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Rajab 5, 1443 AH

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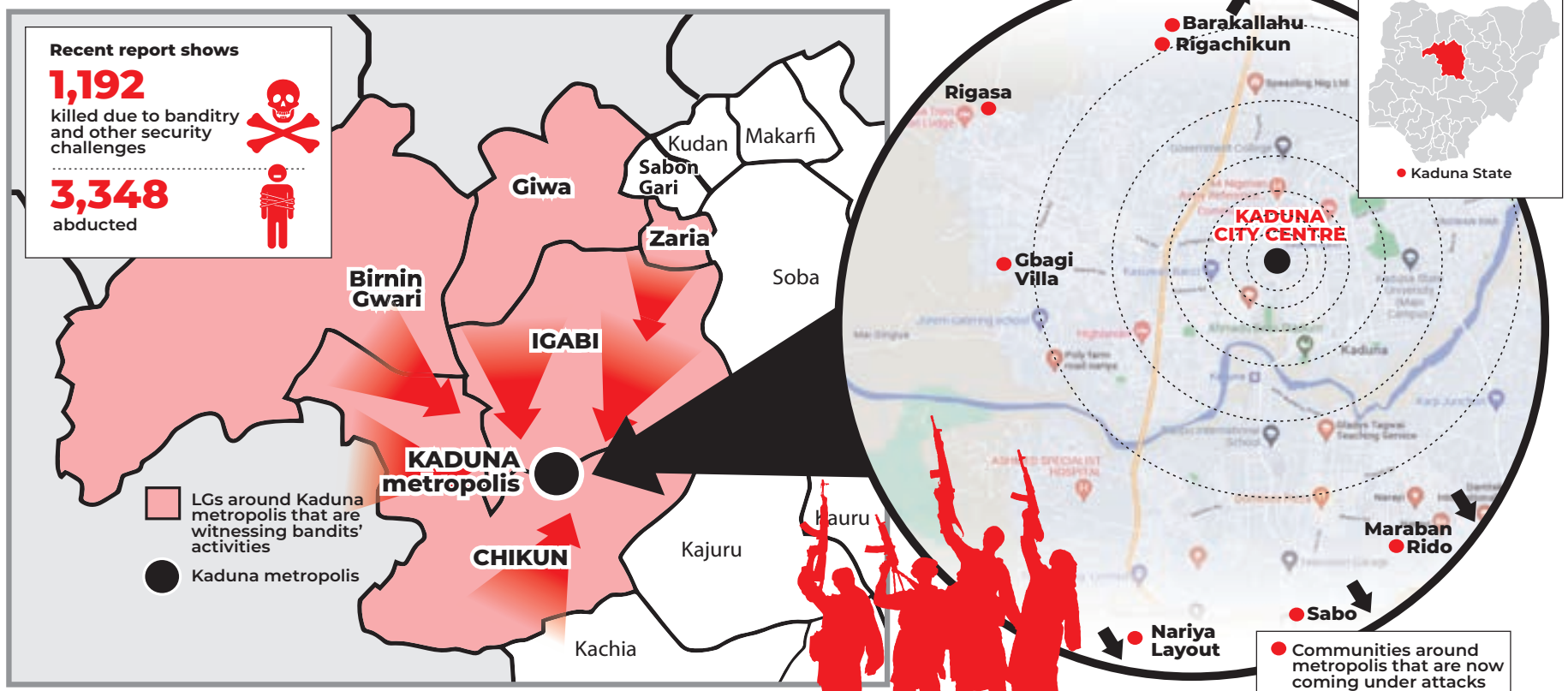
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How bandits in Kaduna State are inching towards the metropolis



Infographic Ali A. Geidam



PAYBACK PROJECT 2023

Servant of democracy's date with history

To join Payback Project 2023 text 0806 418 5845



Signed IBRAHIM LAWAL DG, PAYBACK PROJECT 2023

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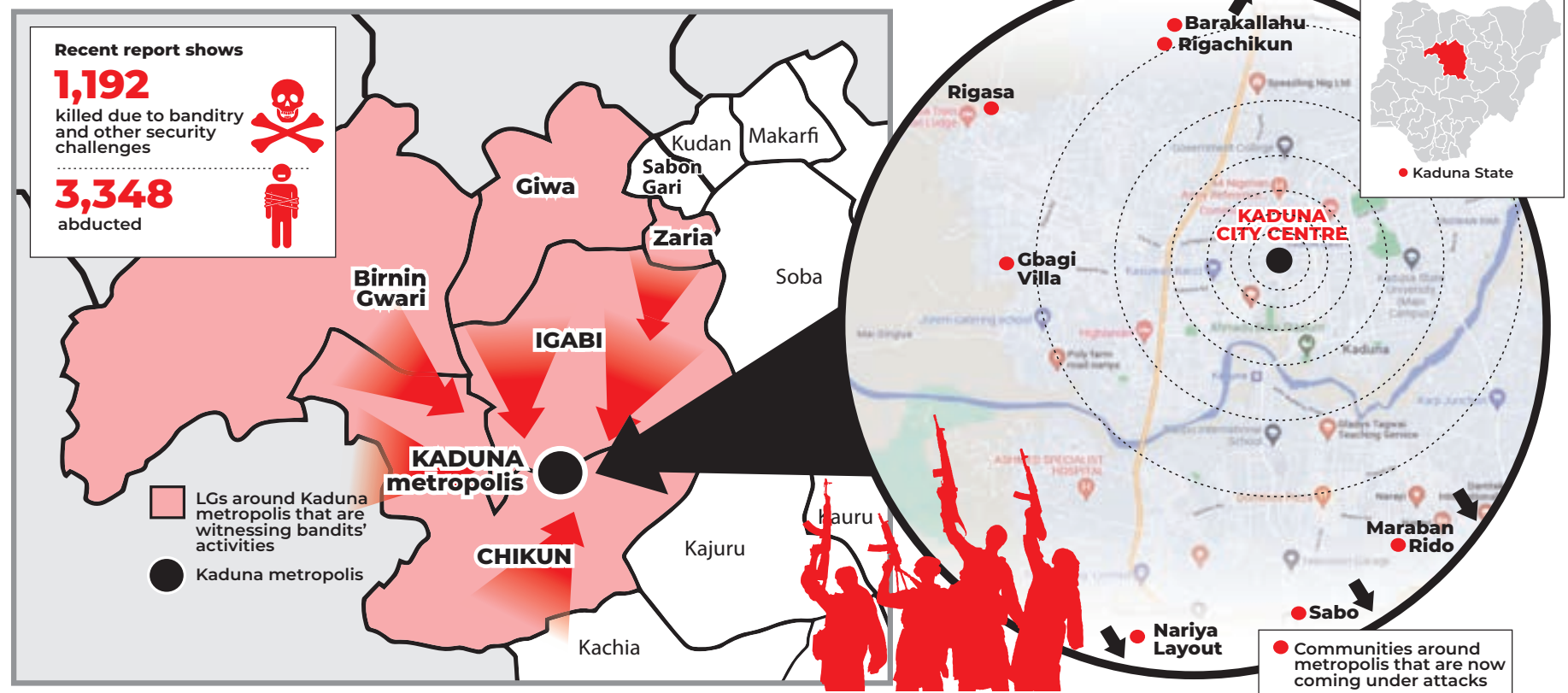
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Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu | Signed IBRAHIM LAWAL DG, PAYBACK PROJECT 2023

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

“Keep a positive outlook even when faced with life challenges”



- Catherine Pulsifer

AFRICAN SAYINGS

“One who possesses much wisdom has it in the heart, not on the lips”

(African Proverbs)

Source: BBC collection of listeners' proverbs

WEATHER

ABUJA	KADUNA	KANO	MAIDUGURI	Jos	SOKOTO	IBADAN	ENUGU	P/HARCOURT	LAGOS
PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	THUNDER STORM	PARTIALLY CLOUD
36 21 MAX MIN	35 18 MAX MIN	34 16 MAX MIN	37 17 MAX MIN	31 15 MAX MIN	36 19 MAX MIN	36 23 MAX MIN	36 24 MAX MIN	26 19 MAX MIN	33 25 MAX MIN

Compiled by JAMIL H. SALIM (Temperature in centigrade)

PRAYERS TIMES

RAJAB 5, 1443 AH

PRAYERS	ABUJA	ENUGU	KADUNA	KANO	KATSINA	LAGOS	MAIDUGURI	P/HARCOURT	SOKOTO
FAJR	5:40	5:38	5:41	5:40	5:45	5:55	5:23	5:38	5:54
DHUHR	12:49	12:49	12:49	12:44	12:48	01:06	12:27	12:52	12:56
ASR	4:05	4:05	4:05	4:00	4:04	4:22	3:43	4:08	4:12
MAGHRIB	6:34	6:39	6:36	6:29	6:32	6:57	6:12	6:43	6:43
ISHA	7:38	7:44	7:41	7:34	7:37	8:02	7:17	7:48	7:48

SOURCE: Society for the propagation of Islam, Kaduna



PHOTO OF THE DAY

People participate in the annual pool in Pennsylvania, US

Photo: Shutterstock

STOCK INDEX

AS AT FRIDAY 4, 2022

GAINERS	SCOA	LIVINGTRUST	JAIZBANK	GUINEAINS	CHAMPION	LOSERS	PRESCO	NEM	INTBREW	UPL	CHAMS
OPEN	N1.25	N1.24	N0.71	N0.22	N2.20	OPEN	N94.50	N3.33	N5.30	N2.50	N0.20
CLOSE	0.11	0.10	0.04	0.01	0.10	CLOSE	-10.50	-0.36	-0.55	-0.15	-0.01
CHANGE	9.65%	8.77%	5.97%	4.76%	4.76%	CHANGE	-10.00%	-9.76%	-9.40%	-5.66%	-4.76%

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IN-DEPTH

Disquiet over Rep's bill seeking scrapping, merger of NSCDC with police

By Itodo Daniel Sule

A bill introduced in the House of Representatives seeking the scrapping of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) to be merged with the Nigeria Police Force has been raising dust, *Daily Trust* reports.

The lawmaker representing Iseyin/Itesiwaju/Kajola/Iwajowa Federal Constituency in Oyo State at the House of Representatives, Shina Peller, has proposed scrapping of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps.

Peller in his bill proposed that the Nigeria Police Force should take over the responsibilities of the NSCDC.

The lawmaker made the proposal to the House via the National Security and Civil Defence Corps (Repeal and Transition) Bill 2022, which passed first reading on Tuesday.

The bill seeks to repeal the National Security and Civil Defence Corps (Amendment) Act 2007, establish a transition management committee to superintend over the NSCDC, develop regulations and implement procedures for the transfer of assets and personnel of the corps to the Nigeria Police Force, and other related matters.

In the bill, Peller noted that, "Fragmentation of security resources across multiple competing agencies is counterproductive."

The lawmakers also noted that the mandate of the NSCDC "has now become a duplication of the Nigeria Police Force," adding that, "This has led to avoidable conflicts."

He said: "Every single function of the NSCDC can be done or is being done by the Nigeria Police Force," while citing "waste of scarce resources," stressing that the annual budget of the NSCDC is almost N100 billion.

Daily Trust reports that the NSCDC is a paramilitary agency of the federal government that is commissioned to provide measures against threat and any form of attack or disaster against the nation and its citizenry. The corps is statutorily empowered by Act No. 2 of 2003 and amended by Act 6 of June 4th, 2007.

NSCDC has three core mandates, which include provision of constant and effective protection of national assets; interfacing with private security guards for local safety and intervening in the management of natural and man-made disasters.

However, the proposed bill seeking the scrapping of the body and merger with the police has been raising dust among Nigerians, especially the youth, who have accused its sponsor of trying to block their chances of being gainfully employed through the outfit.

They argued that rather than scrapping the outfit and merging it with the police, the lawmaker should have sponsored a bill on how to reform and strengthen the paramilitary outfit to actualise its

- Scrapping, merger of NSCDC not an option – Expert
- Proposed NSCDC bill misconstrued – Sponsor



■ Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC)

mandate.

Scrapping, merger of NSCDC not an option - expert

Speaking on the matter, a civil society expert, Austin Aigbe, said scrapping and merging the NSCDC with the police as being proposed was not the best option.

He said the outfit should rather be strengthened and professionally equipped to be able to carry out its mandate.

"Scrapping it is not an option; merging it with the police is not the option, but strengthening it to ensure it serves the purpose for which it was created.

"We are supposed to have a national guard like is obtainable in the USA. Can we see the NSCDC as our national guard which can come in to support the police and not the army coming to support the police? So they need to have more tactical experience almost close to that of the military.

"Civil Defence Corps should serve as a defence mechanism not to be merely attached to politicians as they do now", he said.

He, however, said the NSCDC was already deviating from its core mandate, adding, that, "The NSCDC appears to be in conflict with the working of the police; they have their stipulated mandates but today, they are working like police; they are following politicians up and down; what are they doing in ministries opening doors for politicians?"

Lending his voice, a former senator from Kaduna State, Shehu Sani, faulted the bill saying, "The bill in the House of Reps proposing the scrapping of NSCDC is unnecessary and retrogressive.

"The Civil Defence Corps as a prime security agency has been playing a distinctive and complementary role in our security system. With due respect, that bill should be rejected."

A security expert and former Commissioner of Police in the Federal Capital Territory, Lawrence Alobi, noted that the two agencies have their clear mandates as

specified in the constitution.

He said, "The purpose of law is to serve the society and government is established to implement those laws.

"Section 134 of the constitution said there can be only one police force; there shall be no other police force but the Civil Defence has been created to do police functions; there could be clashes.

"Orosanye's reports had made some recommendations some time ago. If the government feels that it is in the interest of society to scrap or retain it, the government knows best.

"Each one has its own mandates. So, if it is what the government decides, nobody can say no."

A Facebook user, Kale Baraje, while responding to the issue sarcastically said the bill seeking the scrapping and merger of the NSCDC with the police should also scrap the House of Representatives to be merged with the Senate.

A Twitter user, @Naija_PR said: "We are facing serious security challenges at this period and someone is sponsoring a bill for scrapping of NSCDC instead of scrapping the House of Representatives in order to cut costs."

Muazu Elazeh @muazuElazeh said: "Our lawmakers should perish the thought. Call for scrapping of NSCDC is not in good faith."

On his part, Saka Olokungboye @olokungboyesaka said: "I cannot still find a word to advance any reason why Hon Shina Peller calls for scrapping of NSCDC despite the fact that the police are grossly understaffed which necessitated agitation for establishment of state police."

Drama as NSCDC withdraws, reinstates personnel from lawmaker

In what appears to be a tit for tat, the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Oyo State Command, ordered the withdrawal of all its personnel attached to Rep Peller hours after his bill passed first reading at the House.

The withdrawal was made

known in a circular released and signed Wednesday by the HOD Administration of the Oyo State Command of the agency, DCC Sotiyo Igbalawole, on behalf of the state commandant.

Sotiyo, in the circular, however, said the personnel were withdrawn for an 'urgent national security assignment'.

The development came hours after Peller presented a bill to scrap NSCDC, proposing the police take over the responsibilities of the NSCDC. But in another twist, the NSCDC Commandant General issued a statement on Thursday ordering the reinstatement of the personnel withdrawn from the lawmaker, saying the officers at the Oyo Command took the action without recourse to the constituted authorities.

The NSCDC Director of Public Relations at the National Headquarters, Abuja, DCC Odumosu Olusola, said: "The leadership of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps has dismissed as unauthorised and without recourse to the Corps constituted authority, a letter signed and sent to a Member of the House of Representatives, Hon. Shina Peller, informing him of the withdrawal of officials of the NSCDC assigned to him.

"Not only did the officer in question lack the power to do such; he was also found to have acted on his whims without clearance. The Commandant General, Dr Ahmed Abubakar Audi, mni, has therefore directed a reinstatement of the withdrawn officers with a compliment of necessary courtesies to the Honourable Member", the statement said.

Proposed NSCDC Bill misconstrued - Sponsor

But following the backlash trailing the bill, the sponsor has come out to say that the bill was misconstrued and misrepresented by Nigerians.

In a statement, the lawmaker said contrary to what people were made to believe, the bill seeks to absorb the



■ Shina Peller

National Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) into the Nigerian Police Force and set a transitional framework to achieve an important objective.

He said: "I shall weigh in and make certain clarifications about the proposed bill.

"On Tuesday, February 1st, 2022, the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (Repeal and Enactment) Bill that I sponsored was read for the first time in the House of Representatives.

"Expectedly, while some understand and align themselves with the points raised in the bill, some either unknowingly missed the points or deliberately misconstrued the content for reasons best known to them.

"Contrary to what is being falsely spread by some people, the bill is not about scrapping NSCDC but merging the agency with the Nigeria Police Force to achieve better results in policing.

"The bill does not in any way seek to render people jobless; rather, the bill proposes the transfer of assets and personnel of the NSCDC to the Nigeria Police.

"In other words, assets and personnel will be absorbed by the police so there won't be loss of jobs.

"The creation of the Corps was supposed to free officers and men of the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) to focus on their core policing operations of protecting lives and ensuring the security of property.

"Since then, the nature of the NSCDC has changed. Rather than exist as, and perform the role of an ancillary force, the NSCDC now includes an armed component and performs policing functions across the country. Predictably, this overlap of functions and jurisdictions has led to increasing conflicts between the NSCDC and the Nigerian Police.

"Nigeria is faced with an unprecedented wave of different but overlapping security crises, therefore, the government and legislature must be aggressively innovative in considering better options for more effective national security architecture.

"This proposed bill should serve as a trigger to constructive debates and conversations that end with substantive reforms in the best interest of the nation."

Bandits closing in on Kaduna metropolis

From Lami Sadiq, Kaduna

Terrorists and other criminals are closing in on Kaduna metropolis amid increasing attacks and abductions in towns and villages close to the state capital, *Daily Trust* reports.

Hundreds of people who left their homes in far-flung areas due to persistent attacks by the terrorists popularly called bandits or kidnapers in search of peace in communities near Kaduna metropolis told our correspondent that the attackers have continued to trail them.

Many villages and homes have been attacked and people abducted in recent times, thereby heightening fears that the miscreants are becoming more daring.

Security sources said the terrorists were in disarray because of sustained military operations around their hideouts in forests, hence their movement to communities near Kaduna and other major towns to evade arrest and at the same time continue with their nefarious activities.

For almost a decade, several communities in Kaduna Central Senatorial District have been sacked; with residents fleeing their homes due to banditry.

Daily Trust further reports that since 2013, when the Emir of Birnin Gwari, Alhaji Zubairu Jibril II, raised alarm about bandits taking over his emirate, the activities of the criminal gangs have escalated to Chikun, Igabi, Giwa and now Zaria LGAs of the state.

Weeks of findings and monitoring showed that in the last few months criminality is gradually surging into parts of Kaduna metropolis and other cosmopolitan areas like Zaria City, Birnin Gwari and Giwa towns which in the past provided refuge for residents fleeing the hinterlands.

'Kaduna becoming porous'

Kaduna residents who spoke to our reporter expressed fear that communities near Kaduna metropolis such as Narayi Layout, Rigachikun, Rigasa, Barakallahu, Gbagi Villa, Maraban Rido and Sabo, which are less than five kilometres from the city centre, were now witnessing attacks.

Kaduna metropolis, which comprises Kaduna North, Kaduna South, Igabi and Chikun LGAs, which also forms part of the Central Senatorial District, has since October, 2021, been designated Kaduna Capital Territory (KCT), with a landmass of 2,231.41 square kilometres.

However, security sources confirmed to *Daily Trust* that a few weeks ago the police thwarted a



■ Gbagi Villa around Sabo area in Chikun LGA



■ Juji community around Sabo area in Chikun LGA

kidnapping attempt in Kawo New Extension located in the heart of the metropolis.

One of the sources told *Daily Trust* that gunmen had rounded up members of a household but that their plan was thwarted when policemen engaged them and recovered an AK-47 rifle.

Speaking on the surge of the attacks within Kaduna metropolis and major towns, Dr Awwal Abdullahi Aliyu, a security analyst, said this was an indication that everyone was in danger.

Dr Aliyu said it had become obvious that the terrorists had now found courage to advance into major cities, including Kaduna metropolis.

He further said, "The bandits have now been declared terrorists, and a terrorist is ready to take all kinds of risks to achieve his aim."

"They have succeeded in creating fear among the people and are forcing people to leave the outskirts and to all converge in one place. This is sending a dangerous signal. Some of them now live among the people to get information, so the security agents must come up with a different approach."

He, therefore, called on the state government, security agents and residents to come up with community intelligence and security networks and synergise for early warning.

A recent security report released by the Kaduna State Government showed that 1,192 people were killed due to banditry and other security challenges, with 3,348 abducted in 2021. Out of these numbers, 720 persons were killed in the Central Senatorial District, while 2,771 were abducted from the same district.

We are not safe - Residents

Alhaji Sambo Ali, a resident of Giwa LGA, one of the frontline areas of banditry in the state, told



■ Kachia road by Sabo in Kaduna

Daily Trust that many villagers had relocated to bigger towns in the area, warning however that the towns were less than five kilometres from the deserted communities.

Alhaji Sambo said, "Rofayya, Karofi, Batoro I and II and Marke I and II have been taken over by the bandits, and these communities are just two kilometres from Fatika town where we are now settled."

"Right now, there are no houses for rent in Giwa town because villagers have converged there. Just recently, about two kilometres from Giwa town, bandits blocked the Zaria-Gusau road and conducted operations for three consecutive days."

Zaria residents agitated

In Zaria, *Daily Trust* gathered that due to its proximity with forests that traverse Birnin Gwari and Giwa, residents of communities around Dutsen Abba Ward are converging around Kofan Kuyambana, Kofan Gayan and Kofan Kona.

A source in Zaria, however, said even at that there had been a surge in attacks around Kofan Gayan and

Kofan Kona.

Kajuru locals relocate to Maraban Kajuru, others

Also speaking with our correspondent, Ben Achana, who fled Buda community in Kajuru LGA, said residents of Kajuru, Gyangere and Buda had equally moved to bigger towns such as Maraban Kajuru, Kasuwan Magani and Kufana.

In Chikun LGA, our correspondent gathered that residents of Unguwan Gimbiya, Juji, Unguwan Bagi, Maraban Rido and Unguwan Kaje are moving into Kaduna metropolis to find refuge.

Mr Achana said even as they had migrated into the metropolis and other bigger towns, the bandits appeared to be encroaching into such towns.

He said, "We have moved to bigger towns, but these towns are less than three to four kilometres from the communities we fled from, which the bandits have taken over. We fear that this is giving the bandits opportunity to re-strategise and attack the bigger towns."

We'll protect the state - Kaduna

govt, Police

When contacted, the Kaduna State Commissioner of Internal Security and Home Affairs, Samuel Aruwan, said the government was not sleeping. He said they were working very hard to tackle all issues of insecurity in the state.

The Kaduna State Police Command on its part aligned with this report on the advancement of the criminal gangs into the metropolis, but said security agents were strategising to address the situation.

Speaking with *Daily Trust*, the command's spokesperson, ASP Mohammed Jalige, confirmed the incident in Kawo New Extension where gunmen attempted to round up members of a household, but said the gunmen fled due to the superior fire power of security agents.

ASP Jalige explained that the Commissioner of Police, Abdullahi Mudasiru, had directed all DPOs and tactical commanders within the metro and Kakuri area to improve their patrols and visibility at night while they gathered surveillance in the afternoon.

He further explained that, "The directive is to gather more intelligence and to liaise with traditional rulers and other stakeholders to get the necessary information in the daytime."

"The tactical commanders will mount stop-and-search roadblocks within the metropolitan areas at night because security analysis shows that attacks in the metropolis are linked to the work of informants or bandits infiltrating the areas in the afternoon for surveillance before they strike."

"We are going to intensify awareness on these issues because these people survey the areas in the afternoon then return to attack at night, which is why they usually hit their targets."

Sound education, solution to insecurity – Aremu

Mr Issa Aremu, Director-General, Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies (MILNLS), has said that sound and qualitative education would help curb banditry, kidnapping and other vices in the country.

Aremu said this on Sunday while delivering a lecture on the implementation of the new National Education Development

Plan at the 55 anniversary celebration of the Ilorin Grammar School.

Aremu, who is an old student of the school, noted that there is no substitute for qualitative and sound education and urged the three tiers of government to invest more in education

According to him, education is the only weapon that can eradicate all security

challenges and other negative tendencies retarding national growth and development.

"Nothing can be equated with sound education in any society, after education is education, education is capable of eradicating security challenges confronting the nation," he said.

He lauded President Muhammadu Buhari for putting in place the new National

Education Development Plan and urged stakeholders in the education sector and Nigerians to support him towards the realization of the objective.

Aremu also called on aspiring president and governors to make implementation of the National Development Plan their watchword as the 2023 general elections draw nearer. (NAN)

Insecurity: Presidency rejects Financial Times report on Nigeria

By Muideen Olaniyi

The Presidency has rejected the views expressed in a report published on Financial Times (UK) particularly on the security challenges in Nigeria.

The Senior Special Assistant on Media and Publicity to the President, in a letter to the Editor of the paper, disagreed with the use of the rising banditry

in the country as proof that the government was in slumber.

The UK paper had said: "Muhammadu Buhari may go but it's not the leader who matters, the system itself must change".

The letter dated February 6, 2022 and released by the presidential aide read: "We wish to correct the wrong perceptions contained in the article 'What is Nigeria's Government For,' by David Piling, Financial Times

(UK), January 31, 2022.

"The caricature of a government sleepwalking into disaster (What is Nigeria's government for? January 31, 2022) is predictable from a correspondent who jets briefly in and out of Nigeria on the same British Airways flight he so criticises.

"He highlights rising banditry in my country as proof of such slumber.

"What he leaves out are the

security gains made over two Presidential terms.

"The terror organisation Boko Haram used to administer an area the size of Belgium at inauguration; now, they control no territory.

"The first comprehensive plan to deal with decades-old clashes between nomadic herders and sedentary farmers - experienced across the width of the Sahel - has been introduced: pilot ranches

are reducing the competition for water and land that drove past tensions.

"Banditry grew out of such clashes. Criminal gangs took advantage of the instability, flush with guns that flooded the region following the Western-triggered implosion of Libya.

"The situation is grave.

"Yet as with other challenges, it is one that the government will face down."

Oath of secrecy, plot to gag N/Assembly staff – CISLAC

● It's to protect official secret – NASS mgt

By Balarabe Alkassim

The Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre has warned the management of the National Assembly against administering oath of secrecy on the staff of the National Assembly.

Executive Director, CISLAC and Head of Transparency International in Nigeria, Auwal Musa Rafsanjani, in a statement, described as hostile, the recent circular titled 'Oath of Secrecy' signed by the Secretary, Human Resources and Staff Development.

He said this was an attempt by the management to gag the workers.

He stated: "We, without hesitation, note that deliberate twisting of an oath of office to pressurise or subdue staff/aides from exercising their fundamental human rights is a major violation of Sections 34, 37 and 39 of the 1999 Constitution which guarantee rights to dignity of human persons, private and family life, and freedom of expression and the press, respectively".

He also urged the Office of Auditor-General of the Federation to audit the "implementation" of the allocations of N9.6bn, N15.9bn and N5.7bn appropriated to the legislative aides, the National Assembly Management and National Assembly Service Commission, respectively in 2021 which, he alleged, had not translated into "adequate welfare for the legislative staff/aides".

Reacting, the Special Adviser to the Clerk of the National Assembly on Media and Labour, Adesoro Austin, said the oath of secrecy was to protect official documents from being abused.

He said: "Nobody, no management is trying to make National Assembly staff not to do what is contrary to the required public service rule. You see, it is becoming rampant that staff are posting official documents on social media including official minutes on WhatsApp and various social media."



■ All Progressives Congress National Leader, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, on his arrival yesterday in Lagos after a short trip abroad

PHOTO: Tinubu Media Office

G/Bissau coupists wanted to kill President Embalo, Buhari told

By Muideen Olaniyi

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guinea-Bissau, Suzi Barbosa, says the coupists attempted to kill President Umaru Sissoco Embalo.

She said this yesterday while briefing President

Muhammadu Buhari on the coup attempt to oust Embalo but which was aborted by loyalist forces.

She gave graphic presentation of the attempt to overthrow the constitutional order in her country at a meeting on the sidelines of the African Union

Summit of Heads of State and Government holding in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

"They attempted to kill President Embalo. They destroyed the presidential palace with bazookas, killed 11 young people. It took about five hours to restore order. It was a

nightmare," she said during the comprehensive briefing.

Buhari, in a statement by his spokesman, Femi Adesina, promised to consult with other ECOWAS leaders on how full normalcy could be restored to the embattled country at the shortest possible time.

Nigeria, world's third highest in female genital mutilation—UNICEF

Nigeria has the third highest number of women and girls who have undergone female genital mutilation worldwide with an estimated 19.9m survivors and state prevalence ranging from 62 percent in Imo to less than one percent in Adamawa and Gombe.

The officer in charge of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Enugu Field Office, Mrs Maureen Zubie-Okolo, disclosed this in Enugu yesterday.

She spoke at a media dialogue organised by the UNICEF in collaboration with the Broadcasting Corporation of Abia, to mark this year's 2022 International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation themed 'Accelerating Investment to End Female Genital Mutilation'.

She noted that over four million girls were at risk of genital mutilation even as COVID-19 disruptions could add another

two million cases by year 2030.

Zubie-Okolo, represented by UNICEF's Child Protection Specialist, Enugu Field Office, Mr Victor Atuchukwu, said: "The prevalence of FGM is highest in the South-East at 35 per cent and South-West (30 per cent), a situation which prompted UNICEF to initiate a community-led movement to eliminate FGM in highly prevalent states of Imo, Ebonyi, Ekiti, Osun and Oyo.

"This Day reminds us that we need to accelerate efforts, especially with families and communities, to achieve a safe Nigeria for girls and women who are robbed of their childhoods, health and aspirations by harmful practices such as FGM".

The News Agency of Nigeria reports that February 6 was set aside by the United Nations to amplify and direct efforts on the elimination of female genital mutilation. (NAN)

Rotary urges FG to subsidize cervical cancer screening

By Seun Adeuyi

The president of Rotary Club of Abuja, Maitama, Victoria Unoarumi, has called on the Federal Government to subsidize screening for cervical cancer.

She made the call Saturday in Abuja during an awareness walk tagged 'Cervical Cancer Awareness Walk/Screening', organised in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Asokoro and the Rotary Club of Abuja Capital to commemorate this year's World Cancer Day.

Unoarumi said: "To screen a woman takes about N10,000 to N15,000. We call on the Federal Government to subsidize the fee."

President of Rotary Club of Asokoro, Adetola Fazaz, noted that everybody needs to be aware that cancer exists.

Fazaz said: "The first stage is for everybody to know that there is cancer. Go for periodic medical checkups so that you can know. Don't expect the government to pull you out to go for a checkup."

President of Women in Rotary District 9125, Olajumoke Kehinde, said the clubs recently contributed to the screening of 50 women for cervical cancer at the National Hospital, Abuja.

She called for support from well-meaning Nigerians, saying: "No amount is small. It takes about N10,000 (discounted) to screen a woman.

"If people come together and support this course, lots of women will have the privilege of being screened and it will reduce the rate at which women are down with this disease."

Bauchi's oldest monarch, Emir of Jama'are, buried amid tears

From Ahmed Mohammed, Bauchi & Muideen Olaniyi, Abuja

The remains of the Emir of Jama'are, Alhaji Ahmadu Muhammadu Wabi III, who died on Saturday night at Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital, Kano, were laid to rest amid tears from residents at the cemetery inside the palace where past emirs were buried.

The Chief Imam of Bauchi, Bala Ahmad Limanchi, who led the funeral prayer, prayed to Allah to forgive the deceased.

The funeral prayer was attended by people from different walks of life, including Governor Bala Mohammed of Bauchi State; his immediate predecessor, Mohammed Abubakar, the emirs of Bauchi, Rilwanu Sulaiman Adamu; Katagum, Alhaji Umar Faruk II; Misau, Alhaji Ahmad Suleiman; Ningi, Alhaji Yunusa Muhammad Danyaya; Dass, Alhaji Othman Bilyaminu Usman; Dutse, Dr Nuhu Muhammadu Sanusi; and Pataskum, Alhaji Umaru Bubaram Ibn Wuriwa Bauya.

The royal family led by the eldest son of the deceased, Alhaji Nuhu Ahmad Wabi, received the governor, the emirs and people that attended the funeral prayer.

He prayed for the deceased and the sympathisers.

Meanwhile, the governor of Bauchi State described the death of the emir as a monumental loss to the emirate and the entire people of the state.

The governor who attended the funeral prayer of the late elder statesman with his deputy and other top government

functionaries conveyed the condolences of his family, government and the good people of Bauchi State to the immediate family of the late emir and Jama'are emirate council.

Governor Mohammed said the late emir "was a man of many solid parts, a peace-loving royal father who detested violence and his greatest legacy was his dedication to a stable and united Bauchi State."

These sterling qualities, according to the governor, will forever remain in the hearts of our people.

"Our late father was a distinguished statesman, gentleman and a bridge builder who always stood for peace, justice and stability of the people of his domain and our

beloved state," he added.

The governor prayed that Almighty Allah will bless him with Aljanna Firdaus and grant the royal family and the entire people of Bauchi State the fortitude to bear the loss.

Similarly, President Muhammadu Buhari has said the death of the Emir of Jama'are, Ahmad Muhammadu Wabi III, one of the longest-reigning traditional rulers in Africa, "is the end of an era."

The President, in a statement issued by his media aide, Garba Shehu, said: "The demise of Emir Ahmad Muhammadu Wabi who had ruled for fifty years is a great loss not only to Bauchi State but also the entire country because his enormous contributions to peaceful coexistence are incalculable."

According to him, "the late Emir was a decent man who had spent fifty years serving his people without any controversy trailing his remarkable reign."

"I wish to extend my heartfelt sympathy to the family, the Jama'are Emirate Council, the government and the entire people of Bauchi State over the death of this great traditional ruler. May his soul rest in peace. May Allah reward his good deeds with Aljanna," the President prayed.

The Bauchi State Council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) has described the death of the emir as a great loss not only to his immediate family, Jama'are emirate council or Bauchi State alone, but to the entire country.

A statement signed and

issued by the council's secretary, Isah Garba Gadau, said the NUJ received the news of his demise with shock.

The union said the longest serving emir in the state had 52 years' record of excellent rulership to his credit.

The emir of Jama'are, who died at the age of 92 after a brief illness, reigned for 52 years.

One of the deceased's sons, Hassan Ahmad Wabi, Chigarin Jama'are, who announced the demise of the emir on Sunday, said the oldest monarch in Bauchi State was survived by two wives and 36 children.

The deceased, who was born on August 2nd, 1938 as a prince, attended Bauchi Middle School between 1952 and 1956 and worked at the native authority before joining the agricultural sector to become the livestock officer in 1962.

Late Wabi worked as the chief scribe and clerk to the Jama'are Emirate Council from 1964 to 1970.

He was also a member of the defunct Northern Peoples Congress (NPC).

The deceased emir was appointed as the 9th emir of Jama'are at his youthful age on November 19th, 1970, and was given a staff of office on May 11th, 1971.

In 2008, the then President Umaru Musa Yar'adua conferred the National Merit Award of Officer of the Order of the Niger, OON, on him.

The late emir, who worked with 17 governors, both military administrators and civilians, that governed Bauchi State, was the longest monarch in the history of Jama'are Emirate Council.



■ The Chief Imam of Bauchi leading the funeral prayer for late emir of Jama'are, Alhaji Ahmadu Muhammadu Wabi III. inset: the late emir

Kwara popular Islamic cleric slumps during sermon

From Mumini AbdulKarim, Ilorin

The proprietor of Markaz Arabic and Islamic Training Institute, Agege, Lagos, Sheikh Habeeb Abdullahi Al-Ilory, reportedly suffered a stroke during a sermon in Ilorin, the Kwara State capital.

The incident, Daily Trust reliably gathered, occurred on Thursday during the Nikkah ceremony of the daughter of former Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN), Alfa Belgore.

It was gathered that Habeeb who dressed to the occasion in a white Agbada and green cap had barely started the sermon when he collapsed.

Narrating the incident to our reporter, an eyewitness, who gave his name as Yinusa, said the whole scenario lasted for

about two hours after the cleric arrived at the event.

Findings by *Daily Trust* showed that Habeeb was admitted at the Stroke Unit of the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital (UITH).

A top medical officer in the hospital on Sunday confirmed that the cleric suffered a stroke and had been admitted at the Stroke Unit of the UITH.

"He was rushed to UITH on Thursday and it was later discovered that he suffered a stroke. He is at the Stroke Unit of the UITH," he added.

A member of the Mufti's cabinet who preferred not to be named said, "Baba (Sheikh Habeeb) is getting better and very soon, you will see him back on stage."

"Nobody is free from such a test no matter how highly placed his position and status is in society," he added.

Lalong asks office holders contesting 2023 elections to resign

From Dickson S. Adama, Jos

The Plateau State government has asked all political office holders wishing to contest the various positions in the 2023 general elections to resign.

This directive was contained in a statement issued by the Secretary to the Government of the State (SGS), Danladi Atu.

"As the countdown to 2023 general elections draws nearer and in the face of the heightened

political activities, it has become necessary for Government to provide a level playing ground for all political actors, especially those in Government to exercise their fundamental human rights."

One dead, 3 missing in Delta FPSO explosion

By Eugene Agha

Rescuers have recovered a yet-to-be-identified dead body close to the scene of a Floating Producing Storage and Offloading (FPSO) unit that exploded on Wednesday at Escravos area of Delta State.

Similarly, three of the vessel's crewmen have also been rescued in a nearby village by the rescuers deployed to the scene immediately after the incident occurred.

Daily Trust had reported that FPSO TRINITY SPIRIT, owned by Shebah Exploration & Production Company Limited (SEPCOL), exploded on Wednesday at Escravos, in Delta State.

A statement by the management of SEPCOL, signed by its Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Ikenefuna Okafor, issued on Sunday, said one dead body was found close to the scene of the incident while three

crew members have been rescued.

Okafor, while providing a further update on the missing crew members following the explosion and subsequent fire, confirmed that three crew members have been found alive in the community.

