

THE REPORT OF THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING BETWEEN MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING & BUDGET AND THE PEOPLE OF ONDO-WEST, ONDO-EAST, ILE-OLUJI/OKEIGBO AND ODIGBO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS OF ONDO STATE ON 2023-2025 MTEF AND 2023 BUDGET PREPARATION HELD AT OWO LOCAL GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT OWO ON THURSDAY, 1st 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 Ondo-West, Ondo-East, Ile-Oluji / Okeigbo and Odigbo Local government areas on the 2023-2025 MTEF and 2023 budget preparation was held at Ondo-West local government secretariat on THURSDAY, 1st September, 2022. The meeting was presided over by M, 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 Ondo-West, and Ondo-East, Ile-Oluji/Okeigbo and Odigbo 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 Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, Mr. Bunmi Alade, Director Development Planning, Mr. B. J. Daisy, Director Budget, Mr. Stephen Aworere, Director Technical Assistance & Aid Coordination, Mr. Adebusey Monday, 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 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 Ondo-West, and Ondo-East, Ile-Oluji/Okeigbo and Odigbo local government areas local government.

4.0. OPENING REMARK

4.1. The Director Budget Ondo State Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, Mr. Stephen Aworere, 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 Ondo-West, and Ondo-East, Ile-Oluji/Okeigbo and Odigbo 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 Budget, 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 Permanent Secretary for Economic Planning and Budget, Mr Bunmi Alade representing the Honourable Commissioner, 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 Ondo-West, and Ondo-East, Ile-Oluji/Okeigbo and Odigbo 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. Mr Bunmi Alade 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 ₦99.641billion 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 Permanent Secretary, Mr Bunmi Alade, 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. People observed that projects executed were unevenly distributed amidst local government areas in the zone;
- ii. Government was implored to prioritize rural access roads for economic activities and improvement in the life of the people;
- iii. People of Ondo East Local government area requested for safe drinkable water for the indigenous communities;
- iv. The people of Ondo East local government want the state government to supply electricity; in the area
- v. State government to complete Fagbo road construction work in Ondo East local government area;
- vi. Igbado community requested for roads and other social amenities;
- vii. Road after depot at Ore was in deplorable state and needed to be urgently rehabilitated;
- viii. Ore market road in bad state required quick intervention to avert danger that could claim human life;

- ix. Odigbo market women requested that credit window from the state government through Micro credit be extended to them, they as well solicited to benefit from the Ondo- CARES program;
- x. Okeigbo people requested for a market;
- xi. Okeigbo requested for borehole to access safe drinkable water;
- xii. Prayed that more roads be constructed at Okeigbo town and environs
- xiii. The international market that some groups promised Ile–Oluji sometimes ago had not come to light;
- xiv. Okeigbo women begs for more Micro-Credit loan for empowerment;
- xv. Ile-Oluji market should be renovated;
- xvi. Orphanages home operator seek government supports;
- xvii. NGOs seek subvention from the government to cater for women at the grassroots;
- xviii. Ile-Oluji schools needed more teachers;
- xix. Farmers in Ile-Oluji to be upgraded from subsistence farming to mechanized scale;
- xx. Bridge at Baptize ile-Oluji and others to be constructed;
- xxi. Electrification project and need of transformer at Ile-Oluji;
- xxii. More road to be constructed at Ondo West local government;
- xxiii. Asewele road in Odigbo local government to be rehabilitated;
- xxiv. Low funding had Incapacitated local government administration in the state;
- xxv. Chairperson of Odigbo local government implored the people to pray for Mr Gov if they want more projects in their respective area; and

xxvi. Chairperson odigbo local government pleaded that the state government should render more assistance her Local government on road construction.

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 Chairperson odigbo local government pleaded that the state government should render more assistance her Local government on road construction.

10.0. CONCLUSION

10.1. The Permanent Secretary thanked the participants and appreciated them for their contributions, comments and suggestions at the meeting. He said the meeting had been a success going by the participants' constructive criticism of Government's activities. He, therefore, emphasized that the State Government under the leadership of Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN, who was passionate for the development of the State, would continue to hold trust for the people, service them and give them their desired expectations.


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