

Our Ref. No. DB/494 T¹/45

Ministry of Economic Planning & Budget,
Budget Department,
Akure.

18th October, 2023.

CIRCULAR LETTER TO:

The Chief of Staff to Mr Governor,
The Deputy Chief of Staff to Mr Governor,
The Head of Service,
The Secretary to the State Government,
State Commissioners,
Special Advisers,
The Chairmen of Commissions/Boards/Agencies,
Senior Special Assistants to Mr. Governor,
The Permanent Secretaries/Tutors-General/Directors-General,
The Clerk, Ondo State House of Assembly,
The Chief Registrars,
The State Auditor-General,
The Auditor-General for Local Government,
The State Statistician-General,
Registrars of State-Owned Tertiary Institutions,
General Managers/Heads of Non-Ministerial Departments,

2024 ADVANCE PROPOSALS AND DRAFT ESTIMATES

Introduction

Budget remains a vital statutory tool of government for making effective estimates for revenue and expenditure annually, which in turn enables government to set fiscal priorities and monitor progress toward selected goals. Section 121(1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) empowers each State of the Federation to

prepare an annual Budget and place same before the State House of Assembly for appropriation for a given financial year.

2. To this end, this Ministry has concluded the preliminary activities that will officially kick-start the 2024 Budget preparation in line with the vision and mission of the present Administration, termed REDEEMED agenda. Hence, this Budget Call Circular provides guidance and clarity on the criteria for the estimation of revenue as well as admission of Personnel, Overhead and Capital Expenditure into the Year 2024 Estimates. Consequently, all Ministries, Departments, Extra-Ministerial Departments and Agencies (MEDAs) are expected to adhere strictly to the guidance stipulated in this Call Circular.

Overview of the Economy

3. The global economy since the last few months has been facing various challenges that range from the after-effects of COVID-19 to Russia-Ukraine war and lately the war between Israel and Palestine which have culminated into global energy and food crises, hyperinflation, high interest rates, low productivity and socio-economic upheavals, among others. Climate change is another hard nut the world is cracking. Warmer temperature over time has precipitated extreme weather conditions, leading to unprecedented

rainfall, flooding and draught in some areas while the ocean has equally experienced unprecedented rise. The resultant effect is food insecurity, human casualties and internally displaced persons.

4. Nigeria as a developing and emerging economy has been harshly affected by all the above-stated global challenges. In this regard, the precarious economic state in which we now found ourselves has put a serious question mark on our growth targets and influenced our economic and developmental plans.

5. Nigeria's month-on-month inflation rate (which was 25.80% in August 2023) has been on the increase since the beginning of the year, but worsened by the removal of fuel subsidy by the Nigerian Government. According to National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the increase in inflation was caused by an increase in food prices attributable to the disruption in the supply of food products; cost of transportation arising from fuel subsidy removal; and an increase in import costs as a result of increased exchange rate caused by floating of the exchange rates. A combination of high inflation and modest wage increase being undertaken by various governments would lead to a fall in real wages. To alleviate the pains the fuel subsidy removal

unleashed on Nigerians, governments at all levels have begun to roll out extensive supports as palliatives to cushion the effects of high energy and food prices on the people.

6. Notwithstanding the cushioning effect and relief that each State and Federal Government bring to bear to ease the economy, there is still the need to adopt a cautious approach in making projections and in crafting the year 2024 Budget Estimates. It is, therefore, important for all MEDAs to think and tailor their estimates in this regard, putting in place a workable Budget that will largely accommodate the programmes of the present administration and also reflect the economic realities of the moment.

