

**BRIEF ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE  
AND CULTURE, SOKOTO STATE FROM MAY 2009 TO NOVEMBER**  
**2009** <sup>2007</sup>

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture was carved out from the former Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development. <sup>in 2003</sup> The primary purpose of establishing the Ministry is to promote human development, self reliance and better well-being, as well as ensuring the Social, economic and cultural development of the people of Sokoto State. At the inception of the present Administration under the leadership of His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Sokoto State, Alh. Dr. Aliyu Magatakarda Wamakko, these laudable objectives of the Ministry have been carried out through comprehensive, well integrated and coordinated Social Programmes aimed at Socio-economic progress of our community.

2. The major achievements recorded under this Ministry from May 2007 to date are hereby enumerated as follows:-

a. Social Welfare

The Social Welfare Department is responsible for the provision and execution of Social Services Programmes. In this regard the major achievements recorded in this area include.

- i. Renovation of the Rehabilitation Center for the disabled, Kalambaina at the cost of **₦49,977,538.085**. This is to provide conducive atmosphere for training of the disabled persons in the State.

- ii. The Remand Home Sokoto was totally renovated at the cost of **₦29,324,148.30** this is to enable rehabilitation and reformation of young offenders.
- iii. Renovation of the Orphanage, Sokoto was carried out at the cost of **₦11,068,607.25** to properly take care of babies and abandoned children.
- iv. Purchase of training materials and equipments at the cost of **₦7,943,000.00** to properly train the disable so that they become self reliant and productive.
- v. Six children at the Orphanage comprising 3 males and 3 females were married, and the Ministry spent an amount of **₦1,350,000.00** as marriage expenses (2008)
- vi. An average sum of **₦500,000.00** is being spent annually on purchases of sallah clothing materials to the children of both orphanage and children's home; like other children in the society.
- vii. In order to provide Social services to the teeming viewers of satellite cable, the MG Communication was given a loan of **₦10 Million** and an assistance of **₦2,850,000.00** to rehabilitate their equipments, and provide free services to all households in Sokoto metropolis. *with 50 feeding centers*
- viii. The Ramadan Feeding Programme which began in 2007, has recorded tremendous success since its introduction by the present administration. The sum of **₦74,640.00** was expended to run the programme in 2007. In 2008, the sum of **₦96,757,750** was also expended after the feeding centers were increased to 80. Similarly in 2009, the feeding centers were further increased to 135 and the amount expended for the programme was **₦149,559,000**.

## SKILLS ACQUISITION PROGRAMME

The State Skills Acquisition Programme was introduced in 2007 in fulfillment of His Excellency's Campaign promised in order to train youths in various Skills and trades so that at the end of the training they can be gainfully self employed, self reliant and productive. The programme is in two Chapters, State and Local Government chapters.

Under the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of State chapter of the programme 3320 youths were trained in 25 trades within the Sokoto Metropolis. While under the Local Government chapter 250 youths were trained in each of the 23 Local Government Areas in the State. (Totaling 5750) and the State Government pays a Monthly allowance of ~~N~~5000 to each of the trainees during the period of the training. In addition trainers are paid allowances according to number of trainees allocated to them while course inputs are procured every month to ensure the smooth running of the programme. In order to assist the graduants of the programme, the State Government expended the sum of N100Million in the procurement of equipment and soft loan to the 1<sup>st</sup> Batch graduants of the programme in October 2008. Total number graduated as at Oct, 2008 stood at 9,070.

Meanwhile 4320 trainees have commenced training with effect 1<sup>st</sup> Sept, 2009 under phase II State Chapter of Skills Acquisition Programme while 5750 have equally commenced training under the Local Govt Chapter of the programme.

Under the phase II of the programme 5 additional trades were introduced in the Local Government chapter, namely, Welding, Carpentry, Leather Artistry, Shoe and Bag and Hand Embroidery. Subsequently the State Government has purchased training materials for these new trades at the cost ~~N~~34, 000,000.00 in

order to provide conducive training environment. The State Government awarded contract for the construction of additional workshops and offices Block at Youths Development Centre at the cost of over **₦89 Million** to Mis Sumaisha Investment Nigeria Limited.

To facilitate proper monitoring of the programme at State and Local Government Areas. The Ministry purchased 3 Monitoring vehicles and 40 motor cycles at the cost **₦11, 600,000.00** for the exercise.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD INITIATIVE PROGRAMME**

In an attempt to create jobs for the teeming, unemployed youths in the State, the State Government in 2007 introduced the Neighbourhood Initiative Programme in which 1,300 youths drawn from the 23 LGAs, were trained in the art of patrol duties, Crowd Control, First Aid Assistance, fire Fighting Techniques, Guidance and Counseling and Security Surveillance techniques. The operatives of the programme are now fully employed and deployed to their various LGAs where they are engaged in providing Social Services to their communities. They are also being paid monthly allowances of **₦10, 000** each. The sum of **₦31, 000,000.00** was spent on the training and kitting of these operatives. The training was done in collaboration with Geftal Security Services, a Security Based company in Kaduna. Plans are presently underway to recruit another batch of 2, 600 Neighbourhood Operatives under the second phase of the programme. This is in order to provide job opportunities to our youths and make them relevant and productive to themselves and the State at large.

