

**REPORT OF THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING WITH STAKEHOLDERS IN THE  
FOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS IN AKOKO LAND ON THE 2023 -2025  
MEDIUM TERM EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK (MTEF) AND 2023 BUDGET  
PREPARATION HELD AT THE FSS HALL OF THE AKOKO NORTH EAST LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT, IKARE AKOKO ON MONDAY, 29TH AUGUST, 2022.**

**1.0. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 One of the good practices of Public Financial Management is openness which is duly enshrined in the Section 22, Subsection 2 (a) and (b) of the Ondo State Fiscal Responsibility Law (FRL), (2017). Heralding the yearly budget, public consultation must be made with the citizens and their representatives with a view to harvesting their contributions into the State’s MTEF. Hence, a parley with the people of Akoko North-East, Akoko North-West, Akoko South-East and Akoko South-West on the 2023-2025 MTEF and 2023 budget preparation was held at the FSS Hall of Akoko North East Local Government, Ikare Akoko on Monday, 29th August, 2023.
- 1.2. The Permanent Secretary, Mr. Bunmi Alade presided over the meeting in place of the Honourable Commissioner who was on another State assignment.

**2.0 OBJECTIVE OF THE TOWN HALL MEETING**

- 2.1 The main objectives of the meeting were as follows:
- i. to present the 2023 – 2025 MTEF which included the projections for 2023 budget;
  - ii. to harvest inputs of the people of Akoko North-East, Akoko North-West, Akoko South-East and Akoko South-West or their representatives in order to include them in the 2023 budget.

**3.0 PARTICIPANTS**

- 3.1 The meeting had in attendance the Permanent Secretary, Ondo State Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, Mr. Bunmi Alade, Director Budget, Mr. Aworere Stephen, Director Technical Assistance & Aid Coordination, Mr. Adebusey Monday, Director Monitoring and Evaluation, Alhaji Adekunle L. A, Deputy Director,

PASS, Mrs. Ayeni, R. K., Deputy Director Budget, Mr. E. O. Apata and a host of other members of staff of the Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget.

- 3.2 Also, present at the meeting are the members of the Organized Private Sector, Representatives of different Professional bodies, and Representatives of different Trade Associations.

#### **4.0 OPENING REMARKS**

- 4.1 The Permanent Secretary, Ondo State Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, was represented by the Director Technical and Aids Coordination, Mr. M. O. Adebusoye to welcome the participants to the all-important occasion. He remarked that the consultative meeting as organized annually has won for the State awards of being the best in budget preparation in the country. He assured that their desires and yearnings would be included in the State Budget for the fiscal year 2023 as usual but their request should be made in light of the information about the coming year, as it shall be presented in the meeting. Concluding his remarks, he enjoined all stakeholders to contribute meaningfully to the discussion of the meeting so as to have a robust, people-oriented budget.

#### **5.0 KEYNOTE ADDRESS/SCORECARD PRESENTATION**

- 5.1 Giving his keynote address, on behalf of the Executive Governor of the State, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu, *SAW*, the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Bunmi Alade who represented the Honourable Commissioner for Economic Planning and Budget, Pastor Emmanuel Igbasan, enthusiastically welcomed all the participants to the auspicious occasion.

- 5.2 He commended Arakunrin for the life-impacting projects embarked upon since the inception of this administration. He made mentioned that the State was pronounced the best State in Budget Preparation by the National Economic Council for the year 2021. Other advantages of the meetings that were mentioned to include positioning the people to maximize the benefits of Government's programmes and projects. He further stated that, in line with global best practices, the State had taken a radical, bottom-up approach to budgeting process and that the engagement was necessary to foster relationship between the Government and the people and for the people to take ownership of the process.
- 5.3 Commenting on the issues raised at the last year's town hall meeting by the Organised Private Sector, Trade Associations and Professional Bodies that fund allocated to Trade and Industry Sector vis-à-vis Government's plan for industrial development was low, he remarked that Government had reverted the position of the Ministry of Commerce, Industries and Cooperative Societies from the then Agency position. Some other government achievements were reported to the people with pictorial evidences.
- 5.4 While concluding his address, he enjoined the participants to speak dispassionately and make insightful contributions, as their aspirations, desires, requests and feedbacks would be presented to Mr. Governor.

## **6.0. BUSINESS OF THE DAY**

### **6.1.0 PRESENTATION ON 2023 – 2025 MEDIUM TERM EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK (MTEF)**

- 6.1.1 In his presentation, the Director Budget, Mr. Aworere S. R. highlighted negative impacts of insecurity, rising inflation in Nigeria, non-functionality of the nation's

refineries which leads to high fuel prices, the Russia/Ukraine war with its negative implications on food and energy prices, and inability of the State's Internally Generated Revenue to finance government running expenses as critical factors that informed the 2023 budget figures.

