

**MEETING WITH THE NIGERIA GOVERNORS' FORUM (NGF) PERMANENT SECRETARIAT PROJECT CONSULTANTS HELD ON 27 JANUARY, 2010 AT THE NGF SECRETARIAT**

S/N	NOTES/RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY
	<p><b><u>ATTENDANCE</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A.B.Okauru – Director General, NGF</li> <li>2. M.A. Jibia – Executive Director (Finance &amp; Administration), NGF</li> <li>3. Chuku, C.C – Head, Legal, NGF</li> <li>4. Fatima, Y.U Katsina – Technical Assistant to the DG, NGF</li> <li>5. Ibrahim Ja'afar - NGF</li> <li>6. Arc. Ajogbe, Goke- Coplan Associates</li> <li>7. Luka Sukai – Project Cost Consultants Ltd</li> <li>8. Ovie Dogun – Model Design Ltd</li> <li>9. Engr. Promise Ejim – Model Design Ltd</li> <li>10. Ajayi Olayiwola – Three-E Ltd</li> <li>11. Arc. Ogwuche A.V – Coplan Associates</li> <li>12. ABC Achigbu</li> </ol> <p>The meeting which started at 11.24 am was presided over by the Director General (DG).The DG while welcoming every one to the meeting conceded that several meetings had been held on the permanent Secretariat project. This he attributed to his desire to execute a project that would not be abandoned midstream. He had always believed that it was better to plan properly before embarking on a project, particularly on a project of the magnitude of the Secretariat project.</p> <p>The DG further informed the meeting that in addition to the meetings held with the stakeholders of the project, the leadership of the Secretariat had met with the Chairman of the NGF Sub-Committee on the permanent Secretariat on two different occasions, 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 and 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2010. The latter meeting was held in the wake of the NGF meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 where the Forum had resolved to review the entire project-designs and cost. The Forum had in the light of recent developments, decline in resources of States and the observations of an independent consultant that the project was realisable at a much lower cost, resolved that the project be capped at N2.5 billion.</p> <p>He re-stated his enthusiasm for the project but was very mindful of the challenges posed by the project, particularly challenges of cost. His interventions in the project were borne out of a desire to do the right thing and follow due process. He reiterated his belief that to move the NGF and its secretariat to the expected heights, a high degree of integrity was required. The decision to involve an independent consultant was motivated by a desire to save costs and explore avenues to scale down the project to a level that the</p>	



Forum can comfortably accommodate financially. He concluded by informing the meeting that he had taken great pains to explain the situation because he wanted to disabuse every one's minds that there was any hidden agenda in his actions.

He informed the meeting that the Forum had decided to achieve the project with N2.5b and that quality did not necessarily have to be compromised. He enjoined the technical team to align this project and bring it to a manageable level.

The Quantity Surveyor (QS) in his remarks appreciated the DG's concerns and efforts at ensuring the achievement of the project. He however informed the meeting that the original cost of the project was predicated on the specifications given to them by the Forum at the inception of the project. He pointed that the exact figures to work with were never given to them.

He recalled that at the last meeting, there was a commitment of 1 month to draw up papers to reflect the reduced cost but this had not been done because there were no clear directives as to the exact amount. Now that the amount was known, the consultants would work towards achieving it without necessarily undermining the quality.

The estimate presented by the QS was roughly put at N2.6b, which he stated he was still in a position to further scale down, to meet the requirements of the Client. The N2.6b comprises costs for the following:

- Main building
- Pent House

The following decisions were taken:

- The Technical aspects to be worked out by the technical team ensuring at all times that the Secretariat is carried along;
- The independent consultants would also be carried;
- The basement would be removed;
- The parking space should be increased;
- The Pent House would be used as meeting chambers for the Forum;
- The floor immediately under the pent house would serve as office for the Secretariat;
- The remaining floors (5 in number) would be commercialised;
- The entire project would be locked in at N2.5 billion, as agreed by the Forum.

A draft time table for the take off of the project was drawn up thus:

<p>2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2010 – Architectural Designs 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 – Structural, M&amp;E designs 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 – Meeting of the Technical Team 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 – Bending Schedule 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2010 – Bill of Quantities 8-9 March, 2010 – Meeting of the Technical team 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2010 – Meeting with Chairman</p>	
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The meeting ended at 1 2.43pm.

Chuku, C.C, Esq  
Secretary