

L/BRAMY

Complimentary Copy NOT FOR SALE

# DAILY TRUST



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2010 SAFAR 27, 1431 A.H. TRUST IS A BURDEN www.dailytrust.com VOL. 23 No 64 N150

## Security operatives avert fresh crisis in Jos



Page 6

## Permanent Secretary weeps as commissioner resigns



Page 8

### Inside Today's Daily Trust

**Business**  
The joint venture between the NNPC and Mobil will generate 500mw power at Eket, Akwa Ibom State **25**

**Sport**  
Egypt coach Hassan Shehata has dropped his interest in the Super Eagles' job after the EFA turned down Nigeria's offer **53**



**Digest**  
According to a new survey, men don't know certain critical details about their wives **37**

**Politics**  
The CPC has condemned Alhaji Bashir Tofa for criticising the resignation of General Buhari from the ANPP **52**



ACTING President Goodluck Jonathan presiding over the Federal Executive Council meeting at the State House, Abuja, yesterday.

# Why I was removed

## — Aondoakaa

By AbdulFattah Olajide

ACTING President Goodluck Jonathan flexed his political muscles yesterday by effecting a minor cabinet reshuffle which saw the redeployment of powerful Minister of Justice Michael Aondoakaa to the obscure Special Duties portfolio.

The controversial attorney-general of the federation, who rebuffed calls for ailing President Umaru Yar'adua to transfer full powers to Jonathan, lost his

post to former Labour Minister Adetokunbo Kayode. The former Special Duties minister Ibrahim Kazaure moves to the Labour Ministry.

Fielding questions from newsmen after his removal, Aondoakaa said he was redeployed because of his earlier insistence that

Yar'adua, who has been receiving medical treatment in Saudi Arabia since November, needed not transmit a vacation letter to the Senate before Jonathan could perform presidential duties.

The cabinet reshuffle was effected shortly before the commencement of yes-

terday's Federal Executive Council meeting, presided over by Jonathan.

Aondoakaa said it would have been inappropriate for him to start defending Tuesday's resolutions of the House of Representatives and the Senate, which mandated Jonathan to act as president, in view

of his earlier stand.

"I have taken a position and in this life when you take a position and there is a change in the position you allow another person who will have a free atmosphere to defend the new position," he said.

On why he insisted earlier that Jonathan must not be made acting president, he said, "No attorney-general worth his salt will go to the pages of papers and say there is a vacuum. We have

**Continued on page 5**

# Boko Haram: Reps probe extra-judicial killings

By Nasidi A. Yahaya & Misbahu Bashir, with agency report

A joint House of Representatives committee has been given two weeks to investigate and present

a report on the alleged killing of unarmed civilians by policemen in the wake of the Boko Haram violence in Maiduguri, Borno State.

The probe is coming after the broadcast of footage by Al Jazeera television network on Tues-

day, showing mobile policemen shooting dead several unarmed civilians including boys and crippled men.

The House of Representatives yesterday **Continued on page 5**

## Jonathan's Acting Presidency

Move will  
alter national  
polity  
—Agoro

From Yemi Bamidele, Ibadan

THE appointment of Dr. Goodluck Jonathan as Nigeria's Acting President will alter the national polity, Chairman of the National Action Council (NAC) Dr. Olapade Agoro has said, adding that the political situation in the country would never be the same again. In a statement in Ibadan yesterday, Dr. Agoro who is also the national chairman of the Conference of Nigeria Political Parties (CNPP) likened the situation to "the final laying to rest of a human-made crisis." He maintained that even though the empowerment of Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan as Acting President was belated, it was a welcome development in the political history of Nigeria.

"For obvious reasons, the national political situations will never be the same again. The future will no doubt be full of challenges primarily due to the fact that leadership can come from any part of the country," he said.

MOSOP, IYC  
task Jonathan

From Muhammad Bello, Port Harcourt

THE Movement for the Survival of Ogoni People (MOSOP) and the Ijaw Youth Congress (IYC) have asked the Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to start looking at the prospect of convening a Sovereign National Conference (SNC) to resolve contentious issues in the Niger Delta.

MOSOP factional leader, Goodluck Diigbo, wrote in a letter to Jonathan, "Let's work for a Sovereign National Conference (SNC) to bring about a durable federal constitution that we can trust, rely upon and follow." Although IYC has the same proposal for the president, it is pessimistic that such option would be considered by him. "The constitution is still faulty. It doesn't protect the citizens as corruption, ineptitude and mismanagement continue to thrive", the group's secretary-general, Udengs Eradiri said in a telephone interview yesterday.

From Ahmed Mohammed &amp; Mahmud Lalo, Jos

NIGERIA'S former Ambassador to Switzerland Yahaya Kwande has said verbal communication cannot take the place of a written document. He was reacting

N/Assembly lived up to  
its responsibility—ACF

## • Process defective—AC

From Ibraheem Musa &amp; Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

THE Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF) yesterday commended the National Assembly for making Vice President Goodluck Jonathan Acting President, saying it had lived up to its responsibility.

The forum in a statement signed by its National Publicity Secretary Mr. Anthony Sani said the constitution and the national consensus were in agreement that once the president is on vacation

or incapacitated, the vice president should act until he returns.

The forum said the motion by the National Assembly was therefore consistent with the constitution and the mood of the nation, saying any other thing is a matter of technicality.

However, the Action Congress through its Publicity Secretary Barrister Musa Soba said although the agitation to make the Vice President Goodluck Jonathan Acting President had succeeded, the manner through

which he assumed office was defective because the constitution did not state that such should be done through a resolution by the National Assembly.

He said the danger in the acting vice president coming through Senate resolution is that he could also be removed by a Senate resolution. Barrister Soba said the constitution stated clearly that the president ought to submit a letter to the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives before going on

medical vacation, adding that using the BBC interview was not tenable.

Meanwhile, the Arewa Youth Forum (AYF) has urged the acting president to beware of those parading themselves as promoters of his candidature.

In a statement signed by its president Gambo Ibrhaim Gungu, the AYF urged him to work hard to find a lasting solution to all the problems in the country including the constitutional review.

PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE



FORMER Attorney-General of the Federation Michael Aondoakaa explaining why he was removed at a news conference yesterday in Abuja.

## NLC yet to decide—Omar

From Isa Liman, Zaria

PRESIDENT of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) Comrade Waheed Omar yesterday in Zaria said the congress was yet to decide whether to recognize Vice President Goodluck Jonathan as Acting President or not.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the 3rd Senior Staff Union of Colleges of Education in Nigeria (SSUCOEN) delegates conference,

Comrade Omar said the NLC was disturbed over the way politicians were unnecessarily overheating the polity over the ill-health of President Yar'adua. He said that was why the union wanted to do a thorough homework before taking a stand on the issue.

"We exercise restraint in everything we do. We did all we could to avoid making comments over the debate on the president's ill-health. On Monday, we were

invited for a meeting over the issue, but I refused to attend. They have been calling us to know our stance on the issue. The person I sent to that meeting came back with an unpleasant report that most of the people behind the debate on the president's health were not after the well-being of the country. We would not make our stance known now," he said.

The NLC president said the handover of power to Vice Presi-

dent Goodluck Jonathan was not the end of the problem as the measure may not translate to the resolution of issues hampering the development of the country and its democracy.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Governing Council Chairman of the Federal College of Education, Zaria Malam Muhammad Damakka Abubakar Bodinga said dialogue was the best way of resolving disputes.

## Kwande says verbal communication not enough

From Ahmed Mohammed &amp; Mahmud Lalo, Jos

NIGERIA'S former Ambassador to Switzerland Yahaya Kwande has said verbal communication cannot take the place of a written document. He was reacting

yesterday to the resolution of the National Assembly empowering Vice President Goodluck Jonathan to act as president.

Kwande who compared the Yar'adua interview on the BBC with the chieftaincy problem in his town (Kwande) said he was

elected as the paramount ruler of his town 20 years ago, but was taken to court on the ground that the king makers in his town unanimously voted for him verbally and later signed the result sheet.

"The court that was enter-

taining the case said the law states that the nomination procedure (votes) of the king makers must be in writing, not by verbal statements. I cannot understand how the BBC interview can take the place of a written letter.

The law says he must com-

municate in writing, that is the watch word. However, I am totally in support of what they have done, since there was a lacuna in the constitution and they had to find a way around it to keep the country together", he said.

## Jonathan's Acting Presidency

# Don't overthrow Yar'adua, Monguno warns

From Isa Umar Gusau & Yahaya Ibrahim, Maiduguri

NO matter the pressure from those seeking positions and contracts, Acting President Goodluck Jonathan should resist the temptation of contemplating overthrowing President Umaru Musa Yar'adua, elder statesman Dr Shettima Ali Monguno has cautioned.

Speaking to Daily Trust in Maiduguri yesterday, Monguno said it would not be surprising if some groups or individuals go close to the acting president and begin to prod him into taking over power permanently.

He said such people, whom

he described as anti-Nigeria, may even go as far as using the 2011 elections to tempt the acting president, by telling him they would ensure he gets elected and many other things to influence his opinion, even if he thinks otherwise.

Monguno said Acting President Jonathan should act with conscience, fear of God and interest for the unity and stability of Nigeria.

He said he should uphold the content of the National Assembly's resolution that made him acting president which clearly states that Yar'adua remains the president and would take over any time he recuperates and returns to the country. He called on Goodluck to quickly

drive away any persons or groups that come with such idea.

Monguno also said Nigerians would not expect the Federal Executive Council, which remained firm in its resolution that the president was not incapacitated, to now change its tune under the acting president.

He said he expects and hopes that the decision for Goodluck to become acting president was a collective one with inputs from not only the National Assembly and other pressure groups but also from some members of the FEC; and as such nothing different is expected in the interest of peace, stability and national unity.

PIC: NAN



FROM left: U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria Robin Sanders, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Johnnie Carson, and Senate President David Mark at a dinner in honour of Ambassador Carson in Abuja on Tuesday night.

## Resolution on Yar'adua, right thing done wrongly - Sen Shuaibu

By Suleiman M. Bisalla

THE elevation of Vice President Goodluck Jonathan to the status of Acting President is the right thing which, was carried out through the wrong process, Senator Lawal Shuaibu has said.

Speaking to *Daily Trust* yesterday, Shuaibu a top member of the National Democratic Movement that has been canvassing for constitutional means of dealing with the stalemate brought about by Yar'adua's absence, said a written declaration still remains a fundamental and legal means of making Jonathan Acting President.

He, however, agreed that in

spite of the wrong doing, 'Nigeria has to move forward.'

"If he [Yar'adua] is incapacitated to write that letter, they can

**A written declaration still remains a fundamental and legal means of making Jonathan Acting President**

write it and get his thumb print. In many instances and places around the world, thumb print is even more recognised than signature," Shuaibu said.

"In any case let him do the right thing. We can't reverse his acting capacity," he added, noting that Jonathan had shown some responsibility by refusing to interfere with the governorship election in Anambra State.

Shuaibu, however, picked holes in the failure of the Acting President to take oath of office as Commander in Chief, something he said was necessary to pin him down to the full responsibilities of the office.

## NEWS ANALYSIS

## Post-Yar'adua presidency begins?

By Ibrahim Auduson

THE alacrity with which Vice President Goodluck Jonathan and his advisers seized upon the National Assembly's otherwise non-binding resolution to take over the executive powers of the president may seem opportunistic.

Indeed the very fact that Information Minister Dora Akunyili submitted a memo to the Federal Executive Council to strip President Umaru Yar'adua of power was orchestrated to cast Justice Minister Michael Aondoakaa as the villain in a group of do-gooders trying to salvage the nation from a political impasse.

Aondoakaa is now out of the way, shunted by the new power-brokers to the obscure position of minister of special duties. For such an energetic and very loyal Yar'adua aide, it is a message.

But this leaves the question whether Jonathan has the power to effect any changes to the cabinet assembled by his principal who, for all we know is alive, and has not asked his deputy to do what he has done.

There's also the issue of the remaining members of the reputed kitchen cabinet of Yar'adua. What will be the position of Agriculture Minister Sayyadi Abba Ruma, Economic Adviser Tanimu Kurfi and others in the scheme of things?

In the meantime, what is to be done about Mrs. Turai Yar'adua? What information does the reconstituted FEC have about Yar'adua's present condition that its members are not sharing it with Nigerians?

Whatever happened in the couple of days was prepared by the backlash of the effort to micromanage issues surrounding Yar'adua's sudden departure to Saudi Arabia on November 23. We have not seen him since. We heard his voice once on the radio. But he is not dead; he has not been certified incapacitated.

In the circumstances, the actions of those who brought about the present dispensation may turn out to be an elaborate grab, or the shot we need to move on. Where does that leave Yar'adua? Out in the cold, but for how long?

## Tinubu, CNPP praises

### Jonathan over Aondoakaa's removal

FORMER Lagos State Governor Bola Tinubu and the Conference of Nigerian Political Parties (CNPP) yesterday commended Acting President Goodluck Jonathan for relieving Mr Michael Aondoakaa of his duties as the Attorney-General of the Federation.

Similarly, the Civil Liberties Organisation (CLO) and the Afenifere Renewal Group (ARG) had given Kudos to the Acting President describing his moves as a step in the right direction.

Jonathan on Wednesday removed the Justice Minister and Attorney-General in his first major move since assuming full executive powers.

By this development, the former justice minister becomes the Minister of Special duties while the Minister of Labour, Mr Adetokumbo Kayode takes over from him as Minister of Justice and Attorney-General of the Federation.

Tinubu told newsmen in Lagos that the former attorney-general was overdue for removal.

"He has not interpreted the laws as should be in his tenure and has almost brought shame to the nation," Tinubu said,

In an interview with NAN,

the Chairman of the National Action Council (NAC) Dr Olapade Agoro said that the removal was the best thing to happen to Nigeria this year.

"It should not only be him. Others who have made constitutional governance impossible in Nigeria should be relieved of their duties" he said.

In his reaction, the National Chairman of the CNPP, Chief Maxi Okwu described the removal as very satisfying.

Okwu told NAN that "he had expected the former minister to have resigned as it is done in more civilised societies, but he waited until he was removed".

In his view, the ARG National Publicity Secretary, Mr Yinka Odumakin commended Acting President Jonathan for his courage in relieving the former attorney-general of his duties.

"Aondoakaa was reading Nigeria's law upside down and we thank God for bringing the Acting President to Nigeria's rescue," he added.

The Lagos State Chairman of the CLO, Mr Eneruvie Enakoko said that the removal was expected.

Enakoko added that the former attorney-general was not good enough for the job. (NAN)

# Senate to pass 2010 budget in three weeks

By Muideen Olaniyi

DEPUTY Senate President Ike Ekweremadu yesterday said the 2010 Appropriation Bill presented to them by President Umaru Musa Yar'adua will be passed in the next three weeks.

Speaking at the national secretariat of PDP in Abuja, Ekweremadu said the House of Representatives too is also working on

the budget.

He said: "I am aware that the House has already tabled it before them. We are hoping that the Senate will do the same by next week. So, we are looking forward to the passage of the appropriation bill in the next two to three weeks".

On the electoral reforms, the Deputy Senate President said that the 2011 general election would be conducted with an enhanced

electoral process.

"In respect of the electoral reform, we are all working together; the Senate and the House. We are working hard. We assure the party and Nigerians that PDP will deliver to Nigerians an improved electoral process which will be available for use in 2011 elections. We are committed to it. We are prepared to do that.

"We have advanced consid-

erably in that assignment and I believe that before the end of this quarter we will be able to deliver the product to Nigerian which will be acceptable and all of us will stand tall and be proud about it.

"We only ask for your support and encouragement to complete this on time for the party. As far as we are concerned it is the party's promise to Nigerians that we are going to reform the electoral process

which was made by Mr President and he took steps to realise it," Ekweremadu further stated.

Ogbulafor, the PDP National Chairman, had earlier charged the National Assembly to ensure quick passage of the Electoral Reform Bills as well as the 2010 budget, adding that the Constitution Amendment Bill also required immediate action since the debate on ailing President Yar'adua had been settled.

PIC: NAN

## Northern group wants FEC dissolved

By Muideen Olaniyi

A Northern group known as 'Northern Initiative for Vision 20-20-20' yesterday called for the dissolution of the present Federal Executive Council because of what it called infighting in the council.

The group's Chairman, Alhaji Awal Gongga, urged Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to reinvigorate the policies and programme of the Yar'adua administration. The group particularly expressed hope that Dr Jonathan would put the seven point agenda back on stream with the overall goal of ensuring that vision 20-20-20 is attained, noting that history and Providence has placed an enormous responsibility him.

It expressed belief that the acting president would not betray the confidence, trust and hope that Nigerians from all walks of life had invested in the struggle to make him Acting President. "To this end we call the Acting President to have the liberty to make fundamental changes in the governmental personnel in order to bring back life to the machinery of government, since the Executive Council of the Federation (ECF) as presently constituted have lost the confidence of the Nigerian populace and utterly divided along irreconcilable lines.

"The infighting in the ECF will be a stumbling block to His Excellency, Dr. Goodluck Jonathan's administration and will compromise his ability to tackle the dire developmental challenges confronting the Government."



FROM left: Minister of State for Finance Remi Babalola, Minister of Information and Communications, Prof. Dora Akunyili and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ojo Maduekwe at the Federal Executive Council meeting in Abuja yesterday.

## 'NASS resolution on Jonathan deficient'

By Abbas Jimoh

THE Mega Summit Movement (MSM) has described Tuesday's resolutions of the National Assembly mandating Vice president Goodluck Jonathan to act as president pending the return of ailing President Umaru Musa Yar'adua as deficient.

The group's spokesman, Mr. Olawale Okunniyi, said that the group's meeting attended by Chief Olu Falae, Chief Audu Ogbah,

Alhaji Balarabe Musa, Dr Tunji Braithwaite, Prof Pat Utomi and Comrade Soz Ejiiofoh among others, stated that while the decision may be politically expedient, it is constitutionally deficient.

"The decision of the National Assembly to appoint Vice President Goodluck Jonathan as the Acting President based on the transmission of the voice message of President Umaru Yar'adua to Nigerians via the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) may be politically

expedient, it is constitutionally deficient and that the national assembly should take further steps to correct this lapse," Okunniyi said.

He also blamed the constitutional crisis of President Yar'adua's absence on the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

He said, "The meeting noted that the tension generated by the absence of Mr President was needless and avoidable if the PDP had been a serious political party driven by best practices and encourages good faith among

its political office holders. The leaders therefore averred that the entire melodrama over President Yar'adua incapacitation is a clear indictment on the PDP and its crooked political leadership of the country, which demands urgent change by Nigerians.

"The meeting took reports from those present on the work already done on the formation of a formidable alternative political platform that will mobilize Nigerians, especially the working people, to engage the ruling class.

## Ibru to take fresh plea

By Misbahu Bashir, with agency reports

THE Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) will on February 22 re-arraign the immediate past Chief Executive Officer of Oceanic Bank Plc Cecilia Ibru on a 25-count charge of corruption and money laundering.

Ibru is facing charges of mismanaging the bank before Justice Dan Abutu of the Federal High Court in Lagos.

At the resumed hearing of the

case yesterday, EFCC's Counsel, Mr Abubakar Mahmoud, said the commission had filed a fresh 25-count charge against Ibru. "The EFCC has an amended charge, which we want the defendant to respond to. I urge the court to read the charge to the accused to enable her to take a plea," he said.

Mahmond urged the court to stay execution of its order which granted leave to Ibru to travel abroad for medical check-up. He said the commission was challeng-

ing the order at the Court of Appeal. The counsel argued that since the last adjournment, "circumstances have changed, and records have been transmitted to the Court of Appeal.

"The rule states that once an appeal has been entered, all pending applications should be transmitted to the court. "That includes Ibru's application to extend the time to enable her to travel."

Ibru's Counsel, Prof. Taiwo Oshipitan (SAN), however, urged

the court to rather hear his client's application seeking an order to compel the Director-General of the SSS to release her international passport. He said: "Since the order was made in December 2009, she has not been able to travel abroad for her check-up because the SSS has refused to release the passport.

"We want the court to determine whether the SSS has the right to hold on to the passport in a matter that is not related to state security."

Oshipitan urged the court not to

stay execution of its order, but rather extend the time given to his client to travel to enable her to do so once her passport was released.

In his ruling, Abutu struck out both EFCC's application to stay execution of its order and Ibru's application to compel the SSS to release her passport.

He held that the court would not transfer all pending applications to the Court of Appeal on the grounds that the EFCC did not file any formal application to that effect.

## Reps probe extra-judicial killings

Continued from page 1

directed its committees on Police Affairs, Human Rights and Justice to investigate the killings as shown in the footage.

An estimated 1,000 people were killed as security forces fought the Boko Haram sect in Borno, Yobe, Kano and Bauchi states in July and August last year.

But the footage broadcast by Al Jazeera shows that many of the deaths occurred only after the fighting was over.

Riot policemen staged a follow-up operation in which house-to-house searches were conducted and individuals were apparently selected at random and taken to a police station.

In the video, a number of unarmed men are seen being made to lie down in the road outside a building before they are shot.

As one man is brought out to face death, one of the officers can be heard urging his colleague to "shoot him in the chest not the head - I want his heart."

As the executions continue another man is told: "Sit properly we want to take your picture."

The shootings continue as a crowd gathers further up the street in front of the police station.

Voices can be heard saying: "No mercy, no mercy." Two officers seen in the video can be clearly identified by the name tags on their chests.

The 5-minute video clip is now being shared around on the

Internet. It is available on video-sharing site Youtube and social networking site Facebook.

Borno State police commissioner Ibrahim Abdu yesterday told newsmen in Maiduguri that he was not going to comment on the Boko Haram crisis because it happened before he was posted to the state.

The state's deputy governor Shettima Dibal said the footage was not on Borno State alone and so it was a national security issue over which he had no competence to speak.

In Abuja, Acting Police Force Public Relations Officer Emmanuel Iyang said the police were still investigating the Boko Haram incident. "Investigation is being done on the matter and the result will be made public after that," he said.

The decision of the House came after a debate on a motion sponsored by Rep Abdurrahman Suleiman Kawu (ANPP, Kano State), who said the shootings were condemnable because most of those killed were underage, women and the aged.

The House expressed sadness over the way the police allegedly killed unarmed civilians.

Rep Rabe Nasir (PDP, Katsina State) said the matter was very sensitive and must be investigated in order to punish the culprits. Reps Abdul Ningi (PDP, Bauchi State) and Farouk Lawan (PDP, Kano State) advised that a judicial panel of inquiry be set up to investigate the matter.



THE Late Mohammed Yusuf, leader of the Boko Haram sect.

## Police cordon Aondoakaa's office

By Sunday Ejike Benjamin & Misbahu Bashir

ARMED mobile policemen yesterday cordoned the premises of the Federal Ministry of Justice and office of the Attorney General of the Federation few hours before Chief Michael Aondoakaa was removed from the ministry.

Sources said the armed policemen, numbering over 50, arrived at the gate of the minis-

try at about 12 noon and took position around the premises of the ministry while plainclothes policemen went straight to the 5th floor where the office of the attorney general is located.

They reportedly flashed their Identity Cards at the security personnel manning the entrance of the ministry, telling them that they were sent by the Inspector General of Police Ogbonna Onovo, without giving any reason for their visit.

It was not clear whether they gained entrance to Aondoakaa's office as he was attending the Federal Executive Council (FEC) meeting as at the time of their visit.

Chief Press Secretary of the ministry Ambrose Momoh confirmed the police's visit, but told newsmen that he did not know why they came to the ministry.

Acting Police Force Public Relations Officer Asuquo Iyang however told *Daily Trust*

that police were drafted to the ministry based on a report that the ministry was going to be attacked.

"The police were sent there as pre-emptive measure," he said.

He said no one was arrested and the police traced no crime and violence in the ministry. They withdrew few hours after their arrival, he said.

A staff in the ministry told *Daily Trust* that security operatives, believed to be from the

State Security Service (SSS), arrived in four black vehicles with the State House registration numbers shortly after the departure of the policemen. They went round the premises and left after about some thirty minutes.

Three policemen, led by an assistant superintendent of police attached to Federal Secretariat, also visited the ministry shortly after the departure of the SSS operatives.

## Why Aondoakaa was removed

Continued from page 1

to preserve executive powers until a leader is selected. A leader has been given by the National Assembly, we have recognised him."

Aondoakaa, who wore a sombre look throughout his stay at the State House yesterday, said the acting president had earlier discussed his removal with him before it was made.

"First I had a discussion with the vice president. I think what

we did was a collective decision. I and the vice president had a discussion in the morning, it's a cordial arrangement.

"He had a discussion with me in the morning, how do I look at it? Well I am in the government, in the cabinet and I pledge my loyalty to the vice president, I'm the minister of special duties," he added.

Asked how he took his new posting, Aondoakaa said, "When I go there the permanent secretary will brief me on what the

special duties are and I will do the job."

A mild drama had ensued shortly before the FEC meeting started. When Jonathan entered the Council Chambers where ministers were already waiting for the meeting, a protocol official promptly drew out his usual seat, but Jonathan ignored him and sat on President Yar'adua's seat which was drawn out almost simultaneously by his ADC.

Some members of Yar'adua's kitchen cabinet were apparently

shocked by the incident.

Briefing newsmen after the FEC meeting, an apparently elated Minister of Information and Communications, Professor Dora Akunyili, said the council accepted "the resolution of the National Assembly that the Vice President, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, becomes the Acting President and Commander-in-Chief. Council commends the National Assembly for their action and pledges to support the acting president in his oner-

ous responsibility of steering the ship of the nation."

Beaming with smile throughout her presentation, Akunyili said her earlier memo in which she had demanded that Yar'adua must transmit a vacation letter to the Senate to enable Jonathan be acting president was not discussed at the meeting because it had been overtaken by events.

On the cabinet reshuffle, she said, "It is a presidential decision and he (Jonathan) has the power to move any of us."

## FG c'ttee meets on Jos crises today

From Mahmud Lalo and Ahmed Mohammed, Jos

THE Federal Government 15 member special committee on the recurrent Jos crises led by former Plateau State Governor Chief Solomon Lar is to hold its first meeting in Jos today.

Co-Chairman of the Committee Ambassador Yahaya Kwande stated this yesterday while answering questions from our correspondents in Jos. He said already, members of the secretariat of the committee had arrived Jos and the state government was expected to provide the venue for the meeting and make other necessary arrangements.

It would be recalled that Acting President Good Luck Jonathan set up the committee last week after he hosted a stakeholders' meeting on the Jos Crises in Abuja. The committee was asked to examine issues surrounding the recurrent violence in Plateau State and work out how various institutions and levels of government can interact to ensure that the crises is permanently checked.

## US envoy visits IBB

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

UNITED States Under Secretary for African Affairs Mr Jonnie Carson accompanied by the America Ambassador to Nigeria Miss Robin Sanders were at the Hill Top residence of retired General Ibrahim Babdamasi Babangida in Minna yesterday.

The US Under Secretary is in Nigeria to consult with politicians and opinion leaders in the country over the present political situation in the country and the issue of terrorism with particular reference to Nigeria.

Jonnie Carson met with Nigeria's Acting President Dr Goodluck Jonathan in Abuja Tuesday to chart a course for Nigeria, especially on the terror listing. Our correspondent gathered that he may have entered into another phase of consultation with the former military president on issues that may not be far from the political situation in the country.

A source told journalists that the visit was personal as he maintained that Mr Carson was a friend of IBB and had nothing to do with political matters. He said the Assistant Secretary on African Affairs came to condole Babangida on the death of his wife, adding that they also discussed other issues of personal interest which he refused to disclose.



GOVERNOR Babatunde Fashola of Lagos State, (middle) Former Governor of the state, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, widow of Late Beko Ransome-Kuti, Abose, and others during the inauguration of Boko's statue in Lagos yesterday.

# Fresh crisis averted in Jos

From Mahmud Lalo and Ahmed Mohammed, Jos

SECURITY operatives yesterday prevented a fresh crisis out of a misunderstanding among the people of Congo Russia in the Nassarawa Gwom area of Jos.

Our correspondent learnt that four persons were injured and traders hurriedly closed shops following a stampede but security operatives intervened to control the situation.

Police Public Relations Officer ASP Mohammed Lerama

told newsmen in Jos yesterday that there was a disagreement between the people and security personnel deployed to maintain peace in the area but that they were able to persuade the residents and normalcy quickly returned.

Lerama said people spread rumours that caused panic and appealed to members of the public to stop spreading rumours. He also warned people to avoid taking the law into their hands and report any suspicious activity to the nearest police station.

A resident of Congo Russia, Miss Kach Davou Gyang, said some of the displaced people were assisted by friends and well wishers with zinc roofing sheets and building materials to repair their houses that were burnt during the last crisis.

She said as they started the repairs, some youths opposed it, and later demolished the houses.

The youth leader in Jos Metropolis, Engineer Mohammed Bala Tahir, said the incident occurred when a cleric embarked on the construction of a drainage

without the consent of his neighbours and that the drainage led gutters into their wells.

Tahir said residents complained but the cleric refused to stop, saying he was given a contract to construct a wall to demarcate Anguwan Keke from Congo Russia and mobilised the support of some youths while youths from the neighbours also mobilised. He said the residents invited six soldiers to the scene. They intervened and dispersed the crowd, but four people were injured.

# I don't fear legal challenge – Obi

By Abbas Jimoh

THE re-elected Governor of Anambra State Peter Obi said yesterday that he is not afraid of facing a legal challenge to his electoral victory.

Speaking at the headquarters of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in Abuja where he came to collect his certificate of return, Obi, who was re-elected in last Saturday's polls, said he was a veteran in court matters.

I don't know those who want to

challenge my victory, as the election was free and fair. I should be the one going to court, as my people were disenfranchised too; but I won't stop anybody from going to court. You know I'm a veteran in court matters," Obi said.

"I commend INEC for conducting a free and fair election, I am sure the body has a capacity to deliver a free and fair 2011 general election as the lapses were not entirely caused by the commission, though they were serious but was later corrected.

"For example when you go to a

particular unit and you see 20 Obis in a register or Sulayman whatever, people came up to react and they were removed. They had used such methods to rig elections in the past or do whatever they have planned, but people reacted as their votes did not count in the past," he said.

"Nobody would have believed that right from the campaign to the election there will be no violence, as this is the first time that everything went freely in Anambra. I have called all the stakeholders and we have discussed, except Mrs Ekwunife that I have not been able

to discuss with. We are all brothers and sisters, we should rather think of how to move the state forward," he said.

On his part, INEC chairman Professor Maurice Iwu said that Anambra people made history because this is the first time in history "when a winner emerges and nearly all the contestants had congratulated him.

"I commend all the 25 contestants for their sense of patriotism through the campaigns and the proper election," he said, adding that the security organizations and INEC

staff that participated in the election also deserved commendation.

Iwu advised political parties to imbibe the spirit of internal democracy, saying this would allow people to make their choice, and would in turn lead to credible elections in the country.

"INEC alone cannot do it so everybody is involved. His (Obi) victory is not only for the election but also for the peace of Anambra. Many predictions trailed the election but it came and the people succeeded in making history in the country," he added.

## N/Assembly resolution illegal, says lawyer

By Sunday Ejike Benjamin

AN Abuja-based constitutional lawyer and public affairs analyst, Barrister Godwin Sunday Ogboji, said yesterday that the resolution of the Senate is illegal and unconstitutional since the President has not transmitted a letter to the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to notify them of his incapability.

Speaking to *Daily Trust* in Abuja, Barrister Ogboji said the Senate is not right when it said the purported statement of the President on BBC satisfied the provision of section 145 of the 1999 constitution of the country.

Ogboji said the resolutions of the National Assembly are advisory, noting that the constitution states clearly the way and means the vice president can assume full presidential powers and not by the Senate resolution.

"My opinion in this situation is that section 144 and 146 should come to play. Section 144 is a situation when the Federal Executive Council in its resolution declares that the president is incapable of discharging his responsibility on health ground and the resolution is passed to the Senate President and the Speaker, House of Representatives who will constitute a medical team to verify the claim.

"If the finding of the FEC is verified by the medical team of the NASS, then the vice president can now assume the functions of the president of the country," the legal practitioner stated.

Ogboji who maintained that the constitution should be followed strictly expressed the fear that people will soon start filing different types of court action to challenge the constitutionality of the assumption of Vice President Jonathan as acting president by a resolution of the National Assembly.



GOVERNOR Adebayo Alao-Akala of Oyo State test running one of the newly commissioned fire services vehicles. With him is the Deputy Governor Alhaji Taofeek Arapaja (left) during the commissioning ceremony at Oyo State Fire Station, Ibadan.

## Senator tasks SSS on security report

By Benjamin Auta

THE State Security Service (SSS) should consider sending security reports to the National Assembly so that immediate action can be taken to curb violence in the country, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Security and Intelligence Senator Nuhu Aliyu said yesterday.

Speaking at the graduation

lecture of the participants of the executive intelligence management course of the Institute of Security Studies (ISS) in Abuja, Senator Aliyu decried non-use of security reports by some state governors and government officials in the country.

He said the "time has come when the government of the day must start taking action on security reports.

"It is time for the SSS to also

send security information to the National Assembly, and if most of the governors don't take action, we will," he said.

In his brief remark, the Director General of the SSS, who was represented by the Director Training, Mr. Uzoma Akonma, said that the cooperation between the police, SSS and the various groups in the just-concluded Anambra State gubernatorial election was

due to inter-agency cooperation.

He said that the aim of the training is to have a more responsive intelligence community that can give precise and actionable intelligence for the protection of the nation's democracy.

A total of 46 participants from 16 security agencies in the country participated in the course which is the second of its kind in the country.

## Ag Presidency: PDP meets N/Assembly leadership

By Muideen Olaniyi

THE leadership of the ruling People's Democratic Party (PDP) said yesterday that the decision of the National Assembly to make Goodluck Jonathan Acting President has ended the reign of uncertainty in the country.

PDP National Chairman Prince Vincent Ogbulafor, who spoke at the party's headquarters in Abuja during a meeting with the National Assembly leaders, praised the legislators for ending the reign of needless speculations, anxiety and uncertainty.

He said the party had always maintained that the absence of President Yar'adua on account

of ill health did not amount to a vacuum in the presidency, adding that their resolution had reaffirmed PDP's stand that the leadership of the nation has been in the capable hands of Goodluck Jonathan.

"While I enjoy all Nigerians to continue to pray for the recovery and return of President Yar'adua, may I also call on politicians, especially those who always wish to contrive an atmosphere of anarchy out of every national challenge to turn a new leaf. We urge them to join hands with us to ensure the advancement and the consolidation of constitutional rule in Nigeria," he said.

In his remarks, Speaker of the

House of Representatives Dimeji Bankole said the House resolution to make Jonathan acting president was a political solution.

He said: "What we did yesterday (Tuesday) was based on the wishes of the Nigerian people. What we did yesterday (Tuesday) was to make sure that we gave a political solution to the problem of the Nigerian state. We never really believed that there was a vacuum.

"In any case, we needed to make sure that those who felt that way, were reassured that there was no vacuum, and we did that successfully yesterday (Tuesday). Now we are going to concentrate on our work and make sure that

the challenges of this year are surpassed," he stated.

Deputy Senate President Ike Ekweremadu, who represented the Senate President David Mark, said the Senate's action was in line with the provisions of the 1999 Constitution.

He said: "In respect to the resolution of the National Assembly yesterday (Tuesday), particularly the Senate, we want to use this opportunity to make further clarification in the interest of the general public. We believe that the steps we took are within the confines of the constitution which we all swore to defend. We did not go outside the constitution to find a solution."

# Perm sec weeps as commissioner resigns

From Sadeeq Aliyu, Gusau

THE Zamfara State Commissioner for Education who was redeployed to the Water Resources Ministry last week yesterday resigned from the cabinet.

Alhaji Kabiru Marafa made the announcement after handing-over

to the new Commissioner for Education Alhaji Ibrahim Danmaliki.

Though in his remarks, Marafa said he resigned to join main stream politics, the resignation was seen a protest over his redeployment. Our correspondent learnt that his redeployment may not be unconnected with his refusal

to reverse the transfer of a school principal. It would be recalled that upon his assumption, Marafa inaugurated a committee to overhaul the education sector in the state and in the process, the Principal of Unity School, Kotqrkoshi, Hawwa Kulu Na-ala was transferred to the ministry's headquarters.

The former commissioner who expressed delight for serving the state in that capacity also prayed for the success of the new commissioner. The Permanent Secretary in the ministry Alhaji Isa Moriki who was in tears said he would have also resigned if he were a politician.



FROM left: House of Representatives member Johnson Abolagba, Chairman, House Committee on Media Esemey Eyibo and House member Aniedi King, discussing before the sitting of the House in Abuja yesterday.

## Tax: Nasarawa govt succumbs to labour's demand

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

INDUSTRIAL unions in Nasarawa State have suspended their strike over the implementation of a new tax regime in the state after government succumbed to pressures to constitute a committee to look into the matter. Already, a committee comprising representative of both parties, government and labour has been constituted. According to a statement by the Secretary to the State Government Timothy Anjide, the committee will look into the grey areas and is expected to complete its assignment within two weeks.

A statement signed by representatives of labour and government on Monday said labour accepted that the implementation of the 2004 tax law begin in Nasarawa State with the yet to be paid January salaries. The statement said the union agreed that the deduction be spread across 12 months. The agreement also asked that no employee be victimized for his/her role in the strike.