He said the management's priority is to ensure that those rescued would receive appropriate medical attention.

"Furthermore, in the early hours of Sunday, February 6, 2022, one dead body was discovered in the vicinity of the FPSO. The identity of the dead body is yet to be ascertained."

"As earlier confirmed, the fire burnt out completely as of Thursday afternoon, February 3, 2022, thus enabling closer inspection of the vessel."

"A Joint Investigation Visit (JIV) with the relevant authorities, stakeholders and expert organisations took place on Saturday,

February 5th, 2022.

"The focus of our joint efforts is to prioritise investigations towards establishing the whereabouts, safety, and security of the seven crew members still missing, clean up and limit damage to the environment, and establish the cause of the explosion."

"We appreciate the assistance provided by the Clean Nigeria Associates, the Chevron team, NOSDRA, NUPRC, SPDC, NIMASA and people in the community, particularly the fishermen, who have been of immense assistance since the incident occurred."

"Members of the public should continue to keep away from the area while our crisis management team monitors developments in the investigations and update all stakeholders with new information accordingly."

VACANCY

Trust Television Network, an independent broadcasting outfit from the stables of Media Trust Limited, the publishers of the widely circulated Daily Trust and its sister titles seeks a qualified candidate to fill the following vacancy.

THE HEAD OF BROADCAST I.T

The Head of Broadcast IT will work with other team members of TRUST TV to plan and evaluate all TV project activities and ensure that the technical facilities of TRUST TV operate at the highest quality within required guidelines and established budget.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Coordinate internal resources and third parties/vendors for the flawless execution of the TRUST TV projects
- Developing project scopes and objectives, involving all relevant stakeholders and ensuring technical feasibility and conclusion of the TRUST TV set up
- Ensure that all projects are delivered on-time, within scope and within budget
- Perform risk management to minimize project risks
- Develop a detailed project plan to track progress
- Create and maintain comprehensive project documentation
- Maintain a high level of broadcast industry technical and business knowledge to keep the broadcast infrastructure up to industry standards
- Participate in developing project priorities, resource requirements, project scope and objectives
- Ensures the highest quality television signal by overseeing the daily operations of the engineering and master control functions
- Ensures that broadcast equipment is maintained and operates within broadcast standards and guidelines provided by the National Broadcasting Commission and other regulatory agencies by developing, scheduling, performing, and supervising routine, preventive, and emergency maintenance of technical equipment located in the studio and at transmitter sites.
- Work closely with broadcast operations to keep them informed through documentation of changes to the production environment
- Analyse systems and or workflow to identify issues, improvements and solutions.
- Create and implement best practice engineering vision, strategy, policies, processes and procedures to aid and improve business performance
- Ensure that engineering strategies and processes are in place to meet business objectives and operational needs in terms of price, quality and delivery targets which enables the company to function and compete effectively in the market

Qualification and Experience

- Minimum of Bachelor's Degree in Electrical or Electronic Engineering, or related discipline
- Minimum of ten (10) years of station-level broadcast television engineering experience
- Sound understanding and demonstrated expertise in setting up of TV station
- Experience in managing complex technical projects
- Able to supervise and train staff on use of equipment
- Self-starter and able to work with moderate supervision Must be able to work flexible hours and weekends as required.

Interested candidates who are satisfied with the above requirements should send their CVs to jobsatrusttv@gmail.com.

The deadline for submission is seven (7) days from the date of publication.

PHOTO GALLERY



■ Deputy High Commissioner, British High Commission Nigeria Mr Ben Llewellyn-Jones (left) with Director General, Securities and Exchange Commission, Mr Lamido Yuguda, during a Meeting between SEC and Deputy High Commissioner in Abuja, at the weekend



■ From left: Dana Air's Accountable Manager, Obi Mbanuzuo; Chief Pilot, Capt. John Hazel; newly decorated B737 Captain Andrew Igbe-Arase, and Director of Flight Operations, Capt. Segun Omole, during the decoration of Igbe-Arase as a captain on Dana Air's Boeing 737 aircraft in Lagos, recently



■ From left: Senate President, Dr Ahmed Lawan; Kwara State Governor, AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq, and Senator representing Kwara North Senatorial District, Sen. Sadiq Umar at Senator Umar's mega empowerment programme at the Kwara State Polytechnic for Moro Local Government Area, Ilorin at the weekend



■ From left: Managing Director/Chief Executive, Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC), Bello Hassan, welcoming representative of Director General, Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) and Director, Compliance, Certification & Monitoring, BPP, Engr. Ishaq Yahaya to the NDIC/BPP Management Retreat in Lagos over the weekend



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Security operatives, vigilantes repel attack on Zamfara town

From Shehu Umar, Gusau
Security forces, in collaboration with vigilantes otherwise known as Yan Sakai in Zamfara State, on Sunday, repelled an attack on Magami town of Gusau Local Government Area. Residents of Magami

said gunmen, on dozens of motorcycles, attempted to invade the community in the afternoon but were driven away by the security operatives. A resident who identified himself simply as Babangida, said, "Residents were put on edge and fear. Traders closed shops and ran home to prepare for any eventuality."

"The gunmen came on motorbikes and massed up close to Sabon Garin Dutsen Kura, a community located 15km East of Magami town. When the residents got wind of the impending attack, they informed the security operatives stationed in Magami. "The security forces and the

vigilantes took positions near the Eid ground and the armed criminals arrived shortly afterwards. A gunfight ensued and the criminals were forced to retreat." The spokesman of the state police command, SP Muhammad Shehu, could not be reached for comment on the issue.



■ From left: Head of Operations, Zone RS 7 Command Headquarters, Abuja, Federal Road Safety Corps, DCC Franklin Agbakoba; Zonal Commanding Officer, ACM Shehu Mohammed and Unit Commander, Lugbe, Osondu Ohaeri during a media chat to review the Zone's performance in 2021 in Abuja weekend. Photo: Felix Onigbinde

Spike in drug abuse imminent before 2023 elections – CRISA

From Iniabasi Umo, Uyo

A Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO), Centre for Research and Information on Substance Abuse (CRISA), has warned of a spike in the usage of illicit drugs in the country before the 2023 general elections.

The Programme Manager of CRISA, Mr Nsidibe Francis, in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, during the weekend, said as the general elections drew closer cases of drug abuse would rise astronomically.

Mr Francis, who stated that the inference was realised from a research conducted by the centre, explained that the electioneering campaigns would spike the use of illicit drugs.

He, therefore, urged the federal and state governments and other relevant agencies to partner with CRISA to mount sensitisation programmes across the country ahead of the polls.

Mr Nsidibe said, "Our research reveals that substance abuse spikes during electioneering campaigns. Therefore, our centre intends to partner with government at all levels to sensitise the people on the risk of substance abuse."

"The government needs to change its approach to tackling drug-related issues. Rather than criminalise and punish abusers, they should engage our services to sensitise and treat patients."

The organisation revealed its plan to build a residential treatment centre for people suffering from the side effects of substance abuse.

Earlier, the Executive Director of CRISA, Prof Isidore Obot, said an estimated 14.3 million people (aged 15-64) in the country had used drugs, excluding alcohol and tobacco.

Nigerian develops app to aid investigation, others

From Eugene Agha, Lagos

A computer wizard, Mohammad Aliyu, has developed a social media app known as ShapClick, which he claims will, among other things, aid security operatives in the investigation of crime.

Aliyu, at the launch of the app on Friday in Lagos, said the app was set to take over from other foreign developed platforms.

According to him, ShapClick is available on both App Store and Play Store for iPhone and Android users to download and register absolutely free.

Mr Hyacinth Chinweuba, the app developer's spokesperson, said the app was solely created by Aliyu.

Chinweuba said ShapClick was an indigenous platform which enabled users to chat, make audio and video calls, have unrestricted number of group chats, as well shop for affordable and genuine products.

Atiku visits Benue, donates N50m to IDPs

From Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

A former Vice President, Alhaji Atiku Abubakar, on Sunday, visited Benue State and donated N50 million to cater for the wellbeing of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the state.

Atiku, alongside his presidential campaign team, who was received at the Government House, Makurdi, by Governor Samuel Ortom, explained that he was unable to visit the state in its trying times occasioned by the invasion of suspected armed herders because he was out of the country for further studies.

He said the N50m for the upkeep of the IDPs would help to ameliorate their suffering at the various camps in the state.

The former vice president also told Gov Ortom that he had issues with the way the entire Fulani race was profiled in the course of the crisis as a violent people, but admitted that he had reconciled the matter with him

(Ortom) for the clarification he had made earlier.

Atiku, however, while reacting to questions from journalists, dismissed insinuations that he was silent during the crisis because, according to him, he had issued a number of press statements while overseas condemning the invasion.

Earlier, Gov Ortom told the former vice president that people of the state were not happy with him for abandoning them during their trying times, as he emphasised that as the holder of one of the highest chieftaincy titles in the Tiv Area Traditional Council, the "Zege Mule U Tiv", meaning the big shelter of the Tiv nation, the people were not happy that the presidential aspirant did not visit the state or send relief materials when it came under siege by the militia herders.

"Your visit to Benue as the Zege Mule U Tiv is long overdue. But it's better late than never. You are in your home and we are

happy to receive you. But let me say here that our people were not happy that you didn't visit when terrorist Fulani groups were attacking and killing the people in Benue," the governor said.

Ortom further cleared the misconception that he was referring to indigenous Fulani who he said had lived with them.

He lamented that terrorist Fulani groups from foreign countries, including Miyetti Allah Kautal Hore and Fulani Nationality Movement (FUNAM) were still terrorising the state and country without the federal government coming hard on them.

The governor, however, expressed confidence that the success of the PDP at the 2023 elections remained critical above his personal interests, stressing that what the party needed now was to remain united in order to reclaim and salvage the country.

Thereafter, Atiku and Ortom had a meeting behind closed doors which lasted about an hour.

Expert raises alarm on brain drain in mental health sector

From Abubakar Sadiq Mohd, Zaria

A psychiatrist, Prof Taiwo Lateef Sheikh, of the Ahmadu Bello Teaching Hospital (ABUTH), Shika, Zaria, has lamented inadequate number of specialists in the area of mental health, with only 300 experts servicing over 200 million Nigerians.

The mental health expert, who made this known to our correspondent in Zaria, said the

situation was so pathetic that it required urgent government intervention.

Prof Sheikh observed that there was serious brain drain in the area of psychiatry with over 1,000 born and trained Nigerians specialists practicing in USA alone and another 1,000 working in Europe.

He said, "Currently, about 3,000 Nigeria-born, bred and trained psychiatry experts are working in different countries abroad."

He noted that statistics had shown that in Nigeria, one psychiatric expert was to the ratio of about one million people due to the shortage of manpower resources in the sector.

The mental health expert also revealed that one in every three persons globally had one form of mental illness or the other, while in Nigeria the ratio was higher, with between 50 and 70 million having various forms of mental imbalance.

He, however, stressed that

mental illness did not necessarily mean insanity, explaining that it could be anxiety, depression or stress.

Prof Taiwo Sheikh, who is the immediate past President of the Association of Psychiatry in Nigeria (APN), noted that, "These fewer number of specialists are grossly inadequate and highly overloaded," attributing it to poor remuneration, bad condition of service and lack of attractive welfare package in Nigeria.

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to
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Wish you a fruitful, fulfilling and rewarding tenure.

**Senator (Engr.)
Aishatu Dahiru Ahmed (Binani)
Adamawa State**



ADVERTORIAL

How Thousands of Supporters Treated Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya to A Rousing Welcome



The momentous reception accorded Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya, (Dan Majen Gombe) on his return from a fruitful foreign trip shows that the overwhelming majority of Gombe people are resolutely in support of his administration and are lock in step with its goals and aspirations come 2023 and beyond.

At the Gombe International Airport where Governor Inuwa Yahaya touched down, right to the city centre and on to Government House, the reception was warm, overwhelming and overflowing as thousands of jubilant, grateful, admiring and overjoyed supporters lined the

route of the governor's convoy to welcome the state's chief executive.

Top government functionaries, APC stalwarts, party loyalists, youths and women groups, artisans, commercial transport drivers, motorcycle/ tricycle riders and other well meaning people all over the state waving, cheering and exchanging pleasantries with the people's governor. In fact for some hours, a sizeable portion of Gombe City was agog as residents trooped out in massive numbers to express their profound appreciation, admiration and affection for the determined and dedicated steps taken by Governor Inuwa

Yahaya over the past two and half years to uplift the welfare and well-being of the Gombe people as well as transforming their social, economic, infrastructural and developmental indices for the better. In fact no other political leader in the state and beyond has ever attracted this mammoth crowd that was spontaneous, enduring and above all peaceful in orientation unlike some self proclaimed 'political godfathers' prone to moving with convoys of thugs, henchmen and arsonists keen on unleashing violence and mayhem at innocent residents and bystanders.

By INUWA MEDIA VANGUARD



**FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC, DAURA
PMB 1049
KATSINA STATE**

**COMMENCEMENT OF PROGRAMMES IN NATIONAL DIPLOMA (ND), REMEDIAL STUDIES
AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION (SKILLS ACQUISITION)**

1.0 PREAMBLE

The bill establishing the Federal Polytechnic Daura was signed into law by the President and Commander-in-Chief, Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR on 3rd July, 2019. The Pioneer members of the Management Committee were appointed on 27th May 2020 and assumed duty on 1st June, 2020. From that time to date, a number of activities were carried out for the successful take-off of the Polytechnic. These activities culminated into the conduct of Resource Inspection/Verification exercises by the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) and its subsequent approval to commence programmes in National Diploma (ND) with effect from 2021/2022 Academic Session. The National Business and Technical Examination Board (NABTEB) and National Institute of Building (NIOB) also conducted Resource Inspection/Verification exercises in respect of the proposed Vocational Education Programmes national skills qualification (NSQ) and subsequently granted approval for the proposed trades/occupations.

2.0 THE NATIONAL DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES

Applications are hereby invited from suitably qualified candidates for admission into the under listed National Diploma Programmes.

School of Engineering, Science and Technology (SEST)

1. National Diploma in Agricultural Technology
2. National Diploma in Computer Science
3. National Diploma in Computer Engineering
4. National Diploma in Electrical Engineering
5. National Diploma in Science Laboratory Technology
6. National Diploma in Health Information Management
7. National Diploma in Surveying and Geoinformatics

School of Business and Management Sciences (SBMS)

8. National Diploma in Business Administration and Management
9. National Diploma in Accountancy
10. National Diploma in Microfinance and Enterprise Development
11. National Diploma in Office Technology and Management

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Admission into National Diploma (ND) Programmes must be through JAMB. Candidates with UTME Score of 100 and above are eligible to apply.
- O' Level entry requirement is FIVE (5) credit passes in English Language, Mathematics and any other three (3) relevant subjects in not more than two sittings.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

- a. Interested candidates should purchase JAMB Green card and make Federal Polytechnic Daura as their institution of first choice.
- b. Candidates are required to upload their O' Level NECO, WAEC or NABTEB result on the JAMB Portal
- c. The successful Admitted Candidates should first accept the admission and then print the admission letter, which will be presented during screening exercise.

DISCLAIMER:

The general public need to note that the Polytechnic has not mandated any person or organization to charge any fee on its behalf for effecting **a** to **c** above.

DURATION OF PROGRAMME

The duration is 2 years, covering four (4) Semesters.

3.0 THE REMEDIAL STUDIES AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME NATIONAL SKILLS QUALIFICATION (NSQ)

This is to further inform the general public that Federal Polytechnic Daura has introduced under its School of Vocational Education, Skills and Professional Development (SVESPD), Remedial studies in Arts and Sciences as well as Vocational Education programmes national skills qualification (NSQ) in the trades/occupations approved by the National Business and Technical Examination Board (NABTEB) and National Institute of Building (NIOB). The trades/Occupations are;

NIOB TRADES:

- i. Building and Masonry
- ii. Carpentry and Joinery
- iii. Electrical Installations
- iv. Welding and Fabrication

NABTEB TRADES:

- v. Leather works
- vi. (ICT)/office Management
- vii. Garment Making

Already, the first intakes for both Remedial and Vocational Education programmes have been admitted and have since commenced lectures and practical sessions. The admission process for the next batch of candidates for the two programmes will commence in the second quarter of 2022.

For more information and enquiries visit our website, www.fedpolydaura.edu.ng or call 07064844642, 07060828918. We can also be reached on: anwarshuku5@gmail.com and abubakaryaubako@gmail.com

Thank you.

**Signed
Management**

Tel: 081 16759756

CITY & CRIME NEWS

Uncovered manholes stink up Abuja streets

By Hamisu Kabir Matazu

The sanitary condition in Abuja city centre has continued to worsen as sewer lines go bad, leading to an overflow of debris from uncovered manholes onto the streets.

The debris and contaminated water from the open sewer holes do not only constitute an eyesore but also emit foul odour that unsettles people staying nearby and passersby alike. People are said to have also crashed into holes with devastating consequences.

Although the open sewer holes are more visible on the streets of Utako, they can be found dotting the FCT, especially in Wuse, Maitama, Asokoro, major expressways and flyovers.

On the busy road of Utako, Ayuba Gundari, a passerby told this reporter that people have continued to sustain injuries from missing their steps and falling into the uncovered sewer holes.

"I know of a mechanic who comes here to repair a car. He fell into the open manhole and fractured his thigh,"

he said.

A taxi driver, at Wuse Zone 6 said many car owners are losing their tyres and vehicle parts after running into the open manholes on byways and highways.

"I personally have had the experience and many taxi drivers, who are always in the rush to overtake, usually fall victim. I want to appeal to the government to do something about this," he said.

The manholes are openings that lead to utility vaults or large vessels to cover up access points for making connections, inspection, valve adjustments or performing maintenance on underground or buried public utility such as water pipes, sewers, telephone wiring, electricity, storm drains, district heating and gas, among others.

When contacted, the Director, Abuja Environmental Protection Board (AEPB), Mr Kaka Ali, said government is aware of the situation, adding that the manhole covers are being stolen by baban-bola (scavengers).



"The challenge we have is that most of the manhole covers are stolen by baban-bola boys.

He said a meeting has been scheduled between the Executive Secretary of AEPB and the commandant of Nigerian Security and Civil Defense

Corps (NSCDC) to arrest the situation.

"Also, we are trying to find another way of maybe introducing concrete covers or other things to replace the stolen ones, but we have not decided because the meeting did not hold," he added.

From Zahraddeen Yakubu
Shuaibu, Kano

A Kano State High Court presided over by Justice Maryam Sabo has sentenced a 27-year-old woman, Sadiya Ahmadu, to nine years imprisonment with hard labour in a correctional centre for kidnapping a 3-year-old girl.

According to the prosecution counsel from the Ministry for Justice, Kano State, Sadiya was arraigned on one count charge of kidnapping.

"Sadiya Adamu of Titin Badaru, Gayawa Qtrs, Kano on or about 22nd March 2018 at about 1100hrs at Gayawa Qtrs Kidnapped one Khadija Nura, a 3-year-old girl from the lawful guardianship of her parents."

The prosecution informed the court that the defendant requested the sum of N1m ransom from Khadija's father.

Court sentences woman to 9 years jail for kidnapping

To prove his case, the prosecution counsel called the parents of the victim who testified how the defendant kidnapped their daughter.

Earlier, the prosecution witnesses stated how Sadiya kidnapped Khadija while she was praying at Gayawa Qtrs in Ungogo LGA, Kano and took her to Karaduwa Village, in Matazu LGA of Katsina State.

The defense counsel Barrister Y. S. Gama presented Sadiya who defended herself.

In her judgment, Justice Maryam Sabo upheld that the prosecution

counsel, Barrister M. M. Faroukh proved his case of kidnapping against Sadiya beyond reasonable doubt.

She convicted and accordingly sentenced her to nine years imprisonment with hard labour.

Justice Sabo also ordered the convict to pay additional fine of N200,000 or serve one more year in correctional centre in default.

She also ordered that the sentence is to start from the date of first arrest and detention in the correctional centre.



■ Kano State Chief Judge, Hon. Justice Nura Sagir Umar

Customs seizes 60 jack knives, Indian hemp worth N10.4m

From Mohammed I. Yaba,
Kaduna

The Customs Federal Operations Unit (FOU) Zone B, Kaduna has seized 60 foreign jack knives and 250 parcels of Indian hemp said to be worth N10,441,977.50 million.

The Controller, Albashir Hamisu, said the foreign jack knives, which he described as very dangerous in the wrong hands, would be handed over to the police.

He explained that the Indian hemp if allowed to go into the public would be used by criminals to cause mayhem in the state.

He charged the NDLEA to investigate the source of the Indian hemp and arrest those behind the smuggling into the country.



■ Indian hemp intercepted by Customs

NDLEA arrests dismissed DPO, wanted kingpin, seizes codeine, others

By Abbas Jimoh

Operatives of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) have arrested Mr Monday George Chika, a 64-year-old former Divisional Police Officer of Idanre Police station, Ondo State, who was dismissed from service for drug offences.

Mr. Chika was arrested with an accomplice, Emmanuel Eniola, 40, with 280 blocks of compressed cannabis weighing 168kg.

Spokesman of the NDLEA, Femi Babafemi, said on Sunday in Abuja that the duo were arrested on January 30 in Mokwa, Niger State, after their Toyota Avalon car marked EKY 429 BZ (Lagos) loaded with the substance at Idanre and heading to Kainji, Borgu area of the state was intercepted.

Also, a female drug kingpin, Mrs. Jemilat Seriki, who is one of the owners of 12,385 pellets of Loud imported from Ghana and intercepted at Eko Atlantic beach, Victoria Island Lagos State on November 27, 2021, was arrested by narcotic officers after weeks of manhunt.

Mrs. Seriki, aka Iya Ilorin, admitted being one of the owners of the consignments seized, adding that her bags of drugs had 'Jah Bless' written on them.

"When eventually identified and sorted, she has 16 bags with the inscription containing drugs weighing 668.85kg," Babafemi said.

Meanwhile, over 22,160kgs of codeine syrup, methamphetamine and skunk were seized at Apapa seaport and a notorious drug den, Akala, in Mushin, Lagos State in two major operations in the state by NDLEA operatives.

FCT minister narrates COVID-19 experience

● Takes booster shot

By Hussein Yahaya

The Minister of the FCT, Malam Muhammad Musa Bello, has called on residents of the FCT to take the booster shot of the COVID-19 vaccine, as he described his unpleasant encounter with the disease.

In his message to residents of the territory after taking his booster shot on Friday, the minister said "I thank God Almighty that I took the first and second doses of the COVID vaccine, because on the 31st of December 2021, I was tested but came out positive for COVID-19 and although I was told it was mild, I know what I experienced."

"Although I was not hospitalized, I was quarantined in my residence for three weeks because subsequently, even after taking the medication, I tested positive twice. It was the third time that I got a negative result. If I had not taken the first and second doses, probably what has happened to many of my dear ones would have happened to me," he added.

Describing his experience further, Malam Bello said, "I tell you, even the mildness of the disease was something else because it hits you in many directions."

"Aside of the sore throat, there is the headaches and all the weakness you get especially in your joints."

"I had to change my course of medicine after the first 10 days."

Commenting on the other effects of the disease, the minister said "for three weeks, I was not productive. I didn't go out of the house, I never had a chance to do my work and the multiplier effect was tremendous."



■ FCT minister (seated) taking COVID-19 booster shot

Muslim women hold hijab awareness outreach in Abuja

By Hamisu Kabir Matazu

Muslim women, under the aegis of Coalition of Nigerian Muslim Women, have converged at the Unity Park, Abuja, to create awareness on the significance of wearing hijab.

The women, who represent

different Islamic organisations also called on relevant government agencies to protect women wearing hijab from abuse and other forms of maltreatment and discrimination.

This is the second in the series of outreach events to mark the 2022 World Hijab Day.



■ Members of Coalition of Nigerian Muslim Women during the event at Unity Park, Abuja

Speaking at the event, Malama Azeeza Jibrin, a member of the coalition, said the hijab remains the dress of dignity and honour, so wearing it by the Muslim woman is an act of worship.

She emphasised that Muslim women should be allowed to practice their faith as long as their religious practice does not in any go to the contrary.

She noted that to create more enabling environments for the full enjoyment of the rights to freedom of religion, passing into law the Religious Discrimination Prohibition Prevention Bill 2021 must be treated with urgency by the relevant authorities.

She encouraged every Muslim woman to persevere attacks and harassment and be confident wearing her hijab.

"Today's occasion will give us an opportunity to teach and invite the people of other faiths to adorn themselves with the hijab and experience a taste of the dress of honour," she said.

Wife stabs husband's nephew to death for breaking mirror

From Peter Moses, Abeokuta

Operatives of the Ogun Police Command have arrested a 30-year-old housewife, Mrs Cynthia Olukiwu, for allegedly stabbing one Habeeb Aremu, an 18-year-old nephew of her husband to death over a broken mirror.

The suspect, who resides at No 2, Apogidonoyo Street, Jafa Agbado, in Ifo Local Government Area, was arrested on Saturday.

She was arrested following a distress call received by policemen attached to Agbado divisional headquarters that a boy had been stabbed in the neck by his uncle's wife.

It was reported that the incident arose from a clash between the suspect and the deceased who

reportedly broke a mirror in the house.

In the ensuing clash, the woman allegedly grabbed a kitchen knife and used it to stab the deceased on his neck.

The police spokesman, Amibola Oyejemi, on Sunday in Abeokuta told newsmen that following the distress call, the DPO Agbado Division, CSP Kehinde Kuranga, led his men to the scene where the suspect was arrested.

Oyejemi said the victim, who was found in a pool of his own blood was taken to hospital.

According to him, the victim was however confirmed dead by the doctor on duty and his corpse was deposited at Ifo general hospital mortuary.

Oyejemi said the Commissioner of Police, Lanre Bankole, had ordered the transfer of the suspect to the State Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department.

Jos community sacks vigilante group for selling hard drugs

From Ado Abubakar Musa, Jos

Congo Rusha community of Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State, has dismissed members of a vigilante group of the area for their involvement in the sale of hard drugs in the area.

The community thereafter constituted a fresh vigilante group.

The community told Daily Trust that they took the decision after realising the danger some of the members of the dismissed vigilantes were posing in the area.

While disclosing the development yesterday in Jos, the community leader, Victor Kwara Chasu, said members of the community realised that the vigilantes were participating in the sale of hard drugs such as heroin, codeine, Indian helm among others.

"These are people who we initially thought would help in eradicating

criminality in the community but later realised that they were aiding criminal activities in the area.

"They are involved in the sale of all kinds of hard drugs in the community and it is a threat to us.

"Anytime you raise an alarm, you become an enemy of the culprits. This time, we will no longer tolerate it. We have to fight criminality from all aspects.

"We have informed the Nasarawa Gwong Police Division about the development and they support our decision.

"We believe that the new members of the vigilante would do better," the community leader said.

Speaking on the development, the youth leader of the community, Simon Markus Adamu, said they would work assiduously to support the new group and ensure that the sale of hard drugs and other criminal activities became a thing of the past in the area.

QUICK READ

Man jailed 3 months for stealing bottled water

From Raphael Ogbonnaie, Ado-Ekiti

An Ado-Ekiti Chief Magistrates' Court has sentenced a 38-year-old man, Adesile Mayowa, to three months imprisonment for stealing packs of bottled water.

The chief magistrate, Mrs Titilayo Ola-Olorun, sentenced the convict who pleaded guilty to the offence.

She, however, gave the convict an option of N10,000 fine.

The police prosecutor, Insp Johnson Okunade, told the court that the convict went to the shop of one Alhaji Babalola Isiake and stole six packs of bottled water valued at N4,500.

Judge warns defendant for inviting police into court

From Ado Abubakar Musa, Jos

A judge at Central Court 1, Jos, H. A. Dolna, has warned a defendant, Narsel Dammo, for inviting police officers to arrest a complainant in the court.

Mrs Dammo, who is the second defendant in the case was sued alongside her elder sister, Regina Dammo, over a disagreement on the sale of a Peugeot car to the defendant.

The judge, who described the action of the second defendant as contemptuous, warned that she would have herself to blame for any action taken against her for a repeat of such behaviour.

Mrs Dammo apologised for her action.

The case has been adjourned to February 25.

Woman sues ex-husband over N50,000 feeding allowance

From Mohammed I. Yaba, Kaduna

A nursing mother, Fatima Abubakar, has dragged her former husband before a Sharia court sitting in Magajin Gari, Kaduna over feeding allowance for her eight children.

According to her, her former husband, Mohammed Khalid, divorced her two months ago and stopped taking care of the children.

The woman said she and her children now live at her brother's house.

"I want the court to ask him to give us N50,000 feeding allowance monthly, rent a room for us and to also pay the children's school fees. These are all his responsibilities," she said.

But, the ex-husband, Mohammed Khalid, denied abandoning his responsibilities, saying his former wife and her brother stopped picking his calls each time he wanted to come visiting. He pleaded with the court to order the wife to return the children to him for their custody.

The Sharia judge, Murtala Nasir, who advised them to go back home to involve their elders in finding a solution, adjourned the case to February 10, 2022.

Congratulations General, on this deserved honour!

I, Senator (Dr.) Abdullahi Adamu, CON, *Turakin Keffi*, on behalf of my family and my associates, join well-wishers and admirers to felicitate with my brother, General Abdulsalami Abubakar, GCFR, on the conferment of Doctor of Technology (Honoris Causa) on him by the Federal University of Technology (FUT), Minna.

You have for decades exhibited great sense of patriotism to our country, through selfless services across Nigeria, from the time you joined the military in 1962, up to your ascension to the highest post of Chief of Defence Staff.

By providence, you became the 8th military head of state of the largest Black Nation in the world, on the 8th of June, 1998, and accomplished in 10 months what seemed impossible in several years when you shunned the temptation of overstaying in office to organise elections that saw you handover to a democratically elected government in Nigeria, in 1999.

By this singular act, you have proved that honour and trust are essential ingredients of the character of every public office holder. You displayed courage and integrity in contrast to the opportunism that others would have shown, given the same circumstances. And this made you an instant hero, being celebrated worldwide till date. As such, you have become one of the most sought-after mediators in conflict situations and peace-building processes across Africa, and the world at large.

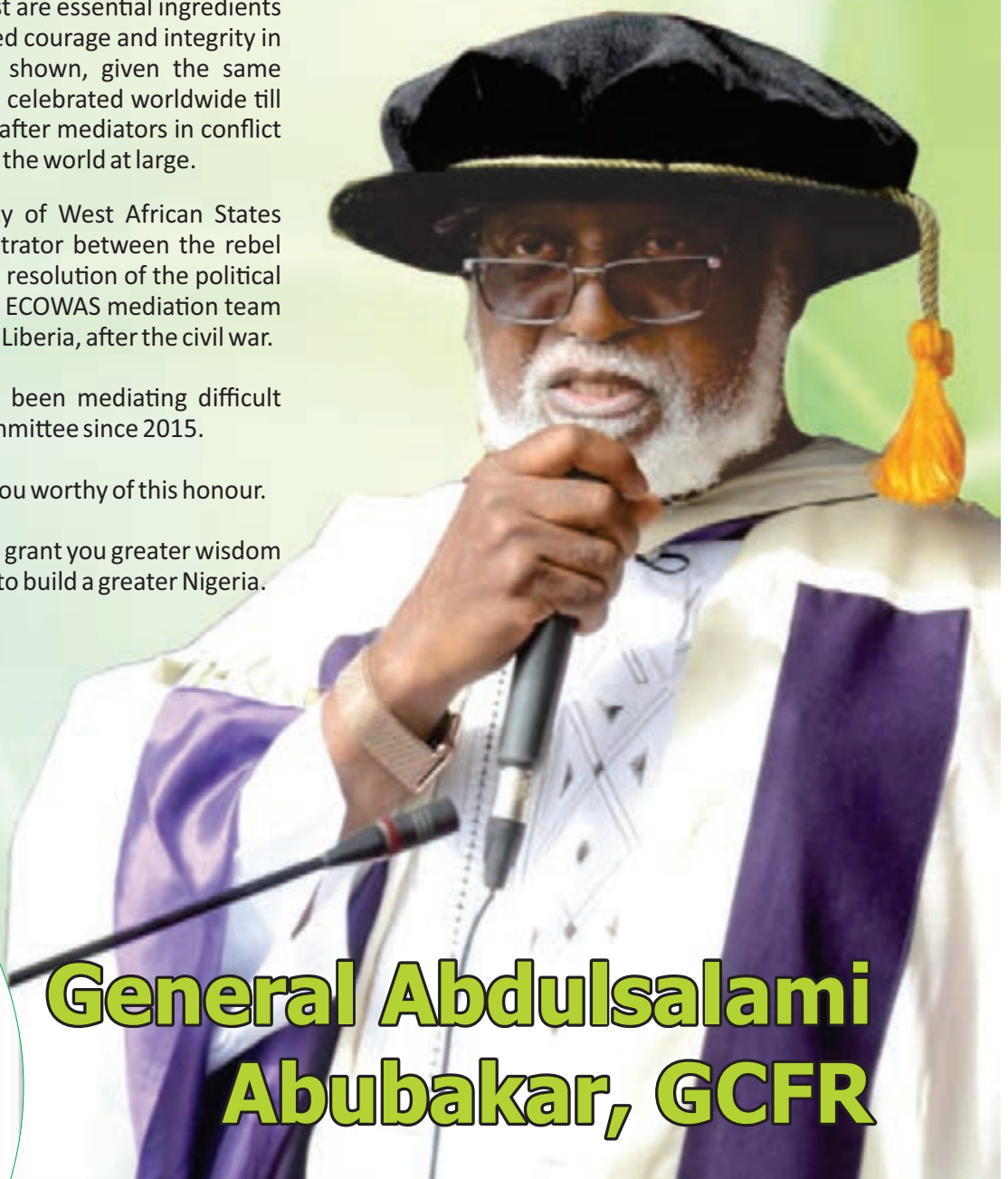
For instance, as Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in 1998, you played a significant role as arbitrator between the rebel forces and the Sierra-Leone National army, leading to the resolution of the political impasse in that country in 1999. Also, in 2003, you led an ECOWAS mediation team that negotiated the setting up of an interim government in Liberia, after the civil war.

Back home, at the national and state levels, you have been mediating difficult electoral processes as Chairman of the National Peace Committee since 2015.

It is not surprising, therefore, that FUT Minna considered you worthy of this honour.

I pray that Almighty Allah will keep you in good health, and grant you greater wisdom to continue to contribute towards accelerating our efforts to build a greater Nigeria.

Once again, congratulations Sir.



**General Abdulsalami
Abubakar, GCFR**

Signed:
Senator (Dr.) Abdullahi Adamu, CON,
Turakin Keffi
Senator representing Nasarawa West

INSIDE POLITICS

“Threats are not expected from senior citizens in any country. What is expected of the senior citizens is leadership, moderation and guidance – Elderstatesman, Alhaji Tanko Yakasai

By Saawua Terzungwe
(Abuja) & Clement A.
Oloyede (Kano)

Ganduje vs Shekarau: APC unveils power-sharing template today

● Ruling party shrinking by the day – Sokoto ex-gov

The national leadership of the All Progressives Congress (APC) will today unveil the template for sharing the party's State Working Committee (SWC) positions between factions led by Kano State Governor Abdullahi Umar Ganduje and the senator representing Kano Central, Ibrahim Shekarau.

Shekarau, a former governor of the state and the incumbent governor, Ganduje, have been at daggers drawn over the control of party structure in the state.

The two political gladiators are already in court over the issue.

Daily Trust reports that Shekarau's camp had won at the High Court, but Ganduje's camp appealed the judgement.

Parallel state congresses were conducted in the state in the last quarter of 2021 where two parallel executives emerged. This has deepened the crisis in the state chapter of the party as both factions keep claiming legitimacy.

Recall that the national leadership of the party had last Thursday refused to inaugurate any factional executive in Kano State during the inauguration of states executives at the party's national secretariat in Abuja, sequel to the suits instituted in court.

But Shekarau's spokesman, Dr Sule Yau Sule, told Daily Trust in a telephone interview yesterday that the decision to share party positions among the two political gladiators was reached at Saturday night's meeting held between the two camps in Abuja.

The meeting was organised by the APC Caretaker/



■ Ganduje



■ Shekarau

Extraordinary Convention Planning Committee presided over by its Chairman and Yobe State Governor, Mai Mala Buni.

Governor of Zamfara State, Bello Matawalle and a former Speaker of the House of Representatives, Yakubu Dogara, were also in attendance.

Sources say the Saturday meeting put an end to all contentious issues surrounding the crisis in the Kano State chapter of the party.

It had in attendance Governor Ganduje, Senator Shekarau and his ally Senator Barau Jibrin (Kano North), as well as Senator Kabiru Gaya (who is on the side of the state governor).

It was gathered that the template is expected to be an all-inclusive one for the APC in

Kano which would be revealed to both sides on Monday.

“We made our own position and they made their own position and now they have sat on the two positions and they said out of that they are coming up with is a sharing formula which they said will be all-inclusive, which means all of us will be part of the excos.

“A high powered committee from the secretariat is to be constituted and dispatched to Kano to ensure strict compliance and implementation of the template to be given on Monday,” Sule added.

Similarly, Mammam Mohammed, the Director General Press and Media Affairs to Governor Buni, told Daily Trust in a telephone chat yesterday that there was

a meeting on Saturday night where some resolutions were reached.

“There was a meeting last night (Saturday) and the same group that met discussed one or two things. But it's not far from what was done much earlier. They promised to work together, to have a give and take so that the party will stabilise in Kano.

“A three-man delegation has been mandated to work on consensus; to talk to some stakeholders and carry them along in the reconciliation process. They are just going to brief them, this is how far we have gone, so that they will be carried along; so that they will be on the same page with them.”

He, however, didn't confirm the sharing of party offices

between Ganduje and Shekarau. Secretary of the APC Caretaker Committee, Senator John James Akpanudoedehe, didn't respond to a call put to his phone line by one of our correspondents for comment on the matter.

But Kano State Commissioner of Information, Muhammad Garba, said as all parties submitted their positions, and the decision of the national secretariat is being awaited.

He said APC recognises the importance of peace in its Kano State chapter, adding that all camps had agreed to allow peace to reign.

