of the Registrar)

ADMISSION INTO B.SC. AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION DEGREE PROGRAMME FOR SERVING (MID-CAREER) EXTENSION WORKERS: 2009/2010 ACADEMIC SESSION

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for admission into a new Bachelor of Science degree programme in Agricultural Extension for the 2009/2010 session.

A. THE PROGRAMME

1. The programme is specifically designed for already serving mid-career agricultural extension workers only.
2. Students admitted into the programme are required to spend 3 years, which will cover On-Campus training and Off-Campus Supervised Enterprise Projects (SEPs).

B. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. The candidate must be serving extension worker with at least two years of Post-Higher National Diploma (HND) field experience, and must be recommended for the training by his/her employer.
2. The candidate must possess a minimum of credit/merit pass at Higher National Diploma in Agriculture or related field of study from a recognized institution.
3. The candidate must possess four (4) 'O' level passes at credit level which should include English Language, Mathematics, Chemistry and Biology or Geography.

C. METHOD OF APPLICATION

Application forms are obtainable from **Unity Bank Plc** upon payment or a non-refundable application fee of Two Thousand Two Hundred Naira (2,200.00) only including bank charges.

D. SUBMISSION OF COMPLETED FORMS

Completed forms, accompanied with Photostat copies of certificates of certified true copies of results must be submitted not later than 26th February, 2010 to:

The Registrar
Ahmadu Bello University
P.M.B. 1045
Zaria.

Signed
IDRIS AHMED
REGISTRAR

Inside Politics

'Edu state is on course in spite of odds'

YABAGI Yusuf Sani is the chairman of the movement for the creation of Edu State which hopes to draw territory from Niger and Kwara States. Sani who previously contested the governorship ticket of the ANPP in Niger State says in this interview that the proposed state is a life time dream of the Nupes and everything is being done to overcome certain obstacles. Excerpts:

By Suleiman M. Bisalla

YOU are leading the movement for the creation of Edu State, what is the progress so far?

The agitation for Edu state began last year, I mean this current movement. But like you know, the agitation started in 1976 when a good case was made by our people. Everybody understood our position because our demand qualified in every respect, but it was not successful due to reasons that were beyond the ordinary. Now, this time we have taken the advantage provided by the ongoing attempt to amend the constitution to make our case once more. We formed a committee which presented a memo to the National Assembly last year in respect of our demand for the creation of Edu State.

We went to the National Assembly with a massive delegation led by His Royal Highness, the Etsu Nupe, Alhaji Yahaya Abubakar and we were able to see the Speaker House of Representatives, Honorable Dimeji Bankole.

In fact the Honorable Speaker said the National Assembly had never seen such huge delegation with quality representation coming to agitate for the creation of state. So we made history that day by being the biggest delegation that ever visited the National Assembly to press home a demand for state.

Since then, we have seized every opportunity to make our case and we expect all those saddled with the responsibility, particularly the National Assembly to grant our request.

But one disturbing thing is the hide and seek attitude of our own son, the Senate President, David Mark. I remember that when we went to the National Assembly in thousands to state our case, he failed to grant us audience. This is in spite of the fact that he had been informed much earlier than the speaker. In fact we were shocked to be told, after waiting for a long time, that the senate president would not see us.

We wondered why such a large delegation will come to see the Senate President of Nigeria for such an important issue as presenting a request for the creation of a state, and he would refuse to see them. I don't think there is anything that will be more un-parliamentary than that.

To add to the insult, David Mark was made Senate President by virtue of his being from the North Central geo-political zone. Now, for goodness sake that is our zone. Even the speaker who is not from our zone was so excited and had so many things to say about us that encouraged us.

Didn't he give reasons for not being able to see you?

We were simply told he would not see us. In any case, there could have no

any reason to refuse seeing us after notifying him of our mission much earlier. Our mission had to do with a constitutional matter.

I am sure this happened because we have a very good case. We believe that people are afraid that we will definitely outshine other requests if we are given the opportunity to make our case.

Are you alleging that someone constitutes an obstacle to your aspiration?

That is what he clearly showed by his action. I know that his Royal Highness (Etsu Nupe) had reached out to him (Senate President) on so many occasions asking him to grant us audience so that we would present our request to him but we have never been given the opportunity to see him. You know this can only happen in Africa, and particularly Nigeria where leaders do not have regard for their subjects.

What do you consider to the viability of the Edu State you are asking for?

The proposed Edu State has the political and economic viability to stand on its own. I think if the resolution is that only one state should be created in this country, Edu state qualifies to be that state more than any other. Niger State was created since 1976 when Sokoto State was created out of the then North-western state. But today, Sokoto

has given birth to two other states (Kebbi and Zamfara) and Niger is still one state. Also, Plateau State has given birth to Nasarawa and Kaduna state to Katsina and so on. To compound our problem, Burgu (formally in Kwara State) was added to Niger state.

Today, Niger State has a land mass of about 17,000 square kilometers which is the biggest you can find in this country. Niger State is equal to five states in the south-west. When you talk about economic viability, we have gas deposits. We have agricultural potentials too. In fact about 60% of the rice production in this country comes from the proposed Edu State. We have the Kainji Dam which is the major source of electricity for this country. We also have substantial human capital. In the North western state then, Nupe people were a very hard working people. We literally midwived the North-western state with human resources, so to speak. So we don't have problem when it comes to human resources. Therefore when you put together all our resources, you will see clearly that we are not coming to take away from the so called national cake but we are coming to add to it because we have so much.

Where are the boundaries of the proposed Edu State?

The boundaries include parts of Kwara State includ-



YABAGI Yusuf Sani - leading the agitation for Edu State

ing Lafiyagi, Pategi. These are places populated by Nupe on the riverside. In Niger state we talking about Zone A plus the Kainji area, down to some areas of Niger South district. So the other area that you can probably identify are in Kogi state but for now we are talking about the predominately Nupe populated areas of Kwara and Niger States.

Are those presently in Kwara part of the agreement?

