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Woman poisons husband for taking second wife

From Sharafa Dauda & Yahaya Ibrahim, Maiduguri

A jealous woman poisoned her husband to death on the day he was taking a second

wife in Maiduguri after she failed to convince him not to marry again, neighbours said.

Fati Ali of Mafoni Ward in the Borno State capital

poisoned her husband Ali by putting some chemicals in his locally prepared tamarind porridge (kunun tsamiya) on Saturday shortly before his marriage

to another woman was contracted.

Residents of the area said Ali, who was in his early forties, wanted to take another wife because they

could not get a child with Fati after eight years of married life. But Fati, who is in her mid-forties, a native of Jajere Local Government Area of Yobe State, strongly

opposed this, according to a neighbour who did not want to be named.

She was said to have threatened to 'deal' with **Continued on page 5**

Rumble in Police over Ribadu

By Misbahu Bashir

SENIOR officers and rank and file of the police at the force headquarters in Abuja are grumbling over the restoration of the rank of assistant inspector general to Malam Nuhu Ribadu, according to interviews conducted by *Daily Trust*.

Police officers who spoke to our reporter yesterday said it was wrong for the authori-

ties to reverse the demotion of Ribadu because his mates in the force are still on the ranks of assistant or deputy commissioner of police.

They also said singling him out for reversal of the demotion that affected 139 other officers was capable of provoking discontent within the police force.

The Police Service Commission (PSC) last week restored the AIG rank to Rib-

adu and also commuted his dismissal from the police force to retirement, reportedly under pressure from the presidency. He was demoted last year, alongside 139 other police personnel, because of alleged irregularities in his promotion and was later dismissed over accusations of insubordination.

A senior police officer told *Daily Trust* yesterday that Ribadu was hastily promoted

to AIG from the rank of assistant commissioner while he was chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) without following the proper procedure.

"All his mates who were enlisted same time into the force are either assistants or deputy commissioners now," the officer said.

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PHOTO: SHEHU K. GORO



FROM left: Sultan of Sokoto Muhammad Sa'ad Abubakar, Vice President Namadi Sambo and Governor Patrick Yakowa of Kaduna State, at the opening of the National Executive Council meeting of the Nigerian Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs (NSCIA) in Kaduna yesterday.

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N86bn fraud: 11 ex-governors still on trial

By Boco Edet

ELEVEN ex-governors arraigned by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) for allegedly misappropriating a sum total of N86.1bn are yet to have their cases concluded by the Federal High Courts, Daily Trust learnt yesterday.

Most cases still pending were started by pioneer EFCC Chairman Nuhu Ribadu during and after the eight year tenure of President Olusegun Obasanjo. Others were initiated by Mrs. Farida Waziri present chairman Mrs. Farida Waziri.

Before Ribadu's exit from office, judgement was yet to be delivered on any of the cases but under Mrs. Waziri the courts have brought to a close the trial of two past

governors - James Ibori and Lucky Igbinedion:

Ex-governors facing trial on corruption charges include - Ayo Fayose (Ekiti state)- N1.2billion, Joshua Dariye (Plateau state)- N700million, Saminu Turaki (Jigawa state)- N36 billion, Orji Uzor Kalu (Abia state)- N5billion, Jolly Nyame (Taraba state)- N180million, Chimaroke Nnamani (Enugu state)- N5.3billion.

Those commenced by Waziri are: Michael Botmang (Plateau state)- N1.5billion, Boni Haruna (Adamawa state)- N254million, Rasheed Ladoja (Oyo state)- N6billion, Abdullahi Adamu (Nasarawa state)- N15billion and Attahiru Bafarawa (Sokoto state)- N15billion.

Fayose, Dariye, Turaki, Kalu, Nyame and Nnamani have been granted bail by the courts hearing their matters since 2007 while others excluding Adamu and Bafarawa also

secured bail in 2008.

Igbinedion who was arraigned on a 191 count charge before the Federal High Court Enugu applied for a plea bargain, was convicted and fined N3.5million but EFCC has since appealed against the verdict seeking stiffer sanctions.

Ibori who was arrested in Dubai by UK Metropolitan Police and is wanted in Nigeria for another corruption case, won his case at the Federal High Court Asaba after all 170 count charges against him were quashed. EFCC has also appealed against the judgement.

Mrs. Waziri has complained that cases of Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs) are stalled by courts and proposed before the National Assembly the institution of special courts to try corruption cases.



AFRICAN leaders with the President of France, Nicolas Sarkozy (fifth left), after the opening ceremony of 25th Africa-France Summit yesterday in Nice.

INEC chair: SNG asks Jonathan to keep his words

By Muideen Olaniyi

THE Save Nigeria Group (SNG) yesterday tasked President Goodluck Jonathan to appoint credible person to head the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) as he has promised Nigerians.

Convener of the SNG Pastor Tunde Bakare who spoke at a conference tagged "2011: Campaign for free, fair and credible polls" also challenged Nigerians to check comments made by those who encouraged past electoral fraud in the country.

"We must state here that the only way to avert further bloodshed in the defence of democracy as opined by Mr. President is for him to walk his talk and back his words with immediate action such as the appointment of highly credible INEC Chairman, Commissioners and Resident Electoral Commissioners from the civil society or the judiciary especially those who are not card carrying members of any political party," he said.

He said President Jonathan has the chance to give Nigeria an enabling environment for free, fair and credible elections, saying the 2011 general elections would be a litmus test for the survival of democracy in the country.

He lauded the Federal Government for appreciating the sacrifice made by people like Chief MKO Abiola, Musa Yar'adua, Pa Alfred Rewani, Chief Gani Fawehinmi for the survival of democracy.

Rights group denounces 'trading of women' at South Africa 2010

From Ibrahim Chonoko, London

A London-based human rights organisation, Women of Africa (WOA), has denounced plans by 'flesh networks' and some individuals to "sexually exploit and abuse African women" during the World Cup competition in South Africa.

The organisation said it was "very concerned to know that alongside preparations for the games, there are robust plans to traffic our vulnerable women and girls to South Africa for sexual exploitation during this historic world event for financial gains".

WOA's stance, contained in a strongly-worded press statement issued in London yesterday, is a reaction to an online publication which revealed plans by the 'flesh networks'

to supply women and girls from various countries, including Nigeria, "to take care of the men" during the World Cup Competition.

"We condemn without apology and reservation the use of these games as an opportunity and excuse to sexually exploit and abuse African women and our girl-children", the statement said, and appealed to the South African government to act with urgency to protect the rights of women and prevent crimes against humanity being committed "in the name of World Cup enjoyment".

"International trafficking of women for sexual exploitation is an abuse of the rights of women worldwide as African womanhood cannot, and should not be used for the sexual pleasure of anyone, not during the games, and

not ever", the statement added.

It said the planned shipment of women for the pleasure of men is unethical, unnatural and outlawed in the civilised world and should therefore be banned from the world cup games as part of the preparations.

The organisation appealed to those going to South Africa for the games to travel with their spouses or partners "to prevent them becoming accomplices in the abuse of women's rights, plus returning to their home countries with the HIV/AIDS virus and then blaming it on Africa."

It also advised African governments to tighten control of their borders to prevent the trafficking of women and girl-children into South Africa and other African countries that could be used as exit ports by the traffickers.

Ekweremadu: South-east not told to replace Ogbulafor

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar

THE South-East zone has not been officially informed to present a replacement to former National Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Prince Vincent Ogbulafor, Deputy Senate President Ike Ekweremadu said yesterday.

Speaking to Daily Trust by phone on the issue, Ekweremadu said the south-east zone has not been told to bring a replacement for Ogbulafor "So there is nothing like delaying the emergence of a new chairman."

He said party stakeholders are still consulting on the issue

and "We have not been asked by the President to provide a candidate that is why we are yet to do so. We are still consulting with the President, the Governors Forum and all other stakeholders across the country because the chairman is not going to be for south-east zone alone but for the whole country."

On whether he is backing a particular candidate for the position, the DSP said "I am not backing anybody, they are all my brothers but we have to ensure that only the best person who can take our party to the next level emerges."

He said the south-east zone has several qualified mem-

bers to occupy the position of national chairman of PDP "As you are aware several members of the party from south-east have shown interest, but we have to wait until the consultations are concluded and we are told to present a candidate before taking the next step."

Ekweremadu said reports that the south-east caucus is delaying emergence of a new national chairman for the PDP is untrue "It is the handiwork of mischief makers."

The DSP is leader of the PDP in the south-east and is expected to play key role in the emergence of the next national chairman of the party.



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CHIEF Executive Officer, Little Big Souls (LBS), Mrs. Yvonne Igweh (left) and LBS Patron, Prince Eze Madumere, during the press conference on how to save souls in Nigeria in Abuja, yesterday.

VP promises credible polls

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

FOR the umpteenth time, the Federal Government has not only promised credible, free and fair elections next year, it has also restated its resolve to find solution to the ethno-religious crises bedeviling the country by ensuring peaceful and harmonious co-existence between Christians and Muslims.

Vice President Namadi Sambo who gave the assurance yesterday in Kaduna at the opening session of the Executive Council Meeting of the Nigerian Supreme

Council of Islamic Affairs (NSCIA), commended the council in its efforts towards peaceful coexistence between adherents of the two dominant religions in the country.

The vice president who lamented the incessant crises in Jos, also promised that government would not rest on its oars until it finds a lasting solution to the spate of crises. He asked NSCIA to partner with government in this direction to ensure the attainment of maximum security in the country.

Sambo also affirmed the government's commitment in addressing the Almajirci menace in the north. He revealed that the Professor Galadanchi-led committee which was set up by the federal government, has recommended an intervention programme to address the problem.

Bishop resigns after scandal

THE Vatican has accepted the resignation of an Irish archbishop in Warri, Delta State accused of sexually abusing a teenage girl.

Richard Burke, the archbishop of Benin City, admits to a relationship but denies she was a minor when it began.

"The reason for my resignation is that I have been unfaithful to my oath of celibacy," he said in a statement in the Irish Catholic newspaper.

The archbishop stepped down after the allegation was made. Dolores Atwood alleged she was sexually abused by the Archbishop Burke when he was a priest in Warri. However, he said the relationship began in 1989 when she was 21 and he was 40.

"I responded immediately that I have never, ever, in my life - in any way - sexually abused a child. This is still my position. It is the truth," he said in his statement.

Archbishop Burke also apologised to Ms Atwood and asked forgiveness from his missions in Warri and Benin.

The Vatican said it had accepted his resignation as it also named a panel to look into the issue of child abuse in Ireland by Roman Catholic clerics. (BBC)

IBB: I'm not a believer in 51 parties

From Nahimah Ajikanle, Lagos

FORMER military president General Ibrahim Babangida says he does not support up to 51 political parties operating in the country because the fewer the parties, the better for the polity.

Babangida who spoke at the Murtala Muhammad Airport Lagos, said it was better for Nigeria to run a small party

system.

He said, "I am not a believer of 51 parties. The smaller the better for democracy, then everybody will have a place to be accommodated. But you see there are so many little ones, everybody moves toward the winning party. So you find we are more or less running. I think it is better for this country to run a manageable party 3, 4, 5."

He described the late chief

Moshood Abiola as a true democrat and urged the Federal Government to immortalize him so as to retain his virtues and ideals in the mind of Nigerians.

He said, "I think it is good at long last somebody is trying to acknowledge the efforts of Chief M K O Abiola. We cannot deny him the fact that he fought for democracy and I am glad that the government is accepting it".

On the call by Maitama

Sule and other political associates that he leaves the political stage, Babangida said, "This is democracy. You may have 150 million opinions. I have my own opinion and he has his own, you cannot deny him". He said there is still time for ambitious presidential aspirants to prepare, saying, "Time has not come, when we get to the bridge, we will cross it on presidential ambition."

Fresh polio attack in Maiduguri

From Sharafa Dauda, Maiduguri

A fresh wild polio virus case has been recorded in Maisandari Ward of Maiduguri in Borno State, the Health Educator and Social Mobilization Officer of Maiduguri Metropolitan Council

(MMC), Kilado Siaka Shuwa, told our correspondent yesterday.

Shuwa said the case was noted in the area which is popularly referred to as Forestry Quarters, Bakin Kogi in early April 2010 and the incidence was subsequently confirmed to be a wild

polio virus type II case at the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital (UMTH) after samples were submitted for laboratory analysis by the metropolitan Disease Surveillance Officer (DSO).

He added that immediately the case was confirmed, officials

of the World Health Organization and the MMC joined forces and rushed to ascertain the cause of the incidence in the community. "It was discovered that a good number of households and that particular household missed previous rounds of immunization.

Shekarau's aide resigns, decamps to PDP

From Auwalu Umar, Kano

ALHAJI Ibrahim Ata Fagge, who resigned last week as Kano State governor Ibrahim Shekarau's senior special assistant on education, has decamped to People's Democratic Party (PDP), citing inability of the ruling All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) to appropriately reward those who genuinely helped to form the present administration in the state as reason for his

resignation and eventual exit from ANPP. Fagge commands large followership in the metropolitan Fagge local government area where he once held sway as chairman. He announced his resignation as Shekarau's senior aide last week, saying he wanted to contest in next year's general elections.

Fagge was at a PDP rally in Fagge yesterday where he announced his decampment to PDP from ANPP along with his

supporters. The event, which was well attended with former governor of the state Alhaji Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso in attendance, was part of the local government rally being organized by the party in preparation for next year's elections.

Speaking with *Daily Trust* soon before the rally yesterday, Fagge said he and his many supporters made ANPP to be what it is today, saying apart from the appointment given him as senior special

assistant to the governor none of his supporters was either rewarded or recognized by the Shekarau-led government. He said those joined the party much later are now its elders who benefit more than those who sacrificed their lives to form the government.

"We really believed this is the right time to quit the ANPP altogether. There is no point remaining in a party where your effort is not being recognized", he said.

Nigerian radio to broadcast World Cup live

By Shehu Abubakar

ABUJA-BASED FM station Aso radio has been licensed by the Federation of International Football Association (FIFA) to broadcast live events of the World cup from South Africa. The station transmitting on 93.5 FM has concluded all plans to ensure a hitch free broadcast of the event, General Manager of the station, Alhaji Ali Abdullahi has said.

Abdullahi said the Sports Correspondent of the station, Mr Agbor Clinton Ayuk, has since been accredited by the FIFA to cover the event. He said Ayuk has also concluded plans to move to South Africa for the live transmission.

The GM said the station will start broadcasting the World cup events live from June, 11 July, 11, adding, "The Broadcasting Organisation of Nigeria (BON) and Osmi Sports have concluded arrangements for fans of football to follow the best of 64 World cup matches live on Aso Radio frequency throughout the duration of the championship," he said.

Woman poisons husband for taking second wife

Continued from page 1

him three days earlier after he told her he had concluded plans to marry another woman to bear him children.

Early on Saturday, Fati was said to have prepared the porridge for her unsuspecting husband for him to drink before leaving to attend the wedding fatiha of his bride.

The deceased started complaining of stomach upset immediately after taking the porridge, and so could not make it to the venue of the wedding. His friends and well-wishers who had planned to accompany him went on and contracted the marriage on his behalf.

"Immediately we were through with the wedding fatiha, we received a phone call telling us that Ali had been taken to Umaru Shehu Ultra-Modern Hospital where he later died. Doctors confirmed he had been poisoned," a neighbour said.

Fati was arrested by the police, and she is now in custody at the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID). A source said she told the police that she poisoned the tamarind porridge with a combination of hydrogen peroxide and some other acidic substance used to prepare henna.

When the police raided her house, they found the remnants of the substances in her room, a source told our reporters.

The state police command's Public Relations Officer ASP Isa Azare could not be reached for comments on the incident because his phone was switched off at the time our reporter placed a call yesterday.



GOVERNOR Adebayo Alao-Akala of Oyo State (third right), his wife Oluwakemi, Secretary General Baptist Convention, Reverend Demola Solomon Ishola, Chairman, Pilgrim Welfare Board, Reverend Edward Dickson, (left), State SSG, Chief Layiwola Lakojo, (second right), Reverend Daniel Adewole, Minister in-charge, Immanuel Baptist Church, (right) and others during the dedication of Immanuel Baptist Church new building to mark his 60th birthday anniversary and third year in office at the church premises, Ogbomoso, Oyo State, on Sunday.

Rumble in Police over Ribadu

Continued from page 1

Another top police officer said the decision by the police service commission was influenced by certain officials of the Federal Government and was not in line with expectations and conventions of the force.

"The police force relies on government policies and its personnel belong to the public, so if the government decided to take such a decision, the public will judge. In the end any decision taken on the police will affect the entire

people, so by this action definitely the entire security system will be affected," he said.

Another officer said the best way to keep police officers motivated would be through credible promotions and if the processes of promotion were influenced by individuals or institutions, then the personnel would be demoralised.

But spokesman for the police force ACP Emmanuel Ojukwu, when contacted for comments, said police authorities would abide by the decision of the PSC on Rib-

adu and any other decision for that matter.

PSC commissioner in charge of media affairs Comfort Obi said apart from Ribadu, no other police officer requested their demotion to be reviewed. "But we shall treat complaints as they come," she said.

Obi said many policemen who were demoted alongside Ribadu had their ranks restored because they attained their respective appropriate times for promotion and satisfied all requirements.

She said at the time the late Haz Iwendu, former CP of Kaduna

State, was promoted to commissioner after his demotion to deputy commissioner, it was confirmed it was his right time of promotion. "All his mates were promoted to the rank of commissioner at the same time," she added.

Earlier last week, Police Affairs Minister Adamu Maina Waziri said only Ribadu appealed his demotion and this was why he was the only person whose case has been considered. He said the commission would review the case of any officer when an appeal is made.

'Corruption by public officers, bane of democracy'

FORMER Education Minister Prof. Babs Fafunwa and some other scholars yesterday said elimination of corruption among public office holders would strengthen democracy in Nigeria.

The scholars said in Lagos that corruption was a major hindrance to Nigeria's development in the past 11 years of its return to civil rule.

"I am happy that we have been

able to maintain civil rule for the past 11 years, but I feel we are still struggling to get there, going by the high rate of corruption in public offices," Fafunwa said.

The former minister urged cooperation of all Nigerians on the eradication of corruption and electoral fraud to deepen Nigeria's democracy.

"We must ensure that free, fair and credible elections are con-

ducted in 2011 if we really plan to enjoy true democracy," he urged.

Professor Oyelowo Oyewo said it was inappropriate that 11 years after Nigeria's return to civil rule, its elected officers were not accountable to the electorate.

Oyewo, who is Dean of Faculty of Law, University of Lagos (UNILAG), said political parties had failed to offer moral, ethical and value-oriented persuasion on

elected public officers.

Dr Ayo Olowe also of UNILAG said "We must change the ugly trend of corruption that has bedevilled the country's growth and development.

"It is only when we fight this hydra-head monster that we will be able to experience true democracy," Olowe, the immediate past Chairman of the UNILAG Chapter of ASUU, said. (NAN)

NCPC threatens to prosecute illegal tour operators

By Aisha Umar Agaie

ILLEGAL Tour Operators arranging pilgrimage to the Holy Land will be prosecuted, Executive Secretary of Nigeria Christian Pilgrim Commission (NCPC) Mr John Kennedy Opara has said.

Speaking at a workshop organised by the NCPC for private tour operators in Abuja, Opara said some operators have bastardised the holy pilgrimage exercise by seeing it as mere tourism and means of making money rather than a spiritual exercise. "Since the government attaches priority to the welfare and interests of Nigerians when they are outside the country, the commission would not fold its arms and watch innocent Nigerians being exploited by private tour operators.

"In the past, we have had cases of some private tour operators, church groups

who lead people on pilgrimage and the outcome in some cases were massive abscondment. I want us to note that government has zero tolerance for abscondment and I implore you to bring genuine Christians to the commission for screening and partner with the NCPC," he said.

Opara said about 30,000 Nigerian Christians are expected to participate in the 2010, holy pilgrimage exercise in Israel, Rome and other holy sites to be visited.

He said that the airlifting of the intending pilgrims for this years exercise would commence on 23rd October and sensitisation workshops would start next week at the state level.

He urged the participants to partner with the commission to ensure that people of good character and who are spiritually rich are always encouraged and assisted to embark on Christian pilgrimage.

NEMA set to tackle food, nutrition crisis

By Abdulkadir Badsha Mukhtar

THE National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has organised a one-day consultative forum with major stakeholders in emergency and disaster risk reduction to find a way out of the potential food crisis threatening some states in the North.

Presenting paper at the meeting, NEMA DG retired Muhammad Audu-Bida advised the states concerned to conduct Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis to prepare a joint Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plan.

He said statistics of the research carried out on the issue shows that the National Strategic Grain Reserve is now 105,000 metric tonnes of grains, about 65,000 metric tonnes short of target.

Audu-Bida said a number of states in the area have made some commitments,

adding that neighbouring countries like Chad, Niger and Northern Cameroon have already embarked on preparedness action by way of declaring Food and Nutrition Emergency.

He suggested the way forward out of the looming crisis such as the need for quick validation assessment, nutrition survey, need for short, medium & long term plan, need for clarity of roles and responsibility.

Other suggestions include the need for synergy in preparedness action, need for information sharing amongst stakeholders, need for technical assistance from development partners, need for awareness campaigns and the need for advocacy and social marketing.

Among the agencies that attended the meeting are UNICEF, WMO, and Federal Ministries of Health, Science and Tech, Environment, Defence, etc.

ANPP asks Jonathan to revive dead parastatals

By Muideen Olaniyi

ALL Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) has called on President Goodluck Jonathan to revive all dead parastatals to create employment for Nigerian youths.

ANPP National Publicity Secretary Emma Eneukwu described the menace of unemployment in Nigeria as a tragedy that required immediate intervention of the president.

The party decried the bad fate of several government parastatals such as the Nigerian Railway Corporation, the Ajaokuta Steel Industry and the Coal Corporation Enugu as a result of bad leadership and management.

"Millions of the Nigerian youths who are talented as well as trained professionals in various fields, but have no jobs to do would have gotten job if these parastatals are

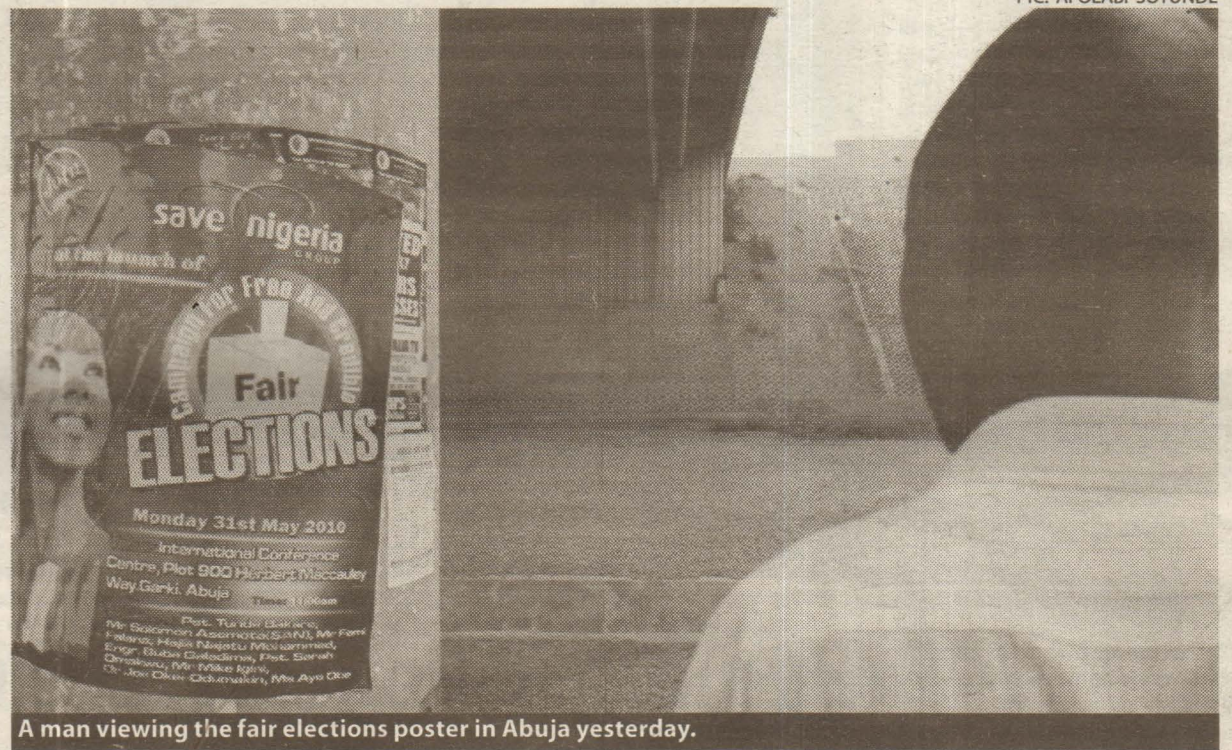
functioning," ANPP said.

While attributing the failure of past administrations to over concentration on crude oil, the party said Jonathan can resurrect all dead and ailing parastatals to become productive.

The party called for the inclusion of the Nigerian youths in efforts aimed at tackling unemployment in the country, noting that the youths had been sidelined in the past.

"President Jonathan should take the bull by its horn by standing out boldly and committed to pull the nation out of this sorry state. He can only achieve this feat by carrying along with those measures that will utilize the potentials of the Nigerian youths yet untapped as a result of gross negligence by the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP)-led government," the party said.

PIC: AFOLABI SOTUNDE



A man viewing the fair elections poster in Abuja yesterday.

N/Delta commission denies contract cancellation

By Sunday Williams

THE Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) has denied cancelling contracts saying there was no contract that was awarded without following due process.

Media Assistant to the NDDC Managing Director, Abraham Ogbodo, told Daily Trust yesterday on phone that contracts awarded by the commission are on course.

He said, "If contracts are cancelled

is it for anybody to begin to say they are cancelled? Is it not the contractors that will raise the point that contracts have been cancelled? Have any contractor raised the point that contracts has been cancelled?"

The NDDC board was said to have ordered the stoppage of the 500 projects allegedly awarded at a cost of N46 billion by the commission's Managing Director, Chibuzor Ugwoha, for non-compliance with due process.

The media report also alleged the indiscriminate award of contract has led to in-fighting between the Managing Director and the Executive Director in charge of Project, Esoetk Ibong Etteh, who had earlier petitioned the Presidency on March 31, 2010, alleging that the commission's Chief Executive was abusing his office with unilateral award of contracts without compliance with due process.

But Abraham Ogbodo said the report was not true.

Arewa forum worries over federal appointments

By Hamisu Muhammad

THE recent shake-up in the Nigerian oil industry is signifying a possible attempt to ease people with northern origin out of the sector, Arewa Youth Forum has said.

AYF President Gambo Ibrahim Gujungu said the group has confirmed an awaited list of innocent staff of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) mostly

northerners to be sacked soon without following the due process.

Gujungu said in a statement yesterday that the affected people have done nothing wrong in exercising their duty but yet are being targeted because they are northerners.

He said a similar thing is also happening at the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), where four consecutive CEOs of the Commission came

from the Southern part of the Nigeria for 18 years.

He urged President Goodluck Jonathan to quickly intervene and ensure that justice is done.

"Interestingly the most senior executives within NCC are both from the north. Experience-wise it is difficult to see how an engineer with matching regulatory experience can be sourced from the south at this time who beat them," he said.

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FUT Minna to conduct electronic post-UME

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

THE Vice Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology (FUT) Minna Professor Mohammed Salihu Audu has said the university would use electronic

machines to conduct the next post UME examination.

He said if approved by the NUC, the university would conduct the examinations electronically as it would help to eliminate examination malpractice. Professor Audu who said this in

Minna yesterday said the next post UME examination would mark the beginning of a new era, an era of e-examination. He said the university had already acquired 50 electronic magic boards for e-learning, adding that a 24 hour full fibre optic

backbone coverage was being planned for both campuses of the institution.

The vice chancellor also flayed calls by parents and other stakeholders for the scraping of the post UME examinations, saying, "They do not want the post

UME examinations because their children are not passing it, but what they have failed to realise is that not all those who pass JAMB are qualified to be in schools as most of them later drop-out due to academic problems".



Corps Marshal of the Federal Road Safety Commission Osita Chidoka (left) with Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican, during his visit to Rome recently.

...To honour Maryam Babangida, others

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

THE Federal University of Technology (FUT) Minna will at its 10th convocation slated for June 5, 2010, honour Maryam Babangida, the late wife of former President Babangida. The Vice Chancellor of the university, Professor Mohammed Salisu has said

Professor Salihu who spoke yesterday at a news conference ahead of the convocation said the former first lady would be conferred with a posthumous Doctor of Technology (Honoris Causa). According to him, other awardees include, Governor Danjuma Goje of Gombe State, President of the Senate David Mark and Mr Aderemi Makanjuola.

He added that the graduating students are 2,469 of which 24 are first class degrees, 476, second class, 1,179, lower division, 736, third class and 52 with pass degrees. Professor Salihu also said plans were underway by the university to establish two new schools, School of Information and Communication Technology (SICT) and the School of Entrepreneurship and Business Management Technology (SEMT).

Police warn politicians on arms

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

KOGI State Commissioner of Police Magaji Abdullah has cautioned politicians in the state against illegal possession of arms. Magaji gave the warning during an interaction with newsmen in Lokoja. He said the police command would do its best to rid the state of illegal fire arms before the 2011 general elections.

"Those gladiators and politicians who are thinking of using arms to actualize their ambitions are making a mistake as we would not spare anyone caught with guns in the state", he said

Magaji added that trial of the 47 suspects, including a gubernatorial aspirant of the PDP and two traditional rulers caught with assorted guns in Ofu Local Government Area of the state last month, would commence Thursday. He called on parents and guardians to prevail on their children and wards to resist the temptation of being used to disrupt peace in the state.

Farmers want timely fertilizer supply

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

THE All farmers Association of Nigeria (AFAN) in Sokoto has appealed to the state government to provide fertilizers on time for this year's farming season.

AFAN Sokoto State Chairman Alhaji Murtala Mainanata made the call at a weekend meeting of the association in Sokoto. He said there was need to hasten the distribution of fertilizers to farmers as the rainy season sets in. Mainanata expressed appreciation for the government's continued support to farmers which he noted would assist in increased agricultural activities and reduce poverty and unemployment. He noted that the Federal Government intended to give out tractors on loan to farmers at the cost of N4.5million with 25 per cent subsidy. The chairman appealed to the state government to make its own subsidy of 15 percent.

In a remark at the occasion, the representative of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Alhaji Nasiru Muhammad Gwadabawa, called on the state government to hasten the provision of a plot for the construction of the Federal Cooperative Integrated Centre.

According to him, if constructed, the centre would serve as a base for all categories of farmers associations in the state.

Emir of Lafia clocks 36 years on throne

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

THE Emir of Lafia Alhaji Isa Mustapha Agwai I has clocked 36 years on the throne. In a congratulatory letter to the emir, Governor Aliyu Akwe Doma rejoiced with him and thanked God for what he described as, "36 years of faithful leadership, service and monumental strides in Lafia Emirate and Nasarawa State."

The letter which was signed by Doma's Director of Media and Publicity, Ibrahim Addra, described the emir as a hardworking and dedicated leader who carries his people along.

Governor Doma also praised Dr Agwai's zeal and passion in the maintenance of peace and engendering growth and development in the state and Nigeria. Doma prayed Allah to give the emir good health, wisdom and courage to discharge of his responsibilities well. Dr. Agwai is the 16th Emir of Lafia and Chairman of the Nasarawa State Council of Chiefs.

Kogi needs more teachers - Union

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

ONLY 2,700 teachers are available to handle the 98,000 students in the 239 secondary schools in Kogi State, the Association of Staff Union of Secondary Schools (ASUSS) has said.

The state chairman of the union, Ranti Ojo, who spoke with our correspondent yesterday said 1,300 teachers were screened out during the last staff audit in the state, adding that about 7,000 teachers were needed in the state's secondary schools.

"About 141 of the 239 secondary schools are grant-aided and were taken over by the government from missionaries and private individuals.

Each of them is supposed to have at least 15 teachers, but unfortunately, none of them has up to six teachers.

The government has the responsibility of recruiting teachers for them since it has acquired them from their owners," he said. But the state Commissioner for Education Sylvester Onoja in a telephone chat with our correspondent said about 1,000 teachers were recruited in 2009, adding that the government should not be expected to recruit teachers for community schools.

"Recruitment of teachers is an unending thing in Kogi State. All the secondary schools that belong to the government are well staffed. I wonder why there are complaints of shortage of teachers", the commissioner said.

'FOI bill needs disciplinary body'

By Boco Edet

A professional body empowered to monitor and sanction journalists from abusing the Freedom of Information (FOI) bill would need to be in place to ensure its passage into law, Senator Smart Adeyemi has said.

Senator Adeyemi who introduced the bill before the legislative body told the media in Abuja that currently the Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ) did not have legal powers to stop journalists from practising when they ran afoul of the law.

Adeyemi said he was working with the NUJ and Guild of Editors to introduce a bill for the amendment of Press Council Act so the body can effectively supervise journalists.

He said, "For instance within the NUJ if you run afoul of the ethics of the profession and the president of the NUJ says look you are disgracing us I would give you a query, he can't give you a query because he does not employ you. But if there is that mechanism that can make you not to practice, because the professional body found you guilty of an offence then they would know that if you abuse the Freedom of Information bill there is a body in place to sanction you. This can be addressed once we get the amended version of the Press Council bill passed."

Mark protests Ghana's harsh economic conditions

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar

SENATE President David Mark has protested the harsh economic conditions imposed on the Nigerian business community by the government of Ghana.

In a statement signed by the Chief Press Secretary to the Senate President, Mr. Paul Mumeh, Mark protested to the government of President John Atta Mills in Accra Sunday.

Speaking at a reception held in his honour by the Nigerian Ambassador to Ghana Senator Musiliu Obanikoro, Mark noted that the \$300,000 (about N45.7m) threshold deposit imposed on Nigerian businessmen in Ghana was too high.

He said the harsh economic condition was against the spirit of brotherhood and trade cooperation within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

Besides the fee, such an entrepreneur under the condition must employ no fewer than 10 Ghanaians before he or she would be licensed to do business in Ghana.

Mark reminded the Ghanaian authorities that such condition would push his nationals doing genuine business out of the market.

Niger, Cote d'Ivoire told to fix election dates

By Aisha Umar Agaie

COTE d'Ivoire and Niger Republic have been asked by the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) to come up with a workable and acceptable election time tables as soon as practicable.

This was made known by Nigeria's Minister of state for Foreign Affairs Dr Aliyu Idi Hong, who chaired the 64th ordinary session of the ECOWAS council of ministers meeting in Abuja yesterday.

He said relevant stakeholders have already been engaged to stress the need for Niger to

restore constitutional order and Cote d'Ivoire to hold election before the end of the year.

Hong also said that, following series of consultations with relevant stakeholders like the International Contact Group on Guinea (ICG-G), Guinean authorities and people have finally agreed to hold the presidential election on June 27th, 2010.

"It is hoped that this will be followed by legislative elections within the first six months after the presidential election," he added.

He said Niger and Guinea remain suspended from ECOWAS in line with relevant provisions of the ECOWAS protocol

on democracy and good governance and the AU consultative act of (2000) until constitutional order is restored in the two countries.

He added that though the two countries have been suspended from ECOWAS, the regional body remains to assisting both the Guinea and Niger in the implementations of transition programmes that will lead to credible and transparent elections.

The minister also said the serious food, energy and financial crises facing the region can only be addressed through collective efforts and collaboration.

PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE



FROM right: Senator Ibrahim Saminu Turaki, Alhaji Bashir Tanimu and House of Representatives member Nuhu Magaji after the Senate Committee on Labour meeting in Abuja, yesterday.

Suspended NSITF CEO seeks reinstatement

By Atika Balal & Francis Okeke

SUSPENDED Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) Chief Eukora Joe Okoli has sued the NSITF and its management board alongside the Minister of Labor and Attorney General of the Federation before an Abuja Federal High Court.

Chief Okoli, who was directed by the NSITF board to proceed on a compulsory leave September last year following allegations of financial impropriety made against him by the

National Pension Commission, is asking the court to declare the directive unconstitutional, illegal, wrongful, null and void.

He is also seeking a court order asking that he be reinstated as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the NSITF with all the entitlements, benefits and other allowances that might have accrued to him during the period of his compulsory leave.

He is also seeking a declaration that his removal as Chairman of the Board of Trustfund Pensions Plc by the NSITF board violates the provisions of the Companies and Allied

Matters Act and has no effect whatsoever.

He similarly wants an order of injunction restraining the defendants, their agents, servants or privies from further interfering with his performance of his lawful duties as NSITF MD and CEO.