Secretary of the NLC in the state Comrade Salihu Eladoga who spoke with newsmen yesterday appealed to the public to disregard widespread rumors that labour leaders were induced by government during a consultation meeting in Abuja, saying nothing like that happened.

## Police kill armed robber

From Johnkennedy Uzoma, Owerri

THE Police in Owerri have killed a notorious armed robber who terrorized residents of Aladimma and Owerri and its environs.

Displaying the body of the criminal who was identified as Nnana alias Ogologo at the Police Headquarters Owerri yesterday, the Deputy Commissioner of Police Mr. Usman Gwasi said he specialized in armed robbery, kidnapping and assassination. He said Ogologo led a gang of three other armed robbers now at large to rob the Heartland football club camp in Owerri where they encountered a police surveillance team previous night. He said the police engaged them in a gun battle killing the leader while the others escaped with gunshot wounds.

## FIRS employee bags 6 months for forging certificate

From Adelanwa Bamgboye, Lagos

A 36-year-old Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) employee, Oladele Okunowo, is to spend six months in prison for forging a tax clearance certificate.

Oladele who pleaded guilty before Justice Okon Abang of the Federal High Court in Lagos on

Monday was however given an option of a N200,000 fine.

The Assistant Director (Legal) FIRS James Binang alleged that Oladele Okunowo sometime between September and October 2009 made a counterfeit of a Companies Income Tax Clearance Certificate with serial No. 05240175 and file Ref. No. IKY

12456162 purportedly issued on October 1, 2009 in favour of Steve Nigeria Limited which was presented to DSP Okebechi Agara for N10,000.

The alleged offence is punishable under section 43 (a) and (e) of the FIRS Act No. 13 of 2007.

The prosecution alleged that the convict forged the signature of

one Obekpa O. J, a Tax Controller with the FIRS in Ikeja Lagos for verification purpose related to the issuance of the tax clearance certificate.

Reacting, Oladele said, "I will never involve myself in any criminal matter again. He begged the court to tamper justice with mercy.

## NDLEA denies commander's ejection

From Yahaya Ibrahim, Maiduguri

THE Borno State Command of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) has denied being forcefully ejected from an apartment by a rent tribunal in Maiduguri. Dr. Wale Ige, the state Commandant of the agency

who was reacting to media reports indicating that the agency's officials were forced out by a tribunal over N174,000 rent said, "I did not enter into any agreement with the landlord. The agreement was with our agency and it has been on for over 15 years. The agency never defaulted in its payments because

we have very responsible leaders. That place has been used by several commanders of the NDLEA and officials, I wonder why they are personalizing the issue now, by mentioning my name, I think there is mischief somewhere. Because on the one year rent in question, the representative of

the landlord didn't write the usual demand for rent which is the normal thing when dealing with government agencies. They just went to court and we moved out of the house".

He noted that the agency had since commenced arrangement to settle the outstanding N174,000

rent even as a formal demand letter for the rent was being awaited. Dr Ige however thanked the landlord for the cordial relationship the agency had with them in the past while maintaining that the agency was always ready for a lawful and harmonious resolution in all its dealings with the public.



REV. Father Hassan Kukah

# Illegal arms import fuels crisis, says Kukah

By Benjamin Auta

GOVERNMENT'S inability to curb alleged illegal arms importation in the past is responsible for the worsening violence in the country, says Reverend Father Matthew Hassan Kukah.

He made the statement yesterday while delivering a lecture, entitled "The challenge of an emerging democracy: the Nigerian experience", at the executive intelligence management course II of the Institute of Security Studies in Abuja.

Reverend Kukah said that gov-

ernment's inability to disarm those who allegedly imported arms in the country before the last military-civilian transition programme contributed to the problem of the recurrent crisis in the country.

"People were increasingly bringing arms before 1998 and Nigeria did not pay attention to disarming them. We have almost militarized the society," he said.

He further said that when the rule of law is overshadowed by the rule of men, the constitution becomes a casualty.

Father Kukah, who called on

Nigerians to limit their expectations of the political class because of the antecedent of democracy in the country, said that politics requires a certain level of consistency for it to achieve stability.

"Nigerians must limit their expectation because most of those in politics never fought for democracy. Those that were tear-gassed (and) imprisoned are not even partaking in the present politics," he said. He called on politicians to "invest emotionally and psychologically for confidence and trust to be achieved" from the people.

## NBC vs AIT :Court withdraws restraining order

By Atika Balal

AN Abuja Federal High Court yesterday declared that a court order that restrained the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) from revoking or suspending the license of the Daar Communications Plc has elapsed.

The court had in December restrained NBC, the Ministry of Information and Communications and the Attorney General of the Federation (AGF) from revoking, withdrawing or suspending the license of the African Independent Television (AIT), owned by Daar Communications PLC.

However, in the court's session yesterday Justice Adamu Bello said the restraining order has elapsed, but that the court has the powers to reverse any decision by taken by any of the parties.

Counsel to Daar Communications, Paul Usoro (SAN), told the court that

there is a pending interlocutory application before the court which could not be argued due to the absence of the 3rd defendant (AGF), who is yet to be served with a hearing notice.

He asked the court to set aside the interim order and to make a pronouncement that all parties maintain status quo, pending the hearing and determination of the interlocutory injunction.

Although counsel to the 1st and 2nd defendants, Thompson Opoko, argued that such a pronouncement will be unfair on all parties, Justice Bello ordered that fresh hearing notice be served on 3rd defendant.

While converting the originating summons to writ of summons, the judge advised the parties to file and exchange pleadings. The case was adjourned to March 18 for moving the motion of interlocutory injunction and May 6 for hearing the substantive suit.

## 'Human rights bill will improve Nigeria's image'

By Abdulkadir Badsha Mukhtar

THE Executive Secretary National Human Right Commission Roland Ewubare has said the passing of the National Human Right Amendment Bill 2010 by the Senate will improve Nigeria's image globally and strengthen the operation of the commission.

Ewubare, who made the statement shortly after the bill was passed by the Senate yesterday, said passing of the bill shows that the Sen-

ate was a true supporter of human rights and democracy.

He said human right is an essential ingredient of democracy, rule of law, good governance, peace and development and at the same time the ingredient and the aspirations of a modern society.

"The passage of the bill, therefore, will strengthen the operational efficiency of the commission and upgrade the status of Nigeria at the International Coordinating Committee

(ICC) of Human Right Institutions," he added.

He said two years ago Nigeria was stripped of its voting rights and downgraded to "B" status at the ICC due to perceived lack of independence of the NHRC.

The executive secretary called on the House of Representatives to follow the example of the Senate by passing the bill, saying that the task of promoting human right is a collective one that requires the participation of all segments of the society.

## US enjoy meets Iwu over 2011 polls

By Abbas Jimoh

THE visiting United States Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Affairs Johnnie Carson and US Ambassador to Nigeria Robin Sanders yesterday met the Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Professor Maurice Iwu behind closed doors.

Although they released no official statement, it was gathered that the meeting was not unconnected with the nation's preparations for the 2011 general elections. It was reliably gathered that the thrust of their discussion centred on the possibility of the US assisting Nigeria to make elections credible in the country.



### BE INSPIRED

Birmingham City University has an excellent reputation for providing quality teaching and facilities. We have been granted 'Platinum Status' for the provision of the ACCA programmes in the Business School & been ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in the Guardian university league tables for Media Studies courses

Courses include

- MBA and MSc Management
- One year Top Up Business degree programmes
- MSc Accountancy and Finance (Distance learning offered or 6 months Top-up)
- Media Technology and Media & Communications
- LLB & LLM
- Masters in Project Management, Data Networks & Security
- MA Marketing (Distance learning offered)
- Joint Honours Degrees in Accountancy, Advertising, HRM, Marketing, Finance, Business & Management, Economics etc
- Information Technology, Software Engineering, Network Technology & Multimedia
- Property, Construction & Planning

Charles Magee

Birmingham City University - International Regional Manager will conducting interviews  
Followed by ON THE SPOT ADMISSIONS

More information can be obtained from

Ms Ezinne Nwafor - Birmingham City University Nigeria Liaison Officer (Abuja)  
Email: bcu\_abuja@bcie.co.uk  
Tel: 09-460-47-09 Mob: 081-322-828-53

VENUE: BCIE Abuja  
Ground Floor Metro Plaza,  
Plot 991-992 Zakariya Maimalari Street,  
Central Area, Abuja  
Mob: 08066788635  
DATE: Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February TIME: 10am - 5pm

VENUE: BCIE Ikeja  
Valley View Plaza  
99 Opebi Road,  
Ikeja, Lagos  
Mob: 08023379290  
DATE: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February TIME: 11:30am - 5pm

VENUE: BCIE Victoria Island  
Plot 146C Imam Abibu Adetoro Street  
(By Sinafi Daranjo)  
Victoria Island Annex,  
Lagos  
Mob: 08062351535  
DATE: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February TIME: 10am - 4pm

VENUE: BCIE Kano  
Chalet 'E' Tahir Guest Palace (Annex)  
Lamido Road, Off Suleiman Crescent,  
(Behind Niama Hotel)  
Nasarawa G.R.A, Kano  
Mob: 08130743252  
DATE: Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February TIME: 10:30am - 5pm

Please bring your References, Academic Transcripts & Certificates

Birmingham City University Nigeria Liaison Officer:  
Ground Floor Metro Plaza,  
Plot 991-992 Zakariya Maimalari Street,  
Central Area,  
Abuja

www.bcu.ac.uk

# Kogi CJ scores court registrars low

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

THE Chief Judge of Kogi State Justice Nasir Ajanah has said that reports reaching him say most of the state's court registrars discharge their duties poorly.

Justice Ajanah Tuesday at a

workshop for court registrars in Lokoja charged the registrars to shun all forms of corruption and negative tendencies, saying he was surprised that most of them were confrontational, aid and abet truancy, absenteeism and abscondment. According

to the Chief Judge, the moment court registrars give the impression that justice is for sale, the basis for the judiciary as a vital organ of government would be questioned.

He said whatever the registrars do would go a long way to

enhance or tarnish the image of the judiciary. Ajanah urged them to be punctual, transparent and live above board in the discharge of their duties, promising that his administration would strive to ensure better welfare for registrars and the entire staff of the

judiciary.

Ajanah, who said the role of registrars could not be over-emphasised, noted that the workshop was aimed at improving their scope of knowledge to ensure that justice is susceptible to all who come to their courts.

## Rivers to re-deploy civil servants to classrooms

From Muhammad Bello, Port Harcourt

WORKERS in the main stream Rivers State civil service who possess certificates and degrees in education are to be redeployed to classrooms.

This is the outcome of a meeting held Tuesday between Govern-

nor Rotimi Amaechi and the State Joint Public Service Negotiating Council at Government House in Port Harcourt.

Briefing correspondents at the end of the meeting with the workers' leaders, the Head of Service Mrs. Esther Anucha explained that the decision was premised

on dire need for their services in the school system.

"The decision is that those who have education degrees but are in the main stream civil service will be transferred to schools to teach because their services are more required in the school system than in the main stream civil

service", she said.

On the long awaited Christmas bonus for workers, the Head of Service said negotiations are still continuing on the matter.

Mrs. Anucha issue of compulsory deduction from workers' salaries under the National Housing Fund had yet to be concluded.

## FRSC boss to employ dialogue at work

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

THE new Sector Commander, Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) in Sokoto State Malam Aliyu Bawa says he will use less force in the discharge of his assignment and employ dialogue, persuasion and enlightenment to make the people do the right things willingly.

Bawa told newsmen in Sokoto Tuesday that the command would ensure inter-agency co-operation with the police, Vehicle Inspection Officers and other security agencies to sanitize roads in the state. He said the command would soon embark on special patrols to ensure that motorists comply with all traffic rules and regulations. Bawa stressed the need for people to be continuously enlightened on how to drive properly and use the roads.

## Students protest non-payment of allowances

From Muhammad Abubakar, Bauchi

STUDENTS of Bauchi State origin studying in various tertiary institutions across the state Tuesday protested at the state's Agency for Youth and Women Rehabilitation Development (BAYWARD) over payment of their N10, 000 monthly allowances.

Speaking to newsmen on the issue, the students'

leader, Caleb Buba, said the state government had through BAYWARD secured admissions for hundreds of students into some tertiary institutions in the state and promised to pay them the monthly allowances.

"But we were only paid once, that was in October, 2009. There were over 50 of us in Federal Polytechnic, Bauchi, over 100 in ATBU and 250 at the Tatarsi Ali Polytechnic,

Bauchi. Now because these allowances were stopped, some of us from poor backgrounds can no longer continue in schools", he said.

But reacting to the students' grievances, the Director General of BAYWARD Professor Musa Maisamari said the students misunderstood that the allowances were meant only for them to survive.

He said government had identified over 1,000 youths

who had one obstacle or the other in continuing their education and provided them the assistance to return school.

"Government spent an average of N20, 000-N40, 000 for the registration of those who got admission. The N10, 000 allowance was meant to assist them stand on their feet. It is a privilege and not a salary. They mistook the programme. We can only now pay the next batch", he said.

## ...seek reversal of transfer for commissioner

From Sadeeq Aliyu, Gusau

THE National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS) has faulted the recent redeployment of the principal of Unity School Kotorkoshi in the person of Hajiya Hauwau Kulu Nala and we are not going to sit idle when education is being put in jeopardy", the NANS statement said. The

Association said education was collapsing in Zamfara State, both in form and content as a result of the irresponsibility of those charged with overseeing it. NANS alleged that diversion of food items meant for schools, illegal registration of external students and inflating the number of students enjoying scholarship make Zamfara State to lose N3.5 billion annually. ignores their advice.

"NANS has carefully observed the controversies that have been following the suspension and subsequent redeployment of the principal of Unity School Kotorkoshi in the person of Hajiya Hauwau Kulu Nala and we are not going to sit idle when education is being put in jeopardy", the NANS statement said. The Association said education was collapsing in Zamfara State, both in form and content as a result of the irresponsibility of those charged with overseeing it. NANS alleged that diversion of food items meant for schools, illegal registration of external students and inflating the number of students enjoying scholarship make Zamfara State to lose N3.5 billion annually. ignores their advice.

NANS has carefully observed the controversies that have been following the suspension and subsequent redeployment of the principal of Unity School Kotorkoshi in the person of Hajiya Hauwau Kulu Nala and we are not going to sit idle when education is being put in jeopardy.

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR POLICY RESEARCH SPECIALISTS TO SUPPORT NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION STRATEGY AND PLAN OF ACTION PROJECT'S FIVE MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS SECTORAL WORKING GROUPS

#### BACKGROUND

Plans are underway to develop an evidence-based National Adaptation Strategy and Plan of Action (NASPA) for Nigeria through a collaborative effort between civil society groups and the Special Climate Change Unit (SCCU), Federal Ministry of Environment. The policy initiative is being embarked upon using a relevant and broadly owned multi-stakeholder participatory process. It will identify a framework and priority activities that respond to Nigeria's urgent and immediate needs with regards to climate change.

In pursuance of this goal and to ensure that the project outcome effectively addresses climate change concerns on policy issues, the project is initiating policy research activities to support five Multi-stakeholders Sectoral Working Groups in their data collection, analysis and synthesis of data. This work is being undertaken to fulfill their mandate, which is to iteratively develop adaptation vulnerability assessments and prepare a draft strategy for the sector.

Consequently the project is seeking the services of Policy Research Specialists for each of the five sectoral Working Groups of NASPA to undertake broad and specific policy research and consultancy for the specified sectors. The Working Group sectoral areas are as follows:

- (1) Infrastructure including energy, transportation, communication, water resources, human settlements, industry and commerce.
- (2) Natural Resources including coastal resources, fisheries, forestry, biodiversity, and wildlife.
- (3) Agriculture including crops, livestock and food security.
- (4) Cross-Sectoral including finance, security, migration, rural livelihoods, urban livelihoods, youth, gender, disaster and media.
- (5) Health and Sanitation including human health, vector-borne diseases, water resources, waste water, domestic, municipal and industrial wastes.

The key objective of the Policy research fundamentally involves undertaking a broad-based research work to identify and critically examine current and emerging policy frameworks related to Climate Change adaptation, with a view to providing issue-centred and significant reports relevant to the distinct sectoral Working Groups for the development of National Adaptation Strategy and Plan of Action for Nigeria. This Policy Research will assist the Working Groups as they undertake sector level participatory assessments of vulnerability and develop sectoral adaptation strategies and measures for governments, civil society, and the private sector.

#### TERMS OF REFERENCE

##### Criteria for the Consultancy

- We are seeking individuals (not corporate bodies) who meet the following criteria:
- (a) Evidence of in-depth knowledge of climate change adaptation strategies and other related issues.
  - (b) Evidence of deep understanding of policy framework, processes and initiatives in the sector in which the candidate has expressed interest, particularly with regards to climate change adaptation.
  - (c) Evidence of relevant knowledge and evidence of capacity to undertake multi-faceted research of this nature in the sector of interest.
  - (d) Evidence of previous and current relevant research work successfully carried out, and
  - (e) A minimum of a Master's Degree Academic Qualification in a relevant field from a recognised University.

#### Work Description

The Policy Research Specialist is a consultancy position. Each of the five successful candidates will be attached to one of the above-mentioned sectoral Working Groups with the purpose of helping the Working Group achieve its objectives.

Selected policy research specialists will be expected to undertake the following work:

- (a) Identify and analyse current and emerging policy frameworks, issues and initiatives for climate change adaptation relevant to the sector under study.
- (b) Identify and assess the key processes, institutions and agencies involved in the policy framework of the relevant sector, including Federal, State, and local governments and their responsibilities, policies, programs, and initiatives.
- (c) Name other variables and stakeholders evident in the process, analysing the roles each plays in the policy framework process including community, civil society and private sector and their responsibilities, policies, programs, and initiatives.
- (d) Identify gaps, limitations and barriers in the processes and the policy frameworks and how these gaps and barriers can be mitigated.
- (e) Review and synthesis of current and recent Nigerian research relating to vulnerability and adaptation to climate change including a review of relevant literature and reports.
- (f) State the impacts of the policies on climate change adaptation: opportunities and prospects that may reasonably be derived from climate change adaptation policies.
- (g) Provide selective examples of model policy frameworks leading to a concise framework representing the best approach to integrating adaptation strategies into the policy framework and development agenda for the sector, and
- (h) Identify and analyse the policy process and key institutions/influences for integration of climate change adaptation, including stakeholder analysis and review of developmental processes, institutional responsibilities, and lessons learned from previous integration efforts.

#### Work plan and Timeline

The duration of the policy research is seven weeks beginning from the date of engagement and will follow the following sequence:

- (1) First Three Weeks: Meeting with Working Group members and collecting relevant data
- (2) Fourth and Fifth Week: Collation and analysis of data
- (3) Sixth Week: Draft Report
- (4) Seventh Week: Meeting with Working Group members to present and discuss draft report and final report

#### Remuneration

Successful candidates will be adequately remunerated to cover the cost of undertaking the research work.

#### How to Apply

If you know that you meet the five criteria specified above, kindly download our Expression of Interest Form from our website: [www.naspanigeria.org](http://www.naspanigeria.org) and fill. Send it as an attachment to the project email: [naspa\\_nigeria@yahoo.com](mailto:naspa_nigeria@yahoo.com) using the sector of interest as subject of the email. In addition, send in your application in hard copy providing a brief statement of your suitability for the research work; proofs of relevant research work carried out and evidence of deep understanding of linkages between policy issues and climate change adaptation strategies to the Project Co-ordinator, National Adaptation Strategy and Plan of Action Secretariat, Special Climate Unit Office, 7 Titin Bura Street, off Jiminy Carter Street, Asokota, Abuja on or before Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> of February, 2010.

# Online Reactions

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



## Northern govts yet to redeem pledges to Sarduna Foundation

WELL, what do you expect? These are the same people that went to Abuja and pledged to

renovate the National Mosque during the Obasanjo era. While Peter Odili, the then Govern-

nor of Rivers State was able to redeem his pledge, none of the northern governors, especially

those from the "core north" was able to do so. It is quite unfortunate and dis-

heartening, to say the least.  
**Mohammed Bukar**  
[bkulus@yahoo.com](mailto:bkulus@yahoo.com)

## Jonathan takes charge



**ACTING President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan**

I pray that Nigeria now witnesses significant improvement in all fields.

**Muhammad Lawal**  
[dmalan@dmalan.co.cc](mailto:dmalan@dmalan.co.cc)

Nigerian Constitutional lawyers, what have you to say? Doesn't the action of the legislature contravene the said, section 145. Jonathan only mentioned Vision 20-2020, but not the 7-point agenda, was it deliberate?

**Sanusi ibn Abdallah**  
[Sanusisajo@gmail.com](mailto:Sanusisajo@gmail.com)

Wonders shall never end in this country. It took the National Assembly 25 days to know that Yar'adua has formally transmit-

ted transfer of power through an interview with the BBC. Michael Aondoakaa, why are you silent? We need another interpretation.

**Engr Dauda Ibrahim**  
[kashimdauda@yahoo.com](mailto:kashimdauda@yahoo.com)

May Almighty Allah help you to carry out the duties appropriately. I also pray for Yar'adua's recovery

**Hajara**  
[hjeerah@yahoo.com](mailto:hjeerah@yahoo.com)

I wish the president quickest recovery and I hope this will serve as an opportunity for the vice president to continue the good work started by the president. I also pray that he looks into the recent Jos cri-

sis and bring those responsible to book. The backbone of every great nation is good leadership. We hope that you set an example, sir.

**Abdulkadir S.Daura**  
[dauraas@hotmail.com](mailto:dauraas@hotmail.com)

So, who will now be the acting vice president and perform the duties of that office?

**Ahmed Adamu**  
[agadamu\\_2004@yahoo.com](mailto:agadamu_2004@yahoo.com)

We thank God for his intervention in the country's political impasse. Now, everything should be put to rest and let us pray that God guides the vice president to justify the confidence reposed in him.

We also wish President Yar'adua a speedy recovery so that he can come back and continue with the good work he started.

**Mukhtar Musa**  
[elmukhtar\\_musa@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:elmukhtar_musa@yahoo.co.uk)

It is a good development. Nigeria now has a focus. Since the president is not available, let someone act. Let us join hands to move our country forward. We pray for President Yar'adua's quick recovery

**Aminu Dakata**  
[aminudakata@gmail.com](mailto:aminudakata@gmail.com)

Mr. Acting President, this is not the time to fear. Nigerians will support and pray for you, if you tackle our problems, like power failure and corruption. Wishing Presi-

dent Yar'adua a quick recovery.

**Arasheed Makarfi**  
[arasheedng2003@yahoo.com](mailto:arasheedng2003@yahoo.com)

This event has strengthened my belief in our collective power, as Nigerians, not as a geopolitical zone or religious group. It has also helped in strengthening our Constitution because the Constitution is only strong when it has been tested. In all, let us all resolve to build a better, dignified, proud, functional and effective Nigeria.

**Eze Moses Idika**  
[maziidika@yahoo.com](mailto:maziidika@yahoo.com)

We are grateful to Allah for what he has done. We as a country need to support the vice president as he takes charge of the affairs of our great nation. I pray that Allah grants him the wisdom to lead us right. I also wish our president a quick recovery.

**Ighodalo Dialo**  
[osas2free@yahoo.com](mailto:osas2free@yahoo.com)

As the acting president said, "There can be no meaningful development without peace and security." I strongly believe this, because for a nation to develop, there must be peace and unity. I pray to God for the quick recovery of our ailing president and wish the acting president well in all his endeavours.

**Aminu A. Yakasai**  
[aminu336@yahoo.com](mailto:aminu336@yahoo.com)



**PLATEAU State Governor Jonah Jang**

## Trust's columnists and the Jos crises

MR Daniel, I must personally commend you for this wonderful piece of writing. It is actually shameful, the way the press, politicians and some religious and tribal leaders are handling this crisis. Last week, I had to text Mahmud Jega for his unbiased column and some of the recommendations he made. I also hope that all the committees set up will look into his recommendations. It is really important for journalists to be as objective as possible. Religious issues are very sensitive and should be handled with care, especially by the press. We, with one voice condemn what happened in Jos. Let us play an active role in making sure that this does not happen again.

**Hussaini Kwari**  
[kwaron2003@yahoo.com](mailto:kwaron2003@yahoo.com)

Believe it or not, the recent Jos crisis was purely religious. The barbaric attack in Kuru, Bukuru, Du was a clear example of genocide.

**Ahmed Alabba**  
[ahmedalabba@rocketmail.com](mailto:ahmedalabba@rocketmail.com)

Finally, someone has pointed out the obvious.

**Bello**  
[datono@hotmail.com](mailto:datono@hotmail.com)

Most Nigerians know the problem with Jos - those behind the crises were never brought to book.

**Burhan Sanusi**  
[burhamu@yahoo.com](mailto:burhamu@yahoo.com)

I am actually surprised that the Editor published this article that sounds contrary to the pro Hausa/Fulani Muslim agenda and propaganda of this paper. Anyway, I agree with you in totality and congratulate you for calling a spade by its name. Kudos. We need men like you.

**Musa Gwamna**  
[mgwamna@yahoo.com](mailto:mgwamna@yahoo.com)

## How National Assembly made him Acting President

THE National Assembly has taken this bold step to salvage our democracy. The president refused to obey the Constitution, despite claiming to be a lover of the Rule of Law. But the question is, Do we have to wait for him to recover since the transmission of a letter is a discretionary power? No, that would be dangerous. What the National Assembly has done is in line with their Constitutional role of promoting good governance.

**Yusuf Liman**  
[yusuf2000@yahoo.com](mailto:yusuf2000@yahoo.com)

The National Assembly

empowered the vice president to exercise presidential powers, citing the BBC interview as the long-awaited transmission.

That interview was packaged by Yar'adua's men with three objectives in mind, one, to buy time, two, to show that the man is not dead as widely rumoured and thirdly, to frustrate the agitation for Jonathan to act as president.

**Pita**  
[justpita@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:justpita@yahoo.co.uk)

I would like to use this opportunity to advice Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to carry on

with the 7 point agenda.

This also gives him an opportunity to prove himself as a dedicated, God fearing achiever. Wishing him the very best.

**Mudasiru mana**  
[manamanaboko@yahoo.com](mailto:manamanaboko@yahoo.com)

What kind of country are we leaving in, why cant the law makers force the Federal Executive Council to do what they are supposed to do? It is not enough for them to say Yar'adua communicated to them via the BBC. It is unethical. By the way, he did not mention any of their names and we are not in an



**SENATE President David Mark**

abstract world. I want the Constitution to be followed, not to be violated, especially by law makers.

**Usman Ahmed Danbaba**  
[danbaba1986@yahoo.com](mailto:danbaba1986@yahoo.com)

## Plateau fingers Bauchi in crises

WELL, what the Bauchi lawmakers did is in order, because everyone in Nigeria knows that the Plateau crisis is neither religious nor ethnic. I am using this opportunity to appeal to other states to send

Plateau citizens back to their states.

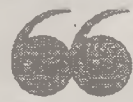
**Disoo**  
[disoo79@yahoo.com](mailto:disoo79@yahoo.com)

Can the commissioner tell us those who commit crimes in Jos

and run to Bauchi for safety? Does he know that over a thousand families have left Plateau due to threat and attacks on their lives and property? What has the Plateau State government done to help

displaced persons now in various camps in Bauchi State? In fact, the Plateau govt should thank Bauchi for being a good neighbour.

**Muhammad Lawal**  
[lawalishaq\\_66@yahoo.com](mailto:lawalishaq_66@yahoo.com)



By Yakubu Ahmed BK

## Boko Haram executioners are candidates for The Hague

I live in Maiduguri and per chance, my house is just a stone throw or what some will call a shouting distance from what used to be the *Boko Haram* enclave. I bore the brunt of the *Boko Haram* members as they made the back of my house their major route to and from the Marakas, the abode and mosque where the late Muhammad Yusuf held sway. I fled with my family and I took along with me a Christian neighbour who had in tow a family of six grownups. While the staccato of gunshots lasted between the *Boko Haram* elements and security agents, we holed up in the residence of a magnanimous and understanding family friend somewhere in the secluded reservation areas in the outskirts of Maiduguri. Even when the shots rang as near as our fright could smell it, we knew inside us that we were as safe as it could get. Two days into the pogrom, a report reached us that thieves had broken into some houses in our area and the man in me prodded me to take the risk of checking to see whether I was a victim and against all entreaties of my benefactor friend, I zoomed out and drove straight, passing by columns of well armed soldiers who looked anything but friendly but who none-

“Even when the shots rang as near as our fright could smell it, we knew inside us that we were as safe as it could get”

theless urged me on, through human bloated bodies that dotted the road. They gave me the all-clear sign that I needed to drive on.

I counted about 16 of such bodies; all of them gunshot victims as I drove in between them avoiding driving on them by whiskers. That way I safely reached home amidst continuing shots that I could hear vividly but was completely at sea as to the direction they were coming from. True, many houses had been broken into but somehow mine was spared. I made an immediate U-turn, scared out of my wits as my pigheadedness and foolhardiness sunk in. I made it back in one piece.

Despite my physical closeness to it, yet I never imagined that what I watched on *Al Jazeera* television network a couple of days back, had in reality taken place. Of course, a number of footages of a few executions have been bandied about amongst friends but none was as explicit, as stunning, as repulsive, as senseless, and as unbelievable as the genocide which the police perpetrated and which they foolishly allowed to be filmed as if they were on an expedition. The glee and the backslaps were unmistakable. The faces of the complicit mobile policemen as they ordered their victims to lie face-down, and the accompanying shots at point-blank were all as visible as day; no doubt at all.

I shed tears not because those killed were not guilty of acts of irresponsibility; in fact I have been told by a night watchman of how a policeman was slaughtered right before his eyes. I shed tears because I could not come to terms with the way and manner underage children were summarily executed...on TV akin to what we are fed with in violent American movies. I also saw what I thought was a tale told by idlers and rumour mongers, that some members of the *Boko Haram* who were victims of gun fire during an altercation with security men weeks earlier and who were recuperating in a hospital were whisked away in their pains and executed...also on TV as shown by *Al Jazeera*. In all these, the perpetrators were clearly seen, also on TV as they took turns to kill people, who could be deserving of death alright but who regardless, had rights to be tried in courts as was done to Saddam Hussein and Chemical Ali. How come life became so cheap? How come the police allowed itself to be angered beyond reasoning as to commit murder in the most despicable manner? When did our police become lawless and criminally reckless? Who gave the orders? Was it true that the collaboration to mass murder anybody with the faintest inkling of *Boko Haram* appearance was taken at the highest level?

This is genocide, from whatever angle one looks at it. It may escape retribution in our kind of clime and with time, it may even be forgotten all together, never to be talked about again, buried in the abyss of collusion and edged out of our memory. It has all been forgotten until the *Al Jazeera* exposé, which revived our memory and assaulted us as we literally acquiesced, albeit subconsciously, but all the same as guilty as the perpetrators, if not in abetting the act, but in our complicit and cowardly silence. At the end of it all, some people must answer questions and if anybody is guilty either of dereliction of duty, ordering the killings or pulling the trigger, that person or persons must face the music, if not here in Nigeria because it is not in our character, then at the Hague where animals in human clothing have a place where they can be kept, to face the law and get justice. Otherwise we run the risk of emboldening them to act arbitrarily, outside the law; as they have often been accused of taking sides restoring order in internal strife. There is no flashpoint in this country where they were called to restore order without leaving on their trail allegations of taking sides according to their fantasies, whims and sentiments.

Now is the time to investigate it all, through warrants, by international prosecutors to unearth what had been hidden, so as to stop it from happening again; and to purge our police force of such elements that are needlessly trigger-happy at the slightest prompting.

Ahmed wrote from 114 Kashim Ibrahim Road Maiduguri (beekayyaks@gmail.com)



By Fidelis Nnadi

## Challenges and implementation of road traffic laws in Nigeria (II)

Cont'd from Tuesday.

This trend led to the establishment of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) by decree 45 of 1988 as amended by decree 35 of 1992 jointly cited as Cap 141 of 1988. The law establishing the FRSC provides that the commission shall execute the functions provided in its enabling Act.

The FRSC, in spite of the functions stated in the Act establishing it which are obviously in conflict with the constitutional powers of States/FCT, consequently culminating in overlapping of functions and outright usurpation of States/FCT duties. This has resulted in defective management of safety of lives on public roads and highways, huge loss of Revenue to the States/FCT, revenue that could be utilized to promote safety of lives of road users. The situation has equally generated into multiple taxation and general confusion by the public as to who does what in Road Traffic Management and Control.

It is also pertinent to inform that there is a contradiction in the provisions of Cap 141 of 1988 which empowers the FRSC to operate on all public Highways and item 63 of the Exclusive Legislative List of the 1999 constitution which limits the Federal Government and its Agencies (FRSC inclusive) in Road Traffic duties to Federal Trunk Roads only.

There are conflicts in the provisions of cap 548 as amended, which is the National Road Traffic Act from which the various States/FCT derive their Road Traffic Regulations, and Cap 141 of FRSC and the 1999 constitution.

### MAJOR AREAS OF CONFLICTS BETWEEN FRSC AND VIO

- Collection of States/FCT Revenue on Road Taxation/Levies by FRSC
- Production and issuance of Drivers Licenses by FRSC
- Production and sale of Motor Vehicle Registration/identification number plates by FRSC

d. Self appointment as Central Registrar/Principal Licensing Officer of the Federation by FRSC.

e. Assumption of powers to make Regulations for States/FCT by FRSC

f. Technical Examination of Vehicles, amongst others.

A situation where the States/FCT Agencies charged with the responsibilities of Motor Vehicle Administration and Traffic Management/Control is in daily conflict with a Federal Agency (Federal Road Safety Commission) operating on roads within the States/FCT jurisdiction as against the FRSC enabling Act which direct that it should operate on Federal Trunk A highways is obviously conflicting.

By the provision of Decree 21 of 1988, Road Taxes/Levies are States earnings but the FRSC have taken over and raking revenues from states/FCT roads through the imposition of fines and charges on road traffic administration. This has caused the present non performance of States road traffic directorates thereby crippling road traffic accident prevention and enforcement efforts in these States.

The case of Lagos State and the FRSC is a point of reference where Lagos State Government, in compliance to its Road traffic regulations, commenced production and issuance of driver's license but was resisted by the FRSC.

It will be necessary to state here that some States Ministry of Justice and its Attorney Generals are yet to embrace the general demand for State Governments to commence implementing their respective road traffic regulations towards tackling the carnage of road traffic accidents.

If the present unprecedented killing of innocent road users through road traffic accident is anything to be reckoned with, the Federal and State Governments should without delay address the situation.

Concluded.

Nnadi is Executive Director, Accident Prevention and Rescue Initiative.

## Online propaganda and social media

By Yushau A. Shuaib

Cont'd from yesterday.

Only information controlled by America is free information, only news acknowledged by America is free news, only speech approved by America is free speech, and only information flow that suits American interests is free information flow.

In the fear that the social media seems to be going out of control, some actions are being taken in some societies to deny access to selected websites. Some countries like China have blocked access to some websites; these include the popular YouTube, Twitter and Facebook to control so-called cultural imperialism.

At individual level, a company in United States has developed software that can permanently kill access to the social websites at the click of the button. The company sees its innovation as a relief and rehabilitation for addicts who want to detach the excessive addiction to the technology. The killer software called Web 2.0 Suicide Machine is an ingenious package that sluices online presence permanently

from social networks. The service has received massive subscription to the disadvantage of favourite social websites.

The question is why should internet users and the general public becoming wary of social media? The technology is yet to have moral standard and code of ethic. It is not easily controlled or regulated as some anonymous users have notoriety of wrecking havoc before speedy actions and authentication are made.

While scholars in communication and Public Relations (PR) continue to extol the virtue of social media as an undoubted tool for effective communication and human development, it requires some levels of control against criminal tendencies, untoward behaviours and manipulation by some users towards a saner global community. For now we may welcome the online propaganda than physical combatants by parties in disputes.

Concluded.

Shuaib wrote from University of Westminster, Harrow Campus (yashuaib@yashuaib.com)



## Your Letters

### Revisiting the Boko Haram extrajudicial killings

Since the unfortunate boko haram crises, many people had condemned the ignoble role of our security forces for their penchant in reprisal killings and use of excessive force coupled with the impunity they enjoy, which emboldens them to commit serious crimes without fear of being held to account. This

is really unfortunate.

Recently, some provoking video clips are shown through Aljazeera, which compelled me to write and remind the acting president, Dr Goodluck Jonathan, to order for the report of the commission that was set up to investigate the extra-judicial killings that took place during the boko haram and of course Jos crisis. I believe human life is sacred especially under democratic setting.

The case of Late Baba Fugu Muhammad is a clear example of extra judicial killing. He was a

father in law to late Ustaz Muhammad Yusuf, the leader of the dreaded boko haram group. His family said he went to the police station to help police restore order but was later found shot dead by the same police. Even Muhammad Yusuf was arrested alive and handed over to the police by the military but few hours later his bullet-riddled body was released. Why for God's sake?

**Ahmad Rasheed Makarfi, C3, Tudun Wada Makarfi, Kaduna State arasheedng2003@yahoo.com**

## Text us on 08 131 8000 30

### Speaking my mind

GOD bless Wednesday's Guest Columnist, George Onmonya Daniel. Trust's columnists need to wake up, stop being fanatical and biased.

08028735117.

### ...Mine too

I commend George Daniel for his candid observation. The cabal should be informed that the Jos crises began before Jang's tenure.

MSHELBWALA, Maiduguri, 08028683714.