6.1.2. While giving an overview of the 2022 budget performance, Pastor Aworere explained both the recurrent and capital budget implementation performance as at June 2022. He stated that total revenue expected for the Mid-Year 2022 was N99.641 billion while the total revenue received for the period was N78.014 billion, recording a shortfall of about 22%.

6.1.3. On the expenditure side, he explained that about 56.86% of the N99.64 billion was expended on recurrent expenditure while the remaining 43.14% was spent on capital projects.

6.1.4. Speaking on the 2023 - 2025 MTEF, the Director Budget briefed the meeting that, in 2023, the National Inflation forecast to be 17.16%, Real GDP to have a growth rate of 3.75%, Oil Production Benchmark is projected to be 1.6900 mbpd and the Oil Price benchmark of \$70.00. The State is proposed to have a total N116.893 billion for recurrent revenue and a total budget size of N151.523 billion for year 2023. He mentioned that the transfer to the capital account is having a negative figure of N13.474 billion meaning that the total revenue expected in the year 2023 is N13.474 billion less than the budgeted recurrent expenditure of N151.523 billion.

6.1.5. The table below shows the details of the sectoral capital allocation.

## 2023-2025 SECTORAL CAPITAL ALLOCATION

Capital Expenditure by Sector		Non-Discretionary Funds		
No.	Sector	2023 Allocation	2024 Allocation	2025 Allocation
1	ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE	0	0	0
2	AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT	10,224,300,000	5,714,300,000	2,214,300,000
3	EDUCATION	1,695,000,000	1,695,000,000	1,695,000,000
4	ENVIRONMENT AND SEWAGE MANAGEMENT	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000
5	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	0	0	0
6	HEALTH	1,800,000,000	1,900,000,000	2,000,000,000
7	INFORMATION	0	0	0
8	INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT	17,360,400,000	13,115,400,000	9,755,400,000
9	LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION	0	0	0
10	PUBLIC FINANCE	240,000,000	252,000,000	264,600,000
11	REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT	7,399,808,939	8,213,787,923	8,788,753,077
12	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	0	0	0
13	TRADE AND INDUSTRY	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>39,719,508,939</b>	<b>31,890,487,923</b>	<b>25,718,053,077</b>

6.1.6. Mr. Aworere explained that the sectoral capital expenditure was divided into two: Discretionary Funds and Non-Discretionary Funds. N39.720 billion for non-discretionary fund which the State does not have outright control over. Concluding his presentation on the 2023 – 2025 MTEF, he stressed that the State needs more revenue in order to continue to prioritise the needs of the people of Ondo State.

6.1.7. Commenting on the fundamentals of the 2023-2025 MTEF, the Honourable Commissioner, Pastor Igbasan, reiterated that Nigeria was affected by the impacts of the global economic shocks occasioned by the measures put in place to curb the spread of COVID-19. He explained that Nigerian economy was not the only one witnessing a rise in inflation which was put at 19.6% by the National Bureau of Statistics, he affirmed that Europe had witness inflation rate risen to 10.2% for the first time in 40 years.

## **7.0 OBSERVATIONS/COMMENTS/REACTIONS FROM STAKEHOLDERS**

7.1 In reactions to the presentations, the participants appreciated the effort of the State Government for organizing the consultative meeting as a platform for them to air their views. They also applauded Mr. Governor for granting many of their requests presented at the last year's town hall meeting and prayed that their requests at this year's meeting be included in the 2023 budget. While the Permanent Secretary exhaustively addressed most of their comments and reactions, the followings were noted:

- i. Mr. Governor was commended for his laudable projects in the state despite the paucity of fund;
- ii. People of the state were implored to emulate developed countries and pay taxes to compliment government effort to execute more projects;
- iii. There was no proper coordination of people who could assist in community development in the State;
- iv. The remaining portion of the road that leads to Arigidi town needed to be completed;
- v. Awara Dam has not been put to use for provision of potable water;
- vi. Epileptic power supply deters investors to Akokoland;
- vii. There was no meaningful development in Local government Areas of the State;
- viii. The tax environment was not friendly enough which made the tax nets too narrow;
- ix. More road networks are needed in Akungba Township;
- x. The ICT center at Akungba was not still in use;

