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**NATIONAL ECONOMIC COUNCIL**

**MEMORANDUM ON THE 2023 (22ND EDITION) OF THE JOINT PLANNING BOARD (JPB)**  
**AND NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENT PLANNING (NCDP) MEETINGS HELD IN**  
**OSOGBO, OSUN STATE, FROM 12TH TO 14TH SEPTEMBER, 2023**

By the Honourable Minister of Budget and Economic Planning

The purpose of this memorandum is to apprise the Council of the outcomes of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Joint Planning Board (JPB) and National Council on Development Planning (NCDP) meetings held at Osogbo, Osun State, from 12th to 14th September 2023.

2.0 Council may note that the National Council on Development Planning (NCDP) and the Joint Planning Board (JPB) meetings serve as a platform for bringing together Senior Officials from the Federal and State Ministries, as well as other related Agencies responsible for Budget and Economic Planning, Representatives of the Organized Private Sector, the Academia, Development Partners and Civil Society Organizations to engage in in-depth discussions on economic policy issues, with a view to propose an optimal approach for enhancing economic management processes at both National and Sub-national levels.

3.0 The JPB is a meeting of State Permanent Secretaries for Budget and Economic Planning and other Stakeholders, chaired by the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning; while the National Council on Development Planning (NCDP) meeting is chaired by the Honourable Minister of Budget and Economic Planning with Honourable Commissioners responsible for Budget and Economic Planning from States as members.

4.0 The objective of the annual NCDP meeting is to serve as a platform for informed deliberations on topical national issues that impact the economic development and growth of the country. You may kindly note that key recommendations from the JPB meeting are deliberated upon and endorsed by Members of the National Council on Development Planning (NCDP) for policy options and implementation. In addition, you may wish to be informed that the 20th Edition of the JPB/NCDP meetings held from Tuesday 3rd – Thursday, 5th August 2021 in Maiduguri,

hosted by the Borno State Government while the 21st Edition of the JPB/NCDP Meetings took place in Abakaliki, from 6th – 8th April 2022, hosted by the Ebonyi State Government.

5.0 The 22nd edition of the JPB/NCDP Meetings was organized by the Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning and hosted by the Osun State Government with the theme: ***“Imperatives for Restoring Nigeria on the Path of Sustainable Economic Growth and Development”*** and held from Tuesday, 12th to Thursday, 14th September 2023, at Osogbo, Osun State. Delegates attended from Thirty-Four (34) States and FCT, except Cross River and Nasarawa States that were absent at the meetings.

6.0 Council is invited to kindly note the Resolutions of the 22nd Edition of the Joint Planning Board (JPB) and National Council on Development (NCDP) meetings:  
Arising from the presentations, exhaustive discussions, and deliberations, delegates unanimously resolved as follows:

**A. Imperatives for Restoring Nigeria on the Path of Sustainable Economic Growth and Development**

- i. The 36 States and the FCT are encouraged to individually examine their own local peculiarities and fashion out their own sustainable development pathways through effective policies directed at the major drivers of economic development;
- ii. Both National and Sub-National Governments must invest heavily in Human Capital Development to create highly skilled manpower needed for rapid economic growth and development; and
- iii. Over-reliance on Oil and gas as major sources of revenue should be de-emphasized and attention focused on the diversification of the economy. In this regard, the Federal and State Governments must begin to develop other sectors such as Agriculture, Solid minerals, Physical Infrastructures, Manufacturing, Trade, and Services among others in order to diversify the economy.

**B. Status Report on the Implementation of Key Resolutions of the 21<sup>st</sup> Edition of the JPB/NCDP Meetings**

- i. The FMBEP should collaborate with the States in the process of designing a template for harvesting the status of implementation of the JPB/NCDP resolutions, factoring the peculiarities of each State.