He is asking for the sum of N10bn as damages for the embarrassment, loss of reputation and the severe mental and psychological anguish he suffered on account of the compulsory leave foisted on him by the NSITF.

The court has set June 28 for hearing.

Reports: 1m premature babies die yearly

By Akor Ojoma

REPORTS show that one million out of the estimated 4.4 million children who die every year die within the first month of birth, President of LittleBigSouls Mrs Yvonne-Frances Igweh has said.

Briefing newsmen in Abuja yesterday, she said Africa has the highest death rate, with Nigeria alone accounting for over 283,000 neonatal deaths.

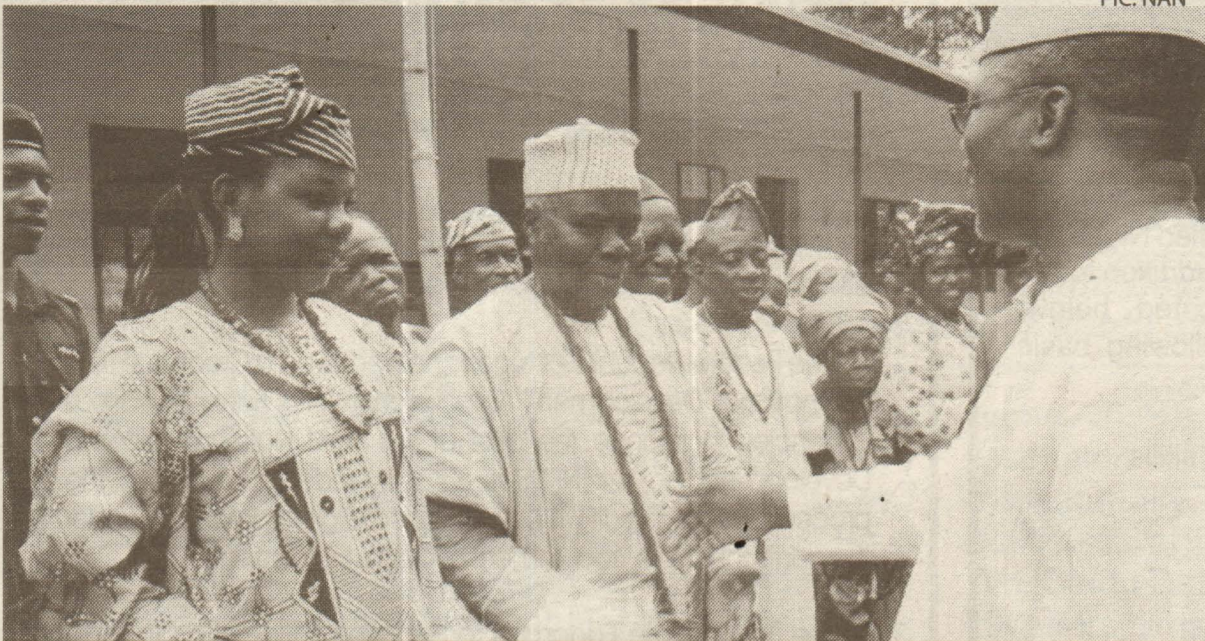
She said premature babies account for the highest percentage of mortality figures and no nation can achieve the millennium development goals 4 and 5 if it does not actively focus on the care of the premature baby and the prevention of premature labour.

Mrs Igweh said the organization discovered that lack of equipment and adequate care for mothers and preterm babies and primary health facilities are the worst hit in all aspects and the city are not much better with most having an

inadequate supply of functioning incubators.

Mrs Igweh said her group LittleBigSouls provides neonatal intensive care units, parental support and the appropriate vital nursing care for the premature children born in Africa.

President of March of Dimes in the United States of America Dr. Jennifer L. Howse said "Premature births are an enormous global problem that is exacting a huge toll emotionally, physically and financially on families, medical systems and economies."



FROM left: The Regent, Iluomoba-Ekiti, Miss Adewunmi Adeola, the Osere of Iluomoba-Ekiti, High Chief Samuel Adebiyi and Governor Segun Oni of Ekiti State during his visit to the State Government Technical College, Iluomoba, yesterday.

Speaker harps on gains of credible elections

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

CREDIBLE elections will ensure the sustenance of Nigeria's democracy, Speaker of the Sokoto State House of Assembly Alhaji Abdullahi Balarebe has said.

The Speaker who said this at an event to mark this year's Democracy Day urged politicians to practice poli-

tics without bitterness or rancour. He also called for unity, peace and understanding among Nigerians irrespective of religious or ethnic differences.

Dr. Yahaya Tanko Baba of the Department of Political Science at the Usmanu Dan Fodiyo University, Sokoto on his part, said credible elections were fundamental pillars of democracy

"Given the major landmark attained

in the current democratic dispensation -breaking the jinx of transitional elections, there should be genuine efforts towards credible elections in the country", he said. He charged Civil Society Organisations, political parties, the electorate, international community, media, the elite and government at all levels to be consistent in their drive towards credible elections.

Dearth of doctors hits Kano

From Jaafar Jaafar, Kano

AGAINST the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommendation of 1 doctor per every 1,000 patients, the doctor-patient ratio in Kano State is 1 to 125,000, the President of the Association of Resident Doctors (ARD) Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital chapter, Dr Sharfuddeen A. Mashi, has said. At a news conference by the union to announce its plans to embark on a three-day warning strike yesterday in Kano, Dr Mashi said the plans to embark on strike was based on the fact that

there was no budgetary provisions for the training of resident doctors in the country. He added that the mandatory Post Part 1 overseas clinical training for doctors was abolished a long time ago.

"Our government spends a huge amount of the nation's funds on overseas treatment that is only available to the government officials and their dependants. If used judiciously, the funds would improve our healthcare system," he said. He maintained that if the government fails to meet their demands by June 22,

they would have no option, but to embark on an indefinite strike.

He said currently, there were 23,000 Nigerian doctors practicing in the United States alone, saying they left the country because of poor infrastructure and remuneration. The doctor lamented that though, there was relative improvement due to the increasing number of resident doctors in the state, some of them still work for 72 hours without a break.

He added that the welfare of doctors in Nigeria was the worst in the world.

Unity Bank boss faults critics of CBN reforms

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

CRITICS of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Governor Sanusi Lamido Sanusi's reforms lack professional knowledge of the banking sector, the Managing Director of Unity Bank Alhaji Falalu Bello has said. Speaking in an interview with newsmen shortly after his visit to Kaduna State Governor Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa, he said the reform was the best thing that ever happened to the banking

sector.

"The reversal of these policies by Governor Sanusi is a welcome development. If you do not have honour and integrity, you have no business in the banks, because banking is all about trust. People trust you with their money, savings, and pension, so you must have honour and integrity to be in the bank," he said.

He expressed optimism that the categorisation of banks into international, national, regional and

specialised would aid the emergence of smaller banks in the Nigeria as obtained in other countries.

"I was one of the few people who criticised the Soludo's agenda. It is wrong to say let all banks be the same," he added.

Earlier, Governor Yakowa while receiving Alhaji Falalu pledged to treat everyone equally. He assured that the cordial relationship between the state and the bank would wax stronger.

Group urges probe of corruption allegations in FAAN

THE Society for Transparency and Good Governance, an independent anti-corruption advocacy group, has tasked the Presidency, Senate Committee on Aviation, the Ministry of Aviation and other stakeholders to investigate the alleged corruption within the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN).

A statement from the group signed by its Executive Director, John Dakoru, said the nation cannot continue to lose resources from FAAN, especially now that enormous resources are needed to fund many government projects that have direct bearing on the lives of the people.

The group said on inquiry, it was made to understand that high-scale corruption had remained the bane of the agency.

It said given the fact that the agency should be the most financially viable parastatal in the aviation sector because of its revenue sources, the present situation is unacceptable.

"We abhor corrupt practices across all sectors in the country and uphold the current sanitization drive by the Federal Government as part of the pub-

lic sector reforms. We see these disturbing signals as visible signs that this important government agency is facing imminent collapse unless urgent steps are taken", the statement said.

The group added that in view of the weight of the allegations flying around the present leadership of FAAN, the National Assembly, police and other law enforcement agencies should scrutinize the general operations of the agency.

It added that it had followed with keen interest, reports suggesting that companies owe FAAN over N10 billion. It cited media reports particularly after the Senate Committee on Aviation's recent meeting with FAAN, pointing to the direction that the agency would in a matter of time become bankrupt as well as power outages at the Murtala Mohammed International Airport (MMIA), Lagos which it observed, have become a recurring feature.

"At the moment, the agency can hardly carry out its statutory functions, just as the morale of its workers is at the lowest ebb", it said.



Nigerian Library Association (NLA)

Congratulation Message



Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCFR
President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

The President and members of Nigerian Library Association (NLA) congratulate Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCFR; as the 14th President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

May God grant you the wisdom and strength to govern our great nation.

Signed:

Ms. Victoria Okojie, National President

JOB VACANCY IN A FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE AGENCY

A service and pro-people oriented Federal Government Agency requires the services of suitably qualified Nigerians to fill vacant positions in the organization. In addition to the relevant educational qualifications indicated below, candidates are required to possess the following basic skills:

- Effective communication and reporting skills
- Good team working skills
- Sound ethical values
- Very good computer literacy skills
- Strong analytical skills

Positions: 1.

1. Assistant Director Admin (GL15)
2. Assistant Director of Finance & Accounts (GL15)
3. Chief Administrative Officer (GL14)
4. Chief Personnel Officer (Planning) (GL14)
5. Assistant Director Operation (GL15)
6. Chief Operations Officer (GL14)
7. Assistant Director Policy/Research & Statistics (GL15)
8. Chief Planning Officer (GL15)
9. Assistant Directors Zonal Offices (GL15)
10. Chief State Counsel (GL14)
11. Assistant Chief Confidential Secretary (GL13)
12. Chief Confidential Secretary (GL14)
13. Principal Administrative Officer (GL12)
14. Principal Auditor (GL12)
15. Principal System Analyst (GL12)
16. Medical Officer (GL12)
17. Snr. Admin Officer (GL10)
18. Snr. Technical Officer (GL07)
19. Snr. Library Officer (GL10)
20. Nursing Officer (GL09)
21. Admin Officer (GL09)
22. Procurement Officer (GL09)
23. Accountant (GL09)
24. Chief Accountant (GL14)
25. Principal Accountant (GL12)
26. Snr. Accountant (GL10)
27. Statistician (GL09)
28. Programme Analyst (GL08)
29. Store Officer (GL07/09)
30. Confidential Secretary (GL08)
31. Library Officer (GL08)
32. Customer Relations Officer (GI08)

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

Conditions of service, educational qualification, cognate experience and remuneration are as prescribed for equivalent positions in the Federal Public Service. Candidates must possess a university degree (not below second class honours), High National Diploma/Diploma (where applicable) in any of the disciplines of social sciences or any other cognate discipline or relevant professional qualification. Except entry positions, appropriate experience is required. Additional higher qualification will be an added advantage.

APPLICATION

An online application form is made available at the following link: www.drmassociatesng.com. Application should be filled and submitted on or before midnight 17th June 2010. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted via email or sms.

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CREDIT NO: 4494 -UNI

IFB No: BNSFCO/NCB/01/2010

1. This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in Development Business, issue no. 637 and Daily Trust newspaper of Nigeria of **July 3rd, 2009**.
2. The Federal Republic of Nigeria has received a Credit from the International Development Association (World Bank) in various currencies to finance the cost of the Third National Fadama Development Project (NFDP-III). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this Credit will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for the Procurement of **Office Equipment**.
3. The Benue State Fadama Coordination Office (SFCO), now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of **Office Equipment**

| LOT /NO | ITEM NO. | DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS | QTY | BID SECURITY | DELIVERY PERIOD | DELIVERY LOCATION |
|---------|----------|------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|-----------------|--|
| 1 | 1 | Desktop Computers and Accessories. | 25Nos | At least 3% of bid price | 60 Days | Benue State Fadama Coordination Office, at BNARDA HQ Premises, Km 4 Old Aliade Road, Makurdi, Benue State. |
| 1 | 2 | Desktop Computers and Accessories. | 9Nos | At least 3% of bid price | 60 Days | Benue State Fadama Coordination Office, at BNARDA HQ Premises, Km 4 Old Aliade Road, Makurdi, Benue State. |
| 1 | 3 | Software licence | 2No. | At least 3% of bid price | 60 Days | Benue State Fadama Coordination Office, at BNARDA HQ Premises, Km 4 Old Aliade Road, Makurdi, Benue State. |
| 2 | 1 | LaserJet Printers | 22Nos. | At least 3% of bid price | 60 Days | Benue State Fadama Coordination Office, at BNARDA HQ Premises, Km 4 Old Aliade Road, Makurdi, Benue State. |
| 2 | 2 | Photocopier | 2Nos | At least 3% of bid price | 60 Days | Benue State Fadama Coordination Office, at BNARDA HQ Premises, Km 4 Old Aliade Road, Makurdi, Benue State. |
| 2 | 3 | Scanning machine | 1 | At least 3% of bid price | 60 Days | Benue State Fadama Coordination Office, at BNARDA HQ Premises, Km 4 Old Aliade Road, Makurdi, Benue State. |

4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Documents at the Benue State Fadama Coordination Office, at BNARDA HQ Premises, Km 4 Old Aliade Road, Makurdi, Benue State from Monday Friday at 8.00am 4.00pm.
5. Complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **"Ten Thousand Naira Only (N10,000.00) or its equivalent in a freely convertible currency."**
6. Bids must be delivered to the above office on or before 12th July 2010 by 12noon and must be accompanied by a security of **"not less than 3%" of Bid Price**.
7. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend on **12th July 2010 by 12 Noon**, at the State Fadama Coordination Office Conference Hall, at BNARDA HQ Premises, Km 4 Old Aliade road, Makurdi, Benue State - Nigeria.

State Project Coordinator,
Benue State Fadama Coordination Office,
at BNARDA HQ Premises, Km 4 Old Aliade Road,
Makurdi, Benue State.

WHO IS GOVERNOR DAKINGARI?

What makes him unique from others

Alhaji Saidu Usman Nasamu Dakingari
Executive Governor of Kebbi State.

What distinguish a good leader from the bad one is his unquantifiable achievement outstanding legacy, as well as having made an indelible mark in history. He is recognized and appreciated for his remarkable contributions to the development of the society.

Indeed, history is for us to see all from the mystical nationalism of Charles Degaulle, the patriotism of Winston Churchill, the visionary National idea of Gamal Abdul-Naseer, the radical nobility of Pundit Neru the political audacity of Mandela and un-ephemeral equanimity cumaltruism of Sardauna of Sokoto, to mention but a few. These men of unchallenging integrity influenced history and freed their people from the shackles of oppression and bondage.

The founding father of modern day India, Mahatma Ghandi once said "Life is not for merry making rather it is for the service of humanity" **Alh. Sa'idu Usman Nasamu Dakingari** like the Congolese, Patrice Lumumba, is a compelling case study of higher patriotism, sublime nationalism, hardworking veraciousness and of course embodiment of humanity. He is a leader among leaders aimed at influencing history not merely observing it. Obviously he had become a juggernaut in the Kebbi Political configuration.

As an astute politician, he had become an example of loyalty, as it is confirmed that the absolute loyalty, dedication and total trust in a the day-to-day relationship is a framework upon which confidence and everlasting friendship is built and loyalty is the very foundation upon which true service rests. Therefore, his service to the Nigeria Custom Service is legendry.

A testimony of his sagacity and grandeur makes him a man of great ability to change a political cause as his political life becomes a culmination of nobility, generosity and steadfastness. Thus, his noble gestures involve scholarship to less privilege in the society, human resources development, youth empowerment and the overall assistance to humanity. Just seeing him, solves one's problem halfway even before complaining. His Excellency, Alh. Sa'idu Usman Dakingari's relationship with people involves him seeking for both social and political blessing every hour. This humble attitude towards life has earned him many admirers even among those who only knew his

name Alh. His Excellency is endowed with conflict resolution abilities. Arguably, he is one of the most intellectually gifted and mentally equipped politicians of this generation. These qualities of Alh. Saidu Dakingari is well known in Kebbi State. He offers himself to well meaning citizens of Kebbi State and accepts aspirations being cast at him in good will without retaliation. All his utterances indicated sincerity and his belief in Allah. In the area of patience, humility, belief and ability to listen to almost everyone and he has a stickler for the truth. Alh. Sa'idu Dakingari is a genuine gentleman. It is a glaring truth that Allah in His infinite mercy has chosen him to play a significant role in the history annals of Kebbi State for the present and next generation as his track record of excellent achievement are forever indelible in the pages of posterity. His emergence has raised our hopes and optimism after prolonged years of Cinderella politics as well as rancorous political gimmicks. His Excellency, Alh. Saidu Dakingari dedication to duty integrity, resourcefulness and meritorious service have been tested and proven beyond doubts, paving way for his meteoric rise in the public service where he ascended in the very pinnacle. He is one of the politicians who always put their feet down ensuring that the trust reposed in them is not betrayed.

As an indigene of Dakingari, His Excellency has become the envy of many to the extent that the other upright political class surrounding states want to earnestly identify themselves with. With his political background, Alh. Saidu Dakingari has distinguished himself as an example of absolute political/clairvoyance, like many distinguished politician, he has given much to the politics and strived hard to redeem its glory dipped in the last few years. Destiny has a way of manifesting itself therefore, his quiet but challenging sojourn as the Executive Governor of Kebbi State from May 2007 to date, so many people have the confidence and the bravado to accept him in public appointment as he has epitomized change and resourcefulness.

This write up cannot enumerate the achievement of His Excellency, Alh Saidu Usman Nasamu Dakingari because that would be another book of its own.

ABDULLAHI MUHAMMAD LAMBA
(Dan Masanin Yauri)
Chairman, Kebbi State Publicity Committee

Inside Politics

Nigeria's president too important to be zoned – Ireti Kingibe

HAJIYA Ireti Kingibe was All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) candidate in the battle for the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Senate seat in 2003. She tried in vain to secure PDP's ticket in 2007. Ireti, wife of the erstwhile Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Ambassador Babagana Kingibe, spoke to *Daily Trust* in Abuja on a number of political issues. Excerpts:

By Ben Atonko and Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

TALKING of 11 years of democratic governance in Nigeria without military incursion, how would you describe the journey?

We have made some progress but of course, there is still a lot more to do. For one thing, we have a democracy, but we haven't captured the soul of democracy yet. We need to have free and fair elections. That is why electoral reforms are so critical.

We also need internal democracy within all the parties. They say PDP, PDP! PDP is not the only party that does not have internal democracy. All the parties can benefit from democratic tenets.

Do you believe this administration will conduct free and fair elections in Nigeria as it did promise?

Yes, I do have confidence in this administration. In fact, I'm quite optimistic that there will be genuine electoral reform and free and fair elections, and the wish of the people will be respected. I'm looking forward to it!

Electoral reform is broad. Could you pinpoint some areas you feel this administration should consider immediately for improved polls?

One thing I think is really, really critical is a credible voters' register. I have my temporary card and there are many people like me but permanent ones cannot be found. We need to have voter's card that cannot be used by other people.

That means that it is not just enough for us to have bio-metrics when we go to register but when we go to vote! We have to be able to verify bio-metrics. There is no point in registering with thumb print and everything and on the Election Day you can vote with that card. That is one thing—to do it properly and take it to its logical conclusion. That means voter verification on Elec-



HAJIYA Ireti Kingibe

tion Day, not just voter registration.

Second, part of the problem is that from polling booth to collation centre, the results change. There should be a way to make sure that the results do not change.

Third, the punishment for INEC workers needs to be really harsh and stringent because without their cooperation, a lot of rigging, electoral malpractices cannot happen. INEC is really key! For INEC, we need a chairman with integrity—not just one that has, but is seen by the whole country to have integrity. We need to have commissioners with integrity. We need to have INEC workers with integrity and we can ensure that integrity only if we put serious deterrence in place. It will not be worthwhile for them to help you to rig an election and they go to spend the rest of their lives in jail; for what?

Once stringent measures are put in place, they will not only make the elections perfect, but they will get us well on the way of

getting very free and fair elections.

What have you to say of politicians who decamp to other parties after winning elections?

If a politician is not an office holder, he is on his own as an ordinary person and he is dissatisfied with his party, he is free to go. But if you have been elected on the platform of a particular party, I think it is wrong to then go to another party after you have won on the particular platform. That should be deterred.

How could it be done?

By reviewing the constitution of course. Part of the problem is that the constitution is a little ambivalent. It says you should not change party after you have been elected on the platform of a particular political party but it says if there is sort of division in your party, then it is Ok to do so. That is where anything can be interpreted to mean division or... even getting 10 people to go and fight in the party office, can be an excuse. That is the part of the con-

stitution that needs to be specific.

But people would just leave their parties and claim that their parties are fighting. Even in PDP people find excuses where they say there is a problem. That little loophole can always be found. That loophole is what we need to pluck.

What is your rating of women in politics now?

Women have performed quite well. The few that have been there have done very well. But women are very under represented and marginalised. And that is because they make the whole process very difficult. Rules are not obeyed. For instance, in the PDP, in the party's efforts for Affirmative Action for Women, they put certain things in place which on their own will actually promote more women in the party.

But those rules are not obeyed. For instance, there is a rule in the PDP which says that if a man and a woman have to go through a run-off, then they don't. You give the ticket to the woman. But most of the time, even enforcers disregard it because they want this person and they put all rules aside. If the rules are actually enforced, there will be more women.

So it is very difficult because they have many obstacles to get through. It is not easy at all. It takes really tenacious women to stay in Nigerian politics. Those things that are meant to soften it a little bit for women should be enforced.

The current minister of women affairs [Josephine Anenih], I know her, she is a very serious champion of women. She has always been. In 2003, that is when I first met her—though I wasn't in PDP, she is a champion of women across party lines. I'm optimistic that with her being there now, she will make a lot of difference for women.

What is your contribution to this debate on PDP's zoning issue?

I have always never ever believed in zoning because I think it breeds mediocrity. The best thing is to have the best Nigerian to do whatever job that needs to be done. Not because of mediocrity you say X must come from here, even when there is no capable person from there. Let the capable person do it from whatever part of Nigeria he comes from.

I really feel that if we do that, we will breed excellence. I have never been an advocate of zoning. Even if we are to follow some kind of zoning formula, it should be a very loose one as opposed...let us say that the best president emerges and he is from zone X. We can do the rest around him not to decide that this person must come from that zone and that person must come from this zone. It becomes difficult and unworkable.

PDP's national chairman, Prince Vincent Ogbulor, has resigned and the party is asking that someone from the south east zone should succeed him. At the same time, some PDP leaders are insisting that the presidency which is said to have been zoned to the north till 2015 be thrown open. Isn't this ironical?

To say that tenure belongs to a particular place, that is difficult. Umaru Yar'adua emerged as president. He was from the north. It doesn't mean that Umaru Yar'adua is no longer president of Nigeria—in fact, he is dead, may God rest his soul, but why can't somebody else not be president as long as he is a Nigerian and is capable and he wins the election? I think that the position of the president of Nigeria is too important to say it must come from X zone. We are not even zoning loosely as north and south. We are zoning to specific corners of the north and south. I think the best Nigerian should hold the job. If you want a minister, take the best Nigerian.

Group flays US support for Jonathan's 2011 presidency

By Muideen Olaniyi

THE Society for Preservation of Rotation Convention (SPRC) has described the United States of America's support for President Goodluck Jonathan for 2011 presidential election as dangerous and unwarranted.

The US Under Secretary for Democracy and Global Affairs, Maria Otero was reported to have said that the

American government will back President Jonathan for 2011 presidential election on the assurance that the election would be free, fair and credible.

Rising from their inaugural meeting in Enugu on 29 May, the SPRC condemned the statement saying that President Jonathan whom the group accused of rejecting and abandoning the Uwais Report, is deficient of the political will to guarantee free and fair polls in 2011.

A statement by SPRC National Coordinator Mr Osita Okechukwu queried the rationale behind US partisan support for President Jonathan against what it called prevailing Rotation Convention.

The group described Rotation Convention as a national consensus which had in previous presidential elections cushioned the twin-monster of religion and ethnic politics ravaging the polity.

Inside Politics

Aondoakaa roots for Jonathan 2011

By Muideen Olaniji

FORMER Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice Michael Aondoakaa has added his voice to the call on President Goodluck Jonathan to contest the 2011 presidential election.

Speaking to journalists in Abuja yesterday, Aondoakaa said the zoning arrangement of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) is in conflict with the Constitution, adding that the next President in 2011 must be somebody who will not abandon late President Umaru Yar'adua's 7-Point Agenda.

He rallied support for Jonathan to ensure the full implementation of the Seven-Point Agenda, saying it is the only way to pay tribute to the late President.

He said the moment everybody is allowed to contest elections irrespective of his origine, the issue of settlers or non-settlers will stop. He suggested that the choice of who should be elected as



MICHAEL Aondoakaa

President should be left to the electorate.

On the zoning issue, he said: "They will be unfair to ask him [Jonathan] not to contest and will be infringing on his constitutional right. It is a right given to him by the Constitution which he has

discretion to exercise.

"Honestly, the issue of zoning is a distraction and unconstitutional. Nigerians at this stage should be talking of credible elections and free participation. Credible people should be allowed to participate in the elec-

tion," the former Attorney General who was sacked by Jonathan said.

When asked if his position is a representation of the so called cabal of late President Yar'adua, he replied: "well, I don't know whether a cabal existed or not. But if anybody really loved Yar'adua and cherished the Seven-Point Agenda, I believe it will be unwise to work against President Jonathan because he is the one implementing the Seven-Point Agenda.

"I am talking of what I feel. My passion is that the ideals that were conceived by the late President and his co-pilot should be fully implemented. Except someone has his own private motive, President Jonathan should be allowed to continue," he said.

Aondoakaa also dismissed insinuations that he was preparing to contest the governorship election in his home state of Benue in 2011, saying he cannot betray Governor Gabriel Suswan whom he described as a friend.

No plan to stop deliberations in vernacular -Lagos Assembly

THE Lagos State House of Assembly has given the assurance that it will continue to carry out its deliberations on Thursdays in Yoruba Language.

Majority Leader of the House, Mr Kolawole Taiwo, gave the assurance on Monday in Ikeja, Lagos.

Taiwo was reacting to speculations that the assembly was not serious with deliberating in Yoruba, and may dump the idea soon.

A source in the House said on condition of anonymity that the leadership of the assembly was not serious about the use of the language.

However, Taiwo said that the assembly had put adequate measures in place to sustain deliberations in vernacular every Thursday.

He said one of the meas-

ures was the planned training of the House members and legislative workers on the use of the language.

The majority leader could not disclose when the training would be done, but said the Clerk of the House, Mr Adewale Olatunji, would determine that.

He said the House was still at a learning stage with the use of vernacular for deliberations.

"If we have issues that are germane to us, we revert to English. We do that to give lawmakers the opportunity to discuss freely, especially when the report was prepared in English.

"It is so difficult translating reports into Yoruba but we are working on it," he said.

Taiwo noted that the assembly had passed a supplementary budget, using the Yoruba Language. (NAN)

Internal squabble will consume PDP, says Yobe ANPP

From Hamza Idris, Damaturu

CHAIRMAN of the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) in Yobe State Alhaji Sani Inuwa Nguru has said that the internal squabbles rocking the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) would collapse the party and give way for the emergence of more vibrant politicians that would salvage Nigeria from poverty and deprivation.

Nguru, who spoke to journalists in Damaturu on Sunday, said the ANPP would capitalize on the weaknesses of the PDP including its crisis of succession to take over power at the national level in 2011.

"In the last eleven years, Nigerians have shown interest in democracy but by its disposition, the PDP is not willing to consolidate the gains. It is pertinent for people with good conscience to come together

and defuse the excesses of the PDP," the chairman said.

Nguru said the PDP has reached its climax and therefore must give way for other parties to take over because Nigerians are in need of electricity, health facilities, roads, schools and other infrastructures which according to him, the PDP was not ready to offer.

Making reference to the travails of the immediate past chairman of the PDP Prince Vincent Ogbulafor, Nguru averred that: "Since the inception of this democratic dispensation, there was never a time that any PDP national chairman served and left office honourably...they (chairmen) are always frustrated out of office by a cabal as soon as there services are no longer needed. God would not allow such an injustice to stand the test of time," the chairman said.

Democracy has come to stay - Mark

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar

SENATE President David Mark has commended Nigerians for their steadfastness and commitment to the propagation and sustenance of democracy in the country.

In a goodwill message to Nigerians on the celebration of 11 years of interrupted civil rule in the country, Mark praised the perseverance of citizens over the years in their commitments to preserving the sanctity of democracy.

He said Nigerians have remained resilient and resolute over the years especially since 1999, supporting successive administrations for democracy to thrive in the nation.

"Our people have toiled and

laboured for our democracy. Destiny has entrusted in us the responsibility to uphold what our people deserve. We shall do our utmost best to ensure that democracy is not only a norm but a way of life in Nigeria," Mark said.

The Senate President promised that the present administration will neither disappoint nor deviate from upholding the tenets of democratic government that is participatory and truly represents our people.

He expressed optimism that the electoral reforms which Nigerians yearn for would be concluded before the expiration of the present administration so that the forthcoming general elections would profit from it.

Mark assured the people that the constitution amendment will soon be

completed saying "I am sure that the final copy of the constitution amendment would be a document that would please all sections of Nigeria because we have painstakingly addressed all areas of imbalances and complaints in the Land."

"What is left now is a concurrence between the Senate and the House of Representatives as well as getting the state houses of Assembly, at least a constitutional requirement of two-third of the state legislatures to endorse the document before the clean copy is rolled out," he added..

Mark also pleaded with Nigerians to cooperate and continue to support governments at all levels in order to facilitate dividend of democracy.

'May 29 is hypocrisy for democracy'

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

ACTION Congress (AC) senatorial aspirant for Benue South, Daniel Onjeh, has said that the marking of May 29 as Democracy Day in Nigeria smacks of hypocrisy. He said the proponents are beneficiaries the electoral rigging that is often legitimised on the day.

Onjeh who spoke to *Daily Trust* on phone yesterday, said he was not surprised that only those in power, and particularly state governors look at May 29 as Democracy Day because "they will uphold and celebrate a day that brought them as beneficiaries of rigging and the kind of democracy that negates popular will."

"May 29 Democracy Day is the height of hypocrisy and by its inherent nature, a mockery of the Nigerian project... May 29 since 1999 has been a celebration of arranged selection called elections, characterized by violence, intimidation, rigging, bribery, killing and maiming," he said.

"Instead, we prefer June 12, if we must have a day to celebrate democracy in this country. But since the beneficiaries of this order of denying Nigerians the right to decide who governs them have foisted a date on us, it should be observed with a sober reflection and not jamboree or as an avenue of siphoning public funds," the aspirant added.

CORRIGENDIUM

Re-Federal Ministry of Water Resources

This is to inform the general public that the advertisement published in Page 59 of Dailytrust newspaper of Monday May 31, 2010 as Ministry of Agriculture Water Resources is supposed to be Federal Ministry of Water Resources (Nigerian Hydrological Services Agency, NHSA) This error is highly regretted.

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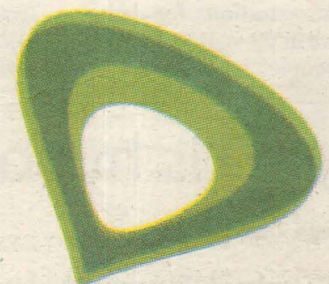
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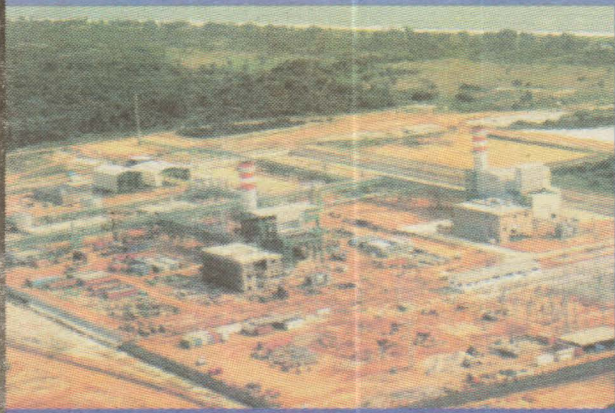
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Geregu Gas Station

ZAKHEM : THE STORY SO FAR !...

Zakhem Group is an international entity founded in 1963 to meet the expanding investments, turnkey, EPC Projects, Operation/Maintenance Service contract of the Middle East and Africa. Zakhem, has since inception not only achieved its initial objectives but has expanded operations with offices in four continents, namely Africa, Asia, Europe and America.

The **Zakhem Group** has for over forty years served the petrochemical industry and through its worldwide affiliates has earned an international reputation in the fields of engineering and construction of onshore and swamp pipelines, depot tank farms, gathering and pumping stations refineries and industrial plants. Zakhem is also engaged in cross-country pipeline activities with the latest technologies of horizontal directional drilling for its friendly impact on Environment and Safety.

The skills, experience and resources gained over the period since its incorporation, combined with a proven track record of completed high quality work; enable the Zakhem Group of Companies to undertake major projects anywhere in the world.

Zakhem Construction Nigeria Limited was established in 1992 and is a fully registered indigenous company with several active bases in various States of Nigeria. Zakhem has its headquarters in Lagos with branch offices in Abuja, Warri and Port-Harcourt.

It is on record that Zakhem Construction Nigeria Limited has successfully completed several large scale projects both in the private and public sectors, with a drive towards reliability and efficiency in oil and gas transportation and distribution. Zakhem's clients during this period include the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Shell Petroleum Development Company, Chevron Nigeria Limited, Total E&P Nigeria Limited, Dangote Group, Lagos State Government and others. Zakhem is focused on services and contracts on Engineering Procurement and Construction basis or Turnkey and Operations /Maintenance to the International Oil Companies, PC and its subsidiaries.

Zakhem Nigeria has won many contracts in Nigeria since 1992 through competitive bidding in the Nigerian oil and Gas industry and in the last 18 years has never abandoned any project in Nigeria or any where it has its operations, and has completed projects in record time.

Zakhem Construction Nigeria Limited is a trustworthy partner of the Nigerian People for reliable gas supplies to achieve the Federal Government targeted electricity generation. Zakhem, a SON ISO registered company, has introduced major technological advances in pipeline construction in Nigeria, being the first company to employ the automatic welding system, which increases speed, precision, eliminates errors, and ensures quality. It has employed horizontal directional drilling

for crossings, a unique technology used for the first time in Nigeria. These technological advances help to boost safety, efficiency, productivity, accuracy and quality.

In line with the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation directive for local content development, Zakhem has co-operated and collaborated actively with indigenous subcontractors to implement contracts. The engagement of indigenous subcontractors is targeted at enhancing indigenous manpower development and sharing of experience in the construction of oil and gas transmission and distribution system and not meant to defraud NNPC. Zakhem has in its employment thousands of Nigerians. It is noteworthy that Zakhem Nigeria has many operational camps and sub camps in Nigeria and has operational equipment for Oil and Gas Industry which is more than adequate to meet the operational needs of each project in that it consists of a wide and diverse range of machinery, tools and equipment. Zakhem has also recently expended a lot of money on equipment for new projects in Nigeria.

Zakhem has always focused on integrating its activities with the local communities creating partnership, opportunities and developing the area and as such has actively participated in developing the local communities in the States of Nigeria where there is a Zakhem presence.. Zakhem proactively developed partnerships in its operations with the indigenous Communities in **Escravos, Rivers and Niger Delta** areas in general. Zakhem partners with indigenous companies by being proactive and has earned the trust of the communities and created harmony and peace during operations in Mosimi - Atlas Cove, Ajaokuta, Geregu and Oben. This partnership with the local communities and indigenous companies has enhanced the local content directives of the Nigerian Government.

Zakhem Nigeria was established long before any other affiliate on the west coast, NGC could not carry out due diligence on non existing entities at the time. Mr. Ibrahim Zakhem mentioned in recent Newspapers publications never set foot in Nigeria!

We must set the record straight by laying bare the fact that all the projects that were awarded to Zakhem by the Nigerian Gas Company went through due process prior to award. The contracts were fixed lump sums, with no room for variations or changes. The Gas Supply to PHC Power Plant at Geregu (Phase I) was a 4.2KM x 18" Pipeline project awarded to Zakhem in April 2006 and commenced in May of the same year. The project was completed according to planned schedule and has since been delivering gas to the PHCN Geregu Power Plant. This is why the then President Olusegun Obasanjo was able to commission this plant in February, 2007.