### ...On the contrary

MR. George Daniel is clueless. If you don't know that, then shut up! So what's a Muslim in Pankshin fighting for?

08037032983.

### Good thinking, Senate

AT long last, the best decision

has been taken by giving the VP power to act on behalf of Mr. President; Nigeria is too big to be held to ransom. I wish the 2010 appropriation will be given utmost attention now.

**IBRAHIM Umar, Bida, Niger State, 08037531703.**

### But something's fishy here

WHEN the National Assembly makes the vice president acting President and within hours he addresses the nation, there's too much water under the bridge.

**KYUKA Roger, Makurdi, 08082269257.**

### Yes, it's called imposition

HABA senators! Now that you have imposed Jonathan on us, come 2011 Nigerian electorate will dispense with you.

**AMINU G. Koko, Abuja, 08035099725.**

### Why, why, why?

I couldn't believe what I saw on Aljazeera TV happened in Nigeria. What horrific crimes have those poor souls labelled as boko haram committed to deserve that kind of extra-judicial death? There can be no peace in a country where humans are killed like animals.

**SABO A. Shehu, Kaduna, 07039107332.**

### Take note

DAILY Trust your stories on international affairs have one serious shortcoming. It is skewed against Israel. Some of your essayists are so biased and embedded in the past that they are unaware that the Hebrews and the Arabs are inching towards rapprochement.

**REMY, Lagos, 08065300351.**



By Adamu M Fika

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

Cont'd from yesterday.

#### Schedule III

Actual provincial revenue contributions to the central fund 1939-40 to 1947-48

YEAR	NORTHERN	EASTERN	WESTERN	TOTAL
1939-40	581,410	127,940	119,260	828,610
1940-41	597,000	123,300	120,100	840,400
1941-42	600,500	123,500	12,800	736,800
1942-43	620,000	124,000	130,050	874,050
1943-44	619,500	114,380	114,640	848,520
1944-45	595,740	114,140	121,210	831,090
1945-46	590,738	107,092	120,779	818,609
1946-47	364,620	109,760	49,220	523,600
1947-48	313,520	110,770	36,910	461,200
	4,883,028	1,054,882	824,969	6,762,879

In 1946 the constitution was extensively reviewed, providing for three regional councils as intermediary bodies between the central Government and the Native Administrations. Under the new constitution the centre devolved functions to the councils. Sir Sydney Phillipson was appointed sole fiscal commissioner to recommend formula and procedure for allocating revenue for purposes to Regional Councils. Phillipson recommended the adoption of the derivation principle to the fullest extent possible.

However, he noted that, since it is out of question that the inauguration of the new constitution should be marked by an enforced reduction of expenditure on regional purposes in any particular region, there must be an interim period during which the allocation of available revenue to Regions should be made with reference to the existing level of expenditure for regional purposes therein but "with gradually increasing approximation year by year to bring about a state of things in which the contributions made by each Region is proportional to the regional level of expenditure."

On the basis of this principle, the expenditure estimates for any year would be based on the most reliable previous expenditure figures available at the time of the preparation of the estimates plus per cent for expansion. The figures arrived at were to be compared with proposed revenue allocation to each region. If the revenue for any region was found to be less than the proposed expenditure while the revenue in any other region exceeded proposed expenditure for that region, the surplus was to be transferred to the revenue of the region with deficit.

For the year 1947-48, the revised estimates for 1946-47 were used. On the revenue side, the proceeds of regionally collected revenue were £604,688 for the Northern Region, £157,747 for the Western Region and £242,213 for the Eastern Region. The amount available for regional allocation from centrally collected revenues was £2,788,766 giving total revenue to the Regions of £1,887,065 for Northern Region, £994,080 for Western Region and £911,129 for Eastern Region. The estimated regional expenditure estimates were £1,190,775 for the Northern Region, £880,078 for the Western Region and £1,278,081 for the Eastern Region.

Comparing respective regional revenues with expenditures, the revenue estimates for Northern and Western Regions exceeded their respective expenditure estimates by £696,290 and £106,002 respectively, while the revenue estimate for the Eastern Region fell short of its expenditure by £366,802. In order to ensure that there was no reduction in the level of services of the Eastern Region, parts of the two surpluses were utilised to wipe off the deficit of the Eastern Region. The two excesses exceeded the shortfall by £345,490, which was just about the amount needed for the Public Works Extra-ordinary (capital works) of all Regions. The Regional figure for the capital works were £178,640 for the Northern Region, £130,050 for the Western Region and £126,710 for the Eastern Region.

Put briefly, this meant that Northern Region contributed in effect a total of £517,650 to the Government expenditure on regional purposes in other regions: £24,048 to the Public Works Extra-Ordinary of Western Region, £126,719 for Public Works Extra-Ordinary Programme of the Eastern Region and £366,892 to the general regional purposes of the Eastern Region.

To be cont'd.

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

## DAILY TRUST

## EDITORIAL

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

## Repeal the Borno severance package law

The Borno State House of Assembly, in wanton show of immodesty, recently approved legislation giving effect of the most ostentatious welfare package ever given to any public official getting set to leave public office. It applies to the governor of the state. The package which becomes effective with the current governor when he leaves office at the end of May 2011 includes among other things, a house built and furnished to taste from public purse. This would be his retirement home; two brand new cars with drivers; cooks, stewards and gardeners. In addition, the governor is to be entitled to an annual vacation, with the option to either spend it in Nigeria or abroad with members of his immediate family at state expense; he and members of his family are also entitled to publicly-paid medical treatment at home or abroad all at tax-payers' expense. Each of these perks remains for as long as the governor is alive. It does not end there; the governor's deputy is entitled either to half of the same package or, in some circumstances, similar package till death.

While no one supports that public officers should retire to penury and squalor, this overgenerous offer for a state with no solid and reliable internal revenue base is so unreasonable, it borders on the obscene; it is uncalled for, more so as the state in question is considered as poor in virtually all human development indices.

The second is the glee and speed with which the state's legislators hurriedly rubber-stamped the bill into law, patting themselves on the back for doing so. The entire process reeks of you-rub-my-back-I-rub-yours mentality that is usually associated with governors who strive to bend the will of their parliaments to do their biddings, which may not be in consonance with the mood of their constituencies, or even mandates. It is almost certain that in the Borno State case, a quid pro quo had been struck by which members of the state assembly would also probably be splashed with generous retirement benefits, and extend same perks to members of the state executive council. The loser in all this is usually the electorate, the voter whose life has hardly witnessed any change for the better over the years.

There is a tendency that should this law stand, and we are canvassing that it should not, it may become the model for other states to copy. Its implementation calls for serious soul-searching among the proponents. What have they done for their people? Leadership is a call to serve the people, and not an invitation to loot the people's wealth. We call on the Revenue Mobilisation and Fiscal Allocation Commission (RMFAC) to make a public pronouncement on this very important issue. As the statutory body saddled with the responsibility of setting the salaries and emoluments of public officers, it should declare the position of the law on this matter before it becomes another yoke on the people. We recall that in the recent past, a number of states have enacted similar laws and in the specific case of Gombe, RMFAC has challenged the issue and the matter is in the courts. A similar actio should be taken in the case of Borno state.

Borno state does not make any serious revenue from any other source other than federal allocation. From what source would the state fund such bloated package which, under the new law, is in addition to entitlements from the statutory pension scheme for public officers? We believe that there are more pressing challenges which the average Borno citizen would like the state's allocation used for more than paying for the peccadilloes of its former governors. The Borno House of Assembly should have a rethink on this, and act boldly; it should repeal the law.

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

e-mail: [opinion@dailytrust.com](mailto:opinion@dailytrust.com)

## Coalition against Jos genocide

### Civil Society Watch

By Hajiya Bilkisu (mni)

The Federation of Muslim Women's Associations in Nigeria FOMWAN sent messages to members of its numerous affiliate groups inviting them to join the protest march on the genocide in Jos. At 10 o'clock when they were heading to the assembly there were only 120 women but an hour later when they were asked to enter the National Assembly building the number had swelled to one thousand and fifteen women. The senate was in session and none of the Committee rooms could accommodate them. The women came from various groups within the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja and the neighbouring states of Plateau, Nasarawa, Kaduna and Kogi. Among them were Ansar-udeen Society, Women In Da'awah, Movement for Islamic Culture and Awareness MICA, NASFAT Women's Wing, Muslim Sisters Organisation MSO, Muslim students Association (MSS), Muslim Corpers Association of Nigeria (MCAN) etc They were led by the FOMWAN National Amirah (President) Hajiya Maryam Idris Othman and were received by the Senate President David Mark and his colleagues. In a statement read by the Amirah, she told the Senators that 'Muslim women condemn in strong terms the repeated violence against the citizens of this country and call on the Federal Government to enforce the freedom of citizens to reside in any part of Nigeria without fear of persecution as enshrined in the constitution.'

The women also demanded as follow: That the perpetrators of the carnage be identified and punished, reports of panels established to investigate earlier crises should be made public and the recommendations made therein implemented, payment of compensation to those who lost their homes and property, the source of small arms and ammunition should be identified and inflow controlled, leaders such as governors who are the Chief Security Officers of their states should also be held responsible for actions that happen during their tenure. In his response, the Senate President commended the women for their patience and orderliness. He assured them that their demands will be considered and action will be taken.

After the presentation, I interviewed Hajiya Hadiza Gambo Hawaza one of the leaders of Muslim women from Jos who organized relief work in the troubled community. On the cause of the crisis, she said 'it began on Sunday and at first we heard rumours that there was fighting. Before we could confirm what was happening, a wounded man was brought to the Jamatu Nasirul Islam (JNI) office; he later died. Then Alhaji Kabiru of Dutse Uku came and told us how the fighting began. He said he was prevented from reconstructing his house which was destroyed in the previous crises by some Birom youth

who attacked him and fighting ensued. The news went round and the Birom capitalised on it, mobilised and started attacking the Hausa. When the crisis reached its peak, a curfew was declared but destruction still continued during the curfew! We had so many casualties. At one time we had 70 corpses in front of JNI office and by the time the carnage subsided we buried over 300 people! Others were buried where they were killed. When soldiers were deployed we started moving to areas where we could not enter before due to the gory

they were reported to have taken sides and people in uniform participated in the killing and looting. We recommend that the security lapses in Plateau state should be addressed and checking the proliferation of small arms.'

The FOMWAN led protest seemed to have galvanized the civil society organisations into action. Thirty five NGOs drawn nation wide from human rights and pro democracy groups, gender and women's rights organisations, concerned professional bodies, children's rights promotion groups collaborated and issued a joint statement and a press release titled *35 Nigerian NGOs call for ICC investigations into Jos crisis*. The groups want the International Criminal Court to take up the investigations into the genocide in Jos. The NGOs observed that "the Nigerian gov-

In Kuru, the village was razed to the ground and all the Hausa and Muslims were killed

way people were being killed in areas like the 15 mining camps where Hausa are a minority but have lived peacefully for 120 years with the Birom. In Kuru, the village was razed to the ground and all the Hausa and Muslims were killed. We could not recover all the bodies because they were dumped in 15 wells, others were dumped in cesspool (toilet soak away). I wept when I counted 80 children from age two months to five years who were killed. Their heads were smashed, throats cut and body slashed or cut into pieces. I entered a room in Kuru where three women were burnt and in another we were able to rescue a child from the back of his mother who had been set ablaze. The child is receiving treatment for third degree burns. The same sadistic method of killing was repeated in Gyero and it was heart rending to enter the town. The murderers severed the heads of their victims from their bodies and fixed it on sticks which they displayed outside the town.'

I asked Hajiya Hadiza being a relief worker and conflict mediator what to do. She said 'We have documented all these cases. We want our people resettled elsewhere because it will be suicidal to return to all those settlements where they are surrounded by Birom and where they have been massacred in such huge numbers and heinous manner. We demand full investigation and recommend that the sites of this genocide be declared as memorial area and converted to a peace village. Plateau State Government should compensate all those who suffered losses in the crises. Governor Jonah Jang should be indicted for all his act of commission and omission that led to the genocide. We also want the partisan role of the police to be investigated as

government is failing in its duty to protect its own citizens from violence. This failure extends to complete impunity for the perpetrators of similar crimes in previous outbreaks of violence in Jos and a lack of serious efforts to address the underlying causes of tension between different communities living in the city.' To end the cycles of violence in Jos, the groups urge Nigeria's government to "promptly investigate, prosecute and punish those responsible for the crimes and disclose the reports, findings and recommendations of the commissions of inquiry into successive crises in Jos." In addition, given the scale of the crimes alleged and the fact that Nigeria is party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, "it is also necessary to determine whether crimes were committed which fall within the purview of the International Criminal Court." The groups plan to complement the process of official investigation by constituting and deploying an independent investigative team to Jos.

They will also transmit appropriate communications to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court; Chairperson of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights; and Chairperson of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child requesting "independent multilateral investigation of the crimes committed in Jos or assistance to the Nigerian government in undertaking such investigation." Meanwhile some of the victims have set up a website for collecting signatures of those who want Jang indicted for war crimes [www.petitiononline.com/jang001](http://www.petitiononline.com/jang001)

# INTERNATIONAL

## Militias raid Darfur camp, kill two refugees

MILITIAS raided a Darfur refugee camp, shooting dead two people and injuring at least 10 in an escalation of tensions in Sudan's restive west, witnesses and UN officials said yesterday.

The raid followed the murder of a militia member's relative who appeared to be searching the camps in Kass, South Darfur for the suspect, UN officials in Darfur said.

"The Janjaweed (militia) came in on horses and camels and were looting and shooting," Adam Ali,

a resident in the Baytari camp in Kass town, told *Reuters* by telephone. "They burned many huts and looted the people's belongings."

The United Nations estimates 300,000 have died in the humanitarian crisis sparked after Khartoum mobilized militias to quell a revolt by mostly non-Arab rebels in early 2003. More than 2 million Darfuris fled the conflict to makeshift camps surrounding urban centres.

The International Criminal

Court is reconsidering a charge of genocide against President Omar Hassan al-Bashir who is already wanted for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The ICC prosecutor has said he will use last year's expulsion of 13 international aid agencies from Darfur as new evidence against Bashir.

A patrol of U.N./African Union UNAMID peacekeepers on Tuesday saw armed horsemen riding into the camp, while others surrounded the settlement,

one senior U.N. official said on condition of anonymity. "They were members of an Arab militia, apparently related to the man who was killed. They were shooting sporadically when they entered the camp," the official told *Reuters*.

Ali said four people were killed, but the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) put the death toll at two, with 10 injured.

"Ten IDPs (internally displaced people) were taken to Kass

hospital. Another two were shot dead," said OCHA spokesman Samuel Hendricks.

"It is concerning because it shows the level of tension. Things can easily escalate and get out of control," he added.

Some gaps in humanitarian assistance were left after last year's expulsion of aid agencies, those left working in Sudan's west have said. But the government has urged them to train and support Sudanese agencies to replace them.



RECENTLY-TRAINED Shebab fighters stand during a military exercise in northern Mogadishu's Suqaholaha neighbourhood.

### Rights watchdog slams attacks on Rwanda opposition

HUMAN Rights Watch (HRW) yesterday condemned the harassment of political opposition figures in Rwanda, which holds presidential elections in August.

"Opposition party members are facing increasing threats, attacks, and harassment in advance of Rwanda's August 2010 presidential election," the New York-based rights group said in a statement. The group urged the government to investigate all such incidents and to "ensure that opposition activists are able to go about their legitimate activities without fear."

"In the past week, members of the FDU-Inkingi and the Democratic Green Party of Rwanda -- new opposition parties critical of government policies -- have suffered serious incidents of intimidation by individuals and institutions close to the government and the ruling Rwandan Patriotic Front," HRW said.

The group cited an incident in which FDU member Joseph Ntawangundi was attacked in front of a local government office. "The attack appeared to have been well coordinated, suggesting it had been planned in advance," HRW said. Ntawangundi has since been jailed after being sentenced in absentia in 2007 to 19 years by a gacaca court, one of the grassroots tribunals set up to try the perpetrators of the 1994 genocide.

"The Rwandan government already tightly controls political space," said Georgette Gagnon, Africa director at HRW.

### Somalia's Shebab warn Kenya over planned onslaught

SOMALIA'S Al Qaeda-inspired Shebab warned Kenya yesterday against providing military assistance to the Mogadishu government for a planned massive nationwide offensive against the militia.

Tension has been building up in Mogadishu and other key cities, including the Shebab-controlled southern port of Kismayo, as government troops backed by African Union forces and clan militia reportedly prepare for their much-anticipated offensive to reconquer southern and central

Somalia. "We are not at war with Kenya at the moment but we are monitoring their acts of aggression in our country which have prompted us to be alert," Sheikh Hassan Yaakub, Shebab spokesman in Kismayo, said on Radio Andalus, a station run by the Islamist organisation.

"The Kenyan government has been recruiting Somali soldiers who have now been armed and are ready to fight us. We will teach them a historic lesson that will not be forgotten," the Islamist official said. Several regional intel-

ligence sources have confirmed that Kenya has helped train and equip Kenyan and Kenya-based Somalis to take part in the offensive by crossing the border and hitting the Shebab in their southern bastions. The southern port of Kismayo, located some 100 miles (160 kilometres) north of the Kenyan border, is a key source of revenue for the Shebab as well as a crucial potential entry point for weapons supplies.

The Kenyan government has flatly denied recruiting, arming and training Somali militia tasked

with contributing to the Somali government-led offensive against the Shebab rebels and their allies from Hezb al-Islam. "We are ready to face those recruits as well as the Kenyan forces siding with them," Yaakub said. "If any soldier crosses the Kenyan border into our country, that is a good reason for jihad."

The Shebab, a self-declared component of the Al Qaeda-led global jihad, regards the African Union forces as Christian crusaders and President Sharif Sheikh Ahmed as a Western stooge.

## International



IRANIAN President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, center, listens to a technician during his visit of the Natanz Uranium Enrichment Facility some 200 miles (322 kilometers) south of the capital Tehran.

### Defiant Iran accelerates nuclear programme

IRAN began enriching uranium to a higher level yesterday, an acceleration of its nuclear programme that was followed by a US threat of a "significant regime of sanctions."

Speaking in Washington, President Barack Obama said the process of developing an additional set of sanctions on Iran was moving along quickly, but he gave no specific timeline. Iran, he said, was still pursuing a nuclear program that would lead to nuclear weapons.

Iran's announcement Tuesday that it has begun enriching uranium to a higher level raised fears that the process could eventually be used to give the Islamic republic nuclear weapons. Iran denies that its programme is geared toward acquiring a nuclear weapon.

France and the U.S. have said that Iran's action left no choice but to push harder for a fourth set of U.N. Security Council sanctions to punish it. Russia, which has close ties to Iran and has opposed

new sanctions, appeared to edge closer to Washington's position, saying the new enrichment plans show the suspicions about Iran's intentions are well-founded.

Iranian state television said the process began in the presence of inspectors from the U.N. nuclear watchdog agency. Uranium has to be enriched to fuel nuclear power plants and Iran needs the 20 percent enriched fuel for a research reactor producing medical isotopes. Enriching uranium to 90 percent, however, creates the

material for nuclear weapons, which many countries are afraid Iran is seeking. Iran denies the charge.

In an effort to defuse the crisis, the International Atomic Energy Agency brokered a deal last year in which Iran would ship out its low enriched uranium to be processed abroad and returned a year later.

Iran initially rejected the deal, then later said that if an acceptable alternative could be reached, it would not continue the high level

### Archaeologists find 1,500-yr-old Jerusalem street

ARCHAEOLOGISTS said yesterday they have found a 1,500-year-old Jerusalem road that was once a bustling thoroughfare used by throngs of Christian pilgrims and which is depicted on a famed mosaic map of the Holy Land.

The small segment of road was found in a dig conducted before Jerusalem authorities carry out infrastructure rehabilitation just inside the Old City's Jaffa Gate.

"After removing a number of archaeological strata, at a depth of 4.5 metres (14.80 feet) below today's street level, much to our excitement, we discovered the large flagstones that paved the street," said excavation director Ofer Sion.

The single, central thoroughfare is clearly visible on the Madaba Map, a floor mosaic in the Byzantine church of Saint George in Jordan which is the oldest surviving map of the Holy Land, said Sion, standing on scaffolding above the cracked flagstones.

"In those days, thousands of pilgrims from across the Christian world would be using that road," he said. Sion recounted that an eminent scholar of the Byzantine period, whom he wouldn't name, was close to tears when he saw the flagstones, which are over one metre- (3.2-foot) long. But, because it is below a busy street, the dig will have to be covered up again in a few weeks, Sion told journalists.

The excavation led by the Israel Antiquities Authority also uncovered remains of buildings from later periods as well as a water cistern measuring eight by 12 metres and five metres deep (26 X 39 x 16 feet.)

In addition, the archaeologists found numerous pottery vessels and coins and five small square bronze weights.

## Lebanon backs Hezbollah against Israel

LEBANON'S prime minister voiced concern yesterday about "escalating" Israeli war threats, and said his government will support the Shiite Muslim group Hezbollah if a new war breaks out with the Jewish state.

Saad Hariri's comments come amid heightened tensions in the Middle East following some of the sharpest exchanges in years between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

It also comes in the context of improved relations between Hariri's Western-backed coalition and the Iranian-backed Hezbollah since the two sides were forced to coexist in a fragile national unity

government formed in November. The cabinet includes two ministers from the militant group Hezbollah, which fought Israel to a standstill in a monthlong war in 2006 and clashed with supporters of Hariri in 2008.

"We hear a lot of Israeli threats day in and day out," Hariri said in an interview posted on the BBC's Web site yesterday. "Every day we have Israeli warplanes entering Lebanese airspace. This is something that is escalating, and this is something that is really dangerous." Hariri said Lebanon, which has a notoriously fractious political system, would unite if there is a fresh conflict with Israel.

"I think they're (Israelis) betting that there might be some division in Lebanon, if there is a war against us," Hariri said. "There won't be a division in Lebanon. We will stand against Israel. We will stand with our own people." Israel's foreign minister brushed aside the Lebanese leader's warning.

"As prime minister, he's simply a hostage of Hezbollah, which has veto power in his Cabinet," Avigdor Lieberman told Israel's Army Radio. Hariri's coalition narrowly defeated a Hezbollah-led coalition in parliamentary elections last year, enabling it to retain a slim majority in the 128-member

legislature. Hariri, however, was unable to form a government without Hezbollah and its allies, fearing a repeat of sectarian violence seen in 2008, when Hezbollah militants swept through Sunni neighbourhoods of Beirut after the government moved to curb the group's military communications network.

Hariri said Hezbollah would be included in the government whether Israel likes it or not. Like previous governments, Hariri's government endorsed Hezbollah's right to keep its weapons and has been loath to take any strong action against the group for fear of sparking a crisis.

### Arab envoy finds wife-to-be bearded behind veil

AN Arab ambassador called off his wedding after discovering his wife-to-be, who had worn a face-covering veil whenever they met, was bearded and cross-eyed, the *Gulf News* reported yesterday.

The envoy had only met the woman a few times, during which she had hidden her face behind a niqab, or face-covering veil, the paper said. After the marriage contract was signed, the ambassador attempted to kiss his bride-to-be, upon which he discovered she had facial hair and was cross-eyed, it said.

He sued for the contract to be annulled and also demanded the woman pay him 500,000 dirhams (136,000 dollars) for clothes, jewelry and other gifts he had bought for her.

The court annulled the contract but rejected the ambassador's demand for compensation.

## International

## Zimbabwe: Stresses and strains of a unity government

By Is'haq Modibbo Kawai

TOWARDS the end of last month, Zimbabwe's Commercial Farmers Union (CFU) and the General Agriculture and Plantation Workers Union of Zimbabwe (GAPWUZ), both criticized the unity government in place, in the past one year, for lack of concrete action to stem the waves of forced seizure of land in the country.

In the past one year alone, according to these two organizations, more than 150 farms have been attacked and seized. In fact, since February 2009, over 60,000 people have been made homeless and destitute. *AllAfrica.com*, quotes Alex Bell, that as a result of the continuing invasion of farms, food production has virtually halted and "a further 2 million people are set to face hunger in the coming months".

Deon Theron, president of the CFU, told SW Radio Africa, that his organization 'deplores' government's inability to stop those he called "a few extremists" who violently threaten, harass and forcibly evict farmers and their workers, with impunity.

In his words, the attacks "violate the basic principles enunciated in the Global Political Agreement (GPA)", which is the basis of Zimbabwe's Unity Government. "What commercial farmers and their workers are being subjected to constitute crimes against humanity. It is time for the GNU to take a principled stand in this regard", Theron added.

The crucial investment needed for the rebuilding of Zimbabwe is not likely to be forthcoming if these land invasions are not halted, according to the CFU leader. On its part, GAPWUZ demanded that land attacks needed to "urgently" come to an end, saying that in the process most people do not focus on the plight of farm workers in the country.

In 2009, GAPWUZ had produced a documentary which detailed brutalization, torture, rape and beating of farm workers, since the commencement of the controversial land reform program of the Mugabe government, in 2000.

The documentary highlighted that 60% of these workers have been forced to leave farms that were their homes and the farmers who were said to have kept in touch with their workers reported that 40% of them eventually died. GAPWUZ said the situation has not been of concern to the unity government.

Secretary General, Gertrude Hambira, said "what further incenses us is the silence of government officials whom we feel



PRIME Minister, Morgan Tsvangirai.

should be there to put a stop to such heinous acts which have left thousands of farm workers homeless and in dire need of food, education, water and sanitation".

If anyone has been under pressure in particular, it is Morgan Tsvangirai, the prime minister in the GNU. He had previously described the invasions of farms in recent times as "isolated incidents" that were blown out of proportion by the media.

He was also reported to have ignored a series of personal letters requesting that he intervened, in the case of a farming family in Chegutu, whose home stead was burnt by land invaders last year.

But following pressures, Tsvangirai is now reported to be "particularly concerned" about the wave of farm invasions in the past one year, across the country and was in fact to raise a point with the co-minister of Home Affairs before the end of January.

The issue of farms and land has always been central to the struggle for Zimbabwe: either during the national liberation war or the bitter invasion of farms which has been used by President Mugabe to shore up his position in the wake of serious electoral challenge posed by the opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC).

The GPA provided a platform for the opposition MDC to enter into the unity government with ZANU, a year ago this month. Observers say that it has been a

year of mixed fortunes for Zimbabwe, as the two parties in the strange marriage of political convenience try to find ways to meet the expectations of the Zimbabwean people. It has not been easy as the land invasion issue here testifies.

And on the eve of the inauguration of the GNU, students of the University of Zimbabwe had also been demonstrating against a directive by the authorities to pay \$400 US, in order to be able to take examinations within a week of the notice.

The demand for American dollars was simply because its Zimbabwean name-sake was completely worthless. Fees for the second semester were set for \$1000 USD, in a country where even \$10 is an enormous amount for the ordinary people.

It all started a year ago, when President Robert Mugabe, swore in his long term rival Morgan Tsvangirai, as the Prime Minister of a Government of National Unity, at a ceremony in Harare on February 11, 2009.

Soon after the event, the new prime minister flew into Cape Town, to appeal for help to meet the basic, short-term needs of the Zimbabwean people: needs as basic as drugs for clinics and hospitals and money to pay for the previous year's school examination papers to be marked.

In reaching out to members of the regional grouping SADC, he argued for the need to collectively show confidence in a GNU

that the grouping had largely brokered, arguing that "no one is going to show confidence in the new government unless the region itself feels confident that this is a process they are able to back".

Priorities set were to reopen schools, get clinics and hospitals operational and feed hungry Zimbabweans.

The indications which followed were quite remarkable. A survey by the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI), showed that in the first six months of 2009, that is after the inauguration of the GNU, Zimbabwe factory output doubled, and these were attributed to policy changes by the GNU, including such steps as the use of multiple currencies.

The survey said that capacity utilization rose from below 10% before GNU, to about 32.2% as at the time of the survey. CZI's chief economist, Lorraine Chikanya, said "signifying this improvement...overall output grew by 110% in the first six months of the year. At the beginning of the year there was a positive policy change that saw the government introduce the use of multiple currencies.

This policy framework ushered in a breath of life into what was becoming a dying sector". The CZI said that GNU restored confidence, leading to an investment of the sum of \$1.5 billion in the manufacturing sector. Yet the politics of the GNU continues to be bitter.

In October 2009, Prime Minister Tsvangirai announced that his MDC-T party was partly disengaging from the government. Tsvangirai announced that "the detention of our party treasurer, Roy Bennett, has brought home the fiction of the credibility and integrity of the transition government.

It has brought home the self-evident fact that ZANU-PF see us as a junior, fickle and unserious movement". The move sent a jolt down the spine of political and economic sectors in Zimbabwe. Tsvangirai further accused ZANU-PF of a "continuous selective and unequal application of the rule of law"; vowing that his MDC-T will resume participation in the GNU, only when there was a "paradigm shift" by the ZANU-PF. Eventually, the prime minister returned to the government.

Observers believe the fact that the GNU has remained in power in the past one year, owe a lot to the effort of the two leaders, Mugabe and Tsvangirai. They have tried to work together for Zimbabwe coming from a background of serious disagreement about practically everything in the past.

The GNU resembles a very troubled marriage, where each party would prefer a separation but none can take the first step. It has been a difficult year in Zimbabwe under the GNU, but it is a solution that is better than what used to be in place: a lot of acrimony!

We made Valentine 2 days longer because we care...

**Glo**   
*Valentine*  
GETAWAY PROMO

Be one of the 5 lucky couples to win all expenses paid weekend for 2 at Yankari Resort & Safari or win one of 50 fabulous N20,000 Park'n'Shop Valentine Gift Vouchers.

**To win just dial 32001**

and correctly answer 3 questions out of 5 about Valentine's Day and stand a chance to be among the lucky winners.

Get dialing and start packing!

Promo runs through 5th - 19th Feb, 2010. Promo winners will be announced on the G-BAM! Show and via SMS.

Calls cost N10 per minute

Rule your world



## International



PAKISTANI Taliban chief Hakimullah Mehsud, confirmed dead.

## Pakistani officials confirm Taliban chief is dead

PAKISTANI Taliban chief Hakimullah Mehsud has died, the country's top civilian security official told The Associated Press yesterday. It was the government's first categorical confirmation of the death of the feared militant, whose passing is likely to weaken, but not vanquish, the al-Qaida-linked insurgent network he led.

In a sign of the continued militant threat, a suicide bomber attacked a vehicle carrying tribal police near Pakistan's volatile border with Afghanistan, killing 17 people, including 10 policemen, said a local government official.

Reports of Mehsud's death emerged after a spate of US missiles hit his stronghold in Pakistan's northwestern tribal belt in mid-January. Mehsud was said to have died of wounds suffered in one of the strikes in the Waziristan region — another big victory for the CIA-led missile campaign that killed Mehsud's predecessor just six months ago.

The Taliban have repeatedly denied his death, but backed off an initial promise to prove the 28-year-old was still alive. The

militant group also denied his predecessor's death for weeks until the succession question was settled.

In a response to an AP query, Pakistani Interior Minister Rehman Malik, wrote, "Yes, he is dead." A senior intelligence official concurred separately. Neither gave details as to when or how the militant died. The intelligence official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak on the record.

In late January, a tribal elder told the AP that he attended Mehsud's funeral in the Mamuzai area of the Orakzai tribal region after Mehsud died at his in-laws' home. Some local media reports, citing unnamed Taliban sources, said Mehsud died more recently in the Multan area of central Pakistan on his way to receive medical treatment in the southern Pakistan city of Karachi.

In the first few days after the mid-January missile strikes, the Taliban released a pair of audiotapes believed to carry Mehsud's voice, in which he insisted he was fine.

## India announces long-range nuclear-capable missile test

INDIA will test a nuclear-capable missile with a range of over 5,000 kilometres (3,000 miles) within a year, its top military scientist said yesterday, risking a rise in regional tensions.

"The next series of missiles is Agni-V, which has left the drawing board and is moving toward the first flight trial within the year," the country's chief military scientist, V.K. Saraswat, told a news conference in New Delhi.

India's current longest-range

nuclear-capable missile, Agni-III, can travel a maximum of 3,500 kilometres and is now ready for use by the military, Saraswat said. "The missile system will be fully inducted into the armed forces," Saraswat said. "It is the full deterrence that the country needs."

The Indian-built Agni-III -- Agni means fire in Sanskrit -- was first tested in 2006 and brings major Chinese cities, such as Shanghai, within striking distance, defence analysts say.

## Myanmar court jails US activist for three years

A Myanmar court yesterday jailed a US citizen and rights activist for three years for fraud and forgery as the junta seeks to muffle dissenting voices ahead of national polls expected this year.

Despite calls by 50 US lawmakers for Kyaw Zaw Lwin's release, his lawyer said he was given a three-year term for forging an identity card, one year for not declaring currency at customs and one year for breaking immigration law.

Lawyer Nyan Win, who also represents the country's opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, said

the sentences would run concurrently and that the five months Kyaw Zaw Lwin had already spent behind bars would be deducted. Kyaw Zaw Lwin, also known as Nyi Nyi Aung, would appeal the conviction, said Nyan Win.

"Nyi Nyi Aung has been illegally and unjustly convicted on sham charges because of his tireless advocacy for democracy and human rights in Burma," said Jared Genser, president of Washington-based rights group Freedom Now, in a statement following the verdict.



Pact Nigeria, located in Abuja, is the Nigerian country office of Pact, which is an independent international non-profit organization headquartered in Washington, DC, USA. Pact's mission is to "build empowered communities, effective governments and responsible private institutions that give people an opportunity for a better life through strengthening the capacity of organizations and institutions to be good service providers, represent their stakeholders, network with others for learning and knowledge sharing, and advocate for social, economic and environmental justice."

Pact Nigeria is currently expanding in program portfolio and seeks for suitable and qualified candidates to fill the following positions:

- Senior Civil Society Strengthening Program Coordinator (Based in Lagos, with trips to Warri)
- Senior Civil Society Specialist (Based in Bauchi)
- Senior Civil Society Specialist (Based in Sokoto)
- Program Officer for Budget Transparency and Expenditure Tracking (Based in Abuja)
- Programmatic Capacity Building Officer (Based in Abuja)
- Programmatic Capacity Building Officer (Based in Bauchi)
- Programmatic Capacity Building Officer (Based in Sokoto)
- Finance and Admin Capacity Building Officer (Based in Bauchi)
- Finance and Admin Capacity Building Officer (Based in Sokoto)

For more in depth job description and application to any of these positions, please go to <http://www.pactnigeria.org/jobs>

Please note that each of the above positions will be closed and taken off the website two (2) weeks from the date of this advert.

## International

## World social forum: Brazil - another power is possible

By Igwe Raymond & Onyebuchi Stanley, just back from Brazil

AS the birthplace of the World Social Forum (WSF), conceived as an alternative to international meetings pursuing free-market economics, Brazil is on its way to becoming a major economic power. The question is, what kind of model will it adopt to avoid the behaviour it has previously criticised?

President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva is apt to reiterate that Brazil has its own model - one that works - in his speeches at home and abroad. But it is up to his ministers to express it in the shape of programmes and goals, including Tourism Minister Luiz Barreto.

"Brazil is likely to become the world's fifth largest economy by 2016," said the minister at the launch of a strategic plan for tourism for the next 10 years.

"Brazil's present excellent economic condition, as the last economy to enter and the first to recover from the (global financial) crisis, definitively ensures the country will have great importance on the international scene in the next decade," he said.

Francisco Barone, an economist with the Getulio Vargas Foundation, produced statistics to verify this prediction. One measure of a country's potential economic growth is its gross domestic product (GDP).

"According to its GDP, Brazil is one of the top 10 economies in the world," said the economist. And its prospects for further growth mean it will become one of the leaders among the BRIC countries - Brazil, Russia, India and China, all fast-growing developing economies - within five years, he predicted.

Barone attributes these prospects to Brazil's huge internal



PRESIDENT Lula at the World Social Forum, last month.

market. With a population of 190 million, most of what is produced is consumed domestically.

Brazil has other advantages, too, such as its enormous energy matrix - boosted by new oil reserves recently discovered by state oil giant Petrobrás - and its industrial diversity, economic stability and export sales, ranging from agricultural commodities to airplanes manufactured by Embraer, a state firm.

Candido Grzybowski, the head of the Brazilian Institute for Social and Economic Analyses (IBASE), which has participated in the organisation of the WSF since its inception, said, quot-

ing the WSF slogan, that just as "Another World is Possible," so too another kind of world power is possible.

In an interview with visiting foreign journalists before the 10th WSF, which held from Jan. 25-29 in the southern Brazilian city of Porto Alegre, Grzybowski said he would like Brazil to model itself as a "world power" that first and foremost corrects shortcomings in its own society, like its appalling social inequality.

Barone said Brazil has made some progress on this issue, highlighted in official statistics from the Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA), which reported

that 19.5 million people were lifted out of poverty between 2003 and 2008, and the incomes of the poorest 10 percent of the population grew faster than those of the richest 10 percent, "indicating a reduction in social inequality in the country."

But there is still much more to be done, said Barone. The scourge of hunger has not yet been overcome: 15 million people still live with food insecurity. "To become an economic power, social inequality must be reduced," for humanitarian reasons but also pragmatic ones, Barone said. "When millions of socially excluded people become

consumers, there will be more demand for national products, and industry will produce more and will take on workers, creating a virtuous cycle of growth."

Grzybowski mentioned other problems arising from Brazil's epic inequality, such as "the right to fair distribution of common goods in this wealthy land."