They are in total agreement. In fact their representatives have all signed the memo asking of the creation of this state. Unfortunately, some of our elected representatives in Niger State seem to be shying away from the course. But like I told you, we had submitted the memo to the Speaker House of representative. In any case we believe Nigeria can still have 12 states, two form

each geo political zone, because there are a number of credible demands.

What are you doing regarding those electoral representatives who you said are not willing to be supportive?

We believe that it is either lack of understanding of what they are doing or is a case of people not living to the expectation of the people who elected them. If you cannot champion the course of your constituency, then you are not a worthy representative of the people. To our greatest surprise and dismay, we have not heard any one of our representatives speaking on behalf of us in respect of the issue. However, the electorate will certainly asked them what their contributions are towards the creation of Edu State when they come to seek renewal of their mandate.

Obasanjo has no moral authority to ask Yar'adua to resign — YFNN

By Muideen Olaniyi

THE National Secretary of the Yar'adua for New Nigeria (YFNN), Dr. Aminu Idris, has said that former President Olusegun Obasanjo does not have the moral authority to ask President Umaru Musa Yar'adua to resign.

Speaking in an interview with

Daily Trust over the weekend, Dr. Idris, who said President Yar'adua has not breached any Section of the Constitution, stated that the concern of the YFNN was for the President to get well and resume duty.

He said: "Since he (Obasanjo) is a stakeholder in the entire project, we feel he should know better. We

feel he shouldn't be in a position to start preaching to Nigerians what honour is all about. He is not in a position to start telling Nigerians that he is not aware of all the things that happened.

"We therefore feel worried that people like the former President should be leading pack of those asking Mr. President to resign. We

feel he should be ashamed of himself because we know that most of the things we are facing as a nation between 1999 and 2007 are his handiwork. He cannot absolve himself from blame," he added.

The YFNN scribe said Nigerians will not forget in a hurry what the former President did in his first and second terms especially

how he tried as much as he could to subvert the constitution in the process of trying to impose himself as life president.

"We knew how Nigerians defeated him. So he shouldn't be telling us today that somebody should take the path of honour. He is less qualified to talk to Nigerians in this direction," he said.

TRUST CLASSIFIED

AZUKA FOUNDATION

The above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration in accordance with the companies and Allied matters Act 1990.

TRUSTEES

1. Hon[Chief]Chris Chukwubuzor Azuka
2. H S C Umeh [Prof]
3. Chief John Udeagha
4. Postor Onyeka Michael

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

To promote the wellbeing of the less privileged and youth morally, socially, educationally, etc

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, Maitama District Abuja with 28 days of this publication.

VINE WORSHIPERS ASSEMBLY

This is to inform the general public that the above named organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration in accordance with the companies and Allied matters Act 1990.

THE TRUSTEES

1. Apostle Mike Dennis Ukwu General Overseer
2. Barrister Mrs. Chinyere Mike Dennis Ukwu
3. Mr. Austin Onono
4. Mrs Florence Vivian Ngazi Alin

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To preach the good gospel of JESUS CHRIST to the broken hearted and deliver those that are appointed to death.
2. To help man discover and develop himself through the word of GOD and become a formidable force to reckon with.
3. To make more disciples for our Lord Jesus Christ and also prepare humanity for the second coming of our saviours.

MISSION

1. To help man create his world and his wealth so that he can walk in financial dignity
2. To put man in the place of GOD'S wisdom and knowledge so that he can operate effectively.
3. To make the world of GOD real and practical to all mankind so that they can operate in class of GOD

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, Maitama District Abuja with 28 days of this publication.

Signed: Barrister Chinyere Mike Ukwu

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly known as **MISS EKPEDEME NELSON OBOT**, now wish to be known as **MRS EKPEDEME CHINONSO SABASTINE**. All former documents remain valid. FRSC and the general public take note.

I, formerly known as **DELORIS PETER** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS. DELORIS STEPHEN ZAKARIA**. All former documents remain valid. NCAT and general public should take note.

I, formerly **MISS OZEH EBERECHUKWU REBECCA** wish to be known as **MRS OBIABAKA-IGBOKWE EBERECHUKWU REBECCA**. Ministry of education, Nigeria Immigration Service and general public take note.

I, formerly known as **NWACHUKWU OLUCHI O.**, now wish to be known as **MRS PRINCESS OLUCHI OKORO**. All former documents remain valid. Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria, Nigerian Prisons Services and general public note.

I, formerly **MISS NWANZE ISIOMA LYNDA** now wish to be known as **MRS DOGO ISIOMA**. All former documents remain valid. Red Sapphire Nig. Ltd, and general public please note.

I formerly **Miss RHODA OFIDE** now **Mrs RHODA DANIEL**. All former documents remain valid, general public take note.

I, **Miss OLAOGUN ABISOLA KEMI**, Now wish to be known as **MRS ADEPOJU ABISOLA KEMI**. All former Documents remain valid. STEYR NIGERIA LIMITED and General Public Should take note.

I, formerly **ALI BALA SHEHU** now **ALIYU BALA ADAM IDRIS**, former documents remain valid. Kumbotso Local Education Authority, public take note.

I, formerly known as **RAHINATU MOHAMMED JIBRIL** now wish to be known as **MRS RAHINATU MOHAMMED MUKHTAR**, all former document remain valid. B.U.K., N.Y.S.C and general to note.

I, formerly **MISS HELEN OKPARA UPERE** now **MRS HELEN OKPARA ABASI**. Former documents remain valid. NYSC, and public take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS MARYAM ABUBAKAR**, now wish to be addressed as **MRS MARYAM HASSAN GADU**. All former documents remain valid. General public please take note.

I, formerly **MR AZUBIKE IZUOGU** now **MR AZUBIKE UGBO AZUBIKE**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly **MRS MOUKA NKIRUKA IZUOGU AZUBIKE** now **MRS MONICA NKIRUKA AZUBIKE**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

LAPAI EMIRATE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named Foundation 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. Ahmadu Abubakar (Chairman)
2. Sen. Jibrin Salihu
3. Maj. Gen. Idris Garba
4. Abdulrahman Hassan Gimba
5. Abubakar Gimba
6. Hon. Justice Amina Wambai
7. Mahmud Ndatsu

Aims and objectives:

1. To promote unity among members and entire Emirate.
2. To facilitate development of the Emirate.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight 28 days from the date of this publication.

