

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE NESG HUMAN DEVELOPMENT POLICY  
COMMISSION HELD ON FRIDAY AUGUST 27, 2010, AT CONFERENCE ROOM,  
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, ABUJA**

**PRESENT**

1. Albert Okumagba, BGL Plc (Private sector – Co Chair)
2. Prof Afolabi, Perm. Sec, FME (Public Sector Co-Chair)
3. Sylvester Onoja, *ON*, Hon. Commissioner of Education, Kogi State
4. Ngozi Osarenren, Hon. Commissioner of Education, Edo State
5. Osita Ogbu, Transparency in Nigeria (represented by Boni Achime)
1. Adenike Oke, KPMG (Rep. Joseph Tegbe, KPMG)
6. Detoun Ogwo, AGDC Ltd/GTE
7. Mrs Ladi Iliya, National President, Non-Academic Staff Union of Educational And Associated Institutions
8. Alero Ayiba-Otobo, DFID/ESSPN
9. Michael Iyiola Odeyemi, Mikase O
10. Jonson Abbaly, Achievers Consortium Ltd
11. Ifeoma Agumwah, Federal Ministry of Education
12. Aliyu Musa Abdul Hakeem, TUC (Rep Chief Kolawole)
13. Adebayo Latif Bello, Federal Ministry of Youth Dev.
14. Suleman Mustafa, USOSA, Abuja
15. Tega Agbanobi, NESG (Secretary)

**APOLOGIES**

2. Femi Melefa, ETF
3. Leke Oshunniyi, Multishield
4. Okey Nwadinobi, Enugu chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and agriculture
5. Abisola Longe, HCDC Limited
6. Mal. Abubakar Mohammed, National Directorate of Employment
7. Abolaji Osime, Global College Int'l
8. Dr AZ Mohammed
9. Mr. Jide Benson, Boas Printing Press
10. Femi Edun, Frontier Capital
11. Dr. Nafisatu D. Muhammad, National Commission for Nomadic Education
12. Pax Harry, RHICO,
13. Dr Segun Oshin,
14. Nneotaobase Egbe Channels Television
15. Afolabi Obilade, Mint Seal Services Ltd
16. Mrs Lucy Kanu, Idea Builders
17. Mr Kris Kanu, Idea Builders
18. Luka Jonathan Mangset, Federal Ministry of Youth Development
19. Abolade Durojaiye

## **ABSENT**

1. Oshinowo, O.A, NECA
2. Ferdinand Ibezim, I-Skill Limited
3. Pharm. Azubike B. Okwor, Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria
4. Elizabeth Olofin, Fate Foundation
5. Dr. (Mrs.) Alero Roberts
6. Tokunbo Oyero, Total Image
7. Adesuwa Ifedi , Sife Nigeria
8. Dr. Ebun Sonaiya, Total Health Trust
9. Nike Desouza, PeoplePrime
10. Ejiro Agbahor
11. E. Chike Nwanze, Institute of Directors
12. Okechukwu Nwadinobi, Enugu Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and agriculture
13. Dr. Olukayode Oyeleye, NVMA,
14. Mrs. Safinatu Mohammed, Founder, Renewal Hope Foundation
15. Isiaka Lawal, Promasidor Nigeria limited
16. C. C. Nyam (Mrs), Fed. Min. of Women Affairs
17. Abdul Hakeem Aliyu Musa, NHIS
18. Dr. (Mrs.) A. Uboh, SSA to Minister of Youth Dev.

## **AGENDA**

- Opening Prayer
- Co-Chairs Opening Remarks
- Review of Last meeting's Minutes
- Matters Arising from Minutes
- Sub-Committees' Updates
- Plans for the forthcoming Summit
- Special invitees (public/private sectors' players)
- AOB
- Date of next meeting (23rd Sept, Lagos)
- Closing

