



**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON
DEVELOPMENT PLANNING (NCDP)
HELD AT THE ZARANDA HOTEL,
JOS ROAD, BAUCHI, BAUCHI STATE**

Friday 25th April, 2014

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENT PLANNING (NCDP) MEETING

PROCEEDINGS

1.0 Opening Session

The meeting of the National Council on Development Planning commenced at 10.55 a.m at the Banquet Hall, Government House, Bauchi, Bauchi State. The Special Guest of Honour at the meeting was the Executive Governor of Bauchi State, ably represented by the Deputy Governor, Alhaji Saqir Aminu Saleh. The opening prayers were said by the Special Adviser (Budget) to the Governor, Alhaji Rabi'u Gamawa and the Director-General, Benue State Planning Commission.

2.0 Present at the NCDP Meeting:

1. Amb. Bashir Yuguda - Sup. Minister/Deputy Chairman NPC
2. Ntufam Fidelis Ugbo, Esq. - Secretary to the Commission (NPC)
3. Dr. Amos B. Akawu - Hon. Comm. Nasarawa State Planning Commission
4. Chief Ambrose Akierete - Hon. Comm. Bayelsa State Budget & Economic Planning
5. John Dadunt - Hon. Comm. Plateau State Planning Commission
6. Engr. Daniel Elisha - Ex. Chairman Taraba State Planning Comm.
7. Hon. D. Ukpe - D.G Benue State Planning Comm.
8. Mr. Dan Sallau Yahaya - Hon. Comm. Niger State Min. Budget & Economic Planning
9. Mr. Atanda Fatai - Hon. Comm. Oyo State Economic Planning & Budget
10. Dr. Isiaka Kolawole - Special Adviser on Budget Oyo State
11. Mr. Dalhatu Musa - Rep. Hon. Comm. Zamfara State Min. of Budget & Economic Planning
12. Mr. Aminu Hammayo - SSG. Bauchi State
13. Mr. M. A. Ibrahim - P. Sec. Bauchi State Planning Commission

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| 14. | Mr. Shaibu Musa | - | P. Sec. kano State Min. of Planning & Budget |
| 15. | Mr. Okoli A. O. | - | P. Sec. Anambra State Min. of Economic Planning & Budget |
| 16. | Mr. Odeh Ebuwa | - | Rep. Hon. Comm. Budget & Planning |
| 17. | Mr Madu Kakkaba | - | P. Sec. Yobe State Min. of Budget & Economic Planning |
| 18. | Mr. Freeman Kum | - | P. Sec. Plateau State Planning Commission |
| 19. | Mrs. Adebiji M. O. | - | P. Sec. Oyo State Economic Planning & Budget |
| 20. | Mr. S. A. Muh'd | - | P. Sec. Nasarawa State Planning Commission |
| 21. | Mr. O. S. G. Shaibu | - | P. Sec. Benue State Planning Commission |
| 22. | Mr. Aliyu Sadiq | - | D. G. Bauchi State |
| 23. | Mr. G. S. O Shaihu | - | P. Sec. Benue State Planning Commission |
| 24. | Alh Adamu M. | - | P. Sec. Jigawa State Min. of Budget & Economic Planning |
| 25. | Prof. Olufemi Taiwo | - | D. G. NISER |
| 26. | Dr. Yemi Kale | - | S. G. NBS |
| 27. | Dr. K. K. Usman | - | D. G. CMD |
| 28. | Mr. Nawshad Ahmed | - | Unicef Abuja |
| 29. | Dr. Adetunji Oredipe | - | World Bank |
| 30. | Mr. Michael Harvey | - | USAID |
| 31. | Mrs. Barbara Barung | - | AFDB |
| 32. | Mr. Henry Agbonika | - | CIDA – PSU |
| 33. | Mr. Micah Ishaku | - | NACCIMA |