Signed: Ahmadu Abubakar (Chairman)

INITIATIVE FOR TRAINING OF MUSLIM PILGRIMS

The general public is hereby notified that the above named foundation has applied to Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990 Part C. of the company and allied matter act, 1990 (as amended), Cap C20 LFN 2004.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Sheikh Ibrahim umar kabo | chairman |
| 2. Alh mohammed Aliyu dantatu- | member |
| 3. Alh sabiu bako | |
| 4. Avm Abdurraman ishaq rtd | |
| 5. Malam Auwalu Abubakar sulaiman - | sec |

AIMS AND OBJECTIVE

1. To have binding faith in god the almighty in all our affairs
2. To enlighten intending pilgrims on fundamentals of hajj rites in such away it will be easily understood by ail.
3. Instill in the pilgrims fear god, trustworthiness, compassion, generosity, love, submission to will of god and discipline.
4. Provide basic training on ritual purity, prayers and their relationship with hajj-rites.
5. Educate the pilgrims on pillars of Islam, articles of faith and few chapters and verses of the holy qur'an.

Any objection to this registration should be forward to the registrar general, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama P.M.B 198 Garki, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

LOVE OF GOD EVANGELICAL MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL

The above named Ministry has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration in accordance with the companies and Allied matters Act 1990.

TRUSTEES

1. Rev. Adeniran Idowu Samuel
2. Mr. Adeniran Oluwaseun Jeremiah
3. Mr. Gboyega Mustapha David
4. Mr. Adeniran Ebenezer Adeniyi

AIMS OBJECTIVES

1. To preach the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
2. To organize Christian Assembly e.g prayer meetings etc

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, Maitama District Abuja with 28 days of this publication.

Signed: Gbenga Akingbehin Esq

MADAKI YOUTH AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION

The above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration in accordance with the companies and Allied matters Act 1990.

IN ATTENDANCE

1. Hon. Abubakar Wambai (Madakin Mubi)
2. Ahmed Saajo
3. Hajija Khadija Abubakar Wambai
4. Yazid Abubakar Wambai
5. Alh. Buba Ma'aji
6. Hassan Ahnradu
7. Abdulnasir Ali
8. Mrs. Lami Iliya Agwu
9. Barr. Yahaya Umaru Vhakuna
10. Dominic Maigida

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To assist the less privileged in all ramifications
2. To identify widows, orphans and other less privileged persons for the purpose of providing them with material and financial assistance.
3. To provide housing and shelters
4. To establish orphanages and school for orphans and train them
5. To provide monitoring and counseling services and HIV/AIDS and other health related matters.
6. To provide scholarships and job placement programmes and poverty reduction

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, Maitama District Abuja with 28 days of this publication.

Barr. Muje Timothy Njara, 08064229741, 08052162259.

OLAYIWOLA AKANJI SUNMOLA FOUNDATION

The above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration in accordance with the companies and Allied matters Act 1990.

NAMES OF TRUSTEES

1. Abolaji Sunmola
2. Folake Sunmola
3. Bimbo Sunmola
4. Igbo Fekuyi
5. Admiral Amos Agedaji
6. Dete Agbeyo

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To fight poverty and show love and care among the less privileged and orphans in the society
2. Paying schools fees of diligent but brilliant students
3. For youth talent hunt promotion and development through mobilization of funds and scholarships

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, Maitama District Abuja with 28 days of this publication.

Barri. Akagha Tina Onyinyechi
12 Bissau Street Wuse Zone 6, Abuja
Legal Practitioner.

RANTI INITIATIVE ON REHABILITATION & EMPOWERMENT OF THE LESS PRIVILEGED

This is to inform the general public that the above named organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration in accordance with the companies and Allied matters Act 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Alhaji Adeyanju Mustapha Babadara
2. Barr. Cielus Bangbeshe Agogo
3. Dr. Obianuju Ifeoma Emecobe
4. Mrs. Adeyanju Nimota Aberni Bolanwa

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Re-Orientation of Beggars and the less Privileged
2. Training Beggars and Less Privileged on small scale Enterprises
3. Assisting Beggars and less privileged to secure loans/sets up business
4. Providing universal Basic Education for Beggars and their Children

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, Maitama District Abuja with 28 days of this publication.

Signed:

Diegbe, Diegbe & Associates
Suite 38, Mangal Plaza, Area 11, Garki, Abuja

ZAMFARA WELL WOMEN ASSOCIATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration in accordance with the companies and Allied matters Act 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Hajija Aisha Babangida Shinkafi
2. Hajija Rukaiya Maradum
3. Miss Halima Babangida
4. Dr. (Mrs) M.O. Popoola
5. Hajija Amina Bagu
6. Alhaji Mahmud Basije

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To provide health Care
2. To give support to women and children
3. To create awareness among women on health issues

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, Maitama District Abuja with 28 days of this publication.

Signed: I.M ILIYASU (ESQ), 08032880666

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Certificate of Occupancy bearing Plot 214 DPN 2116 Cadastral Zone A08, belonging to **IBRAHIM ABUBAKAR**. All effort made to trace this missing document proved abortive. If found, please contact:

Sevann Chambers, (Akpabio, Akpabio & Co.), Suite 106 Garachi Plaza, Wuse Zone 3, Abuja, or call: 08023905696, 08033553106, 08027973569

I formerly known as **Dr. Hyeladzira Mbiting Wakawa** now wish to be known as **Dr. (Mrs.) Hyeladzira Hassan Dauda Mshelia**. All former documents remain valid, Hospital Management Board Maiduguri and general public to note.

Formerly F/No 018152, W/CPL **Juliana Peter** Now **Fadimatu Isa Alewal** All former documents remain valid Nigerian Police Force note.

I, formerly **JOYCELYN IBRAHIM JANDA** now wish to be known as **MRS JOYCELYN SAMSON DANLADI**. Former documents remain valid. General public take note.