2023 Budget Performance

7. Budget performance data from January – June 2023 is presented in the table below:

Table 2. 1: Cumulative Revenue as at June, 2023

	REVENUE SOURCES	2023 Approved Target	Mid-Year Target	Mid-Year Actual	Variance	Performance
(A)	Revenue from Federation Account	₦	₦	₦	₦	(%)
i.	Statutory Allocation	35,298,844,991.00	17,649,422,495.50	17,154,102,655.51	- 495,319,839.99	97.19
ii.	Mineral Derivation Fund	18,499,522,348.00	9,249,761,174.00	16,931,928,340.72	7,682,167,166.72	183.05
iii.	Share of Value Added Tax	25,128,948,522.00	12,564,474,261.00	15,491,338,368.41	2,926,864,107.41	123.29
iv.	Excess Crude	19,593,000,000.00	9,796,500,000.00	5,211,885,739.86	- 4,584,614,260.14	53.20
v.	FAAC Special Allocation	5,492,000,000.00	2,746,000,000.00	4,727,869,722.69	1,981,869,722.69	172.17
vi.	Stabilization Fund	13,234,258,017.00	6,617,129,008.50	6,066,035,146.20	- 551,093,862.30	91.67
	Sub-total	117,246,573,878.00	58,623,286,939.00	65,583,159,973.39	6,959,873,034.39	111.87
(B)	Independent Revenue					
i.	ODIRS	22,826,601,000.00	11,413,300,500.00	15,432,774,713.24	4,019,474,213.24	135.22
ii.	MEDAs	9,183,318,000.00	4,591,659,000.00	3,662,573,073.85	- 929,085,926.15	79.77
	Sub-Total	32,009,919,000.00	16,004,959,500.00	19,095,347,787.09	3,090,388,287.09	119.31
(C)	Other Revenue Sources					
i.	Roll Over fund/Cash Reserve	24,002,191,122.00	12,001,095,561.00	10,525,496,619.85	- 1,475,598,941.15	87.70
ii.	Domestic Loan/Borrowing	58,100,000,000.00	29,050,000,000.00	-	- 29,050,000,000.00	0.00
iii.	Foreign Loan/Borrowings	35,684,300,000.00	17,842,150,000.00	211,000,000.00	- 17,631,150,000.00	1.18
iv.	Domestic Grants	7,865,000,000.00	3,932,500,000.00	3,996,000,533.29	63,500,533.29	101.61
v.	Foreign Grants	351,200,000.00	175,600,000.00	46,641,471.60	- 128,958,528.40	26.56
vi.	Health Insurance Contribution	720,000,000.00	360,000,000.00	-	- 360,000,000.00	0.00
	Sub-Total	126,722,691,122.00	63,361,345,561.00	14,779,138,624.74	- 48,582,206,936.26	23.33
	GRAND TOTAL (A+B+C)	275,979,184,000.00	137,989,592,000.00	99,457,646,385.22	- 38,531,945,614.78	72.08

Source: Office of Accountant General, Internal Revenue Service & Other MEDAs

8. Table above shows that revenue target for the 2023 Mid-Year was ₦137.990 billion and the total actual revenue was ₦99.458 billion, which

represents 72.1% performance level. The State's revenue agency performed at 135.22% in the first half of the year.

2024 Fiscal Framework

9. The 2024 Fiscal framework focuses on improved revenue and controlled expenditure that would ensure broad revenue base. The Revenue performance from January to June 2023 as indicated above is a pointer to the fact that there might be a significant improvement in revenue in the next fiscal year. However, no spending unit would be allowed to deviate from its resource envelope as it has been judiciously and realistically allocated.

10. Amid shaky foundations and challenges, the economy of Nigeria's slow recovery appears to have weakened. Without a doubt, majority of the State's inflow of revenue comes from Federation Accounts, which by implication forms the largest part of the budget size. In the light of the foregoing, this framework has adopted the most flexible assumptions using Macro-economic indicators as contained in the draft 2024-2026 Ondo State Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), stated as follows:

Table 6: Macroeconomic Framework

Revenue

MACRO-ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK			
ITEM	2024	2025	2026
NATIONAL INFLATION RATE	21.40%	20.30%	18.60%
NATIONAL REAL GDP GROWTH RATE	3.76%	4.22%	4.78%
OIL PRODUCTION BENCHMARK (MBPD)	2.000	1.670	1.580
OIL PRICE BENCHMARK	\$74.00	\$73.00	\$69.90
NGN:USD EXCHANGE RATE	774.00	665.61	669.79

Source: Budget Office, Fed. Ministry of Finance & Economic Planning

Policy Thrust and Priorities for the Year 2024 Budget

11. The policy thrust and priorities of Government in the next fiscal year is aimed at streamlining sectorial programmes and projects within the ambit of the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and to further consolidate on the gains of this administration in the last seven years as contained in the second term blueprint christened the REDEEMED agenda. The varying competing needs of different sectors would be prioritized while programmes/projects necessary to address them be properly aligned within the Medium-Term Sector Strategy (MTSS). To this end, the main objectives of Year 2024 Budget are to:

- i. invest in human capital development with renewed vigour;
- ii. rejig Independent Revenue collection for attainment of financial resilience and sustainability;

- iii. optimize resource inflow and expand fiscal space nationally and internationally;
- iv. expand the scope and reach of social safety nets and economic support programmes to the deserving citizens of the State;
- v. develop agricultural value chain and promote expansion of agricultural productivity to enhance food security;
- vi. stimulate rural economy and shared prosperity;
- vii. ensure effective transportation system for economic growth and development;
- viii. address environmental degradation occasioned by climate change;
- ix. adhere to development policy and ensure fiscal discipline; and
- x. safeguard lives and livelihood in a secure environment.

