

Interventions Outweigh Budgetary Allocations in Education — President Buhari

President Muhammadu Buhari has revealed that government investment in the education sector through various interventions far outweighed budgetary allocations.

In the Visitor's speech at the combined Convocation Ceremony of Federal University Otuoke, he said that the criticism of inadequate funding of the sector based on percentage of national budget allocated to the sector was unjustified.

The President who was represented by National Universities Commission's Deputy Executive Secretary, Academics, Dr. Suleiman Ramon-Yusuf, clarified that government had various investments and intervention programmes outside budgetary allocations as part of commitment towards development of education especially at tertiary level.

He cited the massive interventions by Tertiary Education Trust Fund

He further stated that another notable investment intervention by government was the



President Muhammadu Buhari
Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria

(TETFund), as extra-budgetary noting that the impact of its interventions in Universities, Colleges of Education and Polytechnics could not be denied even by harshest critics of government.

establishment of nine Centres of Excellence by Central Bank of Nigeria in federal universities, two of which were personally commissioned by the President at University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN) on 24th January and

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Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria on 22nd August, 2019.

He said, “I must not fail to mention one of our initiatives in tertiary education subsector aimed at solving the problem of inadequate power supply in our institutions of higher learning—the Energising Education Programme (EEP), an initiative of my administration under the Rural Electrification Agency,” he added.

The project he said, was aimed at providing “89.6 megawatts off-grid power that is reliable and sustainable to 37 federal universities and seven teaching hospitals across the country. We are currently executing phase one of the project designed to cut across nine federal universities and one teaching hospital and would benefit 127, 000 students, 28, 000 staff of universities, 4, 700 staff of teaching hospitals as well as power 2, 850 streets”.

President Buhari also said that government had already commissioned two of the EEP projects, the first of which was at Alex Ekwueme Federal University, Ndufu-Alike Ikwo (AE-FUNAI). The second, a 7.1 megawatts solar hybrid project at Bayero University, Kano (BUK), was commissioned 3rd September, 2019.

He added that the BUK project was the largest in Africa and would provide stable power

supply to the university, improve its efficiency and productivity to enable 24 hour functionality of research and technology laboratories in the university.

Speaking on the tripartite mandates of universities: teaching, research and

knowledgeable and competent graduates who could contribute meaningfully to national development and global competitiveness.

He advised that “Research activities should be focused on solving real national problems



Dr. Suleiman Ramon Yusuf
Representative of the Visitor

community service as globally acknowledged, he said that it was high time Nigerian universities took steps to establish and demonstrate stronger and more direct nexus between the tripartite mandates and national development.

He harped on the need for universities to continue to demonstrate more clearly their relevance to national development, stressing that teaching and learning must culminate in the production of

and lead to patents, new processes and production of goods and services all resulting in significant improvement in material condition of average Nigerian and enhancing knowledge economy index of Nigeria with tangible outcomes in terms of global competitiveness. In this regard, government is poised to promote such collaboration through policy interventions among other strategies”.

The President, highlighted that curricula was key in teaching and



learning for imparting relevant competencies and knowledge, saying that government was aware of the ongoing efforts of National Universities Commission, in collaboration with critical stakeholders in undertaking comprehensive review of the Benchmark Minimum Academic Standards (BMAS) to reform the curricula in all academic disciplines in Nigerian University System.

He hoped that the team work would ensure that graduates of

of new academic programmes and continue to make deliberate efforts towards intensifying staff capacity building to ensure they were at the frontier of knowledge and had contemporary digital and pedagogical skills of the 21st century.

He charged that the new curricula must proffer solutions to bridge the real and perceived skills and knowledge gaps between labour market expectations and graduates' capabilities.

He further called on FU Otuoke

On the mandate of rendering community service, he said that government expected universities to intensify engagements with their immediate communities so as to identify and resolve some of the critical challenges militating against sustainable human development.