IN ATTENDANCE

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| i. | Mr. B. O. Akpanyung | - | D (NPC) |
| ii. | Engr. Olugbenga Adegun | - | D (NPC) |
| iii. | Dr. Zakari Lawal | - | D (NPC) |
| iv. | Mr. Tunde Lawal | - | D (NPC) |
| v. | Mr. G Nwalupue | - | D (NPC) |

- vi. Mr. R. O. Ibraheem - Ag. D (NPC)
- vii. Mrs. T. S. Tybangs - D (NPC)
- viii. Mrs. E. A Egharevba - Ag. D (NPC)

3.0 Chairman's Opening Remarks

3.1 The Honourable Supervising Minister/Deputy Chairman of the National Planning Commission (SMNPC) welcomed delegates to the meeting and extended the Commission's appreciation to the Governor of Bauchi State, His Excellency, Mallam Isa Yuguda, and the good people of the State for hosting the meeting. He extolled the Governor's commitment to the improvement in economic management process at the State level and indeed, Nigeria.

3.2 The SMNPC also reminded the delegates that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss and agree on the strategies for deepening economic governance at the sub-national level. In particular, he added, the meeting was expected to provide an opportunity for brainstorming on the optimal approach towards ensuring the effective implementation of the State Strategic Plans and the realization of the goals of the NV20:2020. He noted that the key outcomes and recommendations of the NCDP meeting have translated into government policies at the Federal and State level, a development that has engendered renewed confidence and synergy in nation-building. In light of this, the SMNPC informed the delegates that the Vice-President and Chairman of the National Economic Council (NEC) has approved that Hon. Commissioners of Economic Planning, as members of NCDP, should be attending the monthly NEC meetings and efforts were being made to institutionalize the monthly meetings of the

Hon. Minister of NPC with the States' Hon. Commissioners of Economic Planning on a day preceding the NEC meetings.

3.3 On the theme of the 12th NCDP meeting, the SMNPC noted, that it reflects the collective aspiration of ensuring that policies, projects and programmes implemented lead to significant improvement in the standard of living of Nigerians as the economy grows. He added that meaningful and successful transformational development cannot be achieved without ensuring inclusive growth and avoiding severe social tensions created by non-inclusion. In addition to Nigeria's record of accelerated GDP growth over the last decade, he noted that the recent rebasing of the GDP estimated at US\$510 billion makes Nigeria the largest economy in the African continent and the 26th largest economy in the world. Despite this remarkable development, he cautioned that, the GDP growth was yet to be fully translated into decent jobs, significant reduction in extreme poverty and desired improvement in social indicators. Consequently, the usefulness of development planning, he stated, was universally recognised and that sticking to development plans was essential, if any country was to achieve its desired developmental goals.

3.4 The SMNPC further informed the meeting that the achievements recorded by the Federal Government were as a result of commitment to the implementation of the strategic plans in the last three years. These included provision of subsidized agricultural inputs under the Growth Enhancement Scheme of the Agricultural Transformation Agenda, constructed 500km of fibre-optic cable to rural, dredged about 72km of the lower River Niger from Baro in Niger State to Warri in Delta State,

completion of the rehabilitation of the Western railway line (Lagos-Kano) and successful completion of power sector privatisation and liberalisation, which were expected to significantly improve power supply in the country. However, he noted, that there have been a number of challenges, especially in reducing the high rate of unemployment among the youth, tackling income inequality in the country and insecurity in the North. While the Federal Government was working to address these challenges, he urged States to adopt the strategic planning approach to strengthen the economies of their respective States. This would require strengthening the capacity of State Planning Commissions to ensure that strategic plans were adequate, well-coordinated and result-oriented with necessary legislations to facilitate and institutionalise strategic planning at the sub-national level.

3.5 Concluding, the SMNPC reiterated that that the task of ensuring inclusive growth, job creation and equity was an enormous one that required appropriate policies and strategies, which would focus on promoting creativity and innovation. He emphasized the role of small and medium- sized enterprises in creating jobs and, investment in national education systems, including technical and vocational training and policies to improve the business environment for both foreign and domestic firms. All these would not be possible, he stated, without cooperation among all tiers of government. While wishing the delegates fruitful deliberations, the SMNPC thanked members of the joint planning committee (Bauchi State and NPC) for their tireless effort in making the meeting a successful one.

