

**BRIEF BY THE Ag. CLERK BAUCHI STATE HOUSE OF
ASSEMBLY TO THE MANAGEMENT OF NIGERIA
GOVERNORS' FORUM ON SUNDAY 14TH MARCH, 2010 AT
THE BANQUET HALL, GOVERNMENT HOUSE, BAUCHI**

Bauchi State House of Assembly was inaugurated on the 13th of June, 2007 with 31 Honourable Members representing 31 Constituencies of the State.

2. Being an Independent, Arm of Government. The responsibilities of the House of Assembly are:-

- (i) Making Laws for good governance;
- (ii) Representation of the people who elected them;
- (iii) Performing oversight functions over the Executive Arm which implements Laws and resolutions. These include checking and controlling all Ministries, Departments and Agencies as Government to carryout investigations, to control Public Funds and expenditure, to remove Heads of the Executive Branches of Government and to confirm certain appointments. The Legislature also criticizes, scrutinizes and generally supervises the administration of Government.

3. Immediately after its inauguration on the 13th of June, 2007, the Bauchi State House of Assembly recorded a number of very remarkable achievements in the establishment of the machineries of Government in the State in accordance with the provision of the Constitution.

These include:-

- (i) The election of House Leaders as per section 92 of the constitution.

- (ii) The formation of Special and Standing Committees in the Honourable House for effective performance of oversight functions and the execution of the day to day activities of the House as backed by section 103 of the constitution.
- (iii) The Confirmation of the appointments of Commissioners, Advisers and State Commissions as per the provisions of Sections 192, 196 and 197 of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 respectively.

The Legislation stated above enabled the Bauchi State Government take off fully where it immediately started executing programmes and Projects as per the campaign promises made to the electorates.

4. The role of the State Service Commission and staff development. As soon as the State Assembly Service Commission was re-constituted, all staff of the State House of Assembly on secondment or posting were transferred to the Commission. The State Assembly Service Commission also sponsored quite a number of staff of the Honourable House to attend Local and in House training and workshops.

5. Participation of Honourable Members in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Conference of Nigerian Speakers, Conference of Presiding Officers of Nigeria (COPON), participation in workshops, seminars within and outside the country improved legislative capabilities of the Honourable Members.

6. From inception in June, 2007 to date, the Honourable House received 71 Bills from the Executive Arm out of which 51 have been passed into Law. The Honourable House was also able to entertained 41 motions that touched on the lives of the electorates e.g. Provision of portable drinking water in rural areas, Rural roads, Electricity, Schools, Hospitals, etc and the resolutions passed were Communicated to the Executive Arm for implementation. The Executive Governor, having

realized the importance of provision of social amenities to the electorates, responded positively on the resolutions.

7. When this Administration came on board in 2007, it met the buildings of the Honourable House dilapidated, e.g. the Parliament building (Main Assembly Hall) Administrative block and Generator House. Also lacking was fencing of the whole building and furniture in most of the offices. His Excellency in his own wisdom decided to award the contract for the renovation and furnishing of the Honourable House at the total cost of N476,327,016.96. Work has reached 80% completion. Already an advance payment of N288,75,678.50 was made to the company leaving a balance of N187,551,338.46. Now that the 2010 Appropriation Bill has been passed into Law, we are hoping that the contractors will resume work while the Honourable House based on the recommendations of the Supervising Ministry which is Ministry of Works, will recommend additional payment to the contractor to be able to complete the work.

8. The Achievements so far recorded by the Honourable House was as a result of the cordial relationship that exists between the Legislative and the Executive Arms of Government. This is so far in brief the summary of the achievements of the State House of Assembly.

Thank you for listening.