RE: AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PDP NATIONAL CHAIRMAN PRINCE VINCENT OGBULAFOR KADUNA 2011: AN URGENT NEED FOR INTERVENTION A REJOINER

Mr. Chairman, the attention of the good people of Giwa Local Government area was drawn to an open letter purportedly written to you by one, Hon. Abdulkadir Magaji (Kapaka) on the above subject matter published on page 26 of Leadership Newspaper of 20th January, 2010. Ordinarily, taking into consideration his character and antecedents, we would not have reacted but for the blatant lies and distortions contained in the said letter.

Sir, Hon. Abdulkadir Magaji Kapaka claimed to be a member of our great party, the PDP and a key player in the politics of Kaduna State. This is a lie and a distortion of fact. Here is a man, who only joined PDP to contest and use its machinery to contest elections but could not be linked with any meaningful contribution to the growth or development of the party and when in 2008 he could not secure the Chairmanship seat of the party in Giwa Local Government, he teamed up with opposition parties to undermine the PDP. This led to the party losing the Shika Ward Councillorship elections later reclaimed at the Local Government Elections Tribunal.

The activities of Hon. Kapaka in undermining the fortunes of the PDP not only in Giwa Local Government but in the entire State is legendary, as when he was roundly defeated during the party's primaries for the seat of the Kaduna State House of Assembly, he tried to and actually did work to sabotage the fortunes of the party but failed woefully.

PDP has been a mother to Hon. Kapaka and his paymasters and sponsors. This was a man who despite an incontestable fact that he is not an indigene of Giwa Local Government, and despite protests by the people of the Ward he claimed to be from, Shika, was made a member of the State Assembly until he joined the PDP, to set out and work against the interests of the party is most unfortunate.

Sir, the PDP has been good to him, even against the wishes of the people of his assumed Ward, Shika, and the entire people of Giwa Local Government. It is in this regard that the Executive Governor, Kaduna Arch. Mohammed Namadi Sambo, appointed Hon. Kapaka as a Special Adviser on Loan Recovery with the State Ministry of Finance, a position he held until he was sacked by the Governor for insubordination and other unbecoming behaviours. Even while he held forte as a Special Adviser to the Governor, he joined forces with opposition parties of AC, ANPP to undermine the PDP not only in Giwa Local Government but the State in general. He was in the forefront of those putting in place the structures for the proposed Mega Party in Giwa Local Government. This led to being warned and suspended from the party by the Shika Ward Party Executive and when his excesses continued, he was dismissed from the party.

Sir, the present administration of Arc. Mohammed Namadi Sambo has since its inception made a concerted effort to carry the entire people of the State along; this is proved by the presence of members of other political parties in the hierarchy of government, as Commissioners, Advisers, Assistants and Board Members of government agencies and parastatals. No administration had ever been so inclusive as the present administration in the State.

The Commissioner of Finance, and PPS are all indigenes of Kaduna State and are people capable of holding the offices assigned to them, so also the Commissioner of Agriculture, who was appointed after due consultation with the people of Giwa Local Government, his ancestry. It is noteworthy that Hon. Kapaka agreed that the Commissioner is from Giwa Local Government, unlike him who is not and cannot show his lineage to any place in Giwa Local Government. Little wonder one of his primary school certificates described him as ABDULKADIR MAGAJI BAMALLI 8nd any person who bears Bamalli is known to come from a particular place!

Sir, it will be foolhardy for anybody to believe that Arc. Mohammed Namadi Sambo, will allow the booby-traps set for him by the outgoing administration in the State, because majority of those who were handed

over to him have a hidden agenda to sabotage the incoming administration because they have their loyalty and allegiance to other people. To this extent, there is the need to restructure the party in the State and now it has appeared clearly that had that not been done, Arc. Mohammed Namadi Sambo would have been held hostage and his administration sabotaged by people such as Hon. Kapaka, whose interest is always what they will personally gain and not what is good for the people. It is a well known fact that despite being a cousin to His Excellency, the State Party Chairman has done wonderfully well in the discharge of his duties that the PDP is the better for it. Party structures have been strengthened and all areas of potential explosion have been taken care of to the extent that the party can face and win election even today. We are not aware of any crisis in the party machinery in any of the Local Governments mentioned in his letter or the 23 Local Governments in the State.

Hon. Kapaka was until recently a Special Adviser to the Governor on Loan Recovery and he was in that position for over 2 years but never heard to complain of any lack of schedule of duty, lack of access to the Governor or his key lieutenants. If he is a man of conscience, he ought to return all the privileges and benefits derived for doing nothing in his period as Special Adviser. His lies have no bounds, as we cannot remember having any of the cabinet members complaining about being sidelined in the affairs of government, unlike the previous administration which was a one-man show and Commissioners only heard of contract signing ceremonies of contracts emanating from their ministries on radio, TV or pages of newspapers.

Sir, being the Governor of the State, Arc. Mohammed Namadi Sambo, has a political base as in the entire State because it is the entire State that voted him into office and are ready to vote for him again any time any day. All the Commissioners and advisers mentioned are better than Hon. Kapaka, who was a member of the State Assembly and who has never gone through the rigours of a primary election as he was either a Candidate of circumstances or used his connections to be returned unopposed in all the elections he "won" and as for his unsubstantiated allegation against the political adviser to the Governor, we believe that the political adviser was never engaged in forgeries and fabrications and was never disqualified from contesting any election.