APC shrinking by the day - Sokoto ex-gov

A former governor of Sokoto State, Malam Yahya Abdulkarim, has lamented the crises in the APC saying, the merger that brought about the ruling party should be reversed if the top echelon of the party can't unite its members.

In a statement yesterday in Abuja, Abdulkarim said with the current state of affairs, the APC is likely to split.

“The purpose of party politics is to win elections and APC was formed by a merger of several other parties for that purpose. The APC did win the elections but began a downward slide soon after that which it has deteriorated with the setting up of the caretaker committee.

“The APC under the current leadership arrangement is shrinking away by the day and may imminently have to be split into the several components that formed it in the first place, if care is not taken.

“If they can't handle the current crisis, the merger that brought about the APC should be reversed, because this marriage seems not to be working as expected,” he said.

Buhari in a hurry to fix Nigeria – Lawan

From Mumini AbdulKareem,
Ilorin

Senate President Ahmed Lawan, has said President Muhammadu Buhari is in a hurry to fix Nigeria.

Lawan spoke at the weekend in Ilorin, the Kwara State capital, during a mega empowerment programme organised by the All Progressives Congress (APC) Senator representing Kwara North Senatorial District in the National Assembly, Sadiq Umar.

The Senate president, who urged Nigerians to continue to support the Buhari-led government, said the National Assembly would continue

to partner with the executive arm to develop the country.

He said, “The federal government of President Muhammadu Buhari is in a hurry to develop Nigeria. In four years between 2019 and 2023 by the grace of God, Nigeria would have been turned into an infrastructure laboratory because every part of Nigeria from East to the West to the North to the South would have been impacted.”

Lawan also called on the people of Kwara State to elect Governor Abdulrahman Abdulrazaq for a second term of office to enable him to consolidate on his “remarkable achievements.”

Tinubu returns to Nigeria after UK trip

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

National Leader of the All Progressives Congress (APC) and one of the party's presidential aspirants, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu has returned to the country from his short trip to London.

Tinubu had left for London on January 28 for what his aides called overseas rest.

Tinubu Support Group (TSG) confirmed the return of the APC

leader last night on its Facebook page.

His private jet touched down at the EAN Private Hangar inside the Murtala Muhammed International Airport (MMIA) on Sunday evening.

Tinubu had during his short stay in London held meeting with the APC United Kingdom Branch as part of his consultations.

He had informed President Muhammadu Buhari of his intention to succeed him.

Zoning not a threat to my presidential bid – Yerima

From Abubakar Sadiq
Mohd (Zaria), Abiodun
Alade (Lagos) & Seun
Adeyemi (Abuja)

A former governor of Zamfara State, Senator Ahmed Sani Yeriman Bakura, has said his 2023 presidential bid can't be thwarted on account of zoning, stressing that zoning is alien to the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended).

Yerima, who is seeking the ticket of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) to contest the 2023 presidential election, stated this in an interview with newsmen shortly after the 25th anniversary and graduation ceremony of Nurul Tilawah International School in Zaria, at the weekend.

Controversy is raging in the APC over which zone produces Buhari's successor at the expiration of his tenure in 2023. Yerima, is from the same North West zone as Buhari.

He said, “Democracy is all about people's choice, irrespective of where one comes from, hence I cannot be deterred by such agitation.”

- S/East stakeholders endorse Ugwuanyi
- Vote a president that will deliver – Adebayo

S'East leaders endorse Ugwuanyi

Scores of political leaders in the South-East geo-political zone have begun a movement pushing for the candidature of Enugu State Governor Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi as presidential candidate in 2023 saying that he is the best man for the job.

A former governor of Enugu State, Senator Chimaroke Nnamani, disclosed this after consultations with stakeholders and political leaders including the Ebeano family.

He said justice, fairness and equity demand that the Nigerian state allows the South East to produce the next president.

“Our leaders, including the Ebeano political family in Nigeria and in diaspora, have consulted widely and seriously believe in the actualisation of Governor Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi of Enugu State as the presidential candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and

president in 2023,” Nnamani said.

Vote who can deliver good governance – Adebayo

Meanwhile, Nigerians have been urged to vote for a presidential candidate that would deliver good governance and provide affordable housing for them.

In a chat with newsmen in Abuja, the Executive Director of the Housing Development Advocacy Organization in Nigeria (HDAN), Festus Adebayo, said the economic importance is so necessary that citizens must take advantage as part of the parameters for candidates vying for elective positions in the 2023 elections.

“As 2023 approaches, citizens should vote for leaders who have vision and the passion to improve the wellbeing of the common man, especially leaders who will provide basic necessities like housing even for the homeless man on the streets,” he said.



2023 presidential bid: Hurdles before Saraki

By Abdullateef Salau

A former Senate president, Abubakar Bukola Saraki, recently joined the growing list of political heavyweights jostling for the coveted presidential seat come 2023.

Saraki, a two-term governor of Kwara State, in a post on his official Facebook page, announced his intention to run for Nigeria's presidency on the platform of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

He wrote, "As we prepare for the journey ahead, I hope we can all join hands to get the ticket of our great party, PDP, and build a nation that works for all of us."

"Join me to make our communities safer and provide real opportunities for you and your families. I have a strong record of delivering and experience in making tough decisions."

"Let's build a new Nigeria that works for EVERYONE! #GrowNigeria".

Saraki is the second former Senate president to try his shots at the country's number one political seat: Anyim Pius Anyim, had earlier declared his ambition to run on the same PDP platform.

The former Kwara governor will slug it out for the PDP ticket with a former Vice President Atiku Abubakar; Sokoto State Governor Aminu Waziri Tambuwal; a former Governor of Anambra State, Peter Obi; a former governor of Kano State, Rabiu Kwankwaso, and a host of others who have either declared intention or are reported to be nursing presidential ambition.

Even before his official announcement, Saraki's National Campaign Advocacy Council led by its Chairman, Prof Hagher Iorwuese, had been junketing to different parts of the country to seek the blessing of those that matter in the Nigerian political space for his presidential candidacy.

One of such moves is the recent visit to Chief Edwin Clark and former military president, Ibrahim Babangida, who likened Saraki to a "self-propelled gun with strategic responsibility and functions".

"You have identified the right person for the leadership of this country. We need a leader that can utilise our rich diversities to our advantage. We have abused our diversity and are not able to use it well to our advantage."

"I believe that the young Saraki can bring back this glory to our nation. He has my prayers, he has my absolute support," Babangida said.

However, while Saraki's team of supporters is rooting for his candidacy, several issues may work against his presidential ambition.

Zoning

The zoning of key elective positions is a big issue in Nigerian politics. Though it has no constitutional backing, it is seen as a gentleman's power rotation arrangement to give different parts of the country a sense of belonging.

So, with the position of PDP national chairman zoned to the North, it is expected that the South will produce the party's presidential candidate in line with the arrangement that has existed in the party since 1999.

Saraki, from the North Central, played a huge role in the success recorded by the PDP in its national convention last year.

As the chairman of the PDP National Reconciliation Committee, he toured the length and breadth of Nigeria, uniting aggrieved party members ahead of the convention. However, the power-sharing arrangement may not work in his favour.

The 2023 presidential ticket is yet to be zoned, but political leaders and other stakeholders from the South have been clamouring that the region should produce President Muhammadu Buhari's successor.

Seventeen Southern governors as well as socio-political groups including Afenifere, Ohanaeze, Pan Niger Delta Forum and the Middle Belt Forum are insisting that power moved to the South in 2023.

A few days ago, a South-South leader, Chief Edwin Clark urged presidential hopefuls from the North to jettison such an idea in the interest of unity.

He said, "The PDP Constitution and by convention, it is now the turn of Southern Nigeria to produce the President of Nigeria in 2023, after President Muhammadu Buhari's eight years. To do otherwise is to invite chaos, which will lead to the

disintegration of our dear country."

But an elder statesman, Alhaji Tanko Yakasai, yesterday tackled Clark, asking him to stop issuing threats when contributing to national discourse.

Yakasai who is in his late 90s, in his reaction, warned Clark against issuing threats. It could be recalled that Yakasai had supported the quest of southerners to produce the next president of the country.

"I think at our age, we should avoid resorting to threats whenever we are discussing national issues. What is expected of people at our age is to provide leadership by way of offering advice and correcting any mistake we discover made by younger Nigerians in the course of national discourse."

"Threats are not expected from senior citizens in any country. What is expected of the senior citizens is leadership, moderation, and guidance?" he said.

However, Saraki is undaunted by the zoning brouhaha. He had said despite the North Central producing the party's national chairman, that did not prevent any qualified aspirant from any zone from contesting the presidency in 2023.

"On the issue of zoning, the party has made it very clear in all our meetings that even though we have zoned the position of party offices, it does not preclude anybody that has any presidential ambition."

What we are looking for is the best candidate that will win the election," Saraki said.

Graft cases

Blistering accusations and prosecution dogged Saraki's Senate presidency. Corruption cases were traced to his time as a director of the defunct Société Générale Bank Nigeria (SGBN), governor of Kwara State and Senate president.

His trial began when he emerged as Senate president against his then party's preferred candidate, a development that angered APC leadership. Since the inauguration in June 2015, Saraki's Senate presidency was enmeshed in a protracted crisis that lasted up to the end of its lifespan.

He was accused of conspiring with bureaucrats in the federal parliament to "illegally alter the Senate rule with the intent of dubiously" ensuring his emergence.

The case was investigated by the police and based on findings and recommendations, Saraki, his Deputy Ike Ekweremadu, a former Clerk of the Senate Efeturi and a former clerk to the National Assembly, Salisu Maikasuwa, were charged with forgery and arraigned before a High Court in Abuja. They denied the charges.

In 2015, the Code of Conduct Bureau (CCB) filed a 13-count charge against Saraki for false declaration of assets, a case he pursued up to the Supreme Court, which in 2018 acquitted him of the charges.

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) accused directors of the liquidated SGBN of mismanaging investors' funds. In July 2021, the EFCC confirmed that Saraki was invited for questioning over allegations of corruption and money laundering.

Saraki later dragged the EFCC before an Abuja Federal High Court to query the legality of allowing the anti-graft agency to investigate him over allegations he said were part of the charge upon which he was previously

docked before the Code of

Conduct Tribunal (CCT).

The EFCC also sought the final forfeiture of Saraki's Lagos houses, which the anti-graft agency said were acquired with N1.09 billion allegedly stolen from the coffers of Kwara State. But the prayer was dismissed in March 2021 by the Lagos Federal High Court presided by Justice Mohammed Liman.

North Central factor

Pundits say even if PDP leaves the contest for its presidential ticket open, Saraki may find it difficult to convince even his kith and kin from the North due to his northern minority ethnic group background.

By the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended), Saraki is qualified to aspire for the office of Nigeria's president. He hails from Kwara, a state in the North Central geo-political zone battling the identity crisis of the northern Yoruba.

Kwara, like many other North Central states, is considered insignificant in the political calculus of northern politics but only relevant to inflate the demographic figure to sustain the population density of the so-called '19 northern states' when the region's interest is threatened.

The Kwara identity crisis came to the fore when Saraki lost out woefully during the process of choosing a 'northern consensus candidate' for the PDP presidential primary for the 2011 election.

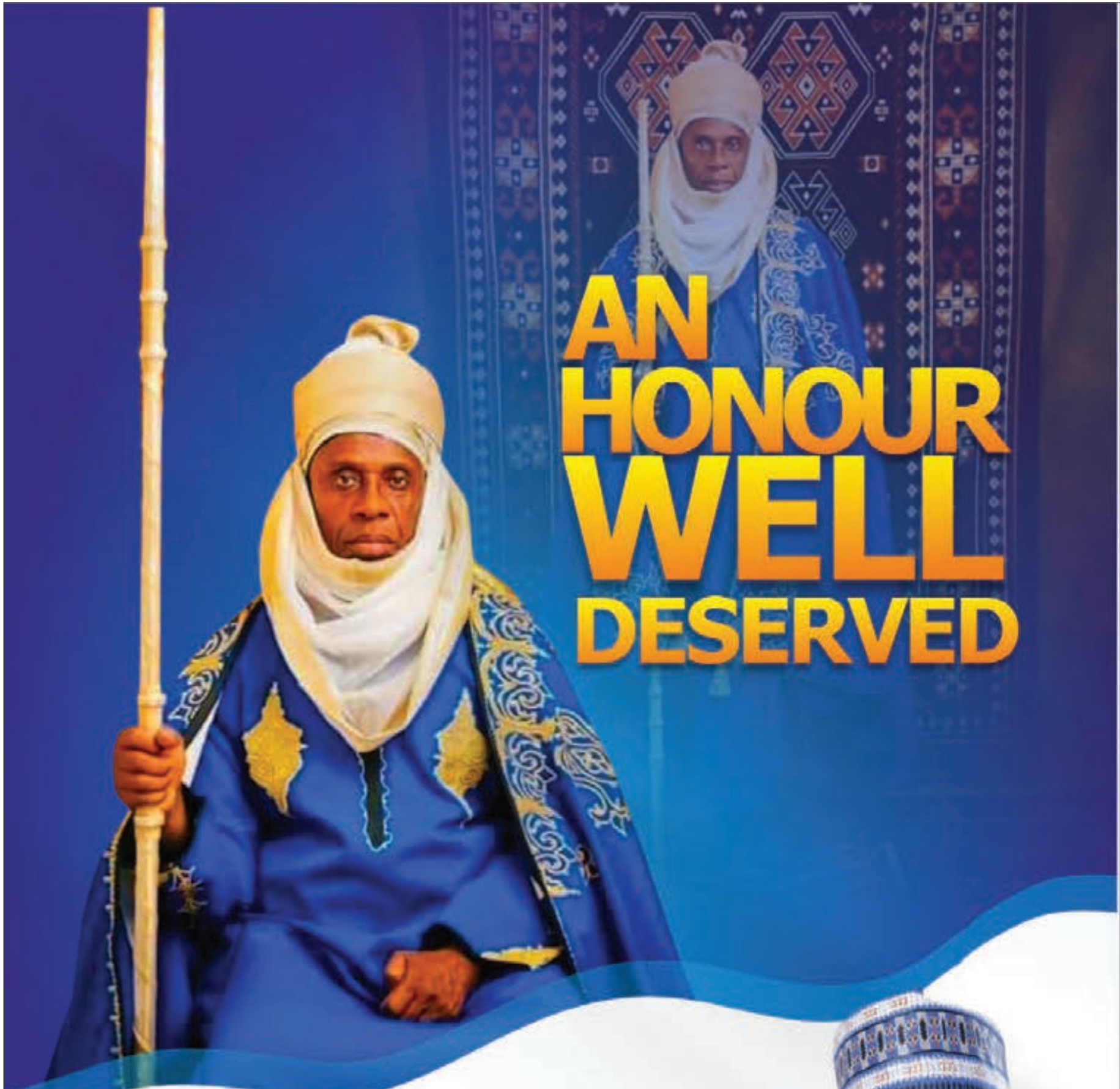
The inclusion of Saraki's name among the potential northern consensus candidates listed for consideration by the 17-wise men led by Adamu Ciroma was greeted with brouhaha because "he is not northern enough."

His father, Dr Olusola Saraki was reported to have suffered the same fate, a development that led him to form the Northern Union, after leaving the Arewa Consultative Forum over irreconcilable differences.

But a source close to the former Senate president, said being from the North Central is one of the selling points of Saraki.

"Being from the North Central is a plus for Saraki and not a disadvantage as some are saying. He is from the middle of the country. His presidency will end all the divisions in the country and unite all. If given the PDP ticket, his candidature will resonate among all; Yoruba, Hausa, Igbo, and the minorities will see him as one of them. He has Fulani and Yoruba blood," the source, who is optimistic that Saraki will pick the PDP ticket, said.





I Heartily rejoice with you,
Rt. Hon. Rotimi Chibuike Amaechi,
the Hon. Minister of Transport,
on your conferment and turbaning as the
Dan Amanar Daura,
by the Emir of Daura,
His Royal Highness,
Alhaji Umar Farouk Umar.

The honour is a confirmation of
your nationalistic character.
Congratulations!!!



Signed
Senator Mohammed Sani Musa
Niger East Senatorial District
National Assembly, Abuja.



**AN HONOUR
WELL
DESERVED**

I Heartily rejoice with you,
**Alhaji Nasiru Haladu Danu,
Dan Amanar Dutse,**
on your conferment and turbaning
as the **Tafida Babba Daura,**
by the Emir of Daura,
His Royal Highness,
Alhaji Umar Farouk Umar.

The honour is a confirmation of
your Philanthropic and nationalistic
character.

Congratulations!!!

Signed
Senator Mohammed Sani Musa
Niger East Senatorial District
National Assembly, Abuja.



OPINIONEmail: opinion@dailytrust.com
Text: 08131800030

New strategies are required to control food-price inflation

By Jayati Gosh

The question of how best to control inflation is back on the economic policy agenda, and opinion is divided. The mainstream view emphasises the need for tighter monetary policies and regards higher interest rates and reduced liquidity provision as justified, even if they dampen the fragile economic recovery now underway in many countries. Others argue that today's inflation is transitory, reflecting temporary supply bottlenecks and labour market shifts, and will soon correct itself.

In rich countries, policymakers still rely mainly on macroeconomic tools to tackle inflation. But one set of price increases is different from the others: food-price inflation. Not only does this phenomenon have a much greater direct effect on people's lives, particularly in developing economies; it also reflects more complex causes, and addressing it effectively requires a completely different set of strategies. Unfortunately, governments are not discussing them sufficiently.

This neglect is deeply troubling. At the end of 2021, the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) food price index was at its highest level in a decade and close to its previous peak of June 2011, when many analysts were warning of a global food crisis. Moreover, last year's increase was sudden: from 2015 to 2020, food prices had been relatively low and stable, but soared an average of 28 per cent in 2021.

Much of this surge was driven by cereals, with maize and wheat prices increasing 44 per cent and 31 per cent, respectively. But prices of other food items also shot up: prices for vegetable oil hit a record high during the year, sugar was up 38 per cent, and price increases for meat and dairy products, although lower, were still in the double digits.

Food-price inflation currently exceeds the increase in the overall price index, and is even more alarming given the significant decline in workers' wage incomes during the COVID-19 pandemic — particularly in low- and middle-income countries. This lethal combination of more expensive food and lower incomes is fuelling catastrophic increases in hunger and malnutrition.

There are many possible reasons for the spike in food prices. Some are systemic. Supply-chain problems — particularly in transportation — have been a major factor driving price increases for a wide range of commodities. Thus, grain prices rose rapidly in 2021, despite record global output of nearly 2.8-billion tonnes.

Energy prices also are important in determining the cost of producing and transporting food. The large increase in oil prices in 2021 obviously affected the food prices faced by consumers.

In addition, more frequent extreme weather events make crop output more volatile and reduce yields. Some have argued that prices of agricultural commodities as disparate as Brazilian coffee, Belgian potatoes, and Canadian yellow peas (now widely used by the food industry to produce plant-based meat substitutes) rose sharply last year after weather events induced by climate change undermined output.

In March 2021, the FAO warned that increasingly frequent climate-related disasters were affecting agricultural supplies. Droughts are the single greatest threat, accounting for more than one-third of crop and livestock losses in low- and lower-middle-income countries. But floods, storms, pests, diseases and wildfires have also become more intense and widespread, as was evident last year.

We can expect much more climate-related pressure on food production in the coming years,

with developing regions in Asia and Africa likely to be hit hardest. The threats to food production from climate risk underscore the need for greater international co-operation to tackle global warming and its consequences. Sadly, such collaboration seems unlikely.

But some of the other factors contributing to food price increases are the direct result of policy and regulatory changes. These include the significant increase in stockpiling by governments and consumers, driven by fears that new waves of the COVID-19 pandemic will put further pressure on food supplies. The expectation of future food price increases then becomes self-fulfilling, owing to higher current demand.

Last November, the FAO estimated that the global food import bill in 2021 would be the highest ever, at more than \$1.75 trillion, a 14 per cent increase from 2020 and 12 per cent higher than the FAO's forecast just a few months earlier. This is bad news for lower-income economies, which may have more pressing food-import requirements than other countries, but could be squeezed out of global markets because of increased demand.

The other important factor is financial

Unlike some of the more systemic forces affecting food supply and prices in the medium term, policymakers could easily address the issues of stockpiling and speculation. But that requires governments to accept that these are problems, and to muster the will to address them

speculation in food markets, which has recently experienced a revival. Food commodities became an asset class after financial deregulation in the US in the early 2000s, and there is significant evidence that this played a major role in the destabilising food-price volatility of 2007 to 2009. In recent years, these commodities had become less attractive to investors, but that changed during the pandemic.

Despite high volatility, long positions in major food commodity markets were significant and positive for most of 2021, suggesting that financial investors were expecting prices to increase. The volume of such investments grew substantially last year, enabled by persistent regulatory loopholes and the availability of cheap credit to financial institutions.

Unlike some of the more systemic forces affecting food supply and prices in the medium term, policymakers could easily address the issues of stockpiling and speculation. But that requires governments to accept that these are problems, and to muster the will to address them. Until they do, food-price inflation will continue to hit the world's poor people the hardest.

Source: *Mail & Guardian*

OPINION

Re: Journalism, power and Mu'azu Magaji Dansarauniya

By Muhammad Garba

I read with disbelief the Monday Column on the back page of Daily Trust by Suleiman A. Suleiman with the above caption in which he rubbished ethical issues in the journalism profession and faulted individuals to cherish their fundamental rights whether they are in position of power or not.

I am writing this rejoinder to the piece for the fact that, firstly, the writer attempted to equate seeking justice from infringement on fundamental rights with abuse of power, and secondly, identifying defamation of character as a serious matter, which he ended up downplaying in the case of a person in position of power.

Let me make it clear that just as the writer put down, Magaji's arrest by the police had nothing to do with his featuring on Daily Politics, neither had it anything to do with Dansarauniya being a critic of Kano State Governor, Dr Abdullahi Umar Ganduje, nor has he any kind of political skirmish with the governor.

As a politician serving his second and last tenure in office, Ganduje has critics just as he has supporters. Even if the writer sees Magaji as one, how many of his political foes has Ganduje influenced their arrest? That is why I do not see how Magaji is a thorn in the flesh of Ganduje. In fact, Kano enjoys the freest environment for the expression of opinion in the media, both mainstream and social media platforms.

The governor took the case to the court of law to seek justice on the alleged posting on the social media by Magaji which is considered a breach of peace, intentional insult and defamation of his character. The governor's legal team identified the picture allegedly posted by Magaji as portraying Ganduje as an immoral and ungodly man in an extra-marital affair with a strange woman whose face appeared in the picture and widely circulated by the suspect (Magaji) on several social media platforms.

I do not see anything wrong in what the governor has done. In fact, it is the right thing to do by any law-abiding citizen. Posting the picture of an individual in such kind of situation is not in any way criticism if at all it is what the writer was trying to suggest, but it is a punishable crime under Nigeria's Penal Code.

Evidence abound on how highly placed individuals seek redress in the court of law from cases of intentional insult and defamation of character, including of course, President Muhammadu Buhari, who the writer said did not bother about people he knew could not stand up to him in any way.

I give examples: in Kano, a former governor, Senator Ibrahim Shekarau, had a legal battle with Engr Hamisu Lambu (late) who

published and circulated a poster depicting the governor as having extra-marital affair with one of his wives before they got married. He confessed to the crime and made it known that his intention was to dent the image of the governor who was then contesting for re-election.

There was also a working journalist in Kano who was dragged to court by the former governor for publishing a story on a similar case of extra-marital affair.

Also, the Katsina State Police Command arrested a 75-year-old man, Lawal Abdullahi, popularly called Izala, and one Bahajeje Abu for "insulting" President Muhammadu Buhari and Governor Aminu Bello Masari of Katsina State on the social media. The action is considered a "grave" offence in the Nigerian constitution, especially under the Penal Code.

Another man, who identified himself as Usman Mohammed, was arrested and charged to court for "insulting" President Muhammadu Buhari and Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya of Gombe State.

I do not understand how Ganduje should be an exception. After all, Magaji is not a nonentity. By virtue of his position, he ought to have known the gravity of his action.

For how long are we going to allow this kind of thing to continue to be denting the image of our noble profession?

If the writer feels that the Magaji he identified a "weaker opponent" has the right to make such portrayal, why does he think Ganduje does not have the right to protect his image; whether as an individual or as a public servant?

Magaji has been using the free passage of all trash offered by the accessible social media to circulate such garbage and going scot-free.

Another thing is how the writer attempted to liken the issue with our noble profession. This is very much unfortunate. Magaji is not, after all, a journalist. And even if he is, it is unprofessional to support him smear the image of anyone. As a journalist, I have never expected that the writer could encourage the violation of the code and ethics of the journalism profession, particularly now that with the advent of social media, all manners of people are professing to be journalists.

Let the writer put his feet in the shoes of Ganduje. How would he feel in the face of such act of slanting? How do you think your family would react to it? Ganduje has a family: wife, sons, daughters, grandchildren, relatives, friends, supporters and a reputation to protect. It is not a matter of holding position of power, it is a case of protecting his hard earned image.

Garba is the commissioner for information, Kano state

EDITORIAL

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

Improve connectivity among West African countries

Air travellers in West and Central Africa do so with tears due to bottlenecks created by African governments. For instance, a journey by air from Abuja to Douala in Cameroon, which shares borders with Nigeria, could take the traveller about 24 hours. This is because the passenger may be made to fly from Nigeria to Addis Ababa, then Guinea Conakry before arriving in Douala, a journey that should ordinarily take only one and a half hours. Also, a journey from Nigeria to the Central African Republic would take the traveller to Kenya in East Africa, before arriving in Bangui. Worse still, the cost of flying in the West Coast and Central Africa is as high as the cost of flying from, say, Nigeria to Europe

A recent investigation by *Daily Trust* revealed that as a result of the difficulty in flight connections, West African countries - comprising Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cote D'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo - have remained isolated from themselves.

The report revealed that "Out of the 16 countries in the West Coast, only very few are connected by direct flights... Apart from Ghana to Nigeria with direct flight, either from Lagos or Abuja, other neighbouring countries cannot be easily accessed. Also, with the Togolese carrier, Asky, there is a direct flight to Lome, which takes about 50 minutes while Air Peace also connects Banjul in the Gambia; Freetown in Sierra Leone only on Sundays; Dakar in Senegal on Fridays and Mondays and Douala, Cameroon on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays."

But the situation is different in North Africa, East Africa and Southern Africa, where there are multiple flights from one country to another at affordable fares. Apart from within sub-regional blocks, there is flexible and frequent air connectivity between East and Southern Africa, like Johannesburg, Addis Ababa, and Nairobi have developed their airports to serve as sub-regional hubs for air travel. Each of these countries has national carriers, with many aircraft of various sizes that fly to countries within their region frequently.

The president of the Association of African Start-ups (TAAS), Just Ibe, explained why air connectivity is very tedious in Africa. She said, "The reason it is difficult for us to access all the countries within the continent by air is because there are not enough carriers to these destinations and largely because they don't think it is profitable." Apart from the lack of carriers, the exorbitant taxes and charges levied on the few carriers that ply some of the routes make investment in West and Central African routes very prohibitive.

The situation is a challenge to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), as the difficulty in connecting one country to another resonates in the low volume of trade among ECOWAS countries. Within the sub-region, there is no rail service, and road transportation is hampered by border controls, and the corrupt activities of some customs and immigration personnel. The vision of free movement among ECOWAS member states has not been embraced, as some countries still erect different barriers that make entry into them very difficult.

West and Central African countries are so disconnected that social and cultural exchanges that should connect youths in arts and sports are scarcely in existence. Also, West Africans hardly go to neighbouring countries on tourism; they rather travel to Europe, Asia or America, very distant continents, on holiday, in spite of the fact that there may be more historical tourist sites in nearby countries. Under this situation, the main goal of ECOWAS, said to be "to promote economic cooperation among member states in order to raise living standards and promote economic development," cannot be realized.

If other ECOWAS countries are laid back about activating air connectivity in the sub-region, Nigeria must take the lead in doing so. The starting point is for Nigeria to boost the aviation sector by either setting up a national carrier to ply many West and Central African routes, or giving support to any national airline which yearns to tap into the potential of connecting the sub-region. With its population of over 200 million, and penchant of Nigerians for travel abroad, government could develop the infrastructure that could transform Lagos, Kano, Abuja and other cities as West and Central African hubs for air travel.

This idea has been on the table for over a decade now, when the defunct Virgin Nigeria was established, but subsequent governments have not done anything to realize it. More Nigerians engage in international travels than Ethiopians, Kenyans or South Africans, but with government support, these countries have created air travel hubs, and built economies around their aviation sector. Nigeria can achieve the same feat, by easing the difficulties involved in flying within West and Central Africa. It is important for West Africans to be able to reach one another easily.

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COLUMN

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MY PERSPECTIVE
GAMBO DORI

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The odyssey of the Electoral Act Amendment Bill

In one of the pieces I wrote on this subject last year, I concluded as follows: "The battle lies ahead, next year, when party primaries will be held to elect candidates for the 2023 elections. Already to downplay the influence of the governors, the new electoral bill has provisions for direct elections at the primary elections. I am sure that part of the bill is being scrutinised intensely in the inner recesses of many government houses. I guess the president might sign the bill and the governors would have to find ways and means to deal with it. I was right and I was wrong too.

The draft bill was indeed scrutinised in the inner recesses of the government houses without any exception, and across party lines. Of course the governors took a rather dim view of the provisions for compulsory direct elections in the conduct of primary elections. They, most probably, saw it as the ultimate Trojan horse surreptitiously drawn into the bill to thwart their stranglehold on their parties. Even before the bill left the doors of the National Assembly on its way to the Presidential villa, the governors were up in arms against it. The governors were vehemently against the bill with at least one of them promising to go to court if and when the president assents the bill.

I was patently wrong in my assumption that the president would agree to assent the bill. Obviously I had underestimated the influence the governors have garnered over the years. They now completely dominate the parties and all other nooks and corners of the political space. The PDP's recent party elections were a clear pointer to the governors new found powers. Readers might recall that even before the party elections the governors had huddled together to fill the most important party post, the chairman's, with their consensus candidate. They did the same with the party secretary's post where they got their way,

willy-nilly, by dispensing with the challenge posed by heavyweights such as former Governor Olagunsoye Oyinlola, and David Mark, the longest serving Senate President when PDP was the party in government.

As for the APC, the influence of the governors is too glaring to warrant elucidation. It is so obvious that the party has not been able to entrust the chairman's post to anyone since Adams Oshiomhole, a former governor, bowed out in June 2020. The party has since been run by a sitting governor in an acting capacity. And as the party election beckons this month, pundits are waging their last Naira that it would be another former governor that would be installed as chairman. As we await that day the odyssey of the Electorate Act Amendment Bill has also taken another turn. As many have expected, the earlier bill was rejected by the president for reasons that have been in the media space and would not warrant repetition here.

On receiving the rejection missive from the president, members of the National Assembly have taken the corrections in their strides. They decided to agree with the president by recommitting the bill to fresh legislation, and liberalising the process by adding other options of electing candidates in the primary elections. The primary elections can now hold using the mode of all the three options suggested by the president - direct, indirect and consensus. The authenticated copy of the Electoral Bill 2022 is already in the villa for the president to assent.

However, on closer look at the reworked bill that is now in the open, I could see some aspects that could cause anguish to some stakeholders. The bill is not a carte blanche as most are suggesting. The National Assembly has given sufficient and clear definitions to the modes of primary elections plus detailed procedure on how the elections will be conducted. Some of the clauses would not be easy to live down. In particular, the consensus option that had in many instances in the past been the object of choice for the governors will henceforth be difficult to operate.

On the consensus option, the reworked bill says: "A political party that adopts a consensus candidate shall secure the written consent of all cleared aspirants for the position, indicating their voluntary withdrawal from the race and their endorsement of the consensus candidate." And, "Where a political party is unable to secure the written consent of all cleared aspirants for the purpose of a consensus candidate, it shall revert to the choice of direct or indirect primaries for the nomination of candidates for the aforesaid elective positions."

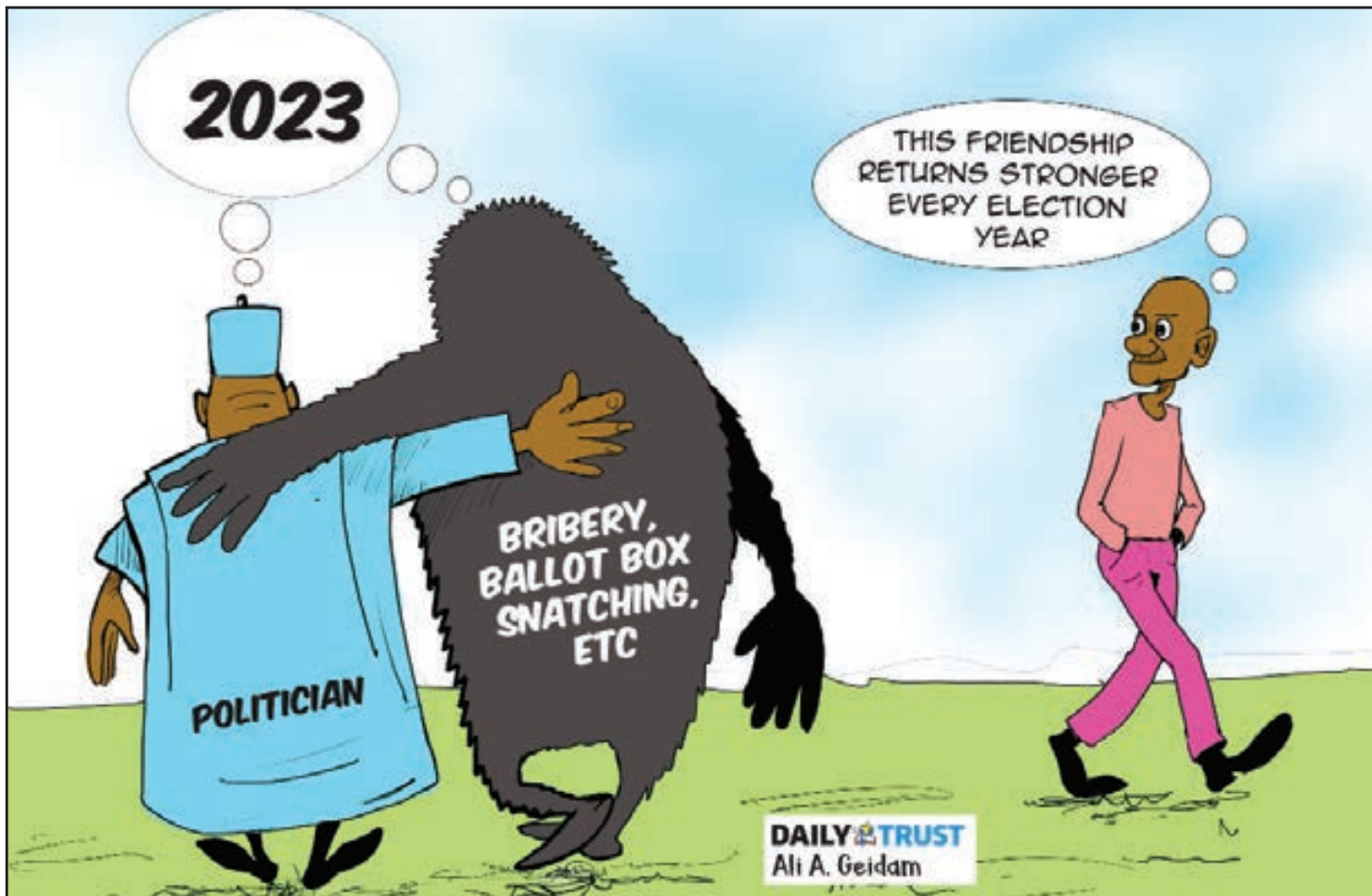
This time around I would dispense with the indulgence of guessing the president's mind. I would not hazard a guess on whether the president would sign the bill as it is or not, but I pray he will. There are so many other amendments in the bill to smoothen the operations of INEC and allow for a more transparent election such as the electronic transmission of election results. INEC is eagerly awaiting the president's assent to the bill. Egoistic warfare on mode of primary elections should not justify throwing away a bill that has been at the works for this long.

However, on closer look at the reworked bill that is now in the open, I could see some aspects that could cause anguish to some stakeholders. The bill is not a carte blanche as most are suggesting. The National Assembly has given sufficient and clear definitions to the modes of primary elections plus detailed procedure on how the elections will be conducted. Some of the clauses would not be easy to live down

LETTERS to the Editor

Email: letters@dailytrust.com
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CARTOON by Ali Geidam



Re: Medical negligence: Doctors as human beings

Your column in *Daily Trust* on Saturday on above subject refers. The lawyers are merely validating the adage that says: people disregard the log in their eyes to point at the speck in other people's eyes.

The truth is that there is as much if not more negligence in our courts than in the medical practice. You can lose a case on technical grounds, that is not on the merits or demerits of the case but merely on the competence of your legal representative in court. In other words if you have a good lawyer you can win otherwise forget it.

So, justice is for the highest bidder not whether you deserve to win. What lawyers forget is that any society where there is no justice that society cannot have peace or even thrive. This is what we are seeing in Nigeria as we have neither peace nor prosperity.

What I recently found very shocking was that often judges are promoted to higher courts (Court Of Appeal and Supreme Court) when they have pending cases in their courts and those cases have to be restarted all over again. I would have thought the No. 1 qualification for promotion to higher court would be the judge has no pending case. In other words any judge with pending cases would automatically be disqualified from promotion to the next level. Have they forgotten the maxim that justice delayed is justice denied?

Another injustice in our courts is the number of detainees in our prison system awaiting trial. In many prisons, people awaiting trial outnumber those convicted. In most cases, the detainee is kept far beyond the period he would have served had he been found guilty. This is terrible injustice, in fact of the highest order.

One way to eliminate the need for legal representation and to decongest our prisons is to create small claim courts where cases are dispensed with at a sitting and with no lawyers. The whole appeal system, especially in small claims cases, is merely to enrich the lawyers and doesn't advance the cause of justice.