The Gas Supply to Geregu Power Plant (Phase 2) is a 198KM x 36 Pipeline facility from Oben to Geregu. The construction of the

pressure reduction and metering systems (PHC) and the pipeline is 97% completed. A community obtained a court injunction against PCINGC entrance to the site, which meant that work could not stretch of the pipeline route until the court issue. A high court in Benin City recently delivered a judgment on the issue and Zakhem has remobilized to site to complete the pipeline of the project.

Moreso, the Abeokuta / Papalanto Gas Pipeline project completed, commissioned and handed over to the community claimed in the publication. Members of the community inspected the completed facilities and were impressed with the work.

In addition, the Escravos - Lagos Pipeline Project Phase I of the project involve the construction of a 48KM x 30" from Escravos to Warri and 48KM x 30" from Warri to Lagos. The project has reached 70% completion contrary to the publication. With regard to phase 2 of the project from Oben to Lagos, Zakhem was paid 15% contract sum against a verified valid bank guarantee. To date, Zakhem has not been paid 85% of the contract sum. No letter of credit (L/C) has been issued therefore, orders could not be placed for major materials. It should be noted that once the L/C is established, Zakhem will be paid until proof that materials and goods are submitted.

Zakhem is also involved in other major projects in the country for transmission and distribution to achieve the electricity generation targets which include the Procurement and Construction of the 5KM x 24" Pipeline for Chevron Nigeria Limited and the 198KM x 36" O.U.R. Gas Pipeline project for Total E&P Nigeria Limited. The 45KM x 42" pipeline in joint venture with an indigenous company.

Zakhem has recently submitted bids for several projects which include Ajaokuta - Abuja - Kaduna - Kogi (AKK), Calabar - Ajaokuta Pipeline Gas Project (CAGP) project, which were on offer for competitive bidding. Zakhem provided 10% of tender sum as tender guarantee to the Banks in fulfillment of the bid requirement. The bid was authentic and not forged as alleged. This can be proven by investigative reporting.

Zakhem Group has integrated itself on the West African continent by delivering high quality work to meet the codes and standards, transparent conduct and integrity against other companies both local and international and the indigenes.

For purposes of clarity, reference and verification of the work are Zakhem's projects concluded, ongoing or in progress.

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MINISTER of state for Power Arc. Nuhu Somo Wya, Israeli Ambassador to Nigeria Moshe Ram and Permanent Secretary Ministry of Power Alhaji Isah Bello Sali when the Israeli envoy visited the minister on Friday in Abuja.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

DANA Airlines:

Lagos-Abj: 07.20; 08.19, 09.00, 12.15, 15.30, 17.10 (Mon-Fri/Sat/Sun)
Abj-Lagos: 07.20, 09.45, 11.25, 13.05, 14.40, 17.40 (Mon-Fri/Sat/Sun)
Lag-Kano via Abj: 08.19, Abuja: 10.00
Kano-Lag via Abj: 11.25, Abuja: 11.25
Lagos-Enu: 14.40,
Enu-Lagos: 16.20
Lagos-PH: 09.27
PH-Lagos: 12.15

OVERLAND Airways

Lagos-Ilorin: 07.15 (Mon-Fri), Ilorin-Lagos: 16.15 (Mon-Fri)
Abuja-Ilorin: 15.00 (Mo-Fri), Ilorin-Abuja: 08.15 (Mon-Fri)
Lagos-Ibadan: 07.15 (Mon-Fri), Lagos-Ibadan: 16.15 (Mon-Fri)
Ibadan-Abuja: 08.00 (Mon-Fri), Abuja-Ibadan: 5.00 (Mon-Fri)
Kats-Abuja: 07.30 (Mon-Fri) Abuja-Kats: 15.30 (Mon-Fri)
Minna-Lagos: 09.40 Lagos-Minna: 13.00 (Mon-Fri)
Abuja-Minna: 09.00 (Mon-Fri) Minna-Abuja: 14.30
Jos-Kano: 10.15 (Mon-Fri), Kano-Jos: 11.30 (Mon-Fri)
Abuja-Jos: 09.30 (Mon-Fri), Jos-Abuja: 12.30

Why food, energy, financial crises persist in W/Africa - Minister

THE Federal Government on Monday linked the unabated food, energy and financial crises in the ECOWAS sub-region to half-hazard implementation of agreements reached by member states.

Dr Aliyu Idi Hong, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, stated this at the 64th Session of the Council of Ministers of ECOWAS in Abuja.

Hong said the half-hazard implementation of the 1979 ECOWAS Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, Goods and Services and the Right of Residence and Establishment by member states was retrogressive. "Despite efforts and structures put in place to fast track the integration process within the sub-region, the lack of political will by member states to implement this agreement has further undeveloped us.

"Citizens of the region have continued to face harassment, intimidation, torture and extortion in the hands of the security agencies manning our borders.

"These unfortunate trends have no doubt constitute serious barriers to trade and development within the sub-region," Hong said. He said that he hoped the construction of the five joint border posts,

including that of Nigeria-Benin border post, under the auspices of ECOWAS and the EU would reverse the trend.

Hong stressed that it was expected that when border posts are completed, all the impediments to trade would have been removed.

The Minister of State also noted that the establishment of a Customs Union in the sub-region remained one of ECOWAS top priorities.

He added that the establishment of a Customs Union would make the free trade area function effectively.

According to him, it will act as a lubricant to the establishment of the Common External Tariff (CET) and eliminate all impediments to the free movement of persons, goods and services.

Hong, however, lauded ECOWAS Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP) and the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). He expressed satisfaction on the sincere steps taken by the organisation to assist states undergoing challenges of enthrone constitutional democracy. He said that it was gratifying to see efforts by the organisation and Nigeria to resolve the political

logjam in Guinea Bissau, Guinea had paid off with agreements for elections this year.

Hong said that President Goodluck Jonathan in conjunction with ECOWAS had engaged the relevant stakeholders to ensure workable election time table in Cote d'Ivoire and Niger.

"It is hoped that through this process, we will be able to consolidate the gains of democratic governance and development in our sub-region," he said.

Mr James Gbeho, President of the ECOWAS Commission expressed happiness that the global financial crisis that worked against economies of member states was now under control.

"Our success in the face of the ongoing global economic recession will be measured by how effective we adapt and respond to the measures put in place by global financial institutions," Gbeho said.

The highlight of the meeting is the consideration of the reports of the Financial Controller and Audit Committee of the council.

The reports are for the good governance of community institutions and their administrative and financial management. (NAN)

STOCK MARKET INDEX

| | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| Date: | Friday, May 28, 2010 |
| Index: | 25,849.42 |
| Deals: | 10,502 |
| Volume: | 360,973,188 |
| Value: | N 3,367,589,904.53 |
| Cap.: | N6,287,591,515,165.62 |

TRUST INDEX

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Inflation | 12.5% |
| GDP | 6.68% |
| Budget | N4.6tr |
| Ext. Reserves Acct | \$40.1bn |
| Excess Crude Acct | \$4.3bn |
| Poverty Ratio | 54.4% |
| Monetary Policy Rate | 6% |
| Banks | 24 |
| Oil Price | \$74 a barrel |
| Power Supply | 3, 600MW |
| Oil output per day | 2.6mbd |
| Broad Money Supply | N11,010,063.6m |
| Credit to Private Sector | N10,037,422.5m |
| Inter-Bank Rate | 1.2200% |
| Treasury Bills | 1.3% |
| Deposit Rate | 7.51% |
| Prime Lending Rate | 18.06% |

CBN EXCHANGE RATES

| 25/5/2010 | Buying (NGN) | Central (NGN) | Selling (NGN) |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| CFA | 0.2596 | 0.2696 | 0.2796 |
| DANISH KRONER | 24.2836 | 24.3657 | 24.4478 |
| EURO | 180.8006 | 181.412 | 182.0233 |
| POUNDS STERLING | 212.1343 | 212.8516 | 213.5689 |
| RIYAL | 39.432 | 39.5654 | 39.6987 |
| SDR | 216.9549 | 217.6885 | 218.4221 |
| SWISS FRANC | 126.8399 | 127.2688 | 127.6977 |
| US DOLLAR | 147.87 | 148.37 | 148.87 |
| WAUA | 217.1708 | 217.9052 | 218.6395 |
| YEN | 1.6516 | 1.6572 | 1.6628 |

Bureau de Change Rates

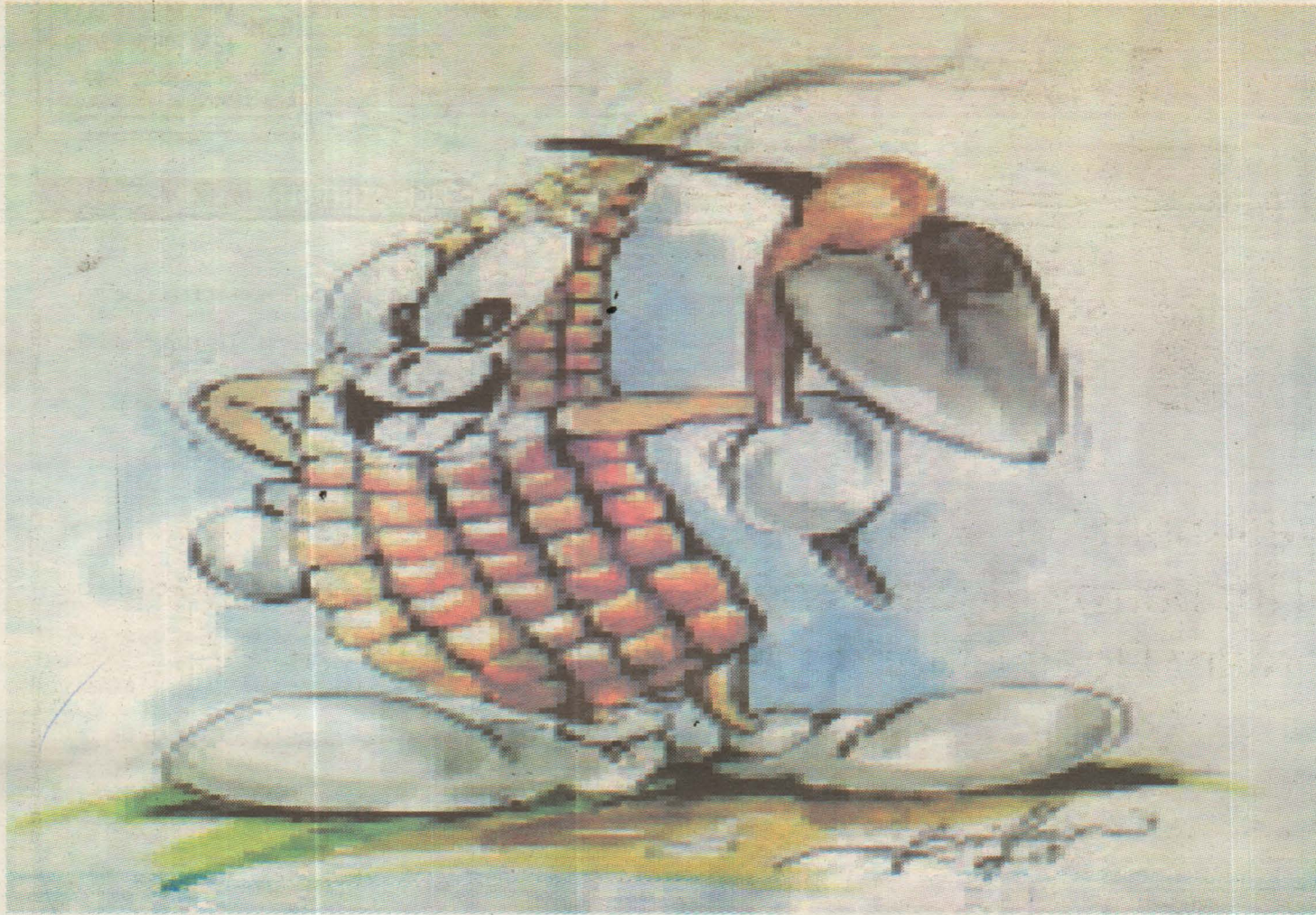
| BUYING | |
|---------|------|
| Dollar | N152 |
| Euro | N190 |
| Pound | N225 |
| SELLING | |
| Dollar | N153 |
| Euro | N193 |
| Pound | N228 |

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



CBN

Business/Agric



600 farmers get improved rice seedlings

NO fewer than 600 rice farmers in Katsina State have benefited from the improved rice seedlings distributed by the National Cereals Research Institute (NCRI).

Malam Bello Usman, Information Officer of the Funtua Local Government, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) on Monday that the distribution was in collaboration with the National Agricultural Seed Council of Nigeria (NASC).

He said that benefiting farmers were selected from rice cultivation areas across the state. Usman said the programme was aimed at enhancing rice production through sensitising rice farmers and assisting them with inputs.

According to him, the Director of NCRI, Dr A.A. Ochigbo, while addressing farmers said the participating states in the programme include Sokoto, Kebbi, Katsina and Zamfara.

Ochigbo added that 600 farmers had benefited from each of these states. He further called on farmers to make proper use of the improved seeds and

to adhere to the application of modern rice farming techniques.

The NCRI Director pointed out that no amount of fertiliser would increase rice production when the initial seed was inferior. In a remark, the representative of Africa Rice Development Centre, Mr Abraham Shu'aibu, said the programme would complement government's poverty reduction effort.

Shu'aibu explained that the programme would also encourage the cultivation of high yield rice varieties. In their separate addresses, the Vice Chairman of Funtua Local government, Alhaji Muntari Maska, and the District Head of Funtua, Alhaji Sambo Idris, commended the programme sponsors and organisers.

He added that it would also reduce high importation of rice into the country. A cross-section of Farmers expressed gratitude over the gesture and assured judicious application of the seed for the benefit of others and called on other agencies to emulate the organisers.

National seed council reviews policies

By Tina A. Hassan

THE National Agricultural Seed Council (NASC) has begun a review of seed policies in the country.

Speaking at stakeholders' validation workshop in Abuja, the Executive Secretary of NASC Chief Olasunkanmi Shobowale said the availability of quality seed to farmers is a major determinant of the quality of food produced; therefore seed policies must be upgraded constantly.

He said the council in collaboration with the Farm and Infrastructure Foundation (FIF) is critically examining the impact of regional workshops conducted in various farming communities in the six geopolitical zones.

The workshops have enabled the Council obtain relevant input and information on seed policies with the stakeholders.

Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Prof. Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah said the workshop is the latest in a series of steps taken by the Federal Government to encourage participation of agriculture stakeholders in policy formulation.

According to him, the workshops held in the various geopolitical zones are a means of consulting with primary stakeholders who mostly farmers.

"The national Agricultural Seed Policy is in progress and I assure you that other critical areas of agricultural development requiring definite policy statements would also be visited and action would be taken to back such policy statements," he said.

Chairman, Governing Board of the Council Dr. James Angbazo said the quality seeds account for 50% agricultural productivity making seeds the most important input in agriculture.

He said: "A lot of work needs to be done in ensuring the availability of high quality seeds to meet farmers' needs.

Accurate and reliable data is also required not only for planning purposes but by investors to determine the profitability of seed business in Nigeria."

Farmers get drought tolerant crops

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

NO fewer than 134 farmers in the two project communities of Daudu and Falgore of Benue and Kano States have got drought tolerant varieties of three crops from Greenwatch Initiative which is implementing a three-year pilot project under the Building Nigeria's Response to Climate Change (BNRCC).

Emmanuel Tembe, Greenwatch's Executive Director, named the crops as Rice-Nerica 3, Soya-bean- Tx 1448- 2E and Maize- TZE COMP 3(white), which were procured from Promoting Sustainable

Agriculture in Borno State (PRO-SAB). The improved seeds were distributed to the most vulnerable farmers in each community based on vulnerability rating.

He told *Daily Trust* yesterday that the initiation came as part of Greenwatch's programme to introduce farmers in the two communities to alternative cropping practices and to build adaptation to the prevailing climate change. He said this initiative will enable farmers to utilize the early rains for planting of new stock.

He said 100kg of the improved varieties of the crops were distributed to the farmers by the project

implementation team led by Mary Akoji and Peter Anchakor.

"The varieties are drought tolerant, high yielding and early maturing stock compared with the local varieties", he said.

The PROSAP project is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in conjunction with International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and Borno State Agricultural Development Project (BOSADP). The project has developed these crop varieties for application in Sahel, Sudan and southern guinea savannah where the BNRCC pilot projects are located.

Borno spends N600m on farm implements

THE Borno Government on Saturday said it procured farm implements worth N600 million for distribution to farmers.

Gov. Ali Modu Sheriff said this at a Democracy Day rally held at the Ramat Square in Maiduguri.

"We have imported 600 units of tractors and spare parts in our bid to encourage farming in the state.

"We have also reactivated various irrigation schemes in different parts of the state to ensure food security," he said.

Government, he said, also spent about N700 million on the renova-

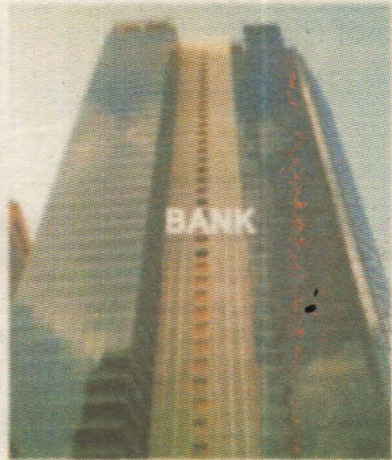
tion of the State Specialist Hospital in Maiduguri.

"We have also carried out overhaul of various hospitals as well as procured necessary equipment for their operations," Sheriff added.

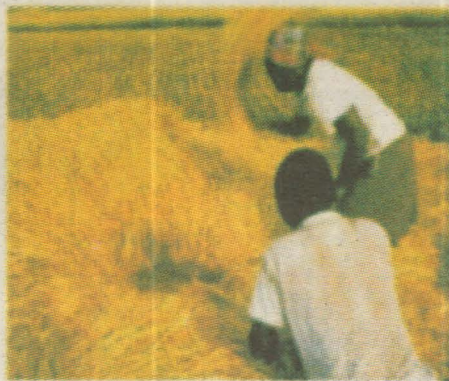
He said government constructed boarding primary schools in the 27 local councils to ensure the development of education at the grassroots.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that the event was attended by top government functionaries, public office holders and civil servants. (NAN)

Good Investor, Good Citizen



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DEBT MANAGEMENT OFFICE
NIGERIA

Business/Energy

New gas price will close more factories –MAN President

Malam Bashir Borodo is the President of the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN). In this interview, he describes government decision to increase gas price by 400 per cent as outrageous and one that would pull down factories.

By Hamisu Muhammad

HOW do you see the increase in gas price by government?

I think the lack of sufficient gas is not connected to its price but that of regulation. Right from the beginning, when exploration began in the 50s, oil was what they were looking for and they flared the gas. There were two issues then. If you create gasification plant at that time there was nobody to buy. The first set of the thermal turbine came around 1975-78 almost 20 years after the discovery of oil, then NLNG came which provided an outlet and then the demand for electricity started increasing but there was no sufficient power plants to take all the gas then. So it was never really a priority for the oil companies. And then the regulators were not doing anything about gas flare, because they could have done that even for environmental reasons that would have been paramount and it could have saved us some of this outrageous situation we have found ourselves in the Niger Delta region.

Now there is need for this gas and most of it will go to Nigerian Gas Company (NGC) onward to Power Holding Company Nigeria (PHCN), Petrochemical plants, among other but the NGC is the intermediary company and we on our side we knew that the cost to them was underpriced.

Of recent, we have had serious problem in the Lagos axis especially in Ikeja where most of our industries are using gas as their energy source. One major distributor, Gaslink Ltd was compelled to increase the gas price to about N59 per cubic feet from N22 per cf and we had a serious battle with them because the increase was too much, we held several meetings with former Minister of Petroleum, Odien Ajumogobia, senate

committees and in conclusion we arrived at N40/cf pending the emergence of gas policy which the former minister promised. We never expect it that the gas policy will take it high up to \$1 per million metric British thermal unit (mmbtu).

What is your position?

Let me put it this way: Off course, no one can endorse such an increase but if the increase is tight to production, then it will make sense. As it is now there is no need to increase the price and it will not help anybody. It will also destroy some of the industries that rely on gas to survive, including the PHCN itself because they cannot pay such amount. However, if price graduated based on the higher you pay the more the quantity you get, then we can be assured that there will be enough gas to power the turbines. And that can grantee us that we are on our way to solve the energy problems in the country, but just to overshoot the price now without corresponding increase in productivity will only strengthen the monopoly in the gas market.

In the Lagos area we have only three companies that distribute gas - Mobil, Gaslink, and another one with the increase now you just open gate for them to increase anyhow, but if it is tight to the quantum of gas that is produced and the quantum of gas to be distributed then in the long run it will make sense.

How will the increase affect our operations?

I said at least 60 percent of the industries in the Lagos Area and Ogun relies on gas to generate energy, so this will be a very big blow to them.

What do you suggest?

If the quantity is not increased, there will be no positive impact unless there is increase in production level of the gas, which means, it will go round for every one. PHCN will get,



MALAM Bashir Borodo

our members will get. Take companies like NOTORE in Port Harcourt, Rivers State that produces fertilizer and they rely on gas as a raw material, the increase will lead to very outrageous increase in the price of their final products which means you are putting them out of business.

At the same time, the petrochemical plant in Eleme, Port Harcourt again that produces chemical for plastic industry, you are also putting them out of business very soon; you will see the cost of plastic bags for bread and pure water going up. So it has a wider implication.



NIGERIAN AGRICULTURAL, AND COOPERATIVE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT BANK LIMITED

NOTICE FOR ALL PENSIONERS OF NIGERIAN AGRICULTURAL, COOPERATIVE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT BANK LIMITED

This is to inform all pensioners of the Nigerian Agricultural Cooperative and Rural Development Bank Ltd (i.e. NACB-PTF and defunct People's Bank of Nigeria) that a pension verification exercise for all pensioners of the Bank has been scheduled to take place as follows:-

| DATE | STATES | VENUE |
|---|--|---|
| 7 th -9 th June, 2010 | Bauchi, Adamawa, Gombe, Taraba, Borno, Yobe & Maiduguri. | NACRDB, Zonal Office, Bauchi off A/Bello Way Road. |
| 7 th -9 th June, 2010 | River, Bayelsa, Cross-River, Akwa Ibom State, Delta & Edo. | NACRDB, Zonal Office, Olu Obasanjo Road, Port Harcourt. |
| 14 th -16 th June, 2010 | Enugu, Anambra, Ebonyi, Imo, Abia & Owerri. | NACRDB, Zonal Office, Enugu Independence Layout, Enugu. |
| 21 st -23 rd June, 2010 | Kano, Katsina, Zamfara, Kebbi, Jigawa and Sokoto. | NACRDB, Zonal Office Kano 31/34 New City Centre, Kano. |
| 21 st -23 rd June, 2010 | FCT, Nassarawa, Kogi, Niger, Plateau, Benue, Lokoja & Kwara. | NACRDB, Zonal Office, Central Business Area, Abuja. |
| 24 th -25 th June, 2010 | Kaduna. | NACRDB, Head Office Yakubu Gowon Way, Kaduna. |
| 28 th -30 th June 2010 | Oyo, Osun, Ondo, Ekiti, Lagos & Ogun States. | NACRDB, Ibadan Zonal Office, Total Garden Secretarial Road. |

Kindly come along with the following:

- i. 2 passport size photograph
- ii. Letters of appointment and retirement
- iii. Name of Bank
- iv. Branch
- v. Account number
- vi. Sort code

All Pensioners of the Bank are please advised to ensure that they participate in the verification exercise.

Signed:

I.A. BINDAWA

Business/Power

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar

HOST communities of Hydro-Electric Power stations in the country will soon enjoy economic boost in form of compensation from energy revenues. The National Assembly recently passed the Hydro-Electric Power Producing Areas Development Commission (HYPADEC) aimed at paying compensation to communities affected by construction of hydro-power stations in parts of the country.

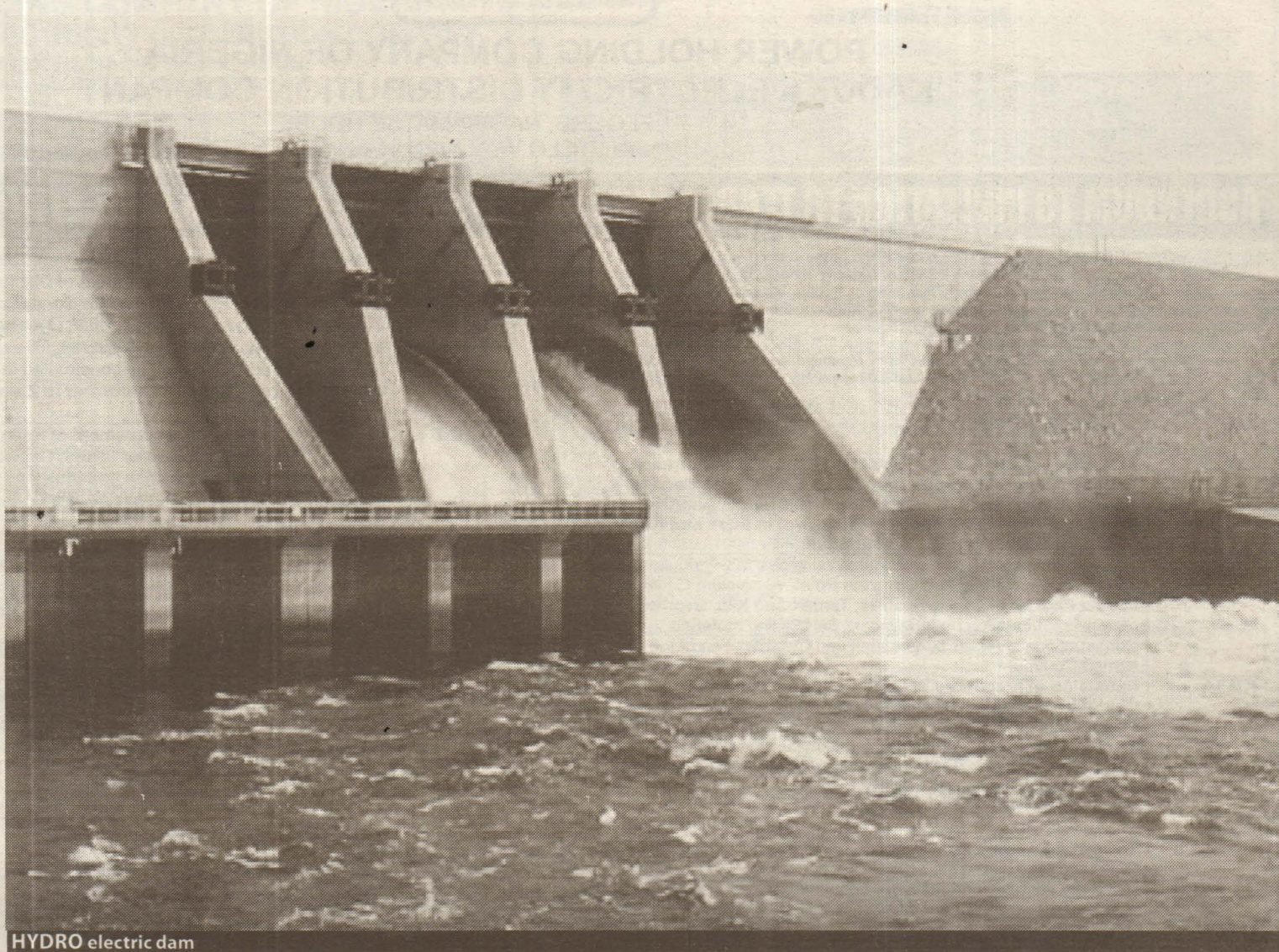
Several communities have lost ancestral homes and heritage as well as original sources of economic livelihood as a result of location of hydro-power stations in their areas. For instance, the inhabitants of New Bussa and Jebba in Niger State had to be moved several kilometres from their ancestral homes to give way for hydro-electric dams.

In a bid to compensate the people of such areas, there have been efforts by lawmakers from affected states to enact laws that could ameliorate the hardship faced by the people. Accordingly, a bill for establishment of the Hydro-Electric Power Producing Areas Development Commission (HYPADEC) was sponsored in the early days of the present democratic dispensation. At that time, the bill passed through due legislative process and was sent for Presidential assent which was denied by then President Olusegun Obasanjo.

Consequently, interested legislators adopted the bill with a view to getting signed into law by the present administration. With sponsorship from Senator Dahiru Awaisu Kuta (PDP, Niger) and several other lawmakers, the bill had to begin from the bottom of the progression chart. It was given accelerated consideration and has now been passed into law by both chambers of the National Assembly.

Highlights of the bill provides for various benefits to host communities of hydro-electric dams. The proposed commission is to galvanise efforts at correcting environmental degradation and economic difficulties being faced by the people as a result of construction of hydro-power stations in the localities. As part of the incentives, the communities in Niger, Kwara, Kebbi and Kogi states that suffers from the adverse effect of

“The proposed commission is to galvanise efforts at correcting environmental degradation and economic difficulties being faced by the people as a result of construction of hydro-power stations in the localities.



HYDRO electric dam

Hosts of hydro-power dams to get 30% of revenue

hydro-electric dams are to get 30 percent of total revenue generated by Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) from the operation of the Hydro-Electric dams in Nigeria. This is to include all revenues from electricity generated through the hydro-electric stations which runs into billions of naira annually. The law is coming at a time when the PHCN is planning hike in electricity charges.

In addition, the areas are to receive 50 percent of money due to member states of the commission from the Ecological Funds; all money raised for the purpose of the functions of the commission by way of gift, loan, grant-in-aid, testamentary disposition or otherwise; and Proceeds from all other assets that may from time to time accrue to the Commission.

According to lead sponsor of the bill, HYPADEC is to take care of sufferings of the people. Speaking after the bill passed third reading in the Senate, Kuta said: “The devastating impacts of these Hydro-Electric Dams on our environment require no emphasis. The effects are social, physical and chemical and are felt upstream and downstream of these Dams, particularly the hundreds of villages living along the flood plains of Rivers Kaduna and Niger.”

He expressed disgust that though the areas face adverse challenges of the dams, “These communities find it difficult to bear the painful fact that, the Dams on their land can provide the nation electricity without extending such benefits to them. How do these people tell the world that the high-tension electric cables that supply power to neighbouring cities, pass through their villages without supplying them with electricity? Even Shiroro village from which, Shiroro Dam derived its name is not supplied with electricity yet it is just about 500 metres away from the Dam site. Only few areas dislocated are lucky to have electricity. These villages are lucky because they are located in the immediate neighbourhood of the Dams and are playing host to numerous construction workers attached to the Dam.”

When established the commission is to be expected to uplift the living standards of the affected communities. HYPADEC would among several other things formulate policies and guidelines for the development of Hydroelectric Power Producing Areas.

It would also;

*Conceive, plan and implement in accordance with set rules, regulate projects and programmes for the development of Hydroelectric Power Producing Areas in the areas of transportation, health, education, agriculture, housing and urban development, water supply, electricity and telecommunications;

*Carry out a survey of the Hydroelectric Power Producing Areas in order to ascertain measures which are necessary to promote its physical development;

*Prepare schemes designed to promote the physical developments of the Hydroelectric power Producing Areas and estimate the cost of implementing such schemes;

*Implement all measures approved for development of Hydroelectric power producing Areas by the Federal Government;

*Identify factors inhibiting the development of the Hydroelectric Power Producing Areas and assist States in the formulation and implementation of policies to ensure sound and efficient management of the resources of the Hydroelectric Power Producing Areas;

*Assess and report on any project being funded or carried out in the Hydroelectric power producing Areas and ensures that funds released for such projects are properly utilized;

*Tackle ecological problems that arise from over loading of dams in the Hydroelectric Power Producing Area and advise Federal and State Governments on the prevention and control of floods and environmental hazards;

*Execute such other work and perform such other functions which in the opinion of the Commission are required for the development of the Hydroelectric Power Producing area and their people.”

The Act now awaits the assent of President Goodluck Jonathan to kick start necessary steps at establishing the commission so that work on correcting wrongs that have been done to host communities of hydro-power dams for several years. With the ongoing dredging of the River Niger, it is expected that economic activities in the affected areas will enjoy boom as soon as the two policies are fully implemented.



**POWER HOLDING COMPANY OF NIGERIA
KADUNA ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY**
4TH -7TH FLOORS, NAGWAMATSE HOUSE
4-5 AHMADU BELLO WAY KADUNA-NIGERIA

ADDENDUM TO INVITATION TO TENDER FOR PROJECTS UNDER FGN 2010 BUDGET APPROPRIATION.

1.0 INTRODUCTION: Further to our publications in the Daily Trust and Federal Tenders Journal of Monday January 11, 2010 and the Punch of Tuesday January 12, 2010, respectively, on the above subject, Management hereby inform the general Public, Manufacturers, Contractors and Suppliers that the following under listed projects are an addition to the ones earlier advertised, by the Company for execution under FGN 2010 budget Appropriation.

Accordingly, the Company hereby invite Tender from reputable and competent Contractors and Suppliers to bid for the LOTS of their choice as listed in 2.0 below:

2.0 EXPANSION

| LOT | SCOPE OF WORKS |
|---------|--|
| KD 13 | Procurement and Installation of Distribution Transformers @ Kanfani Maude, Ang/Sako, Ang/Dogo, Ang/Fulani, Kadage, Gadas, Ang/Naginda, Iyatawa, Ang/Mal. Chindo, Ang/Danfulani, Ang/Baso, Ang/Murtala and Dokantagwoi in Ikara and Kubau Federal Constituency in Kaduna State. |
| a | The project execution will involve the purchase of Distribution Transformers, Re-inforced Concrete Poles, Aluminium Conductors, Feeder Pillars, H.T and L.T cables, Termination Kits, Overhead line materials, Substation materials, and Sundry line materials. |
| b | Constructions of Relief Substations and Electrification of the above named Communities. |
| KD 14 | Extension of Electricity in Keke-Unguwan Dan Bushiya and Danhumu in Chikun LGA of Kaduna State. |
| a | The project will involve the purchase of Distribution Transformers, Re-inforced Concrete Poles, Aluminium Conductors, Feeder pillars H.T and L.T cables, Termination Kits, Overhead line materials, Substation materials and Sundry line materials. |
| b | Extension of Electricity to Keke, Ung-Danbushiya and Danhomu. |
| KD 15 | Reconducting of Tambuwal town in Sokoto State. |
| a | The contract covers the purchase of Aluminium Conductor and Overhead Line materials. |
| b | Recovery undersize Aluminium conductor and recon ducting of 6.4km of H.V and 7.65km of L.V Line. |
| KD 16 | Extension of Electricity and Installation of Transformers in Villages of Maradun LG of Zamfara State. |
| a | The project covers the purchase of Distribution Transformers, Aluminium Conductor, Feeder pillar, Copper Conductors, Cables, termination kits, over head line materials and sundry items. |
| b | Construction of Distribution Substations in 15 towns in Maradun LGA of Zamfara State. |
| KD 17 | Procurement and Installation of Transformers at Dinya, Kwasallo, Soba and Gimba in Soba LGA of Kaduna State. |
| a | Procurement of Distribution Transformers, Aluminium Conductor, Copper Conductors, Feeder pillar, Cables, termination kits, over head line materials and sundry items. |
| b | Construction of Relief Substations in Dinya, Kwasallo, Soba and Gimba. |
| KD 18 | Procurement and Installation of distribution Transformers @ Gyallesu and Sabon-layi off Saye T/Wada Zaria. |
| a | The project will involve Procurement of Distribution Transformers, Aluminium Conductors, Feeder Pillar, Copper Conductors, Cables, Termination Kits, Over head line materials and Sundry items. |
| b | Construction of Relief Substation in Gyallesu and Sabon-Layi |
| KD 19 | Completion of Power House/Office Complex and Furnishing in Yelwa-Yauri, Kebbi State. Involves the completion and furnishing of already existing structure. |
| KD 20 | Purchase and Installation of transformers for Kakangi, Randagi, Kuyello, Sabon-layi, Shika, kaya and Giwa town of Kaduna State. |
| a | The contract cover the purchase of Distribution Transformers, Aluminium conductor, Copper Conductor, Feeder Pillar, Cables, Termination Kits, Overhead line and Sundry items. |
| b | Construction of Distribution Substations @ kakangi, and other towns as mentioned above. |
| KD 21 | Installation of Distribution Substations for House of Representatives Members. |
| a | This contract covers the procurement of Re-inforced Concrete Poles, Aluminium Conductors, Copper Conductors, Feeder Pillar, Cables, Feeder Pillars, termination Kits, Over head line materials and Substation materials. |
| b | Construction 50nos Distribution Substations |
| KD 21-1 | Consultancy services for Extension of electricity to different towns in Kaduna, Kebbi, Sokoto and Zamfara |
| KD 22 | Procurement and Installation of Distribution Transformers in Wurmo, Gada, Isa, Iella, Yabo, Tangaza, Silame, Kware and Bodinga LGA of Sokoto State. |
| a | The contract covers the procurement of distribution Transformers, Re-inforced Concrete Poles, aluminium Conductors, Feeder Pillars, Copper Conductor, Termination Kits, Over head line materials, Substation materials and Sundry items. Also inclusive is the construction of Distribution Substation in the above named towns. |
| b | Construction of Distribution Substations in wurmo, Gada, Isa, Iella, Yabo, Tangaza, Silame, Kware. |
| KD 23 | Procurement of Distribution Transformers. |
| a | This contract covers the procurement of Distribution Transfoemers, Voltage and Current Transformers. |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| KD24 | Extension of Electricity to K/wail, Dandobo, T/Musa in Kaduna. |
| a | The contract covers the procurement of Distribution Transformers, Re-inforced Concrete Poles, Aluminium Conductors, Feeder pillars, Copper Conductors, Termination Kits, Over head line materials, substation materials and Sundry items. |
| b | Distribution Substations will be constructed in 10 towns. |
| KD 25 | Installation of 176Nos. Transformer in Zamfara, Kaduna, Sokoto and Kebbi. |
| KD25-1 a | The contract covers the procurement of Re-inforced Concrete Poles, Aluminium Conductors, Feeder Pillars, Cables, Termination Kits, Over head line materials, Substation materials and sundry items. |
| b | 20 Nos. Distribution Substations are slated for construction in Zamfara State. |
| KD 25-2 a | This contract covers the procurement of Re-inforced Concrete Poles, Aluminium Conductors, Feeder Pillars, Cables, Termination Kits, Over head line materials, Substation materials and Sundry items. |
| b | 110 Nos. Distribution Substations are slated for construction in Kaduna State. |
| KD25-3 a | This contract covers the procurement of Re-inforced Concrete Poles, Aluminium Conductors, and Feeder Pillars, Cables, Termination Kits, Over head line materials, Substation materials and Sundry items. |
| b | 20 Nos. Distribution Substation is slated for construction in Birnin Kebbi State. |
| KD25-4 a | This contract covers the procurement of Re-inforced Concrete Poles, Aluminium Conductors, and Feeder Pillars, Cables, Termination Kits, Over head line materials, Substation materials and Sundry items. |
| b | 25 Nos. Distribution Substation is slated for construction in Sokoto State. |
| KD25-5 | Consultancy services for Electrification Projects in Zamfara, Kaduna, Kebbi & Sokoto |

3.0 DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR QUALIFICATION

Interested companies are required to submit Three (3) copies of Bids with specific chapters, paginated and separated by dividers in the same order as set out here under A & B

(A) Mandatory Requirements.