While attributing unstable power as one of the impediments to attainment of optimum research capabilities in universities, he said, "Let me assure you of my administration's unwavering commitment to continuous



Cross section of dignitaries at the event

Nigerian universities acquired the requisite knowledge, skills and attitudes relevant for national development and global competitiveness in the present knowledge economy.

The President tasked universities to evolve innovative strategies for curricula development, evolution

and other federal universities particularly those in the same generation with FUOtuoke to identify specific areas of research focus to emerge as Centres of Excellence.

The President noted that being a new university could be of great advantage and therefore should be able to learn from the mistakes of older ones.

improvement in the quantum of funds available to our universities especially for the promotion of research and innovation as well as infrastructural development, to bolster the impact which the universities can make for sustainable economic development and prosperity".



The Visitor, also urged universities to do a lot more with the available funds, given the economic realities confronting the nation, calling for innovative and transparent management practices in the system. He stressed that funding was not just about quantum of funds disbursed to universities, but also included judicious management of available funds to ensure that more was achieved.

He enjoined Vice-Chancellors as public officers charged with responsibilities of managing universities, to be accountable as they were expected to imbibe the spirit of prudence, value for money, probity, transparency as some of the major considerations in utilisation of public funds in the ivory tower.

The President reiterated that there was absolutely no room for corrupt practices and government would continue to apply sanctions on anyone proven to be culpable.

In her address, the Pro-Chancellor, Senator Gbemisola Ruqayyah Saraki, reminded the graduands of their roles as nation builders and that society expected them to bring positive changes in human development. She said as graduates in the early part of the century plagued by enormous challenges, especially on ethics and values they should also see it as a period of great opportunities created by those challenges.

Charging the graduands further, she said, "You are the ones who

will bring solutions to environmental concerns, global warming, conservation of natural resources and development of alternative energy sources, the issues that my generation is only now identifying. You are also the ones that will bring solutions to societal inadequacies, being the true keepers of your brothers and sisters and finding ways of redistributing wealth by ensuring no man was left by the wayside.

She enjoined the graduands to make positive impact with the advancement in technology, stating that the advent of digital technology had taken the society to new dimension.

She, however, advised that Nigerian youths must recognise and be wary of the negative side of all those technological advances especially the social media and the hatred, mistrust and disunity they created.

In his speech, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Seth Accra Jaja informed that during the combined convocation ceremony of the three sets, 72 students graduated with First class, 462 Second class upper, 503 Second class lower and 84 Third class degrees out of a total number of 1, 121 graduands. Explaining that the ceremony marked the admission of the graduands into what the university tagged as the Entrepreneurial New World Order. He urged the graduands to be innovative in their respective endeavours while pursuing various entrepreneurial opportunities.

Prof. Jaja informed that between 2011/2012 and 2015/2016 academic sessions, the university ran only 12 academic programmes, which he said limited the number of students admitted into the university.

He said that on his assumption of office in 2016, the first major challenge was how to bridge the gap and respite came when NUC, after due resource verification exercise, graciously approved 16 additional programmes bringing the total to 28. This, he said, had helped to minimise the challenge of meeting the university's granting admission to deserving Nigerian youths especially those from the catchment areas.

The Vice Chancellor, announced that the programmes that were not having full accreditation status before his assumption of duty presently had full accreditation.

On the state of facilities, Professor Accra Jaja reported that the federal government had approved the construction of some state-of-the-art lecture theatres, laboratories and offices in the 2018 budget to further enhance quality of teaching and learning in the university, adding that the projects had been executed according to plan.

It would be recalled that FUOtuoke was one of the 12 federal universities established between 2012 and 2013.



Prof. Rasheed Parleys Wesley University On Governance

The Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission (NUC) Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed Mni, MFR, FNALlast week parleyed with the Prelate of Methodist Church of Nigeria (MCN) His Eminence Samuel C. Kanuuche on the circumstances that led to the delay in salary payments as well as other sundry governance issues in Wesley University, Ondo.