Engr. S. I. Sodangi

Time to tackle rising food prices

The hike in prices of foodstuffs and other essential commodities is alarming and unbearable. For many Nigerians, life and living is becoming extremely difficult. Many of them, especially the vulnerable, go through hardship to acquire the crucially needed basic necessities of food and other essential commodities. This in turn, has now mutated into a major threat like humanitarian crisis, security and developmental issues, in addition to the low nutritional status of the people.

Nigerians are now in the mercy of these crises; many live at the risk of malnutrition of children, thereby compromising their chances of living a

dignified life.

One of the key drivers of the alarming uptick in food commodities is inflation, which simply put, is the general and progressive increase in prices and a crash in the purchasing value of the local currency, the Naira. An increase in production cost can lead to inflation, a surge in demand in comparison with available supply can also lead to inflation.

Nigeria's core inflation is over 13 per cent, while food inflation was 17.5 per cent, in early 2021. In November 2021, it increased to 17.21 per cent while in early January 2022, it further increased to 17.37 per cent as of date (NBS data). This index is stunning and frustrating as

the World Bank noted that food hike could push six million more Nigerians into poverty

Other inflationary pressures include the series of insurgencies bedeviling the country especially in the northern part where most of the essential food items for the nation comes from. These have also adversely contributed to the astronomical hike of prices of foodstuffs.

In view of these problems bedeviling our economy, the concerned authorities - federal, state and local governments - in conjunction with lawmakers and other stakeholders should endeavour to properly manage the situation before it gets out of hand. They should emulate the initiative of Kano State

Anti-Corruption Commission and BUA Group when they regulated price of essential commodities hike during the previous Muslim fasting period (Ramadan).

In addition, they should expedite action in reducing tax duties for importers, aimed at addressing the hike on the price of commodities.

The Consumer Protection Council (CPC) should also checkmate the hike in prices.

Our leaders should remember the popular saying by Virginia Woolf "one cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well".

Abdulazeez Alhassan writes from Rigasa, Kaduna

An impending ASUU strike is one too many

All across most universities in Nigeria, the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) met at an emergency congress meeting on Thursday February 3. The discussion and deliberation centred on the report of the Memorandum of Action (MoA) signed between the Federal Government of Nigeria and the Union (FNG/ASUU) and the level of implementation thus far.

The major issues in the agreement over the years has been; revitalisation of public universities, restructuring of salary structure of lecturers and the novel row over the Integrated Personnel Payment Information System (IPPIS) which the university dons vehemently opposed and seek to be replaced with the University Transparency

and Accountability System (UTAS).

As it was the general outcome across the country, the union branches came out with a communicate at the end of their respective meetings, to declare Monday a work-free day to mobilise their members for an indefinite strike.

The implication is that our children will be back home few months after the suspension of the nearly year-long industrial action.

This has also further exposed the insincerity of government towards the education system which is the backbone of human capital development. It is obvious that the previous agreements entered between the federal government and the union,

where the Minister of Labour and Employment served as the lead government negotiator amounts only to a fruitless exercise. It only pacified the university lecturers back to the lecture rooms without addressing the germane issues of the agreements signed as far back as 2009 in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

For the students, the whole drama means that after the prolonged ASUU strike of 2020 and the excruciating effects of COVID-19, which destabilised the academic calendar, another round of strike looms with loads of uncertainties.

Despite the nagging demand of the lecturers along with cries of students who are the victims, the major interest of those in the

corridors of power in Aso Rock and the Ministry of Education is who will succeeds the president come 2023.

As at the last check, the annual budgetary allocation of the Ministry of Education has remained perpetually below 10 per cent despite UNESCO recommendation for a minimum of 25 per cent allocation.

I call on the federal government to kick start an immediate and aggressive implementation of all agreements reached with ASUU. This is the only way of rescuing our institutions of higher learning from total collapse.

Tijani Hassan Abdulkarim wrote from Kano tijanihassan2020@gmail.com

VACANCY

SENIOR HEALTH ADVISOR (PART-TIME)

Canada's Field Support Services Project (FSSP) seeks to hire a Technical Specialist as **Senior Health Advisor** to provide expert analysis and advice to Global Affairs Canada (GAC) on a broad range of health issues, trends, and practices in support of GAC's Development Program in Nigeria. GAC's international development mission is to lead Canada's international effort in poverty alleviation and humanitarian assistance in line with Canada's new **Feminist International Assistance Policy**.

Scope of Work

This consultancy involves delivery of services in the following areas:

- Health system strengthening at national and sub-national levels with a focus on primary health care/universal health coverage.
- Reducing the burden of disease contributing to child illness and death.
- Other public health assignments, as required.

Description of Activities

The following provides a range of potential activities, whose identification, planning and timelines will be validated through a regularly updated work plan:

- Provide technical reviews of relevant project documents and provide recommendations to strengthen project delivery and results.
- Review, analyse and provide technical comments and recommendations on government policies, reports, strategies, as well as from other health stakeholders in Nigeria, such as GAVI the Global Fund, Global Financing Facility, Global Polio Eradication Initiative, and other Canadian multilateral health partnerships.
- Provide, as needed, media monitoring, analytical papers, think pieces, recommendations and/or technical briefs on a range of health issues, as well as related documents (e.g., policies, strategies, legislation, action plans, budgets and expenditure plans, performance frameworks, evaluations, and assessments, etc.) from a wide range of stakeholders.
- Review project documents, reports, and evaluations, providing comments and recommendations as well as developing input for project-related meetings.
- Support GAC's engagement with key stakeholders (including government officials, implementing partners, etc.) as well as donor coordination efforts, including participation in technical working groups.
- Make periodic project site visits to gain a better understanding of objectives, challenges, and results.

This assignment is expected to start in **April 2022**, with a level of work of approximately **120 days over a period of one year, subject to review should workload increase**. This position is open to all nationals with permit to work in Nigeria. The successful consultant can be based in any major city in Nigeria (preferably Abuja or Lagos).

Essential qualifications/experience

Candidates must demonstrate in their CV and cover letter how they meet the following requirements:

Education

Post-graduate degree from an accredited, recognized institution in a relevant discipline such as public health, global health, women's health, sociology, international development, or another related field.

Experience

- 1) A minimum of 7 years of relevant international development experience in the health sector.
- 2) Demonstrated experience of 5 years or more, advising senior decision makers in donor agencies, government or civil society organizations or the private sector, including drafting briefing notes, analyzing policies, and preparing reports (*Samples of work to be supplied upon request*).
- 3) Experience with donor funding and donor approaches in the health sector, preferably for the Government of Canada.
- 4) Experience in the following thematic/sectoral subject matters: Health policy development/analysis, health systems strengthening (particularly health financing and human resources for health), and women's health.

Knowledge

- 1) Nigeria's health system at federal, state and local government level including knowledge of Nigeria's health strategies, plans and flagship programs.
- 2) Approaches to achieving universal health coverage in Nigeria or in Africa more broadly.
- 3) Social/gender norms and behavior change in the context of health interventions.
- 4) Knowledge and application of the wider determinants of health, particularly gender.
- 5) Monitoring and evaluation techniques.
- 6) Knowledge and understanding of the global health context/international health architecture.
- 7) Global partnerships for health including Gavi, GFF, GPEI and GFATM.
- 8) Global Affairs Canada policies, programs and initiatives, particularly as they relate to gender equality and reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health.

Skills and Abilities

Excellent skills in written and verbal communication, presentation and facilitation, and time management and delivery of finalized reports/deliverables by deadline. Working knowledge of Hausa and other local language skills is an asset.

Method of Application

Interested consultants should forward their CV and Cover Letter to info_fssp_ng@cowater.com, not later than **March 1, 2022**.

VACANCY

SENIOR SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ADVISOR (PART TIME)

Canada's Field Support Services Project (FSSP) seeks to hire a Technical Specialist as **Senior Sexual and Reproductive Health Advisor** to provide expert analysis and advice to Global Affairs Canada (GAC) on a broad range of health issues, trends, and practices in support of GAC's Development Program in Nigeria. GAC's international development mission is to lead Canada's international effort in poverty alleviation and humanitarian assistance in line with Canada's new **Feminist International Assistance Policy**.

Scope of Work

This consultancy involves delivery of services in the following areas:

- Sexual and reproductive health and rights, including improving women's health and accelerating the reduction of maternal mortality.
- Health system strengthening with a focus on primary health care.
- Other assignments relating to SRHR, as required.

Description of Activities

The advisor will provide technical services and advice to GAC in the areas of policy dialogue and donor coordination, health sector performance and trend analysis, sector-based opportunity and constraint assessment, policy analysis, strategic planning, programme and project feasibility assessment, institutional capacity analysis at the federal and state levels, programme and project planning, implementation facilitation, assessing results and analyzing lessons learned. S/he will explicitly and systematically integrate women's and girl's empowerment as well as considerations related to reducing gender equality gaps and eliminating barriers linked to gender equality, vulnerability, and inclusion, into all aspects of her/his work.

The following provides a range of potential specific activities:

- a. Strategic research, analysis, and advice to GAC to help guide the design and development of RMNCAH projects and investments.
- b. Upon request, providing support for external coordination and engagement in policy dialogue fora, including but not limited to the NDPG-Health, NDPG-Gender, sub-NDPGs on SRHR, and Health Partners Coordination Committee (HPCC).
- c. Project specific support, including becoming familiar with key project/program documents, making periodic project site visits, assessing the environment and identifying trends and keeping GAC abreast of actual and potential opportunities and challenges, identifying lessons learned and recommend ways to improve programming.
- d. Other services including provide input for the preparation of internal GAC work plans, reviews and progress reports, support preparations for visits of key stakeholders to participate in meetings, as well as arrange for site meetings of projects.
- e. Upon request, attend meetings or events and present GAC's interest as directed and provide reporting on the meeting in a timely manner for information and any follow up action.

This assignment is expected to start in **April 2022**, with a level of work of approximately **90 days over a period of one year, subject to review should workload increase**. This position is open to all nationals with permit to work in Nigeria. The successful candidate can be based in any major city in Nigeria (preferably Abuja or Lagos).

Essential qualifications/experience

Candidates must demonstrate in their CV and cover letter how they meet the following requirements:

Education: Post-graduate degree from an accredited, recognized institution in a relevant discipline such as public health, global health, women's health, sociology, international development, or another related field.

Experience:

1. A minimum of 7 years of relevant experience working on international development projects focussing on RMNCAH, with a focus on sexual and reproductive health (SRH), immunization (including polio eradication), health system strengthening, and reducing the burden of key diseases and harmful practices affecting women and children.
2. Demonstrated experience of 5 years or more providing advice, including drafting briefing notes, sectoral analyses, and monitoring and assessment reports for senior decision makers in donor agencies, government or civil society organizations or private sector. *Samples of work to be supplied upon request*.
3. Demonstrated experience in performing monitoring and/or external evaluation.
4. Prior experience with donor funding and donor approaches to RMNCAH and SRH, health system strengthening, reducing the burden of key diseases and harmful practices, preferably for the Government of Canada.
5. Significant experience in the following thematic/sectoral subject matters: Public Health, RMNCAH, particularly SRHR and immunization, health equity/social determinants of health (especially gender), and health system strengthening (particularly health financing and human resources for health).

Knowledge

1. Global Affairs Canada policies, programs, and initiatives, particularly as they relate to gender equality and reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health.
2. Nigeria's health system at federal, state, and local government level including knowledge of Nigeria's health strategies, plans and flagship programs.
3. Results-based management (RBM) including the function of the logic model (LM) and performance measurement frameworks (PMF), and theories of change.
4. Development implementation issues and challenges to achieving project results.
5. Social/gender norms and behavior change in the context of health interventions.
6. Knowledge and application of epidemiology and public health.
7. Knowledge and understanding of the global health context including international health architecture
8. Knowledge of global partnerships for health including Gavi, GFF, GPEI and GFATM.
9. Knowledge and application of the wider determinants of health, particularly gender.

Skills and Abilities

Excellent skills in written and verbal communication, presentation and facilitation, and time management and delivery of finalized reports/deliverables by deadline. Working knowledge of Hausa and other local language skills is an asset.

Method of Application

Interested consultants should forward their CV and Cover Letter to info_fssp_ng@cowater.com, not later than **March 1, 2022**.

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS OF TERRORISM AND COUNTER-TERRORISM IN NIGERIA JANUARY 1 -31, 2022



January 1st

a Leaders of terror gangs, Alhaji Auta and Kachalla Ruga neutralised in Gusami Forest and Tsamre Village in Birnin Magaji LGA, Zamfara.
b Zamfara police command rescue 21 Islamiyya school children abducted by criminals



January 2nd

a Christian Association of Nigeria, Kaduna confirm that 120 students of Bethel Baptist High School have been released by their abductors
b Terror in Kaduna as terrorist attack leads to several missing persons and deaths in Chikun, Igabi and Zangon Kataf LGA



January 3rd

Abou Maryam , new ISWAP commander confirmed neutralised by Nigeria's Air Force operations



January 4th

a ISWAP claims responsibility for an attack on military post in Marte, Borno State
b Nearly 100 hostages; mostly women and children rescued more than two months after kidnap by armed groups in Northwest Nigeria.



January 5th

Nigerian Government gazettes declaration of bandit groups as terrorists



January 6th

Nigerian Army shuts Song cattle market after intelligence reveals that terrorists were trading in rustled cattle



January 7th

Nigerian troops neutralise Boko Haram members in Mobbar, Borno.



January 8th

Nigeria's Defence Headquarters confirms that 11,000+ Child fighters surrendered in 2021



January 9th

4 persons kidnapped in Rafindaji community, Gulida Chiefdom, Abaji Area Council FCT, Abuja



January 10th

ISWAP attacks Tukur Yusufu Buratai Institute for War and Peace (TBI),Biu LGA, Borno State



January 11th

a Nigerian Army redeploys General Officers Commanding (GOCs),senior officers
b Criminals attack three communities in Niger and Plateau states ; burn houses while several are feared dead



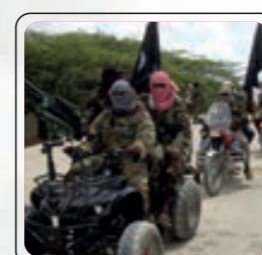
January 12th

a 3 Students of Plateau Polytechnic rescued by Military Unit ; Operation Hadin Kai
b Military's special forces rescue 26 kidnap victims on the BirinGwari - Kaduna road



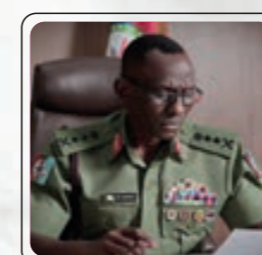
January 13th

"Guzamala, Abadam LGAs remain under Boko Haram control" - Governor Babagana Zulum



January 14th

Boko Haram abduct police officers at Police Training College in Gwoza LGA, Borno



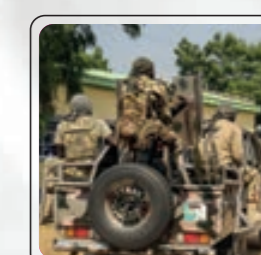
January 15th

Armed Forces Remembrance Day ; Chief of Defence Staff, Gen. Lucky Irabor asks widows of fallen heroes, Nigerians, not to mourn but thank God that such men lived



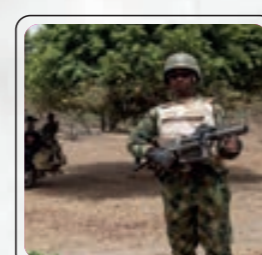
January 16th

4 kidnapped students from University of Lafia, Nasarawa State freed after four days



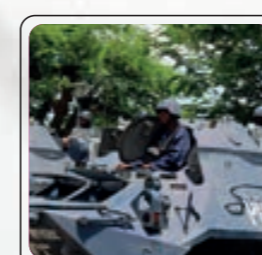
January 17th

Nigeria's Army dislodges IPOB / ESN enclaves in Anambra forest



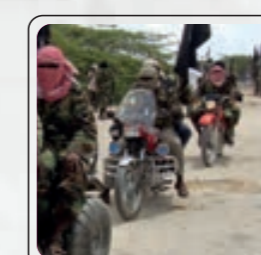
January 18th

a Terrorist make attempt to levy several communities in Zamfara State
b Security agencies rescue abducted Plateau Monarch, arrest suspected kidnapers



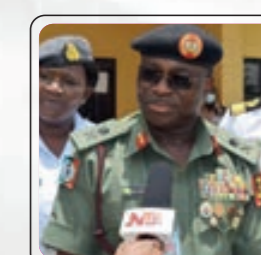
January 19th

Delta State Government donates 5 armoured carriers to army, police



January 20th

Boko Haram terrorists raze Church, abduct girls in Village near Chibok



January 21st

United Nations (UN) appoints Nigeria's Gen Olufemi Sawyer as Commander, military mission in South-Sudan



January 22nd

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) commends humanitarian effort, partnership with Nigerian Military



January 23rd

"University of Maiduguri (UNIMAID) now safer for students to learn" Aliyu Shugaba, Vice Chancellor UNIMAID



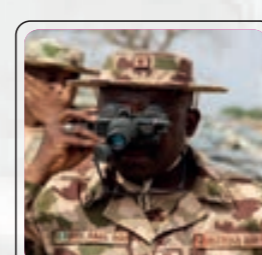
January 24th

Nigeria's Defence Headquarters confirms military units have eliminated another wanted ISWAP Commander, Mallam Ari in Borno



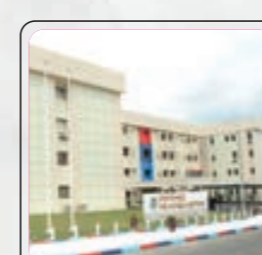
January 25th

a Troops of 401 Special Forces Brigade, 19 Brigadi Baga destroy planned site for ISWAP Caliphate in Borno
b Security Operatives neutralise ISWAP Fighters at Kainji National Park, New Bussa in Borgu LGA, Niger State.



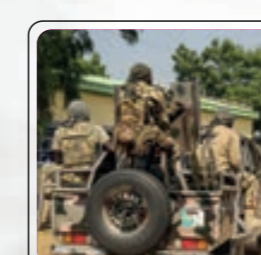
January 26th

Troops of 25 Task Force Brigade Damboa, Borno State identify, destroy Boko Haram/ ISWAP night market at Gumsuri



January 27th

Nigeria's Defence Headquarters improves access for citizens, journalists to get information about fight against terrorism



January 28th

Troops of 5 Brigade attack Boko Haram hideout in Douro near Damasak, Borno State. Several terrorists neutralised



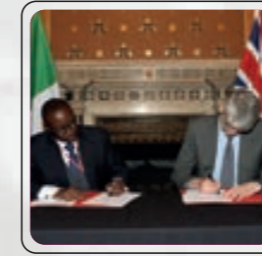
January 29th

Troops of 120 Task Force Battalion, Sector 2, Joint Task Force (JTF), Operation Hadin Kai neutralise terrorists at Goniri, Yobe



January 30th

Several feared dead as criminals attack Atak Mawai village, Zangon Kataf LGA in Kaduna. Destroy properties



January 31st

Nigeria, United Kingdom security chiefs meet in London to advance security collaboration

Source: Community Reports, Broadcast Media and Private Investigation
Stories have been verified by independent, non-partisan domestic and foreign journalism institutions. Dates of event may differ due to incident recording and reporting times.

MONDAY BUSINESS

CBN EXCHANGE RATES

	US DOLLAR	Pound STERLING	EURO	YUAN/ RENMINBI	RIVAL	CFA
Buying	410	558	478	58.57	101.02	0.69
Central NGN	410.43	558.10	478.24	58.65	101.15	0.70
Selling NGN	410.87	558.20	478.48	58.73	101.29	0.71

COMMODITIES PRICE (December 5, 2021)

CRUDE OIL BRENT	\$83.57
GOLD	\$1,740.60
SILVER	\$22.60
NATURAL GAS	\$5.4

BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES

	Dollar	Euro	Pound S.
BUYING	N563	N580	N694
SELLING	N565	N595	N705

By Simon Echewofun Sunday

With a protracted delay from China in opening up funds for Nigeria, the federal government is turning to the British market where it expects to raise \$14.4 billion (about N5.993 trillion) at least for multiple rail projects.

Already, reports said the Standard Chartered Bank has agreed to offer a \$3.02 billion (N1,256tr) loan to fund rail projects. There are indications that such move could cut the exposure of the country to Chinese loans.

Nigeria is seeking \$14.4bn loans for the Port Harcourt to Maiduguri rail line as well as the Kano to Maradi (Niger) rail project, Amaechi told Bloomberg in June last year.

According to the Director General of the Debt management office (DMO), Patience Oniha, loans from China to Nigeria were largely concessional with no collateral. As of September 30, 2021, Chinese loans in Nigeria stood at \$3.59bn, representing only 9.4 per cent of Nigeria's total foreign debt stock of \$37.9bn.

"Nigeria's total debt stock as at September 30 was 37.9 billion dollars, this figure comprised the external debt stock of the Federal Government, 36 state governments and the Federal Capital Territory," Oniha stated.

According to a Reuters report, Nigeria has approached Standard Chartered Bank (STAN.L) for funding of two rail projects. The

As China delays, FG shops for N5.9tr loan to deliver multiple rail projects

● Standard Chartered to offer \$3.02bn ● Move may cut dependence on China – Expert



Minister of Transportation Rotimi Amaechi said this is after delays from Chinese lenders.

President Muhammadu Buhari has made upgrading transport networks and improving outdated power grids the pillar of his administration, with a view to boosting agriculture and other non-oil industries to cut dependence on dwindling crude revenues. But funding has been a major constraint.

Its parliament last year approved several billions of dollars in project-tied loans from the Chinese and other international lenders

but funds have yet to materialize.

"We are actually waiting for the Chinese to give us the loan we applied for and they kept delaying us," he told reporters in Abuja. "Will we wait for them forever? The answer is no."

Nigeria has been negotiating a mix of loans from Chinese and European lenders to fund railway projects in the country.

In June 2021, Amaechi said Standard Chartered had agreed to fund \$3.02 billion for the ongoing Port Harcourt-to-Maiduguri railway project. He also said at the time that Credit Suisse was expected to fund the Kano-

to-Maradi line, which will connect northern states Kano, Jigawa and Katsina.

"We have gone to Standard Chartered Bank. They have not done financial closure but they have approved some level of funding for Kano-Maradi," the minister said.

Nigeria's poor transport and power networks have stymied economic growth for decades, holding back the distribution of wealth in Africa's biggest economy where 40% of people live below the national poverty line.

Amaechi said the cabinet approved \$187.7 million for contractors that will supervise the three or four rail projects in the works.

Also speaking, an expert on infrastructure planning, Okoli Ochuwa, stated that the move by Nigeria to turn to other multilateral donors was a laudable one.

"Although as it is, China loans are no cause for alarm yet in Nigeria, however, if we continue to depend on them, we may have no alternative. So I believe it is a good move for Nigeria to seek other infrastructure financing means. It should even look inwards in Nigeria for private partnerships. As long as the government respects agreements, there are ready investors," said Ochuwa.

E-invoicing, e-evaluator may mar int'l trade, says expert

From Christiana T. Alabi, Lagos

An economist and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Centre for Promotion of Private Enterprise (CPPE), Dr. Muda Yusuf has called for scrapping of the e-invoice and e-evaluator schemes introduced by Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), saying, it will worsen an already bad international trade transactions process. According to Yusuf, the policy will increase transaction cost, entrench red tape, increase uncertainty, escalate business disruption, weaken investors' confidence, and heighten corruption risk. He pointed out there is a strong correlation between red tape and corruption.

The CBN had on January 21 announced plans to commence operationalization of e-Valuator and e-Invoice;

saying, all import and export operations will require the submission of an electronic invoice authenticated by the authorized dealer banks on the Nigeria single window portal - Trade Monitoring System (TRMS).

According to the circular issued by the apex bank, the new regulation was primarily aimed at achieving accurate value from import and export items in and out of Nigeria

Yusuf who is the immediate past Director General of Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) submitted that, "The increasing incursion of the CBN into the trade policy space is an aberration in our economic management system and a serious cause for concern to the business community. Issues of import valuation and classification are statutory functions of the Nigeria Customs

Service, with the Finance Ministry as the supervising organ.

"The decision of the CBN to now undertake valuation and product price benchmarking of imports and exports is a duplication of the statutory responsibility of the Nigeria Customs Service. It will create an additional regulatory compliance burden and costs for the business community."

He advised the CBN to collaborate with the Nigeria Customs to address any gaps in the valuation processes, rather than set up a parallel institutional framework.

Yusuf also said over 80 per cent of the misconducts in foreign exchange handling are outcomes of the current distortions created by the current foreign exchange policy regime, especially the administrative fixing of the exchange rate.

NIGERIAN RAILWAY CORPORATION ABUJA – SUMMARY OF TRAIN HEADWAY AT IDU AND RIGASA

TRAIN NO.	DEPARTURE										ARRIVAL									
	AK 1 (Exp)	KA 2 (Exp)	AK 3	AK 4	AK 5 (Exp)	KA 6	AK 7	KA 8 (Exp)	AK 9	KA 10	AK 1	KA 2 (Exp)	AK 3	AK 4	AK 5 (Exp)	KA 6	AK 7	KA 8 (Exp)	AK 9	KA 10
IDU	07:00	--	9:50	--	12:20	--	14:20	--	--	18:10	--	8:50	--	12:58	--	16:12	--	18:01	20:14	--
RIGASA	-	6:40	-	10:35	--	14:00	--	15:55	18:10	--	09:15	--	12:01	--	14:31	--	16:37	--	--	20:32

CROSSINGS DETAILS	STATION ►	JERE	JERE	RUANA	RUANA	KUBWA	KUBWA	KAKAU	KAKAU	JERE	JERE	DUTSE	DUTSE	GIDAN	GIDAN
	TIME (HH:MM)	7:56	7:58	11:23	11:20	12:38	12:35	14:15	14:13	15:16	15:14	16:11	16:14	19:15	19:19
	DWELL TIME	7:59	Pass through	Pass through	11:24	Pass	Pass	Pass through	Pass through	Pass through	15:17	19:15	Pass through	19:20	Pass through

ECONOMIC INSIGHT

Benue ranks high in World Bank grants

From Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

The Independent Verification Agents (IVAs) from the office of Auditor General of the Federation (AGF), has ranked Benue State high on transparency and fiscal discipline aimed at gaining more World Bank grants.

The World Bank State Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability (SFTAS) programme gives states opportunities to steer open governance which in the long run earns them financial rewards for performance.

IVAs team leader, Dr Damian Nwankwo, who presented the 2021 reports

at the weekend in Makurdi, noted that they were in Benue State on the Annual Performance Assessment (APA) Verification exercise for the programme.

Nwankwo said “And doing this, the World Bank now rewards the state with financial reward for achieving. When rewarded, it translates into revenue generation for the state.”

Also, the Benue State Focal Person for the World Bank State Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability (SFTAS) programme, Rev. Peters Ichull, in an interview, said Benue State is on track to gaining more World Bank grants.

“The first time the programme came we couldn’t

achieve much but from the second year, Benue State has been in the fifth position in the whole country with the financial reward accruing to the state,” he said.

The State Commissioner of Finance and Economic Planning, David Olofu, said with the full implementation of the programme, Benue now stands at par with other states that have embraced the programme and is benefiting from the incentives.

Olofu, who is also the chairman of the SFTAS Steering Committee in the state, also said “We have come to the end of the exercise and preliminary reports have been presented to us. Based on what has been presented, Benue State has done very well.”

NIPC unveils plans to woo foreign investors

By Faruk Shuaibu

The Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC) has unveiled its Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Strategic Plan for the year 2022.

The NIPC acting Executive Secretary, Emeka Ofor, who disclosed this at a forum in Abuja, said the agency would adopt an aggressive approach in encouraging both domestic and foreign investors to invest more in Nigeria’s economy.

“One of the major things we consider the most in NIPC is the projection of Nigeria’s image to the world, and we take that assignment very seriously, because if a prospective investor feels good about your country and location, they will be thinking of investing there,” he said.

Ofor stated that apart

from a series of stakeholders’ engagements lined up by the agency, it would partner with the media to improve the business environment through developmental reporting to attract more investments into the country.

“We consider the press crucial to the work we are doing. That is why we want to change our quarterly engagement with the media to include showcasing Nigeria’s investment prospects more, hence attract investors, project a better image and support investments,” he explained.

The NIPC chairman called for the need to balance stories with the positive real facts that projected Nigeria’s image in positive light so that when the world or stakeholders got information they would be able to have a balanced view of Nigeria.

‘Insecurity killing cotton production in North’

By Chris Agabi

The National Cotton Association of Nigeria (NACOTAN) has said insecurity is driving down cotton production in the North.

President of NACOTAN Anibe Achimugu disclosed this in Abuja on the sidelines of the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between NACOTAN and the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

He explained that many farmers are unable to farm

cotton and some are unable to harvest already cultivated cotton due to insecurity.

He said the association’s partnership with the Central Bank of Nigeria has driven annual seed cotton output from about 80,000 metric tons (MT) in 2019 to 150,000MT in 2021.

He said the CBN intervention via the Anchor Borrowers Programme is upscaling capacity in the cotton and garment industry.

“Before we came in 2019, I

think Nigeria was producing just about 80,000 metric tons of seed cotton but in 2019, we produced 123,000MT. In 2020, it went up to 132,000. On average, Nigeria is now producing about 150,000MT of seed cotton.

“In 2019, we only had five ginneries in Nigeria but as we speak, we have 23 ginning companies that are active. For the textile companies, it is more difficult to revive them because the inputs have to be sustainable.

“The collaboration also included the banks that hitherto won’t invest in the cotton industry,” he explained.

On the MoU, he said it is geared towards building a credible, robust and reliable database for the cotton industry in the country.

The database expected to be developed will cover all activities in the development, production, processing, marketing and utilisation of cotton across its value chains.

It will serve as a veritable tool for interaction between NACOTAN national agencies, development partners and investors.

Commenting during the MoU signing, the Statistician-General/CEO of NBS, Dr. Simon Harry, said statistics is key and the NBS is willing to track data in the cotton industry.

He said that will drive investments and create massive jobs in the sector.

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ECONOMIC INSIGHT

NEPC sensitises exporters on AfCFTA processes

From Zahraddeen Yakubu Shuaibu, Kano

The Nigerian Export Promotion Council (NEPC) has organised a sensitisation seminar for 60 exporters on the role of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in the growth and development of intra-African laws and treaties.

The seminar, which was held at Royal Tropicana Hotel, Kano, had exporters and other stakeholders from the North West who were trained by experts in AfCFTA trading to equip them with required knowledge and skills for rapid development.

Delivering his keynote address at the event, the Executive Director and CEO of NEPC, Dr Ezra Yakusak, said: "There is no gainsaying that Nigeria needs to diversify its economic base, hence the urgency needed to ensure that AfCFTA is fully embraced and understood by the exporting community. This also explains why the theme of this workshop was carefully chosen to deliberate, educate and equip our exporters to maximise the opportunities that AfCFTA brings to our dear nation."

He added that in a bid to make the instrument of Export Expansion Facility



■ Yakusak

achieve the goal of the National Export Sustainability Plan (NESP), the council recently issued grants to deserving companies, and that it was expected the grants would help the exporters' volume and value of their exports.

The Kano State Commissioner for Commerce, Industry, Cooperative and Mineral Resources, Barr Ibrahim Mukhtar, appreciated the council for choosing Kano for the workshop, promising that state government was always willing for partnership on similar activities.

The Coordinator (North West) of NEPC, Yakubu Gambo, charged the participants to utilise the knowledge gained from the training in their various businesses.

Kano agency empowers 20 traders

From Ibrahim Musa Giginyu, Kano

The Kano State Agro-Pastoral Development Project (KSADP) under the crops project value chain development handled by Sasakawa Africa Association (SAA) has trained and empowered 20 Commodity Association Traders/Trainers (CATs) drawn from 20 LGAs of the state on market information sourcing, aggregation and dissemination using ICT tools.

Speaking to the participants during a three-day training session, KSADP Coordinator in SAA, Comrade Abdulrasheed

Kofar Mata, revealed that the whole project was aimed at promoting inclusive economic growth in the state which targeted the most vulnerable, including women and youths, with a view of promoting an increased agricultural production, as well as commercialisation.

According to him, the project, funded by the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and a grant component from Live and Livelihood Funds (LLF), will extend the establishment of CATs in all the 44 LGAs of the state.

He added that the training and empowerment of the selected CATs was

designed in such a way that all the trainees would receive a tablet gadget and would be placed on allowances for easy and effective dissemination of information as required, noting that already the project had been working with initially trained CATs in addition to newly selected ones.

A CAT, Yahaya Kura from Kura LGA, who spoke on behalf of the trainees, said the establishment of CATs would surely change the narratives in crop value chain development in the state, adding that the idea was a well-calculated attempt in processes that would yield the needed results in agricultural development in the state.

Arla Foods to build dairy in Kaduna

By Esther Chukwu

Arla Foods, makers of Dano Milk, have signed an agreement with their joint-venture partner, Tolaram Group, to build a Denmark-designed commercial dairy farm in Kaduna State to boost local milk production.

In a statement, Arla Foods said the construction of the dairy, which has since started, was expected to be completed by the end of the year. The 200-hectare farm will house 400 imported cows, modern milking parlours, advanced animal cooling technology and all other modern technologies used in dairy farms today.

The farm will produce roughage for feeding and would have housing facilities

for its employees. Arla Foods' farm management expert, Snorri Sigurdsson, said, "We are highly delighted by the signing of the construction agreement with our joint-venture partners, Tolaram Group. This signals the beginning of greater things to come in the dairy sector in Nigeria, and we are truly happy to construct the farm in Kaduna, the Dairy State of Nigeria! Without a doubt, this collaboration will help a great deal to boost local milk production in Nigeria."

The farm is located on the Damau Household Milk Farm project land where Arla has entered into a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) with the Kaduna State Government to support about 1,000 local dairy farmers.

THE ENTREPRENEUR

MUSBAHU EL YAKUB

maelyakub@gmail.com



Entrepreneurship: Value Adding, Costing and Pricing (I)

Some time ago I was involved with a company that was bidding for a project. I worked with them and we submitted both the technical and financial bid components. After scaling the technical stage, the company was invited by the client for negotiations of the contract terms because the company had the lowest financial offer among all the companies that bid for the project.

In the course of the negotiations, the client asked why the company had a "low quote" (the next lowest financial bid was over eight times the company's!) I responded on behalf of the company that, "Even at that seemingly 'low quote', the project is satisfactorily profitable to the company." Simple! The company got the job and successfully executed it. Everyone was happy. And I have no doubt that if the client has a similar project in future the company will be preferred.

The above "concern" by the client brings out a reality in the costing and pricing philosophies of many individuals and organisations in our environment. Every business opportunity is about maximising profit. But even beyond that, we tend to think that every business transaction is about us making all the money we can to solve all our financial problems at one go! It is like each transaction, irrespective of its details, must take us out of our poverty and make us "stinking" rich!

This costing mindset and pricing model are, sadly, rampant in all strata of our society: from the mechanic that will fix the office car to the carpenter who is asked to quote to produce furniture for a soon-to-be-wedded couple or the contractor that is invited to submit a financial bid for the building of a school block for a state government. We just want to get rich overnight.

While it is legitimate to maximise the profit you can make on transactions, it must be done wisely, taking into consideration three things: first, your pricing should take into account both the value you are actually delivering and the price at which your competitor can also deliver the same service. Second, you should not be too greedy as to risk losing the business entirely because you stupidly believe one transaction should solve all your financial problems! Third, your pricing should be fair in a way that it is acceptable to your client, while, of course, being profitable to you.

If any of those conditions are not met, you risk losing the business, or if you get the business, your relationship with the client can be jeopardised if they (and they can) eventually find out that they could have gotten better pricing for the same service from elsewhere. Remember that unhappy or customers that feel cheated would not come back to you, and neither would they make referral to you.

How do you avoid the risks mentioned?

Long-term relationships are beneficial: We have in this column always expounded that the sustainably successful entrepreneur is one that views

and manages their relationships with their employees, clients, regulators, etc. on long-term basis. Having a long-term perspective on business relationships makes us circumspect, cautious and fair in our dealings without losing focus of our business objectives.

Understand the differences of value, cost and price: The entrepreneur needs to have a sound understanding of the differences and linkages among the values they offer, their operational cost structure, costing process, as well as their pricing model. These four variables are key to relationship development, sustainable profitability and wealth creation.

The essence of every business is to provide products (goods and/or services) to a group of customers (individuals and/or organisations) called a "market" and in the process generate wealth. To stand a good chance of generating wealth, a business needs to be able to create a desired value. The value created by a business is represented by the features in the products that the company offers to its customers. "Economic value" is a measure of the benefit that is derivable from a product by a customer. Economic value, however, does not mean that the utility derived by the customer is necessarily financial, no! For instance, a wealthy person could buy a Rolex wristwatch for millions of naira not because of any financial benefit they can derive from the watch, but for, perhaps, the feeling they get from owning the prized item. The point is that the "economic value" we ascribe to a product could be derived from some social, psychological or of course monetary benefit that we enjoy from it.

Profitable pricing of products is critical to wealth creation. Most business operations price their products on a cost plus a margin basis. This means the total cost attributable to the value on offer is established and then a pre-determined margin is added to come up with a price. It should be noted, however, that there may be realistic constraints to this approach. If, for instance, a product you want to offer is already available in the market at some price, you may not just be able to offer yours at a higher price without a corresponding, justifiable and perceptible value differential. Regardless, there are several ways of determining the cost of the value you provide. But your type of business will influence how you establish your costs. The cost components and costing process of a furniture business will be different from those of a restaurant which will also be different from that of a medical facility. The principles are however basically all the same.

The wise entrepreneurs need to entangle themselves from wrong pricing philosophies and models. They also need to understand the difference and relationships between the trio of value, cost and price. We shall continue on these crucial issues next week.

CEO INTERVIEW

By Vincent Nwanma

Why Nigeria may pay more on future Eurobond offers – Akpata

Mr Egie Akpata is Chairman, Skymark Partners Limited, a Lagos-based firm. He has worked at BMO Financial Group in Toronto; Deutsche Bank AG in New York; United Capital PLC, and UCML Capital, where he is a director. Akpata has closed transactions in Debt and Equity Capital Markets, and Mergers & Acquisitions worth over N2 trillion in the past 12 years. He is an active player in the local capital markets and a regular contributor to CNBC Africa. In this interview, he explains the key drivers of current developments in the domestic and global debt markets, including why future Eurobond offers may cost Nigeria more.