Sir, we the people of Giwa Local Government are proud of the achievements of the Namadi's administration in the State. This is because in the last 2 years of the Administration, we have witnessed tremendous improvements in the welfare and well-being of our people unlike in the previous administration. For the record, we wish to inform you that the Namadi Administration has:

- (a) Completed the Giwa-Kakangi Road which was abandoned in the past.
- (b) Awarded the Kidandan-Yuna Road in which work has reached an advanced stage;
- (c) Completed a total renovation of Giwa General Hospital and equipped it for optimum utilization and provision of drugs and other hospital equipment. The Hospital now has 5 doctors instead of only 1 before the advent of the Namadi Administration and the Hospital has a standby generator installed to provide electricity to the hospital;
- (e) the people of Giwa has agriculture as the mainstay of their activities and on their request, the Kaduna State Government awarded contract for the construction of grain silos in the area and it has reached an advanced stage;
- (f) prior to the coming of the Namadi Administration, there is a growing insecurity in our area, but the measures put in place have led to total eradication of all problems associated with security to the extent that people now feel more secure than they were before the Administration came into being;
- (g) In the area of education apart from the achievements in the area of primary education, the government has successfully executed projects such as the expansion and equipping of

the Science Laboratories in Dr. Shehu Lawal G.G. S.S. and Abdulkarim Model Science School and constructed a B.A.T.C. and cottage industry. As a result of these achievements, our pupils recorded unprecedented success in WAEC and NECO examinations despite massive failures witnessed all over the country. Sir, the above achievements or successes only affect Giwa Local Government but we are aware that all parts of the State have things to show in terms of progress attained under the Namadi Administration in the execution of the 11-point agenda.

Sports have become part of World politics and it is an avenue to create relationships between nations. This was what led this country to hold the Under 17 World Cup. We believe it is the same principle Namadi Administration used to hold the National Sports Festival; which was one of the things it inherited from the previous administration in the State. The resources used for the Sports Festival could not be said to have been wasted as sports is now an avenue for peace in developing countries. It is this, we believe, that made Hon. Kapaka to use all means at his disposal to ensure his appointment as a member of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for the Festival.

The renovation of the Governor's office and all matters related thereto, were in accordance with the appropriation bill duly passed by the House of Assembly and it is far more economical than a onelane overhead bridge that was constructed for over N 2 billion, which made it the most expensive one lane bridge in the world. This is one of the most tangible evidences of the Makarfi administration with which Hon. Kapaka is quick to make comparison. The people of Kaduna State have seen concrete evidence on how the money received by the administration are utilized. Hon. Kapaka should be courageous enough to tell you how much out of the N 95 billion was used to settle the debts incurred by the Makarfi administration. The rot, if any, was inherited from the administration, Hon. Kapaka is trying hard to protect. The people of Kaduna State will in terms of achievement is to say the least unfortunate because there is no basis for such comparison.

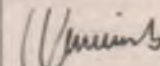
It is on record that Hon. Kapaka in his period as a Member of the House of Assembly had problems with the people when he cornered a job meant for the people of Giwa Local Government. Does he have a moral right to advise Namadi? is Namadi under an obligation to listen to advise from Hon. Kapaka and his ilk whose slogan in politics is "always self first"!

The reason for the open letter becoming apparent is clearly shown to be related to the sacking of Hon. Kapaka, who even though has no "office" he did not complain until when he was sacked. Namadi has an unfettered right to sack any of his aides for insubordination. No Governor will ever allow people who are working against his interest or that of his party to remain in his administration.

Finally, Sir, I want to state categorically that Hon. Kapaka's views did not in any way portray the views of the PDP and good people of Giwa Local Government in regards to the Namadi administration in the State. As such, the PDP and Arc. Mohammed Namadi Sambo should be reassured that Arc. Namadi Sambo is a saleable material any day, anytime as he has positively impacted the lives of the people of the State who are willing and ready to support him not only in 2015 but thereafter if he were to seek for further Political office after 2011. We urge you as the Chairman of our great Party, to disregard the letter by Hon. Kapaka as it did not present the true position in Kaduna State. Arc. Mohammed Namadi Sambo is with the people of Kaduna State and the people are with him and there is therefore no need to search for any candidate. The people of Kaduna State have made their choice.

Yours faithfully,

SIGNED:



ALHAJI SAIDU YUSHAU SHIKA

SPORT

Ghana through
to q-finals

Page 63



Eagles have the edge

- Chipolopolo seek revenge



By Orkula Shaagee

AS the Super Eagles and the Chipolopolo of Zambia trade tackles in Lubango today in the ongoing 27th Africa Cup of Nations tournament in Angola, Zambia will be propelled by one goal, to avenge the two defeats suffered in the hands of the West African side in the biennial soccer event.

The clash will be the fifth time in the history of the African soccer showpiece, the Super Eagles and the Chipolopolo would trade tackles in search of silverware.

The setting is one of the quarter final matches of the 2010 African Cup of Nations and the battle ground is Lubango where group D matches were held.

So, as usual, today's encounter promises all the excitement, fireworks and gruelling soccer war, a football match of such magnitude would produce.

On paper, Nigeria has an edge over the Chipolopolo of Zambia, as the Eagles have won the trophy twice in 1980 and 1994; while Zambia's best was their silver medal at the 1974 edition where they lost 2-0 to Zaire in the final.

In their four previous meetings, the Eagles ran away with two victories and one draw, leaving Zambia with only one win.

Aside from the 2-1 win at the final of the 1994 edition in Zambia, which earned Nigeria her second African title, the Eagles also defeated Zambia 2-0 in the semi final of the 1990 edition in Algeria with goals from Uche Okechukwu and Rashidi Yekini.

The only defeat suffered by Nigeria against Zambia in the Nations Cup tournament was at the Libya 1982 edition when the



SUPER Eagles forward Osaze Odenwingie, left, looks at Paito of Mozambique, right, as he jumps for the ball during their match on Thursday. Eagles have the edge against revenge-seeking Zambia in the quarter finals today.

Chipolopolo whipped Eagles 3-0 at the group stage of the fiesta; while both countries settled for a 0-0 draw at the group stage of Ghana 1978 edition.

This explains why Zambia who came from the bottom of group D table to top their group on the last day of the preliminary matches will be all out to equal the victory record against their today's foes.

Therefore, the Super Eagles, who were not impressive in the preliminary round, losing their

opening group game against Egypt and labouring to a slim win against Benin Republic and 3-0 win over Mozambique.

This has become even most important as the Zambians are known for springing surprises in the African soccer show.

In the 1994 edition of the Nations Cup in Tunisia, Zambia against all expectations, having lost the entire team to plane crash, assembled fresh team in less than two months and surprised all by

reaching the tournament's final where they lost narrowly to Nigeria through Emmanuel Amkuneke's goals in the 5th and 47th minutes of the game.