- i Evidence of registration with Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) copies of Certificate of Incorporation and Memorandum and Articles of Association should be submitted.
- ii Evidence of compliance with the Pension Reform Act, 2004.
- iii Evidence of audited accounts and tax clearance for the past 3 years.
- iv Evidence of VAT Registration and past VAT remittances.
- v Evidence of payment of non-refundable fee of N100,000.00 for collection of bid documents.
- vi All relevant information concerning physical addresses, Telephones, (GSM) fax, e-mail addresses of the Company and its Representatives.
- vii Bank Reference and one year statement of accounts.
- viii A sworn Affidavit affirming that none of the Directors of the Company was an ex convict and that no staff of PHCN KDEDCC has pecuniary interest in the company.
- ix Any other document that will place the company on a Comparative Advantage.

(B) Technical Details

- i Proof of available office, resources, warehouse, equipment, facilities etc.
- ii Technical expertise/ resume of key officers to be involved in the project Execution.
- iii Details of relevant verifiable experience of similar projects. (Please attach copies of transaction documents including project completion certificates).

COLLECTION OF BIDS DOCUMENTS

Bid documents both Technical and Financial, can be obtained from the Secretary Management Tenders Board, Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company, 4th Floor, Nagwamatse House Ahmadu Bello way, Kaduna on evidence of payment in bank draft of non-refundable bid fee of N100, 000. 00

SUBMISSION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

Three copies of Technical and Financial proposals must each be SEPERATELY addressed in sealed envelopes clearly marked as:

"Project Name, Technical and Financial proposals" and addressed to:

**The Chief Executive Officer
PHCN, Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company,
4th Floor, Nagwamatse House
Ahmadu Bello Way, Kaduna.**

Please Note:

1. Returning of bid/Tender documents should be done only within working hours.
2. In all correspondence, please quote the reference number on the bid document.
3. Late submission will not be entertained.
4. The closing date for submission of bid documents is Monday 14th June, 2010.
5. This advertisement shall not be construed as a commitment on the part of PHCN KDEDCC, nor shall it entitle the Tenderer to make claim whatsoever and or seek any indemnity from PHCN KDEDCC by virtue of Tenderer having responded to this advert.
6. Tender documents shall be opened at 10.00am at the conference room of Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company 6th floor Nagwamatse House 4/5 Ahmadu Bello way, Kaduna on Tuesday June 15th, 2010.

Signed : Management.
Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company



**POWER HOLDING COMPANY OF NIGERIA
KADUNA ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY**

4TH – 7TH FLOORS NAGWAMATSE HOUSE
4-5 AHMADU BELLO WAY, KADUNA.

**INVITATION FOR PRE QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS TO EXECUTE EPC
PROJECTS UNDER FGN 2010 BUDGET APPROPRIATION.**

INTRODUCTION: The Federal Government of Nigeria in its continuous efforts to improve Electricity generation, Transmission and Distribution has approved the upgrading of electricity distribution infrastructure within the coverage area of Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company.

Consequently, Management of the Company, hereby, invite interested and competent Companies to submit documents for prequalification to execute the under listed EPC projects.

Scope of Works

| S/NO | DESCRIPTION OF WORKS | LOCATION |
|------|--|--|
| 1 | Design, Manufacture, Supply, Delivery and Commissioning of 1 x 7.5MVA, 33/11KVA injection substation complete with all electro-mechanical accessories and construction of 4.5KM 33KV line. | Dogon Daji, Tambuwal LGA of Sokoto State |
| 2 | Design, Manufacture, Supply, Delivery and Commissioning of 1 x 7.5MVA, 33/11KVA injection substation complete with all electro-mechanical accessories and construction of 4.5KM 33KV line. | Farfaru, Sokoto metropolis |
| 3 | Design, Manufacture, Supply Delivery and Commissioning of 1 x 7.5MVA injection substation complete with all electro-mechanical accessories and construction of 4.5KM 33KV line. | Kudan, in Chikun LGA of Kaduna State |
| 4 | Design, Manufacture, Supply, Delivery and Commissioning of 1 x 7.5MVA injection substation complete with all electro-mechanical accessories and construction of 4.5KM 33KV line. | Zaria, in Kaduna State |

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

All interested companies are required to submit the following documents for technical qualification.

- i Evidence of registration with corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), copies of Certificate of Incorporation and memorandum and Articles of association should be Submitted.
- ii Evidence of Compliance with Pension Reform Act 2004.
- iii Evidence of Audited Accounts and Tax Clearance Certificate for the last 3 years.
- iv Evidence of VAT registration and past VAT remittances.
- v All relevant information concerning physical addresses, telephones (GSM), fax, e-mail addresses of the company and its Representatives.
- vi Bank Reference and One year accounts statement of the Company.
- vii A sworn Affidavit affirming that none of the Directors of the Company was an ex Convict and no staff of KDEDCC has any pecuniary interest in the Company.
- viii Any other document that will place the company on a Comparative Advantage.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

- i Proof of available office, resources, warehouse, equipment, facilities etc.
- ii Technical expertise and resume of key Officers to be involved in the execution of the Project.
- iii Details of relevant verifiable experience of similar projects (Please attach copies of transaction documents and Completion Certificates).

SUBMISSION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS

Three sets of Pre-qualification documents should be submitted in sealed envelopes clearly marked

"Pre-qualification documents for (Project name and location)" and addressed to:

**Chief Executive Officer
PHCN, Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company,
4th Floor, Nagwamatse House
Ahmadu Bello Way, Kaduna.**

CLOSING DATE:

The closing date for the submission of documents is 12Noon, Tuesday 14th June, 2010 and documents shall opened Wednesday 16th June, 2010 at 9.00am at the conference hall of the company (6th Floor)

Please Note:

1. Submission of Pre-qualification documents should be done only within working hours.
2. In all correspondence, please quote the project name, lot no. and location.
3. Late submission will not be entertained please.
4. Only **Technically Qualified, Competent** and successfully pre-selected contractors shall be invited to bid for the relevant LOTS.
5. This advertisement shall **NOT** be construed as a commitment on the part of PHCN KDEDCC, nor shall it entitle the Tenderer to make claim whatsoever and or seek any indemnity from KDEDCC by virtue of Tenderer having responded to this advert.

**Signed: Management
Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company**



GOMBE STATE GOVERNMENT

**OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ADVISER ON MDGs
PROJECT AND PROGRAMS (PSU)
GOVERNMENT HOUSE
GOMBE.**



MDGs

**INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS
FOR THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MGDS)
CONDITIONAL GRANTS SCHEMES (2009)**

The Gombe state government in collaboration with the Federal Government are going to Execute Projects/Programs towards attaining the millennium development goals (MDGs) through the conditional grant scheme 2009.

The office of the special Adviser on MDGs on behalf of Gombe State Government wishes to invite Interested and Qualified Contractors to submit their Applications for Pre-Qualification in the Execution of Projects/Programs under the 2009 conditional grant scheme.

PROJECTAREAS

A. Skill Acquisition

- i. Construction of 4 No. Skill Acquisition centres in the State.
- ii. Supplies of Skill Acquisitive Equipments

B. Raise Programme

- i. Support to small farmers group to increase their agricultural income.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS.

1. Evidence of incorporation of company
2. Copy of memo and article of association
3. Evidence of Registration with Gombe State Government as contractor
4. Brochures
5. List and qualifications of key staff
6. Evidence of similar jobs executed
7. Vat registration
8. Banker reference
9. List of plants, equipment and location
10. Verifiable location of address given names of contacts persons

Pre-Qualification will be in accordance with the procedures set out in the guidelines for Due process in Gombe state.

Application must be in sealed envelopes marked "Pre-qualification for MDGs projects/program" and address to:

The Honourable Commissioner

Ministry for Finance and Economic Development Gombe State to be Submitted to the MDGs Project Support Unit (PSU) office behind FRSC ALABURA CRESCENT G.R.A GOMBE on or before 11th June 2010.

Only pre-qualified contractors will be invited to tender.

NOTE

- a.) This advertisement is not an invitation to Bid and should not be treated as such.
- b.) This advertisement should not be confused as a commitment on the part of Gombe state Government nor shall it entitle companies to make any claim whatsoever and/or seek any indemnity from the state Government.
- c.) The State Project Support Unit, (PSU) of MDGs office of the special adviser on MDGs, reserves the right to verify any claim by potential bidders.
- d.) Full bidding procedure shall only be applied to contractors that have been pre-qualified and found capable of executing the program/projects.
- e.) All registration requirements as outlined above should be arranged and submitted as listed, failing which, will lead to outright disqualifications

Signed:

**Shehu Ibrahim Madugu
Special Adviser on MDGs to the Executive Governor.
Governors Office
Gombe.**



NIGERIAN RAILWAY CORPORATION

INVITATION FOR THE PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROCUREMENT OF RAIL/ROAD CRANES, WAGONS AND COACHES (NARROW GAUGE) AND UPGRADING OF SIGNALLING AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEM (NARROW GAUGE NETWORK).

1. INTRODUCTION

In furtherance to the Federal Government's Railway Rehabilitation programme, the Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) invites interested and reputable Contractors with relevant and verifiable experience to apply for pre-qualification for consideration to tender for the projects indicated below.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECTS

The projects fall under the following categories.

- Procurement of Rail/Road Cranes (Narrow Gauge). If involved supply, maintenance and provision of Narrow Gauge Rail/Road Cranes and provision of user training.
- Procurement of Wagons and Coaches (Narrow Gauge). If involved Supply and maintenance of Narrow Gauge Rolling Stock and Provision of user training.
- Upgrading of Signaling and Communication system (Narrow gauge network). This involves the design, installation and function-test, run of a modern end-to-end signaling solution to meet the needs of a rail line consisting of internal passenger and freight services.

3. PRE-QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

A requirement for pre-qualification is that the Contractor must have a total annual turnover of at least #500M (Five hundred Million Naira) in each of the past three years, from activities related to the category of interest. In addition, the contractor is required to submit the under listed documents:

- Valid certificate of Incorporation/Registration
- Profile of Company including CVs of key personnel
- Evidence of similar work done in the past
- Certified copy of last Annual Returns
- Tax Clearance Certificate for last 3 years
- Evidence of Value Added Tax Registration Certificate
- Evidence of Strong financial support from a first rate financial Institution.
- Evidence and List of Equipment, source and location
- Evidence of compliance with the provisions of public Procurement Act in respect of Pension obligations.

Failure to meet any of the criteria as well as submit any of the listed documents will be grounds for disqualification.

ENQUIRIES:

Enquiries in relation to this invitation for pre-qualification should be directed to:-

**Managing Director Office,
Public Procurement Unit (Capital)
Nigerian Railway Corporation (HQ),
Ebute-Metta, Lagos.**

SUBMISSION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS:

Three hard copies of the application and pre-qualification documents must be submitted in a sealed envelope and marked 'PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR.....'

(Indicate project category for which you wish to be prequalified), and delivered either by hand or by registered mail to reach the address given below not later than 1pm on 18th June, 2010.

**The Secretary,
Nigerian Railway Corporation (HQ),
P.M.B. 1037, Ebute-Metta,
Lagos.**

Please Note:

- All documents submitted must be accompanied with an affidavit Sworn in any Magistrate/High Court to confirm their authenticity.
- Only short-listed companies shall be invited to tender for works stated above.
- Late submission shall be rejected.
- This advertisement for pre-qualification shall not be construed to be a commitment on the part of NRC to award any form of Contract to your company nor shall it entitle any company submitting document to claim any indemnity from NRC.
- NRC reserves the right to take final decision on any of the documents received in your pre-qualification package.

Signed
MANAGEMENT



NATIONAL PENSION COMMISSION

No. 174, ADETOKUNBO ADEMOLA CRESCENT
WUSE II, PMB 5170, WUSE,
ABUJA, NIGERIA

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS TO BID FOR THE PRINTING OF SECURITY DOCUMENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The National Pension Commission (PenCom) established by the Pension Reform Act 2004 is desirous of printing of security documents for its operations.

As a result of this, the Commission hereby invites submissions from competent and reputable security printing companies with proven track record and verifiable evidence of having executed similar security printing works to indicate interest to pre-qualify for the printing work.

2.0 SCOPE OF THE PRINTING WORK

The scope of works shall include the printing of Security Documents with security features which shall incorporate the following:

- Thermochromic Ink.
- Solvent Sensitive Ink.
- Aqua Fuge Ink.
- Microtext Lettering.
- Hologram.
- UV Ink.
- Security Background.
- Invisible UV Numbering.

3.0 PRE-QUALIFICATION

Interested reputable contracting companies wishing to carry out the printing works are required to submit the following.

- Certified True Copies of Certificates of Incorporation, Memorandum and Articles of Association, Forms C.07 and C.02.
- Evidence of compliance with the provisions of the Pension Reform Act 2004.
- VAT Certificate of Registration.
- Evidence of company registration as a contractor with National Pension Commission in the appropriate category.
- Evidence of the Central Bank of Nigeria Accreditation on Security Printing and Related Documents in Nigeria.
- Verifiable documentary evidence of similar jobs successfully executed within the last three years with evidences of completion.
- Evidence of technical and financial capability
- Reference letter from a reputable bank in Nigeria that would provide performance bond to cover project execution when awarded.

Interested parties should note that:

- All claims must be adequately substantiated with documents and must be verifiable.
- The Commission shall deal directly with only authorized officers of the interested companies and not with agents.
- This pre-qualification exercise shall not be construed as a commitment on the part of the Commission to award contract to any one or even award any contract at all.
- This advertisement is not an invitation to bid and should not be treated as such.

4.0 SUBMISSION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS

All pre-qualification applications must be submitted in properly sealed envelopes and marked "PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR THE PRINTING OF SECURITY DOCUMENTS" on the upper right corner of the envelope and addressed to:

The Director General
National Pension Commission
No. 174, Adetokunbo Ademola Crescent,
Wuse II,
Abuja, Nigeria.

The closing date of the submission of pre-qualification interest is 20 of July, 2010 at 11.00am.

Any application submitted late shall be disqualified.

5.0 OPENING OF PRE-QUALIFICATION SUBMISSIONS

Pre-qualification submissions received will be opened on the 20 July, 2010 at 11.30am at the Induction Hall on the ground floor of the Commission's office and all interested parties are invited to attend.

6.0 TENDER DOCUMENTS

Only pre-qualified contractors shall be notified and given Tender Documents thereafter to bid for the contract.

Signed:
Management
National Pension Commission



GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF KWARA STATE

heartily

congratulate



Her Excellency,
MRS OLUWATOYIN SARA
Wife of Kwara State Executive Governor

On her recognition as

National Champion: Maternal, Newborn and Child Health *by the* White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood

This is a recognition of your contribution as a worthy ambassador and unrelenting crusader of Safe Motherhood. The worth of an accomplished human being is not measured by years but by the milestones covered in the service to humanity.
May grace and strength propel you to achieve much more.

Congratulations!!!

Signed:

Alhaji Saka Abimbola Isau (SAN), FCI Arb.
Secretary to the State Government, Kwara State

FELICITATION

The Honourable Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Dr. Ahmed Alhaji Abubakar, on behalf of the management and the entire staff of the ministry and its agencies NADP, Badakoshi, College of Agriculture, Lafia, FAMA and Nasarawa Produce Marketing Agency and the teeming farmers of Nasarawa State wish to felicitate with the President and Commander of Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, **Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan** and his Vice, **Arch. Namadi Sambo** as well as the Executive Governor of Nasarawa State, **Alhaji (Dr) Aliyu Akwe Doma OON (Madauchin Doma)** and his Deputy, **Chief Michael Abdul** and the good people of Nigeria and Nasarawa State in particular on the occasion of the historic celebration of the 11th Anniversary of **Democracy Day** in Nigeria.

The entire Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources and its farmers proudly associate themselves with the laudable programmes and activities of His Excellency, particularly the 13-Points Agenda. Your special attention in the area of Agriculture through Badakoshi Scheme would continue to be remembered by our teeming farmers.

It is in fulfillment of these noble objectives that your programmes such as Badakoshi Agricultural Scheme, Export Processing; the provision of tractors and loans have made His Excellency dear to the farmers of Nasarawa State.

We also note with appreciation, the concern of His Excellency in making available and affordable enough, fertilizers to our farmers. This has, undoubtedly improved and boosts agriculture in our dear state. Sir, more grease to your elbow.

As we celebrate Democracy Day, we wish His Excellency and the entire good farmers of Nasarawa State a bumper harvest during the cropping season.



His Excellency,
Alh. Dr. Aliyu Akwe Doma, OON
Executive Governor, Nasarawa State



SIGNED

Dr. Ahmed Alhaji Abubakar
Honourable Commissioner,
Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilaihi Raji 'un



FORUM OF CHAIRMEN OF FEDERAL COLLEGES OF EDUCATION IN NIGERIA

It is with total submission to the will of God, that we members of the Forum of Chairmen of Federal Colleges of Education in Nigeria, commiserate with Mr. President, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan; GCFR, members of the National assembly, members of the family of our late president and indeed, the good people of Nigeria on the sad death of late Alhaji Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, the former President Federal Republic of Nigeria.

May God grant us all the fortitude to bear this irreparable loss.

Late, Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, GCFR
Former President, Federal Republic of Nigeria



Chief (Mrs.) Grace Archibong OON,
Chairman of Council, FCE Obudu, Cross River State
Chairman, Forum of Chairmen of Federal Colleges of Education in Nigeria

MD Abubakar (IYAN BODINGA),
Chairman of Council, FCE Zaria, Kaduna State
Publicity Secretary, Forum of Chairmen of Federal Colleges of Education in Nigeria

On Behalf of:

Kabir Garba marafa
Prof. Alachi, James Atu
Hon. Yunusa Ayinla Folorunsho
Alh. Isa Tafida Muri
George Adeyanju
Dr. Sarah N. Jibril
Chief (Mrs.) Grace Archibong OON
MD Abubakar (IYAN BODINGA)
Chief (Mrs.) Grace Ekong
Senator Alh. Garba S. Taura

FCE Yola, Adamawa State
Alvan Ikoku, Owerri, Imo State
FCE Abeokuta, Ogun State
FCE Gombe, Gombe State
FCE Eha-Amufu, Enugu State
FCE (T) Asaba, Delta State
FCE Obudu, Cross River State
FCE Zaria, Kaduna State
FCE (T) Akoka, Lagos State
FCE kastina, Kastina State

Baba Ba'aba
Chief John Enyi
Zaiyana Abdullahi
Capt. Idris I. Wada
Dr. Abdullahi Saadu
Chief Charles I. Igboka
Hon. Uguru E. N.
Prince Abioye Olatunji JP
Chief Onyemuhe Nnamani

FCE Kano, kano State
FCE (T) Omoku, Rivers Sate
FCE (S) Oyo, Oyo State
FCE (T) Potiskum, Yobe State
FCE (T) Gusau, Zamfara
FCE Kontagora, Niger State
FCE (T) Umenze, Anambra State
FCE Okene, Kogi State
FCE Pankshin, Plateau State

Star Feature

Sanitation day relaxation day

Findings reveal that residents of Abuja have transformed the day set aside for the city's monthly sanitation exercises to become a personal

By Tosin Omoniyi

SHE had a bewildered expression on her face when the question was thrown to her. Obviously she was not aware of the significance of the day. To her, it was just like any other day. It was a day to make ends meet for her family of six, through the petty trade she engages in daily. "You mean it is already the last Saturday of the month?" she enquires from a fellow trader who is also engrossed in her sales. "When I woke this morning, I actually thought it is just like any other Saturday. And when I noticed everybody going about their normal business, I also decided to follow suit. I had forgotten that today is sanitation day. But I have no regrets. I have to survive and every minute of the day counts if I have to put food on the table for my family. Don't forget that Saturday is the prime time for sales for market women like us," she enthuses brightly.

Madam Precious Chizoba who sells condiments at the Karu market, located in the outskirts of town, could actually be forgiven her ignorance, based on the fact that she at least recognizes the import of the last Saturday of every month for residents of the federal capital territory, FCT, although belatedly. The same cannot be said for hundreds of fellow denizens of the city, who may not be aware of the significance of the day or who decidedly chose to ignore it. In the capital city the day, is set aside for sanitation of the environs. However, on the spot checks and findings, reveal that for many the day is used for relaxation, rather than for cleaning of the surroundings as stipulated by the authorities.

Musibau Ahmed an artisan says that he is aware that the day is set aside for sanitation, but for him he prefers to use the opportunity to sleep rather than engage in strenuous cleanings, which he believes should be a personal choice to make. "On my own part I do cleaning of my surroundings



DESPITE serial sanitation exercises, refuse heaps in the city refuse to go away.

on a daily basis, and I do not need anybody to tell me when to clean, or when not to do so. I believe that when you make personal hygiene a source of concern for yourself then you do not need any outside influence to make it a part of your

life. Moreover, weekends especially Saturdays for me, are days of relaxation, and I do not need anyone to tell me how to use it," he calmly responds.

Nelly Nzuronye appears to share the same view with Musi-

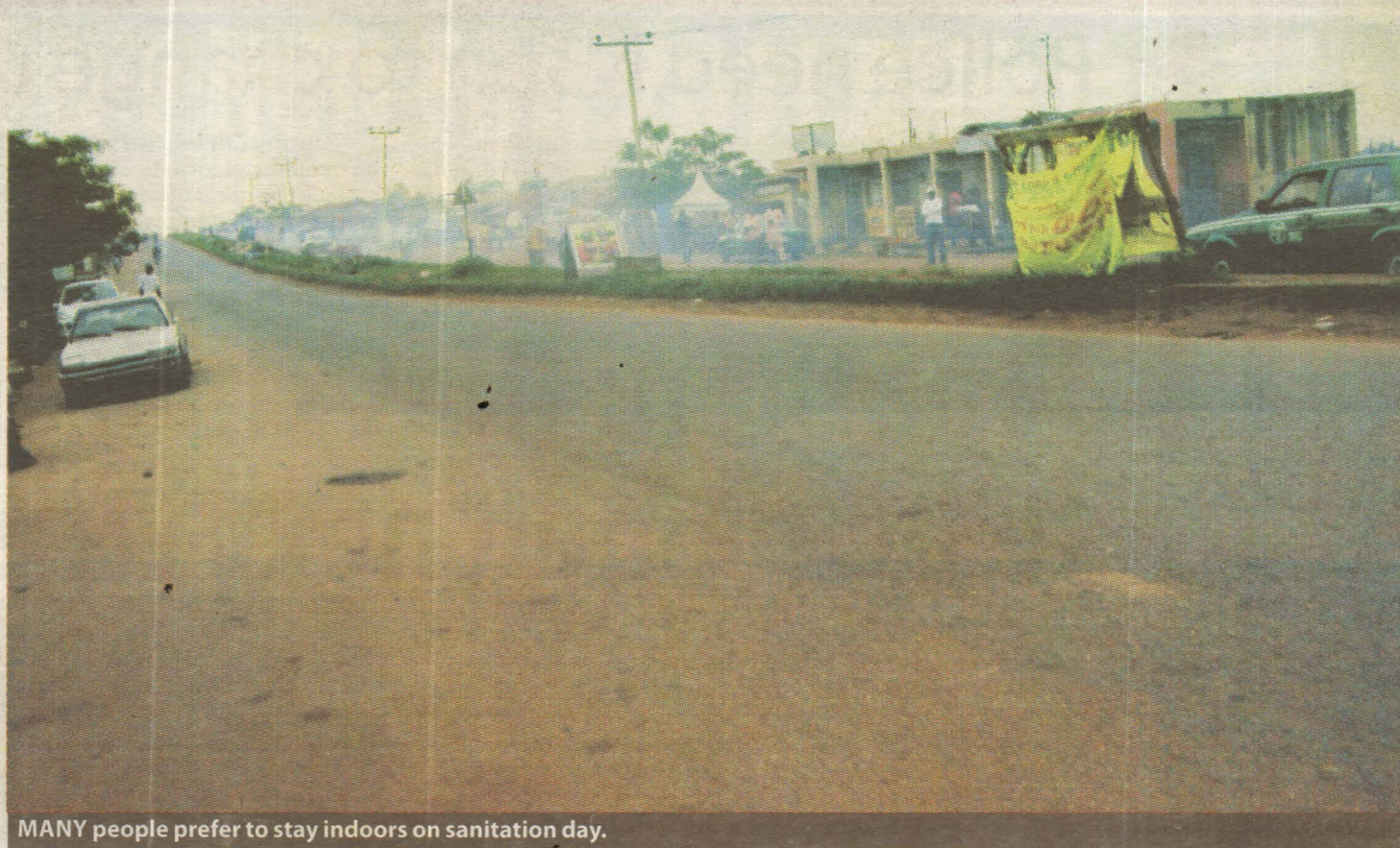
bau, but with a slight modification. Asked how she spends the day, she responds that she does indoor cleaning, an activity she does not have time to do due to the hectic schedule she follows during the week. But she adds

that she does not even bother to come out of her apartment to join other residents to do the general street sanitations. "At least the rationale behind the activity is to encourage cleanliness, and I am doing this at my own personal level. But I do not really have time to go on the streets and do the general cleaning

or

?

period of leisure and fun.



MANY people prefer to stay indoors on sanitation day.

deployed into matters of public convenience, such as clean surroundings," she asserts vigorously.

A visit to most parts of the capital city on the day set aside for sanitation, will reveal the apathy shown by many towards the exercise. The empty roads will no doubt tell you that there is an apparent restriction of movement for the city inhabitants. However, the subsequent expectation to see people doing one form of street cleaning or the other, is rarely met. Rather it is not an unusual sight to see pockets of individuals walking casually on the streets obviously with no intention of carrying out sanitation exercises. At various fields across the city as early as 6am, young men can be seen playing football or other forms of sporting exercises. It is also a regular sight on those days to see commercial bus drivers with their conductors in tow, standing beside their vehicles with impatient looks on their faces, apparently waiting for 10 o'clock, the limit of the sanitation activity, so as to start another day's work. As a respondent points out, "most people just see the day as a nuisance. Why tie people down unnecessarily by restricting their movement, when you know they will not do what you ask them to do. Many people especially those going to work, just patiently wait for ten o'clock, so that they can go to their places of work. The purpose of the exercise is totally lost as a result of this, and the government does not seem to realize this, or they are just pretending to be unaware of the apathy of residents."

However Godwin Osahon, manager of Jimson gardens, Jikwoyi, believes that lack of spirited orientation by the FCT administration, seems to be the reason for the indifference exhibited by people. He equally says that punitive measures would certainly not

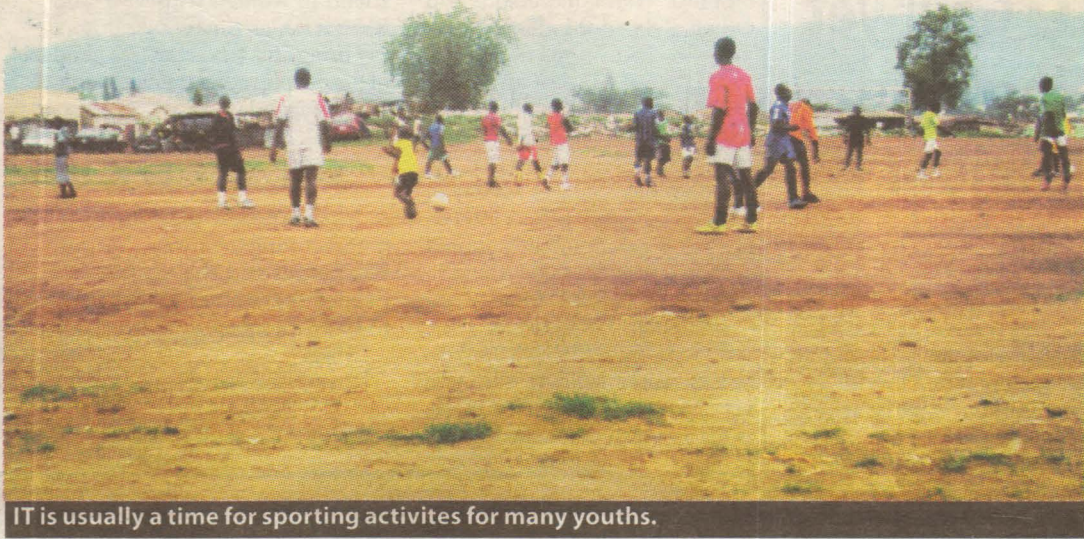
work, without inculcating the right set of values in the residents, many of which he notes are not even aware of the exact date of the exercise. He enthuses: "you will find out that most people do not even know the exact day of the sanitation exercise. Many actually find out precisely on the day of the sanitation itself, that the day has been set aside for the activity. The

At various fields across the city as early as 6am, young men can be seen playing football or other forms of sporting exercises.

authorities to me are not really sincere about the whole thing. Publicity and awareness needs to be carried out on a massive scale, if any success is to be recorded on those days. And restricting people's movement will not work. Rather it will stiffen their resolve not to cave in to government's demand, which infact is not a demand, but a social responsibility. A clean environment is actually a benefit to the citizens and not to the government. This is because a clean surrounding has the potential of reducing the risk of epidemics, and shoring up good health for all and sundry. But like in everything that has to do with governance and followership, adequate sensitization is key. In my own estimation this is lacking and this accounts for the failure of the exercise every month."

A dedeji Ayodele, a public affairs analyst, also touts the same line of thought when he notes that the insincerity of government has a way of trickling down to those it is meant to serve. He asserts that for people to take the leadership seriously,

change needs to be effected even at the helm of affairs. "It smacks to me of playing to the gallery when the government at whatever level decides to direct the affairs of its citizens, without first making sure that it has gotten its act right in the first place. In the first instance when have government policies actually favoured the common man? Do you honestly expect the citizens to obey you, when you do not provide for their essential needs? A man who is not sure of three square meals in a day, honestly to me does not care if the environment is dirty or not. A man who has to use every working minute of the day to struggle to provide for his family amidst constraining factors, like economic hardship and a heartless leadership, coupled with corruption at the helm of affairs, would not be willing to follow the directives of those who are not bothered about his welfare. My take is simple: provide adequately for your followers, and automatically they will obey you to the letter, even without the threat of punishment hanging over their heads..."

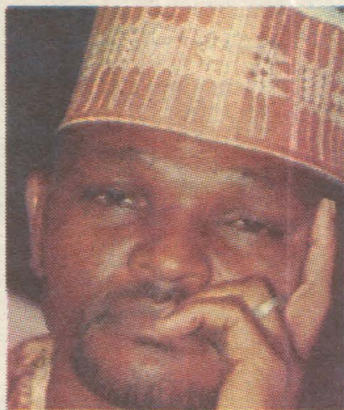


IT is usually a time for sporting activities for many youths.

It is the responsibility of those in authority to see that the environment is kept clean on a daily basis. The responsibility of the public is just to make sure that they do not litter the streets, and that they maintain the standard of cleanliness. After all what is the essence of paying taxes when the funds will not be

Online Reactions

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ON www.dailytrust.com



MAJOR Hamza Al-Mustapha

Al Mustapha's mum weeps over son's absence at late hubby's prayer

THE case of Hamza Al-Mustapha goes to show the weak judicial system in Nigeria on one hand and the excesses use of Executive privilege on the other. Apparently Gen. Abdulsalami had been economical with the truth as to his reasons for detaining these people. If it is truly a security issue, their trial should have been over ages ago.

The coming of Gen. Obasanjo set a new precedent on the use of executive power. Though the case was said to be "a Lagos state issue" federal operatives from the SSS, NIA and DMI have been swarming all over it. In all this, the Judiciary has been and still is behaving like an ostrich. On the one hand, the courts blame Nigerian lawyers for the delay but at the same time, the courts have failed woefully to look at the reality that these are "suspects" that have been incarcerated for ages and there seems to be no end in sight.

Muhammad NaIya
naiyamd@yahoo.com

Do not cry any more. The God that we all worship knows better why he (Al Mustapha) is still in incarceration. I shall join you in prayers

Egiyaya Bala A.M
egeeyayaadee@yahoo.com

NLC: Govt yet to increase minimum wage

WHAT the president has done is a welcome development. He should please expedite action in addressing the minimum wage issue.

Tope Ojo
edwardtope@yahoo.com

Police need N3bn to change uniform

WHAT we need from the Nigerian Police is a change of attitude not that of uniform.

Usman
shehudal@yahoo.com

It is their attitude that needs

changing and not their uniforms. Is this not just another avenue for funds to be siphoned? Kai Nigeria, we hail thee!!

M.T
tomsu63@hotmail.com

I concur with the two previous commentators. It is their attitude that needs to be changed and not their uniforms.

Many Police Forces around the world use black uniforms and there is no report of any

problem because they have the proper attitude therefore the Nigeria police should focus on changing their attitude and not uniform.

Buba Sani Dahiru
sanibintahir@gmail.com

Jonathan: INEC chairman to be named next week

I think there's a name that is more credible and reliable than all these nominees. He is Col. Hameed Ali (rtd); a man of principle and integrity. The country will forever be grateful if he is called for this enormous task.

Yusuf Abdulrahman
yusufabdool@yahoo.com

Well, I will say thank you Mr. President. It is high time Nigerians get credible leaders. Let's be truthful to ourselves and remember that we will one day die, and give account of our actions here on earth to our creator.

Hadiza Mustapha
hadizamust@yahoo.com

That's an assuring word from President Jonathan. Let's hope he keeps to his words. He can also make it more wonderful by

sacrificing his right to contest the election. In that way, he can effectively supervise the process and Nigerian will ever remain grateful to him.

Adzu Bulus
adzumails@yahoo.com

Today Iwu's story is part of our nation's history. The same will be happen to all the main actors around today. If by chance of omission or commission anyone is saddled with national responsibility, he or she should see it as a rare opportunity to do it right the first time around because there may be no second chance.

Ademilowo
lowo001@yahoo.com

If Mr. President really means what is stated in paragraph 2 & 3 i.e non-partisan person whom



PRESIDENT Goodluck Jonathan

he has never met, then I'm of the same opinion and that the elections would be credible.