Welcoming the Prelate and his team, the Executive Secretary appreciated the proprietor, BOT, Council and management of the University for accepting to come with that large number to discuss on strategies to overcome the challenges facing the university.

He said the purpose of the meeting was to draw the attention of the University's Proprietor and Council on some complaints received and preliminary reports returned on the University.

Prof. Rasheed expressed worry that the foundation on which the

University was founded was adjudged to be noble and credible reiterating that he has a deep regard and respect for that

business venture rather it must be recognised as a social services which could yield some financial dividend in the long



ES, NUC, Prof. Abubakar A. Rasheed (middle); fmr. DES, NUC, Prof. Chiedu Mafiana (1st right) and Prelate, His Eminence Samuel C. Kanuuche

institution and His Eminence. He said most of the Private Universities in Nigeria were faith-based and bemoaned why the church could afford to turn its back on the issues bedevilling the university while other similar institutions were thriving.

The NUC scribe told the delegation that University education must not be seen as a

run adding that "anything valuable must be valued in order to have an excellent harvest."

He advised the Wesley University Council to return to the drawing board and put in place a sustainable action plan for the revitalization or rationalisation of the University.

He pledged to work with the University closely to guide it on



any area the University may require NUC's intervention, stressing that NUC had never been an undertaker but a doctor for healthy development of Universities in Nigeria.

In his remark, the Chairman, Board of Trustees of the University, Demola Adekomo stated that the Methodist

produced men and women who have contributed and are still contributing in all spheres of human endeavours.

He said that in order to address the challenges, the church had taken decisive steps by appointing a new Vice-Chancellor who had been very active in resolving and trying to

Secretary for his frankness and concern on what the university considered as part of the process of development.

He said the challenge facing the university accumulated over a period of time and efforts were being instituted to tackle them decisively.



The parley in session

Church was well placed and had been at the forefront of spiritual and social transformation.

He said that it had invested in medical-health services and socioeconomic welfare of the people and that the church had established many schools which

bring back the university on sound footing.

He promised to return to NUC next year to explain the progress made by the university.

In his comment, the Prelate, His Eminence, Samuel C. Kanu Uche thanked the Executive

The prelate pledged to accelerate efforts by reviewing their earlier plan to conclude the issues by 2021 which came as a result of a 5 year grace given to it more than two years ago by the Commission's past administration.



In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Wesley University, Professor Sunday Ukachukwu, attested that the Proprietor had constituted a formidable BoT with business guru as Chairman and great thinkers as members as well as reconstitution of Governing Council with astute administrators and erudite academics as members.

Chancellor and other Principal Officers were appointed including streamlining and regulating operations of the university, the management and activities.

In addition, the Council regulated and updated issues on staff appointments, promotions and general welfare. It also updated the debt profile and

the reputation of the University amongst the host community and nationwide. There was a high indication of promising enrolment return, good governance and observance of university culture and reasonable reduction in the debt profile of the university.

Prof. Ukachukwu was optimistic that within a record



DES, NUC, Dr. Suleiman Ramon Yusuf (8th right) and his Eminence Kanuuche (9th left) in a group photo

According to him, the BoT came up with vision 1-10-2027 to serve as guide and immediate provision of bringing fund to defray some arrears and sustain activities. On the part of the Governing Council, a new Vice-

regulated systematic offsetting of the arrears.

The Vice-Chancellor declared that those steps had started yielding positive results which included great improvement in

time, the university would not only return to its past status but would find its feet among equals. He expressed his unalloyed commitment to continue seeking guidance from the commission.



HMSE Inaugurates NUS Triple-Helix Team

The Minister of State for Education Hon. Emeka Nwajiuba, has inaugurated the Nigerian universities Triple-Helix Facilitation Team, charging the members to identify the Skills gap in the nation's universities and tackle them for the benefit of the country.

Speaking during the inauguration ceremony, Hon. Nwajiuba said that Nigeria was for all its citizens and everyone must work hard to move it forward.

