



JOINT TAX BOARD

GOODWILL MESSAGE BY SECRETARY JOINT TAX BOARD (JTB) OBOMEGHIE NANA-AISHA, DELIVERED AT THE 8TH NGF ANNUAL IGR PEER LEARNING EVENT 19TH SEPTEMBER 2022, WELLS CARLTON HOTEL, ASOKORO, ABUA

Protocols...

I am pleased to be called upon to give a goodwill message on the occasion of the Nigeria Governors' Forum Annual Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) Peer Learning Event.

This year's event, which is the eighth in the series, is a reinforcement of the significance and importance that our State Chief Executives attach to issues surrounding domestic revenue mobilization, and most especially IGR.

While the reason for this is not far-fetched given the increasing role that IGR plays in providing development funding country-wide, it is heartwarming to note that governments at all levels have begun to appreciate the impact of tax revenue in national socio-economic development. This is more so under the prevailing reality where fiscal constraints greatly impact the ability for the state to provide the necessary social interventions that will assure the sustainable wellbeing and livelihoods for individuals and citizens.

The NGF has been a reliable partner to the Joint Tax Board, and the nation's tax family. Over the years, you have deployed your resources towards strengthening the capacity of the various state revenue authorities in achieving enhanced and sustainable IGR growth, among your many other areas of intervention.

The Annual Peer Learning Event has been one of the veritable tools in achieving this, and we are indeed glad that this exercise has been sustained over the years. We are confident that this collaboration will continue to thrive as we strive towards accomplishing our shared goals.

As the world continue to experience the disruptions elicited by technology, e-commerce, and the digital revolution, it is important that emphasis be placed in building the capacity of the tax administrators towards managing the emerging issues and taking advantage of inherent opportunities. There is a direct correlation between enhanced manpower capacity and revenue growth, and with the dynamic nature of advancements in technology, constant capacity building programs are essential for personnel of the revenue authorities for them to always be a step ahead of emerging trends, and I will strongly urge the NGF to explore these areas.

Having the respective State Commissioners of Finance present at these events is also critical as there is dire need for the Finance Ministries and the statutory tax-revenue authorities in each state to work in synergy and in harmony towards ensuring that the fiscal objectives of your principals are met. We urge you to promote the optimization of your respective state revenue generation potentials, and a little investment in manpower capacity building will yield immense medium to long-term gains.

As always, we look forward to robust and insightful engagements during the course of today's activities, and it is our expectation that at the end of the day, additional value would be added to the quest for a sustainable, inclusive, and friendly tax environment.

Thank you once again for the opportunity, I appreciate you all for your attention and wish us fruitful deliberations.

May God bless us all, and may God bless Nigeria.

Obomeghie Nana-Aisha
Secretary, Joint Tax Board