In Brazil "it is considered normal to have estates of 3,000, 200,000 or 500,000 hectares." The owners of huge estates "are less than one percent of all landowners, but they have enormous powers of veto in Congress," he said.

"Something is wrong with this world power," he reflected.

## Ukraine vote count shows win for Yanukovich

OPPOSITION candidate Viktor Yanukovich has narrowly defeated Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko in Ukraine's bitterly fought presidential race, a preliminary vote count showed yesterday.

Tymoshenko, the heroine of the 2004 Orange Revolution protests against a fraudulent vote won by Yanukovich, has so far refused to concede defeat and has kept an uncharacteristically low profile since Sunday, canceling numerous appearances.

The results show Yanukovich apparently winning Sunday's contest with 48.95 percent of the vote against Tymoshenko's 45.47 percent.

Yanukovich has pressed Tymoshenko to concede, and thousands of his followers have

camped out by the national election headquarters in central Kiev since Monday in a bid to head off any opposing rallies.

The crowd of more than 5,000 cheered raucously and waved flags upon hearing news that the provisional count had been completed.

"At last, the victory that we have been waiting for!" Shouted 43-year-old chef Galina Khomchenko, as loud music blared from the stage set up in the square. "This Orange nightmare has finally come to an end."

Unlike past elections in Ukraine, the 2010 presidential vote has been praised by international monitors as being free and fair.

The US Embassy hailed it as "another step in the consolida-

tion of Ukraine's democracy." The national election commission will issue a final ballot count by February 17.

Yanukovich's minority Party of Regions says it will now seek to form a coalition in parliament in order to fire Tymoshenko from government.

Tymoshenko's supporters have said she plans to challenge the result in court.

However, Russia's ITAR-Tass news agency cited Svyatoslav Olinik of Tymoshenko's parliament faction as saying Wednesday that she planned to accept defeat and take up her formal role as the opposition.

Tymoshenko's spokespeople declined to comment on the report and gave no details on her plans.

## Australia asks Britain to review 100-year-old court martial

AUSTRALIA has sent Britain a petition calling for posthumous pardons for two soldiers court-martialled and executed more than 100 years ago in South Africa, a government spokesman said yesterday. The petition asks Britain to review the trials of lieutenants Harry 'Breaker' Morant and Peter Handcock who were found guilty of the murder of 12 prisoners of war in the dying days of the Boer war.

Attorney-General Robert McClelland sent the petition, from military lawyer Commander James Unkles, to Secretary of State for Defence last week. "We don't express a view either way on it," McClelland's spokesman said. "We sent it because we don't have any jurisdiction to issue a pardon or review a case that was made by a foreign government in a foreign country," Unkles said there were

strong grounds for overturning the 1902 verdict against Morant, Handcock and their co-accused George Witton, who had his death sentence commuted, because it contained serious errors.

"The passing of time and the fact that Morant, Handcock and Witton are deceased does not diminish the errors and these injustices must be addressed," Unkles said in a statement. "The issue is not whether Morant and Handcock shot Boer prisoners, which they admitted to, but whether they were properly represented and Military Law properly and evenly applied."

The petition argues the accused were denied the right to communicate with the Australian government or relatives after their arrest and during their trials and were refused an opportunity to prepare their cases.

# WELL DESERVED HONOUR

From the management & staff of Dana Motors, we heartily congratulate you on your installation as the **Sardauna of Kano**.

Many more years in health and wealth

CONGRATULATIONS



**Ahaji Ibrahim Shekarau**

Executive Governor of Kano State



[kia@danagroup.com](mailto:kia@danagroup.com)

...a commitment to Service in Nigeria

[www.kiamotorsnigeria.com](http://www.kiamotorsnigeria.com)



## INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION OF SUITABLE QUALIFIED AUCTIONEERS FOR THE DISPOSAL OF PUBLIC PROPERTY

In compliance with the requirements of the relevant sections of the Public Procurement Act 2007, the Ministry of Police Affairs/the Nigeria Police Force wish to pre-qualify suitable qualified auctioneers for appointment for the disposal of unserviceable items belonging to the NPF. Accordingly, all Auctioneers with requisite qualifications are hereby invited to apply as provided for below. Specific areas include Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles located in the various Commands and Formations of the NPF (recommended for boarding and disposal).

### Pre-Qualification Requirements:

- Valid Certificate of Registration/Incorporation by the CAC;
- Tax Clearance Certificate for the last 3 years valid up to Dec, 2009;
- Valid Auctioneer's Licence with privilege of Agents;
- Verifiable evidence of execution of similar job;
- Evidence of registration with appropriate professional body.

### 2. Submission of Pre-Qualification Documents:

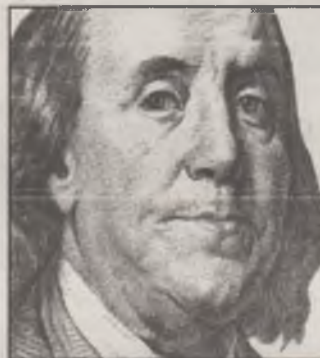
Submission of Pre-qualification documents should be enclosed in wax sealed envelopes marked "2010 Pre-qualification" specifying the areas(s) of interest, e.g. Auctioning of "Motor Vehicles". The submissions should be dropped in the Tender Box located at the Ministry of Police affairs, 11th Floor, Federal Secretariat, phase III (Ministry of Education Wing), Shehu Shagari Way, Abuja not later than 12 :00pm on, 25th Feb, 2010, while the bids shall be opened at 1400 hours of same day at the same venue. Bidders are strongly advised to be present.

### 3. Special Notice:

Only successful evaluated Auctioneers will be contracted to participate in the exercise. Nothing in this advertisement shall be construed to be a commitment on the part of the Ministry of Police Affairs and the Nigeria Police Force to undertake the auctioning or entitle any Auctioneer to make claim(s) whatsoever in respect of this advertisement.

**CSP OLUYEMI AJAYI**

DEPUTY FORCE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER  
FOR: FORCE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
ABUJA.



## MONEY TALKS

More information at free seminar  
PRINCIPLES OF TRADER'S PROFESSION

International currency market FOREX is a reliable and lucrative tool to increase capital.

Alpari is a leader in providing training programs for FOREX trading. We know how to explain complex trading in a simple way in order to make Forex trading comprehensible and successful. If you attend our comprehensive seminar you will learn how to trade profitably.

We utilize the professional approach to create our training and seminars. We are happy to share our knowledge and trading experience with you.

Sophisticated investment is a key to financial independence. One has to make a tremendous work to cultivate his abilities in order to get this independence. Knowledge, experience and work can open the door to success but you should keep in mind what risks are related to trading.

If you attend our seminar you will learn how to start FOREX trading and how to make money with minimum risk. You can increase your initial deposit several fold even if you start trading with a small amount of funds.

Free seminar: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10am - 12pm  
Tel: +234 803 4573593  
Training: Monday - Thursday 9am - 12pm / 2pm - 5pm  
Trading: 24hr/5days

4th floor, 11A Allen Avenue (beside Mama Cass),  
Ikeja, Lagos Nigeria  
Tel.: +234 182 18274  
+234 803 4573593  
[www.alpari-forex.com/en/nigeria/](http://www.alpari-forex.com/en/nigeria/)



## Job vacancies



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

Position title	No. required	Location
Associate Director, Monitoring and Evaluation	1	Country Office, Abuja
Zonal Monitoring and Evaluation Officer	3	Sokoto, Kano and Taraba Zones

### Associate Director, Monitoring and Evaluation

The Associate Director, Monitoring and Evaluation will provide leadership support to the Director of Monitoring and Evaluation in all monitoring and evaluation activities for Family Health International in Nigeria.

#### Key Responsibilities

- Support the Director of Monitoring and Evaluation in overall management and provision of technical inputs to improve and facilitate the delivery of sound technical assistance in monitoring and evaluation, including to the Government of Nigeria and United States Government upon request
- Collaborate closely with other major stakeholders such as the United Nations family or the Nigerian Country Coordinating Mechanism in the implementation and improvement of the national monitoring and evaluation in Nigeria
- Support the Director of Monitoring and Evaluation in managing the FHI M&E Department and in defining strategies, goals, objectives and working plan, and monitoring their implementation
- Directly supervise the FHI zonal office M&E teams, and facilitate, monitor and improve the support of the FHI country office M&E team to the state M&E teams, assisting them in maintaining high standards of performance in all their local M&E activities
- Take a leadership role in all quality assurance/quality improvement processes within FHI Nigeria and among our implementing agencies
- Strengthen capacity in M&E of the FHI M&E team, and of FHI technical staff in general
- Stay alert of the latest best practices in M&E to ensure up-to-date service delivery of the FHI M&E team
- Foster FHI's relationships with key counterparts at the national level, especially from the National Action Committee on AIDS and of the National AIDS and STI Control Program, to facilitate synergies and guarantee harmony between FHI and Government of Nigeria M&E activities
- Upon request, provide general technical assistance (and guidance if relevant) in M&E to the Government of Nigeria, United States Government counterparts and other key stakeholders
- Assist the Government of Nigeria and United States Government in data management, analysis and quality management related work
- Supervise and support data management, analysis and quality management-related initiatives undertaken by M&E officers in the country office
- Provide guidance in the development and/or adaptation of M&E tools, in the monitoring of their day-to-day use, and in their modification
- Provide sound technical leadership in quality management system (standard operating procedures, process flowcharts, forms) in the FHI data flow (processes and procedures for data flow, collecting forms), and for the design, update and use of the FHI databases
- Review, validate, share and present regular FHI M&E reports to be used by various stakeholders (health workers in service delivery points, public health practitioners in GON or USG, technical officers and management in FHI)
- Represent FHI in national and international events
- Lead, in close collaboration with the FHI management, the FHI scientific publication effort

#### Minimum Requirements

- MBBS/MD/PHD or similar degree in monitoring and evaluation with a minimum of 5-7 years experience in monitoring and evaluation in large HIV/AIDS programs at the national or international level

- Sound knowledge of statistics and public health
- Experience in working with local partners, including host governments, NGOs and CBOs
- Knowledge of the Nigerian local context is an asset, as well as familiarity with USAID and PEPFAR programs

### Zonal Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

The Zonal Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, under the supervision of the Zonal Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Officer and Zonal Program Manager, and with technical oversight from the Director of Monitoring and Evaluation, will be responsible for implementing monitoring and evaluation activities for the zonal office.

#### Key Responsibilities

- Work with other staff in the zonal office and local implementing partners to ensure that zonal monitoring and evaluation activities are appropriate and meet donor and project M&E needs
- Work with local partners to support correct implementation and use of monitoring and evaluation tools, and adherence to complete, correct and timely reporting
- Conduct routine monitoring visits to project sites, including conducting data quality assessments using official tools
- Assist in the preparation of monthly reports and provide supportive supervision
- Provide direct technical assistance and capacity building in the design and implementation of program/project monitoring and enhanced evaluation components of activities in the communities served
- On a monthly basis, analyze state-level data and provide reports to the state and national offices and to local partners
- Participate in project assessment, evaluation and design teams when requested
- Represent FHI and makes presentations at professional meetings and conferences related to monitoring and evaluation

#### Minimum Requirements

- MPH, MBBS (1-3 years) or similar degree in monitoring and evaluation, medicine, or pharmacy
- Related field experience in monitoring and evaluation in reproductive health or HIV/AIDS programs in developing countries
- Experience working with local partners, including NGOs and CBOs
- Knowledge of the local context
- Familiarity with USAID programs is preferred

#### Method of Application

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

[MandEjobs@ghain.org](mailto:MandEjobs@ghain.org)

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

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

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

## Job vacancy



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

### MANAGER, OPERATIONS COMPLIANCE

The Manager, Operations Compliance will support the Associate Director of Operations Compliance and Risk Management in ensuring compliance with FHI and funder policies and procedures and the management and reduction of general risk to the organization.

#### Key Responsibilities

- Under the supervision of the Associate Director Operations Compliance and Risk Management, carry out and report on independent appraisals at the country office and zonal offices on managers' compliance with policies, procedures and standards by which FHI's resources are managed, utilized and reported
- Review and evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of operations, reliability of financial reporting, compliance with applicable laws and the safeguard of assets
- Undertake internal appraisal of organizational units' ability to ensure that financial control and guidelines of funder organizations and other control procedures in purchasing, procurement and contracting are in place and are being properly implemented and managed in all offices and units
- Support senior managers in the development of action plans to enhance performance in compliance and risk management
- Report to the Associate Director Operations Compliance and Risk Management on plan implementation
- Contribute to the development of manuals, SOPs and other documentation identified as needs during compliance appraisals
- Contribute to the training of senior managers on compliance and risk management issues as required
- In addition to reporting to the Associate Director Operations Compliance and Risk Management, coordinate and liaison with FHI's Nigeria based shared services leadership including financial, accounting, legal, compliance, procurement, human resources and other relevant functions

#### Finance and budget responsibilities

- Conduct internal appraisals of country office functions and zonal offices
- Test internal controls, targeting in particular high risk areas
- Document any weaknesses and their impact and make recommendations to address the weaknesses
- Assess value for money and make recommendations for improvement
- Review and discuss all internal compliance findings with the Associate Director Operations Compliance and Risk Management
- Follow up on the implementation of compliance recommendations and management action plans

- Inspect activities undertaken by FHI Nigeria and its consortium partners
- Where necessary, investigate alleged fraud, mismanagement, loss of assets, or any other

#### Reporting responsibilities

- For each assignment, prepare a written report to present findings and conclusions to management
- Make recommendations to management and suggestions for improving overall internal control
- Discuss comments and action plans with responsible managers before issuing final report
- Support managers in implementing and regularly reviewing action plans with training and technical assistance as necessary
- Identify training needs and deliver training to managers on compliance issues
- Identify gaps in documentation (manuals, SOPs), etc. and support the process of documentation development, testing and roll-out

#### Minimum Requirements

- BS/BA in accounting or finance and 7-9 years relevant experience with international development programs
- Or MS/MA in accounting or finance or related field and 5-7 years relevant experience with international development programs
- 3-5 years of supervisory experience, overseas field experience and internal control functions

#### Method of Application

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

[PMjobs@ghain.org](mailto:PMjobs@ghain.org)

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

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

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

## Job vacancy



Achieving Health Nigeria Initiative (AHNI) is a leading non-profit organization that promotes socio-economic development by supporting global health and economic initiatives in Nigeria. It was established as an affiliate of the Family Health International (FHI) to sustain FHI's achievements in strengthening indigenous organizational capacity in Nigeria. AHNI currently has its headquarters in Abuja and two zonal offices in Nigeria. It implements several USAID-sponsored projects in seven states of Nigeria. To strengthen our operations in the country, we are seeking qualified candidates for the following position:

### PHARMACY SPECIALIST FCT, ABUJA

The Pharmacy Specialist will provide technical support to the implementation of high quality services with primary focus on pharmacy-related monitoring and evaluation of program strategies and approaches related to program implementation.

#### Key Responsibilities

- With the Senior Medical Services Advisor, coordinate the design and implementation of components related to monitoring and evaluation of pharmacy-related activities
- With the Senior Medical Services Advisor, provide technical support to all aspects of monitoring and evaluation and capacity building relating to pharmacy best practices to field programs
- Provide technical assistance in all aspects of monitoring and evaluation including logistics management information system (LMIS) and capacity building relating to pharmacy best practices to field programs
- Contribute to the development of lessons learnt from programs and projects related to pharmacy practice and apply these lessons to modify existing programs and improve the design of new programs
- Assist in providing programmatic assistance to partners on issues of monitoring and evaluation of program activities related to pharmacy practice
- Represent AHNI at meetings, workshops and seminars related to pharmacy issues
- Remain informed on current developments in public health aspects of pharmacy practice and related development fields by reviewing current literature and staying alert to any implication of such development to program implementation and operations research
- Perform other duties as assigned

#### Minimum Requirements

- B. Pharm. degree with at least 5-7 years experience in health systems strengthening programs
- Experience in program monitoring and evaluation
- Excellent communication and computer skills
- Experience in developing collaborative relationships and liaising with senior level government officials, community leaders, and donors
- Familiarity with the Nigerian public sector health system, NGOs and CBOs is highly desirable.

#### Method of application

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

[MedicalServicesJobs@ahnigeria.org](mailto:MedicalServicesJobs@ahnigeria.org)

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

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

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



## WORLD BANK JOB VACANCIES

The World Bank, Nigeria Country Office, requires the services of highly organized and energized professionals, capable of operating effectively and discretely in a very demanding, fast-paced and culturally diverse environment, to fill the vacant position of Social Protection Specialist – Youth Employment.

**Job Title:** Environmental Specialist  
**Location:** Abuja Country Office  
**Duration:** 2 year Term Appointment  
**Grade:** GF/IG

### Background

Sub-Saharan Africa, with a population of around 782 million people in 47 countries, is home to 36 of the world's poorest countries. Making headway against poverty in sub-Saharan Africa continues to present the world with its most formidable development challenge. The Africa Region is committed to working with Africans and other development partners to make faster progress toward the MDGs, particularly cutting poverty levels in half by 2015. The Region is comprised of approximately 1750 staff members of whom over 60% are based in the Region's 37 field offices.

**Nigeria:** With a population of 148 million people, Nigeria is the largest country in Africa and accounts for 47 percent of West Africa's population. Nigeria is also the second largest economy in Sub-Saharan Africa and accounts for 41 percent of the region's GDP. Development partner coordination in Nigeria is strong. A Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) for FY10-13 has been prepared by the World Bank, DFID, USAID and AfDB to increase development effectiveness and its main components are driven by the Government's 7-Point Agenda. In addition to support in response to the global financial crisis, the partnership will focus on three themes of: (i) improving governance; (ii) maintaining non-oil growth; and (iii) promoting human development. The International Development Agency (IDA) is the Bank's interest-free lending arm for the poorest countries. The Nigeria portfolio currently supports twenty eight IDA projects and 2 GEF grants. Bank commitments have tripled from \$1.5 billion in FY05 to \$4.5 billion in early FY10. The Bank is the largest development partner in Nigeria and the country's portfolio is the largest in terms of net commitments in the Bank's Africa Region. The strong focus on the current portfolio is on project implementation for results. The country portfolio cuts across a range of sectors including: infrastructure (water supply, energy/energy and transport); Human Development (health, HIV/AIDS, education and social projects); Agriculture and Rural Development; Urban Development; Public Sector Governance, Financial and Private Sector and so on.

The strategic thrust of the Environment and Natural Resources group includes sustainable land, water, forest, coastal and marine management; climate change adaptation and mitigation and related disaster risk management; environmental governance; and ensuring sound environmental design and implementation of all projects and programs in the Africa region, including addressing environmental issues in key natural resource extraction and large infrastructure projects, and protecting regional and global public goods.

The core values guiding our work are passion for our mission of sustainable development and poverty reduction, putting the needs of the client at the center of all our activities, trust and respect as a common currency, intellectual rigor and curiosity, honesty and integrity, teamwork, openness to learning and the courage to admit we do not always have the answer.

### Duties and Accountabilities:

A good understanding of environmental issues is essential to provide high quality support to our client countries in the sustainable development agenda. An Environmental Specialist is needed to join the World Bank Environment and Natural Resources Management Unit, located in Abuja, Nigeria. The Environmental Specialist primary duties are to help bring environmental dimensions into the Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) and into the overall dialogue with the Government on various areas of Bank involvement. He/she would contribute in particular to mainstreaming environment into the economic and sectoral development programs. This assignment is a two-year term position with a scheduled start date of April 1, 2010.

The Environmental Specialist will be under the general supervision of the Sector Manager of AFTEN. The duties and responsibilities shall include (but not limited to):

- Participate in the development and review of Bank social and environmental guidelines and policies;
- Prepare environmental and social screening checklists for project categorization;
- Take part in the identification and preparation of sectoral projects with potentially significant environmental and social impacts, and which are likely to be categorized A or B;
- Participate in project preparation and appraisal missions to identify, assess and document key environmental issues; utilizing technical background and experience to recommend mitigating measures;
- Take responsibility for a variety of operational tasks (Project categorization, environmental and social impact assessments, project design, procurement);
- Participate in policy dialogue with government in the area of climate change and environmental sustainability;
- Draft Terms of References for Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA); Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF); stand-alone environmental studies; ESIA Executive Summaries for Category A projects and prepare and/or review the environmental sections of studies, ISDS, project preparation and appraisal reports;
- Review and evaluate studies and documents from other sectors to ensure mainstreaming of environmental and associated cross-cutting issues;
- Participate in training programs for the mainstreaming of environmental and associated cross-cutting issues and the integration of environmental issues in Country Partnership Strategies (CASs) Papers, policy dialogue with Government;
- Evaluate the implementation of environmental management plans during project supervisions, monitor progress achieved in integrating environmental concerns in Bank operations and report on how the borrowers have effectively used Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP) to mitigate environmental degradation;
- Represent the Bank at environmental and natural resource management seminars and conferences and participate in project portfolio management (procurement, supervision, mid-term review, etc).

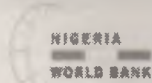
### Selection Criteria:

- Have a minimum of a Master's degree in environmental engineer, natural resource management, or economics;
- Have a broad understanding of institutional and policy as well as technical issues;
- Have had at least five years of practical experience in project development and AAA.
- Familiar with World Bank safeguard policies;
- Conversant with environmental laws and covenants in Nigeria;
- Familiar with environmental institutions and their roles in environmental governance in Nigeria
- Experience with environment and natural resource management;
- Experience on climate change a strong advantage;
- Exhibit trustworthiness, integrity, dedication, perseverance, and a "can-do" attitude;
- Demonstrated record of independent analytical and research support work;
- Fluency in English, including demonstrated report writing skills;
- Very good time management skills and ability to multi-task and work under time pressure;
- Demonstrated attention to detail and quality assurance;
- Ability to work flexibly on a range of assignments, and adjust to and prioritize a variety of complex evolving tasks;
- Ability to work effectively in a team-oriented, multi-cultural environment;
- Strong interpersonal skills and ability to develop effective relations within and outside the Bank, and to promote collaboration within the team to meet Department and Regional objectives;
- Have a problem solving approach and understand well the constraints of working within tight budgets;
- Sound understanding of information technology, with experience in applying Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint) as a minimum skill set.

### Electronic Applications:

For the full position description and complete selection criteria, qualified candidates are requested to visit and submit the electronic application at [www.worldbank.org/careers](http://www.worldbank.org/careers). Once on the site, candidates should follow link to access **job number 100280** and submit their application online. **Paper applications will not be considered.** The closing date for receipt of your electronic application is close of business on **March 2, 2010**. Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

Qualified male and female candidates of diverse background (gender, religious, ethnic) are encouraged to apply.



## Invitation for Bids (IFB)

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA  
KADUNA STATE COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

KADUNA AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT  
KADUNA STATE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
CR 4539-UNI  
PROCUREMENT OF OFFICE EQUIPMENT  
IFB: KDCADP/OE/NCB/01/10

- This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice (GPN) for this Project that appeared in *Development Business*, issue no. WB 3108 756/09 and "Thisday" Newspaper of 22nd July 2009.
- The Kaduna State Government through Federal Republic of Nigeria has received a credit from the International Development Association toward the cost of Commercial Agriculture Development project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the Contract for Procurement of Office Equipment.
- The Kaduna State Commercial Agriculture Development Project now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the supply of the following office equipment:

LOT	DESCRIPTION	QTY	DELIVERY PERIOD	LOCATION	BID SECURITY	
Lot 1	Supply of Computers and Accessories					
	Computer Work Station	4	60 Days	Commercial Agriculture Development Project Kaduna State Agriculture Development Project No 11 Race Course Road Opp. Murtala Square Kaduna State, Nigeria	3% of Bid Price	
	Laptop Computers	13	60 Days		3% of Bid Price	
	Laser Jet Printer	5	60 Days		3% of Bid Price	
	Photocopier	1	60 Days		3% of Bid Price	
	UPS Light	4	60 Days		3% of Bid Price	
	Scanner	1	60 Days		3% of Bid Price	
	Multimedia Projector	1	60 Days		3% of Bid Price	
	Software Licenses	1	60 Days		3% of Bid Price	
Lot 2	Training & communication Equipment					
	Overhead Projector	2	60 Days		Commercial Agriculture Development Project Kaduna State Agriculture Development Project No 11 Race Course Road Opp. Murtala Square Kaduna, Nigeria	3% of Bid Price
	Flipchart, Stand, Board	2	60 Days	3% of Bid Price		
	TV/DVD Player	2	60 Days	3% of Bid Price		
	Digital Camcorder	1	60 Days	3% of Bid Price		
	GPS	2	60 Days	3% of Bid Price		
	Digital Camera	1	60 Days	3% of Bid Price		
	Digital Camcorder	1	60 Days	3% of Bid Price		
Lot 3	Other Equipment					
	3.1 Air conditioner	3	60 Days	Commercial Agriculture Development Project Kaduna State Agriculture Development Project No 11 Race Course Road Opp. Murtala Square Kaduna, Nigeria	3% of Bid Price	
	3.0 Generator (27.5KVA) - Installation	1	60 Days		3% of Bid Price	

- 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 are open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Guidelines, "May 2004".
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from **Kaduna State Commercial Agriculture Office (SCADO) - Kaduna Commercial Agriculture Development Project**, [kdcada@yahoo.com](mailto:kdcada@yahoo.com), [dmmustapha@yahoo.com](mailto:dmmustapha@yahoo.com), [meenakareem@yahoo.com](mailto:meenakareem@yahoo.com) and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below:
- Qualifications requirements include: evidence of CAC registration for the last 3 years, 3 years financial audited report, evidence of past job done and other requirements. Additional details are provided in the Bidding Documents.
- 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 **N10,000.00 Ten Thousand Naira** only, or **\$68.00 (sixty eight United State Dollars)** only. The method of payment will be Cash. The Bidding Documents will be collected by hand.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **12.00 noon; Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 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; Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2010**. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of **3% of bid price or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency**.
- The address referred to above is:

The State Project Coordinator,  
Commercial Agriculture Development Project  
Kaduna State Agriculture Development Project  
No 11 Race Course Road  
Opp Murtala Square  
Kaduna, Nigeria.

The deadline for the submission of bids and their opening is:  
Date: Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2010 Time: 12.00 Noon.

# BUSINESS

0805 1000 536



PHCN installation

## NNPC, Mobil joint venture to generate 500MW

• Considers refinery in Akwa Ibom

From Hamisu Muhammad, Eket

THE Joint Venture between Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and Mobil Producing Nigeria (MPN) yesterday commenced the construction of 500 mega watts of electricity at Eket, Akwa Ibom state.

The project according to the Group Managing Director of the NNPC Mohammed Sanusi Barkindo is to compliment the federal government aspiration of generating enough power for the nation.

Barkindo who spoke at the project site said the 500MW power plant is part of the domestic gas synergy project which also includes onshore flare elimination and a domestic gas pipeline to deliver gas to the national grid.

He said the project will also include a 56 kilometers transmission line connecting to the national grid at Ikot Abasi, Akwa Ibom.

Barkindo said the NNPC/ MPN JV is also installing facilities of 100 million cubic feet of gas per day to the domestic market towards improving the nation power supply.

He said at the community level, the project has potentials of creating jobs for the people as well as increase activity for local businesses.

He commended the local communities for the peaceful relationship the JV partners are enjoying. "NNPC will always strive to ensure that the communities where we have the Joint Venture business are peaceful and will ensure that quality of live is improved", he said.

He said as a result of the peaceful nature of Akwa Ibom state more investment are on their way, saying that the NNPC and other investors will consider building a refinery in the state as soon as they conclude discussions with the state government and the investors.

"We are into discussions with some investors to build some Greenfield refineries in the country. These investors have come forwards with their own initiatives but as a national oil company they know it makes sense and logic to partner with NNPC to establish these refineries and they are aware that the environment is rapidly changing", he said.

On the proposed refinery, the NNPC boss said: "we are meeting with the Akwa Ibom state government next week in order to begin discussions on the industrial park and partnership with NNPC and other investors."

In his remark the Lead Country Manager of the ExxonMobil Upstream, Mark Ward said in September last year the company announced the award of the front-end engineering and design contract of the project and the work is in progress.

He said the next phase of the project will involve putting in place an EPC contract for detailed design, procurement, construction and installation of the power plant and transmission line.

### BRIEF

## Shell to remain in Nigeria

From Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

SHELL Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria has assured that it is not divesting its investment portfolio from the country, saying it is committed to growing Nigeria's oil and gas sector.

Managing Director of the company Mutiu Sunmonu who disclosed this yesterday in Lagos said the recent divestment from three oil blocks in North Western Niger Delta was a renewed quest that his company has come to stay in the country to grow its hydrocarbon potentials.

According to him, the need to grow local content and indigenous participation in the nation's oil and gas sector informed the company's recent divestment in OMLs 4, 38 and 41.

He said the company's need is in line with government aspiration towards improving indigenous participation in hydrocarbon business in the country. He said that it is was not true that the company relinquished the assets due to insecurity in the Niger Delta or some grey areas in the Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB) presently before the National Assembly.

According to him, this is not the first time his company would be releasing acreages, adding that Shell did same in 2000 and fourth quarter of last year to the Federal government.

He said: "Shell has a large and diversified global upstream portfolio, which we regularly review to ensure best value for the company. One important point I want to emphasise about the sale of the assets is that we did it also in support of government aspiration to encourage local participation in the oil and gas industry."

### Trust Index

Inflation	→	12%
GDP	→	6.90%
Budget	→	N3.1tr
External Reserves Acct	→	\$42bn
Excess Crude Acct	→	\$6.2bn
Poverty Ratio	→	54.4%
Interest Ratio	→	6%
Banks	→	24
Oil Price	→	\$72 a barrel
Power Supply	→	2,700MW
Oil output per day	→	1.9mbd

CBN EXCHANGE RATES				BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES	
	Buying (NGN)	Central (NGN)	Selling (NGN)		
CFA	0.2976	0.3076	0.3176	BUYING	
DANISH KRONER	27.1445	27.2362	27.3279	DOLLAR.....	N151
EURO	202.16	202.8433	203.5265	EURO.....	N210
POUNDS STERLING	230.4313	231.2101	231.9889	POUNDS.....	N243
RIYAL	39.4507	39.584	39.7173	SELLING	
SDR	228.0495	228.8203	229.591	DOLLAR.....	N153
SWISS FRANC	137.7852	138.2509	138.7166	EURO.....	N213
US DOLLAR	147.94	148.44	148.94	POUNDS.....	N246
WAUA	229.9588	230.736	231.5132	Source: S&P Bureau de Change, Wuse Zone 4, Abuja.	
YEN	1.6559	1.6615	1.6671		

Stock Market Index	
Date:	Wednesday, February 10, 2010
Index:	23,011.95
Deals:	7,967
Volume:	387,728,492
Value:	N3,511,724,696.16
Cap.:	N5,542,028,320,668.08

## Business



# More money less development

By Idris Ahmed

CONTRARY to government's excuses that lack of funds derail infrastructural development in the country, investigations revealed that Nigeria recouped over N38 trillion from both oil and non-oil sectors in the last ten years.

It was discovered that annual budget progressively increased from N60 billion in June 1999 to N3.1 trillion at the end of 2009. However, capital projects continue to receive phenomena setback due to misappropriation of funds and budget implementation hitches.

For instance, power sector and road networks are yet to get their desired attentions why Nigerians are on daily basis embarrassed due to the inadequacy of petroleum. Just last week, the minister of power Lanre Babalola announced a drop in power from 3,700MW to 2,700MW.

This development has already started hitting hard on many Nigerians who are into small scale businesses. Ajayi is a shoemaker. With stable electricity for six hours, he made up to two shoes in a day before now. But now, he can hardly complete two pairs of shoes in two days because there is no light.

"Now, things are getting very

difficult for me and my family because there is no electricity and there is no fuel to power my small generator and because of this, to feed my family is getting really tough", he said.

Ajayi is not alone in this condition. Most Nigerians have no access to housing and majority continue to wallowing in poverty. Education sector is neglected and quality of educa-

power and petroleum from this N38 trillion. For instance, with just N1 trillion, Nigeria can achieve 10,000MW of power and N5 trillion is enough to build at least one new functional refinery in the country. It was also believed that the country's education can be revived if N2 trillion is strategically invested in the sector. Out of this N38 trillion, the country's industries can be revived to create more jobs for the teaming unemployed citizens in the country. Still from the amount, the N2.5 trillion needed to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) can be disbursed so that by 2015, poverty can be halved in the country. The N100 billion textile revival funds can even be increase to N1 trillion and Nigeria will still have more money while many people will get employed.

tion in Nigeria is at its lowest ebb.

While much is said to be spent on agriculture, Nigeria have no food on their table and the cost of food items continue to grow and out of the reach of majority of ordinary citizens.

According to analysts, much could be done in the areas of

power and petroleum from this N38 trillion. For instance, with just N1 trillion, Nigeria can achieve 10,000MW of power and N5 trillion is enough to build at least one new functional refinery in the country.

It was also believed that the country's education can be revived if N2 trillion is strategically invested in the sector.

Out of this N38 trillion, the country's industries can be revived to create more jobs for the teaming unemployed citizens in the country.

Still from the amount, the N2.5 trillion needed to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) can be disbursed so that by 2015, poverty can be halved in the country.

The N100 billion textile revival funds can even be increase to N1 trillion and Nigeria will still have more money while many people will get employed.

Nigeria has set for itself a target of joining the league of the most developed economies by the year 2020. Experts have estimated different amounts (some are saying about \$600 billion) to meet this target and the government is hopeful of getting there.

Analysts believe Nigeria has the potential to generate the required revenue to implement the Vision if it set its mind to it.

Many however cautioned that channelling the funds to the needed areas could pose a challenge.

"Despite all the money this country has made from the oil sector over the years, our schools are getting worse, the percentage of unemployed persons is on the increase and those living below the poverty level is worrisome", says Monday Silvanus, a public sector analyst.

The N38 trillion was generated by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Department for Petroleum Resources (DPR) and other revenue generating agencies. NNPC remitted N19.4 trillion, while the DPR remitted N3.5 trillion.

Other revenue generating agencies like the Nigerian Customs Service and the Federal Inland Revenue Services remitted about N1.8 trillion and N9.6 trillion respectively into the federation account in the last ten years.

In 2009 alone, about N4 trillion was shared by the federal government, states and local government councils from the federation account.

The questions many Nigerians and analysts are asking is when is money going to bring joy and happiness to the ordinary people?

## How Nigeria lost 1000MW of electricity in a month

By Fidelis Mac-Leva

IT is no longer news that the Power Holding Company of Nigeria PHCN as well as the other relevant ministries and parastatals have failed to deliver on the presidential mandate of delivering 6000MW of electricity by the end of December last year.

It is also no longer news that the country's power generation has dropped from the 3700MW that was obtainable by December 2009 to a paltry 2700MW.

But the question is how did the country lose 1000MW of electricity just within a period of one month?

By December 24, 2009, the power generation in the country stood at 3700MW even as the actual capacity was reported to be 5,500MW.

Available records also show that as at January 2009 the actual generation distributed was 2789MW while the idle capacity due to gas and water limitation was 1326MW and 528MW respectively.

Due to what the Power Ministry attributed to pipeline vandalism, actual generation dropped to about 1766MW between June and August 2009.

Generation, however, rose to over 3700MW by December 2009 through what the Power Ministry attributed to "aggressive repair and rehabilitation" of PHCN existing plants, increased capacity from existing IPPs and collaboration with the Ministry of Petroleum/NNPC to boost gas supply.

By December last year the aggregate installed available generation capacity of the PHCN plants was put at about 5272MW with the gas-fired plants contributing about 73 percent of the generation mix. At that time PHCN was deemed to be capable of generating over 3,700MW of power subject to resolving the constraints of gas supply.

A summary of power generation performance in 2009 shows that the highest generation of 3710MW was attained by December 24, 2009 while installed available capacity of 5,226MW was reached by December 31, 2009.

The highest installed available capacity of 5,522MW was attained on December 23, 2009 while the highest actual generation capacity attained was 3,710MW as at December 23, 2009. On Thursday last week the PHCH announced that the current power generation had dropped to 2700MW.

# Business

## Jeddah airport project to create 34,000 jobs

NEW development projects supported by the private sector at King Abdulaziz International Airport (KAIA) in Jeddah will create at least 34,000 jobs, the General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA) said.

The new projects, which are part of GACA's strategy to transform domestic and international airports into airport cities, will include five-star hotels, shopping malls, recreation centers, tourist facilities, exhibition centers and aviation-related factories.

The GACA has allocated two sites measuring a total area of 2.4 million square meters in the south and east of KAIA for investment.

The authority has already completed studies on the airport projects and short-listed a number of national and international companies to implement them. They have until May 31 to present their offers.

The GACA has already contracted the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank, to conduct commercial, technical, legal and financial

studies on making use of land surrounding international airports in Jeddah, Riyadh and Dammam.

The GACA organized a conducted tour on Sunday for delegates of companies interested in carrying out projects at KAIA.

"The new airport projects

will not only improve services but also increase the authority's revenues," a statement from the GACA said.

The new concept of airport cities offers a lot of investment opportunities for Saudi and foreign businessmen, it added.

A GACA technical

team had visited airports in Amsterdam, Hong Kong, Los Angeles, Dubai Airport and South Korea to prepare development plans for the Saudi airports. The GACA found that some foreign airports had increased their revenue by 50 percent by developing them into airport cit-

ies. The GACA also recently announced its plan to invite tenders from private companies to develop and operate VIP passenger lounges at domestic and international airports in the Kingdom.