He called for synergy between the government, academia and the industry which the triple helix stands for.

He urged the industry to make input in tertiary education curriculum to enable the institutions to graduate students that would be productive.

In his remarks, the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education Arc. Sunny Echono, pointed out that Nigeria could not be proud of its present population as long as the citizenry was under developed.

He added that there was need for the people to adjust their ways of thinking so as to make the nation

grow with pride, urging Nigerian policy makers to leave a legacy for the youths.

Also speaking, the host and Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission (NUC),

Project for Nigeria 2050 Agenda had already been drawn up by the academia and that Vice-Chancellors would represent the academia in the project.

He also stressed the need for



The Executive Secretary, NUC, Prof. Abubakar Rasheed addressing the Team

Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, said that Nigeria should in the next five years be able to build a university system that was skill-centred.

He said that the economy was not expanding despite large turnout of graduates yearly which he attributed, to the lack of necessary skills required to turn around the economy.

Professor Rasheed revealed that the draft report on the Road Map

Nigeria to compete favourably with the rest of the world on issues of skill-match, adding that the country must develop all means to be at par with others in order not to be left behind, adding that towards actualising the dream, the Executive Secretary said that many universities had enlisted in the project.

He revealed that Bayero University Kano (BUK) would lead in the field of Agriculture, with focus on feeding Nigerians,



while University of Benin (UNIBEN) was to lead in Reproductive Health.

The NUC Scribe explained that it would be out of place to imagine educating present day youths without a plan and road map as education had gone beyond theory to demonstration of skills. He asserted that Nigerians must begin to rationalize on how

handing over to the Federal Government, through the Minister of Education.

The Executive Secretary thanked the World Bank and expressed optimism that funding for the project would not be a problem. He said that NUC had started overhauling the curriculum as bulk of the existing teaching methods had been centered on

and TETFund, Strategic Advisory Committee (STRADVCOM) on NUC Blueprint 2018-2023, Association of Vice-Chancellors of Nigerian Universities (AVCNU) and Vice-Chancellors.

In his remarks, the representative of NESG, Tope Togun said that before NUC reached out to NESG on the Triple-Helix, it had already been thinking of how to improve



Meeting session

to provide adequate healthcare system, employment, security and feeding by the year 2050.

Prof. Rasheed further informed the meeting that a steering committee would meet on 11th October to deliberate on those issues. He also disclosed that the Nigeria Economic Summit Group (NESG) would assess, critique and improve on the proposals before

stream mode since the 1950s.

He said that with the support of World Bank, the reform in higher education would be on track, emphasizing the impossibility of getting quality teachers in primary and secondary schools without qualified graduates.

Prof. Rasheed highlighted that the academia would be represented at the meeting by the Executive Secretaries of NUC

higher education in Nigeria. He said that during the meeting between NUC and NESG, the Commission signed for the academia and the Economic Group for the industry.

He explained that the burning issue was how to improve higher institutions, arguing that the academia should be problem-solvers through research. He stated that the nation needed to produce hard working and



highly skilled students on research. Togun reminded the meeting that what led to the round table meeting was the need for the academia, government and industry to work together; stressing that there must be synergy between them for the country to grow.

In his speech, Chief Executive Officer of NESG, Laoye Jayeola revealed that a summit would hold in December tagged "Nigeria 2050". He made a case for the

stating that a five-man team from NESG would serve in the Steering Committee of the Nigeria2050 project.

Contributing, Halil Dundo of the World Bank said that the Bank's team would be discussing with Nigerian government on how to support higher education in the area of digital skill programming and computer science.

He said that World Bank would work in synergy with the

country has to be reversed.

He stated that the population of a country was not what matters, but what it was able to do for the economy, pointing out that skills were very relevant for the growth of Nigeria's economy.

Also at the meeting were NUC's Deputy Executive Secretary, Academics, Dr. Suleiman Babatunde Ramon-Yusuf; the Directors of Executive Secretary's Office, Mr. Chris



Other members at the meeting

academia to fit into the "Nigeria2050" project, calling on every interest group to join hands towards the success of the project.