12. The above objectives are to be achieved by the deployment of the following strategies:

- i. Ensuring full automation of all forms of revenue collection and expansion of the tax net with data-driven tax administration;
- ii. Leveraging on Donor and Development Partners' Support in funding key intervention programmes;
- iii. Creating employment and jobs in Agric-Business and Enterprises;

- iv. Ensuring increase in and proper administration of funds allocated to social safety nets programmes;
- v. Providing subsidized inputs and grants/soft loans to farmers;
- vi. Establishing agro-allied cottage industries;
- vii. Consolidating on the current road and waterway infrastructural development across the State;
- viii. Prioritizing massive construction of rural amenities and community-based infrastructure;
- ix. Consolidating the on-going river path channelization and encouraging reforestation and tree planting system across the State;
- x. Setting up achievable key performance indicators for all sectors of the State and making available resources and enabling environment needed to achieve them;
- xi. Ensuring efficient Public Financial Management through timely and effective prioritization to achieve development goals;
- xii. Increasing essential support to security agencies for crime prevention and control; and
- xiii. Reduction of the State's recurrent expenditure/cost of governance to mop up fund for Capital projects.

Guidelines on Preparation and Submission of 2024 Draft Estimates

13. The following guidelines are given in line with the provision of the Fiscal Responsibility Law, (FRL 2017) that makes it compulsory for the State to prepare Medium Term Revenue Framework and Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTRF and MTEF) which is an integrated approach

to policy planning and budgeting within a multi-year framework. Its components include the Medium-Term Fiscal Framework (MTFF) and Medium-Term Sector Strategy (MTSS) which allow for revenue and expenditure projection.

14. With a view to having an effective coordination among MEDAs with cross-cutting functions, the State has increased the sectors from the initial five sectors to ten. To this end, all MEDAs, particularly those in the initial five pilot sub-sectors of Education, Health, Agriculture, Infrastructure, Public Finance and the newly constituted five sub-sectors of Information Communication and Technology, Community Development, Energy and Mineral Resources, Environment and Sewage Management, Trade and Industry are all expected to be guided by their respective MTSS documents. MEDAs outside the above pilot sectors are to study the strategic development and policy documents of this administration, the REDEEMED agenda, and distil out relevant projects and programmes to actualize the development objectives of the present administration.

15. All Accounting Officers are enjoined to note and strictly adhere to the relevant portions of Chapter 25 of the Ondo State Financial Regulation and

the Ondo State Public Financial Management Law of 2017, on the preparation of the annual Estimates, especially as regards pre-call circular activities of MEDAs.

16. In the last two years, Ondo State has been using the budget template given to her by the Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF) to ensure unity in budget preparation among the States in the nation. The State Budget portal has, therefore, been re-designed so as to align with this new Budget Template. As usual, the 2024 Budget preparation process will be conducted using the State's Budget portal **www.ondobudget.org**. To this end, Accounting Officers are to ensure all Budget Officers in their respective MEDAs are given functional laptops with internet facility to ensure seamless preparation of the 2024 Budget.

Revenue

17. Following the autonomy given to the State revenue agency by the present administration, the State Independent Revenue has improved. Notwithstanding, the contribution of Independent Revenue (IR) to total revenue is still less than 20%. Consequently, it has become inevitable for the State to look inwards to further improve this revenue source, considering the abundance of potentials that abound in the State. To this end, all MEDAs

are to note that indicative figures for revenue represent the minimum possible that can be achieved. Therefore, MEDAs should endeavour to employ full automation of all forms of revenue collection and expand the tax net with data-driven tax administration so as to exceed the limit which will further increase the State's Independent Revenue. All MEDAs are also required to prepare a revenue mobilization plan and clear same with the State Internal Revenue Service before appearing for the 2024 Pre-Treasury Board defence.

Expenditure

18. All Ministries, Extra-Ministerial Departments and Agencies (MEDAs) are to note that issues regarding Personnel, Overhead and Capital Expenditures of the Budget must be handled in line with the guidelines contained in this circular. It is pertinent to note that the Budget proposals on Personnel Costs recognize promotions, advancements, conversions and new employments (if envisaged). This should be factored in to avoid extra budgetary request in the course of implementing the Budget.