4.0 Consideration of the Minutes of the Last meeting in Uyo, Akwa-Ibom State

The minutes of the last meeting held in Uyo, Akwa-Ibom State in October, 2013 were presented and adopted as amended by the Council. The motion for the adoption was moved and seconded by representatives from Anambra and Plateau States.

5.0 Technical Session

5.1 The resolutions of the JPB meeting that preceded the NCDP were presented to members by the Chairman of the JPB and Secretary to the National Planning Commission. These resolutions were discussed and the following major observations and recommendations were made:

6.0 KEY RESOLUTIONS

6.1 The key resolutions reached at the meetings were as follows:

- i. NPC to constitute Supervising/Monitoring and Mentoring teams to visit States on quarterly basis to fast-track implementation of decisions reached at the JPB/NCDP meetings;
- ii. States that were yet to establish State Planning Commissions (SPCs) were encouraged to do so;
- iii. The 12 States where the needs assessment survey of SPCs/State Statistical Agencies (SSAs) had been concluded were encouraged to implement the recommendations highlighted in the survey, especially on the issue of infrastructure and capacity building;
- iv. The SPCs of the 12 additional States not covered in the survey should work closely with the CMD for effective conduct of the needs assessment survey of SPCs/States Statistical Agencies and capacity building;
- v. The States that were yet to establish Statistical Bureau and Agencies were urged to do so, as a matter of urgency;

- vi. NPC was encouraged to commence the process of developing the 2nd NIP (2014-2017) and its implementation to facilitate job creation and inclusive growth. In this regard, SPCs should work closely with the NPC towards the successful development of the 2nd NIP;
- vii. States and Federal MDAs that were yet to develop their Sector Strategic Plans should expeditiously do so, in order to feed into the National Strategic Plan (2nd NIP), while leveraging on NPC's support in this regard;
- viii. States and Federal MDAs should build capacity of the Planning, Research and Statistics officers as they are critical to the development and implementation of national and sectoral strategic plans;
- ix. States and Federal MDAs should ensure that their annual budgets were consistent with the projects and programmes contained in the Medium Term Strategic Plans/Sectoral Strategic Plans;
- x. On the challenges of inadequate power supply and high interest rate associated with the recent rebasing of the Nigerian economy, Council recommended the establishment of Development Finance Institutions to address them;
- xi. The NPC should work closely with the State Governments in communicating development aspirations, plans and programmes of governments at all levels to facilitate the actualization of the NV 20:2020 and the State Strategic Plans/programmes;
- xii. NBS should embark on massive enlightenment of Nigerians to clear misconceptions about the rebasing of the GDP;
- xiii. The States GDP computation should be revised to ensure that it fully capture the basic developmental issues as necessitated by the current rebasing of the nation's GDP. This revision would affect States where GDP had been computed;
- xiv. The **14 States** that were yet to pay the **N14.1million** contribution for the States GDP Computation Project were encouraged to do so. The States are:

Abia, Adamawa, Borno, Bayelsa, Benue, Edo, Imo, Kaduna, Kebbi, Katsina, Kwara, Nasarawa, Plateau and Zamfara;

- xv. States were encouraged to partner with NISER, the Universities and other research agencies in the establishment of research institutes as this would complement States' Statistical Bureaux, as well as, provide guidance to the Departments of PRS on research matters;
- xvi. Education sector curricula at all levels, should be restructured to meet the skills need of industries so as to achieve the aspirations of the NIRP;
- xvii. The Industrial Training Fund (ITF) should be restructured towards skills development and service delivery to meet current needs of the manufacturing sector;
- xviii. The Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) as the main hub of growth should be recognized and revitalized to provide adequate business skills required for the development of the manufacturing sector as enshrined in the NIRP;
- xix. The Council welcomed the recent privatization of the power sector and advocated for the simplification of the process for the SME's to access loans/funds at low interest rates;
- xx. need for the Federal Government to fast track the finalization of the draft National Social Protection Policy and the States that were yet to develop theirs, were encouraged to set the machinery in motion to do so;
- xxi. need to strengthen both human and institutional capacities at the national and sub-national levels to enhance effective policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of strategic plans;
- xxii. NPC was urged to fast-track the completion, validation and implementation of the NIIMP. The NIIMP should be embraced by the States and Local Governments to ensure a well coordinated infrastructural development at all levels;