F	MINUTES	ACTION	TIMELINE
	<p><b>OPENING</b></p> <p>The meeting, which was anchored by the Private sector Co-Chairs, Mr. Albert Okumagba, commenced at 11.45am with self introduction by members.</p> <p><b>REVIEW OF LAST MEETING’S MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING</b></p> <p>Minutes of the last Meeting was reviewed. Mrs Detoun Ogwo moved the motion for adoption and was seconded by Johnson Abbaly.</p> <p><b>SUB-COMMITTEES’ REPORT</b></p> <p><b>Youth &amp; Empowerment (Report Presented by Johnson Abbaly)</b></p> <p>The Sub-Committee, in its Report, highlighted the amendments to its recommendations, which has captured previous comments and observations of members at the last HDPC meeting, and has further identified major regional hubs for the best and brightest of Corp members to be absolved. These are Energy, Telecom, Agriculture and Environment. And with the key deliverables to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning Industry best practices;</li> <li>• Future scenarios and industry analysis;</li> <li>• Hands-on experience and exposure in select firms and organizations (Both Public sector and Private sector);</li> <li>• Scholarship for post graduate programme for outstanding graduates;</li> <li>• Deploy latest technology in new ways that create value;</li> <li>• Achieving multi-disciplinary problem solving approach and mindsets;</li> <li>• Closing the achievement gaps and address local content concerns.</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Abbaly reported that the Sub-Committee is proposing a strategic “Talent Management Programme” to be infused into the ‘mandatory’ NYSC programme, where after regular orientation camp, the under listed will commence:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Regional Induction:</b> A 2 week workshop Featuring Sessions with industry experts and professionals</li> <li>2. <b>Partnerships:</b> with International Development Agencies, Nigerian Professionals in the Diaspora and a consortium of private sector firms within the country.</li> <li>3. <b>Recruitment Fair:</b> at the end of the year long programme to access opportunities and give back to the system.</li> </ol> <p>To further synthesis the youths and in a bid to kick-start the re-</p>		<p><b>Immediate</b></p> <p><b>Immediate</b></p>

orientation programme being proposed for youths, the Sub-Committee is recommending for the HDPC to organized a *Policy Roundtable/Stakeholder's Forum* on Youth Empowerment and Nation Building, which should be held before NES #16, where issues of re-engineering the NYSC will be discussed, to enable the Sub-committee push for participation at the NES16 summit on hand and bring to the fore the activities of the Sub-committee, and subsequently increase its membership.

**Comments/Observations**

**Prof Afolabi**

- Funding/salary are national problem. He advised that recommendations should be bold and pragmatic in order to solicit the necessary attention. The proposed ₦30 000 small and not realistic enough to make meaningful impact. The cost of living is very high in Nigeria.
- Is there a way to re-engineer NYSC for it to become useful? Can orientation extension to 1-2months guarantee concrete grounding and equip the youths to be more useful to the society? These are the questions he raised for the Sub-Committee to consider.

**Mr Okumagba**

- The Job Creation Committee has another 2 weeks to submit their report to the President and NYSC is one of their areas of focus, including NAPEP, NDE and SMEDAN. The thinking is to collapse these agencies into one body. The Youth & Empowerment Sub-Committee should be involved and submit their recommendations. He volunteered to provide the Sub-Committee with names of respective meeting committee members (through his colleague (Ibrahim), and noted that a meeting of the Job Creation Committee has been scheduled for next Tuesday (7<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2010).

**Comments from Members**

- Sub-Committee should identify more areas for those not in schools.
- If the proposed recommendations are channeled properly, it could have reasonable impact.
- Deliverables should be minimal.
- NYSC programme is a very good vehicle to make progress and tackle the youth problems.

**Mr Okumagba to ensure Sub-Committee's inclusion**

**Immediate**

- Sub-committee should pursue recommendations for the extension of the orientation period to 1 month.
- The biggest NYSC challenge is budget. Sub-committee should identify and recommend alternative sources of funding.

**Education (Report presented by Mrs. Alero Ayiba-Otobo)**

She reported that the Sub-Committee has been included into and has attended its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Implementation Task Team Steering Committee of the FME on Wednesday August 25, 2010. Members that attended are Mr. Albert Okumagba, Adenike Oke, Alero Ayiba-Otobo, and Femi Edun.

She further informed the Meeting that the attendees would agree on a date to meet and deliberate on recommendations to be taken back to the August Task Team Progress Reporting meeting of the Steering Committee, and bring feedback to the Policy Commission.

**Key Sub-Committee’s Actions**

She revealed that the Sub-Committee has identified 5 key private sector intervention areas and has decided to set-up working groups accordingly. They are:

1. Membership of Steering & Coordinating Committee
2. Develop a Sustainable Financing Framework
  - Direct funding to schools
  - TVET
  - Tertiary Institutions
  - Incentives from CBN (financial institution intervention), FIRS (tax), FMBN (Mortgage loans)
3. TVET
  - Curriculum Development
  - Resource Support
  - Incentive/Sensitization Programmes
4. Teacher Education & Development
  - Review/ Develop CPD curriculum in collaborating with Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN);
  - Review/develop school based induction programme for teachers;
  - Develop strategies to enhance teacher public image and status and encourage teacher retention.
5. State Government Collaboration
  - State Ministries of Education

**Nike Oke to ensure**

**Immediate**

**Mrs Ayiba-Otobo to ensure/Nike to Coordinate**

**Immediate**

- State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB)

**Terms of Reference for Working Groups**

1. Develop and submit position papers to share best practices in schools (e.g SUBEB/Funding).
2. Identify areas of curriculum development and to assist (private sector) initiatives (e.g in TVET), in terms of content, quantity; and develop/submit pragmatic position papers.
3. Identify trainings, planning strategies for retention and identify Sub-Committee's roles (e.g on Teacher Education). Sub-Committee should be able to partner through the Commissioners' Forum.
4. Deadlines/membership.