Elaborating on the project, he said the private sector would be represented by Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN) which would be fully involved,

government, industry and the academia.

In his remarks, the President of MAN, Alh. Ahmed Mansur said that the association was delighted about the Triple-Helix model, stressing that the spiraling unemployment in the midst of small scale production in the

Maiyaki; Skills Development and Entrepreneurship, Mrs. Constance Goddy-Nnadi. Others were Deputy Director; Information, Haruna Lawal Ajo and Deputy Director, ICT Projects, Dr. Joshua Atta, who was also in the World Bank Team



Public Servants Remain Key Drivers Of Socio- Economic Development

-----HOCSF @ Public Service Conference

Acting Head of the Civil Service of the Federation (HOCSF), Dr. (Mrs) Folashade Yemi-Esan said the public service sector has been a key driver of socio-economic development of the country.

She made the disclosure at a one day Public Service Innovation Conference held, recently, at National Universities Commission (NUC), Abuja organized by the Office of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation (OHCSF) in collaboration with Oil Producers Trade Section (OPTS) for Permanent Secretaries, Heads of parastatals and agencies including tertiary institutions.

Dr Yemi-Esan stated that due to public service strategic positioning, public servant could not afford to relegate their responsibilities but must be proactive in discharging their functions for improved service delivery. She stressed that it was for this purpose and other contingency reasons that the Conference was organised for the top echelon of the public sector.

She noted that the Oil and Gas sector contributed about 9% of Nigeria's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), while the Non-Oil sector

accounted for 10% of the GDP. This, according to her, implied that the petroleum sector was very crucial to the nation's economy in view of the fact that

its revenue still relied heavily on oil, which only accounted for



**Dr. (Mrs) Folashade Yemi-Esan
Acting HOCSF**

small part of the country's overall economic growth, adding that there was ample room for growth in Civil Service and Cost Economy.

The HOCSF explained that in line with the vision of President Muhammadu Buhari's administration to improve the

livelihood of Nigerians through diversification of the economy, an Economic Recovery and Growth

Plan (ERGP) was launched post-recession to put the country on the part of growth, stability and prosperity.

She recalled that while the priorities of the ERGP centred on power and infrastructural development, employment, good governance, food security and industrialisation, it also identified sound macro-environment and efficient public sector as critical factors towards long-term growth of the country.

Dr. Yemi-Esan, recalled that similar training workshop on Radical Innovation was organised recently for officers across the civil service, with participants from the Organised Private Sector (OPS). She also informed that the training was aimed, among others, at bridging the gap between the public and private sector; expose civil servants to some salient features of contemporary innovation as well as lay out the philosophy and procedure as well as incentives that organisations especially those in the public sector could adapt to drive innovations.

As part of its resolve to promote innovation, she said that her office had proposed the establishment of innovation unit





to be headed by a Director to be adopted by MDAs to drive innovation. The office had similarly launched an innovation campaign to raise awareness on innovation, by creating an online innovation network that showcased existing innovations in Public Service to foster knowledge sharing; create innovation pipeline to encourage ideation through partnership with innovative companies via workshops and secondments and launched in-house tools like brainstorming sessions,

conference. This, she said, was important because the goals and objectives enunciated could not be successfully actualised without the commitment of Heads of public sector institutions.

She, therefore, charged the participants to key into the initiative and ensure that it cascaded into their various offices.

She added that, “as Chief Executives you need to ensure and sustain improved transparency,

coordinated policy response of the present administration by promoting policies and reforms to fast-track sustainable economic growth. She said that all those could be achieved by investing in human capital development and innovative solutions to create value, better performance and improved service delivery. She enjoined participants to actively contribute their wealth of knowledge in order to enrich the outcome of the workshop to the benefit of Nigeria.