Abisabo Musa
aabimus4real@yahoo.com

I hereby join many others in prayers so that the best should emerge at last.

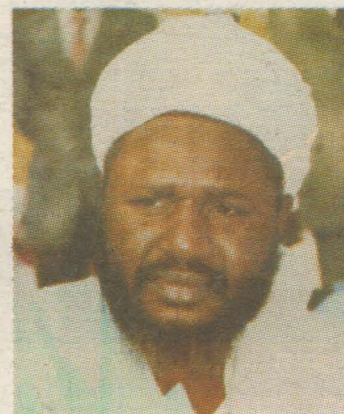
Egiyaya, Bala A.M
egeeyayaadee@yahoo.com

Women protest against agency's quiz of Yarima

IS it Islam and Hausa-Fulani culture for a law breaker not to be questioned? Hajiya Fatti Dahiru is missing the point and being defensive. During her time and still now if she lives outside Abuja, it is not an offence to contract marriage with a girl under 18 years of age. Yariman Bakura feared the sanction in Egypt where there is a similar law and is Muslim but knew in Nigeria he would be able to get away with it. Let the Courts decides on constitutionality of the law passed by Ahmed Sani's colleagues. National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP) are just doing their jobs. What are we Muslim afraid of? That the court will uphold that law? If it does, then we can have it amended, but before that, let Yariman Bakura have his day in court. Meanwhile others intending to follow suit should contract such marriages outside Abuja.

Abdullah Muhammad
amuhinab@yahoo.co.uk

I ask these women, who to a very large have missed the mark, is Yerima also a benefactor and



SENATOR Ahmad Sani

friend to women with VVF and RVF? It is high time people do and say things for the collective good of the people rather than pursuing narrow agendas.

Frank Maduekwe
frank_maduekwe@yahoo.com.au

Not surprised that our leaders are having their ways. Years of oppression and subjugation has likened the ordinary northerner to sadly... a sheep.

Ningi
zfreespit8@yahoo.com

What a demonstration of

shame coming from our mothers who are supposed to be condemning Yarima for his actions.

Terry Gimba
tuareg9246@yahoo.co.uk

The women protesters are most likely being used.

Etim U.Peter
etudopet@yahoo.com

Thank God these women are knowledgeable enough. Yarima did nothing wrong and he is backed by the supreme constitution which is the Holy Qur'an. What if the girl engages in sex before the age of 18?

Hafiz Abubakar
ahafizx5@yahoo.co.uk

For God's sake, is it truly the Islamic rights of Senator Yarima that are being challenged in this issue?

Emmanuel Umaru
eumaru2001@yahoo.com

I think that Yarima has gone to engage these women to carry placards and pretend to support him.

Omatey H.
harrisonmatey@yahoo.com



GOVERNOR Mahmud Shinkafi

Worker dies over new tax as NLC threatens strike

THE workers in Zamfara state are facing starvation under the administration of the present government. The death of Malam Shehu is a clear indication of this situation.

A. Inuwa Gusau
ainuwa94@yahoo.com

The prevailing financial crisis will definitely push some governors to go crazy and start deducting public servants' salaries. Already only workers pay taxes in Nigeria. These uncertainties and many more are what constitute the dividends of democracy in my dear country.

Hammad
dbhammad@yahoo.com

JONATHAN: DON'T RUN FOR 2011 AND DON'T IMPOSE ANYONE ELSE ON NIGERIANS

During his trip to America, President Jonathan then acting President laid out the options in his immediate political future. He said he could run for the office of the president, the vice President or may not run at all. By putting these options before the public he was thinking aloud and by so doing it is clear he wanted public advice. Accordingly we offer the following advice:

1. Dear President Jonathan! Please do not run for 2011 elections and don't impose anybody on Nigerians. However let us repeat it for the umpteenth time that you have a right to run if you so wish. The decision is yours but the advice is ours. Our advice is not meant to dash your political ambition; rather it is meant to ennoble it. History has prepared a place for you as the author of the nation's new democracy, a position that your immediate predecessors will envy to eternity. You have a great opportunity to rebrand Nigeria as a selfless leader rather than a cold power seeker. Nigeria is in a critical moment which requires sacrifice and integrity not opportunism on the part of those seeking to rule. A decision to run may have the following implications on the polity:

- The presidency may stand akimbo or pro actively mobilize political forces in the national and state assemblies to delay and ultimately frustrate electoral reform. The signs are already there for everyone to see. The President appears not to be putting enough pressure on the NASS to conclude its electoral reform work. Apart from unconfirmed reports in the media that the President then the acting President sent the unedited version of the Uwais Report to NASS, the public does not know where the President stands on the key recommendations of the Report that had been dropped by the NASS. The President may have to seek for a special session with NASS to address the reform issues. As things stand Jonathan does not have an electoral reform agenda that the public knows and this may be as a result of the fact that he is still undecided on 2011 elections. What is the President's plan for ensuring that key recommendations of the Uwais report are embedded into law?

- The President did what no other president had done by removing Prof Maurice Iwu. We must give the President kudos for that. However the removal of Prof Iwu is only the beginning of the reorganization of INEC. If the President is running for 2011 his choice of INEC Chair, Commissioners and Resident Commissioners may be tailored towards errand boys or towards confused and ageing citizens who do not have the mental capacity and competence to withstand partisan political pressures. Some of those who are advising the President to run argue that popular and democratic reorganization of INEC can be compatible with an ambition to run for 2011. We disagree with them but we look forward to a pleasant surprise.

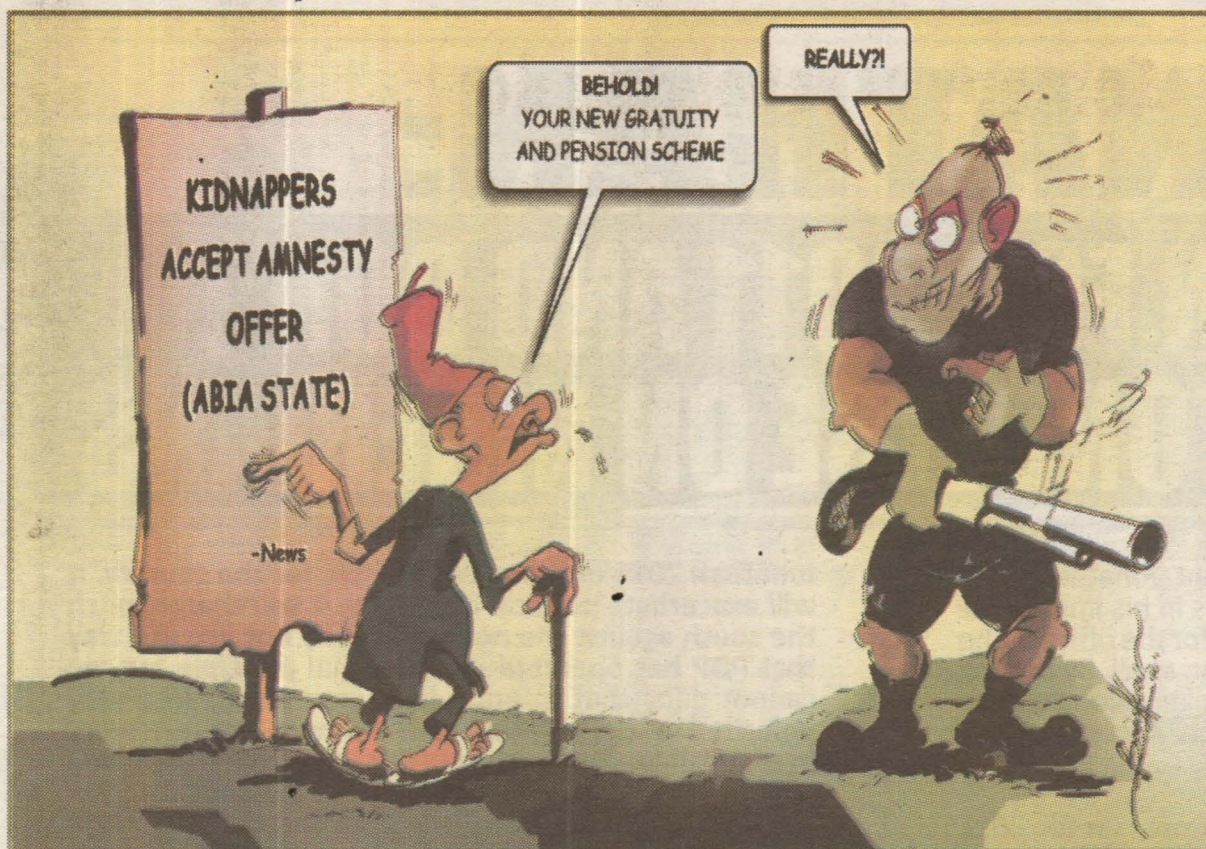
- If the President is running for 2011, we fear that he will not be able to conduct anti corruption campaign objectively and justly. If he is running he may likely use anti corruption war to destroy his political opponents and enemies and by so doing undermine the values of democracy and fairness. Chief Obasanjo used this tactic to almost destroy the nation's teething democracy while corruption soared high.

- Jonathan 2011 may be very divisive for the country. It will exacerbate political instability. It will sharply pitch the south against the north. We may not like the way that PDP has operated its rotational principle but we cannot deny that rotation has some merits in a very polarized society where the ruling elites are very irresponsible. Without rotation principles they will plunge this country into an inferno. Without rotation Nigeria would have gone into a second civil war. PDP has used the rotational principle to impose an oligarchy of mediocrity on the nation. So the problem is really with the PDP. The National Association of Nigerian Students NANS between 1979 and the early 90s could be described as the most patriotic youth organization in the country. NANS at the period operated the principle of rotation, under the understanding that it does not matter where its leaders come from provided they are faithful to the charter and to student and national interest. NANS had a charter of demand that guided its leaders irrespective of where they come from. PDP does not have a charter for public good, it is led by scavengers. Indeed it will be seen as a mark of crass opportunism and lack of integrity for the President to disregard the party's rotational principle in order to advance his prospects for 2011. If he will not contest that is a different matter. It means he will not be benefitting from his actions. The current ruling elites are not mature enough to run this country without the rotational principle.

2. Many of those who are urging Jonathan to run are doing so for selfish reasons. They are positioning to benefit from Jonathan's potential rigging machinery. There are also those who believe that Jonathan 2011 is an opportunity for the southern elites to feed fat the ancient grudge they bear against their counterparts in the north. Those of us who are telling him not to run are not urging him to do what has not been done before. Obasanjo and Abdulsalami relinquished power in 1979 and 99 respectively when it was still fashionable for military presidents to transmute into civilian presidency. Mrs Gandhi had the opportunity to rule India when her husband died but she knew that her candidacy will cause divisions and declined the opportunity. She is seen by many as a reliable nation builder in India. The President needs to make this sacrifice for the good of the nation. We urge him not to contest and also not to impose somebody on Nigeria. But the choice is his to make. We have deliberately made our advice as vigorous as those who are urging him to contest. When he takes his decision, we will cease our advice on this subject.



ALLIANCE FOR
CREDIBLE
ELECTIONS



By Yakubu Ahmed

Traditional rulers as key to solving *almajirci* problem

I had not been bothered by the nuisance they constitute. Until now, I never saw them as a problem, because I considered them kids who roamed the streets begging for alms in order to sustain themselves under the tutelage of a Malam, someone versed in the Islamic faith, but with the objective to learn a trade afterwards to lead a more decent life as they grow into adulthood. I also thought of them as victims of government's insensitivity to the plight of its citizens on one hand and parents' irresponsibility on the other.

These wandering youths represent the shame of a people; more so to their parents, the society and the state. Why must our kids go a begging before they can be panel-beaten into responsible citizens? How sure are we that they would become responsible citizens after this traumatizing experience? Why bring them into the world if the best we can do for them is to unleash them on the streets to live a beggarly and despondent life? More worryingly, I have noticed that the far northern part of the country is about the sole producers of kid beggars, or just any type of beggars in the country and beyond for that matter. They are mostly Hausa/Fulani. No doubt you have a mixture of beggars from some minority tribes that are mostly restricted to their locality.

If truth must be told, few states or communities in the north namely Kano, Katsina, Jigawa, Bauchi and to some parts of Kaduna state are purely responsible for this national problem. Arguably, most of the professional beggars of all ages various deformities you see anywhere in Nigeria come from these sources. If these places would close their borders I can tell you that begging in this large scale will be a thing of the past. If you do a small census in your locality, you will not fail to notice that most of the kid beggars are from Jigawa. The governors of these states must advocate for a role for traditional rulers in the nation's constitution so that dealing with this menace could at least be assigned to them.

Agreed, some class of people have to beg to survive, but if excuses are made for the blind, the leper and the physically challenged, what about the able-bodied and the underage kids with bowls in hand and in tattered dresses?

Why is it that begging, in the shameless manner it is done in this clime is alien to virtually other Muslim communities on this continent? Why is it that the Nigerian who is apparently more economically challenged and most vulnerable is not in it like we have profiled it here? The thing is that this is our shame, the shame of ignorant and careless parents, the shame of a people and the shame of a nation. Ironically, solutions to it have not been realistically explored. All that have so far been done is mere cosmetics and delusional. Since we know the source of this malaise, the state governments concerned should see it as a priority. The traditional rulers that have been yearning for a constitutional recognition and role can easily be given one. Through the traditional rulers, parents in remote villages and even in the cities who are basically the culprits can easily be reined in either through carrot and stick strategy or through large scale mobilisation and education. This can be achieved through the relevant emirate councils who could easily get across to the parents concerned through the traditional institution down the line. The traditional institution has proved overtime its efficacy in reaching out to the people; and with an additional constitutional back up they have the capacity to nip this worrisome nagging problem in the bud. Provide the resources, constitutional power and backing to the traditional rulers and see how quickly they mobilise the village, community and ward heads who would link up with the poor people and make them to either slow down production capacity or where they cannot, they are forced to take responsibility of bringing their kids up.

Those asking state governments to legislate against begging are missing the point. No legislation can stop begging and not even harmonising the operations of local Malams or the Tsangaya system can deal with it. We have a society that is largely individualistic, capitalistic, disorganised and uneducated, a problem that makes legislation at state and local government levels very unlikely to solve the problem. Education, mobilisation, carrot and stick as well as constant vigilance on the part of all and sundry particularly the natural rulers are a key to it.

Ahmed wrote from 114 Kashim Ibrahim Road Maiduguri (bigbk@hotmail.co.uk)

Your Letters

Send your letters to letters@dailytrust.com

Nigeria's democracy burden

It is over a decade today that Nigeria returned to democratic governance. Eleven years on, the masses of Nigeria are still groping for

answers as what it all means to their lives. The realization is inescapable, that they are suffering, while their leaders are busy celebrating democracy day for which the common man has no access to good health services, security, stable electricity, good education, and even what to eat. It is a shame on our leaders, our governors are busy siphoning our local government funds to their private pocket through local government joint account, our leaders are so

dangerous that they can do all it takes to perpetuate themselves in power. My candid advice to Nigerians is to keep on praying so that God will deliver us from the hands of these wicked leaders, we should also act wisely in 2011 election to bring changes to our dear country, such that local government can be really autonomous and touch the lives of the local communities.

B. Ali Mohammed, Maimalari Ward, Maiduguri.

Text us on 08 131 8000 30

Who'll chair INEC?

ALTHOUGH President Jonathan has delayed the appointment of INEC chairman, I am certain that he will not appoint someone that will disappoint him even at international arena. May Allah guide the president's hand to nominate credible, transparent and energetic person.
MUNTARI Bala BK, Katsina, 08030433517.

No need appointing a new one

HAND it to Obasanjo. Let the former president overlook the activities of INEC until elections in 2011. Period!
SANI Ahmed Tiga, Kano, 07035166925.

Lagos' cattle-fattening project

AS Lagos state government is preparing to be self-sufficient in food through various initiatives, I wish

to state my readiness to assist in securing land in Zamfara for cattle fattening too.
S. Magayaki, Gusau, 07069498870.

Mr President, after salary increase...

...SIR, we need price control to deal with the negative aspects of salary increment. This is the issue we want you to address.
YAKUB Jamil, Kano, 08039232394.

What are VIOs for?

HOW come that the VIOs in FCT are fastidious about perusing all vehicle particulars, neglecting vehicles with tell-tale worn out tyres, non-functional lights that ply the city roads right in front of their noses, and unchecked. All they otherwise do is harass other

motorists, checking papers only.
08027951565.

Brand Nigeria

ONLY in Nigeria are road, electricity, water and hospital and other basic necessities of life seen by deceitful politicians as democracy dividends. These are necessities, even in the eyes of dictators. We are yet to have what true democracy is.
THLAMA U. Alesa, 08033266575.

Re: Northern Elders' Assembly

YOU complain of President Jonathan's appointments in the ministry of Petroleum Resources and NNPC. Look inward: Why should the whole of Northern Elders' Assembly have only to Christian members?
STEPHEN Ahmadu, Kaduna, 07025100496.

DAILY TRUST

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

Stabilize power supply before tariff increase

The Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) has reportedly constituted two review panels to work out modalities for the annual electricity consumption Multi Year Tariff Order (MYTO) introduced by the commission in 2008. The purpose of this effort is to review the current tariff regime in the power sector.

The panels are for the Nigerian electricity grid and distribution codes required for safe, secure and reliable transportation of electricity in the country. The Administrator of NERC, Imamudeen Talba while constituting the panels noted that in spite of the huge potentials for power generation in the country, generation capacity had been very low with investors still complaining about low tariff and other constraints. However, NERC official declined to put a figure on the level of percentage increase being considered.

The last such increase was in July 2009, when NERC upped the electricity tariff by ten percent. At the same time, the federal government also made plans to withdraw what it said is subsidy on electricity consumption by next year, when it expects power generation to have improved substantially. That precisely is the issue. When both measures were announced, the government had a programme to increase the level of power output to from dishearteningly low levels to 6000 megawatts by the end of 2009. Everyone knows that the government didn't keep its promise; President Goodluck Jonathan had to go on national television to apologise to Nigerians.

It comes therefore as something of a surprise that the NERC would contemplate increasing tariff when the foundation for it has not been laid. It is a disturbing irony that the Commission, perhaps with a tacit nod from government is proposing an increase in electricity tariff at a time that Nigerians are still suffering from near-total lack of electricity supply. In fact, there is no indication that generating capacity has improved from the period the government made its unmet promise last year. It is only proper that power supply and distribution should be stable before any increase can be considered. While it is essential that social services are paid for appropriately, it behoves government to fulfil its own obligation of putting in place a sustainable power generation and distribution infrastructure, keeping in mind that the government's failure to meet 6,000 megawatts capacity it pledged by end of December, 2009, was a serious disappointment to the public.

Before any new electricity tariff increase is implemented, the consumers need to be sensitized on its necessity and efforts must be made by government to meet up with consumers' expectations. Inconsistency of government policies and failed promises could hinder public support for good implementation of any new changes, as in electricity tariff.

The Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) should develop a new culture of being customer-friendly. Customers need to be aware of trends in the industry which are vital to their interest at reasonable time. Bills should be charged according to consumption. The situation where meters are not read but bills are only guessed at and allocated randomly is unfair to both consumers and the government. While some may be overcharged, others may be undercharged. The new prepaid meter system should be harmonized for effective and efficient service delivery. In fact, before any tariff, NERC must ensure the billing system is uniform throughout the country, eliminating the current dual mode of analogue and prepaid. Electricity is a vital infrastructure for economic development. Use of generators because of poor-performing national grid endangers the lives and pollutes the environment.

Nigerians are anxious for steady power supply and not any tariff increase.

KABIRU A. YUSUF: Chairman/Chief Executive Officer
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GARBA ALIYU ABUBAKAR: Asst. General Manager (IT)
ABDULKADIR ALIYU: Head, Advert

e-mail: opinion@dailytrust.com

Comedy of revolving door at INEC

By Osita Ndubuaku

The drama that played itself out at the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) over the appointment of an Acting Chairman after Iwu's forced and unconstitutional pre-disengagement leave cast Philip Umeadi in the mould of *Nwamba*, the proverbial pussycat of Igbo folklore.

Mmiaanwu was a powerful pussycat and king of the animal kingdom. He was full of guts and very daring. He trod even where the spirits feared to venture. He was dreaded by his enemies, and revered by friends. He was thought to possess mystic powers.

But expectedly, *Mmiaanwu* was not loved by all, especially the tiny animal elites and marauding armies of neighbouring villages who saw him as a thorn in their flesh. Attempts at his life were many, but he was that proverbial cat with nine lives and had a strange nose for detecting danger even miles away. But that was until Mr Tortoise came up with the idea of co-opting *Nwamba*, *Mmiaanwu*'s younger brother. "Why is your life like this?" the fox began as he tried to enlist *Nwamba* in the conspiracy. "Between you and *Mmiaanwu*, you are the bigger, the mightier, wiser, and potentially more powerful. For how long will you stutter under his shadows? I am just coming from the house of the kingmakers with Chief Lion presiding. Everybody thinks you are the most qualified to rule this kingdom. Just think about it.

I have to attend to my palm trees before dark." One thing led to the other and eventually *Mmiaanwu*, always care-free in company of his only brother- *Nwamba*, was poisoned to death by him on the terms that he would be crowned king on his brother's death. At the meeting to choose a successor, however, he was laughed to scorn and chased away by the rest of the traitors. "Royalty is also good for other families of the kingdom", he was told. The lion was crowned king of the jungle instead. It was the saddest day of his life. Dejected, *Nwamba* has continued to mourn his dear brother. That is why the cat keeps crying *Mmiaanwu*, *Mmiaanwu* at the slightest opportunity, especially at night as he goes about sorrowing for his brother and trying to call him back to life.

Even before the height of the

clamour for Iwu's removal, there had been media insinuations about moles at INEC, including a serving National Commissioner involved in the gang-up. One of the moles was accused of supplying half-truths and filing official documents used to continually put the outgoing INEC Chairman and the Commission in bad light.

For instance, in March this year, two of the newspapers where a former Governor of a South West state and one of the key sponsors of the mole-in-chief hold sway, carried a story that the INEC Chairman had awarded a N5 billion voter registration contract to ensure he frittered away the INEC purse before the expi-

as the Secretary of the Commission. Umeadi was reported by the media to have started recalling those said to have been posted out of Abuja and was at the verge of recalling those sacked for the doctoring the INEC voter register preparatory to Anambra election when the President sent a letter appointing Prince Solomon Soyebi Acting Chairman of INEC pending the appointment of a substantive Chairman at the expiration of Maurice Iwu's tenure in June. It was understandably a very humiliating experience, albeit a self-inflicted one, for a man who had already starting living like a king even before he was crowned one.

Since then, hell appears let loose as faceless surrogates have shifted their media offensive from

“Between you and *Mmiaanwu*, you are the bigger, the mightier, wiser, and potentially more powerful. For how long will you stutter under his shadows?”

ration of his tenure. Curiously, the budget for voter registration was contained in the 2010 Appropriation Act which was yet to be signed into law at the time. Many were left to wonder where money for the said contract came from. Suffice to say that every memo got to the media even before they were discussed by the Commission. The mole was also said to have been part of the demonstrations organised against the INEC Chairman.

All the speculations as to the true identity of the mole gave way as soon as Iwu was sent on a pre-disengagement leave.

Umeadi stormed the Commission with a platoon of mobile policemen in the bravado of an Acting Chairman even when he had no letter to that effect. He got the same two national dailies to carry story of how he had frozen INEC accounts to "secure" the Commission's funds. He had also gone on a familiarization tour of all the departments in company of a Director whom he was also said to have asked to take over from Alhaji Abdullahi Kaigama

Iwu to Solomon Soyebi. They accuse the Presidency of breaking the constitution and convention in appointing Soyebi Acting Chairman of INEC.

But they forget that the principal they represent has failed to tell Nigerians that INEC National Commissioners are not graded. All Commissioners, except the Chairman, are equal. In 2005 Iwu was first on acting capacity over Chief Igbani, the longest serving Commissioner at the time. Besides, Umeadi has failed to tell Nigerians that another National Commissioner, Victor Chukwuani who was next to Iwu in terms of length of service and who was also sent on pre-disengagement leave along with the Chairman was recalled. He was a victim of the treachery that saw to Iwu's removal. His letter of recall and Soyebi's letter of appointment came the same day.

If anyone is to cry blue murder over Soyebi's appointment, therefore, it should have been Chukwuani. It is self-contradicting of Umeadi to ask to be appointed Acting Chairman even above Chukwuani. Does he want Jonathan to "commit" the same "offence" twice?

But if Umeadi played the roles attributed to him over Iwu's ouster on principle rather than politics and selfish interests, why then does he feel so abandoned in the lurch? Pushing away the king is no right to the stool and those who re-enact *Nwamba*'s folly hardly end up happy men.

Ndubuaku wrote from Orlu, Imo State.

“It is self-contradicting of Umeadi to ask to be appointed Acting Chairman even above Chukwuani. Does he want Jonathan to "commit" the same "offence" twice?”



CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA

INVITATION OF SUPPLIER FOR THE SUPPLY OF FURNITURE OF THE BANK UNDER THE YEAR 2010 BUDGET.

The Central Bank of Nigeria requires the supply of furniture items to the Bank under the 2010 budget.

SCOPE OF WORK

Provision of furniture to Central Bank of Nigeria.

REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Evidence of registration with Corporate Affairs Commission.
- 2) Evidence of payment of tax for the last 3 years as and when due.
- 3) Verifiable evidence of similar job successfully executed within the last three years.
- 4) Evidence of access to equipment and resources to be deployed for the project.
- 5) Comprehensive company profile including registered address, functional contact email address, GSM phone number(s).
- 6) Reference Letter from bank stating financial ability to carry such project(s)
- 7) Current Company's audited statement of accounts.
- 8) Evidence of employees Retirement Savings Accounts (RSA) with a pension Fund Administrator.
- 9) Evidence of remitting employer and employee pension contributions to the appropriate pension fund custodian.
- 10) Evidence of transferring all pension Funds and Asset prior to the commencement of the pension Reform Act to licensed pension operators.

Collection of Bid Document

Interested and competent suppliers wishing to carry out the above job should collect the information for Bid (IFB) from the Secretary, Major Contracts Tenders Committee, PSSD (2nd Floor, wing C) on the payment of a non-refundable fee of N1 0,000.00 (Ten Thousand Naira Only) for the bid. The payment will be in Bank Draft payable to CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA.

SUBMISSION

The submission will be in two separate envelopes.

A. the General Requirements should be submitted in one wax sealed envelope boldly marked at the top left Corner:

"Prequalification for the provision of furniture to Central Bank of Nigeria"

B. Financial bid should be submitted in wax sealed envelope boldly marked at the top left corner:

"Financial Bid for the provision of furniture to Central Bank of Nigeria".

The submission should be addressed to:-

**Secretary,
Major Contracts Tenders Committee 2nd Floor, Wing C
CBN Head Office Complex Central Business District, Abuja,
FCT Nigeria**

CLOSING DATE

All submission must be received at the above address on or before 16:00 hours on 8th June, 2010.

OPENING DATE

The tenders shall be opened on Monday 9th June, 2010.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

- 1) Only successful pre-qualified company(s) will have their financial Bids evaluated. Full tendering procedure will be applied to contractors pre-qualified and found capable of executing the project.
- 2) Nothing on this notice shall be construed to be commitment on the part of CBN.
- 3) The successful contractors will be contacted.

WORLD REPORT

10 dead as Israeli forces raid Gaza aid ship



ANGRY demonstrations quickly flared at the Israeli consulate in Istanbul



THERE is widespread condemnation against Israel

World condemns Israel action

ABDULLAH GUL, TURKISH PRESIDENT

I strongly condemn Israeli navy's using force against an aid convoy, including members of non-governmental organisations from 32 countries.

The international community should not remain indifferent in the face of this attack in the international waters, some 69 nautical miles from Israeli territorial waters which targeted civilians including women, children, the elderly and religious officials from different faiths. It was a violation of the international laws.

It is impossible to accept ignorance of lives of defenceless civilians who were trying to take humanitarian aid to Gazan people. Israel isolates its people with such policies. I wish that Israeli politicians and state will put an end to this situation.

Turkey requests opening of every kind of investigation into the incident. We also request Israel to bring those who are responsible to justice.

BAN KI-MOON, UN SEC-

RETARY-GENERAL

I am shocked by reports of killings and injuries of people on boats carrying supplies for Gaza. I condemn this violence.

It is vital that there is a full investigation to determine exactly how this bloodshed took place. I believe Israel must urgently provide a full explanation.

U.S. HOUSE SPOKESMAN WILLIAM BURTON

The United States deeply regrets the loss of life and injuries sustained, and is currently working to understand the circumstances surrounding this tragedy.

EUROPEAN UNION

High Representative Catherine Ashton expresses her deep regret at the news of loss of life and violence and extends her sympathies to families of the dead and wounded. On behalf of the European Union, she demands a full inquiry about the circumstances in which this happened.

She reiterates the European Union's position regarding Gaza - the continued policy of closure is unacceptable and politically

counterproductive... She calls for an immediate, sustained and unconditional opening of the crossing for the flow of humanitarian aid, commercial goods and persons to and from Gaza.

AMR MOUSSA, ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Arab League's Secretary-General has called for an urgent meeting at the level of representatives to look into this heinous crime committed by Israeli forces against unarmed civilians that left scores of dead and wounded.

The Arab League strongly condemns this terrorist act.

The president of the Republic expresses his profound emotion in the face of the tragic consequences of the Israeli military operation. He condemns the disproportionate use of force and addresses his condolences to the families of the victims. I deplore the loss of life during the interception of the Gaza flotilla. We have consistently advised against attempting to access Gaza in this way, because of the risks involved.

AT least 10 people have been killed after Israeli commandos stormed a convoy of ships carrying aid to the Gaza Strip yesterday, reports say.

Armed forces boarded the largest vessel overnight, clashing with some of the 500 people on board. It happened about 40 miles (64 km) out to sea, in international waters.

Israel says its soldiers were shot at and attacked with weapons; the activists say Israeli troops came on board shooting.

The activists were attempting to defy a blockade imposed by Israel after the Islamist movement Hamas took power in Gaza in 2007.

There has been widespread condemnation of the violence, with several countries summoning the Israeli ambassadors serving there.

UN chief Ban Ki-moon said he was "shocked by reports of killings and injuries" and called for a "full investigation" into what happened.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who is in Canada, has cancelled a scheduled visit to Washington on Tuesday to return to Israel, officials said.

Earlier, he expressed his "full backing" for the military involved in the raid, his office said.

The White House said the US "deeply regrets the loss of life and injuries sustained" in the storming of the aid ship.

A spokesman said US officials were "currently working to understand the circumstances surrounding this tragedy".

'Guns and knives'

The six-ship flotilla, carrying 10,000 tonnes of aid, left the coast of Cyprus on Sunday and had been due to arrive in Gaza yesterday. Israel had repeatedly said the boats would not be allowed to reach Gaza.

Israel said its soldiers boarded the lead ship in the early hours but were attacked with axes, knives, bars and at least two guns.

"Unfortunately this group were dead-set on confrontation," Israeli government spokesman Mark Regev told the BBC.

"Live fire was used against our forces. They initiated the violence, that's 100% clear," he said.

Organisers of the flotilla said at least 30 people were wounded in the incident. Israel says 10 of its soldiers were injured, one seriously.

A leader of Israel's Islamic Movement, Raed Salah, who was on board, was among those hurt.

Contact with activists on the ships was lost after the raids and no first-hand accounts from them have yet emerged.

Arafat Shoukri, of the Free Gaza Movement (FGM) which organised the convoy, said those on board one ship had told them by telephone that Israeli helicopters had arrived.

"Then we started to hear screams, shouting, shooting everywhere," he said. "We heard some of them shouting 'we are raising the white flag, stop shooting at us'."

He said Israeli claims that activists had pistols and other weapons were "cheap propaganda".

Audrey Bomse, also of the FGM, told the BBC that the activists were "not going to pose any violent resistance".

By midday Israel had towed three of the six boats to the port of Ashdod and says it will deport the passengers from there.

Condemnation

Turkish TV pictures taken on board the Turkish ship leading the flotilla appeared to show Israeli soldiers fighting to control passengers.

The footage showed a number of people, apparently injured, lying on the ground. A woman was seen holding a blood-stained stretcher.

Al-Jazeera TV reported from the same ship that Israeli navy forces had opened fire and boarded the vessel, wounding the captain.

The *Al-Jazeera* broadcast ended with a voice shouting in Hebrew, saying: "Everybody shut up!"

Israel's deputy Foreign Minister Danny Ayalon said his country "regrets any loss of life and did everything to avoid this outcome".

He accused the convoy of a "premeditated and outrageous provocation", describing the flotilla as an "armada of hate".

Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas condemned Israel's actions, saying it had committed a massacre, while Hamas said Israel had committed a "great crime and a huge violation of international law".

Turkey, whose nationals comprised the majority of those on board, accused Israel of "targeting innocent civilians".

Turkey was Israel's closest Muslim ally but relations have deteriorated over the past few years.

In Turkey, thousands of protesters demonstrated against Israel in Istanbul, while several countries have summoned Israeli ambassadors to seek an explanation as to what happened.

Greece has withdrawn from joint military exercises with Israel in protest at the raid on the flotilla.

Israel had repeatedly said it would stop the boats, calling the campaign a "provocation intended to delegitimise Israel".

Israel says it allows about 15,000 tonnes of humanitarian aid into Gaza every week.

But the UN says this is less than a quarter of what is needed.



**BAUCHI STATE
HEALTH SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT II
(WORLD BANK ASSISTED)**

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Country: Federal Republic of Nigeria
 Purchaser: Bauchi State Health Systems Development Project II
 Credit No: 4522UNI
 IFB Title: Procurement of Basic Medical Equipment
 IFB No: BASG/HSDII/WB/NCB/002/GOODS/AF/2010
 Date of Issuance: 1st June, 2010

- This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in Development Business/National Dailies on 2nd April, 2009.
- The Federal Republic of Nigeria has received credit from the International Development Association (IDA) toward the cost of Bauchi State Health Systems Development Project II and it intend to apply part of the proceeds of this Credit to payment under the Contract for the Procurement of Basic Medical Equipment

IFB: BASG/HSDPII/WB/NCB/002/GOOS/A 172010

- The Bauchi State Health Systems Development Project II now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Procurement of the Following:

| Lot No. | Description of Items | Quantity | Delivery Period |
|---------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Basic Medical Equipment (Assorted) | As per Schedule of Requirement | 60 days |

- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB), procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IDA Credits, and is open to all bidders from. Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Guidelines.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Bauchi State Health Systems Development Project II, at the address below and inspect the Bidding Documents from 10.00am to 4.00pm Mondays to Thursdays and 10.00am on Fridays except on public holidays
- Qualifications requirements include:
 - Evidence of previous supply (sale) of similar equipment proposed/or the last 3 years.
 - Audited financial Statement for the last 3 years to demonstrate the financial capability of the Bidder in terms of profitability working capital.

A margin of preference for eligible National Contractors shall not apply. Additional details are provided in the Bidding Documents

- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written Application to the address below and upon payment of a non refundable fee of N25,000.00 (Twenty Five Thousand Naira) only. The method of payment will be Cash or Bank Draft in I avoid' of the Bauchi State Health Systems Development Project II. The Bidding Documents will be collected by the representative of the Bidder.

- Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 11.00am on the 29th June, 2010. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives, who choose to attend in person at the address below at 11.00am on the 29th June, 2010). All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of Four Hundred Thousand Naira (N400,000.00) only or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.

- The address referred to above is:

Attn: **Bala Barde**
 Project Manager,
 Bauchi State Health Systems Development Project II,
 Ministry of Health,
 P.M.B. 65 Bauchi,
 Bauchi State.
 E-mail: babarde@gmail.com

VACANCY

An indigenous Property Development and Construction Company based in Abuja is seeking to recruit a highly skilled, conscientious, and suitably qualified candidate to join our existing team of professional and strong work force as **HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER**.