**Comments/Observations**

- Prof Afolabi informed the meeting that the Education Sector Agenda is going to be presented to the Presidency in November 2010, Sub-Committee should make haste to submit their recommendations.
- Mr. Michael Iyiola informed the meeting that there is an organization already working on recommendations on Teacher Training and would be glad to make presentation to the Commissioners' Forum. The meeting agreed that Teacher Training must be revisited.

**Prof Afolabi's Comments**

Prof Afolabi informed the Meeting that the Ministry is planning to hold a 1 or 2 days Stakeholders' Forum and identify 2-3 groups to serve as Presidential Working Groups.

For the 1<sup>st</sup> group, he continued, the mandate would how to recapture and reclaim the value system:

1. With specify reference to the current system of education,
2. Basic/secondary education.

While for the 2<sup>nd</sup> group, would answer these questions:

1. What kind of society do we want? With regards to:
  - i. Funding/sustainability
  - ii. Secondary/tertiary education (what kind of education do we want?
  - iii. Vocational education

He noted that NESG would fit into the 2<sup>nd</sup> group, and should be able to make recommendations/suggestions here.

He informed the meeting that he is currently interacting with a

**Mrs Ayiba-Otobo, Mr. Tegbe & Mr. Edun to agree on Membership**

**Mrs Ayiba-Otobo to ensure**

**Mr. Michael Iyiola to endure**

**Prof Afolabi to ensure Sub-Comm. participation**

**proposed**

**Before 23 Sept 2010**

**Immediate**

**Critical**

**2 or 3<sup>rd</sup> We**

consultant, and NESG would be invited soon to join the meeting, which is tentatively scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of October

He advised the Sub-Committee to think in prototype and piloting, and promised to ensure strong participation of the NESG in the Presidential Stakeholders' Forum of the President. Therefore, NESG should commence articulation of recommendation and develop ideas to be presented.

He warned the Education Sub-Committee not to over-split the Sub-Committee (working Groups), so as not to encourage fatigue and discouragement.

**Commissioners' Comments**

- The 2 Commissioners decried the disparity between the north and south in terms of quality of education. This, they hinted, is a major challenge in the country.
- There should be a total overhauling/retooling of our orientation and value system.

**SUBEB:**

This generated concern from the Commissioners. They faulted its empowerment to by-pass state Commissioners of Education in disbursing funds to schools, which has encouraged disarticulation and has further contributed to diversion/misappropriation of funds.

In the course of the deliberation, the following were identified in SUBEB

**Problems**

- i. Funding is politicized/corruption thrives.
- ii. Selection process for managements is faulty. This has resulted to appointment of politicians which are not seasoned professionals, contrary to what is stipulated in SUBEB laws.
- iii. Mismanagement of funds
- iv. Laws are twisted
- v. Leadership of the body does not interact with their respective State Commissioners and are not answerable to them. They do not revert to the Ministry of Education for anything.
- vi. There is counterpart funding and massive war between SUBEB/commissioners,

**Remedies**

- i. Sub-Committee should review SUBEB's mandate and make recommendations – identify operational arrangement/areas to be redressed /amended.

**FME's Stakeholders' Forum**

**NESG to be part of Working group 2**

**Mrs Ayiba-Otobo to ensure**

**of October**

- ii. There is need to review laws, particularly on control/ disbursement of funds, particularly, on its direct allocation SUBEB from UBEC.
- iii. There is no law regulating secondary education like the UBEC (this has to change).
- iv. There is need to review UBEC and SUBEB laws in its entirety.
- v. The Chairman of UBEC & SUBEB should be invited to the next meeting.

NESG

23<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2010

**CLOSING/DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Sub-Committees were requested to firm up their recommendations before the next HDPC meeting. The meeting came to a close by 1.30pm, while the date for next meeting was fixed for 23<sup>rd</sup> of September, 2010, in Lagos (BGL).