What is your outlook on the government fiscal deficit and debt service burden, especially with the indefinite postponement of fuel subsidy removal? What will be the implication of Nigeria running a 3% - 4% fiscal deficit for the next five years?

The absolute size of the fiscal deficit and debt service burden is expected to keep growing in nominal Naira terms. The extension of the fuel subsidy regime simply increases the size of these deficits. What those numbers will be as a percentage of GDP depends on how well government policies can stimulate economic growth.

Whilst we all know Sovereign notes are risk-free instruments and many analysts would argue that the Nigerian government cannot default on a Naira obligation, and the worst would be to print more Naira. What are the odds if the government finds itself in such a situation, especially with an already elevated inflation rate?

I do not see a situation where the FGN would restructure or default any of its Naira debt instruments. The implication of such an action far outweighs the costs of other measures available to the FGN to avoid such an action. For instance, they can simply issue new debt to service existing obligations.

The same is largely true for FGN Eurobonds. The current interest cost and maturity schedules of those bonds are well within current and future FGN means to repay. Even though the FGN cannot print USD to service those bonds, the market view of FGN credit is still very positive.

With the sunset of the 10-year tax holiday on corporate bonds and the disposition of the government to revert fully to the tax provision, how do you see the growth in corporate debt issuance? Can it be sustained or do we just see this as something that would force issuers to depend once again solely on short-term bank loans?

All indications are that the pipeline of corporate bond transactions is



■ Akpata

very strong. It is likely that many issuers are more concerned about accessing the bond market before an election-induced slowdown of market activity, than about the tax implications of the expiration of the tax waiver.

Short-term bank loans are not a substitute for fixed-rate, long-term bonds. Most issuers are not ready to take on the refinancing risk associated with short-term loans. There is no guarantee that the facility will be rolled over or that the interest rate on rollover will be affordable.

However, if corporate bonds become taxable, issuers will need to pay a lot more to make their instrument competitive when compared with tax-free FGN bonds.

Won't this policy halt the progress being made and undermine the depth of the Nigerian debt capital market, which even remains largely

dominated by Federal Government Bond issuance?

FGN bond dominance of the market is partly due to the sheer size of the FGN, its increased borrowing needs in recent years and consistent issuance of paper all year round. That dominance has been with the market throughout the 10-year corporate bond tax waiver.

I believe that having benefited from the bond market, issuers will look beyond the added costs due to taxes and continue to access the market even if it costs more. The benefits of obtaining long-term, fixed-rate funding are too great to be ignored.

With the indicative hike in policy rates in the US, UK, Canada and other developed markets, global interest rates have spiked and yields on Eurobonds have risen accordingly. Won't this trend

jeopardise proposed foreign currency borrowings of the Nigerian government?

Volatility in the Eurobond market is a recent event - and rates have come down substantially in the past two weeks. However, rates today are much higher than in September 2021 when the FGN issued \$4b of Eurobonds. As market jitters recede, it is very likely that the FGN will be able to access that market for a significant portion of its N2.57tr foreign borrowing component that is outside DFI funding. However, pricing on an FGN Eurobond today will be 1-2% above what was paid in September 2021, when rates were below historical trend.

The FGN remains a very strong credit in the Africa Eurobond space and its foreign debt service is relatively small compared to African peers.

The Nigerian government has notable amortisation repayment in its books between this year and 2023, and incidentally may be shy of the market due to the rate environment. Won't this put pressure on the external reserve and force the CBN to devalue the Naira further?

I am not clear on the amortization in question. As far as I am aware, there is \$300m Eurobond maturity later in the year. That is unlikely to cause a material drop in foreign reserves which are currently around \$40 billion.

The MPC continues to demonstrate its pro-growth sentiment by keeping policy variables unchanged despite concerns on rising interest rates in the global market and renewed concern on brewing inflationary pressures. For how long

do you think the MPC can sustain this stance?

Negative real interest rates are not unique to Nigeria. Most developed markets have very negative real rates as of today. Inflation in the USA is 7% but the 10-year US Treasury is at 1.9%. That, on a relative basis, is a lot more negative than in Nigeria where inflation is at 15.5% and the 10-year bond is at 12%.

MPC policy variables are relatively high at this stage in the economic cycle. Besides, the CBN has other ways of controlling money supply beyond MPR and other MPC variables. The data will suggest that the pro-growth sentiment of the CBN has been effective in getting the Nigerian economy out of the COVID-induced recession.

Some pundits are sceptical about bilateral loans from China and some argue that should Nigeria default on

obligations to the "Asian mafias", the country may lose control of some national strategic assets among other views, do you share this sentiment as well?

I am not aware of any national strategic assets which have been pledged to China as part of a loan agreement. If such cases exist, it is not clear how the Chinese lender will be able to enforce such rights within Nigeria. No lender disburses funds expecting a default, so it is safe to assume that the Chinese did their homework on the ability of the FGN to repay such loans before granting them.

It can be argued that project loans are a positive development as it is easy to see exactly what the borrowing was used for. Compared to FGN Naira bonds or Eurobonds where the proceeds are primarily used to support the budget which is predominantly recurrent expenditure.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NASARAWA STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

THE ABOVE NAMED ASSOCIATION WISHES TO INVITE ITS MEMBERS TO A CONGRESS MEETING SLATED AS FOLLOWS:

DATE: SATURDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2022.

VENUE: 1000 SEATS AUDITORIUM NSUK MAIN CAMPUS.

TIME: 10:00AM

SIGNED
COMRADE SHUAIBU MOHAMMED
NATIONAL PRO.

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A hotel structure in a serene and decent residential neighbourhood of Gwarinpa Estate, Abuja.

Features:
A total of 13 rooms all ensuite
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Kitchen
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PROPERTY

Amidst fraud allegation, property firm meets with aggrieved subscribers

From **Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos**

Amidst allegations of scamming subscribers to its property, a popular real estate firm, Revolution Plus Property, is to meet clients and stakeholders to resolve the imbroglio.

The firm made the decision to meet with its clients after customers who paid for one landed property but did not get allocation years after called it out on social media.

The clients, who allegedly called the firm fraudulent on Instagram, also tagged the brand ambassadors of Revolution Plus who are renowned actors, actresses and content creators.

Many of the customers accused the company of withholding their land allocation years after they paid

for them in some of their estates in Lagos, Abuja and Ibadan.

As the allegations raged on social media with people calling on the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) to investigate the firm, it has invited all its stakeholders to an open house to address issues surrounding their allocations.

In a statement posted on its Instagram page, the firm said: "In our bid to sort all land allocation backlogs and other related issues, we will be holding an open house with the Group Executive Director (GED) and Group Managing Director (GMD) between Monday, February 7, 2022 to Thursday, February 10, 2022 at our Ikeja head office.

"We wish to have a round table discussion with all stakeholders of our estates.

"To this end, we shall receive

all stakeholders based on the schedule (both onsite and online through Zoom. Zoom links have been sent to clients' emails and we will also visit our other branches for the same purpose.

"We crave your patience as we promise to attend to each complaint with the assurance that our part of the deal will be fulfilled."

Affected clients were also advised to "bring all necessary documents for easy transition to enable us to attend to the number of clients stipulated for this daily routine till we finalise the process.

"We will be transparent with this process, as transparency is the bedrock of our business. Revolution Plus Property still stands on its mandate to serve you affordable housing."

The firm had earlier

apologised to its clients in a statement released a few days ago. It also explained the delay in allocation.

"As per the policy of the company, once a property has been fully paid for, we provide a provisional letter of allocation which states that allocation is done between three to six months after full payment has been made. As a result of the high volume of subscribers to our estates, allocations are often done in batches and oftentimes we may exceed the time frame given for allocation," the firm said.

Daily Trust learnt that in the midst of the controversy, the firm embarked on massive allocation of lands to paid customers at one of its estates at Abraham Adesanya in Lagos.

This also generated mixed feelings with members of the

public asking why the company would wait to be called out before doing the needful.

A twitter user, Mobola Adedotun, wondered why the firm waited for so long before starting to make the allocation.

"I hope the company didn't allocate superfund sites to customers in a bid to repair their dented image," she said.

Others, however, commended the firm for quickly making amends on realizing its mistakes.

Also responding to the invitation of clients to the open house, an Instagram user by the handle @cleanstar, said: "Customers are the life blood of every business, a well-known brand like this should have known better instead of waiting to be dragged first. Honestly I was disappointed initially, good you guys are making amends for your bad step. An unhappy customer is an angry customer and an angry customer can never be a repeated customer. Hope you guys make your customers see reason of giving you guys a second chance."

Building collapse: Stakeholders to eliminate quacks

By **Terkula Igidi**

The pioneer president of the Building Collapse Protection Guild (BCPG), Bldr. Kunle Awobodu, has said the guild is determined to eliminate the quacks responsible for most of the infractions causing building collapse in the country.

Awobodu who spoke during the inauguration of the newly elected executives of the guild in Lagos, called for sustainable partnerships and transparency in the fight to prevent building collapse.

According to a statement by the guild, Engr. Eddy Atumonyogo, who emerged the president, also urged the government at all levels and the investing public to patronise qualified and competent local professionals on projects across all the built environment professions.

He said: "We will take the message of compliance to extant building planning laws to every state physical planning authority to ensure best practices. Our state chapters now have their work cut out for them. We will strengthen the ongoing monitoring of construction activities to highlight deviations from

best practices.

"We will commence monitoring of the maintenance needs of critical buildings and bring them to the attention of responsible organisations. It is not enough to build; you must also have a robust maintenance regime. We will pay more attention to global best practices and emerging trends in our industry to ensure our professionals remain very relevant and conform to the best practices."

While Atumonyogo was elected president of the BCPG, Tpl. Sulaimon Yusuf emerged as vice president.

Others elected were: Mrs. Adenike Ayanda, general secretary; ES.V. Elliot Orupabo, financial secretary; and Mrs. Fatimoh Osho, treasurer.

The BCPG also elected Arc. John Agmada Bawa, publicity secretary; Gbenga Alara, research and development secretary; and the immediate past president of the guild, George Akinola, ex-officio.

BCPG was formed in 2011 to prevent the collapse of buildings through promotion of standard building construction all over the country.



■ An estate under construction behind Mogadishu Cantonment, Asokoro, Abuja

Photo **Onyekachukwu Obi**

Architecture thrives on excellence – Maduka

From **Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos**

A renowned architect, Charles Maduka, has described architecture as a profession that thrives on excellence.

He said great buildings should demonstrate "innovative thinking and excellence of execution."

In a statement made available to Daily Trust, Maduka of M&C DS Architects, said: "Architecture thrives on excellence because every building is distinct and impliedly competitive. However the significance of every building depends largely on the nature of her influence on the immediate environments.

"Great buildings are iconic and should demonstrate visionary, innovative thinking and excellence of execution. Iconic buildings are the true faces of where they are situated."

Maduka who described architecture as "an intentional act of erecting a building, not just with

common sense but also with artistry," added that "Time and location are two fundamental factors that may determine the importance of any building."

He explained that architecture as a product of time needs location to become an object of reference.

"Every successful piece of architecture has pre-construction and post-construction stages.

"Besides, a potential site comes after due consideration on the type and functions of the proposed building, environmental impact, cultural relevance and socio-economic imperatives.

"Building form and functions are greatly influenced by climate. In the same vein, a season by a simple definition is a period in the year that is distinguished by special climate conditions. Buildings are subject to those variations in environmental conditions. It might be pertinent to

stress that every piece of architecture is therefore inseparable from time and geography," he said.

He further explained that Imhotep, the great Egyptian, who lived around 2600 BCE is the first identified architect in history. He served the Egyptian Pharaoh Djoser and was credited with the designing of the first Egyptian Pyramid complex and the world's first known extensive stone structure.

He also said every great building is a history maker and history is a function of time, adding that an iconic building is one that could not have been imagined before it was created.

"It is a building that inserts inspiration into the backdrop of our everyday life.

"An eminent architect and a pritzker award winner, Frank Gehry puts it thus: 'Architecture should speak of its time and place but yearn for timelessness,'" he said.

Quote ▶ Find out where the people are going and buy the land before they get there – William Penn Adair



NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL (NECO)

Km 8, Bida Road, P.M.B 159, Minna, Niger State

2022 NATIONAL COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION INTO JSS 1 OF FEDERAL UNITY COLLEGES

The National Common Entrance Examination (NCEE) for admission into JSS 1 of Federal Unity Colleges for 2022 will hold throughout the country on

Saturday 23rd April, 2022

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** Only final year pupils of primary schools who shall not be less than 10 years by September 2022 are eligible.
2. **REGISTRATION PROCEDURE:**
 - a. **Registration fee:** The registration fee for the 2022 NCEE is **Four Thousand Five Hundred (₦4,500.00) Naira only**, per candidate.
 - b. **Registration:** The 2022 NCEE registration is strictly online. Registration can **ONLY** be done on the NECO corporate website www.neco.gov.ng
To register candidate(s) for NCEE, Head Teachers, Parents/ Guardians who are existing users are to login with their credentials to register. New users are to:
 - Visit neco.gov.ng/ncee
 - Create an online account using phone number and email address
 - Activate the account from your email
 - Make payment into the NECO TSA using the following payment options:
 - **CARD**
 - **BANK BRANCH**
 - **USSD**
 - **INTERNET BANKING**
 - **WALLET**
 - Enter the candidate's bio-data and upload his/her passport size photograph
 - Print photo card.

For detailed information on how to register candidate(s) click "**Step by Step Guide**" on neco.gov.ng/ncee

NOTE:

- i. **Payment for the National Common Entrance Examination is done on the NECO portal, as outlined in (b) above.**
- ii. **Change of Name, Date of Birth and/or State of Origin will not be entertained after registering a candidate online.**
- iii. **Qualified candidates that chose oversubscribed Colleges are liable to be placed at any available alternative College, according to the carrying capacities of the Federal Unity Colleges.**

3. STRUCTURE OF THE EXAMINATION

The examination will consist of the following:

PAPER I

Part A – Mathematics and Basic Science and Technology
Part B – English and National Values Education

PAPER II

Part A – Quantitative and Vocational Aptitude
Part B – Verbal Aptitude

4. LIST OF FEDERAL UNITY COLLEGES

Candidates are to choose three (3) Federal Unity Colleges as First (1st), Second (2nd) and Third (3rd) choices. That is, one (1) school each from a geopolitical zone.

SOUTH EAST ZONE			SOUTH SOUTH ZONE			SOUTH WEST ZONE		
STATE	CODE	COLLEGE	STATE	CODE	COLLEGE	STATE	CODE	COLLEGE
ABIA	01	FGGC UMUAHIA (GIRLS ONLY) FGC OHAFIA (BOYS & GIRLS) FSTC OHANSO (BOYS & GIRLS)	AKWA-IBOM	03	FGC IKOT-EKPENE (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC IKOT-OBIO-ITONG (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC UYO (GIRLS ONLY)	LAGOS	20	KING'S COLLEGE LAGOS (BOYS ONLY) FGC LAGOS (BOYS & GIRLS) QUEEN'S COLLEGE LAGOS (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC YABA (BOYS & GIRLS)
ANAMBRA	04	FGC NISE (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC ONITSHA (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC AWKA (BOYS & GIRLS)	CROSS-RIVER	08	FGC IKOM (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC CALABAR (GIRLS ONLY)	OGUN	22	FGC ODOGBOLU (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC SHAGAMU (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC LJEBU MUSHIN (BOYS & GIRLS)
ENUGU	11	FGC ENUGU (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC LEJJA (GIRLS ONLY)	DELTA	09	FGC WARRI (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC IBUSA (GIRLS ONLY)	ONDO	23	FGC IDOANI (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC AKURE (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC IKARE-AKOKO (BOYS & GIRLS)
IMO	12	FGC OKIGWE (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC OWERRI (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC OGUTA (BOYS & GIRLS)	EDO	10	FGC IBILLO (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC BENIN (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC UROMI (BOYS & GIRLS)	OSUN	24	FGC IKIRUN (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC IPETUMODU (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC ILESA (BOYS & GIRLS)
EBONYI	33	FGC OKPOSI (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC EZZAMGBO (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC AMUZU (BOYS & GIRLS)	RIVERS	27	FGC PORT-HARCOURT (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC ABULOMA (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC AHOADA (BOYS & GIRLS)	OYO	25	FGC OGBOMOSO (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC OYO (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC IGANGAN (BOYS & GIRLS)
			BAYELSA	32	FGC ODI (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC IMIRINGI (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC TUNGBO (BOYS & GIRLS)	EKITI	34	FGC IKOLE-EKITI (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC EFON-ALAYE (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC USLEKITI (BOYS & GIRLS)
NORTH EAST ZONE			NORTH CENTRAL ZONE			NORTH WEST ZONE		
STATE	CODE	COLLEGE	STATE	CODE	COLLEGE	STATE	CODE	COLLEGE
ADAMAWA	02	FGC GANYE (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC YOLA (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC MICHKA (BOYS & GIRLS)	BENUE	06	FGC VANDEIKYA (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC GBOKO (GIRLS ONLY) FGC OTOBI (BOYS & GIRLS) FSTC OTUKPO (BOYS & GIRLS)	JIGAWA	13	FGC KIYAWA (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC KAZAURE (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC MALLAM MADORI-BIRNIWA (BOYS & GIRLS)
BAUCHI	05	FGC, AZARE (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC BAUCHI (GIRLS ONLY)	KOGI	18	FGC UGWOLAWO (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC KABBA (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC OGUGU (BOYS & GIRLS)	KADUNA	14	FGC KADUNA (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC ZARIA (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC KAFANCHAN (BOYS & GIRLS)
BORNO	07	FGC MAIDUGURI (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC MONGUNO (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC LASSA (BOYS & GIRLS)	KWARA	19	FGC ILORIN (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC OMU-ARAN (GIRLS ONLY)	KANO	15	FGC KANO (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC MIN-JIBIR (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC GANDUJE (BOYS & GIRLS)
TARABA	29	FGC WUKARI (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC JALINGO (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC JALINGO (BOYS & GIRLS)	NIGER	21	FGC MINNA (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC BIDA (GIRLS ONLY) FGC NEW-BUSSA (BOYS & GIRLS) FSTC SHIRORO (BOYS & GIRLS)	KATSINA	16	FGC DAURA (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC BAKORI (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC DAYI (BOYS & GIRLS)
YOBE	30	FGC BUNI-YADI (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC POTISKUM (GIRLS ONLY)	PLATEAU	26	FGC JOS (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC LANGTANG (GIRLS ONLY)	KEBBI	17	FGC BIRNIN-YAURI (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC GWANDU (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC ZURU (BOYS & GIRLS)
GOMBE	35	FGC BILIRI (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC BAJOGA (GIRLS ONLY)	FCT	31	FGC KWALI (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC BWARI (GIRLS ONLY) FGGC ABAJI (GIRLS ONLY) FGC GARKI (BOYS ONLY) FGC RUBOCHI (BOYS & GIRLS) FSTC OROZO (BOYS & GIRLS)	SOKOTO	28	FGC SOKOTO (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC TAMBUAL (GIRLS ONLY)
			NASARAWA	36	FGC KEFFI (BOYS & GIRLS) FGGC KEANA (GIRLS ONLY) FSTC DOMA (BOYS & GIRLS)	ZAMFARA	37	FGGC GUSAU (GIRLS ONLY) FGC ANKA (BOYS & GIRLS)

5. CLOSING DATE FOR REGISTRATION

The registration period is from **Monday 13th December, 2021 to Saturday 23rd April, 2022**. The website will be closed by 8:00am on **Saturday 23rd April, 2022**.

Signed:
Professor Dantani Ibrahim Wushishi
Registrar/Chief Executive

**FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTRE KATSINA**
MURTALA MUHAMMAD WAY, JIBIA BYPASS P.M.B 2121**INVITATION TO TENDER FOR 2022 CAPITAL PROJECTS****1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In compliance with the requirements of the Public Procurement Act 2007, the Federal Medical Centre Katsina hereby invites reputable companies/contractors with proven experience to undertake the under listed 2022 Capital Projects.

2. SCOPE OF WORKS/SUPPLY**2.1 GOODS:**

- Lot 1 Procurement and Installation of 500KVA Generator set.
- Lot 2 Procurement and Installation of 150KVA Generator set.
- Lot 3 Procurement and Installation of ICT Equipment.
- Lot 4 Procurement and Installation of Ophthalmic Equipment.
- Lot 5 Procurement and Installation of Hospital Equipment and supply of essential medicine in PHC Tafashiya, Kankia LGA.

2.2 WORKS:

- Lot 6 Construction of Staff Quarters, provision of alternative power source and furnishing of PHC Tafashiya, Kankia LGA.
- Lot 7 Construction of Psychiatry Complex.
- Lot 8 Construction of Dental Complex.
- Lot 9 Construction of Ophthalmology Complex.
- Lot 10 Construction of Public Health Department.
- Lot 11 Construction of New SCBU Complex.
- Lot 12 Renovation of PHC Daudawa.
- Lot 13 Rehabilitation of Surgical Wards
 - 13(a) Rehabilitation of Plastic Surgery Ward.
 - 13(b) Rehabilitation of Orthopedics Ward.
 - 13(c) Rehabilitation of Pediatric surgical Ward I.
 - 13(d) Rehabilitation of Pediatric surgical Ward II.
 - 13(e) Rehabilitation of Neuro surgical Ward.
- Lot 14 Rehabilitation of Amenity Wards
 - 14(a) Rehabilitation of Sarki Kabir Amenity Ward.
 - 14(b) Rehabilitation of Barau Mangal Amenity Ward.
 - 14(c) Rehabilitation of Maigoro Amenity Ward.
- Lot 15 Completion of wards, operation theater and wall fence in Kaura Namoda General Hospital Zamfara North Senatorial District.

3. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- i. Evidence of Certificate of Incorporation issued by the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) including Form CAC 1.1 or CAC2 and CAC7;
- ii. Evidence of Company's Income Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three (3) years valid till 31st December, 2022;
- iii. Evidence of Pension Clearance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2022 (this requirement is only applicable to bidders whose number of staff is 15 and above);
- iv. Evidence of Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Compliance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2022 (this requirement is only applicable to bidders whose number of staff is 5 and above or the bidder's annual turnover is N50m and above);
- v. Evidence of current Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) Clearance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2022;
- vi. Evidence of Registration on the National Database of Federal Contractors, Consultants and Service Providers by submission of Interim Registration Report (IRR) expiring on 31/12/2022 or valid Certificate issued by BPP;
- vii. Sworn affidavit disclosing whether or not any officer of the relevant committees of the Federal Medical Centre Katsina or the Bureau of Public Procurement is a former or present director, shareholder or has any pecuniary interest in the bidder and to confirm that all information presented in its bid are true and correct in all particulars;
- viii. Company's Audited Accounts for the last three years (2019, 2020, 2021);
- ix. Reference letter from a reputable commercial bank indicating willingness to provide credit facility for the execution of the project when needed;
- x. Company's Profile with the curriculum vitae of Key Staff to be deployed for the project, including copies of their academic/professional qualifications such as COREN, QSRBN, ARCON, CORBON, etc.;
- xi. Works: List of Plants/Equipment with proof of Ownership/Lease;
- xii. For procurement and supply of Medical and Health Equipment: the Equipment must conform to the approved policy for procurement of health and medical equipment/list of manufacturers and equipment for tertiary hospitals published by the BPP/FMOH/SON/NNRA, year 2017-2018 (2nd Revision);
- xiii. For Supply of Other Equipment: Letter of Authorisation as representative of the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs);
- xiv. Verifiable documentary evidence of at least three (3) similar jobs executed in the last five (5) years including letters of awards, valuation certificates, job completion certificates and photographs of the projects;
- xv. All documents for submission must be submitted with a covering/forwarding letter under the Company's letter headed paper bearing, amongst others, the registration number (RC) as issued by Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), Contact Address, Telephone Number (Preferably GSM No.) and e-mail address. The letter headed paper must bear the names and nationalities of the Directors of the company at the bottom of the page, duly signed by the authorized officer of the firm.

4. COLLECTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

Interested companies are to collect the **Standard Bidding Documents (SBD)** from the office of the **Head of Procurement, Federal Medical Centre, Katsina**, between the hours of **9am to 4pm daily (Monday to Friday)** upon payment of non-refundable tender fee of **Ten Thousand Naira Only (N10, 000.00) per Lot** into the Federal Medical Centre, Katsina's TSA in any reputable Commercial Bank in Nigeria.

5. SUBMISSION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

Prospective bidders are to submit two (2) hard copies each of the technical and financial bids with softcopy of the financial bid in MS Excel format, packaged separately in sealed envelopes and clearly marked as "Technical Bid" and "Financial Bid". Thereafter, the two sealed envelopes should be put together in a bigger sealed envelope addressed to the **Medical Director, Federal Medical Centre, Murtala Muhammed Way, P.M.B 2121, Katsina**. The sealed envelope should be marked with the name of the project and Lot number. The reverse side of each sealed envelope should bear the name and address of the bidder. The sealed envelope should be dropped in the designated tender box in the office of the Medical Director not later than **12:00 noon, Monday, 21st March 2022**.

6. OPENING OF TECHNICAL BIDS

Only the Technical bids will be opened immediately after the deadline for submission at **12:00 noon, Monday, 21st March 2022** in the conference hall of the **Federal Medical Centre, Katsina**. Prospective bidders should ensure they sign the bid submission register in the office of the **Medical Director, Federal Medical Centre, Katsina**. For further enquiries, please contact us on e-mail procurement@fmckatsina.gov.ng

Please note:

- a. Bids must be in English Language and signed by an official authorised by the bidder;
- b. Bids submitted after the deadline for submission would be returned unopened;
- c. Bidders should not bid for more than two (2) Lots;
- d. All costs will be borne by the bidders;
- e. Presence of bidders/representatives and members of the public shall not be required during the bid opening ceremony in compliance with COVID-19 Guidelines. The Bids Opening will be covered by video recording (invitation link will be sent to bidders to join the bid opening online) with the physical presence of two (2) representatives of private sector professional bodies and Civil Society Organisation in the areas of Anti-Corruption/Transparency;
- f. Bid documents can also be collected in soft copies and Bidders can submit through Post (Courier Services);
- g. Only pre-qualified bidders at technical evaluation will be invited at a later date for virtual financial bids opening, while the financial bids of un-successful bidders will be returned un-opened;
- h. The Federal Medical Centre, Katsina reserves the right to annul the procurement process at any time without incurring any liabilities in accordance with section 28 of the Public Procurement Act 2007.

SIGNED
HEAD OF PROCUREMENT
FOR: MEDICAL DIRECTOR

**USMANU DANFODIYO UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITAL, SOKOTO**
Private Mail Bag 2370, Sokoto**INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND TENDER FOR THE EXECUTION OF CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR THE 2022 APPROPRIATION****UDUTH 2022/ITFB****1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The Federal Government of Nigeria has allocated Funds to the Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital, (UDUTH) Sokoto in the 2022 Appropriation Act for the execution of Capital Projects towards achieving its mandates.

The Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital, Sokoto therefore wishes to invite reputable contractors with relevant proven competence and experience to submit Technical and Financial documents for the execution of the following projects:

2.0 SCOPE OF THE PROJECTS**INVITATION TO TENDER**

LOT NO.	DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY	LOCATION
Lot 1A	Supply, installation and Commissioning of Medical Equipment for Medical and Surgical Sub -Specialties in UDTH Sokoto (ENT and Radiology)	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 1B	Supply, installation and Commissioning of Medical Equipment for Medical and Surgical Sub -Specialties in UDUTH Sokoto (SCBU, Labour Room and Dialysis)	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 2	Rehabilitation and Replacement of Breakers and Power Supply System Network	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 3	Equipping and Furnishing of Trauma Centre	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 4	Completion of Improvement of Water Supply System	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 5	Furnishing, Equipping, Landscaping and Construction of Drainages for the Brachytherapy Area	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 6	Designing, Construction and Equipping of Eye Centre	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 7	Renovation, Equipping and Furnishing of Wards (Orthopaedics, SOPD and Urology Wards)	UDUTH Sokoto
Lot 8	Construction and Furnishing of House Officers Quarters	UDUTH Sokoto

3.0 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Prospective bidders must possess the under-listed minimum requirements to be eligible to participate in this procurement:

- i. Evidence of Certificate of Incorporation with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) including Form CAC 1.1 or CAC2 and CAC7;
- ii. Evidence of Company's Income Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three (3) years (2018, 2019 & 2020) valid till 31st December 2022 with Minimum Average Annual Turnover of N100 million.
- iii. Evidence of Pension Clearance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2022 (this requirement is only applicable to bidders whose number of staff is 15 and above);
- iv. Evidence of Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Compliance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2022 (this requirement is only applicable to bidders whose number of staff is 5 and above or the bidder's annual turnover is N50m and above).
- v. Evidence of current Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) Clearance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2022.
- vi. Evidence of Registration on the National Database of Federal Contractors, Consultants and Service Providers by submission of Interim Registration Report (IRR) expiring on 31st December, 2022 or valid Certificate issued by the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP);
- vii. Sworn Affidavit disclosing whether or not any officer of the relevant committees of the Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital, Sokoto or the Bureau of Public Procurement is a former or present Director, shareholder or has any pecuniary interest in the bidder and to confirm that all information presented in its bid are true and correct in all particulars.
- viii. Company's Audited Accounts for the last three (3) years (2019, 2020 and 2021).
- ix. Reference Letter from a reputable commercial bank in Nigeria, indicating willingness to provide credit facility for the execution of the project when needed;
- x. Company's Profile with the Curriculum Vitae of Key Staff to be deployed for the project, including copies of their Academic/Professional qualifications;
- xi. Verifiable documentary evidence at least three (3) similar jobs executed in the last five (5) years including Letters of Awards, Valuation Certificates, Job Completion Certificates and Photographs of the projects;
- xii. For Procurement and Installation of Medical Equipment, bidders must submit evidence of Manufacturer Authorization as required in line with Approved Policy for Procurement of Health and Medical Equipment/List of Manufacturers and Equipment for Tertiary Hospital;
- xiii. List of Plants/Equipment with proof of Ownership/Lease;
- xiv. All documents for submission must be transmitted with a Covering/Forwarding letter under the Company/Firm's Letter Head Paper bearing amongst others, the Registration Number (RC) as issued by the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), Contact Address, Telephone Number (preferably GSM No.) and e-mail address. The Letterhead Paper must bear the Names and Nationalities of the Directors of the Company at the bottom of the page, duly signed by the authorized officer of the firm.

4.0 COLLECTION OF BID DOCUMENTS

Interested and competent bidders are requested to collect Standard Bidding Document (SBD) from the Office of the Deputy Director Procurement, Administration Block, Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital, Sokoto upon presentation of evidence of payment of non-refundable tender fee of **N10,000.00** per Lot, paid into the UDUTH's remita account in any reputable commercial bank in Nigeria.

5.0 SUBMISSION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

Prospective bidders are to submit bid for each of the Lot desired, two (2) hard copies each of the Technical and Financial bids with softcopy of financial bid only in MS Excel format, packaged separately in sealed envelopes and clearly marked as "Technical Bid" or "Financial Bid". Thereafter, put the two sealed envelopes together in a bigger sealed envelope addressed to:

**The Chief Medical Director,
Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital,
No. 1 Garba Nadama Road, Gawon Nama Area,
P. M. B. 2370, Sokoto.**

The completed and sealed bid documents should contain the bidder's name on the reverse side of the envelope and be deposited in Tender Box in the Office of the Deputy Director Procurement, Administration Block, Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital, Sokoto between the hours of 8.00 am-4.00 pm Monday to Friday not later than **12:00 noon on Monday, 7th March 2022**.

6.0 OPENING OF TECHNICAL BIDS

Only the submitted Technical bids will be opened immediately after the deadline for submission at **12:00 noon on Monday, 7th March 2022** in the Board Room, Administrative Block, UDUTH, Sokoto. Please, ensure that you sign the Bid Submission Register in the office of the Deputy Director Procurement, Administration Block, as the Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital Sokoto will not be held liable for misplaced or wrongly submitted bids. For further inquiries, please contact the Deputy Director Procurement on e-mail: info@uduth.org.ng.

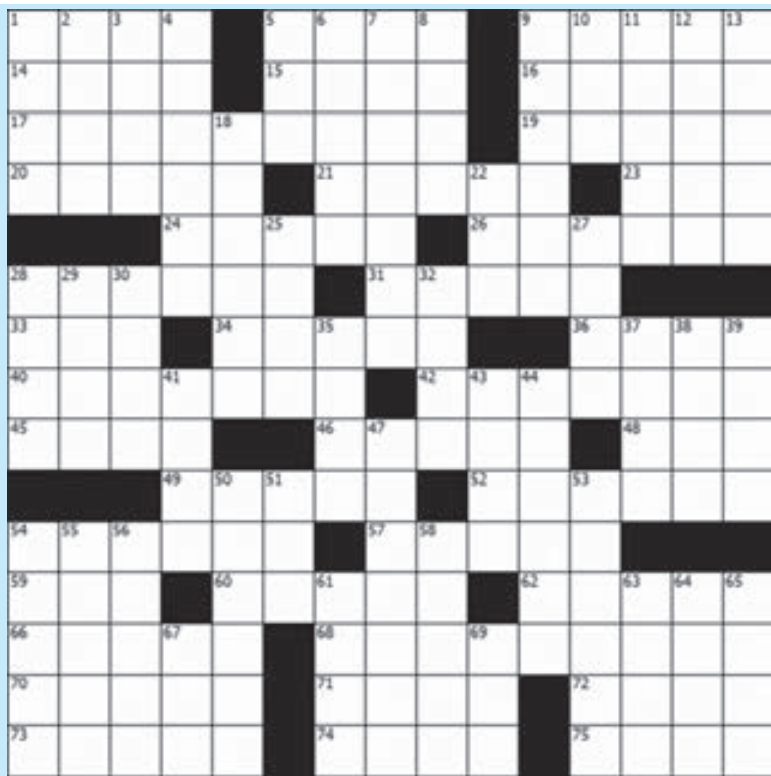
6.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

- a. Bids must be in English Language and signed by an official authorised by the bidder.
- b. Bids submitted after the deadline for submission would be returned un-opened.
- c. Bidders should not bid for more than two (2) Lots.
- d. All costs will be borne by the bidders;
- e. Presence of bidders/representatives and members of the public shall not be required during the bid opening ceremony in compliance with COVID-19 Guidelines. The Bids Opening will be covered by video recording (invitation link will be sent to bidders to join the bid opening online) with the physical presence of two (2) representatives of private sector professional bodies and Civil Society Organisation in the areas of Anti-Corruption/Transparency;
- f. Bid documents can also be collected in soft copies and Bidders can submit through Post (Courier Services);
- g. Only pre-qualified bidders at technical evaluation will be invited at a later date for virtual financial bids opening, while the financial bids of un-successful bidders will be returned un-opened.
- h. The Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital, Sokoto is not bound to pre-qualify any bidder and reserves the right to annul the Procurement process at any time without incurring any liabilities in accordance with Section 28 of the Public Procurement Act 2007.

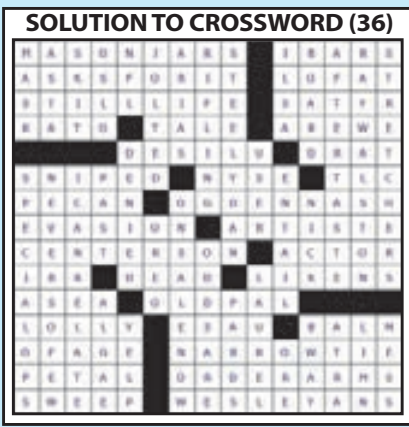
Signed
Deputy Director (Procurement)
For: CHIEF MEDICAL DIRECTOR

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EASY CROSSWORD >>



- Across**
- 1. Tablets
 - 5. And
 - 9. Punctuation mark
 - 14. Pennsylvania port
 - 15. Horse strap
 - 16. Laker Shaquille ____
 - 17. Apologetic
 - 19. Valentine symbol
 - 20. A sense
 - 21. Range
 - 23. Gift for Dad
 - 24. Undue speed
 - 26. Pencil end
 - 28. ____ Einstein
 - 31. Drive back
 - 33. Soccer's ____ Hamm
 - 34. Avid
 - 36. Caribous' kin
 - 40. Trade prohibition
 - 42. Vulgar
 - 45. Lack
 - 46. Plus
 - 48. Very small
 - 49. Gladden
 - 52. Bookworm
 - 54. Teeter-totter
 - 57. Wrath
 - 59. Building extension
 - 60. Sloppy
 - 62. Flower feature
 - 66. Remain
 - 68. Turning point
- Down**
- 1. Jaunty
 - 2. Range
 - 3. Brief swims
 - 4. Boil
 - 5. Gallery exhibit
 - 6. Minimum
 - 7. Genuine
 - 8. Informed of
 - 9. Stick together
 - 10. Uno
 - 11. Vegetarians' taboos
 - 12. Singer ____ Osmond
 - 13. Modify
 - 18. More adjacent
 - 22. Enthusiasm
 - 25. Buck
 - 27. A Baldwin brother
 - 28. Prayer response
 - 29. Shade of green
 - 30. Infant
 - 32. Greek mythology figure
 - 35. Billy ____
 - 37. Indecent
 - 38. Leg joint
 - 39. Clairvoyant person
 - 41. Fruit beverages
 - 43. Ice mass
 - 44. Soaks
 - 47. Beach
 - 50. Most feeble
 - 51. Amaze
 - 53. Singer ____ Franklin
 - 54. Penn and Connerly
 - 55. Macaroni shape
 - 56. Upper crust
 - 58. Hosiery material
 - 61. Pollution problem
 - 63. Implement
 - 64. "The Diary of ____ Frank"
 - 65. Table parts
 - 67. Billy ____ Williams
 - 69. Before, to Shakespeare



SUDOKU >>

How to play: The number 1 through 9 will appear once only in each row, column, and 3 x 3 zone. There are 9 such zones in each sudoku grid. There is only one correct Solution to each sudoku.