L-R: Perm. Sec. SPSO/OHCSF; Dr. Magdalene Ajani; Ag. Head of Service, Dr. Folashade Yemi-Esan; Perm-Sec. CSO/OHCSF, Dr. Bakari Wadinga; Vice Chairman, OPTS, Mr. Lorenzo Fiorillo; Vice President, Open Learning MIT, USA, Prof. Sanjay Sarma and some officials at the event

workshops, innovation boot camps; pilot innovation competition across select MDAs to cultivate ideas and technologies as well as enhance service delivery, efficiency and productivity in public service. She further explained that in order to consolidate on the gains of the training and set a direction for effective institutionalisation of innovation culture in Public Service, the OHCSF deemed it necessary to organise the

accountability and prudence in the management of public funds through the establishment of stronger units between budgeting, planning and monitoring and evaluation and completion of project and infrastructure, particularly, in critical areas of the economy upon which the success of the government agenda depends”.

The HOS further urged all Heads of MDAs to support the ongoing

In a keynote address entitled “Creating Opportunities by Leveraging Innovation for Effective Public Service Delivery and Economic Diversification”, the Guest Speaker and Vice-President, Open Learning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA, Professor Sanjay Sarma, said the world economy was currently being driven by technology, adding that Nigeria must move



with the tide or risk being left behind by the rest of the world.

Professor Sarma said the level of technological application in other countries of the world was working for them, stating that Nigeria must seek technologies and innovations that worked in order to cut down administrative obstacles that obstruct easy flow of conduct of government

leveraging on technology and innovation to create jobs for the teeming youths so as to ensure a productive population that could guarantee economic growth.

Delivering his goodwill message, the Vice-Chairman of OPTS, Mr. Lorenzo Fiorillo, said that the organisation was umbrella body for oil producing companies in Nigeria as well as an arm of the

the need for this partnership, in order to build capacity in the service for global best practices and competitiveness”.

He stated that the body had continued to work closely with Nigerian government to address issues concerning oil sector, adding that Nigeria ranks among the 10 countries with high cost of oil production in the world due to



Participants at the event

businesses.

The Indian-born Professor raised the alarm that with the introduction of electric cars, crude oil, which Nigeria relied mostly upon, might in no distant future, lose its value and thereby, inflict injury on the economies of countries whose economic main stay was crude oil.

He listed some of the ways out of the looming danger to include: thinking outside the box, building infrastructures to sustain the growing population and

Lagos Chamber of Commerce Industry.

He noted that its partnership with the OHCSF to build capacity and leverage on technological innovations was solely targeted at improving service delivery in the Federal Civil Service of Nigeria, in line with the organisation's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and drive for national development.

He said “the Civil Service is seen as our partner, building bridges between the organised private sector and the government, hence

poor electricity supply and unsafe business environment. He, however, assured that the body would continue to leverage on technologies which had been used successfully in other climes to ensure ease of doing business in the oil sector.

He further stressed that engaging a world class Institute to build capacity among Civil Servants would enable the civil service attain its goal and objective in becoming a world-class service provider for national development.



PRESS RELEASE

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

SUBMISSION OF NOMINATIONS FOR 2019 UNESCO KING HAMAD BIN ISA AL-KHALIFA PRIZE FOR THE USE OF ICT IN EDUCATION

The UNESCO invites nominations from Nigeria for the King Hamed Bin Isa Al-Khalite price for the use of Information and Communication Technologies in Education.

This is to recognize approaches in leveraging new technologies to expand educational and lifelong learning opportunities for all, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Goal 4 on Education.

The theme of the 2019 Prize is the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to innovate Education, learning and teaching.

Nominations should be forwarded to natcom.unesco@education.gov.ng on or before 23rd October, 2019. Receipt of nominations will close by 31st October, 2019 (midnight Paris time)

For more information visit <http://www.unesco.org/ict-ed-prize/register>.