Personnel

19. Personnel proposals must be defended and cleared in line with guidelines provided by the Office of Establishments and Training to qualify for admission into the Budget. Clearance obtained from the Office must be presented at the Pre-Treasury Board defence.

Consolidated Revenue Fund Charges (CRF Charges)

20. The CRF Charges is a budget line under Salaries and Wages in the State Chart of Accounts (CoAs). It is the budget head where all consolidated salaries are supposed to be paid from. But it has been observed that provision has not been specifically made for this budget head in the last two years, but lumped with the normal salaries of public servants in the various MEDAs. The Nigerian Governors' Forum Secretariat in Abuja which monitors our Budget performance reports has requested for the separation.

21. There is, therefore, the need for the Office of Establishment & Training to note this and make adequate provision for the payment of Consolidated Salaries under CRF Charges. Office of the State Accountant General should also charge every payment of Consolidated Salaries to this head during implementation of the 2024 Budget.

Overhead

22. Government is not unaware of the rising rate of inflation in the country, which has increased the cost of maintaining or running our MEDAs. It is on the basis of this that Government has taken step to increase the Running Grant aspect of Overhead envelope. Despite the rise in cost, all Accounting Officers across all MEDAs should, within the limit of available resource envelope, make maintenance cost of government machinery and infrastructures a priority. It is, therefore, imperative for MEDAs to move away from the era of just building infrastructures without making adequate provision for the maintenance of such infrastructure.

Capital Estimates

23. The State Government has keyed-in to the National Human Capital Development Initiatives, which focuses on three thematic areas of Health and Nutrition, Education and Labour force participation. Hence, the Year 2024 Budget will accommodate new Human Capital Development (HCD) projects that would create jobs and address unemployment challenges in the State. This is to cover Education, Health Care, Youth Development (employment generation, etc.), Social Safety Net (the aged, the vulnerable, women, etc.) and Capacity Building.

24. The Budget is also designed to complete all on-going developmental projects of this administration in order to continue addressing the infrastructural deficit in our system and sustain the attendant growth rate and consequently improve the living standard of our people. Hence, all MEDAs are expected to prioritize the above objectives in their Estimates. Accounting Officers are also enjoined to ensure that the Human Capital Development (HCD) initiatives/interventions of their Ministries, Extra-Ministerial Departments and Agencies (MEDAs) are properly captured in their respective Medium Term Sector Strategy (MTSS) document as projects and programmes that are not in the MTSS will not be accommodated in the year 2024 Budget.

25. Capital Estimates must be presented in the format that will clearly state the current status of projects, especially level of completion and implementation timeline, as provided on the portal.

26. Accounting Officers are to note that there will be no room for bulk budgeting i.e bulk provision without proper breakdown of the detail of the item. For example, the description "*Implementation of 'X' program/project across the State*" is considered a lump sum. The required ideal is to provide

detail of each programme/project, location and the associated cost. See the Circular **ref. No. DB/308/161** of 31st May, 2023.

27. Similarly, all provisions such as purchase of Laptops/Desktops/Motor vehicles without further details are no more allowed. It is expected that the specification, the number (units) as well as the cost per unit of the item be explicitly stated in 2024 budget. In the same vein, furniture and fittings must be properly broken down into either chair, table, cabinets, air-conditioner, etc and must include the type/brand, the number intended to be purchased and price per unit. Also, all indicated capital projects should be in line with government priorities and should be backed up with appropriate documents, including the Bureau of Public Procurement's Benchmark prices, Bill of Quantity (BoQ), Bill of Engineering Measurement and Evaluation (BEME), etc and present same during Pre-Treasury Board meetings. Most importantly, all spending units are enjoined to ensure completion of their monthly revenue and expenditure profiles on the portal before the Pre-Treasury Board meeting.

Tertiary Institutions/Parastatals

28. It is expected that the huge investments which the government has made over the years in the parastatals and tertiary institutions across the State should now be generating revenue to ensure the sustainability of these institutions. It is, however, disappointing to note that these institutions still largely depend on the state government for all their recurrent needs despite all efforts to make them self-sustaining.

29. To this end, all parastatals and Tertiary Institutions are required to urgently prepare and submit to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget a detailed workplan on how to generate and increase their Independent Revenue to the level that will fund their entire recurrent expenditure. Similarly, a document containing the details of the revenue sources and amount expected to be generated in the next fiscal year is to be submitted to office of the Permanent Secretary.