"GACA's board of directors approved the plan to realize its strategic goal of

developing Saudi airports on a commercial basis," the statement said. The project's viability has been supported by a study conducted by the authority. The GACA has set February 14 as the last date for receiving applications from tendering companies. (ARAB NEWS)

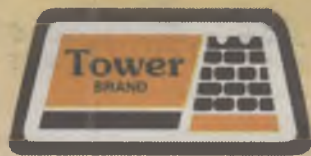
### Total deputy MD joins AUST board

From Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

DEPUTY Managing Director (Corporate) of Total Upstream companies in Nigeria Mr Alek Musa has been nominated into the Petroleum Engineering Advisory Board of the African University of Science and Technology (AUST), Abuja, a statement from the company has said.

The AUST is a private pan-African, co-educational research university established by the Nelson Mandela Institution (NMI, Inc) in 2007 and nurtured by the World Bank Institute (WBI) from inception. Its mission is to advance knowledge and educate students in science, technology and other areas of scholarship that will best serve the African continent in the 21st century through world class research and advanced training institutes in relevant scientific and technological disciplines.

It is also actively supported by various international bodies like the International Finance Corporation and has linkages to elite international technical institutions like the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay, United Nations University (UNU) and International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Italy.



# TOWER ROOFING

## Nigeria's Trusted Brand in Roofing Systems



ASABA ALUMINIUM CO. LTD Asaba 08063015514 Enugu 08037857992 Port Harcourt 08033099463 Benin 08033492501  
 AKURE ALUMINIUM Akure 08036133148 BORNO ALUMINIUM CO. LTD Maiduguri 08035202112  
 ILORIN ALUMINIUM Ilorin 08037136407 OWERRI ALUMINIUM 07031886817 MIDGAL Abeokuta 08032133188  
 PGN LIMITED Aba 08035232330 Uyo 08037901003 QUEENSWAY ALUMINIUM Kaduna 08033146976 Suleja 08033785220  
 TOWER GALVANISED PRODUCTS Kano 08035350002 YOLA ALUMINIUM Yola 08036566709  
 TOWER BUILDING PRODUCTS Ikeja-Lagos 2700926, 2700928 Lekki 08033201086

## Star Feature

# Aviation: Inside Nigeria's troubled sector

The Aviation sector has had a troubled history, especially in recent years. First there were air crashes and spirited attempts to raise standards at the airports. Now, body scanning machines have been bought to be installed at our international airports, and another new set of problems have arisen.

By Shehu Abubakar

A major source of the sudden death of prominent people in this country at one time, were the unprecedented air crashes recorded in the nation's aviation sector, during the reign of immediate past President Olusegun Obasanjo. Between 2006 and 2007, travelling by air in Nigeria was as good as travelling by road, because no one could guarantee the relative peace and safety being enjoyed by air travelers in other parts of the World.

Despite the hundreds of people that air mishaps have claimed in Nigeria, the problems of the aviation sector seem to be far from being identified, not to talk of finding a solution, as every aviation minister in the recent past has his own reasons different from the other, as the cause of the problems affecting the smooth operation

in the sector. While Mallam Isa Yuguda was blaming the problems of the aviation sector in the country on poor security and lack of adequate facilities at the nations' airports when he was aviation minister, former aviation minister, Professor Babatunde Borishade was blaming pilots, most of who lost their lives in the crashes, as being responsible for the incidents.

But one of the ministers of aviation, Chief Femi Fani-Kayode blamed the air crashes on spiritual problems, and called for prayer as the major solution to the problem. "We met a situation where plane crashes were almost regular occurrences. If you remember, within a year, we had five plane crashes in Nigeria and in all about 400 people died! For me, the greatest challenge was to ensure that this vicious cycle of plane crashes and waste of precious lives, stopped.

"I discovered that there was a blood cult in the sector. I confirmed my fears that there was a negative dimension to the occurrence of frequent crashes. I told the Senate committee about it. We had to fight them; that is members of the they promised to fight back because, according to them, people feeding on the blood of crash victims. But somehow we managed to do what we had to do to ensure that planes stopped crashing from our air space," Chief Fani-Kayode said.

But to the incumbent minister of aviation, Engineer Babatunde Omotoba, the major problems of the aviation industry include the decay in aviation facilities, and the continued use of aircraft that have been in use for more than 20 years. He said the administration has secured a loan of \$46.6 million from the World Bank, for the rehabilitation and total equipping of the nation's airports. He said radar equipment for the total coverage of the nation's air space, 13 full body scanners at the sum of N48.8 million were also procured.

Omotoba said \$14.19 million from the World Bank loan was spent on the Federal Aviation Authority of Nigeria. He also spent \$9.12 million on the Nigerian Airspace Management (NAMA), \$10.73 million on the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), the Nigeria College of Aviation Technology (NCAT) and \$9.83 million, the Project Coordination Unit (PCU). He allocated \$1.13 million, while the sum of \$1.65 million left unaccounted for undisclosed reasons. The minister expressed satisfaction with the progress of structural developments, and the provision of necessary equipment at the nation's aviation sector. He said the present administration provided the largest funding of the sector in the nation's history.

When Al-Qaeda allegedly attacked the World Trade Tower in New York, in what later became a household name as September 11, Nigeria joined the rest of the world in re-structuring her aviation sector as a mere formality, but not because there was any formal demand on the nation's aviation. The then Minister of Aviation, Mallam Isa Yuguda was quick to engage the services of an American Consulting firm, ASCON Ltd, to advise government on the restructuring of Nigeria's aviation industry that needed attention. ASCON Ltd with a well detailed and comprehensive reform program of the sector aimed at making Nigeria's aviation sector meeting the global standards as specified by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

The consulting firm in its report to Federal Government made available to *Daily Trust*, recommended for the establishment

“We met a situation where plane crashes were almost regular occurrences. If you remember, within a year, we had five plane crashes in Nigeria and in all about 400 people died! For me, the greatest challenge was to ensure that this vicious cycle of plane crashes and waste of precious lives, stopped.



NIGERIA'S aviation sector has had a troubled past, characterised by many air crashes.



AN ADC flight 053 to Sokoto crashed soon after it took off from the Nnamdi Azikwe international airport, Abuja.

his con- strange on Avia- ult, and ple were aged to g down atunde Nigeria e of air- present e World ons' air- Nigerian ch were is to be FAAN), Agency uthority ), Zaria (U) was located the rate ipment ion has ry. in New 1, 2001, ion sec- f threat lam Isa aviation aspects ame up aviation standard (ICAO). a copy ment of

a National Civil Aviation Security Agency (NCASA) just as it is in the case of the United States of America (USA) aviation sector. ASCON suggested that the NCASA when established should be independent of the core airport management. The Consultants gave details of the modus operandi of the agency.

**B**elieving that the major problem of the aviation industry in Nigeria was security, Mallam Isa Yuguda upon the approval of the Federal Executive Council (FEC), established the agency and an ICAO trained aviation expert, Captain Balarabe Usman was appointed as the nations' Director of Civil Aviation Security and Safety. But before the agency took off fully, Mallam Yuguda was removed from office over allegations of a near air mishap at the Port-Harcourt, when cows allegedly found their way into the tarmac.

When President Obasanjo brought in Professor Borishade as the new aviation minister, amidst protest from the nations academia, twice the Senate refused to clear him for appointment as a Minister until the third time when the Presidency and the ruling Peoples' Democratic Party (PDP) put pressure on the Senators. The fear being expressed then by Nigerians who were opposed to his appointment as a minister, was his alleged poor performance as minister of education, as his tenure was characterized by a series of strikes in the country's educational institutions. While Mallam Isa Yuguda was removed as Aviation minister by President Obasanjo on a near air mishap incident, Professor Borishade's tenure in the ministry of aviation witnessed a decline in the history of the Nations Aviation industry.

When a Bellview flight 210 crashed on October 25, 2005, in the swamps of Lassa Village in Ogun State, the black box containing classified information that could lead to tracing the actual cause of that accident, was found by police and handed over to Aviation officials by the Inspector General of Police. While investigation into the cause of the crash was about to commence fully, the black box reportedly went missing from custody, and investigations into that crash are still inconclusive.

Commenting on the controversial Bellview air crash, Chief

Femi Fani-Kayode lamented that reports of plane crashes were being doctored in Nigeria. "The report of the NCSP and also FBI on the Bellview plane crash is something that I feel every Nigerian needs to read. There was a lot more to the Bellview plane crash, because as far as I am concerned, there was a bomb on that plane. There was evidence to suggest that there was a small bomb on that plane, and I pushed for a criminal investigation, but it was ignored which was very unfortunate. On the Sosoliso aircrash, the former minister refused to even see the families of all those children who died in the Port-Harcourt incident. He said he would only see those who lost more than two children. That to me was insensitive."

**A**n ADC flight 053 to Sokoto crashed immediately after it took off from the Nnamdi Azikwe International airport, Abuja killing Sultan of Sokoto, Alhaji Muhammadu Mac-cido, two Senators, a Deputy Governor and many other passengers and crew members on board. Then aviation minister, Professor Borishade simply said the crash was as a result of negligence from the pilot who refused to obey air traffic controllers on the weather situation.

The announcement by the minister however, was contradicted by eye witness accounts, and the evidence gathered from the black box of the aircraft recovered from the scene of the crash. Eye witnesses said there was a loud noise from an explosion in the plane before it went down. When former President Obasanjo visited surviving victims of the crash at the National Hospital, one of the survivors, a Youths Corp member told the President that there was an explosion in the plane before it crashed, which confirmed fears that the X-ray equipment at the nation's airports were mere toys, as they were not calibrated as recommended by the ICAO to be able to detect sophisticated explosives.

**T**he missing Beechcraft aircraft was another incident that further exposed the inability and non-readiness of FAAN, NCAA and NAMA to render the required aviation services at times of great need. When the aircraft was declared missing, the then minister of aviation, Felix Hyal acting on text messages he allegedly received from the heads of aviation agencies responsible for conducting the search for the missing aircraft, announced that the aircraft has been found. Unfortunately however, the information turned out to be false, and the minister had to tender a public apology. The Federal Government admitted that the whole incident was embarrassing and the President had to order the National Security Adviser to investigate the matter. Following the inadequacies of the aviation sector, the United States government, through her Embassy in Nigeria, warned all her citizens not to fly in any Nigerian aircraft.

A source at the aviation ministry who pleaded anonymity, said, "You see, it is the accumulation of the inadequacies of the aviation sector, the refusal to implement the recommendations of ASCON, the numerous avoidable air crashes recorded in the country, government insincerity in addressing the problems of the aviation sector, the complicity of government involvement in those air crashes of 2005 to 2006, triggered by Umar Farouk Mutallab that prompted the US to list Nigeria among the terror nations. Whether those accusing United States for inclusion of Nigeria in her terrorist list are right or wrong, it is now left for the federal government of Nigeria and the committees on Aviation in both lower and upper chambers of the National Assembly, as well as the National Adviser of Security to form a very powerful committee, to find out, investigate, if the minister of Aviation, and the DG NCAA and FAAN have been telling government and Nigerians the true position of things on the nations' airport.

“The Americans are very much aware that, the workshop they organized and called the changing face of Aviation in Nigeria has refused to change. They are aware that all the security officers at the nations' airports did not meet with the ICAO standard. Yet the Minister and the DG NCAA announced to Nigerians, that Aviation in Nigeria is safe and secure. Recent events have proved them wrong. Nigerians should know that things are not okay at the airports. The first batch of screening machines bought and installed at the airports were brought without manuals. And so nobody can operate them now. They are just there doing nothing. The so-called full body scanners they just bought, could not function because we were not trained on how to operate them. We only put on the machines for the lights to show and nothing more. The scanner recently purchased by the federal government is not the issue, neither is it the counter terrorism agency in the making. The Nigerian government, whose citizens were murdered, should go beyond the breath and length of every circumstance to find out the root causes of these misgivings from the nations aviation sector. Thereafter, the federal government should then decide for itself on whether the United States government decision is justified or not,” the source said.

“The first batch of screening machines bought and installed at the airports were brought without manuals. And so nobody can operate them now. They are just there doing nothing. The so-called full body scanners they just bought, could not function because we were not trained on how to operate them.

crashes were almost regular occurrences. If you the plane crashes in Nigeria and in all about 400 challenge was to ensure that this vicious cycle of lives, stopped.

## Business

# Minister urges RMRDC on research implementation

By Yunus Abdulhamid & Lami Sadiq

MINISTER of Science and Technology Dr Alhasan Bako Zaku has challenged the Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC) to develop a work plan for the implementation of several local researches and

innovation.

Zaku gave the charge yesterday while declaring open the second International Conference on Natural Resources Development Utilisation organised by the RMRDC in Abuja.

He said: "The result of these discussions should be put to practice.

It is not enough to bring scholarly minds to explain and demonstrate uses of raw materials but also find ways of transforming usable raw materials in ways that will benefit the citizens of nation."

He said innovation has remained the main frontier in today's global business world, with

the United States of America's businesses spending over \$75 billion annually on research and development.

"Science and Technology are the indispensable vehicles for transforming a society from backwardness to modernity, from being a liability to an asset", he said.

Earlier in his remarks, Director General of the Raw Materials Research and Development Council, Professor Peter Onwualu said although Nigeria is endowed with sufficient natural resources to sustain a meaningful level of industrial development, "yet we are still at the lowest ebb of development."

## FG urges UNDP to help access aid for trade

By Sunday Williams

THE Minister of Commerce and Industry has requested the United Nations Development Programmes (UNDP) to help Nigeria in mainstreaming trade into National development and to able to access a lot of aid for trade programmes in order to improve the country's competitiveness.

Achike Udenwa made the remarks yesterday in Abuja when he received a delegation from the United Nations Development Programmes (UNDP), led by the Programmes Senior Advisor and Coordinator on Trade and Human Development, Mr. David Luke.

He said that for Nigeria to participate actively in world trade, it must be in a competitive position, adding that unfortunately it is not the case. He said that Nigeria is not competitive because of the supply side constraint in the economy, adding that the constraints includes weak infrastructure base, lack of access to long term funding and also very high cost of funding itself.

Udenwa said that these and other constraints have made industrial development very difficult for Nigeria as well as other developing countries.

He said it is regrettable that Nigeria with all its abundant human and natural resources is finding it difficult to compete favourably with the developing countries of the world.

He said that UNDP can help to raise Nigeria from this status through its assistance in reviewing her systems by talking to the stakeholders such as the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and other ministries as well as other agencies and the private sector who are the main drivers of the economy. He said that it is such interactive sessions that can come up with a policy thrust that can assist Nigeria overcome its present dilemma, adding that the Ministry is also working with other development agencies to help fashion out a new trade and industrial policy.

**Panasonic**  
ideas for life



BEHOLD YOUR JOY IN  
CRISP BRIGHT COLOURS.

# VIERA

LCD and Plasma TVs

**"Introducing Viera Image Viewer"**

With VIERA special SD facility, you can share clips of memorable moments with fan and friends, a large screen show of vivid pictures from your digital camera / cam coder movies.



S series



X series



C series



A series

**12 MONTHS WARRANTY**  
on all Viera LCD/Plasma TV's








**Panaserv Nigeria Limited**

VII CENTRE: 247B, Muri Okunola Street, Victoria Island, Lagos. Tel: 01-4630129, 4630130, 4630131, 08059777923, 07029078156.  
 IKEJA CENTRE: 49, Allen Avenue, Ikeja - Lagos. Tel: 01-4602441, 4602442, 4602443, 07030719089, 07029078157.  
 ABUJA CENTRE: Suite A-11, Al-Mahila Commercial Complex, (Opp. KIA Motors), Garki Area 11, Abuja.  
 Tel: 09-7800455, 08054722547, 07058721632, 07029078158, 08191117899.  
 KANO CENTRE: 48, Bompai Road, Kano. Tel: 08063284539, 08098450790, 07029078166, 07029276069.

**& DEPARTMENT STORES NATIONWIDE**

**Panasonic ideas for life**

www.omeba.net

# Business



GHANAIAN President John Atta Mills, Mr. Aigboje Aig Imoukhuede, GMD/CEO Access Bank and Dr. Pascal Dozie, Chairman, Common Wealth Business Council at the opening ceremony of the African Investment Forum 2010 held in Accra on Tuesday.

## NCC steps into GSM operators, service providers' feud

By Yunus Abdulhamid

EXECUTIVE Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Nigeria Telecommunications Commission (NCC) Engineer Ernest Ndukwe has said that the commission was determined to resolve the lingering differences between service providers and GSM operators in the country's telecom industry.

He said this in Abuja at the Public Inquiry organised by the NCC on the proposed guidelines on the Common and Premium short code operation in Nigeria.

President of the Wireless Application Service Providers Association of Nigeria (WASPAN) Mr. Goke Akingboro said Network operators were fond of denying

content providers who constitute membership of WASPAN, access to their network.

He said in other climates, value added service which include common and short premium codes was a multi-billion dollar business but that current practice of Network operators leave much to be desired.

Mr Adegbe Ogbe, another content provider said that network operators were skewing revenue sharing formula (75%/25% ratio) against the service providers. He also complained of delay in payments of entitlement by the network providers.

The NCC boss said: "We will look into the revenue sharing formula because we at NCC are given to encouraging small firms to grow

so as to provide the needed competition. We will also look into delays in payment by the network operators."

He said the event was meant to look into the proposed guidelines on Common and Premium Short Code Operation in Nigeria.

Short codes are special telephone numbers shorter than the full telephone numbers that can be used to address SMS and MMS messages from mobile phones or fixed lines. They are widely used for value added services such as television voting, ordering ring tones, charity donations among others.

"The guidelines are proposed to provide a framework for operation of common short codes, licensing of content aggregators

and protection against misuse, that meet international standards", Ndukwe said.

Included in the proposed guidelines are the provisions that text messages sent by consumers must be saved by the network providers for a minimum of six months for security and regulatory reasons, not to be used to pass obscene messages while the service providers are to ensure the numbers are used solely for the purpose for which they are meant.

Network operators present at the inquiry maintained that sharing formulas between them and service provider is a matter of business decision which should not be the concern of the NCC. They also complained of the six months minimum period the messages sent should be saved to be too long.

## NSE DG charges shareholders on N21bn Oando right issue

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

THE Director General of the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) Ndi Okereke-Onyuike has advised Oando shareholders and investors to take up their rights in the on-going Oando rights issue.

She made the call recently on the floor of the stock exchange when the management of Oando Plc led by its Group Managing Director Wale Tinubu visited the market to intimate her on the rights issue.

She said Oando is a true Nigerian company which has invested substantially in oil and gas which is the number one product in the country. She commended the management of the company for its focus and visionary outlook on the country's economic prospect.

She said: "While a lot of Nigerian companies that were given partnership to foreign companies turn around to sell off their oil blocks, Oando has shown credible utilization of funds by investing in the upstream which is a highly capital intensive area and today it is exploring and producing its own Crude oil.

"Shareholders that have the opportunity should consolidate ownership of this company instead of selling off their rights."

She urged shareholders to take up their rights expressing confidence that the rights issue will be successful.

"I hereby advise you not to renounce your rights as Oando rights issue will be successful. They have invested in high margin businesses in the upstream and gas sectors that are known to have a very good return on investments, so I think it would be a wise decision to take up your right especially for a credible company like Oando", she said.

Oando right issue opened on January 25 and is scheduled to close February 19. The company is trying to raise N21 billion from its existing shareholders towards meeting its expansion drive.

Indications have emerged that the ongoing Oando right issue maybe heading to over subscription going by feelers from investors who have shown remarkable confidence in the company's growth and expansion drive.

## Crystal Life deepens capacity on grass roots insurance \*opens new branches

From Chris Agabi, Lagos

CRYSTALLIFE Assurance Limited is intensifying effort on grass root insurance marketing in line with the National Insurance Commission (NAICOM)'s renewed effort on grass root insurance.

The firm has opened new branches in Abeokuta and Bayelsa states, while additional

branches would be open soon in Gboko, Benue state and Osogbo, Osun state, the Managing Director/CEO Oluseyi Ifaturoti said at a news briefing yesterday in Lagos.

She said the company is opening insurance sales outlets in local areas and strategic positions across the country, adding that a regional office has also been opened for Northern operations.

"We have also put in place over 1000 agency networks to market life insurance", she said.

She said this is part of the company's strategic vision of one vision one goal.

She said CrystalLife is positioning itself to be among the twenty market leaders in Africa.

"Despite prevailing economic trends, CrystaLife Assurance has been living up to her expectations

as claims paid were in excess of N500 million in 2009", she said.

Ifaturoti said the company now has a capital base in excess N4 billion. This is N2 billion higher than regulation standard. She said the company also has robust product offering and would soon introduce an online insurance solution for its clients.

She said the new solution would help new and existing cus-

tomers take policies, pay online and be able to monitor their policy anywhere in the world.

Recently, the company had a management retreat and concluded that CrystaLife Assurance's activities this year will be driven by the company's corporate objectives on three core areas - "to deepen our market, correct our market and upgrade our internal business processes."

# Business/Finance



## Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE)

Wednesday, February 10, 2010

COMPANY Name	No of Deals	Quot. (N)	Quantity Traded	Value of Shares (N)
<b>2ND-TIER SECURITIES</b>				
CAPITAL OIL PLC	3	0.54	245,000	132,300.00
SECTORTOTALS	4		245,200	132,738.00
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>				
AFPRINT NIGERIA PLC	1	0.86	2,200	1,892.00
FTN COCOA PROCESSORS PLC	27	0.98	2,912,254	2,815,010.99
LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	18	0.79	1,382,550	1,015,264.50
THE OKOMU OIL PALM COY PLC	1	21.62	130,000	2,810,600.00
PRESKO PLC	26	5.01	547,000	2,678,886.17
SECTORTOTALS	73		4,974,004	9,321,653.66
<b>AIR SERVICES</b>				
AIRLINE SERV. & LOGISTICS PLC	10	3.04	465,044	1,325,319.80
NIG AVIATION HAND. COY PLC	287	8.78	2,467,976	21,314,533.97
SECTORTOTALS	297		2,933,020	22,639,853.77
<b>AUTOMOBILE &amp; TYRE</b>				
DNTYRE & RUBBER PLC	5	0.50	480,000	240,000.00
INCAR NIGERIA PLC	1	1.97	70,030	137,959.10
R.T. BRISCOE (NIGERIA) PLC	18	5.49	193,716	1,068,155.96
SECTORTOTALS	24		743,746	1,426,115.06
<b>BANKING</b>				
ACCESS BANK PLC	268	9.24	22,003,181	202,661,983.28
AFRIBANK NIGERIA PLC	223	3.20	4,831,199	15,484,412.12
DIAMOND BANK PLC	108	8.79	7,560,852	66,246,178.06
ECOBANK NIGERIA PLC	27	5.78	220,821	1,276,345.38
FACILITY MONUMENT BANK PLC	145	9.50	17,738,757	168,743,259.89
FIDELITY BANK PLC	190	2.56	13,193,790	34,408,974.36
FIRST BANK OF NIGERIA PLC	924	14.70	26,049,487	388,570,098.49
FINBANK PLC	152	0.79	13,828,749	10,873,134.17
GTBANK PLC	557	17.83	24,165,242	435,990,243.65
STANBIC IBTC BANK PLC	76	9.13	3,111,911	27,522,824.88
INTERCONTINENTAL BANK PLC	93	2.28	2,800,065	6,371,836.72
OCEANIC BANK INTER. PLC	177	2.39	6,877,807	16,286,883.80
BANK PHB PLC	121	2.00	9,214,971	18,226,218.37
SKYE BANK PLC	177	7.50	24,369,098	185,125,902.65
SPRING BANK PLC	15	1.24	500,111	620,237.64
STERLING BANK PLC	64	1.68	3,181,862	5,248,592.11
UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA PLC	288	13.39	9,419,450	125,514,541.71
UNION BANK OF NIGERIA PLC	204	6.33	5,245,732	33,003,067.71
UNITY BANK PLC	43	1.00	2,940,849	2,963,986.37
WEMA BANK PLC	97	1.47	5,854,473	8,486,494.08
ZENITH BANK PLC	244	16.00	29,063,967	461,634,797.54
SECTORTOTALS	4,193		232,172,374	2,215,200,129.8
<b>BUILDING MATERIALS</b>				
ASHAKA CEMENT PLC	114	15.90	1,991,368	31,262,359.94
BENUUE CEMENT COY PLC	58	50.00	1,681,195	84,063,628.40
CEMENT CO. OF NORTHERN NIG. PLC	84	15.01	2,681,008	40,834,970.40
LAFARGE WAPCO PLC	41	34.50	757,848	26,107,115.20
SECTORTOTALS	297		7,111,419	182,268,073.94
<b>CHEMICAL &amp; PAINTS</b>				
BERGER PAINTS NIGERIA PLC	1	3.36	2,280	8,025.60
CHEM. & ALLIED PRODUCTS PLC	17	26.60	239,136	6,361,122.30
DN MEYER PLC	1	4.41	709,404	3,128,471.64
SECTORTOTALS	19		951,820	9,497,619.54
<b>COMMERCIAL/SERVICES</b>				
AFROMEDIA PLC	3	0.57	75,000	42,750.00
COURTVILLE INVESTMENTS PLC	5	0.50	1,261,000	630,500.00
RED STAR EXPRESS PLC	4	2.64	72,072	185,342.16
SECTORTOTALS	12		1,408,072	858,592.16
<b>COMP &amp; OFFICE EQUIPMENT</b>				
NCR (NIGERIA) PLC	5	8.13	56,994	465,156.44
OMATEK VENTURES PLC	2	0.63	40,700	24,420.00
TRIPLE GEE AND COY PLC	1	4.60	39	170.63
SECTORTOTALS	8		97,733	489,746.87
<b>CONGLOMERATES</b>				
A. G. LEVENTIS (NIGERIA) PLC	11	3.00	86,422	257,809.30
CHELLARAMS PLC	1	14.13	100	1,343.00
JOHN HOLT PLC	2	9.28	770	6,791.40
PZ CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC	42	26.00	211,106	5,286,918.29
TRANS. CORP. OF NIGERIA PLC	26	0.50	5,915,544	2,957,772.00
UAC OF NIGERIA PLC	57	40.00	1,441,531	57,172,293.30
UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	138	25.01	71,433,280	1,926,659,271
SECTORTOTALS	277		15,498,753	258,351,597.00
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>				
COSTAIN (WA) PLC	80	5.39	1,731,729	9,440,062.63
G. CAPPALC	2	14.46	199	2,734.26
JULIUS BERGER NIGERIA PLC	35	22.00	276,942	6,103,281.65
MULTIVERSE RESOURCES PLC	4	0.50	38,000	19,000.00
SECTORTOTALS	121		1,996,870	15,605,578.54
<b>FOOD/BEVERAGES &amp; TOBACCO</b>				
7-UP BOTTLING CO. PLC	3	30.60	4,520	145,227.60
BIG TREAT PLC	9	0.84	162,379	134,726.86
CADBURY NIGERIA PLC	85	14.10	1,990,556	27,757,223.02
DANGOTE FLOUR MILLS PLC	255	12.83	7,372,076	94,853,556.37
DANGOTE SUGAR REFINERY PLC	111	15.11	3,092,155	46,841,157.92
FLOUR MILLS NIGERIA PLC	122	40.35	2,999,834	120,807,340.80
HONEYWELL FLOUR MILL PLC	25	6.12	267,100	1,714,868.32
NATIONAL SALT COY. NIG. PLC	44	6.60	984,420	6,454,489.16
NIGERIAN BOTTLING COY. PLC	25	27.50	228,431	6,339,925.06
NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	37	268.00	172,022	47,157,482.65
NORTHERN NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC	4	21.80	21,600	657,080.00
TANTALIZERS PLC	10	0.90	536,681	483,012.90

UNION DICON SALT PLC	2	5.71	50,100	272,043.00
UTC NIGERIA PLC	1	0.78	100,000	78,000.00
SECTORTOTALS	733		17,989,874	353,696,053.66
<b>HEALTHCARE</b>				
EVANS MEDICAL PLC	8	1.16	166,603	190,080.06
FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	13	2.20	194,900	419,198.00
GLAXOSM. CONS. NIG. PLC	32	27.80	308,004	8,253,464.50
MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC	17	5.23	244,689	1,263,244.90
NEIMETH. INT PHARM. PLC	11	1.56	154,625	241,215.00
U/DIAG. & CLINICAL SERV. PLC	18	0.67	1,069,652	727,826.38
SECTORTOTALS	99		2,138,473	11,095,028.84
<b>HOTEL &amp; TOURISM</b>				
CAPITAL HOTEL PLC	1	2.30	500	1,095.00
IKEREA HOTEL PLC	9	1.23	279,500	343,785.00
TOURIST COY OF NIGERIA PLC	1	5.28	100	502.00
SECTORTOTALS	11		280,100	345,382.00
<b>IND/DOMESTIC PRODUCTS</b>				
B. O. C. GASES NIGERIA PLC	19	12.18	660,988	8,366,854.68
NIGERIAN ENAMELWARE PLC	1	52.85	200	10,042.00
FIRST ALUMINIUM NIG. PLC	3	0.50	97,000	48,500.00
VITAF OAM NIGERIA PLC	56	5.23	3,381,524	16,850,072.83
VONO PRODUCTS PLC	7	0.66	142,000	93,720.00
SECTORTOTALS	86		4,281,712	25,369,189.51
<b>INF &amp; COMM. TECHNOLOGY</b>				
CHAMS PLC	28	0.69	3,446,463	2,403,258.84
E-TRANZACT INTER. PLC	1	5.23	200	994.00
IHS NIGERIA PLC	3	4.03	2,000	7,660.00
STARCOMMS PLC	54	2.05	8,084,325	17,064,818.64
SECTORTOTALS	86		11,532,988	19,476,731.48
<b>INSURANCE</b>				
AFRICAN ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	1	0.67	200	128.00
AIICO INSURANCE PLC	124	1.12	6,629,529	7,379,890.94
CONTINENTAL REINSURANCE PLC	13	0.98	1,897,000	1,848,065.00
CORNERSTONE INSURANCE CO. PLC	23	0.55	792,532	424,079.80
CUSTODIAN & ALLIED INSURANCE PLC	18	2.88	3,035,500	8,560,870.00
EQUITY ASSURANCE PLC	4	0.50	20,500	10,250.00
GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	28	0.57	19,686,100	11,267,791.00
GUARANTY TRUST ASS. PLC	29	2.30	2,049,462	4,765,132.01
GUINEA INSURANCE PLC	2	0.50	30,000	15,000.00
CONS. HALL MARK INSUR. PLC	6	0.50	53,640	26,820.00
INTER. ENERGY INSUR. COY PLC	33	0.58	3,890,199	2,255,950.08
LASACO ASSURANCE PLC	65	0.52	6,870,940	3,553,473.80
LAW UNION & ROCK INS. PLC	6	0.57	766,000	439,920.00
LINKAGE ASSURANCE PLC	7	0.50	261,300	130,650.00
MUTUAL BENEFITS ASS. PLC	11	0.64	261,215	167,177.60
N.E.M. INSUR. CO. (NIG.) PLC	52	0.52	3,821,768	2,038,460.31
NIGER INSURANCE CO. PLC	19	0.71	2,112,300	1,531,425.00
OASIS INSURANCE PLC	2	1.42	8,500	11,475.00
SOVEREIGN TRUST INSU. PLC	4	0.50	946,222	473,111.00
STACO INSURANCE PLC	6	0.83	20,800	16,432.00
STANDARD ALLIANCE INS. PLC	20	0.62	1,390,934	869,238.42
UNIC INSURANCE PLC	16	0.80	2,089,931	1,732,615.73
UNITY CAPITAL ASSURANCE PLC	5	1.33	120,790	160,650.70
UNIVERSAL INSUR. COY PLC	1	0.50	6,500	3,250.00
INTERCONTINENTAL WAPIC INS. PLC	31	0.90	888,437	817,361.78
SECTORTOTALS	526		57,650,299	48,499,218.17
<b>MEDIA</b>				
DAAR COMMUNICATIONS PLC	21	0.75	283,466	212,599.50
SECTORTOTALS	21		283,466	212,599.50
<b>MORTGAGE COMPANIES</b>				
ASO SAVINGS & LOAN PLC	15	0.65	1,000,006	645,957.82
RESORT SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	7	0.50	478,380	239,190.00
UNION HOMES SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	33	0.98	2,624,966	2,585,716.00
SECTORTOTALS	55		4,103,352	3,470,463.82
<b>OTHER FINANCIAL INST</b>				
CRUSADER NIGERIA PLC	21	1.02	1,628,918	1,673,958.88
ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC	5	0.58	73,685	44,211.00
SECTORTOTALS	26		1,702,603	1,718,169.88
<b>PACKAGING</b>				
NIG. BAG MANU. COY PLC	283	2.00	3,002,309	5,937,894.95
SECTORTOTALS	283		3,002,309	5,937,894.95
<b>PETROLEUM (MARKETING)</b>				
AFRICAN PETROLEUM PLC	71	38.02	547,851	20,837,527.30
BECO PETROLEUM PROD. PLC	11	2.17	382,520	763,666.40
MRS OIL NIGERIA PLC	15	69.79	18,551	1,294,994.23
CONOIL PLC	25	31.00	68,298	2,131,573.14
ETERNA OIL & GAS PLC	34	6.30	224,408	1,399,852.46
MOBIL OIL NIGERIA PLC	12	97.51	66,677	6,176,957.28
OANDO PLC	17	93.99	462,384	43,459,472.16
TOTAL NIGERIA PLC	10	150.00	27,142	3,868,360.00
SECTORTOTALS	195		1,797,831	79,981,402.97
<b>PRINTING &amp; PUBLISHING</b>				
LONGMAN NIGERIA PLC	2	9.76	1,700	15,776.00
UNIVERSITY PRESS PLC	13	4.89	253,100	1,238,089.00
SECTORTOTALS	15		254,800	1,253,865.00
<b>REAL ESTATE</b>				
UACN PROPERTY DEV. CO. PLC	29	20.50	566,916	11,349,414.00
SECTORTOTALS	29		566,916	11,349,414.00
<b>REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST</b>				
SKYE SHELTER FUND	1	100.00	2,000	200,000.00
SECTORTOTALS	1		2,000	200,000.00
OVERALL TOTALS	7,967		387,723,492	3,511,724,696.16

What is Tax Anticipation Notes? These are securities issued in anticipation of future tax collections.

Google

### GAINERS

NB	2.10
FLOURMILL	1.92
GLAXOSMITH	1.30
GUINNESS	0.90

### LOSERS

NESTLE	2.00
CAP	1.40
AP	1.35
OKOMUOIL	1.13





**NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY (NPAFS)  
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER RESOURCES  
AREA 11, GARKI ABUJA.**

**INVITATION FOR THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONWIDE ESTABLISHMENT OF SMALL SCALE AGRO PROCESSING INDUSTRIES FOR CASSAVA, RICE, GRAIN FLOUR MILLING, GROUNDNUT OIL, PALM OIL, FISH AND MEAT/KILISHI UNDER THE BUILD-OPERATE AND OWN (B.O.O) ARRANGEMENT**

The National Programme on Agriculture and Food Security (NPAFS) of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources hereby invites interested and eligible private sector investors/cooperative groups for the **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** to participate in the establishment and operation of processing mills for Cassava, Rice, Grain flour milling, Groundnut oil, Palm oil, Fish and Meat/Kilishi. Project implementation will be done in collaboration with the **Bank Of Industry (BOI)** as Fund Custodian and Administrators.

One factory per state will be built at one of the locations of the NPAFS sites under Build, Operate and Own (B.O.O) arrangement.

The main objective of the project is to increase access to modern agro-processing facilities and world-best-practices in food processing through the development of Agro-industries nationwide, thereby creating employment and enhancing Food Security.

**CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION**

- Only investors that have been previously involved in a particular crop processing business and demonstrate technical, managerial and financial (5 million naira minimum) ability will be considered for participation in the project.
- The investor must own a land measuring a minimum of 2000m<sup>2</sup> (50m x 40m) at an accessible location where factory operation will not constitute an environmental nuisance to any existing neighbouring buildings.
- The government through Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources will provide a standard factory design and equipment list and specifications for use in the factory, build and equip factory in consultation with investors.
- All groups wishing to participate in this programme must show proof of Registration with the CAC for Corporate Bodies and Cooperative Societies must be recognized by the Cooperative Department of the Ministry.
- Evidence of current Tax Clearance Certificate.
- Previous experience and operational base in the project area will be an added advantage.
- Each processing factory has the following details:

S/NO	AGRO INDUSTRY TYPE	TARGETED STATES	NO OF FACTORIES	FACTORY CAPACITY TONNES/LITRES PER DAY
1.	CASSAVA	Kogi, Nassarawa, Taraba, Oyo, Ekiti, Ondo, Imo, Enugu, Delta, Akwa- Ibom, Bayelsa	11	3 to 4 tons finished product
2.	RICE	Benue, Kwara, Plateau, Niger, FCT, Bauchi, Kebbi, Kano, Kaduna, Ogun, Osun, Lagos, Ebonyi, Edo, Cross River	15	3 to 4 tons milled rice
3.	CEREAL FLOUR (Maize Sorghum & Millet)	Borno, Sokoto, Zamfara	3	3 to 4 tons flour / Noodles
4.	G/NUT OIL	Gombe, Jigawa, Katsina	3	3 to 4 tons G/Nut seeds
5.	PALM OIL	Abia, Anambra	2	8 to 10 tons FFB
6.	FISH	Adamawa, Rivers	2	0.5 to 1 ton smoked / dried fish
7.	MEAT/KILISHI	Yobe	1	0.5 to 1 ton Kilishi

**FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT**

- Federal Government Consultancy 40% grant as incentive to offset Project and contracting overheads
- Private investor 60% of Project Cost
- Beneficiaries/Investors are expected to make an initial payment of 20% for the project.
- The balance of 40% may be sourced from the collaborating bank, Bank of Industry, at 9% interest per annum and a 3 1/2 year repayment period which includes a 6month moratorium.

**SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

The expression of interest document should be submitted in 2 copies, properly bound, and clearly marked at the top right hand corner:

"EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF SMALL MEDIUM SCALE (indicate type of agro-industry here pls)..... PROCESSING INDUSTRY UNDER BUILD OPERATE AND OWN (B.O.O) ARRANGEMENT" with a non-refundable fee of N20,000 (Twenty thousand naira only) cash.

- The sealed envelopes should be addressed and delivered to the office of National Programme Coordinator (NPAFS), 127, Adetokunbo Ademola Crescent, Wuse 2, Abuja on or before 12 noon on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2010.

All the expression of interest documents shall be publicly opened at 12.00 noon on the closure date of the advert at the National Programme on Agriculture and Food Security office / conference hall, 127, Adetokunbo Ademola Crescent, Wuse 2, Abuja.

Signed  
Permanent Secretary  
Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources  
Area 11 Secretariat,  
Garki Abuja.



**NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY (NPAFS)  
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER RESOURCES  
AREA 11, GARKI ABUJA.**

**INVITATION FOR TENDER  
FOR**

**CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPPING AND CONSULTANCY SUPERVISION OF SMALL-SCALE AGRO-INDUSTRIAL FACTORIES**

Tender Identification No: NPAFS/FMA/AIF/2009/01.

- 1 The National Programme on Agriculture and Food Security (NPAFS) of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources has received donor support funds and Federal government budgetary allocation for executing its activities under the programme mandate. The NPAFS programme intends to apply part of this allocation for payments under the contracts for the construction, equipping and consultancy supervision of Small-scale Agro-industries in the 36 States and FCT. Project implementation will be done in collaboration with the Bank Of Industry (BOI) as Fund Custodian and Administrator.
- 2 The NPAFS now invites sealed tenders from eligible and qualified tenderers for the construction, equipping and supervision of the under-listed works:

LOTS	DESCRIPTION OF WORKS	LOCATION	COMPLETION PERIOD
A	<b>Construction of Cassava Agro Industry building perimeter fencing, borehole, electrification and fabrications/supply of generators and prescribed processing equipment in 11 states as prescribed in the bid document.</b>		
A1.	Construction and equipping of cassava factory buildings as stated above in 6 States	Akwa-Ibom, Bayelsa, Delta, Ekiti Enugu, Imo	180 Days per Lot
	<b>Consultancy for resident supervision of cassava agroindustry building and Installation/ Testrun of Cassava agro processing machinery in 11 States as prescribed in the bid document specifications.</b>		
A2.	Consultancy for resident supervision of cassava factory building and Installation/Testrun of Cassava processing machinery as stated above in 6 States	Akwa-Ibom, Bayelsa, Delta, Ekiti Enugu, Imo	210 Days per Lot
A3.	Construction and equipping of Cassava factory buildings as stated above in 5 States	Kogi, Nasarawa, Taraba, Ondo, Oyo	180 Day per Lot
A4.	Consultancy for resident supervision of cassava factory building and Installation/Testrun of Cassava processing machinery as stated above in 5 States	Kogi, Nasarawa, Ondo, Oyo, Taraba	210 Days per Lot
B	<b>Construction of Rice Agro Industry building perimeter fencing, borehole, electrification and fabrication /supply of generators and processing equipment in 15 states as prescribed in the bid document</b>		
B1.	Construction and equipping of Rice factory buildings as stated above in 9 States	Benue, Kwara, Plateau, Niger, Bauchi, Kebbi, Kano, Kaduna, FCT	180 Days per Lot
	<b>Consultancy for resident supervision of Rice agro-industry building and Installation/ Testrun of Rice-agro processing machinery in 15 States as prescribed in the bid document specifications.</b>		
B2.	Consultancy for resident supervision of Rice factory building and Installation/Testrun of processing machinery as stated above in 9 States	Benue, Kwara, Plateau, Niger, Bauchi, Kebbi, Kano, Kaduna, FCT	210Days per Lot
B3	Construction and equipping of Rice factory buildings as stated above in 6 States	Ogun, Oshun, Lagos Ebonyi, Edo, Cross River	180 Days per Lot
B4.	Consultancy for resident supervision of Rice factory building and Installation/Testrun of processing machinery as stated above in 6 States	Ogun, Oshun, Lagos Ebonyi, Edo, Cross River	210Days per Lot

Contd.

C.	Construction of Cereal Grain-Agro Industry building perimeter fencing, borehole, electrification and fabricationsupply of generators and processing equipment in 3 states as prescribed in the bid document		
C.	Construction and equipping of Cereal Grain Flour factory buildings as stated above in 3 States.	Borno, Sokoto, Zamfara	180 Days per Lot
	Consultancy for resident supervision of Cereal Grain Flour agro industry building and installation/ Testrun of agro-processing machinery in 3 States as prescribed in the bid document specifications.		
C1	Consultancy for resident supervision of Cereal Grain Flour factory building and installation/ Testrun of processing machinery as stated above in 3 States	Borno, Sokoto, Zamfara	210 Days per Lot
D	Construction of Groundnut Oil-Agro Industry building perimeter fencing, borehole, electrification and fabricationsupply of generators and processing equipment in 3 states as prescribed in the bid document		
D	Construction and equipping of Groundnut oil factory buildings as stated above in 3 States.	Gombe, Jigawa Katsina	180 Days per Lot
	Consultancy for resident supervision of Groundnut oil agro industry building and installation/ Testrun of agro-processing machinery in 3 States as prescribed in the bid document specifications.		
D1	Consultancy for resident supervision of Groundnut Oil factory building and installation/ Testrun of processing machinery as stated above in 3 States	Gombe Jigawa Katsina	210 Days per Lot
E	Construction of Palm Oil Agro Industry building perimeter fencing, borehole, electrification and fabricationsupply of generators and processing equipment in 2 states as prescribed in the bid document		
E	Construction and equipping of Palm Oil factory buildings as stated above in 2 States	Abia, Anambra	180 Days per Lot
	Consultancy for resident supervision of Palm Oil agro industry building and installation/ Testrun of agro processing machinery in 2 States as prescribed in the bid document specifications.		
E1	Consultancy for resident supervision of Palm Oil factory building and installation/ Testrun of processing machinery as stated above in 2 States.	Abia Anambra	210 Days per Lot
F	Construction of Fish A-gro Industry building perimeter fencing, borehole, electrification and fabricationsupply of generators and processing equipment in 2 states as prescribed in the bid document		
F	Construction and equipping of Fish Agro industry as stated above in 2 States	Adamawa, Rivers	180 Days per Lot
	Consultancy for resident supervision of Fish-agro industry building and installation/ Testrun of agro processing machinery in 2 States as prescribed in the bid document specifications.		
F1	Consultancy for resident supervision of Fish Processing factory building and installation / Testrun of processing machinery as stated above in 2 States	Adamawa Rivers	210 Days per Lot
G	Construction of Meat / Kilishi A-gro Industry building perimeter fencing, borehole, electrification and fabricationsupply of generators and processing equipment in 1 state as prescribed in the bid document		
G	Construction of Meat / Kilishi- agro Yobe industry as stated above in 1 State		180 Days per Lot
	Consultancy for resident supervision of Meat / Kilishi agro-industry building and installation / Testrun of agroprocessing machinery in 1 State as prescribed in the bid document specifications.		
G1	Consultancy for resident supervision of Meat Kilishi Processing factory building and installation / Testrun of processing machinery as stated above in 1 State.	Yobe	210 Days per Lot

- The tendering will be conducted through the National Competitive Tendering (NCT) procedure as specified in the Procurement Act 2007 and The Procurement Procedure Manual published by Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) in January 2008.
- Interested eligible tenderers may obtain further information from National Programme on Agriculture and Food Security (NPAFS) at the address given below from the hours of 10.00 am to 3:00 pm on Mondays to Thursdays and 10:00am to 1:00 pm on Fridays.
- Qualifications requirements include: All as contained listed in the BDS of the tendering Document.
- A complete set of Tender Documents in English language may be purchased by interested tenderers on the submission of a written Application to the address below and upon payment of a non refundable fee of N20,000.00 (Twenty Thousand Naira) only. The method of payment will be cash. The Tendering Documents will be collected by hand.
- Tenders must be delivered to the address below on or before 12:00 Noon, Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2010. Electronic tendering will not be permitted. Late tenders will be rejected.
- Tenders will be opened in the presence of the tenderers' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below at 12:00 Noon on the closure date of the advertisement.
- The address referred to above is:  
The National Programme Coordinator  
National Programme on Agriculture and Food Security  
127, Adetokunbo Ademola Crescent, Wuse 2

Signed  
Permanent Secretary  
Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources  
Area 11 Secretariat,  
Garki Abuja.

# DIGEST

## The real-life Sleeping Beauty who snoozes for two weeks at a time

SHE is known to her family and friends as 'Sleeping Beauty' - but her life is no fairytale.

Louisa Ball, 15, sleeps for two weeks at a time because she suffers from an incredibly rare disorder.

She misses school exams, dance lessons and even missed an entire week's holiday away with the family as she slept the whole way through.

Louisa, who lives in Worthing, has been diagnosed with Kleine-Levin Syndrome - also known as Sleeping Beauty Disease - where sufferers can fall into deep sleeps that can last for weeks.

She first developed the disorder in October 2008 after recovering from a bout of flu.

Her mother Lottie, 45, said: 'She had a dose of flu that lasted for about a week but she never really recovered properly from it.'

'We afterwards found out that it was the start of a sleep mode, which comes before the deep sleeps.'

'She was exhausted and didn't seem to be getting any better. She started to fall asleep at school and was rambling about things that didn't make sense - just like she was talking in her sleep.'

'It really scared us, we didn't know what to do. It just didn't seem like Louisa was the daughter we used to know - she was like a different person.'

Louisa was referred to Worthing General Hospital in Novem-

ber that year and the paediatric consultant there told the couple that he didn't know what was wrong with Louisa, but it may be hormonal.

By then Louisa was sleeping for ten days at a time. She would sleep deeply for 22 hours, then her parents would wake her just long enough to give her some food and take her to the toilet, then she would fall back to sleep.

Her father Richard Ball, 44, a surveyor, said: 'She couldn't do anything but sleep. She couldn't go to school for days at a time when she was asleep.'

'It was very hard to wake her but we knew that we had to give her food and water. We would hurry to get her to eat her food whilst we could, but she would always be rambling and wouldn't make any sense.'

'It was like she was sleep walking and talking in the times we did manage to wake her up. After she had been asleep for a week or ten days, she wouldn't remember anything about it.'

Louisa was referred to St George's Hospital in Tooting in March last year and a Consultant Paediatric there eventually diagnosed her with Kleine-Levin Syndrome.

The syndrome is a rare form of periodic hypersomnia, where sufferers have periods of prolonged sleep.



**SLEEPING beauty:** Louisa Ball suffers from Kleine-Levin Syndrome, a rare condition where people sleep for weeks at a time

Doctors don't know what causes it, although it is thought it may be related to malfunction of the hypothalamus, the part of the brain that governs appetite and sleep.

It is more common in males than females and usually disappears in adulthood, and between sleep periods the sufferer recovers completely.

The couple, who also have a 14

year old son Ross, had never heard of the illness before.

Mr Ball said: 'We had no idea that there was such a thing, but it was a relief once Louisa was diagnosed.'

'The consultant who diagnosed her had heard of other case before.'

'There is no definitive treatment for Kleine-Levin Syndrome,

although some patients are given stimulant drugs to try and keep them awake.'

Louisa was put on medication but it didn't work and after her diagnosis she started falling asleep for up to 12 days at a time.

Mr Ball said: 'We know when Louisa is starting to go into sleep mode as she becomes irritable, so we do have some warning.'



**HELEN Hunt and Mel Gibson in What Women Want**

ACCORDING to a new survey, men don't know certain crucial details about their wives. Jasper Gerard reports.

Yesterday morning, I rushed in late for my daughter's school play and sat next to a woman who I took to be my wife. Erroneously, as it turned out. No wonder she looked bemused when I asked her what she'd done with my jogging kit.

According to a survey published yesterday, I needn't feel too bad: millions of British men are ignorant of such basic information

about their wives as hair colour, job title, date of birth or name of best friend.

But if women are sometimes surprised by how hard men find it to remember the little details, they should have tried living with our fathers. The name of a wife's best friend? My father could scarcely remember the name of his own wife he had so many, so he called them all "darling" to avoid confusion during interregnums.

The survey was commissioned by a seller of scents to show that

## Why men never know what women want

because men are useless at choosing presents women must not be "subtle" about what they are hoping to be given. But shyness isn't a condition I've noticed in many wives. Men are no worse at present buying than women; we simply try harder to disguise our disappointment. When we say "this year, darling, you have surpassed yourself; this is the craziest cardigan I've ever seen", play back the words. Wives like to believe they know everything about us, and sometime in late February the charity shop gains a few more cardigans, so everyone's happy.

Yet I guarantee that a female's first words, before she has even ripped open a Valentine gift this Sunday, are likely to be those of my wife: "you have kept the receipt, haven't you sweetheart?" The word "sweetheart" is delivered in the tone of a train conductor warning about suspect packages. If women won't even pretend to like our trinkets,

is it any wonder we stop trying to please them?

The first present I bought my (now) wife was a stunning, admittedly rather short, silver dress from Harvey Nichols. Her response? She threw it back shouting "so you think I'm a prostitute, huh?". Give a wife a homely present, on the other hand, and it will be, "so this is how you see me now: Nora bleeding Batty?" That was pretty well the reaction of a woman I know when she received from her brand new boyfriend a hot water bottle, albeit one covered in cashmere. It was hardly the steamy gift she'd been hoping for.

I confess men can, on occasion, fall short, and even I can see why the more exacting wife might assume a husband should know certain details. A friend (who has been married for years) was astonished to receive earrings from her husband for her birthday. Her ears

have never been pierced. Another acquaintance who bought his wife lingerie cleverly checked her bra size beforehand against one in her drawer. He failed to notice that it was her old maternity bra.

A trawl of friends reveals a sorry litany of presents bestowed on gobsmacked wives, including a rape alarm, dog basket, deep fat fryer and an exercise machine carrying the motif "pound buster", to which the only possible response was "dearest, you shouldn't have - really." Kathy Lette, author of *Men - A User's Guide*, says her husband gave her ladybird earrings, two Christmases running. And he once described her blue eyes ("my only attractive attribute") as brown: "Don't Make My Brown Eyes Blue finally made sense to me. My mother said it was grounds for divorce. Actually, it's grounds for homicide."

Culled from telegraph.co.uk

Sign Language

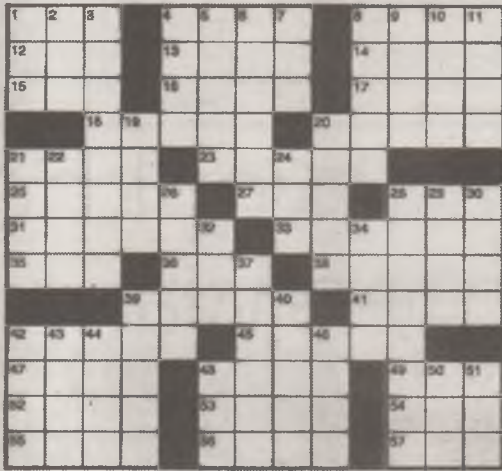


For those who like the good old times  
Photo location: Lhasa, Tibet, by David Phillips  
Culled from the telegraph.co.uk

EASY CROSSWORDS

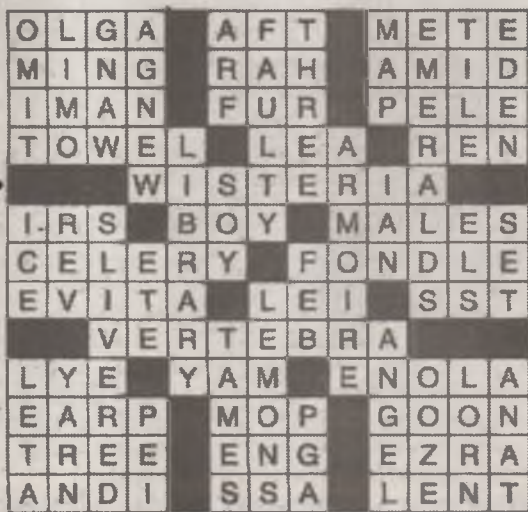
- ACROSS**
- Track unit
  - Among
  - Small wedge
  - Clock numeral
  - Nude
  - \_\_\_ colada (cocktail)
  - Three (Ital.)
  - Children's author Carle
  - Circle sections
  - Squeeze
  - Move stily
  - Bill of Rights defenders (abbr.)
  - Makes well
  - Kingdom
  - "\_\_\_ Kids" (2001 movie)
  - Condensed moisture
  - Shooting star
  - Experience again in the imagination
  - Mariner's dir.
  - Prosecutors (abbr.)
  - Fray
  - Tree of Lebanon
  - Orange skin
  - County expositions
  - Slight cuts
  - Oil change's partner
  - Scent
  - What a bouncer checks
- DOWN**
- Used a match
  - \_\_\_ mail
  - Perch for lemon meringue (2 wds.)
  - Have \_\_\_ in one's bonnet (2 wds.)
  - Swampy area
  - Decorative flowers
  - Last mo.
  - Extends across
  - Take on
  - Andes native
  - Halloween wear
  - As a \_\_\_ (generally)
  - More cunning
  - Tentacles
  - So-so grades
  - Spring mo.
  - Styles
  - Math branch
  - Uniform
  - Unite metal by heating
  - Groovy, '90s-style
  - Carefree adventure
  - Wood-smoothing machine
  - Blind-date reject
  - \_\_\_ Janeiro (2 wds.)
  - Move smoothly, as traffic
  - German car
  - Heronlike bird
  - Black bird
  - Kin of assoc.
  - Basis of heredity (abbr.)
  - Dip in liquid

72



Solution to Easy Crosswords

71



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.

84

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

Solution to Sudoku 83

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

## News Extra

## 20TH Anniversary of Mandela's Release

# Remembering the day Nelson Mandela was freed

By Audrey Brown

**N**ame for the exhilaration that would begin bubbling through my blood, and explode into my soul, on 11 February, 1990.

Just a week earlier South Africa's last white president, FW de Klerk, had announced to the world that Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela would walk free from jail.

At the time, I was a cub reporter for the crusading anti-apartheid newspaper Vrye Weekblad. And I was breaking up with my long-term boyfriend and consolidating a relationship with someone else.

But my love-life took a back seat as one of the most exciting events in my personal and professional life began to unfold.

It may sound lofty now - but this political event was personal.

#### Delirious joy

Everything my family and comrades had held to be true - that we would defeat apartheid, that all the authentic leaders of the people of South Africa would be freed and that our true aspirations would finally be realised - was about to come true.

**L**aughed with delirious joy because everything was suddenly possible, just like we knew it was when - as singing children - we threw stones at the staggering giant that was apartheid. I cried because so many of my friends and family had died trying to make this happen, waiting for it to happen.

I so wished that my maternal grandfather was alive to witness the day.

My paternal grandfather had gone into exile in the 1950s and this meant we would finally meet him - and the aunt, uncles and cousins we did not know.

#### Whole again

My father and his siblings would see their father again after 31 years. My grandmother would be reunited with the man who had left her with their four children to go into exile.

**I**would find out what had happened to my friends who had disappeared across the borders, to go and fight to bring this day closer.

My family - and my country - would be whole again.

We marched through the



AUDREY Brown's memories of the day Nelson Mandela was released are still vivid

streets of Johannesburg, taunting the police with our victory chants. They chased us and beat us up.

The old beast tried hard to put the joyous genie of victory back into the bottle of repression.

#### The key

One of my colleagues - a white Afrikaner - ended up with a bloodied face, dazed from a policeman's club - on the cover of the magazine Index on Censorship.

**B**ut nothing felt like pain and nothing felt like work that week as we started putting together a special edition of our newspaper.

#### And then it was Sunday.

With a new boyfriend and old friends - and a towering joy - I sat in front of the television, waiting to see the man whose release was key to ending the political crisis in South Africa.

I know it sounds a bit silly but it did feel a bit like waiting to see the bride's dress at an important wedding; or waiting to see a beloved and long-awaited newborn baby for the first time.

We did not know what he would look like or what he would be like.

In a way we did not care, because the very fact of his release represented the sum total of our achievement.



AFRICAN National Congress (ANC) leaders Nelson Mandela (middle) and Walter Sisulu, veteran ANC secretary-general and Robben Island prisoner at a rally in Soweto two days after Mandela's release from jail 11 February 1990. With them is Mandela's wife Winnie Mandela.



PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela lays a wreath at the grave of Black Consciousness (BC) leader Steve Biko, who died in police detention in 1977, in Ginsburg, near East London 12 September 1997.

#### 'There he is now...'

Apartheid was finally defeated. It had stumbled under the words of disgust and condemnation from the whole world, and

the sacrifice of millions inside and outside South Africa.

Mr Mandela's release was proof that it had finally fallen. We had won.

Nothing could be better than this. I was thinking all those things as I waited to see him.

The world had stopped to watch with us and everyone was subjected to the same stolid commentary from the South African Broadcasting Corporation's anchorman.

Then the moustached presenter - so typical of the old South Africa - said: "There he is now..." or words to that effect; and a tall, upright man in a suit walked slowly out into the sunshine, holding his beautiful wife's hand and raising the other in a black power salute.

That is when the very centre of my soul suddenly flamed and melted into a burnished joy that has flared and faded over time as South Africa went through, and continues to suffer, a painful rebirth.

As I think of that day now, I feel that molten-core flame again and I know that - whatever happens to my country and my continent - it will never really be extinguished.

*Audrey Brown worked as a print and broadcast journalist in South Africa before joining the African News and Current Affairs department of the BBC World Service. She is currently a presenter of World Service programmes including World Briefing.*

## News Extra

# Tourist tells of horror lift ordeal 124 floors up the world's tallest building

A group of terrified tourists have told how they were trapped in a lift for almost an hour 124 floors above the ground in the world's tallest building.

Visitors on the observation deck half-mile-high Burj Khalifa heard a loud boom, then saw dust that looked like smoke seeping through a crack in a lift door.

The 15 people inside were trapped for 45 frightening minutes until rescuers managed to pry open the doors.

One of those trapped in the elevator said that the lights went off and the car began to fall before the brakes kicked in.

Because the elevator was apparently stuck between floors, workers had to drop a ladder into the shaft so those inside could crawl out.

On the observation deck, about 60 more people were stranded and some began to panic.

Shortly after the drama unfolded on Saturday evening, the tower that was supposed to be one of Dubai's proudest achievements shut down to the public just a month after its grandiose opening.

It is the latest embarrassment for the once-booming Gulf city-state that is now mired in a deep financial crisis.

Witnesses who were on the observation deck at the time and a Dubai rescue official relived their terrifying experience this morning.

Emaar Properties, the state-linked company that owns Burj Khalifa, has said little about the incident and nothing about an lift malfunction.

It remains unclear what caused the elevator to the observation deck - the only part of the building that was open - to fail.

Michael Timms, 31, an American telecommunications engineer who lives in Dubai, was on the deck with his cousin Michele Moscato when the ordeal began.

'It almost sounded like a small explosion. It was a really loud bang,' Timms said.

It would take another 45 minutes for rescue crews to arrive and pry open the elevator door, he said.

From where he saw, the elevator's roof looked to be about where the floor should have been, so rescuers hoisted a ladder into the shaft to help those trapped inside crawl out. Some were clearly shaken.

'One lady I saw ... she didn't say a word,' Timms said.

'She just looked shocked and



THE opening ceremony



THE Burj Khalifa was closed after the lift got stuck

dazed, then walked directly to the wall and sat down on the floor.'

Abu Naseer, a spokesman for Dubai's civil defence department, said the call for help came in around 6.20pm on Saturday. Emergency crews used another lift to reach the observation deck and were able to rescue all 15 people in the broken elevator unharmed, he said.

The incident was the latest to tarnish the international reputation of Dubai, one of seven small sheikhdoms that make up the United Arab Emirates.

In recent years, Dubai boomed on borrowed wealth that went into extravagant real estate projects such as islands shaped like palm trees and rows of striking new skyscrapers.

Then the financial crisis hit and real estate prices plunged to half their value in a year.

The government and many state-run companies struggled to pay their bills - debts that surpassed \$80 billion.

Abu Dhabi, the UAE capital and Dubai's oil-rich neighbor, pumped \$20 billion in bailout funds to rescue Dubai.

In a nod to the bailout patron,

the tower originally known as Burj Dubai was renamed Burj Khalifa for the emir of Abu Dhabi and UAE president Sheik Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

The surprise renaming was

**“The 15 people inside were trapped for 45 frightening minutes until rescuers managed to pry open the doors**

announced at the lavish opening ceremony on January 4.

Emaar, which owns the 2,717-foot building, has not responded to specific questions about the incident that led to the shutdown or made anyone available

to speak.

Local newspapers reported the shutdown on Monday but it was still not clear exactly when the building was closed.

Emaar issued a brief statement in response to questions on Monday saying the viewing platform was temporarily shut for 'maintenance and upgrade' because of 'unexpected high traffic'.

It also hinted at electrical problems, saying 'technical issues with the power supply are being worked on by the main and sub-contractors'.

Emaar has made no mention of problems with the elevators, angering some of those involved in the incident.

'What just kind of shocks me is that they were going to brush this under the rug to save face. If it broke, at least tell people it broke,' Timms said.

Witnesses say Emaar provided little information to visitors stuck on the 124th floor observation deck as rescue crews worked.

That lack of information caused panic among some visitors.

'I was really starting to get upset, getting really nervous,' said Moscato, 29, a nurse visiting from Columbia, South Carolina. 'I started crying.'

She said she and Timms - along with other visitors, some in raised voices - asked to use the lift to get back down, but were told that was not allowed. Visitors were eventually taken down in a freight elevator not normally used by the public, they said.

Moscato said one of those trapped in the elevator told her later that the lights went off and the car began to fall before the brakes kicked in.

It was not possible to independently verify the account.

The tower's 57 elevators are supplied by U.S.-based Otis Elevator Co., part of United Technologies Corp.

Otis spokesman Dilip Rangnekar said the installation is ongoing. He declined to comment, however, on Saturday's malfunction, saying it was up to owner Emaar to release details.

Because of its immense height, the Burj will have separate sections on levels 43, 76 and 123 known as 'sky lobbies' where tenants will change from express elevators to local ones that stop on each floor.

Visitors to the observation deck use dedicated elevators that whisk them from the base to the 124th viewing floor in about a minute.

The tower was designed by Chicago-based Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, which has a long track record engineering some of the world's tallest buildings, including Chicago's Willis Tower, the tallest in the U.S. formerly known as the Sears Tower.

A Skidmore spokeswoman and engineers involved in the Burj's construction did not respond to requests for comment.

The observation deck was the only part of the tower that had opened as work continued on the rest of the building's interior. The first tenants were supposed to move in this month.

The tower rises more than 160 stories, though the exact number of floors is not known. The tapering, silvery tower ranks not only as the highest building but also as the tallest freestanding structure in the world.

The observation deck, which is mostly enclosed but includes an outdoor terrace bordered by guard rails, is located about two-thirds of the way up.

## News Extra

# Did this man survive for FOUR WEEKS under the rubble of Haiti earthquake?

**A** Haitian earthquake survivor claimed Monday that he was rescued after spending 27 days trapped in the rubble.

Evan Muncie, 28, was reportedly discovered in the wreckage of a food market where he worked selling rice.

Doctors said he was suffering from extreme dehydration and malnutrition, but did not appear to have any serious injuries.

If it turns out to be true, the 'miracle' will revive hopes that more survivors could still be buried alive in the ruins of Port-au-

Prince, the Haitian capital.

Muncie's apparent recovery came eleven days after the last survivor was rescued and more than a fortnight after Haitian authorities declared an end to all search operations.

'He was emaciated. He hadn't had anything in quite some time,' said Dr Mike Connelly, of Miami University's field hospital where Muncie was taken on Monday.

Confused and disoriented, Muncie raised some suspicion over the veracity of his story by claiming that someone brought him water while he was trapped.

'Initially, I'm sure he had his senses with him, so maybe he was able to find some kind of resources,' added Dr Connelly, who said the people who brought him to the hospital said they found him while digging out the marketplace.

The man's mother confirmed he had been missing since the January 12 earthquake.

**D**r Dushyantha Jayaweera, who is also working at the Miami University field hospital, said Muncie's survival was 'unusual but not impossible.'

'He was quite hydrated and he was wasted, so there are certain things that suggest that it's true,' he added.

The rescue is not the longest known example of survival fol-



**PHOTOGRAPHER Michael Andrew captured the moment Evan Muncie was carried into a field hospital after being buried since the quake struck 27 days ago**

**“Muncie raised some suspicion over the veracity of his story”**

lowing an earthquake.

Five years ago, Naqsha Bibi was found in the kitchen of her collapsed house in Kashmir more than two months after a massive earthquake in Pakistan.

She had spent 63 days stuck in a crouched position as the space was too small for her to stretch her arms and legs. She survived by drinking water trickling through the house from a nearby stream and eating rotting food.

Muncie was recovering in hospital in Port-au-Prince last night

as aid workers hurried to clear survivors away from floodplains before the rainy season begins in Haiti.

With forecasts of heavy rain by the end of the month, fears are growing that storms could cause landslides and exacerbate health problems in makeshift camps where more than 1/2 million people are sheltering.

Meanwhile, Hollywood actress Angelina Jolie was due to visit Haiti after pledging to get more star support for the earth-

quake-ravaged country.

**T**he actress, who is also a Goodwill Ambassador for the UN High Commissioner, flew into the region to follow up her \$1m contribution to relief efforts with a personal inspection.

Her first stop was at neighbouring Dominican Republic, where she visited a hospital in the capital of Santo Domingo where child victims of the quake were being treated.

# Labour report

## HOS inaugurates capacity building committee

By Francis Okeke

HEAD of the civil service of the Federation Mr. Stephen Oronsaye has inaugurated a nine-member Public Sector Capacity Building Technical Committee and Standardization Committee. Mr. Oronsaye said during the inauguration in his office in Abuja that the committee was set up to guide the capacity building implementation process

in managing standardization and quality assurance issues so that it is more effective and achieve desired results. He recalled that at a national stakeholders' forum on public sector capacity building held in January, 2010 there was a broad endorsement of the concept of the programme but challenges and gaps were identified that needed to be tackled.

A press statement signed by

the spokesman of the Office of the Head Service Tope Ajakaiye said Oronsaye disclosed that committee's objectives include, among others, "to ensure the availability and implementation of the outcomes of reports on programmes delivered, support the commission of evidence-based and measurable quality assurance tools and standards for all programmes." It will also provide a mechanism for high

standard that ensures that qualified experts are deployed for all tasks to be outsourced.

The Head of Service said further that the committee will be expected to commission a quarterly quality assurance report that will be submitted to inform his Office, the Manpower Development Institutions (MDIs) and other partners, of progress being made in the areas of programme delivery and stand-

ardization issues.

In her response, Chairman of the committee and Consultant to the Public Service Institute of Nigerian (PSIN), Dr. Francisca Odeka, assured the Head of Service that the committee will ensure effective delivery of the training programme, create platform for quality assurance and ensure that the country receives value for money spent.

### 'Staff motivation is an asset for nation building'

By Francis Okeke

WELL motivated employees in both public and private sectors are great assets in nation building especially in the quest to build a world standard work place in the country, said Mrs. Jumai Ahmadu of Helpline Foundation Abuja.

In a statement on 'performance enhancement manual for workers in public and private organization' Jumai said "a well motivated staff is a great asset to any organization because he or she will always be production-hungry" adding that "such a staff is usually proud, ready, willing, available and able to deliver on any assigned task no matter the circumstance, making him to be highly efficient, proficient focused and goal oriented."

She pointed the benefit of harmonious relationship between employers and employees saying that "employers of labor and employees otherwise known as Staff are strategic partners in

**A well motivated staff is a great asset to any organization because he or she will always be production-hungry**

nation building and human capital development. They play a great role in ensuring effectiveness and efficiency which bring about high productivity evident by the maximization of profit and the minimization of loss.

She said for a positive work environment, both employees and employers should create a mutually conducive environment that will engender the right attitude and ensure quick delivery, team spirit, responsibility, accountability, diligence, zeal, innovation and punctuality, amongst others.



FROM right: National Directorate of Employment's Information Officer Nnamdi Asomugha, NDE's Director of Small and Medium Scale Enterprises Ismaila Umar and Aminu Masari, a staff of Nigerian Embassy in Turkey. NDE staff visited Turkey recently on a study tour.

### Hairdressers protest tax increase in Niger

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

FOLLOWING the decision of Niger state government to increase internally generated revenue from N600 million to N1 billion monthly, hairdressers in Niger state have embarked on peaceful protest demanding for a downward review.

The beautician queried a situation where they have to pay, according to them, far beyond what they can generate. They maintained that what they make in the State fall far short of what they have to pay as the tax will gulp good part of their profit. The hairdressers in Minna yesterday who operate under the Progressive Union of Hair Dressers and Beauticians (PUHD) marched to the state board of internal revenue office at the old secretariat, Minna where they demanded to meet with the chairman.

Mrs. Eberechi Oko, Secretary General of the union who spoke in an interview with journalists said they were at the old secretariat to see the chairman of the board of the state internal revenue to tender their complaints.

"We are not against increase in revenue or taxes but what they are demanding from us is too much, how can we get such amount of money to pay to sustain our businesses as we have to pay N4, 000 instead of N700. "We have been pleading with them to reduce the sum to N2, 000 but they refused and to worsen the matter, they insisted that we must pay at once and getting the money in bulk is a problem as we have epileptic supply of power in the state and business is not that good", she said.

Members of the union carried placards with such inscriptions as: 'Give us our rights as Nigerlites', 'Cut down your bills', 'Consider us we are your mothers.'

### FG repositions staff Housing Loans Board

By Francis Okeke

THE Federal Government has repositioned the Staff Housing Loans Board in order to make it more effective and achieve its mandate of assisting civil servants to own houses, Head of Civil Service of the Federation Mr. Stephen Oronsaye said yesterday.

Oronsaye said this when members of the Federal Government Staff Housing Loans Board paid a courtesy visit to his office in Abuja.

According to him, "with this repositioning, the Board has been empowered to function in line with statutory provisions and the designation of the Chief Operating Officer of the Board has been changed from that of Director to Executive Secretary."

He added that "the seriousness with which the current administration holds the issue of staff housing was adequately demonstrated by the money released to the Federal Mortgage Bank by the Federal Government through the 2009 supplementary budget which was specifically slated for the granting of housing loans to civil servants."

He urged the Board to discuss with the Federal Mortgage Bank on the modalities for the usage of the money as specified in the budget.

In his remarks, Chairman of the Federal Government Staff Housing Loans Board and Permanent Secretary (Common Services Office,) Dr. Edugie Abebe expressed the gratitude of the Board members and the entire civil service to the Head of Service, who, she said, has within a short time, reorganized the Board and made it to function more effectively.

She informed the HOS that the Board has started a process that will enable it recover lost assets and outstanding debts.

DAILY TRUST

E-mail: education@dailytrust.com

## EDUCATION

HOTLINE: 08035910371

# American varsity of medical sciences seeks NUC's accreditation

Stories by Abdullahi M. Gulloma

EFFORTS are being made for the accreditation and establishment of a \$650 million American University of Medical Sciences that will provide undergraduate and post-graduate programmes for all categories of medical personnel in the country.

Speaking to journalists at the premises of the National Universities Commission (NUC) in Abuja yesterday, Professor

Nimi Briggs said the initiators took the decision to deviate from the conventional tertiary institutions in the country.

"American University of Medical Sciences is a special university geared towards training graduates in the medical field as well as indirectly helping to build capacity in the health care industry which is what the country needs. The top 20 economies of the world have one doctor to a population of 3,500, medical

schools are doing their best but the output is still poor. There are less than 20 medical schools producing medical personnel and our population is fast outstripping the physician production," he said.

In his remarks, Executive Secretary of NUC Professor Julius Okojie, emphasised that government is encouraging the establishment of specialized private institutions to tackle the dearth of highly trained personnel in some profes-

sions, adding that the cost implication of sending some key personnel for training abroad was becoming unbearable for the government.

"We have discovered that merely sending our personnel overseas for specialized form of training has become a problem for us, that is mainly the reason government is trying to woo Nigerian professionals abroad to come home and replicate it here," he said.

## ETF disburses N41b intervention grants to varsities, polytechnics

THE Education Trust Fund (ETF) yesterday disbursed special intervention grants worth N41.4 billion to six universities, three polytechnics, three Colleges of Education and the Nigeria Defence Academy (NDA).

The universities received N5.5 billion each, the polytechnics received N1.2 billion each and the Colleges of Education and the Nigerian Defence Academy received N1.1 billion each.