- xi. Irun Akoko roads need construction to avert economic or resources diversion to neighboring Ekiti town;
- xii. There were faulty boreholes at Irun communities,
- xiii. Ikonmu-Agba-Ojomirin road and Ibaka –Afo-Simerin road in Oka township were in deplorable state;
- xiv. Ikare –Ajowa road needed urgent attention;
- xv. Salary arrears and percentage payment of salary hinders economic progress;
- xvi. Local government has not been given full autonomy;
- xvii. There is no safe drinkable water in Iboropa community because faulty Borehole in the community;
- xviii. Ugbe –Iboropa-Ise-Akunu road was in bad state and needed to be rehabilitated;
- xix. Indigenes of the state who are rich were not partnering with the state government to provide amenities in their various communities;
- xx. Traditional Rulers need to be empowered to beef up security in their domain;
- xxi. Alpha 3D and other moribund industries in Akoko need to be resuscitated;
- xxii. Market women in the state need Credit windows with less stringent conditions;
- xxiii. Market women were not benefiting from Ondo- CARES Credits facilities;
- xxiv. Akoko North-West local Government did not benefit much from the state government projects;
- xxv. Insufficient funding to Local government had incapacitated the third tiers of government;
- xxvi. The problem of youth unemployment is getting worse;

- xxvii. Akoko South-East people were not benefiting enough from the projects executed by the state government;
- xxviii. Publicity of the State programs for the Youth was not reaching the youth;
- xxix. Local Governments were not allowed to generate revenue for them to carry out developmental projects;
- xxx. Health Centre at Dauda village has no Health workers and the health facility was under lock and key;
- xxxi. Rural road to Dauda village in deplorable condition and required government intervention; and
- xxxii. Borehole in Dauda village needed to be rehabilitated to provide safe drinkable water in the village.

## **8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 The followings were the recommendations:

- i. Mr. Governor was commended for his laudable projects in the state despite the paucity of fund;
- ii. People of the state were implored to emulate developed countries and pay taxes to compliment government effort to execute more projects;
- iii. Private Organizations and People with High Net-Worth should collaborate with the State Government to foster rapid community development;
- iv. Government should complete remaining portion of the road to Arigidi town
- v. State government to reticulate the Awara Dam to supply potable water to people in Akokoland;
- vi. Government needs to intervene and resolve the epileptic power supply to Akokoland;



- vii. Local Government should be granted autonomy and be freed to make budgetary provisions for projects;
- viii. Government should create tax friendly environment for people to be willing to pay tax in the state and expand the tax nets;
- ix. Akungba Akoko town is expanding, government should increase the number of roads constructed in the town;
- x. The ICT center at Akungba be resuscitated and made functional  
Government to construct and rehabilitate the rural roads in Irun Akoko to avert economic or resources diversion to the neighboring Ekiti towns;
- xi. Government should rehabilitate faulty boreholes in Irun communities, and replicate Kamomi-Aketi in the area;
- xii. Government should rehabilitate Ikonmu-Agba-Ojomirin road, Ibaka –Afo-Simerin road and Ikare –Ajowa road which are in deplorable state.
- xiii. Government should pay all outstanding workers salary and prioritize payment of salary;
- xiv. The Borehole at Iboropa community should be rehabilitated to provide safe drinkable water;
- xv. Government should rehabilitate Ugbe–Iboropa-Ise-Akunu road was in bad state;
- xvi. Local Government Chairmen in the zones resides in Akure and were not accessible to the people;
- xvii. Traditional Rulers should be empowered to beef up security in their domain;
- xviii. Alpha 3D and other moribund industries in Akokoland should be resuscitated;

- xix. Credit windows with less stringent conditions should be given to market women in the state;
- xx. Market women to should be given special opportunity to benefits from Ondo- CARES Credits;
- xxi. Government should register its presence in Akoko North-West local Government with basic amenities;
- xxii. Local governments in ability to generate funds to execute projects had incapacitated the third tiers of government;
- xxiii. Government should recruit more youths to reduce the problem of unemployment;
- xxiv. Government to increase its projects in Akoko South-East;
- xxv. Government Programmes and Policies should be well Publicized for the youth to benefit;
- xxvi. Local Government should be allowed to generate revenue for them to carry out developmental projects;
- xxvii. Government should deploy Health worker to the Health Center in Dauda village close to Irun;
- xxviii. Government should rehabilitate the rural road in Dauda village; and
- xxix. Government should rehabilitate the Borehole in Dauda village.

**9.0. CONCLUSION**

9.1. The Honourable Commissioner appreciated the participants for their contributions, comments and suggestions at the meeting. He promised them that the State Government under the leadership of Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN, would continue to hold trust for the people, service them and give them their desired expectations.

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