**C. Energy Sufficiency for Sustainable Economic Development: Options for Nigeria**

- i. Government at all levels should promote the migration of Heavy-Duty Industries/Transport systems from fossil fuel to Gas Infrastructure;

- ii. Given the new Electricity Act that empowers States and individuals to participate in all components of the energy sector, State Governments should carry out energy audit to determine Energy needs and explore areas for collaboration with the private sector based on their comparative advantage;
- iii. States should develop small hydropower plants, on or off-grid, and solar, for communities and MSMEs;
- iv. The three tiers of Government should institute initiatives for the promotion of attitudinal change regarding energy use, wastage, and theft; and
- v. The government should promote Research and development, Local Content, New Energy (Hydrogen, Biofuels) Prototype Investments for energy sufficiency.

**D. Energy Revolution for Industrialization and Economic Prosperity**

- i. The government should promote the establishment of Community foundations as a vehicle for investments in micro power grid projects and other infrastructure; and
- ii. Tertiary Institutions should pioneer micro-renewable energy projects to cater to the Institution and nearby Communities.

**E. Challenges of Climate Change and Insecurity in Agricultural Productivity**

- i. States should encourage Agricultural Insurance cover for farmers to protect them and their products from financial losses caused by various risks and uncertainties associated with farming;
- ii. Government at both the Federal and State levels should invest in national drainage architecture to harness water released from different sources like Water from Lagdo dam for irrigation farming and construct Hydro Power Dams for energy generation;
- iii. Despite the awareness and the provision of a framework for sustainable land management in most Government policies to address the challenges of Climate Changes in the country, both the National and Sub-National Governments should increase investment in afforestation, climate change adaptation, and mitigation strategies, restoration of peace and security in affected regions.

**F. Enhancing Food Systems for Improved Food Security and Job Creation**

- i. States should engage and provide youth with opportunities through skills development, vocational education, incubation, and digital agriculture in order to assist them to access agripreneurship opportunities and acquire jobs in agribusiness, off-farm, and rural labour markets;

- ii. The Federal and State Governments should collaborate with the Private Sector, Businesses, and Development Partners to increase investment in agriculture and food security in order to curtail the prevalence of post-harvest losses across the country;
- iii. Both Federal and State Governments should develop pre-retirement training programmes for retiring Civil Servants who may want to venture into Agriculture systems; and
- iv. As observed, Small Scale Farmers have been recognized as the major producers of food consumed in the country. Government at all levels should provide the enabling environment and make provision for farming equipment and tools, of the type that could be utilized by rural farmers to improve food production, all all-year-round farming and also attract more citizens into agriculture.

**G. Addressing Unemployment through Skills Acquisition and Entrepreneurship**

- i. National and Sub-National Governments should invest more in skills acquisition programmes to address the unemployment level in the country; and
- ii. Government at both Federal and State levels should strengthen the transition from training to work, through the provision of Starter packs to skilled unemployed Nigerians to avoid relapse

**H. Human Capital Development and “Japa” Syndrome: Challenges and Opportunities**

- i. The Federal Government to collaborate with other countries on labour migration to enable both parties to harness its gain;
- ii. Both Federal and State Governments should create an enabling environment for Nigerians, and provide incentives to participate in National Development programmes such as Land, Infrastructure, Tax reliefs, and others;
- iii. National and Sub-National Governments to encourage Nigerian citizens to invest their resources, talents, skills, and global expertize into the Nigerian economy.

**I. Improving the lives of Citizens**

- i. The meeting appreciated the Eight Point Agenda of the current Administration, and urged effective implementation by the Federal Government in order to achieve its objectives;
- ii. Members of the National Council on Development Planning applauded the Federal Government on the measures being put in place to cushion the effects of fuel subsidy removal and further implored them to sustain it;
- iii. The Federal and State Governments should ensure proper plans that are matched with evidence-based budgeting; and
- iv. States that yet to set up their Bureau of Statistics should endeavour to do so.

## **7.0 Prayer**

The nature of our Federalism requires a more regular interface between Subnational and National Governments. Accordingly, the National Executive Council is invited to consider and approve that:

- i. Respective Honourable Commissioners Budget and Economic Planning to accompany their Governors to the monthly National Executive Council meetings, as agreed earlier.
- ii. JPB / NCDP Secretariat to continue the monthly interaction between the Honourable Commissioners and the Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning as earlier agreed.

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**Joint Planning Board / National Council on Development Planning Secretariat,  
Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning  
Abuja**

**September, 2023**