In their characteristic fashion, the Zambians surprised bookmakers and soccer pundits last Thursday to reach the knockout stage of the 2010 event.

In today's duel, the Super Eagles must watch out for the opponents' skipper Christopher Katongo who has vowed to end the Eagles' cham-

pionship run.

Zambia also has gifted ball winners, such as Felix Katongo, and Jacob Mulenga who ply his trade in China, who can combine well with Skipper Christopher Katongo to turn the tables against the Eagles in today's encounter.

Zambia Coach, Herve Renard, who says the pressure will be on the Eagles, expressed confidence that the Chipolopolo will enterge victorious in today's duel.

Zambia will be tough - Amunike

By Ibraheem A. Fatai

AS the Super Eagles will be filing out against the Chipolopolo of Zambia today in a quarter finals clash, ex-international, Emmanuel Amunike, has warned Coach Amoduturo to prepare for a difficult match.

Giving this warning yesterday in a telephone interview with Trustsports, former Barcelona left winger said with what

he saw the Zambian play against the Indomitable Lions of Cameroun and Gabon, today's match should be taken seriously.

Amunike maintained that the Chipolopolo, who topped their group comprising Cameroun and Tunisia, should be given some respect by the Eagles, warning that if Nigeria underrate them, the result will be devastating to the ambition of the Eagles to win the Nations Cup trophy in Angola.

"A team that topped the group which had the Indomitable Lions

of Cameroun and Tunisia should be respected. Some are saying the Zambians are going to be an easier opponents to the Eagles compared to Cameroun. But, with the Zambians that I saw against the Gabon, Eagles will not have it easy.

"We played against them in 1994 where we won the trophy, you will agree with me that the final match was very difficult for us coming back from behind to win the trophy was not easy. And with the crop of young and agile players in their team, they are capable

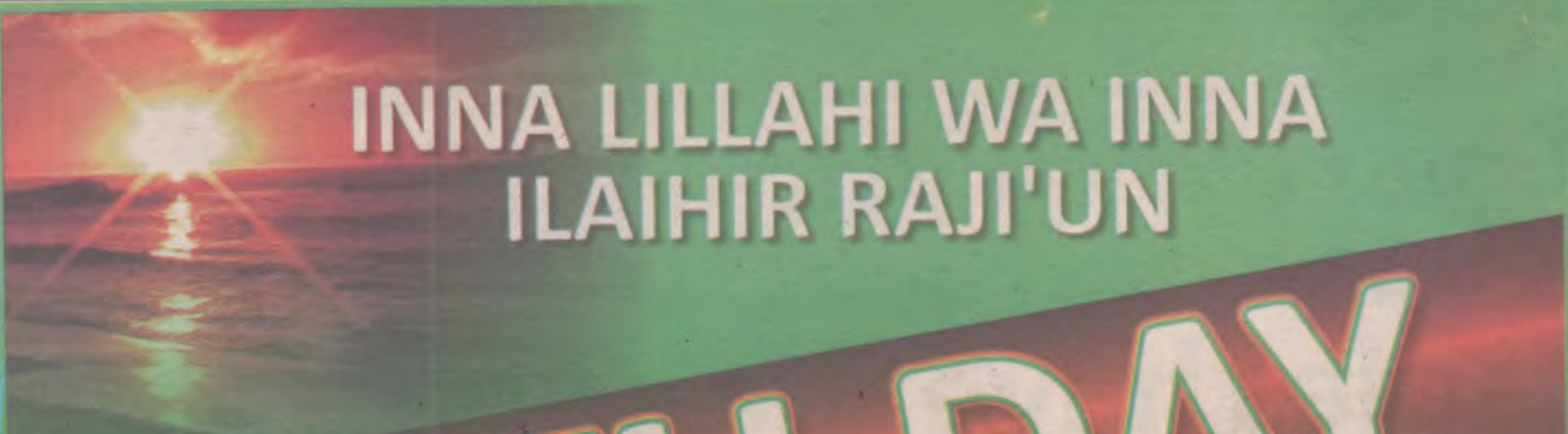
of springing up some surprises, if we underrate them," he reasoned.

The former Zamalek of Egypt winger who scored the two goals that won the trophy for Nigeria against Zambia in the final of Tunisia 1994, however, expressed optimism that if the Eagles can continue from where they stopped against Mozambique and up their game, getting to the semi finals will be achieved.

"If Eagles can play as a team and the coach make the right selection like he did in the last match, I see

them repeating what we did 16 years ago in Tunisia. The Eagles are gaining more confidence as tournament progresses, which is what they need to bring the cup back to Nigeria.

"The job is for the boys to do and if they can show more commitment and determination, they are good for the finals. But, they must put aside all detraction and focus on how to prove their critics wrong," ex Julius Berger winger counselled.



INNA LILLAHI WA INNA
ILAIHIR RAJI'UN

40TH DAY



“fidda'u”

**ALHAJI (Dr) HALLIRU
ABDULLAHI KAFUR (GIWA)**

7TH SEPTEMBER 1934 – 29TH APRIL 2009

FROM THE FAMILY



AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS

Ghana through to q-finals

■ Gyan goal crushes Angola dreams

AN early goal from Asamoah Gyan crushed the dreams of the host nation as Ghana eliminated Angola 1-0 in their African Nations Cup quarter-final yesterday.

Gyan struck a perfectly weighted through ball from Kwadwo Asamoah wide of Angola's goalkeeper Carlos Fernandez for the decisive goal in the 16th minute.

But the home team squandered several chances to turn around the score and have only themselves to blame for not making better use of their opportunities.

Tall striker Manucho was a major culprit, missing with a close shot that skied high over the Ghana goal on the stroke of halftime and then directing a 73rd minute header wide of goal.

He also had a header saved by Ghana's goalkeeper Richard Kingson in the 30th minute, finding himself unmarked at the back post after a cross but directing the ball straight at the keeper.

Near the end of the match there were two more chances for the hosts as centre back Kali went forward to join the attack.

He missed a header on the stroke of halftime and had a bouncing effort cleared off the line by Isaac Vorsah deep into stoppage time.