Announcer-

Arc Sonny Echono
Permanent Secretary

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR (PRESS & PR) **SHAKE UP IN EDUCATION MINISTRY**

Education Minister, Adamu Adamu has approved the redeployment of eleven (11) Directors and Principals of Federal Unity Colleges in an exercise, the Minister said is designed to strengthen service delivery and also fill existing vacancies in the education sector.

Top on the list of Directors redeployed are Abdulkadir Binta (Mrs.), Principal, Federal Government College (FGC) Kwali, who is now the Director, Basic and Secondary Education Department in the Ministry.

Binta will take over from Dr. Lami Amodu, the current Director of Basic and Secondary Education, who will retire from service on the 14th of October, 2019.

The current Principal of Federal Science and Technical College (FSTC) Yaba, Dr. Ufoegbune Ogochukwu (Mrs.) has

now been moved to the Ministry's headquarters to fill the vacancy of Director, Federal Education Quality Assurance Services (FEQAS), while Mr. Omada David Idakwoji of the Federal Science and Technical College, Uromi, takes over from Dr. Ufoegbune Ogochukwu of the Federal Science and Technical College, Yaba, as Principal.

Similarly, Dr. Mrs. Yakubu Oyinloye of Queens' College, Lagos, is to take over from Akamo Esther (Mrs.) as Principal, Federal Government Girls' College, Shagamu, While Dr. (Mrs.) Essien Funmi of the Federal Government College, Ijanikin, is to take over from Dr. (Mrs.) Yakubu Oyinloye as Principal, Queens' College, Lagos.

Akamo.O. Esther (Mrs.) of Federal Government Girls' College (FGGC), Shagamu is to succeed Dr. (Mrs.) Essien Funmi as Principal, Federal Government College, Ijanikin, while Abdullahi Asmau Yakubu (Mrs.) of the Ministry's Tertiary Education Department is to replace Mr. Manko Kudu (who will be retiring from service on the 6th of September, 2019) as Principal, Federal Government Academy, Suleja.

Mrs. Stella Maris Ufuoma Omu, current Principal of Federal Government Girls College, Bwari (who will be retiring from service on the 10th of November, 2019) will be succeeded by Sodangi Jumai Binta (Mrs.) of Federal Government Girls College, Abaji.

Also, Offonkasi Ifeoma Scholastica (Mrs.), current Vice Principal, FGBC, Apo, is to replace Sodangi Jumia Binta (Mrs.) as Principal, Federal Government Girls' College, Abaji.

Mr. Shehu Dahiru of Federal Science and Technical College, Kafanchan, is to replace Abdulkadir Binta (Mrs.) as Principal, Federal Government College, Kwali.

Finally, Mrs. Oguah Florence of National Commission for United Nation Scientific and Cultural Organization (NATCOM-UNESCO) is now the Secretary General, NATCOM-UNESCO.

Handing over formalities are to be completed by Monday, 9th September, 2019, except where otherwise directed.

Ben Bem Goong
Deputy Director (Press & PR)





**ASSOCIATION OF WEST AFRICA UNIVERSITIES
(AWAU) /
ASSOCIATION DES UNIVERSITES D'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST (AUAO)**



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(Signed)

**Prof. Abdullahi Yusufu Ribadu
Secretary-General**



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

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FME/S/833/181

6th August, 2019

The Executive Secretary,
National Universities Commission (NUC),
Maitama, Abuja

RE: TRANSMISSION OF LETTER OF REQUEST

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Middle East and Gulf Division sent a request received from the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Abuja requesting for Institutions in the field of water management, preservation of wetlands and educational centres to visit the areas of marshes in Southern Iraq for the purpose of tourism, educating the local population and creating awareness on the importance of cultural, economic and environmental assets to the advantage of the Iraqi citizens.

2. The Ministry is kindly requesting that the information (as attached) be disseminated to Universities for further necessary actions.
3. Please, accept the best regards of the Permanent Secretary.

Dr. (Mrs) L. I. Giginna
Director, Education Support Services
For: Permanent Secretary