JOB DESCRIPTION

- Provide administrative decision making, support and leadership.
- Responsible for general coordination and communication of the company policies to employees
- Manage employees individually and collectively in such manner that they are able to contribute to the process of achieving business objectives set by the organisation
- Deal with top management along with staff and employees of the company. Act as a bridge between these sections in order to facilitate smooth functioning of the operations of the company.
- Designing and organising employee training programs for safety issues, language training, health etc
- Conduct orientation programs for employee motivation in order to direct them towards organisational goals

Competences/Qualifications

- B.sc in the relevant degree
- 5 years work experience in human resource functions
- Membership of professional body or a Masters degree is an added advantage

Interested candidates should send in their CV's with a covering letter to the following box within 14 days from this publication:

**The Admin Manager,
 P O Box 5262,
 Garki, Abuja**

NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH (NISER) P.M.B. 5, U.I. P.O. IBADAN INVITATION TO TENDER



The Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research (NISER), Ibadan invites tender for the supply of the following goods and services:

LOT 1 - FURNISHING OF NISER SEMINAR ROOM 1

Modular conference tables made of hard wood and non-swivel executive office chairs made of very comfortable and durable materials. Contractors are to visit project site to take measurements of the Seminar Room and make a design of furniture arrangement for front row

(high table) and other parts of the room, with sufficient clearance for movement. Contractors will be expected to indicate the number of modular tables and chairs to fit into the designed arrangement and submit clear pictures of tables and chairs to be supplied.

LOT 2 - TRAINING OF STAFF AND COMPUTERISATION OF THE ACCOUNTS DIVISION

This will entail:

- Determination of training needs as well as training staff of the Institute's Accounts Division;
- Supplying fixed assets system (both software and hardware), and
- Designing and implementing an efficient computer networking system within the Division.

TENDER REQUIREMENTS

- Evidence of registration with Corporate Affairs Commission, with a photocopy of Articles and Memorandum of Association
- Evidence of similar jobs previously executed (attach letters of award and job completion Certificates)
- Technical and administrative staff strength with academic/professional qualifications and experience of key personnel
- List of equipment and their conditions
- Current financial status of company including reference from bank attesting to company's financial capability
- Audited account of company for the immediate past three years
- Tax Clearance Certificate for the immediate past three years
- VAT certificate for the immediate past three years and TIN
- Registered premises of company

SUBMISSION OF TENDER

Tenders should be in sealed envelopes marked with Lot Number and are to be submitted not later than two weeks from the date of this advertisement, and not later than 12.00 noon. All submissions should be addressed to:

The Director, Admin & Finance
 NISER, Oyo Road, Ojo, Ibadan
 P.M.B. 5, U.I. P.O., Ibadan

The Institute reserves the right to reject any Tender submission.

**SIGNED:
 NISERMANAGEMENT**

Sign Language



Off your bike, don't (oops, no) riding

Photo location: Xi'an, China, by Ian Lindley

Culled from telegraph.co.uk

SPELL TO SCORE

Fill in as many blanks as you can to form 11 different words starting with the given letters. Proper nouns, plurals, and present-tense verbs ending in "s" (such as "rings") are not allowed. No letter may be repeated in the word itself or in the word above or the word below. For each word, the number of letters needed to earn the maximum score is indicated by the number of blanks.

In this sample, the word ROCKY cannot be ROAST because the letters A, S, and T appear above in STAPLE. Likewise, PLATED cannot be PATROL because of the O and R in ROCKY.

STAPLE 6
ROCKY 5
PLATED 6

TO SCORE: Each letter you use is worth one point. Give yourself a bonus of 11 points if you use all 26 letters of the alphabet. Include the given letters in your score. Subtract 5 points from your score for every word you form of less than 4 letters.

| | WORDS | POINTS |
|---|--------------------------|--------|
| A | N | |
| B | O | |
| C | P | |
| D | Q | |
| E | R | |
| F | S | |
| G | T | |
| H | U | |
| I | V | |
| J | W | |
| K | X | |
| L | Y | |
| M | Z | |
| | 1. W _ _ _ _ _ | ___ |
| | 2. H O _ _ _ | ___ |
| | 3. S _ _ _ _ _ | ___ |
| | 4. L O _ _ _ | ___ |
| | 5. I _ _ _ _ | ___ |
| | 6. C U _ _ _ | ___ |
| | 7. G _ _ _ _ | ___ |
| | 8. S N _ _ _ | ___ |
| | 9. J _ _ _ _ | ___ |
| | 10. F L _ _ _ | ___ |
| | 11. U _ _ _ _ | ___ |
| | TOTAL _____ | |
| | BONUS _____ | |
| | GRAND TOTAL _____ | |

SOLUTION TO BOWL-A-SCORE CHALLENGER

STRIKES: 1. disturbing; 2. underwater; 3. perishable; 4. quadrangle; 5. adequately; 6. correspond; 7. triangular; 8. antagonism; 9. compliance; 10. hyperbolic.

SPARES: (Other combinations are possible. Score full credit for them as long as they are correct.) 1. rigid, bunts; 2. return, wade; 3. helper, bias; 4. grand, equal; 5. elated, quay; 6. crops, drone; 7. giant, rural; 8. saint, mango; 9. income, clap; 10. policy, herb.

SUDOKU

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

160

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

Solution to Sudoku 159

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



NATIONAL BOARD FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

PLOT B' BIDA ROAD, PMB 2239, KADUNA

Web: www.nbte.gov.ng

EXTENSION OF CLOSING DATE OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POST OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

1. PREAMBLE

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the post of Executive Secretary, National Board for Technical Education. The Board is the regulatory agency for technical and vocational education, outside the University sector.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

The NBTE was established by Act 9 of 1977, with the following responsibilities, among others:

- To advise the Federal Government on and coordinate all aspects of technical and vocational education falling outside the Universities;
- To determine, after consultation with the National Manpower Board, Industrial Training Fund and such other bodies as it considers appropriate, the skilled manpower needs of the country in the industrial, commercial and other relevant fields for the purpose of planning training facilities and in particular to prepare periodic master plans for the balanced and coordinated development of polytechnics.
- To inquire into and advise the Federal Government on the financial needs, both recurrent and capital, of Polytechnics and other technical institutions to enable them meet the objectives of producing the trained manpower needs for the country;
- To advise on, and take steps to harmonize entry requirements and duration of courses at technical institutions;
- To lay down standards of skills to be attained and to continually review such standards as necessitated by technology and national needs.

The National Minimum Standards and Establishment of Institutions Act of 1985 and Amendment Act of 1993 extended the function of the Board to include the establishment and maintenance of minimum standards in Polytechnics and other technical institutions in the Federation, accreditation of academic programmes in all Technical and Vocational Education (TVE) institution for the purpose of award of national certificates and diplomas and other similar awards, and recommendation for the establishment of Private Technical Institutions in Nigeria.

3. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Executive Secretary is the Chief Executive Officer of the Board, as well as the Secretary of the Governing Board, and shall be responsible for the execution of the policy of the Board and the day-to-day running of the affairs of the Board.

4. TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

The appointment is for a term of five (5) years in the first instance and renewable, subject to satisfactory performance, for another term of five (5) years and no more.

5. REMUNERATIONS

The salary is consolidated and the appointee shall enjoy benefits of office as applicable to Government Parastatals and as may be approved from time to time by the Federal Government.

6. QUALITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS

The candidate for the post is expected to possess the following academic, administrative and professional qualifications and personal qualities:

a) The applicant should demonstrate academic leadership, with a minimum of Master's Degree in disciplines relevant to Polytechnic programmes from a recognized educational institution, plus a minimum of twenty (20) years of cognate experience in teaching, research, industry and administration; at least five of which must have been gained within the tertiary educational sector. These programmes are as follows:

- ? Agriculture and Related Technology
- ? Art Design and Related Technology
- ? Business and Related Studies
- ? Engineering Technology
- ? Environmental Design Studies
- ? Finance and Related Studies
- ? Health and Related Technology
- ? Hospitality and Related Technology
- ? Information Technology Studies
- ? Science, Computing and Related Technology

- Must provide evidence of membership of a recognized professional institution or registration with a regulatory body in Nigeria and evidence of scholarly publications in reputable journals, as well as presentation of papers at educational conferences, seminars and/or workshops;
- Must be a person with initiatives and vision for sustaining the accelerated pace of development of TVE in Nigeria;
- Must be a fair-minded and dynamic individual with an unimpeachable character and impeccable reputation;
- Must enjoy excellent physical and mental health (with evidence from Government Hospital); and
- Must be proficient in Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

7. METHOD OF APPLICATION

Applications should be accompanied with fifteen (15) typewritten copies of candidates' Curriculum Vitae giving the details in the following order:

- Full Name with Surname underlined
- Date and Place of Birth
- State of Origin/Local Government
- Marital Status
- Number and Ages of Children
- Current Postal Address including telephone number and e-mail
- Educational Institutions attended with dates
- Academic/Professional qualifications obtained with dates
- Membership of Professional Institutions and/or Registration with Regulatory Bodies
- Academic/Scholarly Publications and/or Technical Report
- Previous Employer (s) and Post (s) held with dates
- Present Employment including status and salary
- A statement (not more than 1,500 words) of his/her own vision for the Board in the 21st century
- Other activities outside current employment, such as community services and entrepreneurial initiatives
- Names and addresses of three (3) Referees, one of whom shall be the employer, who are to forward confidential reports on them directly to the Board.

Applicant must be ready to support every claim with documentary evidence (where applicable) and bring the originals of all their credentials if invited for interview.

Applications are to be submitted in a sealed envelope and marked "POST OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY" on the top left hand corner, addressed to:

Director, Personnel Management
National Board for Technical Education
Plot B, Bida Road
P.M.B. 2239
Kaduna.

And to reach him **not later than two weeks from the date of the advertisement**

The Board reserves the right to extend the closing date if deemed necessary, and/or re-advertise the position should this particular process not yield the desired result.

SIGNED
Sheriff Sanda
Director, Personnel Management

News Extra

Nigeria's agony dwarfs the Gulf oil spill

...The US and Europe ignore it

By John Vidal, Environment Editor

The Deepwater Horizon disaster caused headlines around the world, yet the people who live in the Niger delta have had to live with environmental catastrophes for decades

We reached the edge of the oil spill near the Nigerian village of Otuegwe after a long hike through cassava plantations. Ahead of us lay swamp. We waded into the warm tropical water and began

Soon we were swimming in pools of light Nigerian crude, the best-quality oil in the world

swimming, cameras and notebooks held above our heads. We could smell the oil long before we saw it – the stench of garage forecourts and rotting vegetation hanging thickly in the air.

The farther we travelled, the more nauseous it became. Soon we were swimming in pools of

light Nigerian crude, the best-quality oil in the world. One of the many hundreds of 40-year-old pipelines that crisscross the Niger Delta had corroded and spewed oil for several months.

Forest and farmland were now covered in a sheen of greasy oil. Drinking wells were polluted and people were distraught. No one knew how much oil had leaked. "We lost our nets, huts and fishing pots," said Chief Promise, village leader of Otuegwe and our guide. "This is where we fished and farmed. We have lost our forest. We told Shell of the spill within days, but they did nothing for six months."

That was the Niger Delta a few years ago, where, according to Nigerian academics, writers and environment groups, oil companies have acted with such impunity and recklessness that much of the region has been devastated by leaks.

In fact, more oil is spilled from the delta's network of terminals, pipes, pumping stations and oil platforms every year than has been lost in the Gulf of Mexico, the site of a major ecological catastrophe caused by oil that has poured from a leak triggered by the explosion that wrecked BP's Deepwater Horizon rig last month.

That disaster, which claimed the lives of 11 rig workers, has made headlines round the world. By contrast, little information has emerged about the damage inflicted on the Niger Delta. Yet



FLASH back: Firemen attempt to put out the fire at a burning village on the outskirts of Lagos following a pipeline explosion.

the destruction there provides us with a far more accurate picture of the price we have to pay for drilling oil today.

On 1 May this year a ruptured ExxonMobil pipeline in the state of Akwa Ibom spilled more than a million gallons into the delta over seven days before the leak was stopped. Local people demonstrated against the company but say they were attacked by security guards. Community leaders are now demanding \$1bn in compensation for the illness and loss of livelihood they suffered. Few expect they will succeed. In the meantime, thick balls of tar are being washed up along the coast.

Within days of the Ibeno spill, thousands of barrels of oil were spilled when the nearby Shell

Trans Niger pipeline was attacked by rebels. A few days after that, a large oil slick was found floating on Lake Adibawa in Bayelsa State and another in Ogoniland. "We are faced with incessant oil spills from rusty pipes, some of which are 40 years old," said Bonny Otavie, a Bayelsa MP.

This point was backed by Williams Mkpa, a community leader in Ibeno: "Oil companies do not value our life; they want us to all die. In the past two years, we have experienced 10 oil spills and fishermen can no longer sustain their families. It is not tolerable."

With 606 oilfields, the Niger delta supplies 40% of all the crude the United States imports and is

the world capital of oil pollution. Life expectancy in its rural communities, half of which have no access to clean water, has fallen to little more than 40 years over the past two generations. Locals blame the oil that pollutes their land and can scarcely believe the contrast with the steps taken by BP and the US government to try to stop the Gulf oil leak and to protect the Louisiana shoreline from pollution.

"If this Gulf accident had happened in Nigeria, neither the government nor the company would have paid much attention," said the writer Ben Ikari, a member of the Ogoni people. "This kind of spill happens all the time in the

Cont'd on page 40

PIC: GEORGE ESIRI/REUTERS



FIREBOAT response crew as they battle the blazing remnants of the off shore oil rig Deepwater Horizon on April 22, 2010



A ruptured pipeline burns in a Lagos suburb after an explosion in 2008 which killed at least 100 people.

News Extra



OIL facilities in the Niger Delta.

Nigeria's agony dwarfs the Gulf oil spill

Cont'd from page 39

delta."

"The oil companies just ignore it. The lawmakers do not care and people must live with pollution daily. The situation is now worse than it was 30 years ago. Nothing is changing. When I see the efforts that are being made in the US I feel a great sense of sadness at the double standards. What they do in the US or in Europe is very different."

"We see frantic efforts being made to stop the spill in the US," said Nnimo Bassey, Nigerian head of Friends of the Earth International. "But in Nigeria, oil companies largely ignore their spills, cover them up and destroy people's livelihood and environments. The Gulf spill can be seen as a metaphor for what is happening daily in the oilfields of Nigeria and other parts of Africa."

"This has gone on for 50 years in Nigeria. People depend completely on the environment for their drinking water and farming and fishing. They are amazed that the president of the US can be making speeches daily, because in Nigeria people there would not hear a whimper," he said.

It is impossible to know how much oil is spilled in the Niger delta each year because the companies and the government keep that secret. However, two major independent investigations over the past four years suggest that as much is spilled at sea, in the swamps and on land every year as has been lost in the Gulf of Mexico so far.

One report, compiled by WWF UK, the World Conservation Union and representatives from the Nigerian federal government and the Nigerian Conservation Foundation, calculated in 2006 that up to 1.5m tons of oil – 50 times the pollution unleashed

in the Exxon Valdez tanker disaster in Alaska – has been spilled in the delta over the past half century. Last year Amnesty calculated that the equivalent of at least 9million barrels of oil was spilled and accused the oil companies of a human rights outrage.

According to Nigerian federal government figures, there were more than 7,000 spills between 1970 and 2000, and there are 2,000 official major spillages sites, many going back decades, with thousands of smaller ones still waiting

another where militants bombed the Trans Escravos pipeline.

Shell, which works in partnership with the Nigerian government in the delta, says that 98% of all its oil spills are caused by vandalism, theft or sabotage by militants and only a minimal amount by deteriorating infrastructure. "We had 132 spills last year, as against 175 on average. Safety valves were vandalised; one pipe had 300 illegal taps. We found five explosive devices on one. Sometimes communities do not give

cleaning up any spill as fast as possible as soon as and for whatever reason they occur."

These claims are hotly disputed by communities and environmental watchdog groups. They mostly blame the companies' vast network of rusting pipes and storage tanks, corroding pipelines, semi-derelict pumping stations and old wellheads, as well as tankers and vessels cleaning out tanks.

The scale of the pollution is mind-boggling. The govern-



FLASH back: Ecological damage as a result of the fire and explosion at the Rokpokwu-Rumuekpe pipeline near Port Harcourt

to be cleared up. More than 1,000 spill cases have been filed against Shell alone.

Last month Shell admitted to spilling 14,000 tonnes of oil in 2009. The majority, said the company, was lost through two incidents – one in which the company claims that thieves damaged a wellhead at its Odidi field and

us access to clean up the pollution because they can make more money from compensation," said a spokesman.

"We have a full-time oil spill response team. Last year we replaced 197 miles of pipeline and are using every known way to clean up pollution, including microbes. We are committed to

ment's National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) says that between 1976 and 1996 alone, more than 2.4m barrels contaminated the environment. "Oil spills and the dumping of oil into waterways has been extensive, often poisoning drinking water and destroying vegetation. These incidents have

become common due to the lack of laws and enforcement measures within the existing political regime," said a spokesman for NOSDRA.

The sense of outrage is widespread. "There are more than 300 spills, major and minor, a year," said Bassey. "It happens all the year round. The whole environment is devastated. The latest revelations highlight the massive difference in the response to oil spills. In Nigeria, both companies and government have come to treat an extraordinary level of oil spills as the norm."

A spokesman for the Stakeholder Democracy Network in Lagos, which works to empower those in communities affected by the oil companies' activities, said: "The response to the spill in the United States should serve as a stiff reminder as to how far spill management in Nigeria has drifted from standards across the world."

Other voices of protest point out that the world has overlooked the scale of the environmental impact. Activist Ben Amunwa, of the London-based oil watch group Platform, said: "Deepwater Horizon may have exceed Exxon Valdez, but within a few-years in Nigeria offshore spills from four locations dwarfed the scale of the Exxon Valdez disaster many times over. Estimates put spill volumes in the Niger delta among the worst on the planet, but they do not include the crude oil from waste water and gas flares. Companies such as Shell continue to avoid independent monitoring and keep key data secret."

Worse may be to come. One industry insider, who asked not to be named, said: "Major spills are likely to increase in the coming years as the industry strives to extract oil from increasingly remote and difficult terrains. Future supplies will be offshore, deeper and harder to work. When things go wrong, it will be harder to respond."

Judith Kimerling, a professor of law and policy at the City University of New York and author of Amazon Crude, a book about oil development in Ecuador, said: "Spills, leaks and deliberate discharges are happening in oilfields all over the world and very few people seem to care."

There is an overwhelming sense that the big oil companies act as if they are beyond the law. Bassey said: "What we conclude from the Gulf of Mexico pollution incident is that the oil companies are out of control."

"It is clear that BP has been blocking progressive legislation, both in the US and here. In Nigeria, they have been living above the law. They are now clearly a danger to the planet. The dangers of this happening again and again are high. They must be taken to the international court of justice."

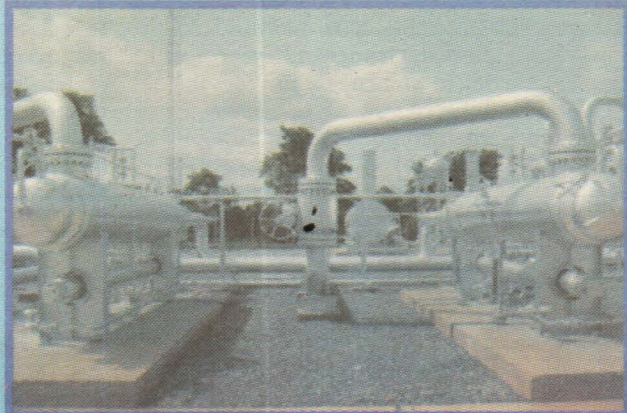
Culled from theobserver.co.uk

ZAKHEM

we deliver consistently high standard of service



ELP 1



Abeokuta Gas Station



ELP 1

are 100% completed along the pipeline route and Zakhem preventing not continue on a 2KM function was vacated. A present judgment on the date the remaining 2KM

lines has since been without any variation as the Committee on Gas passed with the quality of

phases 1&2) particularly a 56KM x 24" Pipeline to Oben. Work on the the 30% stated in the ct, 342KM x 36" from sum for mobilization in accordance with paid from the balance has been opened and materials of the project. It ned funds cannot be have been shipped is

aimed at efficient gas Federal Government the Engineering, Escravos River Crossing L 58 Upgrade Phase I, ia Limited comprising ous company.

gas pipelines projects o Gas Pipeline project) and OB3 Gas Pipeline bidding. Zakhem has rom first class Nigerian tender guarantees are rified through diligent

Coast from Senegal to and adhering to safety competing favorably nal by partnering with

highlighted hereunder works.

Completed Projects

Zakhem has completed and handed over successfully the following projects in recent times:-Obajana Cement Gas Pipeline, Mosimi Ore Pipeline, Mosimi Tank Rehabilitation, Atlas Cove Tanks Rehabilitation, Mosimi Ethanol Projects, Gas Supply to Geregu Power Station, Gas Supply to Papalanto Power Station, Abeokuta Metering Station with Pipeline, West Africa Gas Pipelines, shore approach with metering stations. Extending from Ghana, Loume, Cotonu, Bost tank farms-Ghana, Rehabilitation of Total tank-Gabon, LATDIOR stadium-Senegal, Renovation of Dakar Airport-Senegal, Fatic-Bambey road construction-Senegal.

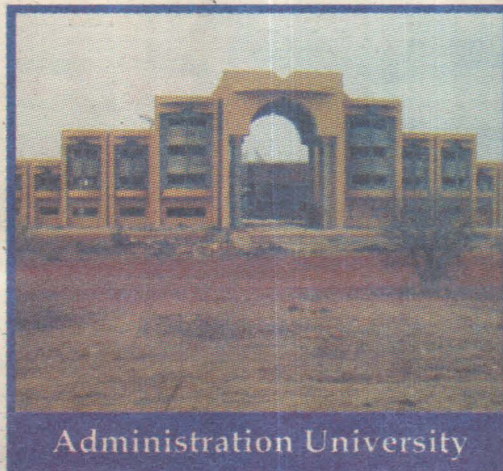
Projects completed substantially up to 97% due for commissioning and handing over include -

Ajaokuta/Geregu Oben Pipeline with Metering Stations, Atlas Cove Mosimi Pipeline Rehabilitation 95% complete, awaiting PPMC window for hookup, NDJENO power plant-Congo Brazaville.

Ongoing Projects under construction include

Escravos Lagos Pipeline ELPS, Phase (1) 70% Complete in progress, Phase (2) 15% complete in progress, awaiting funding, Kempinski Hotel-Ghana, Kpona-Tema-power station.

It is Zakhem's pride that it delivers where others have failed and this is its success story for which Zakhem is associated with and known for. It is our reaffirmation that Zakhem has exhibited continued commitment to the Nigerian People and shown that it is a reliable partner in the drive for sustainable energy supplies. Consequently, Zakhem will not be intimidated by cheap blackmail and unfounded allegations from presenting itself when a new challenge crops up to develop cost-effective approach to meet specific needs of its clients.



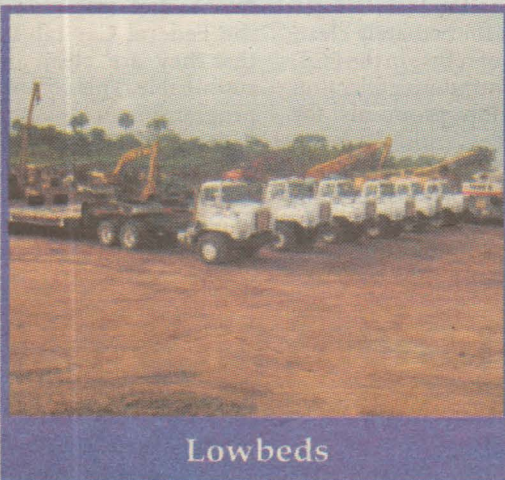
Administration University



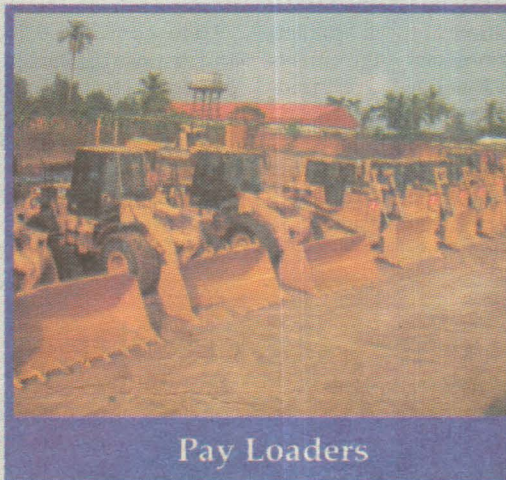
Dakar Airport, Senegal



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Lowbeds



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ENVIRONMENT

environment@dailytrust.com

HOTLINE: 07041632079

Abuja celebrates 'World No Tobacco' day

By Nasir Imam

IN spite of the enlightenment and awareness being created, most people still remained carefree and unaware on the harm that tobacco causes, even if they have some idea that it is a health risk.

This assertion was made yesterday in Abuja by the Secretary, FCT Social Development Secretariat, Mrs. Blessing

O. Onuh, during the commemoration of the 2010 World No Tobacco Day.

She said that on 16th December, 2009, the World Health Organisation (WHO) selected "Gender and Tobacco with an emphasis on marketing to women" as this year's theme for the 2010 World No Tobacco Day.

Mrs. Onuh said women comprise about 20% of the world's more than 1 billion smokers "unfortunately these

women, and worse still, teenage girls have become targets for the tobacco industry, which needs to recruit new users to replace the nearly half of current users who still die prematurely from tobacco-related diseases."

She said although the World No Tobacco Day 2010 campaign will focus on tobacco marketing to women, it is also taking into account to protect boys and men from the tobacco companies' tactics.

Nigeria, Ghana unite against dangerous chemicals in W/Africa

By Mustapha Suleiman

NIGERIA and Ghana have resolved to fight the scourge of dangerous and hazardous chemicals in the West African sub-region. The two countries made the resolution in Accra recently at the meeting of stakeholders on management of Organic Pollutants.

Addressing the meeting sponsored by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Minister of Environment, John Odey stated that the collaboration between Nigeria and Ghana would encourage wider sub-regional cooperation on Environmental management.

He said, "Globally, consumption of chemicals for various purposes, ranging from industrial to construction activities, has been on exponential rise. Some of these chemicals are potentially injurious to man and the environment.

"The implementation of this regional project and our presence here is a clear demonstration of our commitment to halt the dangerous impacts of the Persistent Organic Pollutant (POPs) chemicals on the environment and the human health and to build the capacity for sustainable management of POPs sites within the region.

"My Ministry as the Designated National Authority (DNA) for the implementation of these Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) has continued to play leadership role in ensuring that Nigeria meets its statutory obligations under the agreements. "One of the leading activities in this respect is the implementation of the regional project on POPs contaminated site.



GOVERNOR Muazu Babangida Aliyu, His Deputy Ahmed Ibeto from left, SSG, Niger second left and the Speaker Niger State House of Assembly Musa Ma'ali packing refuse at the flagging off ceremony of environmental sanitation in Minna

C'ttee to clean up Abuja satellite towns set up

By Mustapha Suleiman

IN an attempt to ensure that satellite towns in the FCT are clean and attain environmentally sustainable status, the Federal Ministry of Environment has inaugurated the Committee on Clean up of some selected towns in the FCT.

The committee is to immediately clean and dispose the backlog of refuse in the FCT, develop a strategy of continuous collection of disposal and develop proposals for Federal Government intervention.

In an address read at the inauguration ceremony by Dr. Biodun Olorunfemi, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, on behalf of the Minister of Environment,

Mr. John Odey, the committee members were charged to see their nominations as a national call to duty requiring high sense of responsibility and patriotism.

The committee, according to the minister is "on a joint programme of action for the cleanup of some cities, inter-state, gateway towns and communities neighbouring the Federal Capital Territory to ensure that they are clean and environmentally sustainable. This committee is the first pilot programme of collaboration between the Federal Government and states around the FCT with the hope of transforming into a viable model to be adopted and replicated in other parts of the country."

Odey noted that "globally, the world

is becoming cleaner as world cities, inter-state cities and communities are becoming increasingly environmentally clean and friendly, "adding that cities in Nigeria are also growing at a very high rate, especially cities like FCT, Lagos and Port Harcourt

He said that the Federal Government has set up Plastic Recycling Plants in some states aimed at cleaning up some specific contaminants.

"The Federal Government has also set up waste management systems in Kano, Port Harcourt to address the ever growing waste that is generated thereby turning Nigerians into a community living perpetually within stuck of waste.

FG tasks developed nations on waste management

By Mustapha Suleiman

MINISTER of Environment, John Odey has said that the Federal Government might push for major assistance from the industrialised nations to manage the industrial waste being shipped to Nigeria.

Mr Odey stated this in Abuja at the weekend when he met with the leaders of Nigerians in Diaspora Europe (NIDOE) in his office.

The Diaspora Nigerians had come to meet the Minister on possible areas of collaboration with Nigerians experts in Envi-

ronmental management who are resident outside the country.

According to the Minister, wastes of industrial products from the industrialized countries have started posing challenges to Nigeria in terms of disposal.

He pointed out, "the developed countries cannot run away from assistance on waste management because the kind of waste they dump on us through international trade is such that are not bio-degradable unlike our own waste.

"So we need to take the developed countries to task on this while we continue to

intensify our efforts at various kinds of waste management."

The Minister told the visitors that the Federal Government had been partnering with the private sectors in the area of Waste management in Nigeria through its Integrated Waste Management program.

The program has been manifesting in building of waste facilities in several cities of Nigeria.

The Minister noted that the government would continue to rev up the tempo of awareness and sensitization among Nigerians on handling various kinds of waste

adding that the communities had great role to play in overall waste management in the country.

He urged the Diasporas to mobilize their members globally to contribute to the revival of Nigeria through their experience and expertise.

The group led by Alistar Soyode was in the country to open windows of opportunity for the Diaspora to contribute to the Nigerian Government developmental efforts. Soyode said that as a group of Nigerians they were ready to contribute their quota to the development of the country

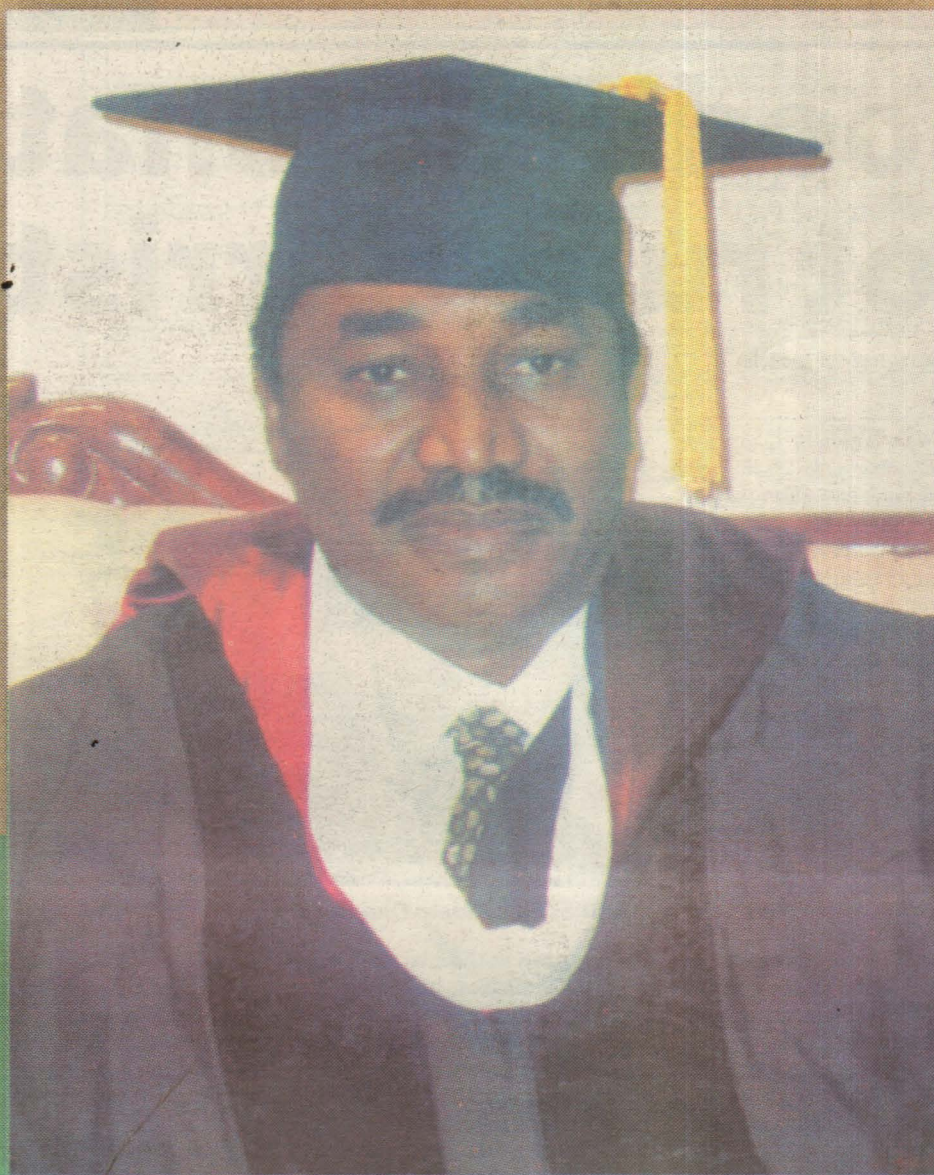
KATSINA STATE TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

P.M.B 2094 NAGOGO ROAD, KATSINA

Hearty Cheers!!!

to

**Our Amiable Leader
for Attaining Global Recognition
as a Modest Educational Achiever.**



His Excellency,
DR. IBRAHIM SHEHU SHEMA *fnim*
Executive Governor, Katsina State,

On behalf of the Governing Board, Directors and the Entire Staff of Katsina State Transport Services (KTSTA), I, **Sirajo Aminu Makera** heartily extend our hearty felicitations and joyfully celebrate with our amiable, visionary and purposeful leader and political mentor, His Excellency, Executive Governor of Katsina State, Dr Ibrahim Shehu Shema, *fnim* for the recent conferment of an Honorary Doctorate Degree, A Doctor of humane Letters (Honoris Causa) by Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina USA in the celebration of its 145 years of educational achievements.

Your Excellency Sir, this recognition of your modest educational achievements by such a highly recognized institution in the world was only a vindication of your inaugural pledge to pursue EDUCATION and HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENTS as number one priority project of your administration believing same to be the main foundation for all the socio-economic and political developments.

Three years down the line, the people of Katsina state becomes much better for it with the standard and up-to-date infrastructures and facilities in all our higher institutions of learning, aside from your various commitments to Girl Child Education, Primary and Post Primary which have not only today boasted with fully equipped and upgraded primary and post primary schools in all the wards across the 34 local government areas of the state but twice earn the state an award of One Point Four Billion Naira (N1.4bn) in the implementation of universal education.

Sir, the good people of Katsina state will ever remember your foresight in the provision of free and qualitative education by the abolishing of all manner of fees to all school going age pupils across the state, prompt yearly payment of all NECO/WAEC, JAMB to Katsina indigenes, recruitments and regular training of over two thousand teachers in addition to

various welfare schemes initiated as well as the provision of efficient transport services to students across the state and annual provision of oversee scholarship to various areas of human endeavour, to mention but just too few here.

UNLIKE MANY WHO RENEGE ON THEIR PROMISES TO THE ELECTORATES, YOUR STYLE IS TO ALWAYS LIVE BY YOUR WORDS. YOU HAVE MADE US PROUD, MORE INSPIRED AND THE SKY IS JUST THE BEGINNING FOR YOU, OUR FATHER AND POLITICAL MENTOR.

The Entire Board and Management are happy to associate with you in the celebration of your educational achievements and most importantly the great way you have impacted the lives of ordinary citizens of the state, May the Almighty Allah continuously guide and protect as you set to lead the state to another enviable height.

**ALLAH YA KARA JOGORA YACI GABA DA
TAIMAKA MAKAI AMEEN**



Signed
ALHAJI SIRAJO AMINU MAKERA
General Manager, Katsina State Transport Authority (KTSTA)

LAW

Legal Quote

Public Officers Protection Act is designed to protect the officer who acts in good faith and does not apply to acts done in abuse of office. And abuse of office is the use of power to achieve ends other than those for which power was granted where the public officer acts maliciously, the Act will certainly not avail him.

-John Inayang Okoro JCA in *Alhaji Jibrin Bala Guna Alhassan Vs Dr. Muazu Babangida Aliyu*

Goodluck Jonathan should not run – Barrister Okonkwo

By Adelanwa Bamgboye and John Chuks Azu

Barrister Kenneth Okonkwo, in this interview spoke on the copyright law, how to sustain the late President Umaru Yar'adua's Rule of Law legacy and President Goodluck Jonathan running for the 2011 Presidential elections.

There is the issue of copyright, artists do not get their rightful dues. As one who has been in the entertainment industry, what are you doing to address this situation?