"This is what happens in football. I tried my best," said Manucho immediately after the match in a pitch-side television interview.

Ghana's only first-half chance provided the goal, after a visionary pass from Udinese's highly-rated Asamoah. After the interval they bothered the Angola goalkeeper on only two occasions with half chances.

"We did much better than Ghana, especially in the second half, but we couldn't break



Angola's Flavio, right, and Hans Sarpei of Ghana vying for the ball during their quarter-final match yesterday. Ghana won 1-0.

them down," said Angola's coach Manuel Jose. "We have to congratulate our side on getting to this stage. We just didn't have the

luck today."

Ghana, the last Nations Cup host to lose in the last eight 10 years ago, will next play in Thurs-

day's semifinal against the winner of Monday's quarter-final between Nigeria and Zambia in Lubango.

Eto'o wants to halt Egypt humiliation

CAMEROON skipper Samuel Eto'o has said he wants his team to beat Egypt in Monday's Africa Cup of Nations quarterfinal here and bring to an end a poor run against the defending champions.

In the past five years, the Indomitable Lions of Cameroon have only managed a draw at home with Egypt, who have won the three other clashes between the two teams.

"We will fight and do our best because they have humiliated us for some time now, but I'm not God to say we will win," said Eto'o at a press conference here on Sunday.

"I have always tried to give the best of myself in every game and that's what I will do against Egypt.

"We have a squad of capable players, who are all here to defend the national colours. No player is here on a holiday and we will continue to work hard and stay focused."

Egypt were forced to a draw by Cameroon in a decisive 2006 World Cup qualifier in 2005, paving the way for the Ivory Coast to qualify for their first-ever World Cup, while at the 2008 Nations Cup in Ghana, the Pharaohs beat Cameroon 4-2 in a group game before they again defeated them 1-0 in the tournament final.

"Cameroon did not go to the 2006 World Cup in Germany because of Egypt, but because of Cameroon: we did not score the last-minute penalty to take us there," argued the Inter Milan striker, who added that he has fulfilled his promise to qualify the team to the last eight of the competition.

"And we would have won the final of the last Nations Cup after they beat us 4-2 in our first match of the tournament."

RESULTS

Algeria 3, Ivory Coast 2
* Algeria qualify for q-finals



WAUG Update ● WAUG Update ● WAUG Update ● WAUG Update

Delsu massacre KUT Wudil

4-0

Stories from Jaafar Jaafar, Kano

A hat trick from Delta State University's striker Ena Keno Iyarume and another goal from Nosa Ojo yesterday silenced the rapturous applause of once elated fans of Kano University of Technology, Wudil (KUT) during the Group B match in the ongoing West African University Games (WAUG) taking place at Bayero University, Kano.

Nosa's frequent raid into the KUT's porous territory saw him

landing the opener at the 7th minutes and mid way into the first stanza of the match, vibrant Nosa landed the second goal of the match into the net.

Toward the end of the first half, KUST rose from slumber to secure a penalty when their attacker was shoved off by DELSU's bullying defence. Perhaps owing to high stakes from the cheering KUT's fans, Mohammed Jadda missed the penalty kick.

DELSU's recurrent foray into their opponents' turf saw them scoring the 3rd goal through Nosa Ojo at the 78th minutes, and six minutes later, precisely at the 84th minutes, Iyarume sealed his hat trick when he noded a header off a solo pass into the net.

Speaking shortly after the match, the top goal scorer, Iya-

rume, said he dedicated his goals to his former teams Gabros FC, Plateau United and also University of Jos, where he was once a student.

The 300 Level student of Economics stated further that he was eyeing to play for his country and in one of the top European teams.

Benin varsity vows to devour UI

THE head coach of Universite de Parakou, Benin Republic, Mr Dadjah Nicholas, has vowed to remedy his goalless draw with Nassarawa State University in

his next clash with University of Ibadan.

He said yesterday that his unimpressive performance was attributable to the fatigue sustained during their tortuous journey to Nigeria.

"But I can assure you that, our next match will be different," said Nicholas.

He said the weather condition in Kano State was the same as that of Parakou.

Winneba players protest poor officiating

THE soccer players of the

University of Education, Winneba, Ghana, have attributed their 1-0 loss to Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH) to poor officiating. Their female hockey team also lost 1-0 to Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria (ABU).

Most of the players interviewed by our correspondent said they would have scored "many goals" but for the umpire's "wrong judgement".

A striker in the team, Richard Okoko, said the authorities should look into such areas to forestall further recurrence.

He said the refereeing was not all that encouraging.

"A referee is expected to bring the beauty of a game, not to bungle everything," he said.

THE MONDAY COLUMN

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Failed burglar's defence

The sensational denial by former President Olusegun Obasanjo at the Annual Trust Dialogue last Thursday that he anointed a sick man as his successor due to some hidden motives can be summarised this way: "Yes, I chose Yar'adua as my successor and rammed him down your throats; Yes, I knew he suffered from a chronic kidney ailment and even had dialysis and a transplant; No, I did not foist a sick man upon you because I believed he was okay, having seen his latest medical records."

Even as I sat in the audience listening to Obasanjo's sensational claim, which completely diverted attention away from and eclipsed the agenda of the day, namely African Women and Politics, I thought of the local adage, "Na shiga ban dauka ba bata fitar da barawo." The failed burglar who was accosted by policemen right outside the house he broke into admitted breaking into the house; he however pleaded his innocence by pointing out that he somehow came out without stealing anything.

In telling the story of how he anointed Yar'adua, Obasanjo said he decided that a Southerner should not succeed him because it will not augur well for Nigeria. Why did he think so? Obviously because there was an agreement between PDP bosses in 1999 for power rotation, which Obasanjo denied and is still denying, even though he in the end abided by it.

Now, the three other criteria he said he applied in choosing a successor were that the person must have 1) enough intellectual capacity to run the affairs of Nigeria 2) sufficient personal integrity and 3) must be "sufficiently broad-minded in knowledge, politically, socially and religiously."