## NYSC MATTERS

In an effort to enhance the NYSC scheme in the State. The State Government has been giving all possible assistance to the State NYSC Secretariat to ensure smooth running of the scheme in the State.

In this regard the State Government early in 2009 awarded contract for the construction of New NYSC Permanent Orientation Camp at Wamakko at the cost of <sup>118,840,000.00</sup> ~~1600,000,000.00~~ to Messrs Pal Matex Nigeria Limited. Similarly State Government gives support in the area of food assistance for the feeding of corps members during the orientation exercise at an average cost of ~~13~~ **15** Million per orientation thrice a year.

The State Government pays an average of **15** Million per month for the payment of State allowance to corps members serving under Sokoto State Government Establishments. *In addition to monthly increment for US Sanitation*

## WAZIRI JUNAIDU HISTORY AND CULTURE BUREAU

The present Administration has undertaken a lot of activities and projects for the development of History and Culture of the people and Government of Sokoto State. Some activities and projects undertaken include among others:

### 1. HISTORY DEPARTMENT

- a. Between 2007 and 2008 the sum of **17, 615,000.00** was spent on Documentation and Collection of Historical materials.

- b. The State Government sponsored the Collection and Documentation of Arabic Manuscripts from Niger and Mali in August/September 2008 at the cost of **₦2,961,000.00**
- c. The Sokoto Gallery at Arewa House, Kaduna was equipped and updated in February 2008 at the cost of **₦1, 000,000.00**.

**2. CULTURE DEPARTMENT:**

Since the inception of this Administration various activities for the promotion of the Culture of our people have been undertaken. These include:

- a. Argungu Fishing and Cultural Festival 2008 and 2009 at the cost of **₦1, 238,000** and **₦1, 710,000** respectively.
- b. The State has also sponsored 2 Annual Kokowa Festivals in Niger Republic in Dosso March 2008 at the cost of **₦1, 500,000**; and Tahaora in April 2009 at the cost of **₦3, 500,000**.
- c. The First and Second Nigeria Arts and Crafts Exhibition in Abuja in August 2008 and August 2009 respectively were also sponsored by the State Government at the total sum of **₦7, 250,000.00**.
- d. State troupe was also sponsored to participate at the Ife International Festival of Arts and Culture in April, 2008 at the cost of **₦1, 077,000.00**.
- e. Sokoto State Contingents have also participated at the 2007 and 2008 National Festival of Arts and Culture in September 2008/2009 at the cost of **₦6, 400,000** respectively.
- f. Abuja Carnival in November 2007 and November 2008 were respectively sponsored by the State Government at the total sum of **₦5,483,000.00**. This Year 2009 the State participated at the Carnival in November, 2009 while the sum of **N1.7 Million** was approved for the participation.

- g. For improvement of Diplomatic relations with Nigeria and South Korea, the State Government has sponsored its troupe to South Korea for Nigerias 48<sup>th</sup> Independence Celebrations in September/October 2008 at the cost of **₦11, 781,300.00**.
- h. Approval was also given in April, 2009 for the participation of the State at the Gamji Arts Exhibition, Kaduna at the cost of **₦1, 600,000.00**.

### **3. CAPITAL PROJECTS**

- a. A contract for the construction of a 500 capacity Multi-Purpose Hall at the Museum complex of the WJHCB in 2008 at the cost of **₦42, 088,774.60**. The project has reached Advanced level of completion.
- b. Contract has also been awarded in 2009 for the Renovation of State Artiste Camp at the cost of **₦35, 000,000.00**.

## PROJECTS PLANNED FOR 2010

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Culture proposed the following for 2010.

- a. Completion of Permanent NYSC Orientation Camp at Wamakko at the cost of **₦400,000,000.00**
- b. Construction of Amusement Park at **₦50,000,000.00**
- c. Renovation of Giginya Memeorial Stadium Phase II at **₦300,000,000.00**
- d. Construction of Indoor Hall for Sporting Activities at the cost of **₦100,000,000.00**
- e. Reconstruction of Artists Camp **₦35,000,000.00**
- f. Reconstruction of Ahmed Mai Gero Theatre **₦35,000,000.00**
- g. Establishment of 3 Zonal Mega Centres of Skill Acquisition Programme at **₦75,000,000.00**
- h. Purchase of Training Materials for all the 3 Zonal Mega Centres at Yabo Wurno & Sokoto.
- i. Skills Acquisition Academy
- j. Renovation of Remand Home Sokoto including Staff Quarters female section.
- k. Renovation of Rehabilitation Centre Kalambaina (upgrading the complex)
- l. Establishment of a Welfare Centre for the mentally retarded persons (proper rehabilitation of lunatics)
- m. Establishment of Zonal Social Welfare Offices in 3 senatorial districts.
- n. Completion of multipurpose Hall at Waziri Junaidu & Culture Bureau