30. Substantial amount generated by school authorities and its usage are not properly documented. So, automation of all revenues and detailed analyses of its expenditures will form a critical consideration in allocating subventions in the coming year.

Revenue Retaining Agencies (Inclusive of All Tertiary Institutions)

31. During the 2023 Budget defence at the State House of Assembly, House Committee on Finance and Appropriation mandated all Revenue Retaining Agencies (RRAs) to include IN their Year 2024 budget preparation for inclusion in the central budget so that the total Consolidated Revenues and Expenditures of the State could be viewed at a glance.

32. In order to give effect to the directive of the State's House of Assembly, all RRAs (including all State-owned tertiary institutions) are required to provide details of their expected Independent Revenue as well as the proposed disbursement of the expenditure for inclusion and capturing into the 2024 Budget.

33. It is pertinent to know that this effort will not in any way undermine or infringe upon the existing statutes that give autonomy to the RRAs for collection and management of revenue, rather it will reflect accurate record of revenue and expenditure rightly captured in the central Budget in order to give the State a good ranking among States. See the Circular **ref. No. DB/308/169** of 14th June, 2023.

Ondo Investment Summit

34. In order to achieve the State's development drive with a particular emphasis on energy, mining and sustainable industries, being one of the pillars of the REDEEMED Agenda of this Administration, the State held its second edition of Investment Summit tagged " **Ondo 2.0**". The summit was aimed at fostering economic growth, creating jobs and improving the lives of the people of Ondo State. The summit, which was held from 24th to 26th July, 2023, had both internal and external stakeholders, captains of industries, entrepreneurs and eminent players from both public and private organisations converged in Akure to explore and discover the myriads of investment opportunities and forge alliances that would facilitate the realization of an industrially driven economy. The Develop Ondo 2.0 Investment Summit is expected to attract \$2 billion investments and create 70,000 new jobs in the state. The affected Accounting Officers are to consider this while making provisions in the 2024 Budget.

Ondo State Development Plan

35. For a nation to experience progress and development, there must be a clear, strategic and sustainable trajectory, which provides the compass to guide and direct efforts and resources. It is on the basis of this that Ondo

State Government under the leadership of Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu SAN, CON, initiated the process for the delivery of a 30-year long-term Development Plan (Ondo 2054) that would guarantee sustainable growth and development through developmental governance for an improved human capital development, security, and overall prosperity to the good people of Ondo State.

36. The State Steering and Technical Committees have been constituted and inaugurated to drive the process. These committees together with other stakeholders would formulate policies that would effectively harness all state's potential and available resources and strategize on how best to allocate our common patrimony in order to bring the desired welfare to the people of the State. This would be carried out with technical support from a consulting firm and three Public Sector Management Consultants. The Plan is proposed to be built upon 4 Pillars viz.

- i. Prosperous Economy
- ii. Human Capital Development
- iii. Infrastructure & Environment
- iv. Administration

37. All Accounting Officers and Directors in all MEDAs are, therefore, enjoined to render the necessary assistance and furnish the committee with data that may be of help to achieve the laudable feat of having the State Development Plan. Besides, they could consider making necessary budgetary provisions that might be relevant to the assistance to be rendered.

Open Government Partnership (OGP) and Human Capital Development (HCD)

38. It should be noted by all Accounting Officers that Ondo State Government has joined the Open Government Partnership (OGP) which is hinged on the principles of Transparency, Accountability and Citizens' Participation in government. This is to ensure openness in the management of the economy through proper disclosure and inclusiveness leading to optimal resource utilization and reduction in corruption through citizens' participation in decision-making. To this end, MEDAs are mandated to ensure that their projects/programmes comply with the principles of OGP by engaging their stakeholders in the conceptualization and impleme of projects in 2024 Budget financial year.

Womanity Index

39. Womanity Index is based on prevailing issues affecting women and girls, such as gender-based violence, women in Agriculture, women in leadership, women's political participation, women and health, and girl-child education. Womanity Index adopts both qualitative and quantitative approaches conducted through field data collection, desk research, and expert contributions. The objectives of the Womanity Index are to:

- i. identify governments' budget allocation and spending towards preventing and responding to GBV;
- ii. assess the legal and policy frameworks in place to effectively prevent and respond to GBV at sub-national levels;
- iii. evaluate the effectiveness of GBV awareness, support systems, and access to justice mechanisms at the States level;
- iv. promote data-driven and evidence-based civic engagements, collaborative actions, and advocacy for increased budget allocations and efficient spending on programs and policies for effective GBV prevention and response; and

- v. ensure improved accountability between state governments and the public on GBV prevention and response.