Good luck!

37

Solution to Sudoku 36

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

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

SNAPSHOT >>

Man with record-breaking 864 insect tattoos: 'I hate bugs'



A New York man who earned a Guinness World Record by getting 864 tattoos of insects on his body revealed an unexpected fact about himself: "I hate bugs." Michael Amoia was confirmed by Guinness World Records as earning the record for most insects tattooed on the body when his tattoos were officially tallied at 864. Amoia took the record from British man Baxter Milsom, who has 402 insects tattooed on his body. Amoia, whose tattoos began with a red ant queen inked on his forearm when he was 21 years old, said people often wrongly assume that he loves insects. "A lot of people think I like bugs - actually it's the complete opposite. I'm afraid of bugs, I hate bugs. But it has multiple meanings, that's why I put them all over my body," Amoia told Guinness. "It's some dark meaning, but more of a positive message."

- upi.com

SIGN LANGUAGE >>

Funny signs and notices



DAILY TRUST

NEW ADVERT RATES

EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2022

Account Name:



Bank: GTBank Plc
Account No: 0024570856
Sort Code: 058083231

Bank: Stanbic IBTC Plc
Account No: 0000913253
Sort Code: 221081552

Bank: First Bank Plc
Account No: 2002911690
Sort Code: 011084060

Bank: UBA Plc
Account No: 1007117397
Sort Code: 033080013

Bank: Unity Bank Plc
Account No: 0000617068
Sort Code: 215082101

SPACE	COLOUR			BLACK AND WHITE		
	RATE	VAT	TOTAL	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
FULL PAGE	658,627.20	49,397.04	708,024.24	539,055.00	40,429.13	579,484.13
HALF PAGE	414,950.00	31,121.25	446,071.25	338,625.00	25,396.88	364,021.88
QUARTER. PAGE	274,450.00	20,583.75	295,033.75	157,874.06	11,840.55	169,714.61
10"X6 COL	607,200.00	45,540.00	652,740.00	408,342.00	30,625.65	438,967.65
10"X5 COL	556,600.00	41,745.00	598,345.00	374,313.51	28,073.51	402,387.02
10"X4 COL	404,800.00	30,360.00	435,160.00	272,228.00	20,417.10	292,645.10
10"X3 COL	303,600.00	22,770.00	326,370.00	204,171.00	15,312.83	219,483.83
9"X6 COL	546,480.00	40,986.00	587,466.00	367,507.80	27,563.09	395,070.89
9"X5 COL	455,400.00	34,155.00	489,555.00	306,256.50	22,969.24	329,225.74
9"X4 COL	364,320.00	27,324.00	391,644.00	245,005.20	18,375.39	263,380.59
9"X3 COL	273,240.00	20,493.00	293,733.00	183,753.90	13,781.54	197,535.45
8"X6 COL	485,760.00	36,432.00	522,192.00	326,673.60	24,500.52	351,174.12
8"X5 COL	404,800.00	30,360.00	435,160.00	272,228.00	20,417.10	292,645.10
8"X4 COL	323,840.00	24,288.00	348,128.00	217,782.40	16,333.68	234,116.08
8"X3 COL	242,880.00	18,216.00	261,096.00	163,336.80	12,250.26	175,587.06
7"X6 COL	425,040.00	31,878.00	456,918.00	285,839.40	21,437.96	307,277.36
7"X5 COL	354,200.00	26,565.00	380,765.00	238,199.50	17,864.96	256,064.47
7"X4 COL	283,360.00	21,252.00	304,612.00	190,559.60	14,291.97	204,851.57
6"X6 COL	364,320.00	27,324.00	391,644.00	245,005.20	18,375.39	263,380.59
6"X5 COL	303,600.00	22,770.00	326,370.00	204,171.00	15,312.83	219,483.83
6"X4 COL	242,880.00	16,073.14	230,381.71	163,336.80	12,250.26	175,587.06
6"X3 COL	182,160.00	13,662.00	195,822.00	122,502.60	9,187.70	131,690.30
6"X2 COL	121,440.00	9,108.00	130,548.00	81,668.40	6,125.13	87,793.53
5"X5 COL	253,000.00	18,975.00	271,975.00	170,142.50	12,760.69	182,903.19
5"X4 COL	202,400.00	15,180.00	217,580.00	136,114.00	10,208.55	146,322.55
5"X3 COL	151,800.00	11,385.00	163,185.00	102,085.50	7,656.41	109,741.91
5"X2 COL	101,200.00	7,590.00	108,790.00	68,057.00	5,104.28	73,161.28
4"X6 COL	242,880.00	18,216.00	261,096.00	163,336.80	12,250.26	175,587.06
4"X5 COL	202,400.00	15,180.00	217,580.00	136,114.00	10,208.55	146,322.55
4"X4 COL	161,920.00	12,144.00	174,064.00	108,891.20	8,166.84	117,058.04
4"X3 COL	121,440.00	9,108.00	130,548.00	81,668.40	6,125.13	87,793.53
4"X2 COL	80,960.00	6,072.00	87,032.00	54,445.60	4,083.42	58,529.02
3"X3 COL	91,080.00	6,831.00	97,911.00	61,251.30	4,593.85	65,845.15
3"X2 COL	60,720.00	4,554.00	65,274.00	40,834.20	3,062.57	43,896.77
2"X2 COL	40,480.00	3,036.00	43,516.00	27,222.80	2,041.71	29,264.51
1"X1 COL	10,120.00	759.00	10,879.00	6,805.70	510.43	7,316.13

POLITICAL RATE

SPACE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
Front Page Earpiece	769,371.43	57,702.86	827,074.29
FRONT PAGE STRIP	1,312,457.15	98,434.29	1,410,891.44
BACK PAGE EARPIECE	701,482.57	52,611.19	754,093.76
FULL PAGE (COLOUR)	776,612.57	58,245.94	834,858.51
FULL PAGE (BLACK AND WH)	606,728.57	45,504.64	652,233.21
HALF PAGE COLOUR	505,476.19	37,910.71	543,386.90
HALF PAGE BLACK AND WHIT	412,500.00	30,937.50	443,437.50
QTR PAGE COLOUR	339,795.24	25,484.64	365,279.88
QTR PAGE BLACK AND WHIT	186,154.57	13,961.59	200,116.16

Terms of Advert Placement:

- 1) All adverts are expected to be prepaid in cash or draft in favour of Media Trust Limited
- 2) Series discount is subject to the stipulated number of insertions, and it is payable ONLY at the end of a campaign (to be deducted from balance pay).
- 3) Copy date is two days for the North and three days for the South.
- 4) Cancellation of advert placement in less than 24 hours to publication date will attract 50% surcharge.
- 5) Advertisers/Agencies are to supply their camera ready artworks in electronic copies and in (PDF 1x) format
- 6) Advertisers will be surcharged 20% of the applicable rate where artworks are not provided
- 7) Adverts may not be published if the visuals given are considered too poor as to affect the reproduction.
- 8) Alterations to original order should be conveyed in writing at least 24 hours to desired alteration date.
- 9) The management of Media Trust Limited reserves the right to reject an advert or any publication in any of its titles where such materials are considered distasteful for public exposure or libelous.

SPECIAL POSITIONS

SPACE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
FULL WRAP AROUND	13,953,488.37	1,046,511.63	15,000,000
HALF WRAP AROUND	9,302,325.58	697,674.42	10,000,000
CENTRE SPREAD (COLOUR)	1,759,599.05	131,969.93	1,891,568.98
DOUBLE SPREAD (COLOUR)	1,500,520.00	112,539.00	1,613,059.00
CENTRE SPREAD (BLACK & WHITE)	1,300,000.00	97,500.00	1,397,500.00
DOUBLE SPREAD BLACK & WHITE	1,200,000.00	90,000.00	1,290,000.00
FRONT PAGE STRIP	795,428.57	59,657.14	855,085.71
FRONT PAGE SOLUS	658,285.71	49,371.43	707,657.14
BACK PAGE STRIP	548,571.43	41,142.86	589,714.29
FRONT PAGE EAR PIECE	466,285.71	34,971.43	501,257.14
BACK PAGE EARPIECE	425,140.95	31,885.57	457,026.52
ROP STRIP (COLOUR)	228,095.24	17,107.14	245,202.38
ROP STRIP (B & W)	186,623.81	13,996.79	200,620.60

PROPERTY & IT (MONDAYS), VACANCY (TUESDAY), AGRIC (THURSDAY) AND EVENTS/EDUCATION DAILY

SPACE	COLOUR			BLACK AND WHITE		
	RATE	VAT	TOTAL	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
7X3	180,952.38	13,571.43	194,523.81	104,761.90	7,857.14	112,619.05
6X3	171,428.57	12,857.14	184,285.71	95,238.10	7,142.86	102,380.95
6X2	75,714.29	5,678.57	81,392.86	53,809.52	4,035.71	57,845.24
5X3	89,047.62	6,678.57	95,726.19	62,380.95	4,678.57	67,059.52
5X2	70,952.38	5,321.43	76,273.81	41,428.57	3,107.14	44,535.71
4X3	79,523.81	5,964.29	85,488.10	50,952.38	3,821.43	54,773.81
4X2	55,238.10	4,142.86	59,380.95	36,190.48	2,714.29	38,904.76
3X3	57,619.05	4,321.43	61,940.48	38,571.43	2,892.86	41,464.29
3X2	38,095.24	2,857.14	40,952.38	23,809.52	1,785.71	25,595.24
2X2	26,666.67	2,000.00	28,666.67	15,238.10	1,142.86	16,380.95
2X1	12,857.14	964.29	13,821.43	7,619.05	571.43	8,190.48

TECHNICAL DATA

6 Columns			
Depth	- 36.83 (cm)	Depth	- 13.5 (inches)
Width	- 25.4 (cm)	Width	- 10 (inches)

LOOSE INSERTS	RATE (N)	VAT (N)	TOTAL (N)
Handling for the First 40,000 copies	142,000.00	10,650.00	152,650.00
Per 1000 copies (1 Sheet)	36,000.00	2,700.00	38,700.00
Per 1000 copies (Magazines 4-8 pgs)	60,000.00	4,500.00	64,500.00
Per 1000 copies (Magazines 8-16 pgs)	85,000.00	6,375.00	91,375.00

TRUST CLASSIFIEDS

POSITION	SIZE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
Registration of Trustees	3" x 2 cols	14,761.90	1,107.08	15,868.98
Loss of Documents	2" x 2 cols	9,000.00	675.00	9,675.00
Change of Name	Per Box	3,000.00	-	3,000.00

Advert Hotlines: 0810 049 1948, 0703 513 4441

Advert e-mail: dailytrustadvent@gmail.com



PLATEAU STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA
PLATEAU STATE POTATO VALUE CHAIN SUPPORT PROJECT (AfDB Assisted)
IFB NO.: PL/PVCSP/ADB/NCB/GDS/001/2021
Loan No.: 21001150037297

INVITATION FOR BIDS

1. This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice for this project which appeared in the United Nations Development Business (UNDB) online Reference No.: AfDB 75-0/18 of 26th January, 2018 and on the African Development Bank Group's Internet Website (www.afdb.org) and The Nation News Paper of 2nd February 2018 and The Nigeria Standard News Paper of 4th February 2018.
2. The Government of the Plateau State has received financing from the African Development Bank toward the cost of the Plateau State Potato Value Chain Support Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for this loan to payments under the contract for which this invitation for bids is issued.
3. The Plateau State Potato Value Chain Support Project now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Procurement and Installation of Processing Equipment for 3No Processing Centres in Plateau State as indicated below:

Package 1

Reference No.:	Description of Contract	Locations	Delivery Period	Bid Security required (₦)
PL/PVCSP/ADB/NCB/GDS/001/2022/ Pkg1	Procurement and installation of Processing equipment for 3nos. Processing Centres	Barkin Ladi, Bokkos and Mangu Processing Centres	90 Days	1,000,000.00

4. Bidding will be conducted in Accordance with National Competitive Bidding (NCB) Procedure specified in the African Development Bank's (AfDB) October 2015 Procurement Policy framework as may be amended from time to time which is available on the Bank's Website at <http://www.afdb.org/en/projects-and-perations/procurement/resources-for-borrowers/policies-procedures/> and is opened to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the rules and procedures.
5. Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents at the address below from 0900 to 1500hrs Mondays to Fridays.
6. Complete set of the Bidding Document may be purchased at the office address below upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Forty Thousand Naira (N40,000.00) only**. The method of payment shall be by Bank Draft or direct transfer only in favour of

Name of Account: Plateau State Potato Value Chain Support Project

Name of Bank: Access Bank

Account No.: 0726409813

Account Currency: NGN

7. Bids should be delivered in a sealed envelope to the address below on or before **8th March, 2022 at 12:00noon Local Time**. Bids must be accompanied with bid security in form of Bank guarantee in the required amount indicated in the table above. Late bids will be rejected. The Bid envelope must be marked on the top right- hand corner with appropriate Package and Lot numbers.
8. Bids shall remain valid for **Ninety (90)** days after the deadline for bid submission prescribed above.
9. Bids will be opened in the Conference room at the office address below in the presence of bidders representatives who chose to attend on **8th March, 2022 at 12:30pm Local time at the Conference Hall of PADP Dogon Dutse, Jos**.
10. The address referred to above is:
Plateau State Potato Value Chain Support Project
C/O Plateau State Agricultural Development Programme,
P.M.B 2119 Dogon Dutse, Jos Plateau State
Tel: +2348036187940
E-mail: plateaustatepotato@gmail.com



**FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
HYDROCARBON POLLUTION REMEDIATION PROJECT (HYPREP)
NO. 8 KEN SARO-WIWA ROAD, PORT HARCOURT, RIVERS STATE, NIGERIA.
PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF CENTRE OF
EXCELLENCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION (CoEER) AND INTEGRATED
CONTAMINATED SOIL MANAGEMENT CENTER (ICSMC) IN OGONILAND**

1. BACKGROUND

In line with its mandates to implement various recommendations of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Report on Environmental Assessment of Ogoniland, the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) of the Federal Ministry of Environment has made adequate provision in its 2022 Budget to construct a Centre of Excellence for Environmental Remediation (CoEER) including Integrated Contaminated Soil Management Center (ICSMC) at Wiyakara in Khana LGA of Ogoniland.

2. SCOPE OF WORKS

The scope of the works includes Construction of Administrative Block, Classroom Buildings, Lecture Theater, Laboratory Block and other Buildings at the Centre.

3. PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Interested competent Companies are required to submit the underlisted documents to demonstrate their technical capacities to undertake the construction of such magnitude:

i. **Company Data:**

- Company name
- Business address (not P.O. Box)
- Name and phone number (must be capable of receiving text messages) of primary contact person
- Email address

ii. Evidence of incorporation with ownership/share allotment details and names/nationality of Directors.

iii. Evidence of current Income Tax Clearance Certificate.

iv. Evidence of current PENCOM Compliance Certificate.

v. Evidence of current Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Compliance Certificate.

vi. Evidence of current Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) Compliant Certificate.

vii. Evidence of Registration on the National Database of Federal Contractors by submission of Interim Registration Report (IRR) not expiring before 31st December 2021 or valid certificate issued by BPP

viii. Affidavit disclosing whether or not any officer of the relevant Committees of Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project or the Bureau of Public Procurement is a former or present Director, Shareholder or has any pecuniary interest in the company attesting that the company is not in receivership or that none of the Directors is bankrupt, or has been convicted of any criminal Offence; and that all information presented in the bids are authentic.

ix. Company's audited accounts for the last three years (2018, 2019 & 2020), with minimum average annual turnover of **NGN 1 Billion**.

x. Evidence of at least 2 Similar Works executed in the Last 5 Years, in terms of scope and complexity with letters of Awards, Valuation/completion certificates, project photographs, full client contact information (name, e-mail & phone).

xi. Evidence of ownership of relevant equipment or lease.

xii. Reference letter from a reputable commercial bank indicating willingness to provide credit facility for the execution of the project.

xiii. Company's profile with complete curriculum vitae of key professional staff to be deployed on the project, detailing their experience and expertise relevant to the assignment, current contact information (telephone and email address) including copies of academic qualifications, professional registration certificates and current practice licenses (as applicable).

xiv.

4. PREPARATION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS

Bidders are required to prepare two (2) hard copies and One (1) soft copy of the Pre-Qualification Document, with the required information arranged in the order in which they appear in Section 3 above, with dividers to separate each set of documents, and each sheet duly signed by an authorized representative of the Company and paginated.

Completed Documents are to be enclosed and sealed in a plain Envelope marked 'Pre-qualification for Construction of CoEER and ISMC in Ogoniland', and name of the company, joint venture or consortium written on the reverse side, and addressed to:

The Project Coordinator,
Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project Louis House,
No. 8, Ken Saro wiwa Road, Port Harcourt,
Rivers State.

All submissions must be in the English language and signed by an Official authorized by the company.

5. SUBMISSION OF BID DOCUMENTS

Completed documents are to be delivered by hand or registered post and deposited at the designated tender box at the Conference Room, Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project, 8 Ken Saro Wiwa Road (Formerly Stadium Road), Port Harcourt, Rivers State, not later than **12:00 noon of Wednesday 9th March 2022**.

Bidders should ensure that they sign the Bid Submission Register as HYPREP will not be held liable for misplaced or inappropriate submission.

All documents for submission are to be transmitted with a covering/forwarding letter on the Company headed paper bearing among others, the registration number (RC) as issued by the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) contact address, telephone number (preferably GSM) and email address. The headed paper should bear the names and nationality of the Directors of the company at the bottom page and be duly signed by the chief executive or any other authorized Officer of the Company.

6. CLARIFICATION & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Bidders requiring clarification and/or additional information on any issue contained in this advertisement or on any matter regarding the preparation and submission of Prequalification documents, may direct such to the Project Coordinator (Attention: Head of Procurement), Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project, through; Phone Number: +2348050879408, Email: procurement@hyprep.org, hyprep.procurement@hyprep.gov.ng.

Every request should however be in writing, and delivered by hand, registered post or email no later than 7 days before the close of bids on Wednesday 9th March 2022.

7. OPENING OF BIDS



Bids will be opened immediately after the submission deadline at **12:00 noon on Wednesday 9th March 2022** at the Conference Room of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project, 8 Ken Saro-Wiwa Road (Formerly Stadium Road) Port Harcourt, Rivers State, in the presence of Bidders or their representatives and Independent Observers.

8. NOTE:

- HYPREP will not be liable for any failure or disqualification arising from the provision of incorrect or illegible information/documents;
- Documents submitted after the deadline for submission will be returned unopened;
- All costs for the preparation and submission of document will be borne by Bidders;
- Prequalified bidders will be contacted later and issued instructions for collection of financial bids.
- HYPREP reserves the right to annul the procurement process at any time without incurring any liability in accordance with section 28 of the Public Procurement Act 2007;
- HYPREP shall verify any or all documents and claims made by Bidders and shall disqualify any Bidder whose claims are found to be false;
- This advertisement shall not be construed to be commitment on the part of HYPREP to award the contract to any Bidder, nor shall it entitle any Bidder to make any claim of indemnity from HYPREP.

All clarifications and additional information sought by bidders will be posted on HYPREP website www.hyprep.gov.ng along with the responses.

Signed: **Project Coordinator,
Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP),
Port Harcourt, Nigeria**

OBAFEMI AWOLOWO UNIVERSITY, ILE-IFE
SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE
FOR DEVELOPMENT IMPACT (ACE IMPACT) PROJECT
CREDIT IDA No. 6510-NG
ICT-DRIVEN KNOWLEDGE PARK (OAK-Park)

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife through the World Bank supported Africa Centres of Excellence for Development Impact received a grant towards implementation of the Africa Centre of Excellence: ICT-Driven Knowledge Park Development Impact Project, and intends to apply part of the grant for payment under the contract for the procurement of consultancy services.

1.2 Qualified, competent and reputable consulting firms (Architectural, Quantity Surveying, Civil/Structural Engineering and Mechanical & Electrical Engineering) are hereby invited to submit Expression of Interest for the following services.

2. SCOPE OF SERVICES

Package No.	Consultancy Description
OAU/ACEIMPACT/CS/1/21	Project design, contract documentation and supervision for the proposed Design Studio

3. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Interested firms should submit two (2) bound EOI documents duly signed, paginated, separated by dividers and arranged in the order outlined hereunder:

- Evidence of Certificate of Incorporation issued by Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) including Form CAC1.1 of CAC2 and CAC7. Business Name is also acceptable;
- Evidence of Firm's Tax Clearance Certificate (or Personal Income Tax Clearance Certificate of all the Partners in case of Business name) for the last three (3) years (2019, 2020 & 2021) valid till 31st December, 2022 (with a minimum average annual turnover in the last three years of N7.5 million for each firm);
- Evidence of current Pension Clearance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2022;
- Evidence of current Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Compliance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2022;
- Evidence of current Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) Clearance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2022;
- Evidence of Registration on the National Database of Federal Contractors, Consultants and Service Providers by submission of Interim Registration Report (IRR) expiring on 31/12/2022 or valid Certificate issued by BPP.
- Evidence of firm's registration with relevant professional body such as COREN, QSRBN, ARCON, CORCON, SURCON etc;
- Sworn Affidavit:
 - disclosing whether or not any officer of the relevant committees of the Obafemi Awolowo University or the Bureau of Public Procurement is a former or present Director, shareholder or has any pecuniary interest in the bidder, and to confirm that all information presented in its bid are true and correct in all particulars;
 - that the company is not bankrupt, in receivership or under liquidation or involved in any litigation which can potentially affect the company's ability to effectively discharge their responsibility if engaged;
 - no Company's Director has been convicted of procurement fraud in any country;
- Company's Audited Accounts for the last three (3) years - 2019, 2020 & 2021;
- Evidence of financial capability to execute the project by submission of Reference letter from a reputable commercial bank in Nigeria, indicating willingness to provide credit facility for the execution of the project when needed;
- Company's Profile with the Curriculum Vitae of Key Staff to be deployed for the project, including copies of their Academic/Professional qualifications such as COREN, OSRBN, ARCON, CORCON etc;
- Verifiable documentary evidence of at least three (3) similar jobs executed in the last five (5) years including Letters of Awards, Valuation Certificates and Photographs of the projects;
- For joint Venture/Partnership, Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) should be provided (CAC, Tax Clearance Certificate, Pension Clearance Certificate, IRR & Sworn Affidavit are compulsory for each JV partner);
- All documents for submission must be transmitted with a Covering/Forwarding letter under the Company/Firm's Letter Head Paper bearing amongst others, the Registration Number (RC) as issued by the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), Contact Address, Telephone Number (preferably GSM No.), and e-mail address. The Letterhead Paper must bear the Names and Nationalities of the Directors of the Company at the bottom of the page, duly signed by the authorised officer of the firm.

4. SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) DOCUMENTS

Interested firm are to submit two (2) bound copies of Expression of Interest documents separated by dividers and arranged as indicated above. The documents should be submitted in a sealed envelope and addressed to **The Centre Leader, Africa Centre of Excellence Development Impact, Telepresence Ante-Room, ICT Centre, Adjacent to the Computer Centre, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife** and clearly marked with the name of the project and package number. Furthermore, the reverse of each sealed envelope should have the name and address of the Firm and drop in the designated Tender Box at the **Telepresence Ante-Room, ICT Centre** not later than **12.00 noon on Tuesday, 22nd March, 2022**.

5. OPENING OF EOI DOCUMENTS

The expression of interest documents will be opened immediately after the deadline for submission at **12.00 noon on Tuesday, 22nd March, 2022**, in Room 05, Floor 'O', Secretariat Building, Obafemi Awolowo University. Please ensure that you sign the EOI Submission Register in the Centre Leader's Office at the Telepresence Ante-Room, ICT Centre, Adjacent to The Computer Centre, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, as the Africa Centre of Excellence, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife will not be held liable for misplaced or wrongly submitted documents. For further enquiries, please contact the Centre Leader on gaderoun@oauife.edu.ng.

6. GENERAL INFORMATION

- EOI must be in English Language and signed by an official authorised by the bidder;
- EOI submitted after the dead line for submission would be returned un-opened;
- All costs will be borne by the bidders;
- Presence of bidders/representatives and members of the public shall not be required during the bid opening ceremony in compliance with COVID-19 Guidelines. The Bids Opening will be covered by video recording with the presence of two (2) representatives of private sector professional bodies and Civil Society Organisation in the areas of Anti-Corruption/Transparency;
- Bidders can submit through Post (Courier Services);
- The Africa Centre of Excellence, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife is not bound to short list any bidder and reserves the right to annul the procurement process at any time without incurring any liabilities in accordance with Section 28 of the Public Procurement Act, 2007.

Signed

The Centre Leader,
Africa Centre of Excellence Impact Project,
Tel: +234 8035177940
E-mail: gaderoun@oauife.edu.ng, gaderoun@yahoo.com



Federal School of Medical Laboratory Technology (Science)
P.M.B 2253, Jos, Nigeria
Provost/CEO: DR. SUNDAY N. ETUKUDOH, FWAPCMLS
Telephone: | E-mail: fedmedlabtech@yahoo.com | Website: www.fedmedlabtech.com.ng | Location: Jos University Teaching Hospital

INVITATION FOR TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL BIDS & EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR YEAR 2022

1. INTRODUCTION

The Federal School of Medical Laboratory Technology (Science), Jos intends to undertake the procurement of various goods and services under the 2022 Capital Budgets. In compliance with the Public Procurement Act, 2007, the School invites interested and reputable Contractors with relevant experiences and good track records to submit documents necessary for consideration for the execution of projects under the 2022 Capital Budget:

2. SCOPE OF WORK/SUPPLY

LOT NUMBER	Project Name
FSM/T/2022/L1.1	PROVISION OF INDOOR SEATER ULTRA MODERN MULTIPURPOSE AUDITORIUM/EQUIPPING OF LECTURE HALLS
FSM/T/2022/L1.2	MODERN UPDATING CLASSROOMS WITH VIRTUAL TECHNOLOGY
FSM/T/2022/L1.3	EQUIPPING (UPDATING) OF GENERAL MEDICAL MULTIPURPOSE MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTIC/RESEARCH/REFERENCE CENTRE, REAGENTS/CHEMICALS
FSM/T/2022/L1.4	PARTIAL COMPLETION OF NEW ADMINISTRATIVE BLOCS TO SERVE AS OFFICES FOR NON-ACADEMIC STAFF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES AT PERMANENT SITE, LAMINGO, JOS
FSM/T/2022/L1.5	PARTIAL COMPLETION OF NEW ADMINISTRATIVE BLOCS TO SERVE AS OFFICES FOR ACADEMIC STAFF AT PERMANENT SITE, LAMINGO, JOS
FSM/T/2022/L1.6	PROVISION OF INFRASTRUCTURE/REHABILITATION OF MALE AND FEMALE STUDENTS' HOSTELS AT PERMANENT SITE, LAMINGO AND ZOGGON WARE, JOS
FSM/T/2022/L1.7	CCTV FOR SECURITY SURVEILLANCE/INTERNET SERVICES UPDATE
FSM/T/2022/L1.8	PURCHASE OF TEACHING/LEARNING AID FOR TEACHING, RESEARCH AND DIAGNOSTICS PURPOSES
FSM/T/2022/L1.9	PURCHASE OF REAGENTS/CHEMICALS/FITTINGS FOR TEACHING, RESEARCH AND DIAGNOSTICS PURPOSES
FSM/T/2022/L1.10	PROVISION OF OPERATIONAL UTILITY VEHICLES AND HILUX FOR TEACHING, RESEARCH AND DIAGNOSTICS PURPOSES AND SCHOOL BUSES FOR STUDENTS
FSM/T/2022/L1.11	PHASE COMPLETION/ROAD MAPPING AND CLEARING FOR PROVISION OF ROAD NETWORK FOR NUPKIS HOST COMMUNITY (SOCIAL CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY)

3. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Interested and competent contractors, Suppliers and service providers/consultants wishing to carry out any of the projects above are required to submit the following documents, which will be subjected to verification and due diligence:

Mandatory/Response Requirements: Failure to fulfil any of the under-listed requirements will render a bid, disqualified:

- Evidence of Certificate of Incorporation with Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) including Form CAC1.1 or CAC2 and CAC7;
- Evidence of Company's Income Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three (3) years valid till 31st December, 2021;
- Evidence of Pension Clearance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2021 (this requirement is only applicable to bidders whose number of staff is 15 and above);
- Evidence of Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Compliance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2021 (this requirement is only applicable to bidders whose number of staff is 5 and above or the bidder's annual turnover is N50m and above);
- Evidence of current Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) Compliance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2021;
- Evidence of Registration on the National Database of Federal Contractors, Consultants and Service Providers by submission of Interim Registration Report (IRR) expiring on 31/12/2022 or valid Certificate issued by BPP.
- Sworn Affidavit disclosing whether or not any officer of the relevant committees of the Federal School of Medical Laboratory Technology (Science), Jos or the Bureau of Public Procurement is a former or present Director, shareholder or has any pecuniary interest in the bidder and to confirm that all information presented in its bid are true and correct in all particulars;
- Company's Audited Accounts for the last three (3) years (2018, 2019, 2020)
- Reference Letter from a reputable commercial bank in Nigeria, indicating willingness to provide credit facility for the execution of the project when needed.
- Company's Profile with Curriculum Vitae of key staff to be deployed for the project, including copies of their Academic/Professional qualifications.
- Verifiable documentary evidence of at least three (3) similar jobs executed in the last five (5) years including Letters of Awards, Valuation Certificates, Job Completion Certificates and photographs of the projects.
- Works: List of Equipment with proof of Ownership/Lease;
- For Supply of Equipment: Letter of Authorization as representative of the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs);
- For Joint Venture/Partnership, Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) should be provided (CAC, Tax Clearance Certificate, Pension Clearance Certificate, ITF Compliance Certificate, NSITF Clearance Certificate, IRR & Sworn Affidavit are compulsory for each JV partner);
- All documents for submission MUST be transmitted with a Covering/Forwarding letter under the Company/Firm's Letter Head Paper bearing amongst others, the Registration Number (RC) as issued by the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), Contact Address, Telephone Number and e-mail address. The Letterhead Paper MUST bear the Names and Nationalities of the Directors of the Company at the bottom of the page, duly signed by the authorized officer of the company/firm.

4.0 COLLECTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

Interested Companies/Firms are to collect the Standard Bidding Documents (SBD) from the Accounts Department of the School on evidence of payment of a non-refundable tender fee of N10,000.00 per Lot, paid into the Federal School of Medical Laboratory Technology (Science) Jos Remita account in any reputable Commercial Bank in Nigeria from 9am – 3pm working days. (Remita Payment procedures can be obtained from the Accounts Department of the School).

5.0 SUBMISSION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

Prospective bidders are to submit bid for each of the Lot desired, two (2) hard copies each of the Technical and Financial bids with soft copy of financial bid only in MS Excel format, packaged separately in sealed envelopes and clearly marked as "Technical Bid" or "Financial Bid". Thereafter, put the two sealed envelopes together in a bigger sealed envelope addressed to THE PROVOST/CEO, FEDERAL SCHOOL OF MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY (SCIENCE), JOS, PLATEAU STATE, and clearly marked with THE NAME OF THE PROJECT AND THE LOT NUMBER. Furthermore, the reverse of each sealed envelope should bear the name and address of the bidder and drop in the designated Tender Box at the Procurement Department on or before **12:00 noon on Monday, 21st March, 2022**. Late Bids will be returned un-opened.

6.0 OPENING OF TECHNICAL BIDS

Only the Technical bids received will be opened immediately after the deadline for submission at **12:00 noon on Monday, 21st March, 2022** at the School's Lecture Hall (Permanent Site), while the Financial Bids will be kept un-opened. Please ensure that you sign the Bid Submission Register in the Office of the Ag.HOD, Procurement, as the Federal School of Medical Laboratory Technology (Science) Jos will not be held liable for misplaced or wrongfully submitted bids.

7.0 INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES

The School hereby invites Consultants/Firms with relevant experience to indicate their interest in the following:

FSM/T/2022/L1.12	HIRING OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS FOR 3 YEARS FEDERAL SCHOOL OF MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY, JOS
FSM/T/2022/L1.13	VALUATION OF FIXED AND MOVABLE ASSETS OF FSM/T FOR IPSAS IMPLEMENTATION
FSM/T/2022/L1.14	AUDIT, VERIFICATION AND DOCUMENTATION OF FIXED AND MOVABLE ASSETS OF FSM/T FOR IPSAS IMPLEMENTATION

8.0 QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS – in addition to the requirements above:

- Lot LT 12 & 14: Evidence of Firm's Practice License issued by ICAN/ANAN or any related regulatory professional body;
- Lot LT 12 & 14: Evidence of Firm's current registration with the Office of the Auditor General for the Federation;
- Lot LT 12 & 14: Evidence of Firm's current registration with the Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria;
- Lot LT 13: Evidence of Firm's Practice License issued by ESARBON or any other related regulatory professional body

9.0 SUBMISSION OF EOI DOCUMENTS


Expression of Interest (EOI) shall be in two (2) hard copies (Original & Copy) and one (1) soft copy for each LOT clearly marked, on or before **12:00 noon on Monday, 21st February, 2022** to the Office of the Ag. Head of Procurement of the School. Opening of the EOIs will take place immediately after the close of submission at **12:00 noon on Monday, 21st February, 2022**, at the School Lecture Hall at the Permanent Site, Lamingo, Jos, Plateau State.

10. GENERAL INFORMATION

- Bids must be in English Language and signed by an official authorised by the Bidders
- Bids submitted after the deadline for submission would be returned un-opened
- Bidders should not bid for more than Two (2) Lots.
- All costs will be borne by the bidders.
- Presence of bidders/representatives and members of the public shall not be required during the bid opening ceremony in compliance with COVID-19 Guidelines. The Bids Opening will be covered by video recording (invitation link will be sent to bidders to join the bid opening online) with the physical presence of two (2) representatives of private sector professional bodies and Civil Society Organisation in the areas of Anti-Corruption/Transparency;
- Bid documents can also be collected in soft copies and Bidders can submit through Post (Courier Services);
- Works & Goods: Only pre-qualified bidders will be contacted at a later date for virtual Financial Bid Opening, while financial bids of un-successful bidders will be returned to them un-opened.
- Services: Only shortlisted firms will be invited at a later date for collection of Request for Proposals;
- The Federal School of Medical Laboratory Technology (Science), Jos is not bound to pre-qualify/shortlist any bidder and reserves the right to annul the Procurement process at any time without incurring any liabilities in accordance with Section 28 of the Public Procurement Act 2007.

For further enquiries Please contact the Ag. Head of Procurement on email: fedmedlabtech@yahoo.com

Signed:
PROVOST/CEO



NIGERIAN ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Plot no. 1387, Cadastral Zone, A00, Central Business District, Abuja
P.M.B 136, Garki - Abuja
Tel: +234-094621400, 094621410
Website: www.nerc.gov.ng

CORRIGENDUM

RE: REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CONSULTANCY PROJECTS AND INVITATION TO TENDER FOR GOODS AND WORKS

The Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) wishes to draw the attention of all interested bidders and General Public to its earlier advertisement published in the **Federal Tender Journal, Business Day, ThisDay and Daily Trust of 24th January, 2022** as follows:

- The Request for Expression of Interest for consultancy services under LOT G: "Conceptual Design of a Data Aggregation Platform and Revenue Assurance System for the Nigerian Electricity Supply Industry (NESI)" has been corrected to read **"Implementation of a Data Aggregation Platform for the Nigerian Electricity Supply Industry (NESI)"**.
- Submission deadlines for both **Expression of Interest** and **Invitation to Tender for Goods & Works** as earlier advertised have been extended as follows:

Category	New Submission Deadlines	Opening Date & Time
Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)	12:00 noon, Tuesday February 22, 2022	12:00 noon, Tuesday February 22, 2022
Invitation to Tender for Goods & Works	12:00 noon, Wednesday March 23, 2022	12:00 noon, Wednesday March 23, 2022

3. All other information in the advertisement remains same.

SIGNED
Chairman
Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission



PUBLIC NOTICE
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

PUBLIC DISPLAY FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) OF THE PROPOSED NSPF GRAINS PROCESSING COTTAGE INDUSTRY PROJECT AT EDDAH VILLAGE, SHIRORO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, NIGER STATE BY NORTH-SOUTH POWER FOUNDATION.

In accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Act CAPE12 LFN 2004, which makes it mandatory for proponents of all new major development activities to carry out Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for their projects, the Federal Ministry of Environment hereby announces twenty-one (21) working days Public Display for information and comments on the draft ESIA report submitted by North-South Power Foundation. The display is for the public to make inputs that shall enable the Ministry take appropriate decision on the EIA of the project

The Disclosure Centers are :

- Shiroro Local Government Council, Kuta, Niger State.
- Niger State Ministry of Environment, State Secretariat Complex, Minna.
- Federal Ministry of Environment, Environmental Assessment Department (Environment House), Central Business District, Abuja, F.C.T.

Brief Project Description:

The proposed project entails the establishment of components for a cottage processing industry for the farming, milling, production and bagging of rice, including warehousing and transportation of the product to the markets. The proposed location is a 1.6hectares acquisition at Eddah Town, Zumba District in Shiroro Local Government Area.

Duration of Display:

Date: 7th February – 7th March, 2022.
Time : 8:00am – 4:00pm Daily

ALL COMMENTS RECEIVED SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE HONOURABLE MINISTER, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, MABUSHI, ABUJA - F.C.T ON OR BEFORE 14TH MARCH, 2022.

SIGNED
PERMANENT SECRETARY
FOR: HONOURABLE MINISTER.



PUBLIC NOTICE
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

PUBLIC DISPLAY EXERCISE ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE PROPOSED SUGARCANE PLANT PROJECT AT LAFIAGI, EDU LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, KWARA STATE BY LASUCO SUGAR COMPANY LIMITED

In accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Act CAP E12 LFN 2004, which makes it mandatory for proponents of all new major developmental activities to carry out EIA for their proposed projects, the Federal Ministry of Environment hereby announces a twenty-one (21) working days Public notice for information and comments on the draft EIA submitted by Lasuco Sugar Company Limited. The display is for the Public to make inputs that shall enable the Ministry take appropriate decision on the EIA of the project.