- xxiii. States were encouraged to learn from the States that had passed the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Bill into law for adaptation and passage of same in their respective domain;
- xxiv. The public-private dialogue should be institutionalized at the State and Local Government levels to maximize the benefits of PPPs, especially in actualizing infrastructural development;
- xxv. need to establish a viable M&E system in the States to track progress in the implementation of policies, programmes and projects across the States;
- xxvi. The Country Assistance Framework (CAF) as articulated by the donors and stakeholders was recognized as a veritable tool for coordinating development assistance at the national and sub-national levels. In this regard, the States should ensure that programmes captured in the Framework were in line with their development priorities; and
- xxvii. Noting the growing insecurity in the country, especially the activities of Boko Haram insurgents in the North East part of the Country, the Council urged all stakeholders to set in motion necessary machinery to address it.

7.0 General Comments:

(a)Supervising Minister National Planning (SMNP):

- i. The SMNP implored the Council to appreciate the successful privatization of the power sector and the expected improvements in power supply in the country
- ii. Suggested the need to cascade the Economic Management Team (EMT) to the sub-national levels in order to drive implementation of policies and programmes;
- iii. Describe the theme of the meeting as apt, as the country was witnessing growth, but without jobs. He recommended the need for inclusive growth.

- iv. On the recommendation for quarterly monitoring of MDAs by the Commission, the SMNP supported the recommendation and described it as good effort.

(b) Benue State:

- i. The Director-General Benue State Planning Commission raised issue of increasing insecurity in the country as recently witnessed in Benue, Plateau, Taraba and Bauchi States which had disrupted economic and social activities and displaced some people. She implored the Council to discuss the issues.

(c) Niger State:

- i. The Honourable Commissioners for Economic Planning, Niger State, drew the attention of the meeting to the recent rebasing of the Nigerian Economy and the attendant challenges of job creations and growth. He attributed the high level of unemployment to inadequate power supply in the country and the high interest rate charged by Banks and suggested the establishment of Development Finance Institutions (DFI) to provide single digit interest rate loan to support SMEs.

(d) Bauchi State:

- ii. The Secretary to the Bauchi State Government (SSG) informed the meeting that Bauchi State had paid the **N14.1 Million** contribution towards the State's GDP computation project.

8.0 Chairman's Closing Remarks:

In his closing remarks, the Supervising Minister of National Planning Commission and Chairman of Council, described the theme of the meeting as appropriate and urged all Stakeholders to work towards achieving inclusive growth for the country. He thanked the Bauchi State Government for the successful hosting of the meetings.

9.0 Vote of Thanks

9.1 The Honourable Commissioner in charge of Economic Planning, Oyo State, thanked all in attendance, especially the Chairman of the NCDP and the NPC as well as all delegates. He promised to surpass the arrangements made by the Bauchi State Government for the hosting of the next JPB/NCDP meetings tentatively scheduled for Oyo State in October, 2014.

10.0 Conclusion

10.1 The observations and recommendations above were adopted by the NCDP members and would be conveyed to the National Economic Council (NEC) and respective governments.

11.0 Date of Next Meeting

The Council endorsed the hosting of the next JPB/NCDP meetings in October, 2014 in Ibadan, Oyo State.

12.0 Adjournment

The meeting came to a close by 1:30pm

**Secretariat,
Joint Planning Board /National Council on Development Planning,
Special Duties Department,
National Planning Commission,
Abuja.
October, 2014**