Speaking at the official presentation of allocation of letters for the special intervention grants to the benefitting institutions, Executive Secretary of ETF Professor Mahmood Yakubu, said the grants was necessary because no

Nigerian laboratory ranks among the top 1,000 in the world.

He said ETF will ensure that due process is duly and uncompromisingly observed in the implementation of the projects by the benefiting institutions, adding that the two cardinal objectives for the projects were value for money and their positive impact on the nation's education sector.

Speaking on behalf of the institutions, chairman of the Committee of Pro-Chancellors Dr Wale Babalakin said the ETF's special intervention grants were crucial to the development of the education sector.

## ASUU laments proliferation of varsities

THE national president of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) Professor Ukachukwu Awuzie has decried the proliferation of state and private universities in the country.

Professor Awuzie, who made this known in Sokoto said "most of them are not more than glorified secondary schools while it is trying to become even a senatorial zone affair."

He said most of the state universities have been politicised while they remained inadequately

funded, adding that "our borrowed educational system is also archaic and obsolete. That is why ASUU will soon convene an education summit to chart an indigenous educational system."

He said only about 200,000 out of the over two million candidates seeking admission into universities in Nigeria were admitted, saying that 2in developed nations, all qualified candidates get admitted into the universities after passing the qualifying examinations." (NAN)



GOVERNOR Segun Oni of Ekiti State congratulating Miss Bolanle Falodun, one of the four maritime students that got state government's scholarship to study abroad for three years.

## Japan will continue to assist Nigeria on education – Ambassador

THE Ambassador of Japan to Nigeria Mr. Toshitsugu Uesawa said his country will continue to assist Nigeria in boosting education and poverty alleviation.

The Ambassador disclosed this at the commissioning of Centre for Development and Partnership (CEDEP) in Rafiyawo community, Gombe state.

According to him, Japan is assisting Nigeria because Japan believes that Nigeria is leader of Africa with much cultural influence.

Mr Uesawa described Nigeria as "engine for African development" and with largest economic potential, population and natural resources.

In her welcome address, chairman of the centre and Minister of State for Education Hajiya Aishatu Jibril Dukku said the centre was established in 2004 primarily with the mandate to support women and children to develop their human potentials.

She said the centre is using every available opportunity to increase their confidence towards improving the quality of their lives and promote partnership and networks aimed at achieving positive and equitable sustainable development in Nigeria.

She said since establishment, the centre has established community primary school in Yerwa village in Toro LGA of Bauchi State and

trained 108 girl-child and 87 women literacy learners in Dawaki Literacy Centre.

According to her, the centre has also built a block of two classrooms in Babar/Bogoyawa village in Dass LGA of Bauchi state and established a girl-child skills acquisition centre in Gombe town in March 2008.

In his goodwill message, the Executive Secretary of Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC) Dr Ahmed Modibbo Mohammed, said the commission is delighted to be associated with the centre, adding that UBEC is committed to bring basic education to all the communities in the country.

## NMC promises to improve mathematical sciences library

By Abdullahi M. Gulloma

THE National Mathematical Centre (NMC) said it has taken bold steps to develop the Mathematical Sciences Library to cater for the nationwide

diverse research interests.

Director-General of the centre Professor Sam O. Ale, who disclosed this at an interactive session with the media in Abuja, said the centre would procure the neces-

sary equipment for the immediate digitalization of the library.

He said some of the strategies aimed at repositioning the library include completion and furnishing of phases 1 and 2 of the library

building by 2010 and 2012, respectively.

Professor Ale also told journalists that the centre would this year organize workshops for mathematics teachers and heads of math-

ematics department and lecturers in order to analyse, evaluate and proffer common strategies for the overall development of the teaching and learning of mathematical sciences in the country.

# CAMPUS ROUNDUP

E-MAIL: campusroundup@dailytrust.com

HOTLINE: 08035910371

## Respondents want Unijos to develop permanent site

By Abdullahi M. Gulloma

SOME concerned Nigerians have called on the management of the University of Jos to relocate to the permanent site of the university so that its students will not be victims of crisis in Jos.

The concerned Nigerians, who called from Jos, Kaduna, Lagos, Sokoto, Minna, Abuja and Bauchi were responding to Campus Roundup's last week's story entitled "How Jos crisis crippled varsity stu-

dents."

Majority of the respondents said as a matter of urgency, the university's management should develop all the structures at its permanent site so that students can have adequate hostel facilities that will make it impossible for them to stay off-campus.

"University of Jos is one of the oldest universities in the country. I don't see reasons why management of the university should allow students to be victims of cri-

sis in Jos when its permanent site can be developed to meet the demands of all the students," a respondent from Kaduna said.

A respondent who called from Lagos simply said: "university environment should be safe and conducive for academic activities. Therefore, it is the responsibility of those at the helm of affairs in University of Jos to protect the lives and properties of its students and lecturers. They should expand the university so that it will cater for its teeming students and lecturers"

One of the respondents who called from Jos, the Plateau State capital told Campus Roundup that the management of the university should relocate the Bauchi road main campus to a safer site in to guarantee the safety of students and lecturers.

In the same vein, some of the students called for the relocation of the Bauchi road campus, saying it is becoming increasingly unsafe for academic activities because of its proximity to the areas often affected whenever there is crisis.

## NANS to embark on one-month tour of institutions

By Maureen Onochie

THE National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS) has resolved to embark on a month's tour of all education institutions of the federation to assess the condition of the infrastructure in the campuses as well as the welfare of the students.

NANS President Comrade Jude Gabriel Imagwe, who disclosed this in Abuja, said the tour will enable the union discuss issues affecting students with the management of the institutions. "Our visit to all institutions is going to afford

the management and students of the institutions the opportunity to have an agreed understanding and a workable process of attaining peace and unity in the institutions," he said.

He said the tour will also afford management of the tertiary institutions the opportunity to share ideas on how to move the education sector forward.

Speaking on the Jos crisis, the president called on the Plateau State Government to seek advice from the governors of Kaduna and Kano states that have successfully put an end to violence in their states.

## Students commend Aloba over development of education

From Opeyemi Dibua, UNAD

STUDENTS in tertiary institutions in Ekiti State have commended Honourable Bisi Aloba for his contribution to the development of education in the state and helping the less-privileged in the society.

Speaking at his residence, the students said Honourable Aloba, an Ikere-born graduate of engineering, has spent most of his years investing in youth and making realise their potentials.

Leader of the team, Adeoye oyenusi, a 400 level student of philosophy said "we are here to say a big thank you, which is too small to

appreciate what you have done for us in our lives," adding that "most of us will be graduating in few months time and I want to assure you that we will also contribute to the development of the young ones when we are in good position."

Campus Roundup learnt that in July, 2009, Honourable Aloba sponsored two students to Oxford University on full scholarship. One of the beneficiaries, Tope Babarinde said "my scholarship is dream comes true, and my experience has been wonderful. I want other well to do individuals in the society to emulate Honourable Aloba."



## Unilorin to install digital library workroom

IN the pursuit of its vision to be an international centre of excellence in learning, research and service to humanity, the University of Ilorin has embarked on the upgrade of its library facilities.

According to the university's Acting Librarian Mrs. J.A. Fadayomi and an exchange staff member from the University of Cape Coast in Ghana Mr. A. K. Martey, a digital library workroom is a facility that conquers time and space by availing library users the materials in the

library at the press of a button via the internet.

Mrs. Fadayomi differentiated between the digital library workroom being put in place and the e-library that is already on ground, saying that while the digital library workroom allows library users to access the resources available in the University of Ilorin library via the internet, the e-library facility provides access to online resources and materials in other libraries.

In his assessment of the University of Ilorin library,

Mr. Martey, who is leading the digital workroom installation project, observed that the university has the potential of being a showpiece of the 21st century library and a reference point to other university libraries.

In an interview with our reporter, a 400 level student in the Department of Religions, Alabi David, commended management of the University of Ilorin for the noticeable improvement on the library facilities and general environment.

On her part, Salau

Kafaya, a 200 level student of Accounting and Finance, said she has witnessed a transformation that is not difficult to discern in the university library between last year that she was admitted and now.

"There are more books on my Faculty shelves in the library than before and all the fans are now working. There are more than enough chairs available to students. I can only ask the management to do more even though they are doing well," she said.

## UNN final year students begin exams February 15

FINAL year students of the University of Nigeria Nsukka (UNN) will commence examinations on Monday, February 15, 2010, following directives by the university's governing council.

This was contained in a statement issued by the acting registrar of the univer-

sity Mr Anthony Okonta.

He said the decision to re-open the university was reached after an emergency meeting of the governing council of the university.

It would be recalled that university was closed down after a violent demonstration by the students.

According to the statement, other students are to return on February 15, 2010 and start their examinations on February, 19, 2010.

"The decision is in the overall interest of the students, in particular, to bring the academic calendar of the Nsukka campus in line

with the other campuses," the statement said.

The statement also directed all returning students to obtain a letter of undertaking, signed by their parents or guardian, to be of good behaviour throughout their stay in the university.

# CAMPUS ROUNDUP

E-Mail: [campusroundup@dailytrust.com](mailto:campusroundup@dailytrust.com)

HOTLINE: 08035910371

## Endless hurdles of online JAMB registration

By Maureen Onochie

WHEN in 2006 the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board (JAMB) introduced the online registration for candidates sitting for its examination, it was hailed as an important step by the exam body towards globalization. Few years later, many candidates say that the process is increasingly becoming a nightmare for them.

Most candidates who have used the scratch card introduced by JAMB for online registration have complained that it has not been a better option for them. A candidate, Isah Makarfi, who was able to overcome the hassles described the exercise was frustrating.

He said the process of registration through the internet was not only frustrating but it was worst for him because he had to visit the bank several times to buy the scratch-card.

The very first time I went, they told me that the card had finished and I should check back after three days, when I checked back after three days they told me that they had still not received the card I should come back in a week time which I did. When I got back after one week as they advised, I saw a very long queue of people waiting to buy the card and I joined. I spent the whole day in the bank before I was able to buy the card," he said.

Recounting her experience while trying to register for the examination online, Uju Madu said the process is cumbersome and considerably ineffective. "After I scratched the card and tried to log in the pin code to start the registration, the column in the website for the registration kept showing me invalid pin. I thought it was network problem and so I continued trying but to no avail. I left that day and went home to go the next day believing that it was network



EXCITED matriculating students of the University of Ibadan at the convocation ground in Ibadan

problem. When I got to the cyber café the next day, the problem persisted and we thought it was the particular system that was bad. I used almost all the systems at the cyber café that day, but to no avail. I was advised to go and complain to jamb officials but all I was told was that it wasn't their fault. I was then compelled to go buy another scratch card before I was able to register. I still don't know what happened to the first card."

On his part, Reginald Ndubuisi, said also that the online registration is frustrating and should be improved upon. He said he was forced to go to the cyber café midnight so as to be able to go on with the registration.

Students seeking admission into tertiary institutions not only buy a scratch-card to get registered for the JAMB examination, they also have to buy a scratch-card

from the school to write the post-UME conducted by the universities. After writing the examination, they also buy a scratch-card to check for their names on the admission list. If the candidate is successful, he or she needs to buy another scratch-card for registration.

A computer operator in one of the cyber cafés in Abuja metropolis, Bimbo Jimoh, JAMB registration period often provides the best opportunity to make money because of the large number of people coming for the registration exercise.

There are also complaints about sales of fake JAMB scratch cards. A student, Adewale Ismail attributed this to poverty, saying that "because of the poverty level in the country, people are ready to do anything to make money in order to meet their daily needs."

"The persistent scarcity of the

cards in the bank and the high demand for it can also make a business centre to reproduce the card to make money. It is better to buy the card in the bank because that is where the authentic ones are sold," he said.

Responding, the Public Relations Officer of the Joint Admission Matriculation Board (JAMB), Chinwe Ogbuka told Campus Roundup that the board cannot be blamed for the difficulties candidates face during registration exercise, saying that "the board is not in control of the network."

"Probably the network is congested as at the period the person is trying to do the registration. A lot of people have been registering and we been receiving the data of people who registered," said.

She advised the candidates to buy their scratch cards either at the banks or any JAMB office to avoid being duped.

## Questions for Governor Oni

From Olusegun Adegbenro, UNAD

THE recent statement on school fees increment by the authorities of the University of Ado Ekiti has been a subject of murmur, argument and showdown. The university's management released school fees figures for indigenes and non-indigenes ranging from N90,000 to N120,000 which spreads across faculties like Management Science, Social Sciences, Education, Engineering, Law, Social Sciences, Arts and PTP, among others.

The statement, signed by the university's registrar, indicates a 45 percent pay rise above the usual payment which is about N45,000 to N60,000 for indigenes and non-indigenes, respectively.

Though the new school fees is applicable to only on fresh students billed to fill the 7,500 admission quota, its introduction brings on board many questions from the students.

When Governor Olusegun Oni assumed office three years ago, he promised to make education his priority area. From the beginning, his promise looks concrete for students when he suddenly increased the capital subvention of the University of Ado Ekiti from N65 million to N110 million, doled out six-month scholarship to students and successfully mouth-banned the sale of handout in all the tertiary institutions in Ekiti State.

Again, at the time when the university was in need of sound leadership to urgently address its falling standard, he appointed Professor Dipo Kolawole, and everybody rose for joy forgetting that 'the strong in a weak cycle is as weak as the weakest'.

But things have gone wrong now and students begin to ask Governor Oni the following questions; what can Professor Kolawole do without resources? Can Mr Governor explain why University of Ado Ekiti needs not to be adequately funded? Is it a case of selfish interest of establishing another university in Ifaki-Ekiti?

Funny enough, even in the 2009 budget, the billions estimated for development of the university was reduced to a mere N500 million, leaving the institution to rely on the meagre Internal Generated Revenue (IGR). Ask Mr Governor to honour his annual visit to the University of Ado Ekiti and let us see if he can beat his chest to be part of the transformation and reform agenda of university.

We are in an era of painstaking meltdown. Our parents are finding it extremely difficult to pay even the old tuition fees not to talk of an increment. Does Mr Governor think that a poor medical student can pay N200,000 stipulated by government? The Ekiti State Government can effectively run the university without ostracizing students.

## How lecturers short-change students on continuous assessment

By Shehu Mohammed Abbas

BY rule, marks in each course students are taking are divided into the usual 40 percent for Continuous Assessment (CA) and 60 percent for examinations. Students read hard to earn marks for the CA and examinations, and surely some lecturers do their best in marking and awarding appropriate marks.

But there are concerns over how a student truly earns because of the total control lecturers have over CA. Mostly, students write examinations without knowing what is in their account (as far as CA is concerned), and this leave

them at the disposal of our lecturers.

Thus, lecturers allocate marks to students as they wish, using different methods of "marks allocation formula." Some lecturers allocate more marks to students in return for sex, money or gift. Some allocate marks to the students they personally know and some to those that lobby for marks. That is why even if you pass their tests, assignments and attended all their lectures, you end up having a meagre CA and you have nobody to complain to.

It was Sir J. E. E. Dalberg who once said that power tends to

corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Therefore, due to the absolute power and total control lecturers have over CA, a lot of undeserving students pass, while a lot of deserving ones fail or obtain lower grades in their CGPA not because they are not good but because they don't lobby for marks, they don't give gifts, they don't sale their bodies or they don't care to know lecturers at personal level.

However, as rotten as the institutions are, there are quite a number of lecturers who stick to academic ethics and values. They neither increase nor decrease students' CA. Unfortunately, lectur-

ers under this category are hated by majority of students.

Therefore, it is instructive for the management of tertiary institutions to device means of ensuring that students' CA are closely monitored so that it will not be manipulated by lecturers for their selfish interest. This will go a long way in giving credit to those who deserve it.

I know that this piece will be distasteful for the beneficiaries of this unhealthy practice, but they should understand that the hardest part of a person's life is when he or she decides to change, especially if that change is from bad to good or from good to better.

## CITY NEWS



HOTLINES: 0803-3493-462 & 0703-8927-513  
email: citynews@dailytrust.com

# Missing suspect's family takes police to court

By Abubakar Yakubu

THE family of missing Jude Onunze and his town union, Aku Welfare Association, Abuja, have taken the police to court over his disappearance from the Kuje Police Station's cell for the past one year and two weeks.

Our reporter learnt that Jude Onunze was arrested on January 1, 2009, after a complaint by one John Ogbonna, who alleged that

Jude said somebody wants to kill him (John).

Mr B. Onunze, who spoke for the family, said yesterday that the office of Nnaemeka Ejiogor and Associate, an Abuja based law firm has been briefed and given the go-ahead to seek justice for the sudden as well as unaccounted disappearance of their son, father and brother from the police cell in Kuje since January 4, 2009.

The family lawyer, Nnaemeka

Ejiogor, said the matter has been filed and the case is before the chief judge of the Federal Capital Territory for assignment.

He said the family are claiming for the production of Jude Onunze as well as N250 million as damages for the stress caused the family amongst others.

The human rights lawyer stated that the police were the last to see Jude Onunze as he was in their custody from January 1 to 4, 2009,

when he was reported lost.

"He was detained because one Mr John Ogbonna alleged that Jude said somebody wants to kill the said John and so, he was arrested, detained and maybe killed as we don't know yet," the lawyer disclosed.

He said the family are in court to find out what transpired and where Jude Onunze is and who is responsible for what happened.

The lawyer said the family had

earlier written several letters to the inspector-general of police, attorney-general of the federation, human rights commission, members of the National Assembly, amongst other.

"Senator Ayogu Eze had equally written to the inspector-general of police to no avail and so we have gone to court since it is the last hope of the common man to seek justice," the lawyer added.

## Airport road flyover to be ready April 2011

By Oluto Samuel

THE site manager handling the construction of a flyover bridge at Airport road junction has said the project is likely to be completed by April 2011.

Dr Richter, who works for Julius Berger, explained that the bridge would run from the Oando Filling Station axis of Jabi and pass across the road's intersection to Life Camp, adding it will take care of traffic jams.

Our reporter learnt that for sometimes there have been consistent traffic jams during pick periods at the end of work.

Motorists heading towards Gwarinpa, Life Camp and Jabi had suffered persistent traffic jams in the past which prompted the federal government to award the contract to Julius Berger construction firm.



NYSC Director-General Brig-Gen M.I. Tsiga during his visit to corps orientation camp at Kubwa Tuesday.

PIC: ABUBAKAR YAKUBU

## Passengers engage driver in scuffle over phone call

By Romoke W. Ahmad

A commercial driver answering a call as his bus was on motion, yesterday got more than he bargained for as his passengers pounced on him after informing him severally to park and continues with his phone conversation.

The bus was carrying 18 passengers from Nyanya to Area one when a call came through his phone close to old Central Bank of Nigeria's junction and he picked his phone and engaged the caller in a long conversation that infuriated the passengers.

Our reporter learnt that the passengers in the front seat strug-

gled the steering with the driver to bring the vehicle to a stop, while others grabbed him and demanded for an instant refund of their money.

A passenger told our reporter that what they did to the driver was good as nobody knows if he would have lost control of his vehicle and crashed it.

"We only prevented him from endangering our lives as he almost lost control of his steering while answering the call," he said.

The driver was however saved by elderly persons at the scene, who appealed to the passengers to forgive him and follow the vehicle to their destination.

## Corps member builds classrooms for Gosa community

By Mustapha Suleiman

A National Youth Corp member, Oko Emmanuel, yesterday donated two blocks of classrooms to Gosa community, in the outskirts of the Federal Capital Territory.

The classrooms were added to the Gosa one primary school located in Gosa community.

While commissioning the Community Development Project, the NYSC Director-General, Brigadier General Maharazu Tsiga commended the corps member for the project, adding that the project is an addition to several other community oriented projects being embarked upon by corps

members across the nation.

The director-general called on wealthy Nigerians to support corps members who intend to contribute to the physical development of their host communities.

He donated the sum of N500,000 on behalf of the NYSC to the school, in order to purchase necessary writing and learning materials.

Also, the Chairman of the FCT NYSC Governing Board, Barrister Habiba Kalba donated N100,000 to support the school.

In his speech, the corps member, Oko Emmanuel, said that he was inspired by the orientation camp that urged corps members

to strive to contribute positively to the development of any community they are posted to.

"I was inspired by the call for us to develop our host community and I then began to look around for areas where I can make my contribution until I discovered this school that lacked enough classroom," he stated.

He said that the construction of the classrooms cost him over N500,000.

In his speech, the Chief of Gosa Community, Micah Wakili thanked the NYSC for their positive contribution to the community and prayed for more developmental partnership with the NYSC.

# Motorist charged over death of Julius Berger's workers

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

THE police have arraigned a 28-year-old motorist before an Abuja magistrate court for allegedly causing the death of four workers from Julius Berger Construction Company.

Sani Abdullahi was alleged to have driven a Peugeot 406 car with registration number FY

35 ABJ in a dangerous manner along the Nnamdi Azikiwe road and crushed four Julius Berger workers.

"The accident led to the death of four workers of Julius Berger Construction Company namely, Emmanuel Usman, Ibrahim Idris, Ojo Kayode and Vitus Awosikka while Godwin Kadiri, Obi Greg, Eze Kelvin and Umaru Solovue,

all staff of Julius Berger sustained various degrees of injuries," the prosecutor added.

He further stated that the injured workers were quickly rushed to the Julius Berger clinic for treatment, adding that the offences committed by the accused are punishable under Sections 27, 29 and 19 of the Road Traffic Act.

When the three-count charge

was read to the accused, he pleaded not guilty, saying the accident that led to the death of the victims was not caused by his recklessness.

After denying the allegations, the prosecutor asked the court for a date for hearing to enable the police bring evidence and witnesses to court.

In her ruling, Magistrate Had-

iza Dodo granted the accused bail in the sum of N600,000 with two reliable sureties in like sums, who must reside within the court's jurisdiction.

She also ruled that one of the sureties must be a civil servant who must swear to an affidavit to produce the accused in court on the adjourned date and adjourned the case to March 3 for hearing.



PIC: ABUBAKAR YAKUBU

CORPS members entertaining guests at Kubwa Tuesday.

## Car washer denies causing pedestrian's death

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

A 25-year-old car washer yesterday in court denied causing the death of one Jafaru Mohammed of Jayi village, by Tipper Garage, Abuja.

The accused, Haliru Sani was charged for careless driving, driving without licence, driving an unlicensed vehicle and causing death by dangerous driving.

Police prosecutor, Mon-

day Akor, had earlier stated in court that on February 2, 2010, the accused drove an unregistered Honda Accord car from Kubwa expressway to Maitama and ran into a Taxi cab with registration number XE832KUJ.

"In the process, the accused knocked down a pedestrian, Jafar Mohammed, who later died as a result of the injuries sustained," the prosecutor added.

When the charges were read to the accused, he

denied them and said he is not responsible for the death of the pedestrian. Based on his plea, the prosecutor asked the court for a date for hearing to enable the police produce evidence and witnesses.

Chief Magistrate Ademuyiwa Oyeyipo granted the accused bail in the sum of N100,000 with a reasonable surety in like sum, who must reside within the court's jurisdiction.

The case was adjourned to March 2 for hearing.

## Two drivers charged with car theft

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

TWO commercial taxi cab drivers yesterday appeared before an Abuja magistrate court for allegedly conspiring to steal a cab belonging to one Miss. Motunrayo Ademola.

Peter Adepoju was accused of collaborating with one Olufemi Johnson and others now at large to steal the said car in 2009.

Prosecutor Yusuf Auta, an assistant superintendent of police, told the court that on December 11, 2009, a human rights group petitioned the police on behalf of one Miss. Motunrayo Ademola, whose car was stolen.

"The complainant gave a taxi cab with registration number XD 980 KWL to the first accused person (Peter Adepoju) for commercial purposes and with the agreement that he would make weekly returns to the owner," the prosecutor added.

He went further to state that the accused handed over the car to the second accused person (Olufemi Johnson) without the consent of the complainant.

The prosecutor added further that the accused persons conspired with yet to be identified persons to steal the car, adding that the offences committed are punishable under Sections 97 and 287 of the Penal Code Law.

When the charges were read to the accused persons, they denied them and requested for bail, which was vehemently objected by the prosecutor on the grounds that investigations into the matter were still ongoing.

Magistrate Bashar Attahiru Alkali granted each of the accused persons bail in the sums of N200,000 with two reliable sureties in like sums, who must reside within the court's jurisdiction.

He also ruled that the sureties must be civil servant of not below grade level 08 and ordered that the accused persons must be reporting to the police every Monday morning till when investigations will be completed.

The case was adjourned to March 3 for hearing.

## Civil servant accused of defrauding lawmaker

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

THE police recently arraigned a 41-year-old civil servant before an Abuja magistrate court for allegedly defrauding one Ibraheem Bawa of the National Assembly.

Hassan Aliyu, a staff of the protocol department of the National Assembly, Abuja, was accused of committing the offence in November, 2009.

Police prosecutor, Isenyo Adoche, told the court that

Ibrahim Bawa reported to the police that he gave the accused N400,000 to help him secure visas to Saudi Arabia for his two daughters.

"The accused converted the money to his personal use and committed offences punishable under Sections 312 and 322 of the Penal Code Law," he said.

When the two-count charge was read to the accused, he denied them and requested for bail, which was not objected to by the prosecutor.

In his ruling, Chief Magistrate Ademuyiwa Oyeyipo granted the accused bail in the sum of N200,000 with a reliable surety in like sum, who must be a civil servant of not below grade level 09.

He also ruled that the surety must reside within the court's jurisdiction and swear to an affidavit to produce the accused in court on the adjourned dates as well as produce evidence of ownership of any landed property within Abuja.

The case was adjourned to March 8 for hearing.

...gone too soon

With a deep sense of loss and total submission to the will of Almighty God. The family of Engr. DAVID & KANDE DOGO, regret to announce the untimely death of their son DONOWRO DENNIS DOGO which took place on Saturday, 6th February, 2010

**MR DONOWRO DENNIS DOGO**

1992-2010

BURIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Funeral Mass at Holy Spirit Catholic Church  
Kwoi, Jaba L.G.A Kaduna State.  
Date: Thursday, 11th February, 2010  
Time: 10:00am prompt.

*Our Beloved son. Rest in the Bosom of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

# ENVIRONMENT

property@dailytrust.com

HOTLINE: 07041632079

## Niger campaigns against tree felling

NIGER State government has embarked on massive awareness campaign to sensitise the people on the dangers of indiscriminate felling down of trees.

Alhaji Sani Adamu, the Commissioner for Environment and Forestry Resources, who said this on Wednesday in Abuja in an interview in Abuja. "We are currently embarking on sensitisation campaign of all the emirates to enlist the support of tra-

ditional, religious and political leaders.

"They are expected to go down and sensitise their various communities on the need to conserve the forest and avoid illegal felling of trees," he said.

He urged the indigenes of the state to appreciate the dangers of environmental hazards some of which he said, are caused by human activities.

Adamu said the government has raised

seedlings and distributed same to various local government areas and schools across the state.

He said that the schools have been encouraged to plant trees and also form youth clubs to ensure that the environment is conserved.

The commissioner also said that the government recently embarked on afforestation programme to help mitigate the

adverse impact of climate change.

He said that the Ministry of Environment is collaborating with the state University of Technology Minna to draw up programmes and activities that would help to ameliorate the effects of climate change.

Adamu appealed to the Federal Government to support the state in the area of afforestation and gully erosion which he said, is ravaging the state. (NAN)



AN ice-covered bike is seen in Kristineberg, Stockholm, Sweden

## FG to use 'Cactus Opuntia' plant to combat environmental degradation

THE Federal Government has recommended that "Cactus Opuntia" plant should be used to combat desertification in Nigeria, Minister of Environment Mr John Odey has said.

He made the statement on Tuesday in Abuja at a sensitisation workshop on the "Utilization of Cactus Opuntia to combat desertification, organised by Interact Safety System Ltd.

He said that the plant was selected, due to its potential in erosion control and land rehabilitation, especially in the arid and semi-arid zones of the country.

"Nature has equally presented us with good opportunities, which if properly exploited, will produce positive impact on the socio-economic developments of the region," he said.

Odey said that the government would continue to promote partnership with stakeholders in its efforts to combat the environmental problems facing the country.

The Senate Committee Chairman on Environment and Ecology, Mrs. Grace Bent, described Cactus Opuntia as "the mother of all discoveries" because of its potential in combating desertification.

"We shall no more lament the state of environmental degradation in the north, ranging from desertification and deforestation in the area," she said.

## Inter-Agency Committee on International Trade inaugurated

By Mustapha Suleiman

MINISTER of Environment, Mr. John Odey on Tuesday inaugurated the Inter-Agency Committee on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, CITES at the Ministry's headquarters in Abuja.

The Committee is to work out strategies to ensure proper implementation of convention as a step towards seeking the lifting of Nigeria's suspension from CITES.

Inaugurating the committee members Mr. John Odey recalled that Nigeria was suspended by the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild flora and fauna (CITES), and since the suspension in 2005, we have engaged actively the process that will ensure that Nigeria is re-certificated, adding that CITES Officials visited Nigeria as part of efforts at getting Nigeria back into the mainstream of the Convention.

"At my meeting with the officials, we assured them that our country will carry out proper enforcement of the relevant legislations on illicit trading in wildlife through the establishment of an inter-agency committee," he said.

He charged the committee to consider their assignment very important to the country.

The newly inaugurated Committee members include: Dr. Mrs. Ngeri Benebo, DG NES-

REA, Multafa N.J, Deputy Controller Custom, Mrs. Dele Abiodun-Presidency, Mr. John M. Shelbwa-Forestry Dept, and Mr. Fidelis Omenu- Forestry Dept. Others are Yohanna Sadu, National Park Service, ACP Yusuf Awodu, National Central Bureau of Interpol, Mr RE Ameh - SSS, and Mr. Ademola Agegden, Nigerian Conservation Foundation.

The committee has two months to carry out its assignments.

## Climate change group happy with adaptation method

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

A team of experts from the Building Nigeria's Response to Climate Change (BNRCC), has just completed a tour of pilot projects initiated by one of the implementing partners - Greenwatch Initiative in two rural areas of Daudu and Falgore in Benue and Kano states, respectively, expressing satisfaction with the local adaptation of the people to the impact of climate change.

The three man-team comprising the project's adviser on pilot projects, Mrs. Ellen Woodley, John Ajigo of Nigerian Environmental Study/Action Team (NEST), and Samson Ogallah who is NEST's Programme Officer for Communication, Outreach and Network, was led to the two rural communities by Greenwatch's Executive Director, Emmanuel Tembe.

The projects adviser, Mrs. Woodley and the spokesman,

Ogallah who spoke to Daily Trust on phone yesterday, saying to tour to monitor the level of implementation of climate change project carried out by Greenwatch Initiative did not disappoint them.

Woodley said she was happy with the level of community participation, expressing optimism that with the people's eagerness, they can adapt to the impacts of climate change using local efforts even after Greenwatch pulls from the communities. She particularly

said the people of Falgore have improved in their farming practices with the provision of water pumps and water wells for facilitate irrigation in the area.

Mr. Ogallah said the visit opened NEST's eyes on various issues, pointing out the community was excited with the provision the water wells and pumps to aid irrigation. He also expressed satisfaction with the formation of community implementation committees, indicat-

ing the readiness of members to work towards adapting the the impact of climate change in the area.

A statement made available to Daily Trust by Greenwatch said "the team commended the implementing partners (Greenwatch Initiative, Makurdi) for a job well done most especially in the communication aspect through the production of its brochure, posters, T-shirts, face caps, and other IEC materials."

## Environment



property@dailytrust.com

HOTLINE: 07041632079

### Odey urges religious scholars to educate adherents on climate change

By Mustapha Suleiman

FAITH communities have been recognised as having a crucial role to play in view of their strength in changing behaviour at every level of the society.

Making the call recently in Abuja at a forum tagged, "Interfaith forum on climate change-sub-Saharan African" Environment Minister Mr. John Odey noted that tackling the issue of global warming is essentially a multi-stakeholders' task, hence the faith communities have a crucial role to play in view of their strength in changing behaviour at every level of the society.

"Our faith-based organizations should help in teaching their members on the crucial roles and responsibilities we all have to ensure that we create a better and safer environment for us and our children. This teaching should be part of the messages in our faith institutions," he said

He added that, "as society continues to grow and anthropogenic activities increase, there is an attendant increase in the release of greenhouse gases, especially carbon dioxide. This has brought changes in the climate system and the resultant negative impacts on lives. The general consensus now is that climate change will worsen food security and undermine sustainable development not only in Nigeria but in Africa as a whole. Already experts have warned that climate change could adversely impacts on every sector of development ranging from agricultural sector to the energy sector in our country. These impacts could create socio-economic problems such as unemployment and civil strifes. Also, in the event of extreme climate change hazard of sea level rise, irreparable damages could occur in our oil installations. Apart from the attendant human calamities, the country's foreign earnings will be affected and this will in turn affect the country's economic performance."

## Afghan avalanches kill 157

THE death toll from massive avalanches that blocked a mountain pass north of Kabul soared to 157, as hundreds more remained trapped in their snowbound vehicles, Afghan officials said Wednesday.

Interior Ministry spokesman Zemer Bashary said rescuers have recovered 157 bodies from the Salang Pass, a key road that connects the Afghan capital with the north, over the past two days. "The number of

deaths had more than doubled from the last reported figure of 64 a day earlier, as rescue teams scrambled to reach survivors.

At a press conference in Kabul, Bashary said 1.5 miles (2.5 kilometers) of road have been cleared for ambulances, bulldozers and other road-clearing equipment to get through. About 2,600 people have been rescued so far, he said.

A series of avalanches that were triggered Monday

along the 12,700-foot-high (3,800-meter) pass closed off roads and stranded hundreds of people in snowbound vehicles.

Some of the victims were found frozen to death inside their vehicles, while in other cases, their bodies were strewn along the road, he said.

More than two dozen avalanches had poured tons of snow and ice on the pass, blocking off 2.1 miles (3.5 kilometers) of road

and burying hundreds of vehicles. The 1.6 mile (2.6 kilometer) -long Salang Tunnel, a Soviet-built landmark dating from the 1960s through the Hindu Kush mountains, had been cut off, with dozens of cars, buses and trucks jammed inside.

Some 400 police, along with 100 local volunteers, have been involved in the frantic effort to dig out survivors in the last 24 hours, he said.



STRANDED people wait to be rescued from the recent flooding in Ikitelli, Istanbul

## Copenhagen accord and technology transfer: Implications for Nigeria

By Iregbu Kaiu Uduka

TRANSFER of environmentally sound technologies from the developed to the developing countries remains hotly debated in global climate change negotiations. How to create incentives for expanded use of existing and next generation low-carbon technologies have polarised poor and rich countries in the climate negotiations. These technology issues are particularly important for Nigeria.

The Copenhagen negotiations did not produce all the desired result from a Nigerian perspective. However, the Copenhagen Accord establishes a 'Technology Mechanism' to accelerate technology development and transfer in support of climate change adaptation and mitigation. This mechanism is to be guided by domestic actions and national circumstances and priorities. This is a single step in a million kilometre journey.

The objective of the technology mechanism within the new Accord is to implement an immediate and urgent delivery of development, deployment, diffusion and transfer of low-carbon technologies to the developing countries.

This mechanism is expected to comprise the following: (a). An

Executive Body on Technology comprised of technical panels, strategic planning committee, verification group and a secretariat; (b) A Multilateral Climate Change Fund to support a list of activities; (c) Technology Incentive for Development and Transfer; and (d) Technology Capacity Building Program.

The functions of the Mechanism would include, among other things, the acceleration of the development, demonstration, deployment, adoption, diffusion and transfer of environmentally sound technologies; monitor and access the financial support and performance of development and transfer of environmentally sound technologies in terms of speed, range and size. It also includes the removal of barriers for technology development and transfer and promoting the establishment of national and regional technology innovation centres and networks.

The result of the Copenhagen Accord on technology issues is particularly important for Nigeria. Over the years, there is a significant decline in technology innovation and development in the country. This has



IREGBU Kaiu Uduka

been driven by poor government funding, decline in industrial output and lack of research and development. This has affected priority areas such as energy, industrial, agricultural and other technologies. The agreement in Copenhagen provides fresh opportunities to begin to address these issues.

Low carbon technologies are particularly important to Nigeria. Not only will these technologies reduce environmental degradation, especially gas flaring in the Niger Delta, it would boost energy supply and industrial growth. A technology mechanism will help

strengthening institutions and personnel capacity of Nigerians in identifying technologies for adaptation and mitigation, most importantly, improving on local technologies. Funding opportunities for green technologies, expert collaboration of regional centres of excellence will be made available.

The Mechanism also has as a priority, improving the understanding of the roles of ocean in climate change, and the effects of climate change marine biodiversity, marine ecosystems and coastal communities. This particular function of the Mechanism will immensely benefit Nigeria in those coastal areas where coastal erosion, ocean surge and loss of aquatic splendour hold sway.

However, while expectations are high as to the delivery of technology transfer by this international mechanism, Nigeria should not lose sight of her own domestic responsibilities. Nigeria should first of all identify its climate change technology needs assessment (TNA). This TNA should be based on national development priorities and needs. This will also create a synergy between greenhouse gas reduction and economic development.

Government policies to support the creation of enabling environment for innovation, research, development and deployment of technology in the country should be enacted. These policies could include transparent and legal institutions, macroeconomic policy frameworks, as well as institutional capacities to adapt to changes. The Climate Change Commission that is currently being created can play a significant role.