The Display Centers are :

- Edu Local Government Council, Lafiagi, Kwara State
- Kwara State Ministry of Environment, State Secretariat, Illorin.
- Federal Ministry of Environment, Environmental Assessment Department (Environment House), Central Business District, Abuja, F.C.T.

Brief Project Description:

The proposed project shall entail the construction of a sugarcane plant and associated components on 12,776hectares acquisition straddling Lafiagi and Abiola Farms in Edu Local Government Area. The completed factory is envisaged to process at least 1.5 million tonnes of sugarcane per year into refined white sugar with a distillery to convert the molasses by-product to ethanol. Additionally, the factory shall have a power generation component to sell power to the National Grid in future.

Duration of Display:

Date: 7th February – 7th March, 2022.
Time : 8:00am – 4:00pm Daily

ALL COMMENTS RECEIVED SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE HONOURABLE MINISTER, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, MABUSHI, ABUJA - F.C.T. ON OR BEFORE 14TH MARCH, 2022.

SIGNED
PERMANENT SECRETARY
FOR: HONOURABLE MINISTER.



PUBLIC NOTICE
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA) FOR PRIORITY VALUE CHAINS OF RICE, WHEAT AND TOMATO AND ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLANS (ESMPs) FOR AGGREGATION/COTTAGE PROCESSING CENTRES INTERVENTION AND ROAD INTERVENTION SITES (GIDANTUKUR, BALARE, ALKAMAWA, SUNDU/ZAREWA, KWANAR-DAWAKD) AND INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN (IPMP) ON RICE, TOMATO AND WHEAT OF THE AGRO-PROCESSING, PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT AND LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT SUPPORT (APPEALS) PROJECTS IN KANO STATE BY FEDERAL MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

In accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Act Cap E12 LFN 2004, which makes it mandatory for proponents of all new major development activities to carry out Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of their proposed projects, the Federal Ministry of Environment hereby announces twenty-one (21) working days Public disclosure on the draft ESMPs and IPMP reports submitted by Federal Project Implementation Units (PIUs) of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. This disclosure is to enable the public make input that shall facilitate informed decision taking by the Ministry on the ESIA, ESMPs and IPMP of the projects.

The Disclosure Centers are :

- Kano State Ministry of Environment, Block 5, Audu Bako Secretariat, Zaria Road, Kano City.
- Federal Ministry of Environment, Federal Secretariat Complex, Katsina Road, Kano City, Kano State.
- Federal Ministry of Environment, Environmental Assessment Department (Environment House), Central Business District, Abuja, F.C.T.

Brief Project Description:

- The ESIA and IPMP of the proposed rice, wheat and tomato project will involve: - the development of agricultural fields as well as construction/rehabilitation of aggregation centres for crop and livestock production and processing in Kano State. An Integrated Pest Management Plan for the entire project is inclusive.
- The ESMP of the proposed aggregation/cottage processing centres intervention APPEALS project involve: - the development of cottage processing centres and construction/rehabilitation across fourteen (14) communities for crop and livestock production in Kano State.
- The ESMP of the road intervention sites: - this will involve the development of infrastructure such as water supply system, transmission and distribution of electricity, construction of access roads amongst others across five (5) farms in the State. Removal of impediments such as silt, debris, shrubs, wastes and wastes from various drainages and stream channels as well as river training in selected locations within the State.

Duration of Display:

Date: 7th February – 7th March, 2022.
Time : 8:00am – 4:00pm Daily

ALL COMMENTS RECEIVED SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE HONOURABLE MINISTER, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, MABUSHI, ABUJA - F.C.T. ON OR BEFORE 14TH MARCH, 2022.

SIGNED
PERMANENT SECRETARY
FOR: HONOURABLE MINISTER.



PUBLIC NOTICE
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA) AND INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN (IPMP) OF THE PROPOSED PRIORITY VALUE CHAINS OF MAIZE, GINGER AND DAIRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLANS (ESMPs) OF FARM ACCESS ROADS REHABILITATION/CONSTRUCTION AND AGGREGATION/COTTAGE PROCESSING CENTRES FOR AGRO-PROCESSING, PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT AND LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT SUPPORT (APPEALS) PROJECT IN KADUNA STATE BY FEDERAL MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

In accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Act Cap E12 LFN 2004, which makes it mandatory for proponents of all new major development activities to carry out Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of their proposed projects, the Federal Ministry of Environment hereby announces twenty-one (21) working days Public disclosure on the draft documents submitted by Project Implementation Units (PIUs) of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. This disclosure is to enable the public make input that shall facilitate informed decision taking by the Ministry on the ESIA, ESMPs and IPMP of the projects

The Disclosure Centers are :

- Kaduna State Ministry of Environment, Kaduna
- Federal Ministry of Environment Office, Calabar, Cross River State.
- Federal Ministry of Environment, Environmental Assessment Department (Environment House), Central Business District, Abuja, F.C.T.

Brief Project Description:

- The ESIA and IPMP of the proposed value chains of dairy, ginger and maize project will involve: the development of agricultural fields as well as construction/rehabilitation of aggregation centres for crop and livestock production and processing in Kaduna State. An Integrated Pest Management Plan for the entire project is inclusive.
- The ESMP of the proposed aggregation/cottage processing centres intervention APPEALS project involve: - the development of cottage processing centres and construction/rehabilitation across communities for crop and livestock production in the State.
- The ESMP of the road intervention sites: - will involve the development of infrastructure such as water supply system, transmission and distribution of electricity, construction of access roads amongst others across the affected farms in the State

Duration of Display:

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SIGNED
PERMANENT SECRETARY
FOR: HONOURABLE MINISTER.

NIGERIA STOCK EXCHANGE MARKET CAP. ▶ N25,477,440TR (-0.11%) ↓ ALL SHARE INDEX ▶ 47,279.92POINT (-0.11%) ↓ MARKET TURNOVER ▶ 225,685,583BN SHARES

Friday, February 4, 2022

 OIL AND GAS 422.72 -0.24%	 BANKING 443.10 0.18%	 CONSUMER GOODS 571.31 -0.58%	 INSURANCE 183.09 -0.90%	 INDUSTRIAL 2137.00 0.01%
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NSE GENERAL INDEX					
COMPANY NAME	MARKET(NM)	PRICE	CHANGE	TRADES	VOLUME
BANKING					
ACCESS BANK PLC	362,561.30	10.20	-0.49	136	7,046,773
UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA PLC	292,405.05	8.55	0.59	122	2,900,698
ZENITH BANK PLC	827,297.61	26.35	0.76	242	5,997,853
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
FBN HOLDINGS PLC	398,437.75	11.10	-2.63	93	3,302,703
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES					
MTN NIGERIA COMMUNICATIONS PLC	4,077,008.96	200.30	0.15	155	728,177
BUILDING MATERIALS					
DANGOTE CEMENT PLC	4,682,731.43	274.80	-	57	150,452
LAFARGE AFRICA PLC	426,856.58	26.50	0.19	79	1,468,130
BERGER PAINTS PLC	2,420.03	8.35	-	11	17,894
BUA CEMENT PLC	2,395,903.05	70.75	-	33	21,738
CAP PLC	15,371.06	19.50	-	15	43,382
MEYER PLC	292.18	0.55	-	0	0
PREMIER PAINTS PLC	1,230.00	10.00	-	0	0
EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION					
SEPLAT ENERGY PLC	511,946.77	870.00	-0.24	39	654,659
AGRICULTURE					
ELLAH LAKES PLC	8,500.00	4.25	-	1	25
FTN COCOA PROCESSORS PLC	836.00	0.38	2.70	7	281,284
OKOMU OIL PALM PLC	135,455.22	142.00	-	66	268,261
PRESCO PLC	94,500.00	94.50	-10.00	85	847,357
LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	6,120.00	2.04	0.49	20	1,125,446
JOHN HOLT PLC	307.43	0.79	-	0	0
S C O A. NIG. PLC	812.28	1.25	9.65	6	125,400
TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATION OF NIGERIA PLC	46,338.71	1.14	0.88	117	16,392,511
U A C N. PLC	25,931.67	9.00	-	14	62,765
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION					
ARBICO PLC	152.96	1.03	-	0	0
INFRASTRUCTURE/HEAVY CONSTRUCTION					
JULIUS BERGER NIG. PLC	41,600.00	26.00	-	15	75,143
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT					
UPDC PLC	20,044.77	1.08	1.85	12	680,488
AUTOMOBILES/AUTO PARTS					
DI TYRE & RUBBER PLC	954.53	0.20	-	0	0
BEVERAGES - BREWERS/DISTILLERS					
CHAMPION BREW. PLC	17,224.89	2.20	4.76	37	1,331,733
GOLDEN GUINEA BREW. PLC	829.98	0.81	-	0	0
GUINNESS NIG PLC	106,343.09	48.55	-	51	332,551
INTERNATIONAL BREWERIES PLC	142,368.96	5.30	-9.40	62	4,446,209
NIGERIAN BREW. PLC	387,639.93	48.00	-	54	1,300,247
BUA FOODS PLC	1,159,200.00	64.40	-	32	28,783
DANGOTE SUGAR REFINERY PLC	212,570.37	17.50	0.29	85	775,387
FLOUR MILLS NIG. PLC	119,731.08	29.20	-0.85	34	395,592
HONEYWELL FLOUR MILL PLC	27,755.69	3.50	4.48	46	3,048,873
MULTI-TREX INTEGRATED FOODS PLC	1,340.10	0.36	-	0	0
N NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC	1,603.80	9.00	-	14	126,460
NASCION ALLIED INDUSTRIES PLC	35,105.06	13.25	-	8	22,444
UNION DICON SALT PLC	2,706.05	9.90	-	0	0
CADBURY NIGERIA PLC	16,340.36	8.70	-	25	145,140
NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	1,137,461.72	1,435.00	-	31	10,973
HOUSEHOLD DURABLES					
NIGERIAN ENAMELWARE PLC	1,231.72	16.20	-	0	0
VITAFOAM NIG PLC	30,520.60	24.40	-	57	345,454
PERSONAL/HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS					
P Z CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC	27,594.82	6.95	-0.71	23	27,1678
UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	78,993.82	13.75	-	32	917,390
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
ECOBANK TRANSNATIONAL INCORPORATED	222,029.57	12.10	-	55	582,169
FIDELITY BANK PLC	82,578.17	2.85	-0.70	138	24,854,232
GUARANTY TRUST HOLDING COMPANY PLC	809,357.43	27.50	0.18	207	12,464,851
JAIZ BANK PLC	24,524.23	0.71	5.97	34	2,169,951
STERLING BANK PLC	48,943.71	1.70	-1.16	31	881,551
UNION BANK NIG. PLC	171,812.44	5.90	-2.48	107	4,747,117
UNITY BANK PLC	5,844.67	0.50	-1.96	8	5,011,745
WEMA BANK PLC	32,788.30	0.85	-4.71	32	3,483,557
INSURANCE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES					
AFRICAN ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	4,117.00	0.20	-	1	1
AICO INSURANCE PLC	26,355.80	2.72	2.86	63	9,035,164
AXAMANSARD INSURANCE PLC	21,150.00	0.25	-	16	57,541
CONSOLIDATED HALLMARK INSURANCE PLC	6,743.84	0.63	-3.08	1	150,000
CORNERSTONE INSURANCE PLC	10,354.84	0.57	1.79	3	1,300,000
CORONATION INSURANCE PLC	11,995.84	0.50	-	16	619,630
GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	909.99	0.20	-	0	0
GUINEA INSURANCE PLC	1,350.80	0.22	4.76	13	2,424,196
INTERNATIONAL ENERGY INSURANCE PLC	487.95	0.38	-	0	0
LASACO ASSURANCE PLC	1,949.60	1.06	-1.85	11	616,223
LINKAGE ASSURANCE PLC	7,140.00	0.51	-1.92	7	589,234
MUTUAL BENEFITS ASSURANCE PLC	5,216.02	0.26	3.85	17	2,691,887
NEM INSURANCE PLC	16,704.87	3.33	-9.76	30	908,344
NIGER INSURANCE PLC	1,547.90	0.20	-	0	0
PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	5,566.08	0.42	-	3	11,000
REGENCY ASSURANCE PLC	2,667.50	0.40	2.56	9	636,000
SOVEREIGN TRUST INSURANCE PLC	2,727.47	0.24	-4.17	16	1,664,500
STACO INSURANCE PLC	4,483.72	0.48	-	0	0
STANDARD ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	2,582.21	0.20	-	0	0
SUNU ASSURANCES NIGERIA PLC	1,743.24	0.30	-	1	32,709
UNIVERSAL INSURANCE PLC	3,200.00	0.23	-	0	0
VERITAS CAPITAL ASSURANCE PLC	3,189.33	0.20	4.55	2	337,900
MICRO-FINANCE BANKS					
NFI MICROFINANCE BANK PLC	4,939.14	2.16	-	11	248,765
ABBEY MORTGAGE BANK PLC	6,720.00	1.04	-	0	0
ASD SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC	7,370.87	0.50	-	0	0
INFINITY TRUST MORTGAGE BANK PLC	5,505.00	1.32	-	0	0
RESORT SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	2,265.95	0.20	-	0	0
UNION HOMES SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC	2,949.22	3.02	-	0	0
AFRICA PRUDENTIAL PLC	13,000.00	6.50	-4.41	53	1,489,536
CUSTODIAN INVESTMENT PLC	46,466.73	7.90	-	37	658,249
DEAP CAPITAL MANAGEMENT & TRUST PLC	300.00	0.20	-	0	0
FCMB GROUP PLC	59,408.13	3.00	-2.28	40	1,223,343
NIGERIAN EXCHANGE GROUP	47,629.81	24.25	-0.21	166	12,871,951
ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC	4,322.11	0.84	-	11	365,089
STANBIC IBTC HOLDINGS PLC	453,494.90	35.00	-	62	680,715
UNITED CAPITAL PLC	67,200.00	11.20	-0.44	49	1,616,874
HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS					
EKO CORP. PLC	2,886.90	5.79	-	0	0
MEDICAL SUPPLIES					
MORISON INDUSTRIES PLC	1,968.43	1.99	-	7	15,101
PHARMACEUTICALS					
FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	16,920.38	8.11	-	27	282,009
GLAXO SMITHKLINE CONSUMER NIG. PLC	7,235.05	6.05	-	12	86,483
MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC	7,418.51	4.30	-	18	346,254
PHARMACEUTICALS					
NEIMETH INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICALS PLC	3,418.48	1.80	-	27	536,175
PHARMA-DEKO PLC	429.30	1.98	-	0	0
COMPUTER BASED SYSTEMS					
COURTEVILLE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS PLC	1,882.56	0.53	-1.89	26	12,919,999
COMPUTERS AND PERIPHERALS					
OMATEK VENTURES PLC	588.36	0.20	-	0	0
IT SERVICES					
CWG PLC	3,105.54	1.23	-	0	0
NCR (NIGERIA) PLC	324.00	3.00	-	2	5,000
CHAMS PLC	939.21	0.20	-4.76	18	15,236,118
E-TRANSACT INTERNATIONAL PLC	13,269.13	2.00	-	0	0
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES					
AIRTEL AFRICA PLC	4,776,610.56	1,271.00	-	51	6,236
ELECTRONIC AND ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS					
AUSTIN LAZ & COMPANY PLC	2,192.12	2.03	-	0	0
CUTIX PLC	8,524.80	2.42	0.83	37	894,446
PACKAGING/CONTAINERS					
BETA GLASS PLC	26,473.52	52.95	-	3	74
GREIF NIGERIA PLC	232.39	5.45	-	0	0
TRIPPLE GEE AND COMPANY PLC	475.16	0.96	-	0	0

COMMODITIES PRICE

CRUDE OIL (BRENT)
\$73.46

NATURAL GAS
\$4.09

COPPER
\$9,430

GOLD
\$1,798.12

SILVER
\$25.26

SUGAR
\$0.19

COCOA
\$1,595.0

LIVE CATTLE
\$1.23

COTTON
\$0.90

AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS	AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS	AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS	AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS	AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS	AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS
AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS	AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS	AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS	AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS	AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS	AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS
AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS	100,754.14	62.59	-	0	0
AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS	3,954.32	9.50	-	2	2,020
PAPER/FOREST PRODUCTS					
PAPER/FOREST PRODUCTS	77.00	0.35	-	0	0
PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTORS					
PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTORS	2,317.20	0.37	-2.63	16	1,191,555
JAPPAUL GOLD & VENTURES PLC	64,146.09	5.16	-0.19	205	7,058,898
OANDO PLC	16,541.51	12.70	-1.93	69	1,664,518
ARDOVA PLC	18,389.73	26.50	-	19	31,070
CONOIL PLC	7,107.59	5.45	-	14	91,583
ETERNA PLC	4,129.86	13.55	-	10	9,472
MRS OIL NIGERIA PLC	81,824.76	241.80	-	28	55,171
TOTAL ENERGIES MARKETING NIGERIA PLC	1,171.51	0.20	-	0	0
CAPITAL OIL PLC	16.99	0.30	-	0	0
BAK UNITY PET. COMP. PLC	887.81	0.20	-	0	0
ADVERTISING					
ADVERTISING	15,796.05	1.62	-	0	0
AFROMEDIA PLC	329.38	0.28	3.57	111	23,614,073
AIRLINES					
AIRLINES	3,512.28	3.68	-	6	56,258
MEDVIEW AIRLINE PLC	379.77	0.81	-	2	45,020
AUTOMOBILE/AUTO PART RETAILERS					
AUTOMOBILE/AUTO PART RETAILERS	642.33	0.20	-	0	0
R T BRISCOE PLC	4,940.61	3.19	-	0	0
COURIER/FREIGHT/DELIVERY	2,764.80	1.33	-	8	86,702
RED STAR EXPRESS PLC	6,379.88	2.84	-	0	0
TRANS-NATIONWIDE EXPRESS PLC	55,104.80	5.38	-	1	950
HOSPITALITY					
HOSPITALITY	2,400.00	0.20	-	1	400
TANTALZERS PLC	749.95	1.24	-	36	345,594
HOTELS/LODGING	1,080.03	1.40	-	12	101,025
CAPITAL HOTEL PLC	1,078.52	2.50	-5.66	11	316,977
KEJIA HOTEL PLC	547.04	0.33	-	7	10,519
TOURIST COMPANY OF NIGERIA PLC	688.80	2.91	-	0	0
TRANSCORP HOTELS PLC	1,126.31	0.20	-	0	0
MEDIA/ENTERTAINMENT					
MEDIA/ENTERTAINMENT	749.95	1.24	-	36	345,594
DAAR COMMUNICATIONS PLC	1,080.03	1.40	-	12	101,025
PRINTING/PUBLISHING	1,078.52	2.50	-5.66	11	316,977
ACADEMY PRESS PLC					



**INDEPENDENT CORRUPT PRACTICES AND
OTHER RELATED OFFENCES COMMISSION (ICPC)
PLOT 802 CONSTITUTION AVENUE, CENTRAL BUSINESS AREA, ABUJA**

INVITATION TO TENDER

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission wishes to invite interested, experienced and competent contractors and service providers to tender for the execution of projects under the 2022 Appropriation. Ref No **ICPC/ITT/CAP/01/22 of Budget Code 0341001001**

2.0 SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work to be carried out consists of the following:

A. GOODS

- Lot 1 - Supply and Installation of Office Equipment
- Lot 2 - Supply and Installation of Office Furniture
- Lot 3 - Supply and Installation 60KVA Generator sets
- Lot 4 - Purchase of Security Operational vehicles
- Lot 5 - Procurement of Computers and Accessories
- Lot 6 - Supply and Installation of Inverters and Accessories

B. WORKS

- Lot 7 - Construction of Prototype Office Building in Anambra State
- Lot 8 - Construction of Prototype Office Building in Minna, Niger State
- Lot 9 - Construction of Prototype Office Building at Ikoyi, Lagos State
- Lot 10 - Construction of Prototype Office Building at Katsina, Katsina State
- Lot 11 - Construction of Prototype Office Building at Yenagoo, Bayelsa State

3.0 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Interested, experienced and Competent Contractors should submit the following eligibility documents indicating the minimum qualification required of the bidders.

- i. Evidence of Certificate of Incorporation issue by Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), including Forms CAC2 and CAC7.
- ii. Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC) for the last three (3) years (2019, 2020 & 2021) valid till December 31st 2021.
- iii. Evidence of Pension Clearance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2022 (this requirement is only applicable to bidders whose number of staff is 15 and above);
- iv. Evidence of Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Compliance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2022 (this requirement is only applicable to bidders whose number of staff is 5 and above or the bidder's annual turnover is N50m and above).
- v. Evidence of current Nigerian Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) Clearance Certificate valid till 31/12/2021.
- vi. Evidence of Registration on the National Database of Federal Contractors, Consultants and Service Providers by submission of Interim Registration Report (IRR) expiring on 31/12/2022 or valid Certificate issued by BPP.
- vii. Sworn Affidavit disclosing whether or not any Officer of the relevant committees of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission or the Bureau of Public Procurement is a former or present Director, Shareholder or has any pecuniary interest in the bidder and to confirm that all information presented in its bid are true and correct in all particulars;
- viii. The Company's Audited Accounts for the last three (3) years (2019, 2020 & 2021).
- ix. Reference letter from a reputable commercial bank in Nigeria; indicating willingness to provide credit facility for the execution of the project when needed.
- x. Company's Profile with the Curriculum vitae of key Staff to be deployed for the project including copies of Academic/Professional qualifications such as registration with COREN, QSRBN, ARCON, CORBON, SURCON etc.;
- xi. For Supply of Equipment: Letter of Authorisation as representative of the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs).
- xii. Only companies included in the National Automotive Design and Development Council's approved list of local manufacturers of vehicles or their authorised representatives should bid for the vehicles;
- xiii. Lot 5: Evidence of current registration/accreditation with Computer Professionals Registration Council of Nigeria and National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA);
- xiv. Verifiable evidence of at least Three (3) similar contracts executed in the last (3) three years, with verifiable Letters of Award/Valuation Certificates or Job Completion Certificates.
- xv. List of Plants/Equipment proposed for the project, with location address, proof of Ownership/Lease;
- xvi. For Joint Venture/Partnership, Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) should be provided (CAC, Tax Clearance Certificate, Pension Clearance Certificate, ITF Compliance Certificate, NSITF Clearance Certificate, IRR & Sworn Affidavit are compulsory for each JV partner);
- xvii. All documents for submission must be transmitted with a covering/ forwarding letter under the Company's Letter Head Paper bearing among others: the registration number (RC) as issued to the Company by the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), Contact Address, telephone numbers (preferably GSM No.) and e-mail address. The cover letter (letter Head) must bear the names and the nationalities of the Directors of the Company at the bottom of the page, duly signed by the authorized Officer of the firm
- xviii. Eligible firms for Lot 4 must be on the list of accredited automobile dealers in Nigeria.

4.0 COLLECTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

Interested Companies are to collect Standard Bidding Documents with detailed specifications from **the office of HOU Procurement, Ground Floor, Room 15, ICPC**, upon presentation of evidence of payment of non-refundable Tender Fee of **N10,000** only, per Lot, paid to ICPC, through the generation of a Remita Retrieval Reference (RRR) in any reputable Commercial Bank in Nigeria.

5.0 SUBMISSION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

Bidders are to submit for each of the Lot desired, two (2) hard copies and soft copies each of the Technical and Financial Bids with softcopy of the financial bid only in MS Excel format, packaged separately in sealed envelopes clearly marked as "Technical Bid" and "Financial Bid" respectively. Thereafter, put the two sealed envelopes together in a third or bigger envelope also sealed and addressed to the **Hon. Chairman, ICPC**, Plot 802, Constitution Avenue, Central Area, Abuja and clearly marked with the name of the project and Lot number.

Furthermore, the reverse of each sealed envelope should bear the name and address of the bidder and drop in a designated box at **the HOU Procurement Office, Ground Floor Room 15, on or before 11:00 am on Tuesday 22nd March, 2022**. Please ensure that you sign Bid Submission Register at the Office of the Secretary to the Commission, ICPC, Abuja, as the Commission will not be held liable for wrongly submitted bids.

6.0 OPENING OF TECHNICAL BIDS

Only Technical bids will be opened immediately after the deadline for submission at **11:00am on Tuesday 22nd March, 2022** at the **ICPC Auditorium**, while the Financial Bids will be kept un-opened. For more enquiries, please contact the HOU (Procurement).

7.0 PLEASE NOTE

- i. Bids must be in English Language and signed by an official authorised by the bidder
- ii. Late submission will be returned un-opened.
- iii. Bidders should not bid for more than two (2) Lots
- iv. Presence of bidders/representatives and members of the public shall not be required during the bid opening ceremony in compliance with COVID-19 Guidelines. The Bids Opening will be covered by video recording (invitation link will be sent to bidders to join the bid opening online) with the physical presence of two (2) representatives of private sector professional bodies and Civil Society Organisation in the areas of Anti-Corruption/Transparency;
- v. Bid documents can also be collected in soft copies and Bidders can submit through Post (Courier Services);
- vi. Only pre-qualified bidders at technical evaluation will be invited at a later date for virtual financial bids opening, while the financial bids of un-successful bidders will be returned un-opened.
- vii. The Commission shall verify all the claims made by the bidders, including requesting for submission of the originals of the documents for sighting and shall disqualify any Company whose claim(s) is/are found to be false.
- viii. Nothing in this advertisement shall be construed to be a commitment on the part of ICPC to undertake the project or entitled any company to make any claim (s) whatsoever in respect of any expenses incurred in preparing a tender response.
- ix. ICPC is not bound to pre-qualify any bidder and reserves the right to annul the procurement process at any time without incurring liability, in accordance with Section 28 of the public Procurement Act 2007.

Signed
Management



**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS**

**INVITATION TO PUBLIC HEARING/
CALL FOR MEMORANDA**

The House of Representatives Committee on Pensions will conduct a Public Hearing on the following Bills:

1. **A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND THE PENSION REFORM ACT, 2014 TO PROVIDE FOR EXEMPTION OF THE NIGERIA POLICE FORCE FROM THE CONTRIBUTORY PENSION SCHEME; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 1578)**
2. **A BILL FOR AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 1(C), 7(2), 8 (1), 18, 24 AND 99 OF THE PENSION REFORM ACT CAP P50 LFN 2014 BY PROVIDING THAT A PENSIONER SHALL RECEIVE AT LEAST 75% OF HIS RETIREMENT BENEFITS IMMEDIATELY UPON RETIREMENT AND CRIMINALIZE THE UNDUE DELAY IN THE PAYMENT OF PENSION (HB 1008)**

Date: Tuesday, 22nd February, 2022

Venue: Conference Room 231, House of Representatives New Building National Assembly Complex, Abuja

Time: 10:00 a.m.

The following persons/organizations are cordially invited to make presentations during the hearing:

1. OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF CIVIL SERVICE OF THE FEDERATION
2. NIGERIAN POLICE
3. FEDERAL MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
4. FEDERAL MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND PRODUCTIVITY
5. FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE
6. NATIONAL PENSION COMMISSION (PENCOM)
7. CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA (CBN)
8. ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS OF NIGERIA (ARPON)
9. PENSION FUND OPERATORS ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (PenOp)
10. PENSION TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENT DIRECTORATE (PTAD)
11. SECURITY AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC)
12. NIGERIA INSURANCE COMMISSION
13. NIGERIAN EMPLOYMENT CONSULTATIVE ASSOCIATION (NECA)
14. NIGERIA LABOUR CONGRESS (NLC)
15. TRADE UNION CONGRESS (TUC)
16. NIGERIA UNION OF PENSIONERS (NUP)
17. CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONERS UNION OF NIGERIA (CPUN)
18. MILITARY PENSION BOARD (MPB)
19. DEPARTMENT OF STATE SERVICES (DSS)
20. NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (NIA)
21. DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (DIA)
22. CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION/NGOs
23. OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

All other persons, private/corporate organizations willing to make presentations at the hearing should also submit their memoranda in thirty-five (35) hard copies and one (1) soft copy to the committee clerk in **Room 301, (third floor), White House, House of Representatives wings, National Assembly Complex, Abuja on before 21st February, 2022**

This publications serves as a formal invitation to make presentation at the hearing

FURTHER INQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MR. FATAI LAWAL, THE CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS ON 08182953387 OR lawalf50@gmail.com

Rt. Hon. Kabiru Alhassan Rurum
Chairman, House Committee on Pensions

INTERNATIONAL

GUINEA

Transitional assembly holds first post-coup session

Guinea's transitional assembly has held its first session, five months after the military overthrow of democratically elected President Alpha Conde.

The body, known by its French acronym CNT and tasked with organising a return to civilian rule, met for an inaugural session in the capital, Conakry, on Saturday.

In a reference to Conde, who had sparked fury by changing the constitution in order to run for a third term, CNT President Dansa Kourouma said in the opening remarks that "the mechanisms that bring elites to power and allow them to remain in power almost indefinitely must be definitively resolved".

He called for a constitution to be drawn up "that will not be easily modified".

"Our path will be strewn with all sorts of pitfalls that we are called upon to overcome from now on, until the installation of the future National Assembly, at the end of credible and transparent elections that will be organised to put an end to the transition," Kourouma added.

Conde, who was Guinea's first democratically elected president and had been in power since 2010, was deposed on September 5.

Transitional Prime Minister Mohamed Beavogui, a development expert, took part in the session, which lasted several hours.

Colonel Mamady Doumbouya, who led the coup and was sworn in as interim president, has promised to "refound the state", fight corruption and reform the electoral system in order to hold "free, credible and transparent" elections.

CNT members were chosen by Doumbouya from lists submitted by political parties and associations. The body is tasked with drafting a new constitution and suggesting a date for a return to civilian rule.

In the meantime, the government and other institutions have been dissolved and ministers, governors and prefects replaced by administrators and soldiers.

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has demanded that Guinea hold elections within six months of the coup, which would fall in mid-March. Guinea is one of three West African countries, along with Mali and Burkina Faso, where the military seized power in the last 18 months.

The 15-member bloc has suspended Guinea and neighbouring Mali and imposed sanctions over the coups.

In a mark of defiance, the president of the transitional council of Mali and former military government member Colonel Malick Diaw attended Saturday's inaugural session of Guinea's assembly.

MANGESHKAR

India bids farewell to beloved singer

Lata Mangeshkar, one of India's most beloved singers, has been cremated in Mumbai with full state honours.

Mangeshkar, whose voice was the soundtrack to hundreds of Bollywood films, died aged 92 on Sunday.

PM Narendra Modi and stars of the entertainment industry attended the funeral, where large crowds gathered to pay their respects.

Her extraordinary career spanned more than half a century and she recorded thousands of songs in 36 languages.

Two days of national mourning will follow the funeral and the national flag will be flown at half-mast throughout the country.

Crowds gathered outside her home, where her coffin began its journey to a city park where it was publicly cremated. Mr Modi was among those who laid flowers on the pyre.

One mourner, Rajesh Kumar Ram, told the AFP news agency "her voice touches the soul of every Indian. Her songs have been with us all through our lives."

Few stars in India are afforded

the honour of a state funeral but as crowds gathered at Mumbai's Sivaji Park, it was reminder of Lata Mangeshkar's unique appeal.

Hundreds of people from all ages and backgrounds lined up to get a glimpse of her funeral pyre, and say a final farewell.

As a Bollywood playback singer, Lata Mangeshkar's voice was the soundtrack to hundreds of Indian films - and to countless more lives. Her songs were played at weddings, funerals and national events, her career spanned more than seven decades.

She leaves a legacy as old as independent India itself. It's hard to name an artist as prolific - aside from her sister Asha Bhosle who was among the mourners at today's funeral. Lata Mangeshkar has recorded more songs than The Beatles and the Rolling Stones combined.

Affectionately known as India's "Didi" or sister, for millions in this country, and around the world, this loss feels personal. If Bollywood is the soul of India, then Lata Mangeshkar was its beating heart

MOROCCO

Save Rayan: Death of boy sparks outpouring of heartbreak

Rescue efforts to save a five-year-old Moroccan boy who fell into a dry well on Tuesday had captivated the world, as people followed the painstaking five-day operation to reach him.

Jubilant at the news that Rayan Oram had finally been freed on Saturday evening soon gave way to sorrow when his death was confirmed by local authorities at about 10pm local time (21:00 GMT). On Twitter, where the hashtag #SaveRayan and its Arabic translation had been trending throughout the Arab world, users left messages of condolence for the boy's family as well as praise for the rescuers.

Speaking to Al Jazeera at the site of the tragedy, the boy's mother said she had prayed her son would

be rescued. Mohamed Saeid, Ryan's cousin, said he did not have words to describe the feeling of loss. Atiqua Awram, an aunt, said "my heart is aching for him".

Imad Fahmy, a volunteer with the Red Crescent, had managed to communicate with the child, who was responsive. "I waited a few minutes and saw that he began using the oxygen," he said.

Rescuers were able to feed Rayan and provide him with oxygen through an opening in the well and introduce a camera to monitor his progress.

However, efforts to widen the well to reach the boy were fruitless and rescuers opted instead to use diggers to strip away the earth at the side.

King Mohammed VI

of Morocco expressed his condolences to Rayan's parents in a phone call.

"Following the tragic accident which cost the life of the child Rayan Oram, His Majesty King Mohammed VI called the parents of the boy who died after falling down the well," a statement from the royal court said.

Footage on social media showed Rayan's body wrapped in a yellow blanket after having been retrieved through a tunnel dug for the rescue. In a Facebook post, French President Emmanuel Macron expressed his condolences to the family.

"Tonight, I want to tell the family of little Rayan and the Moroccan people that we share their pain," he said.



■ Citizens of Kyiv take part in military training for civilians conducted by veterans of the Ukrainian National Guard in Kyiv, Ukraine

Photo: Shutterstock

FRANCE

Ukraine crisis: Macron says a deal to avoid war is within reach

French President Emmanuel Macron has said he thinks a deal to avoid war in Ukraine is possible, but that it is legitimate for Russia to raise its own security concerns.

Ahead of a visit to Moscow, Mr Macron called for a "new balance" that would protect European states but also afford Russia respect.

He restated that the sovereignty of Ukraine was not up for discussion.

Russia has massed troops on Ukraine's border but denies planning to invade.

Moscow has made a string of demands, including that the Nato defence alliance rule out Ukraine becoming a member and that it reduce its military presence in eastern Europe.

Western countries have rejected this, instead suggesting other areas of negotiation, for example talks on cutting back nuclear weaponry.

Before leaving Paris, Mr Macron told the Journal du Dimanche newspaper that Russia's objective was "not Ukraine, but a clarification of the rules... with Nato and the EU".

He said his dialogue with President Putin would likely be enough to prevent military conflict breaking out and that he believed Mr Putin would be open to discussing wider issues.

Mr Macron cautioned against expecting Moscow to take "unilateral measures" to de-escalate the situation and said Russia had the right to raise its own concerns.

But he said setting up dialogue with Russia could not "pass through the weakening of any European state".

PAKISTAN

Pakistan says it killed 20 rebels after attacks in Balochistan

The Pakistani military has said it has killed at least 20 rebels in Balochistan after two army posts came under attacks in the southwestern province within hours of each other on Wednesday.

"A total of 20 militants were killed during Panjgur and Noshki operations, the Pakistan military's media wing said in a statement on Saturday, adding that at least nine Pakistani soldiers died in the

biggest attacks in recent years.

A newly formed separatist Balochistan Nationalist Army (BLA) claimed responsibility for the attacks in the districts of Panjgur and Noshki. The Noshki assault was quashed on Thursday, but the attack in Panjgur was only quelled on Saturday, the army said. Security forces have completed the clearance operation today," it said.

The BLA also issued a statement

on Saturday night saying "all targets successfully achieved".

It said 16 fighters sacrificed themselves in the attacks, a phrasing that indicated but did not say clearly that they had died.

Baloch rebels have been fighting the government for decades, demanding a separate state and saying the central government unfairly exploits Balochistan's rich gas and mineral resources.

Nigeria's constitution allows Muslim women to wear hijab – FG

By Abbas Jimoh

The Minister of Education, Adamu Adamu, says Nigeria's constitution allows Muslim women to wear hijab in line with the teachings of their faith.

He noted that all citizens are allowed to practise their religions as long as no harm or inconvenience is caused to other people.

He spoke at the National Mosque, Abuja, yesterday at a public lecture organised by the Coalition of Nigerian Muslim Women as part of activities marking this year's World Hijab Day.

Adamu, represented by Hajiya Sidikat Shomope of the Social

Mobilisation Department, Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC), said it was unfortunate that the controversy over the wearing of hijab in the country had gone down to the school level and generated needless clashes.

There was violence on Thursday at the Baptist High School, Ijagbo in Oyun Local Government of Kwara State, leading to the killing of Habeeb Idris, a Muslim student of the school, when a rally by the Muslim students was reportedly disrupted by hoodlums and security agents.

The minister said: "The wearing of hijab by Muslim women is a Sunna as recommended in the Holy Qur'an (Q 33 V 59)."

According to him, there is a lot the country can gain by dialoguing on matters of religious differences rather than resort to violence.

"Our children will remain citizens of Nigeria irrespective of their faith. They will live and interact in the world outside school where no boundary exists between the religions.

"We should understand that the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria guarantees freedom of religion to all citizens. This, by implication, means that all citizens are allowed to practice their religions according to the teachings of their faith as long as no harm or inconvenience is caused to other people."

He appealed to all traditional,

religions and community leaders to use their offices to douse tension so that Nigerians could all live in peace, harmony and tolerance.

Adamu also called on parents and school teachers "to ensure that in both words and actions, they present the best model to our children to emulate."

Chairman, House of Representatives Committee on Electoral Matters, Aisha Duku; Hajiya Maryam Bukar Abba; Deputy Vice Chancellor, Administration, Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Prof. Saadatu Hassan Liman; Prof. Rafatu Abdulhamid of the University of Abuja and the FOMWAN National Ameerah, Hajiya Rafat Sanni, asked hijab-wearing

Muslim women to ensure that while the hijab covers their physical appearance, the essence on their lives and behaviours are also prioritised.

The wife of former Vice President Namadi Sambo, Hajiya Amina, said: "We are more determined to sensitize and promote this Islamic identity and culture without being intimidated."