I think the issue of copyright actually was one of the motivations that took me to read law. It is quite pathetic. Artists and writers would have been very wealthy if the issue of copyright was adequately addressed. But the motivation is not there. If works are copyrighted and the owners are adequately rewarded, you would have written up to ten books because your job is about researching. And people are denied of your intellectual power because you are not writing.

I have met people who did works, produced movies and got congratulated all round the world but they have nothing to show for it. When I went to London for an award, I saw some people from Jamaica, Asia etc talking about movies I made. How did it reach them? Pirates. It is the duty of the government to come in through the Nigerian Police. Piracy both-



BARRISTER Kenneth Okonkwo

ers on crime. In the civil courts, it takes time which can be discouraging. While the lawyers move forward in the civil aspects in terms of reclaiming damages from the pirates, the police should also prosecute them on the criminal aspects. Together if there is enormous pressure on these pirates, they will stop it. I am ready to offer my service to anybody in the entertainment and creative works world and be lenient on the fees to enable them benefit from their work. This is part of the reasons I am a lawyer.

Some have said that our leaders have been able to hold Nigeria together, could this be an achievement for the nation at 50?

And who created the situation that threatened Nigeria's existence? With all due respect to our leaders, Nigeria was kept together by the divine intervention of God. By the prayers of the righteous men of God and no man should claim that glory. What I am saying is pure history. Nigeria is one because the people are realizing that their leaders are misleading them and they are uniting against all forms of vampirism administration.

The only leader that has acted in a manner intended to unite Nigeria is late President Umaru Musa Yar' Adua, unfortunately he died. It's a personal loss to me because he proved that without

electoral justice, Nigeria cannot be one. He wanted electoral reforms. He did for the Niger Delta what a southern president could not do them by restoring peace there.

What is your suggestion on how to sustain the legacy of Rule of Law of the late President?

From 1994 when I gave my life to Christ I have continuously prayed for my country because Nigeria is going to be a super power and no man can stop it. Yar' Adua came with the Seven Point Agenda which the Rule of Law was part of. All you need do is to allow the institutions such as judiciary, legislator and executive arms to work.

That was why during his long absence on account of illness, I discouraged about three cases against him right here in my chambers. Even when the issue of his transmitting a letter came up I told those people that if Yar' Adua was in the right frame of mind he would have written that letter. Recent events have proved me right.

Thank God that with the ingenuity of the National Assembly, the issue of section 144 was resolved in making Jonathan Acting President. Also, while he was recuperating, I felt it was un-African to install a king when another king is still alive; so I did not support anybody removing him, it would have been very unfair.

That is why I believe that federal character as one of the things that contributes to national stabil-

ity will help us to stabilize.

Must we murder merit on the altar of federal character?

Whoever tells you that federal character or zoning murders merit is not telling you the truth.

Do you want to tell me that there is any zone you cannot find people that can be president? The gospel truth is that power should remain in the north for the remaining period for stability with the expectation that it will go south in 2015.

My advice to President Goodluck Jonathan is that he should not run. One, his impartiality will help us to get credible election and a successor. If he becomes partisan he may compromise what he sets out to do.

But he stands in a unique position to be an impartial umpire by allowing INEC to be truly independent. And the beauty of Nigeria is that once you set precedence subsequent persons will toe the line. For example, Yar'adua's Rule of Law will be difficult to abandon.

Secondly, for the sake of the nation, Jonathan should not run, and presidency should not only be zoned, it should remain in the North West for the next four years. By the time we rotate it across all zones and sectors, we would have outgrown the arrangement and Nigerians will realize that our problem is not because one zone has been ruling, but having a good person at the helm of affairs.

Body scanners against human rights

By Adelanwa Bamgboye

A Senior Advocate of Nigeria, Mr. Tayo Oyetibo, has said that the proposed use of full-body scanners to screen international travellers passing through our international airports "violate the rights to human dignity and privacy of Citizens as guaranteed by Sections 34(1) (a) and 37 of the 1999 constitution.

Section 34(1) (a) provides that (1) Every individual is entitled to respect for the dignity of his person, and accordingly - (a) no person shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment; while Section 37 provides for the right to private and family life - "The privacy of citizens, their homes, correspondence, telephone conversations and telegraphic communications is hereby guaranteed and protected."

According to Oyetibo, "so far as no law has been made by the

National Assembly to authorize the use of the equipment in the interest of defence, public safety, public order, public morality or public health or for the purpose of protecting the rights and freedom of other persons as permitted by Section 45(1) of the Constitution.

"It is an infringement of the right to dignity of human person and the right to privacy to use full-body scanners to view the private parts of the body of a traveller who is in the process of exercising his right to freedom of movement by passing through the airport.

"The only exception permitted by the Constitution is where a law has been made pursuant to Section 45(1) of the Constitution in the interest of defence, public safety, public order, public morality or public health or for the purpose of protecting the rights and freedom of other persons. The National Assembly would, of course, have

to conduct a public hearing on the desirability or otherwise of enacting such a law to authorize the invasion of the privacy of Citizens'.

The proposed plan he said is not justified. Apart from the issue of fundamental human rights, another very important challenge confronting the Aviation industry is the issue of lack of maintainance.

Four years ago, the International Civil Aviation Organisation, (ICAO), threatened to boy-



MR. Tayo Oyetibo, SAN

cott the Nigerian airspace, due to non-functioning, obsolete communications - navigational aids, and weather observations systems and lack of adequate airport fencing. This ICAO report should have been a timely warning of the Aviation Authorities - but it took the death of hundreds of innocent passengers, to trigger immediate action.

Before the facilities were replaced, Nigeria experienced at least three air disasters within short interval. On the 23rd of October, 2005, Belview aircraft crashed just outside Lagos. 117 lives were lost in the crash. On the 10th of December 2005, Sosoliso crashed on final approach Port Harcourt Airport. 102 lives were lost in that crash. On the 29th of October 2006 ADC crashed immediately after take-off in Abuja. 96 lives were lost in that crash including the Sultan of Sokoto. The immediate past avia-

tion Minister, Mr. Babtunde Omotoba, has always cried for safety in the air, but in reality, he neglected those things that could guarantee safety of passengers in the air. For example, he failed to sign a maintenance agreement with the company that put the equipment in place. If the minister is so concerned about safety in our airspace, how come he has refused to sign the agreement with the company that knows very well about the maintenance of the equipment. One is tempted to ask where his interest really lies. His argument was, that he can't enter into any agreement with a company that has a case in court, but he forgot section 35 of the 1999 constitution that says that any accused person is innocent until the contrary is proved. Investigation has also revealed that Omotoba has always stood between the signing of the maintenance agreement with the contractor.

NATIONAL ANIMAL PRODUCTION RESEARCH INSTITUTE

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, P.M.B. 1096, SHIKA - ZARIA

ADVERTISEMENT OF VACANCIES

The National Animal Production Research Institute, Ahmadu Bello University, Shika-Zaria, hereby invites suitably qualified candidates to fill the underlisted vacant positions in the Institute:

| POSITIONS | QUALIFICATIONS | SALARY CONTISS |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------|
| Research Fellow I | Applicant must possess Ph.D plus 2 Journal Publications and 3 Conference/Seminar Papers or M.Sc plus 3 Journal Publications and 3 Conference/Seminar Papers. Areas of Specialization (1) Animal Breeding (2) Forage Agronomy (3) Animal Nutrition (4) Food Science (5) Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology (6) Animal Physiology (7) Reproductive Physiology (8) Taxonomy (9) Plant Breeding. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience. | 11 |
| Principal Technologist | Applicant must possess HND, AIST or equivalent with at least 10 years experience or FISLT with at least 7 years experience in Science Laboratory Technology. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience | 11 |
| Principal Technical Officer I | Applicant must possess HND or equivalent in relevant field with 10 years post qualification experience. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience. | 11 |
| Research Fellow II | Applicant must possess M.Sc plus 1 Journal Publication and 2 Conference/Seminar Papers. Areas of Specialization (1) Animal Breeding (2) Forage Agronomy (3) Animal Nutrition (4) Food Science (5) Animal Physiology (6) Reproductive Physiology (7) Taxonomy (8) Plant Breeding (9) Biochemistry (10) Microbiology and (11) Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience | 09 |
| Senior Technologist | Applicant must possess AIST with a least 7 years experience in Science Technology or FISLT with 5 years experience. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience | 09 |
| Principal Technical Officer II | Applicant must possess HND or equivalent in relevant field with at least 7 years post qualification experience. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience. | 09 |
| Assistant Research Fellow | Applicant must possess DVM or B.Sc. plus NYSC discharge certificate in the following areas of Specialization (1) Breeding and Artificial Insemination (2) Biochemistry (3) Microbiology (4) Animal Breeding (5) Forage Agronomy (6) Animal Nutrition (7) Food Science (8) Animal Physiology (9) Reproductive Physiology (10) Taxonomy (11) Biochemistry (12) Microbiology and (13) Parasitology. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience. | 08 |
| Technologist I | Applicant must possess AIST with at least 3 years experience in Science Laboratory Technology. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience | 08 |
| Senior Technical Officer | Applicant must possess HND in relevant field with 3 year post qualification experience. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience. | 08 |
| Biometrician | Applicant must possess B.Sc/HND Statistics with Computer. Knowledge of statistical packages in SPSS, GENSTAT, SAS, Minitab, Harvard Graphics and use of spread sheet programmes in ACCESS, EXCEL, LOTUS 5 will be added advantage. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience. | 08 |
| Managing Editor | Applicant must possess MA English or Mass Communication. Experience in Editorial work within Agricultural organization is essential. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience. | 08 |
| Senior Nursing Officer | Applicant must be holder of certificate of Nigerian Registered Nurse or Nigerian Registered Midwifery certificate or equivalent. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience. | 08 |

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|----|
| Technologist II | Applicant must possess AIST in Science Laboratory Technology or HND Biochemistry/Chemistry or Biochemistry/Microbiology plus NYSC discharge certificate where applicable. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience | 07 |
| Higher Technical Officer | Applicant must possess HND in relevant field with 3 years post qualification experience plus NYSC discharge Certificate. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience. | 07 |
| Assistant Managing Editor | Applicant must possess BA/HND English or Mass Communication | 07 |
| Agricultural Engineer | Applicant must possess HND in relevant field with 3 years post qualification experience plus NYSC discharge certificate. | 07 |
| Quantity Surveyor | Applicant must possess HND in relevant field with 3 years post qualification experience plus NYSC discharge Certificate. | 07 |
| Civil Engineer | Applicant must possess HND in relevant field with 3 years post qualification experience plus NYSC discharge Certificate. | 07 |
| Draughtsman | Applicant must possess HND in relevant field with 3 years post qualification experience plus NYSC discharge Certificate. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience. | 07 |
| Graphic Artist | Applicant must possess BA/HND in relevant field with 3 years post qualification experience plus NYSC discharge certificate. | 07 |
| Marketing Officers | Applicant must possess B.Sc/HND Business Administration or Marketing plus NYSC discharge certificate. | 07 |
| Staff Nurse/Midwife | Applicant must be registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria. | 06 |
| Senior Technologist | Applicant must possess OND in Science Laboratory Technology. | 06 |
| Technical Officer | Applicant must possess OND in relevant field. | 06 |

METHOD OF APPLICATION

Interested candidates are requested to submit 15 copies of application and current Curriculum Vitae which should contain the following information:

1. Full names (surname in block letters)
2. Post applied for
3. Place and date of birth
4. Marital status
5. Number of children and their ages
6. Nationality
7. State of Origin
8. Local Government Area
9. Contact details (including GSM numbers and e-mail) address
10. Permanent home address
11. Institutions attended with dates
12. Academic and professional qualifications with dates
13. Working experience with dates
14. Present Employment Status and Salary
15. List of publications where applicable
16. Extra Curriculum activities
17. Names and addresses of three (3) referees. Applicants should request their referees to forward their reports under separate and confidential cover to the Institute Secretary.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

All applications should reach the Institute Secretary, National Animal Production Research Institute, Ahmadu Bello University, P.M.B. 1096 Shika-Zaria, six weeks from the date of this publication.

Applicants should indicate at the top left hand corner of the envelopes the position they are applying for and note that only short-listed candidates would be contacted.

SIGNED:
B.A. OSENI
INSTITUTE SECRETARY



CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA

SENIOR OPEN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) in collaboration with the Nigeria Tennis Federation (NTF) and in consonance with the Bank's corporate social responsibility function of contributing to youth development through sporting activities is organizing the 32nd Edition of the CBN Senior Open Tennis Championship.

The general public, tennis players and fans in particular are cordially invited to watch both the preliminary matches starting from Thursday, May 27, 2010 and the final matches, scheduled to hold as follows:

Date: Saturday, June 5, 2010

Venue: National Stadium, Surulere, Lagos

Time: 2.00pm prompt

(SIGNED)
M. M. Abdullahi
Head, Corporate Communications
Central Bank of Nigeria
Abuja.

Job vacancies



Family Health International is a public health and development organization working to improve the lives of the world's most vulnerable people. Our 2,500 staff work in 55 countries conducting research and implementing programs that advance public health and build local capacity to address development problems. Since 1971, Family Health International has been a global leader in family planning and reproductive health and, since 1986, in the worldwide response to HIV/AIDS. Our research and programs also address malaria, tuberculosis, and other infectious and chronic diseases. Our partners include US and international agencies, governments, foundations, research institutions, and individual donors.

In Nigeria, FHI is currently engaged in providing public health services and undertaking research in HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria and reproductive health in partnership with the Government of Nigeria, under funding from the United States aid programs as well as from the Global Fund and private foundations and corporations. To strengthen our operations we are seeking qualified Nigerian candidates for the following positions:

| Position title | No. required | Location(s) |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|
| Monitoring and Evaluation Department | | |
| Monitoring and Evaluation Officer (Research & PHE) | 1 | Country Office, Abuja |
| Monitoring and Evaluation Officer | 2 | Bauchi and Sokoto Zones |
| Medical Services Department | | |
| Clinical Services Officer (LAMIS) | 1 | Taraba Zone |
| Health Policy and Systems Management Department | | |
| Community Health Specialist | 1 | Edo Zone |

Monitoring and Evaluation Officer (Research and Public Health Evaluation)

The Monitoring and Evaluation Officer (Research & PHE), under the supervision of the Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Research & PHE, will be responsible for generating new knowledge based on existing activities under the Global HIV/AIDS Initiative Nigeria (GHAIN) Project, and any new research projects that advance FHI's mission.

Key Responsibilities

- Provide technical assistance to ensure implementation of high quality research, surveillance and public health evaluation activities in Nigeria
- Conduct advanced data analysis to further research, surveillance and public health evaluation goals and objectives
- Conduct research and public health programs and link activities/opportunities in Nigeria to ongoing research and public health evaluation activities in FHI
- Foster and maintain working relationship with researchers or interested stakeholders within the USAID Mission, other donors, national- and state-level Ministry of Health, local NGOs, international cooperative agencies and other in-country partners
- Participate in the quality of research and public health evaluation projects conducted in Nigeria
- Assist the Associate Director Research and PHE in managing research and PHE field work, including adherence to protocols, correct documentation, and working with consultants
- Promote and utilize best practices and other standards developed by international normative bodies
- Work with the Associate Director to liaise with FHI headquarters for relevant research capacity building, implementation and collaboration opportunities
- Actively seek and broker collaboration opportunities by communicating regularly with in-country partners to develop new research ideas, utilize research results, and scale-up promising programs
- Provide technical assistance to stakeholders in the design of projects, protocols, manuals and data collection forms

Minimum Requirements

- MBBS, including at least 3 years of demonstrated experience with NGOs and public health/research
- Or master's degree in social science/public health plus 2 years work/field experience
- Good cross-cultural communication skills
- Experience must reflect the knowledge, skills, and abilities listed above

Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

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

Key Responsibilities

- Work with other staff in the zonal office and local implementing partners to ensure that zonal monitoring and evaluation activities are appropriate and meet donor and project M&E needs
- Work with the zonal-level M&E staff and government counterparts to provide support and guidance on program/project monitoring and evaluation activities and on US Government and Government of Nigeria reporting requirements
- Provide support to sites in the zone, including interacting with site managers, M&E focal points, M&E officers of SACA/SASCP, other implementing agencies and local research groups on needs, and ensuring that these parties understand and can support these requirements
- Work with local partners to support correct implementation and use of monitoring and evaluation tools, and adherence to complete, correct and timely reporting
- Conduct routine monitoring visits to project sites, including the conduct of data quality assessments (DQAs) using official tools
- Assist in the preparation of monthly reports and provide supportive supervision
- Assist in the development and maintenance of computerized data capture of the program and provide technical assistance and training to staff responsible for data entry at the sites



Job vacancies cont'd.

- Provide technical assistance to M&E officers of SACA/SASCP in integrating FHI data into the national HMIS
- Document lessons learnt and best practices in monitoring and evaluation, according to USAID and PEPFAR guidelines
- Represent FHI and make presentations at professional meetings and conferences related to monitoring and evaluation
- Remain informed of current issues regarding monitoring and evaluation of programs in the HIV/AIDS/STI fields by reviewing current literature and being alert to any implication of such research for project and program activities

Minimum Requirements

- MD, MPH, or similar degree in monitoring and evaluation with 3 years work experience
- Experience in monitoring and evaluation in reproductive health or HIV/AIDS programs in developing countries
- Experience working with local partners including NGOs and CBOs and knowledge of the local context
- Familiarity with USAID programs is preferred

Clinical Services Officer (LAMIS)

The Clinical Services Officer (LAMIS), under the supervision of the Zonal Senior Medical Services Advisor and the Zonal Manager will be responsible for the implementation of clinical and monitoring and evaluation activities including the Lafiya Management Information System (LAMIS) and the provision of technical and programmatic support for implementing high quality care/support activities with primary focus on clinical management of HIV/AIDS, TB, RH, OI management, PMTCT, HAST and facility logistics management at the LAMIS/public health evaluation facilities in the zone.

Key Responsibilities

- Work with other staff in the zonal office and LAMIS facility staff to ensure that activities at the sites are appropriate and meet government, donor and project needs
- Interact with the M&E officers of SACA/SASCP, other implementing agencies and local research groups on needs and ensure that these parties can understand and support the system
- Work with the LAMIS/PHE facility staff to ensure that daily data entry activities at the sites are being done in time in order to provide up-to-date and valid data for timely program reporting on all program areas
- Supervise contact tracking of treatment defaulters, manage patients on ART as well as facility inventory and analyze patient outcomes and program service quality
- Provide direct technical assistance and capacity building in HIV/AIDS clinical management, PMTCT, monitoring and evaluation, implementation of LAMIS activities, and other program areas
- Perform other related duties that may be assigned

Minimum Requirements

- MBBS/MD and MPH or related postgraduate qualification (with 5 years experience)
- At least 3 years clinical experience in HIV/AIDS programs in developing countries with additional 2 years work experience with facility level data
- Experience working with local partners, including NGOs and CBOs, and knowledge of the local context
- Good understanding of the political and ethical issues surrounding HIV infection
- Ability to work with government facility staff
- Good analytical and software skills and ability to pay attention to detail
- Well developed written and oral communication skills
- Experience with standard statistical software (STATA or SPSS) will be an advantage
- Familiarity with USAID programs is preferred

Community Health Specialist

The Community Health Specialist will help provide technical assistance in the design, implementation, and evaluation of all aspects of community health as well as LGA based health management

especially with respect to integrated HIV/AIDS, S/RH, TB and malaria at the LGA and state levels.

Key Responsibilities

- Coordinate and provide technical assistance for health system strengthening for the implementation of the LGA HAST model of HIV/AIDS, S/RH and TB care activities as well as the integration of malaria, MCH and all aspects of community and LGA management of health services
- Work closely with PHC coordinators, LGA TB supervisors, LACA coordinators, LGA malaria officers and other program officers in the LGA to monitor guidelines and recommendations related to the implementation of health system strengthening strategies in the LGA
- Facilitate the transfer of appropriate skills to community health workers at the PHC, community volunteers, TBAs and people living with HIV and families for HIV/AIDS, STI, TB, malaria, MCH and the prevention, care and support for other diseases
- Work directly with the implementing partners (community-based organizations), LGA PHC coordinators, LGA TB supervisors, LACA coordinators, LGA welfare/women development officers and PHC personnel to facilitate the implementation of high quality HIV/AIDS, STI, TB, malaria and MCH services including OVC and NCD activities within the LGA
- Work closely with other staff of the GHAIN Medical Services Department to ensure synergy relevant to implementation and documentation of the LGA HAST model and health system strengthening components of state programs
- Work closely with the state TB control program, SACA, state malaria program and other organizations as may be relevant to the LGA health management and health system strategies
- Ensure close collaboration with other PHC and disease control programs within the LGA
- Remain informed on current programs in the field of HIV/AIDS, S/RH, TB, malaria, MCH, health systems strengthening, and other program areas

Minimum Requirements

- MBBS with at least 3 years post-NYSC experience in community health practice with experience in care and support for HIV/AIDS, STI and tuberculosis at the primary health facility or community level
- Postgraduate degree in public health
- Sound understanding of the district health systems and LGA TB technical areas and experience with ART programs
- Familiarity with the Nigerian public sector health system, NGOs and CBOs

Method of Application

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

MandEjobs@ghain.org for Monitoring and Evaluation Department vacancies

Medservicesjobs@ghain.org for Medical Services Department vacancy

Healthpolicyjobs@ghain.org for Health Policy and Systems Management vacancy

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

Please do NOT send more than one application.

Failure to follow these instructions will lead to automatic disqualification.

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



COMMUNITY HEALTH PRACTITIONERS REGISTRATION BOARD OF NIGERIA

(Established by Decree 61 of 1992, now LFN CAP. 19 of 2004)

VACANCY FOR THE POST OF REGISTRAR/CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Applications are hereby invited from suitably qualified candidates for the post of Registrar/Chief Executive of Community Health Practitioners Registration Board of Nigeria.

FUNCTION OF THE BOARD

The Community Health Practitioners Registration Board of Nigeria is a Health Profession Regulatory Agency established by Decree 61 of 1992 to among other things:

- Determine the standard of Community Health Practice in the country
- Establishment and maintenance of Register of persons as members of the profession
- Conduct and supervision of Examinations leading to approved qualifications
- Accreditation of Schools and courses leading to approved qualifications
- Registration and licensing of Community Health Practitioners
- Maintenance and enforcement of discipline of practitioners

THE DUTIES

The Registrar is the Secretary to the governing Board as well as Chief Executive Officer and Chief Image maker of the Board. The new Registrar will therefore be expected to have a deep understanding of the operations of a health profession's Regulatory Agency and provide Strategic Vision and leadership to propel Community Health Practitioners Board of Nigeria to a higher pedestal in the discharge of its statutory responsibilities. He should have the ability to work with Board members and Secretariat on running an Agency with clear focus on the production of relevant human resources for efficient PHC Services in Nigeria.

THE CANDIDATE

- The candidate should be responsible, articulate, hard working person with an impeccable record of achievement. He/she must be a Nigerian citizen should be not less than 45 years of age and not more than 50 years of age.
- Must be a registered Community Health Practitioner with a valid practicing license.
- Must have so qualified as Community Health Practitioner (CHO) with a minimum of 10 years experience.
- Must have a Degree in Community Health/Public Health, or relevant field of study. Higher degree would be an added advantage.
- Should be a good team player
- Should be of high moral character and integrity
- Should have sufficient exposure to the workings of Community Health training institution and other players in the health industry.
- Should be dynamic and ready to accept changes
- He should have held leadership and management responsibilities in training institution or Public Health office. Should possess good communication and interpersonal skills.
- He/she should be computer literate, competence in database, word processing and statistical application packages.
- Possession of a teaching qualification would be an advantage.

SALARY AND CONDITION OF SERVICE

Salary and allowances are as contained in conditions of Service for Public Officers of similar category. The post is a tenured appointment of 4 years renewable once depending on performance.

LOCATION

The Head office of the Board is located in FCT Abuja.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

Candidates should apply with fifteen copies of their detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV), providing information on the following:

- Full name
- Place and Date of Birth
- State of origin
- Permanent Home Address
- Marital Status: Number and ages of children
- Educational Institutions attended
- Academic and professional qualifications (Copies of Certificates to be attached)
- Current Post Held
- Teaching, Administrative/Managerial experience
- Academic distinction
- Membership of professional bodies
- Workshops, Courses, Conferences attended
- Extra curricula activities
- Mobile Telephone number
- Names and addresses of three Referees who should attest to the candidates standing abilities, academic, managerial as well as moral character and integrity. Referees are to forward confidential reports to the above address within the deadline.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

All applications are to be submitted sealed under CONFIDENTIAL COVER and be addressed to the Chairman, Community Health Practitioners Registration Board of Nigeria, 32 Lusaka Street, Wuse Zone 6, Abuja, not later than 6 weeks from the date of this publication. Only short listed candidates will be invited for interview.

SIGNED
Ag. Registrar

VACANCY FOR THE POST OF ZONAL TECHNICAL OFFICER (ZTO)

The Community Health Practitioners Registration Board of Nigeria, a regulatory agency of the Federal Ministry of Health established by law, to regulate Community Health Practice in the Country, requires the service of competent Community Health Practitioners for the following vacant positions in our Zonal Offices;

Positions/Locations:

- Zonal Technical Officer (North East Zone) - Maiduguri
- Zonal Technical Officer (North West Zone) - Kano
- Zonal Technical Officer (South South Zone) - Port Harcourt

Responsibilities:

The Zonal Technical Officer (ZTO) shall be responsible to the Registrar, and shall see to the day-to-day running of the Zonal Office. The Functions of the Zonal Technical Officer shall include among others, co-ordination of Registration and Licensing of Practitioners, periodic visitation to training institutions for monitoring of training programme, verification of certificates and indexing of new candidates in the Zone, and such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Board.

Job related competencies required:

- ❖ Applicants must be from the specific zone advertised.
- ❖ Good interpersonal relations and communication skills.
- ❖ Good working understanding of protocols and procedures in training institutions and governmental agencies.
- ❖ Proficiencies in the use of computer applications

Qualifications:

Candidates must be a PHC Tutor who should have a minimum of three (3) years post-qualification experience in teaching in a Community Health Training Institution. Possession of valid practice License. Acquisition of advanced qualification shall be an added advantage.

Salary and Condition of Service:

Successful applicant shall be placed on GL 12 (CONTISS 10). All other condition of service is as obtained in the Civil Service.

Method of Application:

Applicants are required to submit fifteen (15) copies of their handwritten applications, and detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV) highlighting among others, the following:

- Full Names
- Place and Date of Birth
- Home Address
- Contact Address
- Nationality
- Marital Status
- Number and Ages of Children (if any)
- Institutions attended with dates
- Academic Qualifications obtained with dates
- Working Experience
- Present Employment, indicating present status and salary
- Extra Curricular Activities
- Referees (3)

Each applicant MUST have three (3) referees who should be requested to forward a report on the applicant under confidential cover to the Office of the Registrar.

Applications should be submitted under confidential cover with the specific Zone applied for, marked on the top left corner of a sealed envelope, and addressed to: The Registrar, Community Health Practitioners Registration Board of Nigeria, 32 Lusaka Street, WUSE, Zone 6, Abuja, not later than six (6) weeks from the date of this publication.

Signed:
Ag. Registrar

HEALTH REPORT

Teaching them young about malaria

Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto.

THE norm is to celebrate the children's day with fanfare and merriment. An organization thought it wise also to bring hope to orphans and vulnerable children by educating them on the best ways to prevent themselves from malaria, responsible for a millions of deaths.

Malaria is one of the greatest causes of infant and maternal mortality, which till today has remained a pain in the health sector.

At Kalambaina rehabilitation centre, Sokoto state, the Save -the -Child Initiative in the state marked the international children day 2010 with a different fervor, by intimating them on the dangers of malaria, and how it can be prevented.

The organization, Save The Child Initiative, at the Kalambaina rehabilitation decided to spread information that would enhance the children's wellbeing and draw attention to this group that are often neglected by society.

Abdulganiyu Abubakar, Programmes Manager, Save -the- child Initiative, Sokoto speaks on reason for the choice of the topic and the decision to reach out to this group of children.

"My organization as a child right based agency celebrates this event every year, we look at an issue that is pressing, that affects children and call the attention of stakeholders to that issue.

For this year's celebra-

tion, we are looking at the impact of malaria on the lives of children, we discovered that malaria is one of the leading causes of death among children globally, that is why we decided to choose malaria prevention among orphans and vulnerable children as the target of this year's celebration," he said.

"We discovered that these children are already vulnerable; they are living in environments that are vulnerable. So we want to try as much as possible to educate them and their care givers on how to prevent the occurrence of malaria and even in the event that malaria happens, how they could treat it and arrest the situation without allowing it lead to the death."

Bello Gandi who coordinates all OVC interventions for the Save the Child Initiative, calls for support to this vulnerable children "they really need our help and our support, let's do the best we can to support these children."

Dr. Cherima Yakubu of the Family Health International, (FHI)/Global HIV/AIDS Initiative in Nigeria, (GAIN) who gave lecture on Prevention of Malaria among OVCs, underscores the importance of the subject matter.

He said, "Mosquito does not discriminate against who it bites, be it the poor, middle class or the rich, so if we know the impact of malaria on us who are privileged, what about those that are unprivileged?"

He adds "since we are privileged in the society, we need to extend our resources to orphans and vulnerable children because malaria does not discriminate. This is why this topic is very important."

He notes that malaria poses an economic, social and even religious challenge, "because if you have severe malaria you cannot pray."

The medical expert says that the mosquito specie responsible for malaria is plasmodium falciparum, the most dangerous specie of the plasmodium family."

He recalls that initially, chloroquine was mainly used for the treatment of malaria before the use of fansider, "but it was less effective because a lot of abuse of the drug has taken place and the fight against malaria was becoming a challenge.

Speaking on the efficacies of, he said, "Chloroquine will destroy the ones in the blood but we now find out that if you destroy the ones in the blood alone, it is not enough because they will see the drug and go and hide in the liver or other parts of the body."

He continued, "so we need something stronger that will destroy them, that is why there is now ACT combination which we are going to distribute to the orphans and vulnerable."

Dr. Yakubu however stresses that treatment of

malaria is not sufficient, "the key thing now is prevention and that is why we are here to discuss how we can prevent malaria."

Insecticide Treated Nets (ITN), he explained, act as a barrier against mosquito because it contains chemicals that kill mosquitoes, especially those that come in contact with the ITN.

He advised that children need to be kept in clean environments so that

they do not get affected by ailments that and diseases that might lead to their deaths.

Acknowledging the rehabilitation centre, he said, "The vicinity here is cleared, you cannot find gutters, you cannot find stagnant water, these are all breeding grounds for mosquitoes which transmit the germ that cause the malaria." He however observed that the windows

at the centre require nets.

"We appreciate the hygienic condition of the place, we only need one thing, nets on the window to act as a barrier against mosquitoes before we even start using the Insecticide treated bed nets.

"As we mark this international children's Day, we call on the government to supply nets most especially to this under privileged children."



DEMONSTRATION of the use of ITN at Kalambaina rehabilitation centre, Sokoto



Nigerian Library Association (NLA)

Condolence Message

The President and members of Nigerian Library Association (NLA) commiserate with the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCFR; the family of late President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua and all Nigerians, over the demise of a great achiever.



Late President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua

It is on record that late Mr. President was a great lover of Education as evident in his seven-point agenda. He contributed immensely to the growth and development of the library and information sector noticeable was the upgrading of the Katsina State University library to be among the best in Nigeria. He was also instrumental to the appointment of an Acting Registrar for the Librarians' Registration Council of Nigeria (LRCN) in October 2009.

We say farewell to a visionary leader and a friend of the Library.
May Allah grant your gentle and kind Soul eternal rest. (Amin)

Signed:

Ms. Victoria Okojie, (FNLA, CLN) National President

70% of children under age 5 not registered at birth

From Mustafa Abubakar, Ilorin

ABOUT 70% of children under the age of five years are not registered at birth, a nongovernmental organization has revealed in Ilorin at the weekend.

At a conference organized by Wellbeing Foundation (Alafia Kwara) in collaboration with UNICEF and FIDA international, stakeholders were told that most of the problems bedeviling children could be traced to incorrect statistics concerning the wellbeing and birth information of the Nigerian child.

The wife of the Kwara state governor, Mrs Toyin Saraki said it was unfortunate that such important documentation was taken for granted because if adequate records were available, policies would be made

to cater for the child.

According to her, the state cannot make policies or cater for children they cannot account for, which she said would be rectified to improve welfare packages for the betterment of the Nigerian child.

The communiqué issued after the two-day National Conference on the Status of the Child Rights Act in Nigeria, themed the Children's Rights at a Cross-road, made available to daily trust revealed that lack of political will is partly responsible for the delay in the passage of the act.

The Communiqué signed by the wife of Kwara state Governor, and also Chairperson Wellbeing Foundation, Mrs. Oluwatoyin Saraki and Mr. Olanrewaju Suraju pointed out that poverty, ignorance,

wasteful application of economic resources and absence of committed elites are identifiable challenges to development of the child.

The communiqué also observed that low public education and enlightenment on the benefits of the Child Rights Law is responsible for the negative responses in some states yet to implement the act.

They reasoned that insufficient knowledge of its provision continues to deny children the benefits inherent in the law even in states that have passed act.

The stakeholders called for the rehabilitation and re-organization of relevant institutions such as remand homes for the support, care and protection of children in conflict with the law by states with the Child Rights Law.



STATE UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION BOARD
P.M.B 1102 BIRNIN KEBBI
ALONG JEGA ROAD, BIRNIN

**PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR
PROCUREMENT OF LIBRARY BOOKS AND LIBRARY
FURNITURE UNDER THE YEAR 2008 AND 2009 (MERGED)
ETF INTERVENTION IN LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT FOR
PRIMARY AND JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

The Kebbi State Universal Basic Education Board (KEBBI STATE) invites competent and reputable contractors to vie for the above mentioned projects to be executed in selected Primary and Junior Secondary schools.

SCOPE OF WORK FOR CONTRACTORS

LOT 1 – LOT 2 – Procurement of Library assorted text books.
LOT 3 – Procurement of assorted Library furnitures.

**YEAR 2008 & 2009 (MERGED) ETF
INTERVENTION IN LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT
FOR PRIMARY AND JUNIOR SECONDARY
SCHOOLS**

| LOT/CONTRACT NO | TYPE OF PROJECT | LOCATION | LGEA | REMARKS |
|------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| ETF/KBALIB-SP/08-09/01 | PROCUREMENT OF LIBRARY BOOKS 30,282 ASSORTED COPIES FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS | 42 SELECTED PRIMARY SCHOOLS | 21 LGEA | PROCUREMENT OF ASSORTED TEXT BOOKS |
| ETF/KBALIB-SP/08-09/02 | PROCUREMENT OF LIBRARY BOOKS 10,248 ASSORTED COPIES FOR JSS | 14 SELECTED JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL (JSS) | 3 - SENATORIAL ZONES PLUS STATE CAPITAL | PROCUREMENT OF ASSORTED TEXT BOOKS |
| ETF/KBALIB-SP/08-09/03 | PROCUREMENT OF 43 ASSORTED LIBRARY FURNITURE ITEMS TO EACH OF 42 PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND 40 LIBRARY FURNITURE ITEMS EACH FOR JSS | 1. 42NO. P/SCHOOLS 2. 14NO. JSS | I) 21 LGEAS II) 3 - SENATORIAL ZONES PLUS STATE CAPITAL | PROCUREMENT OF LIBRARY ASSORTED FURNITURE ITEMS |

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The pre-qualification documents must contain the following:-

1. Company's Registration with corporate Affairs commission.
2. Current update Tax clearance certificate for 3 years.
3. Evidence of Registration with State Tenders Boards
4. Evidence of similar projects executed in the past.
5. Company's financial capacity and Bankers support.
6. Evidence of VAT Registration.

SUBMISSION / OPENING

Tenderers are expected to submit their pre-qualification documents in sealed envelopes TWO WEEKS from the date of this advert. Submissions are to be made to the office of the Executive Chairman, Kebbi SUBEB, P.M.B. 1102 along Jega Road, Birnin Kebbi, Kebbi State and must be clearly marked for particular project. Only pre-qualified contractors will be invited to bid.

N.B

The Board reserves the right to reject part or entire submission of any bidder arising from non-compliance with the laid down requirements and will not enter into any correspondence with any intending contractor, please.

SINGED
SA'IDU KOKANI DOLE
Secretary Due Process

**Invitation for Bids (IFB)
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA**



**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION POST BASIC
PROJECT
(STEP-B PROJECT)
CREDIT No. 4304-UNI**

**SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF TRAINING EQUIPMENT,
MATERIALS, UPGRADING OF COLLEGE PORTAL AND
STRENGTHENING OF WIRELESS LAN.**

FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (SPECIAL), OYO.