The country should encourage Public Private Partnership in funding innovation, research and development of green technologies. Existing technology research centres should be encouraged to improve on the indigenous green technologies that have been identified, while government should increase surveillance on our international borders to deter the importation of obsolete technologies into the country.

Nigeria has the potential of growing her economy through green technologies, if she musters the political will to embrace this new opportunity.

**Iregbu Kaiu Uduka, is of the International Centre for Energy, Environment & Development (ICEED) iregbu@icednigeria.org**

## EDUCATION SECTOR SUPPORT PROGRAMME IN NIGERIA (ESSPIN)

### INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE EXECUTION OF PROJECTS

#### 1.0 PREAMBLE

The Education Sector Support Programme in Nigeria (ESSPIN), a DFID funded programme, is working alongside five State Universal Basic Education Boards (SUBEB), and State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agencies (RUWASA) in Jigawa, Kaduna, Kwara, Kano and Lagos in collaboration with DarlHab Nigeria Limited; working as Management Consultants, to bring about systemic change in the governance of public services in Nigeria. The programme is assisting the fore mentioned States to improve the delivery of education services to primary and junior secondary schools (JSS).

Accordingly, the RUWASA and SUBEB hereby invite interested and reputable contractors to apply for pre-qualification in order to be considered for the following projects which it intends to execute.

#### 2.0 AREAS FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION

LOT 1: Construction of 13 Motorised boreholes with overhead tanks in Lagos State

LOT 2: Construction of 20 handpump boreholes in Jigawa State

LOT 3: Construction of 20 handpump boreholes in Kaduna State

LOT 4: Construction of 2 Solar Scheme boreholes in Kano State

LOT 5: Construction of 18 Handpump boreholes in Kano State

LOT 6: Construction of 20 handpump boreholes in Kwara State

#### 3.0 PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

a) The company/firm profile should highlight in details the following:-

(i) Evidence of registration with Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC)

(ii) Immediate past three years Audited Accounts of the firm

(iii) Immediate past three year tax clearance of firm viz 2006, 2007, and 2008

(iv) Evidence off Financial capability and Banking support

(v) Details of experience, Technical/Professional qualification of key personnel

(vi) List of evidence of equipment and Technical Capability to be utilised

(vii) Evidence of VAT registration, remittances of VAT

(viii) Any additional information that may enhance the pre-qualification of the company

#### 4.0 SUBMISSION OF PREQUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS

All prequalification documents should be enclosed in a sealed envelope comprising of paper copies and non rewriteable CD and must be returned to either one of the State of Interest marked "Confidential" ESSPIN/DARLHAB WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS 2010 or by email to any of the addresses:

<p><b>The Managing Director</b> Jigawa State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency Shuwarin Town Dutse - Kiyawa Road P. M. B 7121, Dutse Jigawa State</p>	<p><b>The General Manager</b> Kwara State Rural Water Supply &amp; Sanitation Agency Old Jebba Road, Zango, Opp. Okin Filling Station P.M.B. 1564, Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria</p>
<p><b>The Managing Director</b> Kano State Rural Water Supply &amp; Sanitation Agency No. 1 Ibrahim Taiwo Road, P. M. B. 3368 Kano, Nigeria</p>	<p><b>The Project Manager</b> Kaduna State Water Supply &amp; Sanitation Project No. 1 Ali Akilu Road Kaduna, Kaduna State</p>
<p><b>The Chairman</b> Lagos State Universal Basic Education Board Maryland Schools Complex, P. M. B. 21676 Ikeja, Lagos State, Nigeria</p>	<p><a href="mailto:darihlab@yahoo.co.uk">darihlab@yahoo.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:matsallabi@yahoo.com">matsallabi@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:jigawaruwasa@yahoo.com">jigawaruwasa@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:gholahandaodu@yahoo.co.uk">gholahandaodu@yahoo.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:yamiam@yahoo.com">yamiam@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:sulyman@yahoo.com">sulyman@yahoo.com</a></p>

#### 5.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

- The closing date for submission of the tender shall be 7 days from the date of 1<sup>st</sup> publication of this advert in any national newspaper.
- Failure to provide any of the listed documents or information may automatically disqualify the Contractor
- Notwithstanding the submission of requested forms, the RUWASA/SUBEB/DARLHAB is neither committed nor obligated to include any Contractor on any bid lists or award any form of contract to any Contractor and/or associated Companies, subcontractors or agents
- This notice and the ensuring qualification process neither creates any commitment by ESSPIN or RUWASA/SUBEB/DARLHAB nor establishes any legal relationship with ESSPIN or RUWASA/SUBEB/DARLHAB. All costs incurred as a result of this Pre-qualification invitation and any subsequent requests for information shall be for the responding Contractor's account.
- Submissions should be very clear on Lot of interest
- Late submissions will not be accepted



## NIGERIAN RAILWAY CORPORATION

### INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS FOR CORPORATE REPOSITIONING AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

This request for proposal relates to the following services to be provided in support of Nigerian Railway Corporation.

Advertising/Brand consultancy firm to assist NRC in rebranding, placement of notifications and general information on activities and progress of NRC in the local and international media.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) is a parastatal of the Federal Government of Nigeria. It is currently the monopoly service provider in the railway sub-sector of the Federal Ministry of Transport in Nigeria.

The Corporation has embarked on rehabilitation of its track and signal network and is working towards launching Mass Transit train services in six major cities - Lagos, Kano, Maiduguri, Jos, Enugu and Port-Harcourt.

In line with its on-going repositioning, NRC invites submissions for comprehensive public awareness and repositioning proposals from suitable and reputable companies with world class experience in the corporate communications field.

#### 2. SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work shall include strategy development, activation and plan execution of all NRC's branding and marketing needs especially in the areas of:

- Strategy
- Corporate Communication
- Stakeholder Management

#### 3. REQUIREMENTS

- Full details of the company.
- Copies of Certificate of Incorporation plus corporate Affairs Commission's from Co7.
- Organization structure, available manpower with a list of key management and professional staff with their resume.
- Technical proposal including:**
  - Details of previous similar work implemented by your company, and how your company has successfully handled community-related issues in the past.
  - Description of methodology to be adopted in implementing the work.
  - Time scales
- Financial proposal including:**
  - Breakdown of price for each element of the scope of work
  - Payment terms
- Safety policies, plan and guidelines.
- Any additional information that will enhance the potential of the company.

Failure to submit any of the under listed documents may result in the disqualification of the applicant.

The Technical and Financial proposals should be submitted in separate sealed envelopes and both envelopes shall be submitted in one (1) sealed envelope, clearly marked **NRC Public Awareness Proposal**.

The above documents should be addressed and forwarded to:  
The Secretary To The Corporation  
Nigerian Railway Corporation,  
Ebute-Metta,  
Lagos.

**Not later than 14 days from the date of this publication.**

This advertisement shall not be construed as a commitment on the part of Nigerian Railway Corporation, nor shall it entitle Bidders to make any claims whatsoever and/or seek any indemnity from NRC and/or any of its partners by virtue of such Bidders having responded to this advertisements.

SIGN:  
MANAGEMENT

## Inside Politics

# Yar'adua: We can't make decrees, says Senator Lado

ON Tuesday, the Senate unanimously passed a resolution paving the way for the emergence of Vice President Good Luck Jonathan as Acting President. However, one Senator who stood his ground and opposed the motion is Garba Yakubu Lado (PDP, Katsina South). Senator Lado raised a constitutional point of order citing section 145 of the 1999 constitution and argued that the action about to be taken was illegal. He was, however, ruled out of order by Senate President David Mark. In this interview, Senator Lado explains his position further, alleging that there is more to the senate resolution than the ordinary eye can see. Excerpts:

**Why did you oppose the Senate's resolution recognizing the Vice President as Acting President pending the return of President Umaru Yar'adua?**

I clearly disassociated myself from the resolution of the senate because in my own opinion it is not right. That is why I raised that constitutional point of order. Section 145 of the 1999 constitution clearly states that it is only, and I repeat, only when Mr. President transmits a written communication to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives that he is ill and has gone on medical vacation that we can take such a decision.

But to my surprise the whole Senate capitalized on Mr. President's brief interview with the BBC and decided that it should be taken as a written communication to the Senate President. I wonder how a mere interview on radio can be taken as a written letter. Definitely,



SENATOR Lado

that interview was not something specifically addressed to the Senate President.

But I understand that there is a hidden agenda behind the move and we will wait to see what becomes of this decision. It will definitely come out to the open, but it is wrong and very unfair. I believe that as the highest law making body in the country; we should be seen at every point to be operating within the ambit of the constitution. But rather than

do this, we have gone out of the way, which is wrong. It is unacceptable and I believe some interested groups may decide to take us [Senate] to court and challenge the decision. And I believe they will defeat us.

The second resolution is that the Acting President shall cease to act only when the President returns to the country and writes to the National Assembly. Don't you see that as being unfair to him too?

In fact is enough evidence to prove that there is a hidden motive behind the decision. He [Yar'adua] spoke on BBC to the nation to confirm that he is alive and to douse tension arising from rumours that he was dead. Why should they say that if he comes back he has to write when they considered his voice on radio as a written letter?

I really wonder how that interview can serve as a written communication addressed to the Senate. Up to this day, some Nigerians are even saying that it was not his voice. But what amazed me more is that after the said interview, we passed several resolutions. So if they were sincere enough, why did they not take a decision when the

issue was tabled?

You will recall that we passed a resolution urging Mr. President to write to us that he is on sick leave. And today because they have finished their arrangements elsewhere, they come with a hidden agenda which of course is not in the interest of the nation. The nation has been moving but some mischievous people just decided to heat up the polity, suggesting that the country is not moving, how?

**You have been talking about hidden agenda, what is that hidden agenda, and by whom?**

It will come out. It will come out, but I believe that what happened is just a tip of the iceberg.

**The Senate president ruled you out of order...**

There is nothing I can do again but I know that at the end of the day the truth shall reveal itself. We are not a court of law therefore we cannot interpret the constitution. We don't have that power. It is only the court that can do that. Have we now assumed the duty and functions of the judiciary? Have we abandoned our own statutory function of law making?

**Are you saying all that the Senate has done is illegal?**

It is completely illegal and I am not with them on that.

**Are you saying that the Senate has turned itself into a court of law?**

You can meet the Senate President and ask him. I think he is in the best position to answer that question. But I was really confused as to whether we were a court of law or we have now turned the democracy to a situation where we will just seat and make decrees because I wonder how they came to that decision. How can an oral talk become written document?

**But Section 4 of 1999 constitution empowers the Senate to legislate for good governance and the Senate President did say that this action was taking in good faith as part of legislating for good governance in the country...**

I also want you to take a look at Section 1(3) of the constitution which states that all laws that are inconsistent with any provision of the constitution are to the extent of their inconsistency null and void and of no effect.

**Are you sure you are speaking the minds of your constituents on this matter?**

I am 100 percent speaking the minds of my constituents who elected me to represent them. If you are talking about wealth, there are many people that are far richer than me in my constituency; there are people that are more educated than me; there are people that are more influential than me, yet the people agreed to elect me as their Senator. So to the extent that we in Senate have now begun to go outside the law, my people are worried that we are putting this country in a very serious constitutional crisis.

## Anambra: election reflects peoples will, says Observer board

By Abbas Jimoh

THE Anambra Election Monitoring and Observation Board (AEMOB) yesterday in Abuja said that in spite of the challenges the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) faced with the voters' register, the Anambra State governorship election had reflected the true intent of the people in that state.

Chairman of the board, Barr Ikeazor Akaraiwe, while submitting the interim report of the Board to the INEC chairman, Prof Maurice Iwu, said the board covered all the villages and wards in Anambra State, noting that though the voters' register presented a challenge, it did not affect the result of the election.

He expressed gratitude to the commission for constituting the board which he said comprised great Nigerians who share "common vision" and cooperated immensely towards their objectives.

"The presence of the board made the commission's staff to be more careful and diligent in their work," he observed.

Prof Iwu, while commending the board for a job well done, said "I did not expect less when you look at the caliber of the people on the board, who are conversant with elections and the reforms process."

He expressed the need for the electoral process to be a community effort that could be owned by the people, saying, "We should take the electoral process as a community effort so that when we succeed, we succeed together and if we fail, we fail together."

He promised that the commission would study the recommendations of the board and apply them to subsequent elections.

The chairman disclosed that after the 2007 general elections, the voters' register in some local governments in Anambra State were burnt. The commission however reconstructed them and invited the citizens of Anambra to view them to verify their credentials.

He regretted that most of the citizens paid little attention to the invitation of the commission, hence the challenge which the register presented in the election.

**"I was really confused as to whether we were a court of law or we have now turned the democracy to a situation where we will just sit and make decrees because I wonder how they came to that decision. How can an oral talk become written document?"**

# Inside Politics



## ENERGY COMMISSION OF NIGERIA (ECN)

### ENERGY COMMISSION OF NIGERIA (ECN) AND NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS (NYSC) TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR CORPERS ON RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEM

Energy Commission of Nigeria (ECN) and National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Training Programme on Production of Renewable Energy Devices for Corpers has been a collaborative effort between Energy Commission of Nigeria (ECN) and National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), which commenced in 1999 and was first held in Lagos State. Thereafter, five other states benefited from the programme. These are Sokoto, Enugu, Kaduna, Niger and Borno States.

The major objectives of the project are:-

- (i) To get renewable energy technology adopted as a vocation, by young men and women in the country and to serve as instrument of economic empowerment.
- (ii) To increase energy access in rural areas and
- (iii) To mitigate climate change and its effects through the use of renewable energy.

The strategy employed to achieve the above objective is to utilize the most articulate, coherent and active educated group of young men and women in the country with the highest penetration into the rural areas. This group of men and women are the NYSC members. The idea is to equip the Corpers with skills that can assist them disseminate these technologies at their places of primary assignment. The skills may also assist the Corpers develop a vocation and a source of economic empowerment.

Therefore, it is on this note that the Management of the Energy Commission of Nigeria wishes all the beneficiaries of this programme, who have made a vocation out of the basic training received during these years, as well as those who are wishing to do so, to forward to the undersigned the name of their business, location and a one paragraph brief of their activities and challenges. This is to enable the Commission and other stakeholders fashion out means of converting the challenges into opportunities for the young entrepreneurs.

**Director General/CEO,  
Energy Commission of Nigeria,  
Plot 701C, Central Business District,  
Opposite National Mosque,  
Abuja.**

# CPC slams Tofa over comments on Buhari

By Abbas Jimoh

THE Congress for Progressive Change (CPC) has condemned former presidential candidate of the defunct National Republican Convention (NRC) and a member of the Elders Committee of the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP), Alhaji Bashir Tofa for criticising the resignation of Gen. Muhammadu Buhari from ANPP.

National Publicity Secretary of the party, Dennis Aghanya, told *Daily Trust* yesterday in Abuja that Tofa's comment was in bad taste and unwarranted.

Tofa was quoted to have said that Buhari's resignation from ANPP was to pre-empt his dismissal from the party.

"The CPC views the comment as words of a cheat who says and does any dirty thing to keep the pump flowing so that his master can be pleased. When did Tofa turn to 'Oti Mkpu', an Igbo slang meaning praise singer, who is his master? The answer can be found in Kano.

"He (Tofa) is definitely lacking in wisdom and as such does not have anything to offer the nation any more. He should quit

the scene. Gen. Buhari is a man of honour and has so much to contribute, especially at this stage when the likes of Tofa and his partners in crime have destroyed a genuine opposition in Nigeria. If he thinks he has the political clout let him register a political party and show Nigerians his followers," Aghanya said.

He said that the elders of the party led by Alhaji Sule Hama, Chief Mike Ahamba, Engr. Buba Galadima and Alhaji Iro Dan Musa are also reaching out to all the members of the mega party movement.

PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE



FROM left: Anambra State Governor Peter Obi, Chairman, APGA, Anambra State Chief Mike Kwenta and INEC Chairman Prof. Maurice Iwu during the presentation of return certificate to Governor Obi in Abuja.

## 'Don't drag NLC into politics'

By Abdullahi Yahaya Bello

THE leadership of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) has been advised not to drag workers into politics, as doing so contravenes a civil service rule which bars civil servants from partisan politics.

Executive Secretary of the CITAR-NGO Muhammad Alhaji Yakubu yesterday gave the advice while reacting to NLC leader Abdulwahab Umar's criticism of the conduct of the

Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in the February 6, gubernatorial election in Anambra State.

Alhaji Yakubu in a statement said the problems of the Nigerian worker is enough worry for the Congress to contend with, adding that "Abdulwahab should see how he can mobilise workers to fight for an improved and better salary for workers.

He said from press reports and public assessment of the Anambra elec-

tion, INEC has performed beyond expectations, so should be encouraged instead of pouring negative invectives on the commission.

The statement also commended Acting President Dr. Goodluck Jonathan for remaining neutral during the election, just it also saluted the defeated Professor Charles Soludo for what it described as "his exemplary spirit of sportsmanship" after he lost the election.

# SPORT

## Why Trapattoni will suit Nigeria

Page 54



PIC: GETTY IMAGES



GAEL Monfils of France plays a volley in his match against Olivier Rochus of Belgium during day three of the ABN AMBRO World Tennis Tournament yesterday in Rotterdam, Netherlands.

# Egypt FA blocks Shehata

EGYPT coach Hassan Shehata has dropped his interest in taking the Super Eagles of Nigeria to the World Cup in South Africa in June after the EFA (Egypt Football Association) turned down the Nigerians' offer and the coach's request.

Despite Shehata's interest in the

short-term job that could have lasted until the end of the World Cup, the EFA were not interested in the deal.

"My contract with the Egypt national team continues until the end of 2012," Shehata told the media in UAE, where he was honoured by Al-Ain club.

"I received many offers but the Egypt Football Association closed the door on them and announced that I will continue until the end of my contract".

Shehata is the second coach on Nigeria's wish list to withdraw from the coaching race after Bayern Munich trainer Louis van

Gaal also opted out.

Other coaches who had been shortlisted earlier include Russia coach Guus Hiddink, former Ghana manager Ratomir Djokovic and Qatar boss Bruno Metsu.

Yesterday, the Nigerian FA announced that Republic of Ireland coach Giovanni Trapattoni

has been included on a shortlist of coaches.

Trapattoni is one of the most successful Serie A coaches, having won seven league crowns with Juventus and Inter. He has also won league championships in Germany, Portugal and Austria.

## Why Lulu was spared, by Maigari

By Orkula Shaagee

ONE of the aggrieved Executive Committee members of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) who moved for the impeachment of the Federation's President Alhaji Sani Lulu Abdullahi, Alhaji Aminu Maigari yesterday said they shelved the move because the

contentious issues have been resolved.

Maigari told Trustsports in a telephone interview yesterday that Lulu was able to give them satisfactory explanation on all the issues raised against him.

He confirmed that members were determined to impeach Lulu based on their conviction

that he erred in the way he was running the Federation, as well as the manner in which the Federation's finances were being handled by him.

Consequently, Maigari assured that the matter would not come up again, as members agreed to permanently rest the matter in the interest of the Nigerian football.

Accordingly, he informed that all the Executive Committee have resolved to close ranks and work towards ensuring that the Super Eagles prepare well and post excellent performance at the 2010 World Cup in South Africa.

"That matter has been settled and I don't want us to revisit it, it was resolved. It is

true people were not happy but at the meeting questions were asked and we got satisfactory answers; so the matter is dead.

"I can tell you that the issue will not come up again, what we are now focus on is how to prepare and perform well at the South Africa 2010 World Cup", Maigari said.

BBC's Stephen Fottrell works on the World Service's African football website as well as the sports programme Fast Track and has followed the Republic of Ireland for many years. Here he considers why Italian Giovanni Trapattoni would make an ideal coach for Nigeria's World Cup campaign...

## Why Trapattoni would suit Nigeria

OF all the candidates on Nigeria's wish-list to lead the Super Eagles to the World Cup, one of the names that stands out is that of the vastly experienced Italian coach Giovanni Trapattoni.

The current Republic of Ireland manager is contracted to remain with the Irish until 2012, and would already be heading for South Africa, were it not for the infamous events in Paris in November surrounding Thierry Henry's handball, which saw France qualify at Ireland's expense.

While it would further break Irish hearts to see a man they have adopted as one of their own swap Dublin for Abuja, Trapattoni may see this as possibly his last tilt at a World Cup.

And while the 70-year-old has said that he would ideally like to end his long and chequered career

That decision cost 'Trap' and his men a place in the quarter-finals of that tournament, which was seen as something of a blot on the Italian's CV.

But there is no doubting what he has achieved with an Irish team that, like Nigeria, were extremely short on confidence and a tactical game-plan when he took them over in 2008.

Trapattoni replaced Steve Staunton as Ireland boss, after the former Irish captain had overseen a disastrous period that would make Shaibu Amodu's reign and treatment by the Nigerian media seem favourable by comparison.

The former Juventus and Bayern Munich boss immediately turned around the fortunes of a team that only months previously had been slumping to results such as a 5-2 battering by Cyprus, and transformed them into an organised tactical outfit that quickly learned how to win again.

Recognising he had a fairly limited group of players at his disposal, with the exception of a handful of talented names such as Robbie Keane, Damien Duff and Shay Given, Trapattoni executed a well-organised game-plan that would see the Irish progress as the only unbeaten team in the World Cup play-off draw.

What followed in Paris is history, but for the fans who watched Ireland dominate the former World Cup winners on their own turf, Trapattoni would remind many that night that he can turn any side into an organised and at times thrilling attacking outfit.

Granted he has his detractors in Ireland who maintain his style of football is too defensive, but anyone who previously thought that was all he had in his tactical locker was proven wrong on that night in November when the Irish took the game to France in ambitious style.

The expectations of the Nigerian footballing public are, of course, at a much more intense level, in a country with a popula-



Nigeria want Giovanni Trapattoni, right, to replace Shaibu Amodu.

tion 30 times that of Ireland, and the Italian's tactical approach may be an issue for fans that demand to see their Super Eagles not just win, but do so in style.

But having turned previously limited players whose names would only be familiar to the most avid followers of English football - such as Keith Andrews, Glenn Whelan and Sean St Ledger - into seasoned internationals, one wonders what the Italian could achieve with some of the talent in the Nigerian squad.

While Nigeria's performances at the Africa Cup of Nations in Angola were lacklustre, there is no denying that players such as Chinedu Obasi, John Obi Mikel and Osaze Odemwingie have the potential to make the same kind of impact on the world stage as some of their illustrious Nigerian predecessors.

Nigeria's players, past and

present, have admitted the team need to up their game significantly if they want to challenge at Africa's first World Cup finals, and they may see another European coach as the answer to their current crisis of confidence.

“It may be a gamble worth taking on the ‘wily old fox’ - as Russia coach and fellow Nigerian wish-list candidate Guus Hiddink referred to him.

Trapattoni may well tick many of the necessary boxes for

the Nigerians, but one drawback could be his high wages, with the Italian currently on an estimated salary of almost US\$2.75m, some of which is funded by wealthy Irish businessman Denis O'Brien.

Whether Nigeria can afford to hire him on a permanent or temporary basis may depend on their ability to cover that kind of salary, but it may be a gamble worth taking on the ‘wily old fox’ - as Russia coach and fellow Nigerian wish-list candidate Guus Hiddink referred to him.

Having also been linked with the Turkish national job recently, Trapattoni has previously denied that he would walk out on Ireland ahead of their European Championship qualifying campaign.

But privately he may see the opportunity of taking a talented Nigerian squad to South Africa in June as too good an opportunity to pass up. *Culled from BBC Sport*

Trapattoni may see this as possibly his last tilt at a World Cup.

by leading the ‘boys in green’ to the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, he may yet decide that a more immediate challenge with the other men in green may be an opportunity worth grasping now.

The former Italian national coach must feel on a personal level that he still has some unfinished business of his own on the world stage, after the Azzurri were controversially knocked out of the World Cup in 2002 by co-hosts South Korea, after seeing a late goal dubiously disallowed.

## Time too short for foreign coach to succeed - Oliha

By Ibraheem A. Fatai

IT would be very difficult for best coaches in the world to build a strong team that is capable of re-enacting the glorious performance of the U.S.A 1994 Super Eagles, given the fact that there is barely four months to prepare for the global football showpiece.

Making this assertion in a telephone interview with Trustsports, a member of the U.S.A. 1994 Super Eagles squad, Thompson Oliha, said the best decision should have been to retain Coach Shaibu Amodu

and make him work under a more competent foreign coach.

Oliha maintained that the decision taken by the NFF to remove Amodu from the Eagles bench cannot help team's ambition to perform very well in South Africa, adding that four months can never be adequate for any coach to build a championship-winning team.

“While we support that Eagles need a competent foreign coach to beef up the bench, removing Amodu will, to a large extent, affect the chances of a foreigner to achieve anything impressive in South Africa. Between now and

June, can a new coach who does not know much about our football build a strong team that can take on Argentina, Korea and Greece?

“Amodu should have been allowed to work with the new man, instead of being sacked. He would have been handy in helping the new person understand our players and the terrain of our football. As it is now, we are going to start from the scratch by building a new team with different tactics and techniques. Do we have such time? If he fails, are we ready to forgive him and give him more time to build a good side?” he queried.

While not faulting the technical competency of the six foreign coaches shortlisted by the NFF, the former Nwayanwu Nationale midfielder said the circumstances on ground in Nigeria may rubish the foreign coach's impressive record.

“It took Alex Ferguson some time before he started recording the results that have made him a household name across the world today. Other renowned coaches spent time with their players before they could mould them into strong teams. If we bring Ferguson and Wenger to Nigeria

today, the next thing we expect from them is to win the next trophy and all tournaments participated in.

“Once we bring in a new coach and he fails to perform well within the short period of time he has to work with the Eagles, the next thing that would be on the lips of every Nigerian is how to sack and replace him. Football in Nigeria cannot grow like that. Giovanni Trapattoni and Guus Hiddink failed to land their teams in South Africa, but they still retain their jobs,” he explained.



PIC: AFP

MANCHESTER United's Portuguese midfielder Nani (R) tackles Aston Villa's Bulgarian midfielder Stiliyan Petrov (C) resulting in a red card for Nani during the English Premier League football match at Villa Park, Birmingham, England, yesterday.

## 'NFF still considering van Gaal, Hiddink'

THE Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) says it is not bothered by reports suggesting that coaches Louis van Gaal and Guus Hiddink will not be available to it.

Mr Taiwo Odeunmi, a member of the NFF's Executive Committee, made the remark on Tuesday in Abuja while briefing newsmen.

The News Agency of Nigeria

(NAN) reports that the federation had last weekend announced a list of six foreign coaches it was considering for employment as Technical Adviser to the Super Eagles.

After naming Dutchmen van Gaal and Hiddink as well as Frenchman Bruno Metsu, Britain's Peter Taylor and Serbia's Ratomir Djukovic on Friday, the NFF had added Egypt's Hassan

Shehata to the list the following day.

"There is no official communication to suggest that the two Dutch coaches (van Gaal and Hiddink) will not be available for now.

"None of them has informed us he will not be available or that he is not interested.

"Moreover, we all have to understand these things.

"It is probably due to the fact that they are still in employment somewhere, and they will not want to appear to be snubbing their current employers," Odeunmi said.

"The new Technical Adviser must be in place for the March 3 international friendly we are putting together, and we want him to witness the game and start off thereafter," he said.

## ...Hiddink begs for more time

ACCORDING to a top official of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF), Russia coach Guus Hiddink has asked for more time to allow him consult and consider an offer to lead the Super Eagles to the World Cup, just as several other countries have joined the race for the expertise of the Dutch coach.

"We have contacted Hiddink,

who said he does not wish to be rushed into making a decision. He wants to make a lot of consultations before we can have his word," NFF international consultant, Tunde Adelakun, told MTN-Football.com from his base in London Tuesday.

"We are talking about a top coach, who has attracted a lot of interests from across the world.

For example, Turkey want him to be their director of football, while Ivory Coast want him to lead them to the World Cup, just like we want him to lead us."

Adelakun added: "Hiddink had a brief stop-over in London and has now returned to Russia, where he has a contract till after the World Cup.

"If by February 26, when we

plan to interview all the coaches on the short list, we do not hear from him, we will have no choice than to carry on without him. That's my personal opinion on this matter."

Adelakun also disclosed that invitation letters to the other coaches on the short list bar Louis van Gaal, who has opted out of the Nigeria coaching job, have been

## Three-week layoff for Obasi

NIGERIAN international Chinedu Obasi did not feature as his German Bundesliga team TSG Hoffenheim were beaten by Werder Bremen on Tuesday evening in a German Cup quarterfinal match.

Obasi, who was part of the Nigeria squad that finished third at the 2010 Africa Cup of Nations in Angola, is expected to be on the sidelines for the next three weeks this after he injured his ankle while helping Hoffenheim defeat Hanover 2-1 in the Bundesliga this past Saturday.

The injury is not expected to hamper Obasi's chances of making the Super Eagles squad for the 2010 FIFA World Cup, as he should be back to full fitness in the middle of March.

So far this season Obasi has scored five goals in sixteen matches for Hoffenheim in the Bundesliga.

More importantly, though, he has played a wonderful supporting role to Hoffenheim's other front men, Vedad Ibisevic and Demba Ba, and as a result he has been able to lay on the goals for his fellow strikers.

## Sunny wants Nigeria Olympic action

REAL Betis midfielder Sunday Stephen, simply known as 'Sunny' in Spain, has told MTNFootball.com that he will be willing to feature for Nigeria's Olympic team after he first turned his native country and starred for Spain youth team.

"I am ready to play for Nigeria now and my target is the Olympic team," Stephen told MTNFootball.com from his base in Spain.

"Yes, I featured for Spain at the 2007 Under-20 World Cup in Canada. But now I'm ready to commit my international future to Nigeria.

"I remember that I was also called up by Nigeria for the Under-20 World Cup in Canada, but I could not honour that invitation because I had already committed myself to Spain."

A recent FIFA rule will allow Sunny to feature for his native country as long as he has yet to be capped by Spain at full international level.

The 21-year-old defensive midfielder is on loan to Spanish second division outfit Real Betis from Valencia.

## THE THURSDAY COLUMN

Is'haq Modibbo Kawu

kawumodibbo@dailytrust.com 08059100368 (SMS only)

## Intrigues, deception and illegalities as we enter post-Yar'adua era

The most poignant backdrop to the political process of the past few weeks in Nigeria was Goodluck Jonathan's visit to Jos, in the aftermath of the tragic killings in that city. There was Bukola Saraki, Kwara State governor and chairman of the Nigerian Governors' Forum (NGF), standing behind Jonathan like his ADC! Any student of Political Science 101 knew we were in the midst of remarkable political changes. Since 2007, Bukola Saraki has grown a political stature as one of the most important schemers in the nation's affairs; he literally flaunts closeness to Umaru Yar'adua, because in fairness to the Kwara State governor, he played an important role in ensuring the emergence of Yar'adua and subsequent election (well, not quite, since Yar'adua was actually RIGGED to power!), Bukola has used his position as chair of NGF to shore up Yar'adua's flanks. So much has Bukola been involved in the Yar'adua presidency that he spends far more time out of Kwara where he is governor than should normally have been necessary.

And at the beginning of the crisis around the health of the helmsman eighty days ago, Bukola Saraki and Isa Yuguda told the elaborate lie that they had seen Yar'adua in a Saudi hospital and was responding to treatment, when they did not. Again, they were attempting to uphold the illusion that all was well, even when Nigerians knew they were not. The refusal of the people around the president to allow people like Bukola Saraki to see the ailing president, with hindsight now, was one of the seeds of the process which culminated in the ILLEGAL investiture of Goodluck Jonathan as Nigeria's acting president on Tuesday this week. Nigerians recall the arrogant manner various individuals within various arms of government spoke about the vacuum which Yar'adua left in the process of governance. There was the authoritarian command for all of us to engage in prayers for the president just as one of the leading senators told a bemused country that Yar'adua could stay out of the country even for a year. The Attorney-General, Aondoakaa leaned on legal props to tell us with an arrogant posture, that Yar'adua can actually rule Nigeria from wherever and however.

There seemed to be a unity of thought and action between all parties to the detriment of the Nigerian people. But like a pack of cards, why did the delusion crumble faster than it took them to keep the lie? It was due to a number of factors ranging from the seizure of the streets by the Save Nigeria Group; the apprehension of the international community; the incompetence and arrogance of the Katsina clique around the president and finally, the need to save their own political careers by the Nigerian governors, led by Bukola Saraki and Babangida Aliyu, not to mention the deeply-felt fear that the military might just sweep away the fraudulent political system. In two weeks, governors, who never used to see Goodluck beyond a colourless paperweight, all of a sudden began to genuflect before the man, as the campaign to make Jonathan acting president gathered steam. Nigerians were fed up with the incompetent arrogance of the Katsina clique and the campaign to move away from an ailing leader became unstoppable.

Spurred by the need to save their own insatiable appetite for power, the governors like rats abandoning a sinking ship chose to dump Yar'adua and latch on to the new rickshaw of a Goodluck Jonathan era. In the past week, we have been in the thick of the intrigues which culminated in the ILLEGAL way that Jonathan has been foisted upon our country as acting president. A resolution of the

National Assembly clearly isn't the way to do it. Absurd as it sounded, the assertion by the Attorney General, that the president has not flouted the constitution by not transmitting a notice to the National Assembly still rings true, and I say that as somebody who has remained critical of Yar'adua from the beginning. The "doctrine of necessity" used to impose Jonathan as acting president could not displace Section 145 of the 1999 Constitution, but as has become the norm since the beginning of this dispensation; our politicians have chosen to circumvent the constitution again to achieve tactical ends. Nigeria's politics is built upon unending layers of intrigues, illegalities and subversion of the constitution which does not have an end; our politics is lost in a black hole: Yar'adua remains critically sick; his side-kicks arrogantly mismanaged the situation; FEC was busy awarding contracts but eventually fell apart through Dora Akunyili's volte-face; the NASS suddenly found refuge in dubious patriotism and a "doctrine of necessity"; the governors re-asserted themselves as the masters of intrigue and on television Jonathan Goodluck appeared like a vaunted coup plotter!

On a final note, in his speech Goodluck Jonathan said "... this administration is ...commit[ted] to Good Governance, Accountability and Transparency....In particular,

the war against corruption will be prosecuted more robustly". Very good words; but Goodluck Jonathan should show PERSONAL example of this commitment. Last year, Jonathan also said "corruption is due to insecurity as most people accumulate wealth for fear of the future". Interestingly, "in one month while (governor) the EFCC seized from his wife, N104 million.... That was August 2006, and the EFCC obtained a court order to freeze (the) N104 million.... Weeks later, on September 11, 2006, the

EFCC seized \$13.5 million from the same woman.... Nobody has ever said another word about these... monies.... (On becoming) Vice-President, Jonathan (also)... declare(d) his assets... put at a... conservative N295 million. But... since (he was) Governor of Bayelsa for only 17 months, the arithmetic suggested he had grown pretty quickly, at over N17 million monthly"; according to Sonala Olumhense. Acting President, Jonathan Goodluck, should clear our minds about these monies! It is clear that we are entering what might become a post-Yar'adua era with political actors positioning for the greatest influence they can muster for themselves in the days ahead!

## Anambra: What manner of elections?

There have been backslaps following the Anambra elections at the weekend, with the opposition being happy Peter Obi was returned. Frankly I was also delighted that Nnamdi 'Andy' Uba and Charles Soludo didn't get a look-in. But the figures should give us the pause. There were 1, 844, 815 registered voters in Anambra State, but only 301, 232 people voted with 16, 685 votes being voided leaving 284, 547 legal votes. Obi won with ONLY 97, 843 votes. Over 1.5million voters were disenfranchised by INEC; not only that, even Fela Anikulapo-Kuti and Gani Fawehinmi were on the Anambra list. Nigeria's electoral role is a sham as 2011 elections draw closer. Under Maurice Iwu, INEC lives in denial but every election reveals a deep-seated incompetence. When it suits the opposition, as in Anambra, everybody acquiesces; otherwise, they make noise. There must be one standard: genuinely free and fair elections based on an authentic voters list. That was not available in Anambra last week. By the way, how did votes INEC ALLOCATED to Andy Uba in 2007, shrink to less than 30,000 last week?



There seemed to be a unity of thought and action between all parties to the detriment of the Nigerian people. But like a pack of cards, why did the delusion crumble faster than it took them to keep the lie?

## SPORTS REPORT



NIKOLAY Davydenko

## Davydenko dismisses potentially tough challenger

Russian second seed Nikolay Davydenko easily overcame a potentially tough challenger in Spaniard Feliciano Lopez to reach the second round of the World Indoor Tournament with a 6-4 6-2 win on yesterday.

Davydenko, the world number six, had

beaten Lopez only once in five previous meetings and had to wait until the ninth game of the first set to break the Spaniard's service game.

The Russian took the first set and settled the match with an early double break in the second to leave Lopez still without a win in Rotterdam in his fifth attempt.



MAROUANE Chamakh

## Chamakh holds talks with three English clubs

Gironde Bordeaux's Marouane Chamakh has held talks with three English Premier League clubs but denied media reports he had tied himself to Arsenal from next season, the striker said at a news conference on Wednesday.

"Some said today I have signed for Arsenal. I deny it categorically. It's true there are contacts with English clubs, including Arsenal, but I deny there's a deal," said Chamakh.

The 26-year-old Morocco international added that he had also held talks with Liverpool and Tottenham Hotspur.

"The more it goes, the less I see myself playing for Bordeaux next season", said Chamakh, whose contract with the French champions runs until June.

