

THE REPORT OF THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING BETWEEN MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING AND BUDGET AND THE PEOPLE OF AKURE-SOUTH, AKURE-NORTH, IDANRE AND IFEDORE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS OF ONDO STATE ON 2023-2025 MTEF AND PREPARATION OF 2023 BUDGET HELD AT THE SITA MULTIPURPOSE HALL ON THURSDAY, 22ND SEPTEMBER, 2022.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1. In line with the Section 22, Subsection 2 (a) and (b) of the Ondo State Fiscal Responsibility Law (FRL), (2017) which stipulates that the people of the State must be consulted to harvest their inputs into the State's MTEF which ultimately leads to the yearly budget; a parley with the people of central senatorial districts comprises of Akure-South, Akure-North, Idanre and Ifedore Local government areas on the 2023-2025 MTEF and 2023 budget preparation held at State Information Technology Akure hall's on Thursday, 22nd September, 2022. The meeting was presided over by Pastor Emmanuel Igbasan, who is the Commissioner for Economic Planning and Budget in the State.

2.0. OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

2.1. The main objectives of the meeting were as follows:

- i. to project for scrutiny, the figures for the 2023–2025 MTEF which included the estimates for 2023 budget;
- ii. to harvest inputs of the people of Akure-South, Akure-North, Idanre and Ifedore local government areas in order to include their inputs in the 2023 budget.

3.0. PARTICIPANTS

- 3.1. Ondo State officials at the meeting were the Honourable State Commissioner for Economic Planning and Budget Pastor Emmanuel Igbasan, The Permanent Secretary, of the Ministry, Mr. Bunmi Alade, Director Development Planning, Mr. B. J. Daisy, Director Budget, Mr. Stephen Aworere, Director Monitoring and Evaluation, Alhaji Adekunle, Director Finance and Administration, Director Account, 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 Traditional rulers, Chairmen Local Government, Head of Local Government Administration, Budget Officers, Representatives of artisans, Farmers, Youths, Students, and women groups.
- 3.3. The members of the Sector Planning Teams (SPTs) for the preparation of the 2023–2025 Medium-Term Sector Strategy (MTSS) were seated to observe and note the contributions of the people of Akure-South, Akure-North, Idanre and Ifedore local government areas of the State.

4.0. OPENING REMARK

- 4.1. The Director Development Planning Ondo State Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, Mr. B. J. Daisy, welcomed the participants to the meeting. He remarked that the consultative meeting was organized to harvest the needs, desires and yearnings of the people as inputs into the year 2023 budget.

- 4.2. He appreciated the contributions of the people of Akure-South, Akure-North, Idanre and Ifedore local government areas on development of Ondo State, especially, in the areas of preparation and implementation of state annual budget which fetched the state the first position in budget transparency among the 36 states of the country.
- 4.3. He restated that the meeting sought to examine the projections of the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework and brainstorm on how to generate adequate funds for the implementation of the 2023 budget. Government activities, according to the Director Development Planning, were to be appraised for better performance.
- 4.4. 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

- 5.1. Giving his keynote address, the Honorable State Commissioner for Economic Planning and Budget, Pastor Emmanuel Igbasan, on behalf of the Executive Governor of the State, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu, *SAN*, enthusiastically welcomed all the participants to the auspicious occasion. While acknowledging the presence of the People of Akure-South, Akure-North, Idanre and Ifedore Local Government, he alluded to the fact that their constructive criticisms and contributions to the activities of the Ministry have enable the State to rank high in budget preparation and performance in the country.
- 5.2. Pastor Emmanuel Igbasan noted that the State has been organizing this type of forum since 2018, and that it might be tempting to see it as an ordinary routine,

he appealed to the consciousness of the gathering to pay attention to the peculiarity of each year as each year is significantly different in challenges and opportunities.

- 5.3. He mentioned that the policy thrust for AKETI's second term in office is captioned in the acronym "REDEEMED" which he said has been policy platform to deliver the campaign promises of the present government to the good people of Ondo State.
- 5.4. 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.
- 5.5. 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 to see how many of those desires would be accommodated in the 2023 budget.

6.0. BUSINESS OF THE DAY

6.1.0. PRESENTATION ON OVERVIEW OF 2023–2025 MEDIUM TERM

EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK (MTEF) AND PREPARATION OF 2023

BUDGET

- 6.1.1. In his presentation, the Director Budget, Mr. S. R Aworere highlighted negative impacts of insecurity in Ondo State, rising inflation in Nigeria, non-functionality of the nation's refineries which had led 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 its running expenses as critical factors that informed the 2023 budget figures.

6.1.2. While giving an overview of the 2022 budget performance, Mr 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 ₦99.641 billion while the actual total revenue received for the period was ₦78.014 billion, recording a shortfall of about 22%.

6.1.3. On the expenditure side, he explained that about 56.86% of the ₦99.64 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 ₦116.893 billion for recurrent revenue and a total budget size of ₦151.523 billion for year 2023. He mentioned that the transfer to the capital account is having a negative figure of ₦13.474 billion meaning that the total revenue expected in the year 2023 is ₦13.474 billion less than the budgeted recurrent expenditure of ₦151.523 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
	Total	39,719,508,939	31,890,487,923	25,718,053,077

6.1.6. Mr. Aworere explained that the sectoral capital expenditure was divided into two: Discretionary Funds and Non-Discretionary Funds. ₦39.720 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 Macro-economic fundamentals of the 2023-2025 MTEF and preparation of 2023 budget, the Honourable Commissioner, Pastor Emmanuel 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 presentation, the participants appreciated the effort of the State Government for organizing the consultative meeting as a platform for them to air their views and make their requests with a view to including them in the 2023 budget. They, however, commented/reacted as follows:

- i. The Iralepo of Isinkan Akure observed with dismay the wide gap between the government and the governed and that sustaining this consultative meeting will reduce the unhealthy Gap;
- ii. Government activities/ program for the people often time are illusive, and should be given wide publicity for the targeted indigene;
- iii. The traditional ruler inquired what the government planned was on the welfare of non-civil servant to improve their living condition;
- iv. The representative of Akapinsa of Ipinsa charged the local government the tier of government that is the closet to the people to replicate the consultative meeting at their levels;
- v. Chief Adeyemi the representative of the traditional ruler of Igbara-Oke observed that the state government does not care about the financial empowerment of the Artisan in the state;
- vi. The Alotosin of Atosin observed that the state government focus less on revenue generation little wonder there are revenue leakages;
- vii. The traditional ruler observed that the tourism centers in the state was not developed nor given attention as sources of revenue generation

- viii. He suggested timely payment of worker's salary as a way to reflate the economy of the state;
- ix. Government to stop wasteful spending and block all revenue leakages to have more resources to grow and develop the economy;
- x. He complained of non-payment of the 5% rebate recommended by the constitution for the traditional rulers;
- xi. He also observed that remittances are not being paid based on the agreement to run Idanre hill tourist attraction center
- xii. The traditional ruler as well observed the neglecting of Idanre Golf club field which ought to be upgraded;
- xiii. Suggested the review of Cocoa grading fee in such a manner that location where the produce is derived should have share of revenue being realized through grading;
- xiv. Alara of Ilaramokin suggested that they should be given enough notice ahead before future consultative meeting;
- xv. The traditional ruler also suggested that state should undergo a pair visit to Lagos to understudy the wonder behind their revenue generation exploit;
- xvi. Suggested that all people oriented financial empowerment programmes by the state government should be given wider publicity;
- xvii. He also suggested the development of agricultural value chain in such a way that it can increase revenue inflow to the state;

- xviii. Chief Elemo the representative of Oloba of Oba-Ile saddled the state government on construction feeder roads as a way to grow the state economy and generate revenue internally;
- xix. He also suggested that the state government should organize forum that could give room for wider citizen participation to make future engagement more robust;
- xx. Akure South Local Government Chairman complained that the layout of most land is not within their reach as a result made it difficult for them to know the road under their purview;
- xxi. The regent of Oda town Margaret Yinka Akosile lamented the deplorable condition of road in Oda communities in spite of the economic prospect of the area;
- xxii. She also appealed to the state government to give the on- going Akure-Oda road quick/timely completion;
- xxiii. Contractor given contracts in the state should be encouraged to patronize local artisan rather importing them to avoid capital and empower indigenous tradesmen and grow the state economy thereby;
- xxiv. Iyaloja general Commended Mr Governor in the empowerment of women and at the same time pleaded for more credit window be made available them;
- xxv. Credit facilities to farmers in the state should come with less stringent conditions and not to be diverted;

- xxvi. The state government was admonished to monitor Cocoa grading in the state to avert evasion of the grading of the produce by some merchants and their unscrupulous collaborators;
- xxvii. One of the councilor from Akure South local government implored the state government to consider the economic prospects from Aponmu and construct Aponmu road;
- xxviii. The councilor also lamented the suffering of the people living around Sebi-Ireakari road and called the state government to help alleviate the people travail of the inhabitant of the area by constructing this road;

8.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1. The followings were the recommendations:

- i. Projects executed should be evenly distributed amidst local government areas in the zone;
- ii. Government to prioritize rural access roads for economic activities and improvement in the life of the people;
- iii. Safe drinkable water for the people of Ondo East Local government area;
- iv. Electricity supply for the people of Ondo East local government area communities;
- v. government to complete Fagbo road construction work in Ondo East local government area;
- vi. government to construct road and provide other social amenities for Igbado community;
- vii. that government to urgently rehabilitate the road after depot Ore which was in

- a deplorable state;
- viii. State government to urgently rehabilitate Ore market road in bad state to avert danger that could claim human life;
 - ix. Credit window for Odigbo market women through Micro credit loan allow them benefit from Ondo- CARES program;
 - x. State government to approve a market for Okeigbo people as requested;
 - xi. Government to approve borehole for Okeigbo communities so that can have access to safe drinkable water;
 - xii. State government to construct roads within Okeigbo town and environs;
 - xiii. Ascertain issues on the anticipated international market that some groups promised Ile-Oluji sometimes ago had not come to light;
 - xiv. Credit empowerment through Micro-Credit loan for Okeigbo women;
 - xv. That the State government should renovate Ile-Oluji market for to enhance smooth economic activities in the town;
 - xvi. Subvention for orphanages home operator to encourage the Non-governmental organization to continue with their good;
 - xvii. State government to give subvention to NGO that caters for women at the grassroots;
 - xviii. Posting of teachers to schools in Ile-Oluji;
 - xix. Provision of mechanized farming tools and inputs for farmers in Ile-Oluji/Okeigbo;
 - xx. Construction of roads and bridges to make for ease of transportation of goods and people;

- xxi Provision of transformer that would stabilize transmission of electricity in major areas in Ileoluji/Okeigbo;
- xxii Construction of more roads at Ondo West Local Government that would aid transportation of goods and people;
- xxiii Rehabilitation of Asewele road in Odigbo Local Government; and
- xxiv Proper funding and timely release of funds to Local Governments that would enhance the delivery of benefits of good governance to the people.
- Xxv State government should render more assistance her Local government on road construction.

9.0 CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The Permanent Secretary 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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