40. In view of the purposes and objectives of Womanity Index as highlighted above, it is apposite for the following MEDAs: Ministries of Health, Women Affairs and Social Development, Education, Agriculture, Justice and Ondo State Agency Against Gender Based Violence to make budgetary provisions that would help the war against violence against women, girls and other vulnerable people.

Public Private Partnership (PPP)

41. Wherever expedient and feasible, MEDAs are enjoined to embrace PPP arrangement as alternative strategy in the delivery of critical projects, due to dwindling fortune of revenue accruing to the State. The underlisted are some of the various options available.

- * Concession
- * Joint Venture
- * Franchising
- * Leasing, etc.

42. Meanwhile, in the last few years, many MEDAs having projects expected to be financed by Development Partners or Donor Agencies have not been able to draw down funds despite large provisions for those projects in their budgets. The

reason for this has been lack of concretized and well-defined memorandum of understanding with the Development Partners that states the actual times to draw down. Even though, Government enjoins MEDAs to strive to look for and enter into partnership with reputable local and international Development Partners that will bring development to the State, they are advised to include the projects in their budgets only in the year(s) funds are expected to be drawn down.

43. To that extent, MEDAs are advised to liaise with the Technical Aids and Assistant Coordinating (TAAC) Department of the Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, the Ondo State Investment Promotion Agency (ONDIPA), and the Ministry of Justice for further guidance on any of these arrangements that they may be inclined to consider from the outset.

Impact Assessment of Public Expenditure

44. The primary objective of having a financial plan (Budget) for a period of time is to improve the quality of life of the populace. Therefore, there is need to periodically measure the effectiveness of government's programmes/projects. In effect, MEDAs are enjoined to clearly define their goals and objectives and identify the desired output and outcome of proposed interventions. In other words, it is mandatory for agencies to identify measurable Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in the capital Budget.

MEDAs are, therefore, urged to liaise with the Monitoring and Evaluation Department of the Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget (MEP&B) for further guidance on this.

Budget Defence Plan and Schedule

45. All Accounting Officers are to note that 2024 Budget defence would be carried out in a systematic manner in order to ensure that line MEDAs with cross-cutting projects/programmes are taken together, to forestall overlapping and double provisions in the budget. Similarly, MEDAs are to ensure that their proposals are comprehensive and reflective of the major focus and direction of government and provide justifications for the costed items in the Budget, especially when there is the need to increase their Budget ceilings. All capital budget lines must be explicitly described, stating the number of items to be purchased/constructed as well as indicating the location of the projects appropriately. A tentative Budget defence plan and schedule will in no time be in the Budget Portal for download.

Other Information

46. All enquiries concerning this Budget Call Circular should be directed to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, and marked for the attention of the Director Budget.

47. All Accounting Officers are enjoined to provide functional laptops and internet modem with data to their Budget Officers to facilitate the Budget preparation process. Realistic figures based on the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) benchmark price, Bill of Quantities (BoQs) and Bill of Engineering Measurements and Evaluation (BEME) are necessary pre-requisite for the defence of the proposals, even if the project is on-going.

48. It should be noted that the portal is automated; therefore, operators should only input figures while other manipulations would be generated automatically by the system.

49. MEDAs are required to maintain constant interaction with this ministry, Office of Establishments, Ministry of Finance, Office of the Accountant-General, ODBPP, Ondo State Internal Revenue Service (ODIRS) and the schedule officer on Budget in the House of Assembly until the 2024 Appropriation Bill is signed into Law.

50. The deadline for the submission of all Budget proposals is 26th October, 2023 after which the portal would be closed and inaccessible to MEDAs for budget entry. Budget Officers are to download the indicative envelope on the portal and present same to their Accounting Officers.

51. All MEDAs are to complete ALL entries online, on or before the set date. Moreover, MEDAs are free to print copies of what is uploaded for its defence at the Pre-Treasury Board level.

52. All relevant MEDAs must submit their contributions to the **Budget Speech** of Mr. Governor on or before Pre-Treasury Board defence. Defaulters would be prevented from participating in the defence process.

53. Thank you.


Bayo Philip
Permanent Secretary