Director, Muslim Rights Concern (MURIC), Prof. Ishaq Akintola, who spoke on 'The Hijab as a Metaphor of Our National Aspiration', noted that it is the responsibility of everyone, especially government at all levels, to ensure that the rights of all female Muslims are protected to adorn hijab in public.

Lassa fever killed 40 Nigerians in January – NCDC

By Ojoma Akor

The Lassa fever outbreak claimed 40 lives January, the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) has said.

In a situation report on Sunday, the centre said the 40 deaths represented a case fatality rate (CFR) of 19.0 percent lower than the CFR for the same period in 2021 which was 22.2 percent.

The report also showed that 211 confirmed cases of the disease were recorded out of a total of 981 suspected cases. The NCDC said in total, 14 states had recorded at least one confirmed case across 43 local government areas.

"Of all confirmed cases, 82 percent are from Ondo, Edo and Bauchi States.

The centre said that no new healthcare worker was affected in the fourth week of January.

It said: "the National Lassa fever multi-partner, multi sectoral Emergency Coordination Centre (EOC) was activated to coordinate response activities at all levels."

Senior Secondary Commission to retrain teachers

By Chidimma C. Okeke

Executive Secretary, Senior Secondary Education Commission, Dr Benjamin Abakpa, says the commission will retrain senior secondary school teachers.

He said this was to enable the teachers undertake the task of equipping the students with the adequate skills for nation building.

A statement yesterday by the commission's spokesperson, Fatima Baparre, quoted Abakpa as saying this when the management of the National Mathematical Centre paid him a visit. He stressed the need for teachers' adequate training to re-position the senior secondary education with a view to meeting societal needs. Abakpa charged the Mathematics Centre to brace up with the challenge of laying the right foundation for teaching Mathematics in senior secondary schools and ensure Mathematics teachers are adequately re-skilled.



■ The Managing Director, Nigeria, Arla Foods, Peder Pedersen (top left); Senior Project Manager, Snorri Sigurdsson (bottom left); Chief Finance Officer, Tolaram, Sandeep Parasramka (top right) and Director, Projects, Tolaram, Sagar Dixit (bottom right) during the signing of construction agreement between Arla Foods and Tolaram on Kaduna commercial dairy farm in Lagos

Buhari urges PM to keep Ethiopia united

By Muideen Olaniyi

President Muhammadu Buhari has urged the Ethiopian leader to stay focused on keeping the country together in spite of the difficulties.

He spoke yesterday during a meeting with Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed at the Headquarters of the African Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Buhari said Nigeria would continue to support efforts in peaceful co-existence and unity.

He commended the efforts of the Prime Minister in maintaining

peace and unity in the country, and dedication to ensuring fairness and justice in development.

"You are leading a country that is large and diversified, just like Nigeria, and I know the sacrifices required to make desired impact, especially in maintaining peace," the President said.

Buhari, in a statement by his spokesman, Femi Adesina, said Ahmed had provided strong leadership for the country, encouraging him to sustain the good work in ensuring even development.

The Prime Minister thanked Buhari for the support to the country over the years on national and personal endeavours, particularly in encouraging unity and stability. Ahmed said the African continent had been slow in growth due to conflicts, adding that the larger economies, like Nigeria and Ethiopia, should provide the leadership that will deepen progress and prosperity on the continent.

He said the resurgence of coups on the continent could further weaken institutions and reverse the

gains of democracy, appreciating Buhari for his position on zero tolerance for military interference in governance.

Ahmed said collective and visionary leadership would move Africa forward.

Both leaders at the meeting agreed that African growth and development would require strong, visionary leadership that catered for the needs of the people, and strengthened institutions that encouraged peaceful co-existence, while providing disincentives to conflicts and coups.

Rent: Senate bill seeks 3-month jail, N1m fine for defaulting landlords

By Abdullateef Salau

The Senate bill seeking to regulate house rent in the Federal Capital Territory has prescribed a three-month jail term or N1million fine for offenders.

The proposed law, sponsored by Senator Smart Adeyemi (APC, Kogi), passed second reading on

the floor of the Senate last week.

It seeks to protect low income earners from any form of oppression by homeowners as well as provide a safety net for landlords against erring tenants.

The bill bars landlords from demanding from a fresh tenant, rent in excess of three months.

It also bars the tenant from

offering to pay rent in excess of three months in case he or she is securing the use of the apartment for the first time.

In case of termination of agreement, the bill prescribes a one-month notice to a tenant paying rents on a monthly basis and three-month notice to a tenant paying on a quarterly

basis.

The bill forbids arbitrary increase of rent and gives the courts the powers to determine reasonable rent increments.

The bill gives exclusive jurisdictions to the magistrate courts to try rent cases, but that either of the two parties could appeal to the High Courts.

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CHANGE OF NAME

HAMZA: I, formerly known as **GOUTON ADEJOKE MADINAT**, now wish to be known and addressed as **HAMZA MADINAT ADEJOKE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **SALAH IBRAHIM DANDIJA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ASMA'U IBRAHIM DANDIJA**. All my documents remain Valid. Authority concerned and general public should take note.

HAJARA: I formerly known as **RASHIDA MUHAMMAD** now wish to be known as **HAJARA SULAIMAN**. All former documents remain valid, authority concerned and general public please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **ADAMU BELLO MUHD** now wish to be known and addressed as **ADAMU BELLO MUHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

MANASSEH: I formerly known as **MANASSEH HENRY**, now wish to be known as **BAKSEN MANASSEH**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note

I Formerly known as **MUSA ZAHARADEEN** now wish to be called and addressed as **SAFIYANU ABBA MUSA**. A former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

SOPHIA: I, formerly known as **FAMUDITI MORAYO SOPHIA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ADESOSI MORAYO SOPHIA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I formally known as **SALIUHU HAUWA ADAMU**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **SALIHI HAUWA ADAMU**. All my documents remain Valid. Authority concerned and general public should take note.

NANA: I formerly known as **NANA FIDDAUSI ALIYU** now wish to be known as **NANA ALIYU DAN, ALI, DATE OF BIRTH 6/AUGUST 1998**. All former documents remain valid. **FIRST BANK**, authority concerned and general public please take note.

PATIENCE: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS EKEMGBA PATIENCE CHISOM**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS EZEJI CHISOM PATIENCE**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

POLUM: I formerly known and addressed as **POLUM YUSUF**, but now wish to be called and addressed as **POLUM YUSUF IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. The First Bank PLC the General Public should please take note

I Formerly known as **SALIHI AMINU CIROMA** now wish to be called and addressed as **SALIHI AMINU**. A former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

KWAME: I, formerly known as **KWAME JOSEPH** now wish to be known and addressed as **KWAME JOSEPH KUBEVI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I Formerly known as **ALIYU SARKI** Now wish to be known and addressed as **ALIYU ABDULLAH SARKI** All former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should take note

ABDULLAH: I formerly known as **SAID AMINU**, with **DATE OF BIRTH 12 MAY 1998** now wish to be known as **ABDULLAH SAIDU** with Date of Birth **1 JANUARY 1987**. All former documents remain valid, authority concerned and general public please take note.

YUSUF: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS YUSUF NANAISHAT OCHUWARE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS LAWAL NANA AISHAT YUSUF**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

MUSA: I formerly known as **ISMAIL GARBA RABIU** Birth: 10/7/86s **ISMAIL RABIU GARBA**. 10/7/89. All former documents remain valid. RimiGado **LGEA** and The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

DANIEL: I formerly known as **JANET DANIEL**, now wish to be known and addressed as **HOGHAR JERUS DANIEL**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formally known and addressed as **AYEH MARGARET MAWEDO** now wish to be known and addressed as **EMMANUEL MARGARET MAWEDO**. All former document remain valid, general public to take note

I, formerly known as **ADAMU IDI** now wish to be known and addressed as **KHAMISU ALHAJI YA'U** All my documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should take note.

MARYAMU: I formerly known as **MARYAMU ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **MARYAMU LIBA**. **DOB 10-6-1972**. All former documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public to please take note.

OKORIE: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS MIKE FATH**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS OKORIE FAITH DAVID**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

I formerly known as **ISAH A SALISU**. now wish to be known as **ISA. ADAMU SALISU** All former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

CHONGMOBBI: I formerly known as **JOMKWI AUTA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **JOMKWI AUTA CHONGMOBBI**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formally known and addressed as **ENEMA GIDEON WADA** now wish to be known and addressed as **WADA ENEMA**. All former document remain valid, general public to take note.

JAM: I Formerly known and address as **MISS RUTH NGU-UBUR IERGWAGH AGEBE**. Now wish to be known and address as **MRS RUTH JAM**. All former documents remain valid general public should take note.

NANA: I formerly known and addressed as **MOMOH NANA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **BRAIMAH NANA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

INUAGBO: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS ELABOR LYDIA INUAGBO**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS AWENU LYDIA INUAGBO**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

I formerly known as **RASHIDA ISMAIL** now wish to be known as **RASHIDA AMINU** All former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

HASSAN: I formerly known as **HASSAN ADO** now wish to be called and addressed as **HASSAN ADAMU**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MANYAR SIMAN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MANYAR IJIGA**. All former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note.

USMAN: I formerly known as Usman Ali, but now wishes to be known and addressed as **Ali Alhaji Usman**. All formal documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

SUSAN: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS AKHIGBE SUSAN**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS JOHN SUSAN**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

USMAN: I formerly known, addressed as **YAHAYA USMAN YAHU**, now wish to be called and addressed as **YAHAYA USMAN**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I formerly known as **YAKUBU SALE**. now wish to be known as **YAKUBU SALEH** All former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take

AMINU: I formerly known as **AMINU MUHAMMED** now wish to be called and addressed as **AMINU GARBA MUHAMMAD**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **HANNA ANTHONY**, now wish to be known and addressed as **HANNA IJIGA**. All former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note.

UMARU: I formerly known as **Barnabas Dauda**, but now wishes to be known and addressed as **Barnabas Dauda Umaru**. All formal documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

FELICIA: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS OWOLABI ABIOLA FELICIA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS GBADEBO ABIOLA FELICIA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

CHORBE: I formerly known, addressed as **BITRUS JURBE GAMER**, now wish to be called and addressed as **BITRUS CHORBE**. All former documents to remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

RAIYANU: I formerly known as **BABANGIDA BASHARI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **RAIYANU HASSAN**. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **IBRAHIM GARBA1/1/1991** now wish to be called and addressed as **IBRAHIM ABUBAKAR 10/2/2003**. All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **LAMINU ADO** but now wish to be known and addresses as **LAMINU GIDADO** all my former documents to remain valid general public, financial institution and all authorities concern should please take note.

ABDULLAH: I formerly known as **Mohammed Abubakar**, but now wishes to be known and addressed as **Mohammed Abdullahi**. All formal documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

AMINU: I formerly known and addressed as **AYUBA JAMIU OLADELE** now wishes to be known as **AYUBA JAMIU AMINU**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

YUSUF: I formerly known as **SHAFATAU YUSUF**, now wish to be known as **SHAFATAU YUSUF SHALL**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note

SAKINA: I formerly known as **SAKINA JIBRIN MOHAMMED**, now wish to be known and addressed as **SAKINA JIBRIL MOHD**. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **IBRAHIM HARUNA ALIYU** to be called and address as **ALIYU IBRAHIM HARUNA** All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **BALA MUSA DAURA, BALA MUSA and BALA MUSA ISHAQ** but now wish to be known and addresses as **BALA MUSA** all my former documents to remain valid general public, financial institution and all authorities concern should please take note.

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **IBRAHIM SABONGARI BUNGUDU** now wish to be known as **IBRAHIM ABDULLAH**. All former documents remain valid, authority concerned and general public please take note.

I, formerly known as **AREWA OLABODE DAVID**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AREWA OLABODE DAVID ISHOLA**. All former documents remain valid. General public please take note.

SANI: I formerly known as **UBAIDULLAH SANI**, now wish to be known as **UBAIDULLAH MUHAMMAD SANI DOB IS 01/09/1998**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note

I formerly known as **ABUBAKAR SALISU DANKANO 20-04-1988**. now wish to be called and addressed as **SALIDU IDRIS 01-08-1991**. all former documents remain valid. authorities concerned and general public should please take note

I formerly known as **HAUWA ABUBAKAR GARBA** now wish to be called and addressed as **HAUWA ABUBAKAR LABBO** All former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

ABDALLAH: I, formerly known as **SAFIYANU ABDULLAH**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDALLAH ABUSUFYAN UMAR**. All documents remain valid. Authority concerned and the general public to take note.

ADEBAYO: I formerly known as **OYENIYI VICTORIA ALABA** now wish to be known and addressed as **ADEBAYO VICTORIA ALABA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **SANNI ABDULSAMAD OLOLADE** now wish to be known and address as **IDRIS ABDULSAMAD OLOLADE**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

PERA: I formerly known as **MISS ASABE PERA AWURDI**, now wish to be known as **MRS ASABE PERA MARUME**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note

I formerly known as **CHUKWUEMEKA PAUL**. now wish to be called and addressed as **EMEKA PAUL ANIAKOR**. all former documents remain valid. authorities concerned and general public should please take note

I formerly known as **ALHAJI SUMAILA UMAR** now wish to be known as **ISMAILA UMAR** All former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

I formerly known as **Asiya Nasiru** with wrong date of birth **2/08/1999**, now wish to be known and addressed as **Asiya Usman Nasiru**. My Correct Date of birth is **01/08/1999**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note.

I Formerly **Abdullahi Bashir Opeyemi**, now **Abdullahi Bashir Kasim**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **RUTH WABIDA SAMUTAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **RUTH IBRAHIM TAL**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

MANASSEH: I formerly known as **HANASSEH HENRY**, now wish to be known as **BAKSEN MANASSEH**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note

i formerly known as **MARIU M ZAKARI** now wish be called and addressed as **ABDULBARIU YAU**. All former documents remain valid. authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **TAHIR MUHAMMAD** now wish to be known as **TAHIR MUHAMMAD ATTAHIR** All former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

I formally know and addressed as **IDRIS GAMARI** and now wish to be call and addressed as **IDRIS MOHAMMED GAMARI**. All my documents a valid authority and public should be considered.

ALHASSAN: I formerly known as **ALHASSAN SHUAIBU** Now wish to be known and addressed as **ALHASSAN SHUAIBU BABA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **MAGAJI SAMSON BALA** now wish to be known and addressed as **BALA SAMSON MAGAJI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

RECONCILIATION OF NAME: I formerly known as **ISHAKU CHONGDA** and **MASOYI CHONGDA ISHAKU**, now wish to be known as **ISHAKU CHONGDA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note

I formerly known as **Sadiku Bello** now wish to be called and addressed as **Sadiku Bello Abubakar**. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known as **GLORIA SIMON DEKERA** now wish to be known as **MARYAM SIMON DEKERA** All former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

I formerly known and addressed as **RABIATU SALISU** now wish to be known and addressed as **RABIATU SALIHU**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public take note

That I, **Ikwuje Godwin Samuel**, wish to correct the date of birth on my **WAEC** result from **2nd April, 1993** to **19th December, 1990**. General public take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **JAMILA SULEMAN BIMA** now wish to be known and addressed as **JAMILA SULAIMAN D.O.B6/6/1991NOT6/5/1991** All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

BLESSING: I formerly known as **BLESSING DOLE SHINTAM**, now wish to be known as **DOLE BLESSING BATBUT**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note

I formerly known as **sanusi Abdu, Abdullahi fari sanusi, sanusi Abdullahi, Muhammadu sanusi Alhaji Abdu fari, Abdullahi sanusi fari, Abdu fari sanusi, sanusi A Abdu fari, Sanusi Abdullahi fari, Alhaji sanusi Abdu fari**, now wish to be called and addressed as **SANUSI ABU FARI**. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

NASIR: I FORMERLY KNOWN AS **ABDULLAHI NASIR MALAM, NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND CALLED ABDULLAHI NASIR**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND ANY AUTHORITY CONCERNED TO PLEASE TAKE NOTE

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Account No: **1007117397**
Sort Code: **033080013**

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Requirement for Change of Name
Women: **Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit**; Men: **Court Affidavit**

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Kano: 08068077562
Jos: 08033745735
Kaduna: 08063479316

Costing:
Change of Name - N3,000
Loss of Documents - N9,450
Registration of Trustees - N15,500
Product & Services (B&W) (Colour)
1 x 1 col N5,000 N8,000
2 x 1 col N9,000 N15,000
2 x 2 col N18,000 N27,000
3 x 2 col N 28,000 N 42,000

Page 2

CHANGE OF NAME

I have been bearing these names since birth I now wish to inform the general public **IBRAHIM KHADIJA SHEHU, SHEHU KHADIJA** is the same person. All former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

ISHAQ: I formerly known as **ISHAQ ALAMIN AMOKA** now wish to be called as **ISHAQ MUHAMMAD ALAMIN** all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

CONFIRMATION OF NAME I, ONYIA CHIKA KINGSLEY. That I am also known as **IGNATIUS CHIKA** on my documents. That I hereby do this Affidavit in confirmation of the two (2) names. That all other names on my previous documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

GADDAFI I formerly known as **GADDAFI SALISU** now wish to be known and addressed as **GADDAFI SALE** with **DOB:21/04/1986** not **28/10/1985**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

ZAKARIYA I formerly known and addressed as **IDRISS MOHAMMAD** now wish to be known and addressed as **ZAKARIYA IDRISS MUHAMMAD** All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **SANI ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR ALHAJI**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

SHAAPERA; I, was wrongly captured as **SHAPERA AFATILEN** now my correct name is **SHAAPERA AFATILEN**. All former documents remain valid. First Bank PLC and general public should please take note

IDAYAT: I formerly known as **IDAYAT AYONI TIAMIYU** now wish to be called as **IDAYAT ABDULLAHI** all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

OLACHI: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss **OLACHI CYNTHIA EMEKA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs **OLACHI CYNTHIA IHIM**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ADAMU: I Formerly known as **EBERE ONUAGBARA** Now wish to be known and addressed as **ADAMU GARBA** All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

AMARACHI - I, formerly known as **MISS. AMARACHI UKOMADU**. Now wish to be known as **MRS. AMARACHI OBI**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MOHD SULE D/DAJI** now wish to be known and addressed as **SULE MOHAMMED DOGON DAJI**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

HAJARAT: I formerly known as **HAJARA ALAMIN MOHAMMED** now wish to be called and addressed as **HAJARAT MOHAMMED** all former documents remain valid. Any authority concerned and general public should please take note.

KABIR: I formerly known as **KABIR MAGAJI ABDULLAHI** now wish to be called as **KABIR ABDULLAHI MAGAJI** all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

SHORUNKE-APOLABI: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss **APOLABI MONSURAT OYENIKE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs **SHORUNKE-APOLABI MONSURAT OYENIKE**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

BABAYO: I Formerly known as **BABAYO MOHAMMED SARKI** Now wish to be known and addressed as **BABAYO MOHAMMED** All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

ALABI - I, formerly known as **HAMMED WAKILAT ADEJOKE**. Now wish to be known as **ALABI WAKILAT ADEJOKE**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MUSA ALIYU** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALIYU MUSA**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

OMON: I formerly known as **LAWRENTA OMON EIGBE** now wish to be called and addressed as **OMON LAWRENTA EGUJIE** all former documents remain valid. Any authority concerned and general public should please take note.

CHINWENDU: I, formerly known and addressed as **LAWRENCE CHIKA**. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **CHINWENDU CHIKA PATIENCE**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

UMAR : I formally know as **YAKUBU ABUBAKAR WURUNA'I**, now wish to be known and addressed as **YAKUBU ABUBAKAR UMAR**, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

MOHAMMED : I formally know as **ISMAIL SIRAJU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ISMAIL SIRAJU MOHAMMED**, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note

ADEBISI - I, formerly known as **ADEBISI KAMORU**. Now wish to be known as **ADEBISI KAMORU AKANI**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **ABDUL HAKIM MUHAMMAD NASIR** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDUL HAKEM MUHAMMAD**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

PROSPER: I formerly known as **OGBONNIA MIRACLE JENNIFER** now wish to be called and address as **PROSPER MIRACLE JENNIFER**, All former documents remain valid, Authority concern and general public should please take note

CHANGE OF NAME AND PHONE NUMBER ISAH: I, formerly known and addressed as **QUADRI RUKAYAT OMOTAYO**. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **ISAH RUQOYYAH OALALERE**. My new phone number is 07030279538. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

SULEIMAN I formerly known and addressed as **ABDULAZEEZ SULEIMAN IBRAHIM**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULAZEEZ SULEIMAN** All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

ISAH I formerly known and addressed as **MOHAMMED ISA** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMED ISAH** All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

Mrs **ENWEREM: I**, Formerly Known And Addressed As Miss **NMEZI CHIMUANYA UGOCHINYERE**, Now Wish To Be Known And Addressed As Mrs **ENWEREM CHIMUANYA UGOCHINYERE**. All Former Documents Remain Valid General public please take note.

I, formerly known as **ADAM MUHAMMAD JIBRIL** now wish to be known and addressed as **ADAMU MUHAMMAD JIBRIL** with **D.O.B 12-03-1996**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

ABUBAKAR: I formerly known as **ABUBAKAR SADIQ**, now wish to be known and called **ABUBAKAR SABIU**, with **D.O.B, 01/01/1992**, All former documents remain valid, Authority concern and general public should please take note

EDUWUIROFO: I, formerly known and addressed as **ABANIM OLUCHI SANDRA**. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **EDUWUIROFO OLUCHI SANDRA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

FATI: I formally know as **FATIMA ABUBAKAR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **FATI ABUBAKAR**, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

UZAIRU : I formally know as **YASIRA ZUBAIRU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **YASIRA BABAYO ZUBAIRU**, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

EDUCATE OUR GIRLS FOUNDATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named organisation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja, for registration under Part 'F' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 2020.

The Trustees are:
1. Adila Tokini Darego
2. Ugnochukwu Smart Okpara
3. Grace Bialele Kalu-Anyah

Chairperson
Secretary
Member

Aims and Objectives:
1. The purpose of this organization shall at all times be to promote female education and self-development among young females in Sub-Saharan Africa and the entire African Continent.
2. The beneficiaries of this projects and campaigns undertaken by this organization shall be young girls from underprivileged backgrounds and rural communities.
3. The beneficiaries may benefit from the work of this organization in the form of mentorship, training, counseling and scholarship schemes.

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 562, Ndola Square, Wuse, Zone 5, Abuja withing 28 days from the date of this publication.

Signed
Ugnochukwu Smart Okpara
Secretary

SHAAPERA; I formerly called and addressed as **SHAAPERA AONDOFA** now wish to be addressed as **SHAAPERA MICHAEL AONDOFA**. All former documents remain valid. Access Bank PLC and general public should please take note

CONFIRMATION OF NAME: This is to confirm that I am the same person bearing all these names. **IDAHOA MILLICENT EHMWEMA, AIGBEDO MILLICENT, AIGBEDO MILLICENT EHMWEMA, AIGBEDO EHS MILLICENT and AIGBEDO EHI MILLICENT**. All documents bearing all the names remain valid. General public to please take note.

ABDULLAHI: I formally know as **ABDULLAHI ADAMU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI ADAMU CHUL**, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note

ADAMU: I formally know as **AHMED GARBA ADAMU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AHMAD GARBA ADAMU**, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note

MRS ELEGBEDE = I, formerly known and addressed as **MISS BRAIMAH RESHIDAT FAVOUR** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS ELEGBEDE RESHIDAT FAVOUR**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

Requirement for Change of Name Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit

FAISAL: I, formerly known as **FAISAL AHMAD GWADABE**, now wish to be known and called **FAISAL MUHAMMAD AHMAD**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

ADEYEMO: I, formerly known and addressed as **OSUNSANYA TUNMISE COMFORT**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ADEYEMO TUNMISE COMFORT**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

WAKIL: I formerly known and address as **DALA WAKIL**, now wish to be known and address as **WAKIL DALA**. All former documents remain valid. With **DOB 01/01/1962**, general public should take note please.

That I was formally known as **BULAMA ALI MALA** with wrong date of birth as **17/9/1967** now wish to be called and address as **BULAMA ALI** and my correct date of birth is **01/01/1968** general public to take note and **U B A Bank plc**

MARYAM: I, formerly known as **MARYAM AMADU** Now wish to be known and addressed as **MARYAM ABDULLAHI AHMADU**. All my documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should take note.

LAWAL: I, formerly known and addressed as **LAWAL-OLOJEDE TOYIN FUNKE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **LAWAL FUNKE ESTHER**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

MARYAM I formerly known and addressed as **MARYAM JOSEPH IJAI** and **MARYAM JOSEPH**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MARYAM JOSEPH BIRDLING**. All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

ALI: I formerly known and address as **MOHAMMED MA'AJI**, now wish to be known and address as **IBRAHIM MOHAMMED ALI**. All former documents remain valid. With **DOB 01/01/1989**, general public should take note please.

RABIU: I, formerly known as **RABIU USMAN SABO, SABO RABIU USMAN** Now wish to be known and addressed as **RABIU SABO USMAN** with **DOB 06/02/1985**. All my documents remain Valid. Authority concerned and general public should take note.

OKOLIE: I, formerly known and addressed as **ANIAKOR ANULIKA JACINTA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **OKOLIE ANULIKA JACINTA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

HAFSAT I formerly known and addressed as **HAFSAT BALA** now wish to be known and addressed as **HAFSAT BALA ZUBAIRU** All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

YAZID I formally known as **YAZID ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **NURA ABUBAKAR** all former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

USMAN: I formerly known as **YAHAYA AMINA OYIZA** now wish to be called as **USMAN AMINA OYIZA** all former documents remain valid old date of birth **3/12/1982** my correct date of birth **2/12/1985** general public all authority concern should please take note

LATEEF: I, formerly known and addressed as **LATEEF AZEEZ ADEMOLA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **LATEEF AZEEZ**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **FATIMA IBRAHIM** now wish to be called and addressed as **FATIMA UWAISU DAHIRU**. All former document remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note please.

SAADIYYA I formerly known as **HALIMA IBRAHIM** now wish to be known and addressed as **SAADIYYA IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public about the loss of originals of Certificate of Occupancy and Right of Occupancy in respect of plot 1556, located at Asokoro District (Cadastral Zone A04), Abuja, belonging to **SARAT NIGERIA LIMITED [RC193200]**, with File Number: **MISC 9773**. All effort to trace the said documents, which were lost on transit have proved abortive. If found, please contact the nearest Police Station or the Department of Land Administration, Federal Capital Territory Administration, FCT, Abuja.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of Original copy of Customary Certificate of Occupancy in respect of Plot No. 680, Kuje Area Council Abuja with File No. 608 (Old) and File No. 40292 measuring approximately 628.21 Square metre, belonging to **MAL SULE IBRAHIM** issued to him by Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA). All efforts made to trace the said documents proved abortive. If found please, return to the nearest police station. Abuja Geographical Information System (AGIS) and General public should please to take note.

Signed:
MAL SULE IBRAHIM

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public that the loss of original Letter of Grant with **Plot No. 1676 File No. RES/2000/4274**, situated at **Bajallabe Tudun Yola Quarters, Kano TP/KAS/215A**. Bearing the name of one **USAINI BATURE**. All effort made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to note. If found kindly return to the nearest police station.

Bank Details

Pay into any of our Accounts:
Account Name: MEDIA TRUST LTD,
Send your payment mandate to our email addresses

Bank: Stanbic IBTC Plc
Account No: 0000913253
Sort Code: 221081552

Bank: First Bank Plc
Account No: 2002911690
Sort Code: 011084060

Bank: UBA Plc
Account No: 1007117397
Sort Code: 033080013

Bank: GTBank Plc
Account No: 0024570856
Sort Code: 058083231

Requirement for Change of Name Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit

SPORT



■ Rivers United defender, Ebube Duru (R) being challenged by Muritala Laal of Dakkada FC during their NPFL week 10 match at the Yakubu Gowon stadium in Port-Harcourt

Osimhen fires Napoli to within point of Serie A summit

Victor Osimhen scored on his first Napoli start since November to help his team to a 2-0 win at Venezia on Sunday which moves them to one point behind Serie A leaders Inter Milan.

Nigeria striker Osimhen had made two brief substitute appearances since fracturing bones in his face in a sickening head clash at Inter Milan. He rewarded coach Luciano Spalletti's decision to pick him by leaping to head Napoli ahead just before the hour mark at the Stadio Pier Luigi Penzo.

Andrea Petagna sealed the points in the 100th minute of a match extended due to a clash of heads between the referee and Venezia's Tyrone Ebuehi, as well as that same player's late red card for a dreadful foul on Dries Mertens.

Wearing a special face mask, Osimhen's sixth Serie A goal of the season -- his first since mid-October -- fired Napoli right back into a three-way league title tussle.

Napoli are second, level on 52 points with AC Milan who broke open the race for the Scudetto as Olivier Giroud's derby double saw off Inter on Saturday.

Like Milan, Napoli have played a game more than Inter but they host the champions next weekend before travelling to Barcelona for the first leg of their Europa League play-off with the Catalan giants.

Plateau Utd triumph 1-0 to end Rivers Utd's unbeaten run

...As Remo halt 3SC's winning streak to reclaim top spot

Rivers United's unbeaten run finally came to an end yesterday after they were beaten 1-0 by Plateau United in the 2022 Nigeria Professional Football League Week 11 fixture played at the New Jos Township stadium.

It was a double blow for Rivers United as apart from ending their unbeaten run, Plateau United's victory paved the way for Remo Stars to reclaim the summit of the table.

Former MFM man, Jesse Akila's strike in the 33rd minute was enough for Plateau United to end Rivers United unbeaten run since the beginning of the

season.

In Ikenne, Remo Stars halted 3SC's winning streak by a lone goal scored in the 62nd minute by captain Junior Nduka from a beautiful 25 yards free-kick.

3SC had won three matches consecutively against Kwara United 2-1 in Ibadan, MFM 1-0 in Lagos and Heartland 4-0 at home.

Apart from storming back to the top of the table, Remo Stars are now the only team that is yet to taste defeat in the ongoing NPFL season.

At the Akure township stadium, Sunshine Stars suffered back to back defeats after they were beaten 1-0 by former

African champions Enyimba.

Enyimba's goal came in a bizarre manner in the 47th minute when Sunshine Stars goalkeeper Mustapha Lawal attempted clearance from a back pass came off the back of Victor Mbaoma and into the net.

In Lagos, MFM's winless run continued as they were forced to a goalless draw by reigning champions Akwa United, Rangers who lost 0-1 at home to Plateau United in week 10 picked a point at Wikki Tourists after a 0-0 draw just as Samad Kadiri who joined the fray in the 66th minute scored five minutes later to hand Kwara United a 1-0 win over his former club Lobi

Stars.

At the MKO Abiola stadium Abuja, Niger Tornados continued with their resurgence as they subdued hard fighting Katsina United 2-1 with all three goals coming in the first half of the match.

Ahmadu Liman opened the scoring for Tornados in the 20th minute, Shamsudeen Hashim doubled the lead four minutes later before Faisal Sani scored United's consolation goal in the 42nd minute.

Meanwhile, the final match of week 11 will be played today in Owerri between relegation-threatened Heartland and Gombe United.

W/Cup qualifiers: Igoche charges D'Tigress to make Nigeria proud

By David Ngobua

Ahead of the FIBA Women's World Cup Qualifiers in Serbia, the factional president of the Nigeria Basketball Federation (NBBF), Igoche Mark, has charged D'Tigress to make the country proud by putting up excellent performances.

As a form of motivation, the factional president also promised that his board will sooner than later offset the backlog of bonuses and allowances owed the girls by the past board under Engineer Musa Kida.

He said the welfare of the girls is a top priority of his newly constituted NBBF board.

"D'Tigress, this is to wish you all the best as you go to make Nigeria proud once again in Serbia at the World Cup Qualifiers.

"Our prayers are with you. I want you to be rest assured that the 'New Face of Basketball' has come to stay.



We have heard your appeal and we are going to handle all your genuine concerns.

"Your outstanding debts are going to be paid as soon as possible.

We are working on it but for now, please go and make us proud," the

initiator and sponsor of the ongoing Mark D Ball men's championship in Abuja.

The House Committee on Sports had in November, 2021 directed the Engr. Musa Kida led NBBF board to pay the team 50,000 USD being outstanding bonuses and allowances owed to the D'Tigress since 2018.

African champions, D'Tigress of Nigeria are in Group B alongside arch continental rivals Mali with European giants France and China completing the group.

2 U-19 volleyball players join Albanian club from Plateau Rocks

By David Ngobua

The Nigeria Volleyball Federation is delighted by the successful transfer of two Nigeria U-19 players, Izuchukwu Nwachukwu and Pascal Ozokoye who have joined Partizani SC of Albania from Plateau Rocks

The President of Nigeria Volleyball Federation, Engineer Musa Nimrod said this is a testimony to the developmental programs of the board.

Nimrod said the signing of the youngsters will open more doors for other young volleyball players to move to Europe and other top leagues in the world.

"I am happy the dividends of investing in younger players is manifesting. The vision of the board is the development of volleyball from the grassroots and you can see that it is paying off.

"Few years ago, Fernabache signed Arinze Nwachukwu (Former Nigeria



U-19 player) and today, Partizani SC is signing two Nigeria U-19 players. This means the future of the senior national team is bright."

Nimrod urged other players plying their trade in the country's leagues to remain determined and focused in the 2022 Nigeria Volleyball Season.

The NVF president who doubles as the Secretary General of Confederation of Africa Volleyball (CAVB) Zone 3 said "I am appealing to other players in the league to play with their heart during the National Division 1 League and Nigeria Volleyball Premier League because scouts all over the world are watching our leagues in order to pick the best players.

"This will also help us build formidable national teams in the future because those plying their trade outside have access to standard facilities and equipment."

Senegal edge Egypt 4-2 on penalties to win first AFCON title



■ Terranga Lions of Senegal celebrating victory over Egypt in the finals of the 2021 AFCON decided last night at Paul Biya Stadium Olembe, Yaounde

After two unsuccessful attempts, the Teranga Lions of Senegal have won their first ever continental trophy at the third time of asking at the Olembe Stadium, Yaoundé.

Liverpool forward, Sadio Mane, atoned for his first half penalty miss to score the decisive penalty kick which ended the nervy penalty-shoot out 4-2 in favour of the Lions of Senegal.

In the 3rd minute, Senegal were given an opportunity to open the scoring but Sadio Mane's penalty was saved by keeper, Mohamed Gabal

The Terranga Lions were in control of the game with the Pharaohs soaking up the pressure to break on the counter attack.

Senegal continued to create chances upon chances which they failed to utilize as the first half

ended goalless.

At the restart of the second half, the West African side continued to pile pressure on the North Africans who kept their opponents in check with delay tactics.

All efforts by the Senegalese to score proved abortive as the Egyptians took the game into extra time.

In the 100th minute, the best

chance of the game fell to Senegal but Gabaski produced a world class save to keep the score line 0-0.

In the second half of the extra time, Egypt had their real chance at goal but Chelsea keeper, Eduard Mendy was alert to parry the goal bound shot away to take the game into penalty shootout.

Senegal were losing finalists in 2002 when they lost to Cameroon

and 2019 in Egypt where they were beaten 1-0 by the Desert Foxes of Algeria.

Meanwhile, Eduardo Mendy emerged the keeper of the tournament while Sadio Mane was named the tournament best player.

Cameroon captain, Vincent Aboubakar was named the top scorer of the tournament with 8 goals.

Choupo-Moting slams Conceicao for lack of respect

Cameroon and Bayern Munich forward, Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting, has slammed his coach, Toni Conceicao, for not giving him the respect he deserves as a player.

Speaking to the press, he said he felt disrespected when he was an unused substitute for the quarter-final and semi-final despite playing in the Indomitable Lions' first four games at the tournament

According to him, he was always ready to play for his country and would respect the decision of his coach while explaining he was not fit to play in the third place game against Burkina Faso.

"Especially what happened in the quarter-final and semi-final when the coach didn't count on me for me it was a kind of disrespect," the former Paris Saint-Germain player said after the game.

"I came here to help the team to win the Afcon. I am not a young 18-year-old player and I want to play and to give everything. At the end of the day I respect



every decision from the coach, you have to as he is the boss but you don't have to understand it - so I don't understand.

"This is the reason I told him I was not fit to play today. But I will always be happy to represent Cameroon. It was just difficult.

"We played 120 minutes in the semi-finals and he didn't even bring me on," said the striker. "For me, that's a lack of respect. I had to tell the coach the truth.

I'm very disappointed and very frustrated. I couldn't play, but I was 100% with the team, he said.

Meanwhile, Conceicao has said he didn't use the forward because he did not fit in with his tactical plan as he was making his substitutions.

He was originally listed as the captain of the team by the Cameroon Football Federation for the third-placed play-off against Burkina Faso but when the team sheet were announced he was not even among the substitutes.

Infantino reaffirms belief in African football potentials

FIFA President Gianni Infantino has again reaffirmed his belief in the potentials of African football while thanking CAF and host nation Cameroon for their efforts in organising the afcon competition in a very difficult context.

"I'm happy to be here because I believe very much in Africa, in the potential of Africa and what we can do, all together, for African football. It's important to be innovative; not just copying things that have been done in other parts of the world, but do something specific, something African that Africans can be proud of, he said.

He also highlighted some recent examples of what can be achieved when FIFA and CAF work together, pointing out that solidarity payments had risen fivefold and the number of African slots at the FIFA World Cup would increase from five to 9.5 in 2026.

"We have seen as well when it comes to the African qualifiers for the FIFA World Cup how successful we have been



in increasing revenues by 40% in a COVID-19 environment," he said, adding that this was "unique in the world of sport, not just in football".

Meanwhile, Infantino alongside CAF President Dr Patrice Motsepe on Friday held a meeting with the continents Football Association Presidents and their respective clubs for the establishment of an African Super League, which is expected to kick-off in September next year.

Daily Trust can confirm that Enyimba Football club chairman, Felix Anyansi-Agwu was among the over 40 club administrators at the meeting held at the Hilton Hotel, Yaounde.

The African Super League is expected to be a huge financial return for CAF, and it is expected to exceed the barrier of 200 million dollars, which will be used to develop and improve stadiums, infrastructure and the promotion of football in Africa.