Obviously, there were several people around who met all those three criteria, so there must have been other unstated criteria, such as rewarding a loyal former deputy, choosing a man who shares similar enemies e.g. the Abachas, and also a man who is likely to play the dunce, given the emergency changes to the PDP Constitution which made Obasanjo the party Board of Trustees [BOT] chair and also gave BOT the power to make policy while other party and government organs implement it.

I suspect there would be some debate, especially in Katsina, regarding Malam Umaru's fit into the first two of Obasanjo's three criteria, but let us briefly examine his fit into the third one, about broad-mindedness. In 2006, if not now, the evidence of Umoru's social, political and religious broad-mindedness must have been entirely circumstantial, the most obvious ones being he was son of a one-time Minister of Lagos Affairs and was the brother of General Shehu Yar'adua. Otherwise, his own life history, positions he held, his associations and his ideas of rule did not appear to suggest that he passed that criterion.

It was entirely possible, given Obasanjo's disturbed state of mind in the wake of the Third Term project's failure earlier in 2006, that he confused Umoru for General Shehu, who was a British-trained career soldier, who fought in the civil war, was a Federal Minister, was Chief Of Staff, Supreme Headquarters, who got on well with Obasanjo, who established broad business partnerships after he left service, who assembled an impressively national array of political associates, and who won elections in places once thought to be impossible in Nigerian politics.

Anyway, as Obasanjo listed his criteria last week, someone in the audience shouted, "What about health?" That's when Obasanjo said yes, he knew Umoru had a kidney transplant, but that he had come off dialysis and was therefore okay.

How and why did Obasanjo possibly overlook Malam Umaru's prolonged absences from Katsina when he was gov-

ernor, his relative lethargy in contrast to other governors, his infrequent travel, scant socialization, entirely local political ambitions and no appearances on the national stage?

In any case, for a job as strenuous as the presidency, any history of sickness involving the major organs such as heart, kidney, liver, lungs or brain should have given the anointer room for pause. Sure health is in God's hands and no one can guarantee his own, but no one who is not lucky to be in very good health should aspire to any grand office.

Why did Chief Obasanjo chose this time and place to say what he said? Soon after the Trust Dialogue ended, many people present alleged that the young man who asked the question was planted by Obasanjo's men.

I don't believe so, but I thought for a moment about their allegation. Obasanjo was chairman of the Dialogue and he took full control of proceedings. He ordered the very distinguished guest speakers, including Winnie Mandela, to speak for only 15 minutes each, eliciting a mild protest from the great woman. Yet, afterwards, he created a lot of time for governors and others in the audience to speak, before he recognised the young man, Buhari Mohamed Bello Jega [I didn't plant him, thank you].

Buhari's question was quite rude. He said "our leaders are shameless; they appear before us to tell us rubbish." I fully expected Obasanjo, who once exploded at Dr. Yusuf Bala Usman for asking a much more polite question, to explode, but he didn't. Instead, he took it coolly, retrieved the microphone and calmly began to answer.

He said a man elected to an office who fails to perform the duties due to

ill-health should follow the path of honour and morality, that is, resign. He had earlier said at the PDP BOT meeting that Yar'adua should be made to temporarily transfer presidential powers to Vice President Goodluck Jonathan until he fully recovers.

As a bearer of the truth, Chief Obasanjo is a very problematic messenger. Many Nigerians think that the man who tried to change the Constitution and extend his rule after 8 straight years in power cannot talk about the path of honour and morality. In 2006, when General Yakubu Gowon told Obasanjo the truth about Third Term, Femi Fani-Kayode savagely attacked him. Yet, if we separate the messenger from the message, what the former president said last Thursday and earlier at the PDP BOT meeting both smelled of the truth.

By now, Malam Umaru Yar'adua has irked all this country's sensible citizens by stubbornly refusing to transfer power temporarily to his deputy when he is so sick. How can a leader be surrounded by men and women, none of whom can tell him the right thing to do in the difficult circumstances?

Not only eminent statesmen, but even lowly columnists foresaw this problem. My undistinguished article to mark one year of the Yar'adua administration in May 2008 contained a [presumptuous] advice to the president to broaden his circle of friends and advisers and give it greater political weight and national spread in order to avoid horrible mistakes down the road. Seems we have arrived there...

If PDP were to ever have a use for its BOT, it is now. The ongoing stalemate has left the Federal Executive Council, the National Assembly and the party National Executive Committee all unsure what to do. It is time for the party's statesmen in the BOT to step in, tell the truth and break the logjam. By throwing out Obasanjo's counsel last week, the BOT also missed the way.

I entirely agree that this messenger is problematic, but someone should at least examine his message.

“In 2006, when General Yakubu Gowon told Obasanjo the truth about Third Term, Femi Fani-Kayode savagely attacked him.”

SPORTS REPORT



VICTOR Moses

Arsenal favourites to land Victor Moses

The 19-year-old forward is rated as one of the country's top emerging talents and has attracted interest from Premier League behemoths Liverpool, Manchester City and Tottenham Hotspur, as well as courting attention from Spanish giants Barcelona and Real Madrid.

However, according to the Sunday Telegraph, the player wants a move to the Emirates as he has been attracted by Arsene Wenger's pol-

icy of developing young players.

Wenger is believed to have been monitoring the flying winger closely this season and will undoubtedly have noted his recent good form which saw him land the Championship's December 'Young Player of the Month' award.

The Nigerian-born Moses joined Palace in 2007, breaking into first team affairs as a 16-year-old and going on to represent England at U16, U17 and U19 levels.



ROBINHO set to leave Manchester City

I'm off, misfit Robinho admits

Manchester City forward Robinho has confirmed he is set to leave Eastlands, with a return to Santos the likely destination.

City manager Roberto Mancini has named Robinho in his starting line-up for yesterday's FA Cup tie against Scunthorpe.

And the Brazil forward, who has been unhappy to find himself on the bench in recent matches, admits it could be his last match for City.

'What's important is to be happy,' Robinho told Brazilian radio station Radio Bandeirantes.

'Money is not everything. First thing is that I am going through a bad period.'

'Here, Mancini said that I would play one game and another no. I didn't accept that and told him so. It's a World Cup year.'