IFB No. STEP-B/FCESO/DRA/NCB/G/01/2010

1. This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in Development Business, issue no. 591 of 2nd July, 2007.
2. The Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria has received a credit from the International Development Association toward the cost of Science and Technology Education Post Basic Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the Contract for the Supply and installation of training equipment, materials, upgrading of college portal and strengthening of wireless LAN.
3. The Federal College of Education (Special), Oyo, as one of the beneficiaries of Science and Technology Education Post Basic Project now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the procurement of the following:

| Lot No. | Description of Item. | Quantity | Bid Security | Delivery Period | Bid Validity period | Delivery Location |
|---------|---|----------|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---|
| 1. | Training equipment and materials | Various | At least 2.5% of bid price | 60days | 90 days | Federal College of Education (Special), Oyo |
| 2. | Upgrading of college portal and strengthening of Wireless LAN | Various | At least 2.5% of bid price | 60days | 90 days | Federal College of Education (Special), Oyo |

4. Bidding will be conducted through the **National Competitive Bidding (NCB)**, a procedure specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, and is open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Guidelines.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from office of the Science and Technology Education Post Basic Project at the address below and inspect the Bidding Documents from 8:00am to 4:00pm Mondays to Fridays.
6. Qualifications requirements include:
 - Evidence of previous experience on similar job within the past 5 years.
 - Audited Financial Statements for the last 3 years to demonstrate the financial capability of the Bidder in terms of Profitability and adequate working capital.

A margin of preference for eligible national contractors **shall not be applied**. Additional details are provided in the Bidding Documents.

7. A complete set of Bidding Documents in **English** may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non refundable fee of N 10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Naira) only. The method of payment will be cash or Bank Draft in favor of Science and Technology Education Post Basic Project, F.C.E. (Sp), Oyo. The Bidding Documents will be collected by the representative of the Bidder or by courier services on request.

8. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 2.00pm Wednesday 30th June, 2010. Electronic bidding will **not** be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders or their representatives, at 2.00 pm on 30th June, 2010 at the address below. All bids must be accompanied by a **Bid Security** of 2.5% of bid price in a **freely convertible currency** or Bank Draft from a Commercial Bank.

9. The address referred to above is:

The Project Manager,
Science and Technology Education Post Basic Project,
Federal College of Education (Special), Oyo
Along Oyo/Ibadan Road,
Oyo, Oyo State
Nigeria.

E-mail: stepbfcesoyo@yahoo.com

Tel: 07029454758/08034648016

Signed
Project Manager

CITY NEWS



HOTLINES: 0803-3493-462 & 0703-8927-513
email: citynews@dailytrust.com

Call girl strips civil servant naked

By Ogechi Ohalee

A civil servant who decided to spend time with a commercial sex worker at Mabushi, Sunday night got more than he bargained for as the woman pushed him out of her room naked.

The man had told a crowd that formed around him that he negotiated with the lady to have sex from 5 pm to 9 pm at the rate of N1,500 and was surprised by her action after collecting his money.

"I paid her the money and pulled off my clothes in her room but was surprised when she packed my clothes outside," the civil servant added.

He said while waiting for the call girl to come to bed, he heard her shout rape and saw her boyfriend, who slapped him and seized his shoes as well as handsets.

The man added further that the woman's male friend pushed him out of the room stark naked.

Reacting, the call girl accused the man of trying to steal her money, adding that when she checked the pockets of his trouser outside, there was no money.

"The man did not pay money and I was suspicious when he said he will pay after I must have satisfied him," she stated.

She said men come to play such tricks on call girls in the area, adding that before they perform their services they always demand for their money first.

510 hawkers convicted for environmental offences

By Usman A. Bello

ABOUT 510 hawkers have been convicted for flouting environmental laws in the Federal Capital Territory.

Spokesman of Abuja Environmental Protection Board (AEPB), Samuel Musa, said Thursday that the hawkers were arrested in various markets and streets of the city centre.

He said the hawkers were fined individually after pleading guilty before a mobile court set up by the board to try offenders.

According to him, the arrest became necessary due to the manners in which the hawkers littered various markets and other parts of the city, adding that the arrest were made between May 18 and 25 respectively.

5 injured in auto crash at Chikara

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

FIVE persons were seriously injured last Friday morning in a motor accident that occurred at Chikara village, along the Abuja-Lokoja highway.

An eyewitness said the accident happened when an 18-seat bus with registration number XQ 883 AKD lost con-

trol and rammed into a Mazda car with registration number AQ 955 GWA, injuring five passengers.

"The bus was on top speed, veered off its lane and collided with a Mazda car coming from the opposite direction," the witness added.

He said officials of the Federal Road Safety Commission

rushed the victims to the hospital.

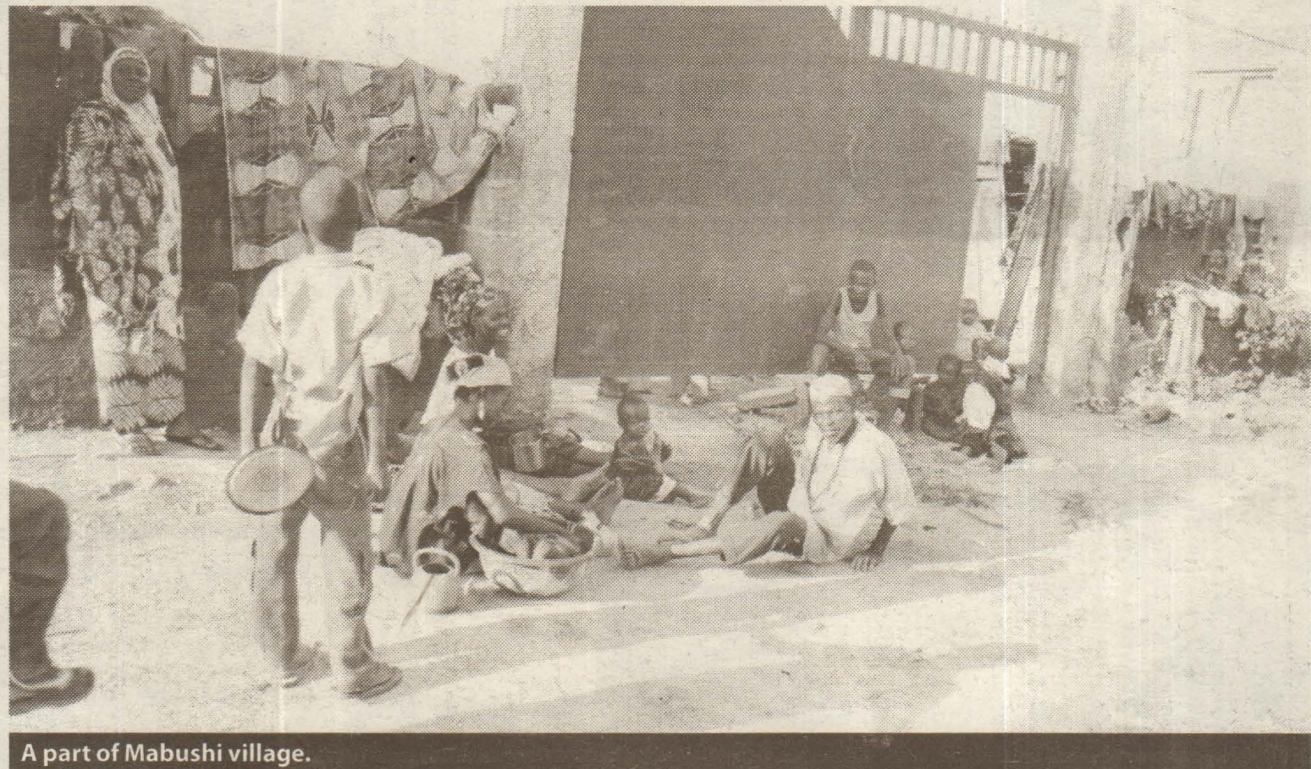
Commenting on the incident, Abaji FRSC unit Commander, Mr. Joseph Ojerinde, attributed the accident cause to dangerous driving on the path of the bus driver.

Our reporter was informed that two persons also sustained serious injuries on the same

day when a Volkswagen Golf car with registration number AG 898 KPA crashed into a ditch.

The unit commander also disclosed that two other persons sustained various degrees of injuries on Saturday afternoon in an accident involving a Jeep Galoper with registration number MK 758 KJA.

PIC: OGECHI OHALEE



A part of Mabushi village.

Meat seller jailed for Indian hemp possession

By Bunmi Omolehin

A meat seller, Hassimu Aliu, was on Thursday sentenced to one year imprisonment by a Federal High Court for being in possession of 500 grammes of Indian hemp.

The 21-year-old meat seller

had already spent over a year in prison as he was arrested in October 2008.

When the charges were read to the accused, he pleaded guilty and his lawyer, appealed for a light sentence as the hemp found on him was not up to one kilogramme.

The counsel also informed the

court that the accused is an orphan whose father left behind eight children for him to look after.

Justice Kafarat sentenced the accused to one year imprisonment and ordered that the Indian hemp be destroyed by officials of National Drug Law Enforcement Agency.

Reps order revocation of airport runway project

By Turaki A. Hassan

THE House of Representatives Committee on Aviation has ordered the federal government to revoke the N64 billion contract for a second run-way at the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja.

The penal also indicted the Ministry of Aviation, the Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) and Bureau for Public Procurement (BPP) for negligence, deliberate attempt to defraud the government and violation of financial regulations and other extent laws of the federation.

The report which was laid on the floor of the House last week, recommended that the Federal do revoke the contract which was awarded to Julius Berger Nigeria PLC instead of PW Nigeria Ltd which said it could execute the project at the sum of N30 billion but was edged out unceremoniously leaving only one favoured company standing.

The BPP was also indicted because it went ahead to issue a certificate of no objection to Julius Berger Nigeria PLC for a contract that has an incomplete engineering design.

Furthermore, the committee questioned the rationale for awarding the contract to Julius Berger where as consultants for the project were not advertised but were chosen by FAAN on the recommendations of the BPP.

During the public hearing Mr. Nebolisa Emodir, an executive director with BPP told the committee how the Ministry of Aviation under the watch of former Minister of Aviation, Babatunde Omotoba, insisted that the Bureau of Public Procurement should issue a certificate of no objection to Julius Berger Plc for N72 billion.

Managing Director of FAAN, Mr. Richard Aisuebeogun had also informed the committee that the contract was hastily given in the interest of the nation.

FCTA approves new salaries for doctors

By Nasir Imam

DOCTORS in the employment of the FCT Administration will now enjoy a new salary structure as the FCT Minister; Senator Bala Mohammed has approved the immediate payment of the Consolidated Medical Salary Structure (CONMESS) and Consolidated Health Salary Structure (CONHESS) for medical doctors as well as other health workers.

The minister gave the directive after meeting with leaders of the National Association of Resident

Doctors (NARD), FCT Chapter yesterday in Abuja.

He also approved a one year post fellowship clinical attachment for resident doctors and said his gesture was designed to make doctors and other medical officers working in FCT update their skills in line with latest global standards.

The minister's present action will prevent FCT resident doctors and other medical personnel from taking part in a three-day warning strike organized by the national body of NARD that was expected to commence on June 1 to 3.

Earlier, the FCT NARD President, Dr. Noel Arua, had appealed to the minister to approve payment for the new salary structure and welfare structure in order to abort the industrial action.

In his response, Mohammed said his administration appreciates the worthy contribution of the doctors and extended a hand of fellowship to them, advising that they should always dialogue with him and other senior officials of FCTA on their needs and opinions rather than resorting to unilateral actions.

FCTA hosts physically challenged persons

By Nasir Imam

THE FCT Social Development Secretariat Saturday hosted physically challenged persons to a party to mark the Democracy Day in Abuja.

Secretary of the secretariat, Mrs. Blessing Onuh called on government and other concerned

stakeholders to always remember the physically challenged people in the society in all they do.

Mrs. Onuh described the party as first of its kind in the FCT, noting that the secretariat remembers physically challenged persons.

"May I state that our decision to celebrate this year's democracy day with the physically challenged

is because they are an integral part of our democracy, as they always cast their votes during elections but are pathetically forgotten, abandoned and rejected," she disclosed.

She assured them that the current FCT Administration led by Senator Bala Mohammed is committed to reducing the plight of

the physically challenged and will give them a voice in the FCT.

While extending appreciation to the FCT administration for finding it worthy to host the students, a care giver at the Abuja School for the Handicapped, Kuje, Mrs. Nene Obewe, called on government to consider an upward review of the remunera-

tion packages of special teachers in order to serve as a motivation to those who had decided to go in search of other jobs.

In attendance at the event were physically challenged persons from School For the Blind, Jabi, FCT Unity Orphanage, School For The Handicapped, Kuje and the Para- Soccer Team.

PIC: OGECHI OHALEE



DRTS Director Retired Major Adamu S. Argungu (right) addressing the press at the weekend.

Crime: Kwali council to equip vigilante group

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

KWALI Area Council has promised to equip a vigilante group by providing it with the necessary logistics in order for the group to assist the police in combating cases of armed robbery attacks along the Kwali-Abaji highway.

Chairman of the council, Mr. Joseph Shazin, who disclosed this on Saturday, expressed sadness over the upsurge of armed robbery attacks, especially on the Abuja-Lokoja highway.

According to him, the council would at its security meeting deliberate on the cases of crime wave on the highway and will reintroduce a vigilante group that once existed in the council.

He termed as unfortunate, the recent robbery attack on a luxury bus that led to the death of the driver along Kwali-Abaji road.

The council boss disclosed that there is a backlog of pending payment to be made to the vigilante group since last year, saying the council is making arrangements pay all their entitlement so that they can resume work in earnest.

The chairman further said the council will liaise with the police to know if to rehabilitate or purchase a new patrol van for them.

House help denies stealing madam's money

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

A 20-year-old woman Thursday in court denied stealing N100,000 belonging to her madam.

Faith Samuel of Mpape, Abuja, was reported to have stolen the money from where her employer kept it.

Police prosecutor Alhassan Abdul informed the court that on May 15, one Mrs. Sherifat Jebode of No 2, Bukardipcharima Close, Utako, Abuja, reported to the police that her house help stole

her N100,000 from where it was kept.

"The woman took the money without her madam's knowledge and used it for her personal benefit, thereby committing an offence punishable under Section 289 of the Penal Code," the prosecutor said.

When the charge was read to her, she denied it and requested for bail, which made the prosecutor ask for a hearing date.

In her ruling, Magistrate Duru Njideka granted the accused bail in the sum of N100,000 with a reasonable surety in like sum,

who must reside within the court's jurisdiction.

The case was adjourned to June 3 for hearing.

In another case, a 20-year-old manager has been arraigned for allegedly converting money accrued from his employer's business to his personal use.

Kelechi Nwokorie was accused of converting N500,000 belonging to his employer to his use and thereafter warning customers not to patronise the business outfit again.

Police prosecutor Emmanuel Adikwu informed the court that

on March 1, one Alhaji Safiyanu Boge reported to the police that he entrusted his business centre located at Banex Plaza, Wuse 2, Abuja, in care of the accused, who converted money from sales to his use.

"During police investigations, it was discovered that the accused made several deposits into his First Bank account," the prosecutor said.

He said after the accused was questioned over the matter, he went ahead to warn the complainant's customers not to patronise the business centre again.

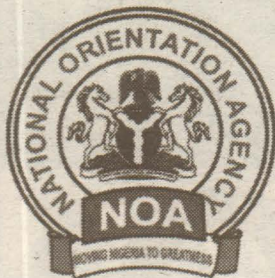
The prosecutor stated that the offences committed by the accused are punishable under sections 314 and 392 of the Penal Code.

When the charges were read to the accused, he denied them and requested for bail, which was not objected to by the prosecutor.

Magistrate Njideka Duru granted the accused bail in the sum of N50,000 with two reasonable sureties in like sums, who must reside within the court's jurisdiction.

The case was adjourned to June 10 for hearing.

NATIONAL ORIENTATION AGENCY



National Headquarters
Block B, Fed. Secretariat Complex,
Area 1, Garki, P. M. B. 27, Abuja.

Dear Super Eagles,

SUPER EAGLES, RISE AND FLY!

A GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL ORIENTATION AGENCY (NOA) TO THE NIGERIAN FOOTBALL CONTINGENT TO THE 2010 FIFA WORLD CUP TOURNAMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

On behalf of the National Orientation Agency (NOA), I congratulate and felicitate with you as you depart for the Republic of South Africa to participate in the historic 2010 FIFA World Cup Tournament, the first in the continent of Africa.

The World Cup is a theater of greatness. It provides an awesome platform for great footballing nations, great teams, great tacticians and great players to perform in some of the greatest stadia in the World and watched by millions of soccer fans worldwide.

We are very delighted that you, the Super Eagles, are among the select group of 32 nations for the fiesta. The flag of our great nation will fly proudly, at the opening ceremony and in all the stadia of your engagement.

Your qualification for the tournament was itself a mark of hardwork, professional competence and patriotic commitment to a national cause. You have, indeed, demonstrated a high sense of discipline and such other values that endear you to millions of Nigerians, particularly the nation's teeming youths for whom you have become heroes and role models, and whose lives you have tremendously impacted. As you depart, we urge you to aim at bringing the World Cup back to our shores, play your games with patriotic zeal and be totally focused on achieving glory for our dear country. Be assured of the massive support, goodwill and prayers of all Nigerians. You have always been, and you will remain the Ambassadors of our great country at the Tournament.

It is our hope at NOA and indeed, the wishes of all Nigerians that your glorious outing will complement our joyous celebration of Nigeria's 50th Independence Anniversary in October, 2010.

Please, accept the assurances of my highest consideration and best personal wishes at all times.

ALH. IDI M. FAROUK, MFR.
Director-General



SPORT

Eagles fighting
spirit is gone
- Yekini

Page 55



BRAVO!

Lagerback earns experts plaudits over World Cup lists

By Orkula Shaagee & Ibraheem A. Fatai

SOME football experts and coaches have thrown their weights behind the 23-man World Cup squad for Nigeria released yesterday by Super Eagles tactician Lars Lagerback.

All the three men, namely Joe Erico, Kelechi Emetoale and Kashimawo Laloko, who spoke to *Trustsports* on the Eagles World Cup list, praised Lagerback for doing a thorough job and picking the right players for the 2010 mundial.

Lagerback yesterday announced his World Cup team including Kanu Nwankwo, Joseph Yobo, John Utaka and Yakubu Aiyegbeni.

"The coach is in a better position to know those that will represent Nigeria at the World Cup, he has stayed with the players and he is sure of what those he has picked will do in South Africa," Heartland FC coach Emetoale said.

In his comment, Erico advised Nigerians not to challenge the decision of the coach, and instead support him to do the country proud at the World Cup in South Africa.

According to him, those dropped from the squad may have not fit into his (Lagerback's) World Cup plan.

"What the coach has done shows that each player should wait for his time. Present football requires that players should not

be imposed on coaches, it comes naturally. Nobody should challenge the decision of the coach, those dropped may have not be up to his expectation", the former

He urged
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NEPA of Lagos coach said.

Also reacting to the Eagles 23-man list, Kashimawo Laloko, described the World Cup team as balance.

Laloko said the team is comprised of both experienced and youthful players, adding that all

that is expected of the coach now is to build a strong team from the 23 players in less than two weeks to the commencement of the Mundial.

"He has tried his best, considering the little time he has to prepare the team for the World Cup. The task before him now is how to build the players into a solid team that can compete favourably in South Africa," the former NFA technical director said.

He urged the players to see their inclusion in the team as a privilege, and as such should try their best to ensure that the country is not disgraced in South Africa.

"The players should show more commitment and dedication in all their matches and play their hearts out for their fatherland. Nigerians should supports and wish them luck in the game," he appealed.

NIGERIA'S WORLD CUP SQUAD

Goalkeepers: Vincent Enyeama, Austin Ejide, Bamidele Aiyenugba

Defenders: Taye Taiwo, Rabiu Afolabi, Chidi Odiah, Ayodele Adeleye, Danny Shittu, Joseph Yobo, Elderson Echiejile

Midfielders: Haruna Lukman, Mikel Obi, Kalu Uche, Yusuf Ayila, Dickson Etuhu, Sani Kaita

Forwards: Nwankwo Kanu, Osaze Odemwingie, John Utaka, Chinedu Obasi, Obafemi Martins, Obinna Nsofor, Yakubu Aiyegbeni



SUPER Eagles handler, Lars Lagerback, left, and his assistant Roland Andersson during the international friendly against Saudi Arabia.

No surprises as Kanu, Utaka make Eagles squad

By Ismaila Lere

THERE were no surprises in the end. Super Eagles supremo Lars Lagerback unveiled his 23-man squad for the 2010 World Cup finals in South Africa yesterday. In it the Swede tactician named Nwankwo Kanu as captain of his team despite dwindling form and signs of weariness.

Also named was Kanu's Portsmouth teammate John Utaka, who has been struggling for fitness and form recently.

Similarly, recuperating Chelsea midfielder Mikel John Obi

was included by Lagerback in the World Cup squad, while the Swede did not take a chance on fit-again Ikechukwu Uche, the joint-top scorer in the qualifying series.

Mikel is convalescing from a knee surgery and missed four weeks of action in the English Premier League. He only joined up with the rest of the squad Friday morning after he was certified fit by doctors of his London club. Just how serious is Mikel's injury? Nobody could say for sure but Lagerback said after his team's 1-1 draw with Colombia in London on Sunday that Mikel was left out of the World Cup warm-up

match so as not to put pressure on his injury.

However, he said Mikel will star in the Super Eagles next test game against North Korea on June 6 in Johannesburg.

Ike Uche is struggling to regain his stride after returning to competitive football recently after being out of action for seven months following a major knee injury.

Joining Ike Uche in the lurch are Nice defender Onyekachi Apam, who has been nursing a knee problem.

The other dropped players are Peter Utaka, Victor Anichebe,

Bassey Akpan, Terna Suswan and Brown Ideye.

Despite coming back from a long spell with injury just recently, assistant captain, Joseph Yobo is also listed.

AS Monaco midfielder Lukman Haruna was rewarded for his enterprise and equalising goal against Colombia with a spot in the final party. He will thus feature in three World Cups - FIFA Under-17 World Cup, FIFA Under-20 World Cup and now the senior World Cup.

Meanwhile, Eagles team coordinator, Emmanuel Attah said that a lot of factors were considered before

Lars Lagerback arrived at his final hit list to the Mundial.

"The coach has given the reason and we understand what he wants. Ideye had visa problems and was given some tests in training but could not meet up.

"Victor Anichebe also had some training to confirm his fitness, but we saw that he is injured. The coach said we cannot take injured players to the World Cup.

"As for Ikechukwu, he is still rehabilitating," said the chairman of Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Football Association.

Eagles fighting spirit is gone – Yekini

■ The 'Godfather' says Nigeria will have a hard task excelling at the World Cup

NOT many strikers in Africa put as much fear into defenders as did the gangling Rashidi Yekini in his heyday. More than a decade after he last played for the Super Eagles at France 98, Yekini still holds the scoring record for Nigeria.

Even though he is hardly in the public sphere these days, his words are held in high esteem. His tally of eight goals during qualifying led the country to their first World Cup participation in 1994 and he went on to score the country's first ever goal in the tournament with a celebration that ranks amongst the most interesting ever seen.

However, Yekini, who played for Vitoria Setubal in Portugal, feels that the present crop of Eagles are not as committed to the cause of the nation as he and his compatriots were 16 years ago when they reached the second round at their first attempt. "Most of the players in the

present Eagles lack that commitment to take their individual game to the next level," Yekini told Sportsday.

"They lack the passion to do something extra, something new and something special. It is only those that do new and special things in football that get special awards, mention and recognition."

It is worthy of note that the total goals combined between the two leading scorers in the present Super Eagles, Everton's Yakubu Aiyegbeni and Wolfsburg's Obafemi Martins, is not up to Yekini's total of 37.

However, he refuses to compare himself with anyone.

"It is not in name but in your ability to go the extra mile, your ability to take risks and your ability to do what others cannot do.

"I will not rate any player because I'm not used to doing that, nor will I compare myself

with anyone.

"You and I watch what other forwards do in Europe. You witnessed Lionel Messi scoring over 40 goals this past season. We saw Didier Drogba score 36 goals or so for Chelsea, but the same cannot be said of Nigerian strikers who all played alongside the aforementioned players in Europe.

"I remember when we were in Europe, I ranked among the top scorers season in, season out."

Yekini's expectations for the team at the World Cup are low.

"Our chances are as good as our preparations. Unfortunately, that is what most people don't want to hear.

"Honestly, I'm not comfortable with our team. The real fighting spirit is gone. We struggle to win, we struggle to score and we even struggle to play well," Yekini said.



RASHIDI Yekini in his playing days... The former Eagles striker said the present team lacks commitment and passion.

Eagles off to South Africa

By Ismaila Lere

SUPER Eagles departed London yesterday evening for South Africa for the World Cup

after Coach Lars Lagerback unveiled his final 23-man team for the tournament's finals.

The Eagles departed for Durban by a chartered Boeing 767-300 aircraft from Heathrow Airport. The team would be led to the June 11 to July 11 event by NFF President, Sani Lulu.

On arrival in Durban, the Nigerian delegation would be transported on the two-hour bus ride to the Base Camp at Richard's Bay, the Protea Hotel Waterfront.

Some NFF officials, already on ground in South Africa, included Musa Amadu, Deputy General Secretary (General Services) and Idris Adama, Head of Marketing.

The world's biggest soccer event rolls off in Johannesburg's Soccer City on June 11, with hosts South Africa taking on Mexico.

Already, the Kwa-Zulu Natal Province and Durban Municipality are mobilising Zulu dancers among other artistes to welcome the Eagles on arrival in South Africa today.

Many Nigerians have also mobilised to welcome the team when they arrive Durban at 7.50 a.m.

Ms Bongiwe Mkhize, an official in charge of African Activities, International Relations Department in Durban, said that

all was set to welcome the team.

She said that there would be little fanfare at the airport because of FIFA arrangements but there would be a reception later to make the team feel at home.

Nigerians have assembled drums, trumpets and other musical instruments to storm the airport to receive the team.

However, it is not clear if they will have much access to them because of FIFA security arrangements.

Kaita wins Lagerback praise

SANI Kaita earned glowing praise from Nigeria boss Lars Lagerback after excelling in an unusual right wing position in the Super Eagles 1-1 draw against Colombia on Sunday night.

Kaita was deployed on the right wing by and was largely instrumental in maintaining team shape and balance despite being a natural defensive midfielder.

It was a display that left Lagerback impressed.

"He was my man of the match," the Swede said. "He was absolutely outstanding and I think he was miles ahead of everybody."

Lars, was however, less pleased with the manner of the Super Eagles giving up a 12th minute goal to Carlos Valdes.

"It is a calamity when a player loses a 1v1. I was not happy with the goal, but we have to work harder on that."

Overall though, the Swede was happy to see improvements.

"This is a big improvement from the last game. I have only trained this team for seven times, and they have shown good quality.

"I think they will improve more, and the team will do better when they play more."

CBN tennis tourney records upsets

THE ongoing 32nd CBN Senior Tennis Open Championships recorded upsets yesterday in Lagos as the contests in the main draws begin.

Unseeded players sent packing two seeded players.

Unseeded Musa Balla defeated 12th seed Jonah Samuel 6-2, 5-7, 6-4, while Bolaji Olawepo, seeded 15th retired from the game because of illness, losing 6-7 (3), 6-3, 5-3.

Sixteen male tennis players have qualified to join the 48 seeded players in the main draws at the National Stadium, Lagos.

Eight female players have also qualified to join 24 other seeded players in the main draw of the women category.

The Chief Referee of the

championships, Saidu Musa, said that 64 players are now in the men's category, while 32 females are in the contest.

He said that with the clear weather being experienced, there was the possibilities of the tournament being completed on scheduled.

"The weather is better now, if we can have 48 matches today and another 48 tomorrow in the two venues we are using, the competition can end on June 5," Musa said.

In the other matches played, the tournament number one seed, Sunday Emmanuel beat number 15 qualified player

Onyeka Mbanu, 6-2, 6-1.

Number 10 seeded Tyolomun Tyav, beat Chukwuma Abba, 6-3, 7-6 (6).

Albert Bikon, defeated wild card player, Kunle Maku, who retired from the game in the second set because of illness.

Emmanuel said after his match that he hoped to retain the title he won last year.

"It was a good match being the first game. I know that I am better than my opponent.

"My pre-tournament aim is to improve with every match, so I will play all my matches as if I am playing the final," he said.

In the ladies category, defend-

Fatimah Abinu defeated Ngozi Dirisu 6-4, 6-3

THE TUESDAY COLUMN

Sanusi Abubakar

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Teaching the young to dream:
Reflections on Children's Day

The greatest threat to our future is not poverty, corruption or even ignorance; it is our refusal to teach our children to dream. Not just to dream, but to dream in colour! We should not expect them to achieve what they cannot imagine.

Last Thursday, May 27, I watched some children admiring other children taking part in a parade to mark the "children's day". The bare-footed, shabbily-dressed, unwashed and clearly hungry *almajirai* (Koranic school pupils) were admiring the smartly uniformed primary and secondary school kids who were gathered on a parade ground somewhere, listening to speeches and waiting for their ritual march in front of the assembled government officials. I suspect that neither the *almajirai*, nor their teachers were aware that May 27 is observed every year as children's day, nor have they ever been invited by anyone to take part in any such parade. Not only have they been intimidated by the system, the poor *almajirai* could hardly be expected to dream of becoming anything. They were apparently waiting for some alms from the big men gathered there, so as to buy what to eat that day.

What the children got to do with these gatherings is not very clear. But it goes on every year, and but for the one day holiday, we can be sure the other, luckier kids will find their way home hungry, exhausted and a bit confused. But then, children like celebrations even if they are not always sure what exactly they were celebrating.

And they are not the only ones. What exactly is the children's day celebration all about anyway? We know it started in 1920, in Turkey, and that it was only in 1956 that the United Nations recommended "a Universal Children's Day shall be instituted by all countries, to be observed as a day of international fraternity and understanding between children and of activity devoted to the promotion of the ideals and objectives of the (UN) Charter and the welfare of the children of the world, and to the strengthening and the broadening of the efforts made by the United Nations in favour and on behalf of all the children of the world". Despite all these, it is not clear to me that we are living up to our responsibility to these children and their families. Nor was there any solidarity even between the pupils of these conventional schools and the *almajirai* observing them. In any case, we have passed all sorts of laws to protect children, and we are signatories to several international agreements and treaties related to their welfare and protection. Yet, we are not devoting enough resources to ensure the success of our commitment to them.

However, there is another dimension that is actually frightening; we are lowering all standards because we have given up all hopes of achieving even the minimum we set for ourselves in the beginning. In post-independent euphoria we dreamt of industrial revolution, of science and technology break-through that will make us self-sufficient. We dreamt of health, education, housing and food for all, and even of an African renaissance. Now, we think it is enough to give our people second-hand clothes, sub-standard education, no water, no healthcare, and near-starvation wages. *Tokunbo* cars and fridges for the middle classes, of course;

but all else goes to those lucky enough to be in a position to help themselves to the rest of the "national cake". The people themselves now dream only in basic, black and white, terms of food, water, menial jobs, basic biological pleasures, instant wealth, and miracles. As for the children, we have succeeded in turning them into young, unthinking victims. They are encouraged to cheat for any worthless certificate, lose hope of "making it" unless they leave Nigeria, disregard hard work, honesty and trust. They are taught to blame everyone else but themselves, even if they have done something wrong.

Worst of all, they are not encouraged to read. And without reading they do not have a future, they cannot understand the present they are living, how it came about and what they can do to change it for the better. To read, to explore, to dream, to discover; these are not encouraged. Yet, that is the only way to guarantee the future.

Even those in dysfunctional, shaky or poverty stricken families should not be left to the tyranny of hopelessness, English Premiership football, Africa Magic, of dreaming for a visa to "check out" or winning a couple of millions from one of MTN endless gambling-like promotions. Even as some of them lie in the gutter, we should help them to look up and get themselves out of their mental and physical ghetto.

We need to devise new models for the children's day celebrations. The radio, television, print media and civil society should be involved in coming up with more sensible models. And yes, I am one of those who still dream of a more human and more civilised nation. Utopian?

You bet. I agree with Eduardo Galeano when he said:

Utopia lies at the horizon.

When I draw nearer by two steps, it retreats two steps.

If I proceed ten steps forward, it swiftly slips ten steps ahead.

No matter how far I go, I can never reach it.

What, then, is the purpose of utopia?

It is to cause us to advance.

The good news is the NLC has succeeded in getting the government to raise the minimum wage to N18,000 and this will do more for the children of those who at least have a job than all the celebrations we can organise. There would be more food and money for rent. New clothes and shoes, toys or books, or computers? Well, not yet.

Let me end by asking all of you to extend your prayers to the children of Gaza and occupied Palestine. They have been imprisoned behind an illegal Israeli blockade for 3 years. A Turkish aid ship carrying emergency aid to them was illegally boarded on international waters by Israeli soldiers, killing as many as 19 people, and injuring dozens more. But then the arrogant contempt of these Israeli terrorists, who continue to illegally occupy, torture, assassinate and terrorise Palestinians will continue so long as the US continues to support any and all criminal acts of that apartheid state. Of recent, their embassy in Nigeria has been on the offensive trying to justify this fascist-style arrogance in religious terms. What cheeky nonsense.

I suspect that neither the *almajirai*, nor their teachers were aware that May 27 is observed every year as children's day, nor have they ever been invited by anyone to take part in any such parade

SPORTS
REPORT

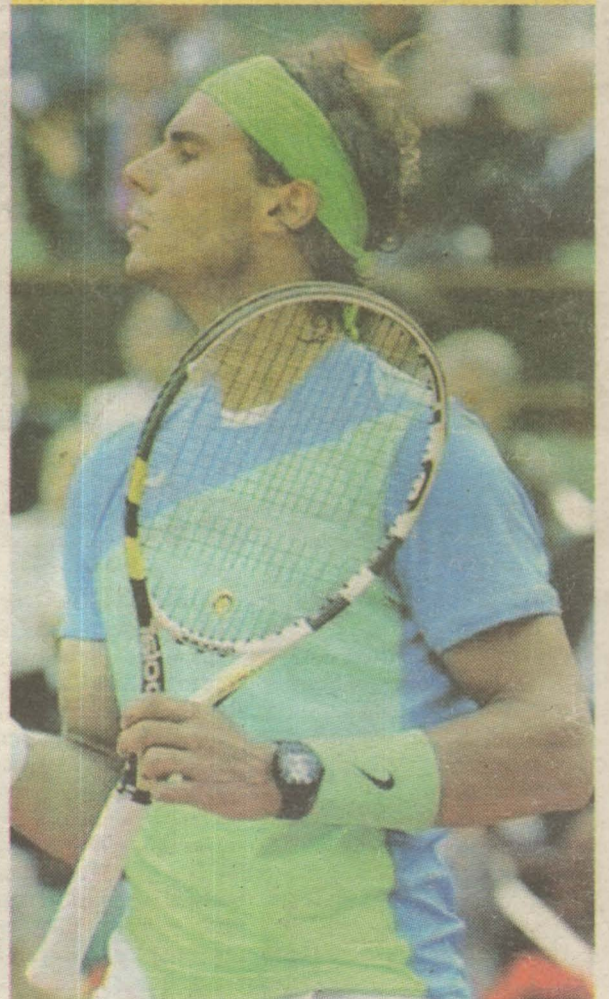
JUSTINE Henin

Henin ousted by Stusor

Sam Stosur ended Justine Henin's hopes of a comeback victory at the French Open by converting a second match point on Monday for a 2-6, 6-1, 6-4 fourth-round victory, while Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic were winners

at the same stage on the men's side.

Stosur ended the four-time French Open champion's streak of 24 consecutive victories at Roland Garros and will play in the quarterfinals top-ranked Serena Williams, who beat Shahar Peer 6-2, 6-2.



RAFAEL Nadal celebrates winning his match Thomaz Bellucci

Nadal surges past Bellucci

Rafael Nadal snuffed out the threat of Brazil's Thomaz Bellucci on Monday, winning 6-2 7-5 6-4 to safely avoid any repeat of last year's shock fourth-round exit at the French Open.

Nadal, whose four-year domination at Roland Garros was ended exactly a year ago by Sweden's Robin Soderling, was pushed hard by the 22-year-old after dominating the first set but the outcome was never seriously in doubt.

Nadal, bidding for a fifth title, will face 19th-seeded compatriot Nicolas Almagro for a place in the semis.

