



We Have Invested N9bn on R&D, ES TETFund, Prof Bogoro Reveals



Vice Chancellor Nasarawa State University Keffi (Left) receiving a plague from the Commandant General of Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), Dr. Muhammad Audi during a courtesy call in Abuja

By Rahmatu Abdulazeez

The Executive Secretary of Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), Professor Suleiman Bogoro, has revealed that the Fund has invested about N9 billion on public tertiary institutions in the country to enable them undertake research in various disciplines, under National Research Fund (NRF).

Professor Bogoro made the disclosure Monday at the 35th Annual Conference of Association of Vice-Chancellors of Nigerian Universities (AVCNU), on the theme, 'Pathways to Green Investing, Creative Funding and DARQ Technology in Nigerian Universities' held at the Kano State University of Science and Technology (KUST), Wudil.

The Executive Secretary who was represented by Hajiya Hadiza Abdullahi, explained that the Fund awarded a total of 240 grants to the institutions.

He described NRF as an intervention, aimed at promoting the conduct of applied research and innovation by academics in public tertiary institutions.

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CBN Develops Scheme To Reduce Graduate Unemployment

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) said it was developing a Tertiary Institutions Entrepreneurship Scheme (TIES) to re-orientate, train and finance entrepreneurship ideas by Nigerian graduates.

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Protecting Digital Consumers And Assets, Privacy And Data In A Digital Economy

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Profs Bugaje, Okwelle Assume Duties as CEOs of NBTE, NCCE

● Rectors, Provosts Congratulate, Hail Appointments of the Duo
BY SAMSON YAKI

Following approval of their appointments by the Federal Government as Executive Secretaries of National Board for Technical Education (NBTE), and National Commission For Colleges of Education (NCCE), Professor Idris Bugaje and Professor Paulinus C. Okwelle have since assumed

office with the promise to move the regulatory agencies to unparalleled and enviable heights. Professor Bugaje, a veteran Polytechnic Administrator, was appointed while he was still serving his tenure as the Rector of Kaduna Polytechnic.

The internationally recognized and respected

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How American Journalist Predicted Insecurity Crisis, Plot To Destabilize Nigeria, 11 Years Ago



Report On NIALS' 2021 Webiner Series: Protecting Digital Consumers And Assets, Privacy And Data In A Digital Economy



Director-General Prof. Ladan in picture with the Executive Director Wayamo Foundation Dr. Bettina and Representatives of the Federal Minister of Justice, National Judicial Institute and Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies

The Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS) was established in March 1979, as Nigeria's apex institution for research and advanced studies in law. In fulfilment of its mandate, the Institute organises national and international seminars, webinars, symposia, conferences, workshops, roundtables, and lectures on any branch of law and related subjects. NIALS Webinars provide a platform where the Nigerian public are enlightened on critical policy and legal issues relevant to Nigeria's socio-economic development. The webinars serve as one of the mediums through which the Institute engages the Nigerian public. This webinar, therefore, provides the platform for the Nigerian public to get enlightened and engage in the discussions around the protection of Nigeria's Digital consumer, privacy and data in a digital economy and the regulatory and legal challenges experienced around cyber security law and policy. It was organized on Thursday, 25th February 2021. The following topics were interrogated at the Virtual Webinar: Role of Intellectual Property Rights Law in Achieving a Digital Economy; Practical Steps Towards Protecting Digital Assets and Data in Nigeria; Consumer Protection and Privacy in a Digital Economy: Legal Frameworks, Institutions and Mechanisms; Labour Laws and Policies in a Digital Economy; Promoting Digital Literacy in a Post-Covid Digital Economy; Review of the Draft National Blockchain Adoption Strategy; Reviewing the Nigerian Digital Economy in the context of the Rule of Law; The security of Data in a Digital Economy and so on.

2. Background to the Webinar

The advancement of the digital economy has in recent times raised extremely critical questions about the privacy and protection issues surrounding the enormous harvesting and use of data, both for the consumer and the assets, and businesses. Digital Economy includes the use of internet to search, purchase, sell, and deliver goods and services across borders, virtual or e-meetings. Therefore the stakeholders in the digital economy include;

consumers, (they procure goods and services digitally and give up information online); businesses, (they sell goods and services to consumers and receive data, and appropriate those data in other ways); also the state, (which regulate the use of consumer data and enforce the law). A digital consumer may therefore be defined as someone using mobile devices, and in a broad sense, as e-consumer, looking for and purchasing products on the Internet, taking advantage of the content published on-line, aware of themselves and of their needs, and keen on simplifying the decisions they need to make.³ Digital consumers all over the world give out a lot of data without knowing who gets in contact with these data, and more worrisome is the fact that these data may not be adequately protected. Statistics have shown that Nigeria is also contributing to economic growth in the digital age, through the fast-increasing mass of data, which includes personal data, public data, market data and so on, making them the biggest contributor to the digital economy in Africa today. Data in the circumstance, has become an essential lubricant for the digital economy and has contributed immensely to technological development globally. The need therefore arises to interrogate how data affects economic growth and social life, why there is need to protect digital consumers and what constitutes digital assets. It is evident also that most businesses in modern times depend so much on data in different categories, and therefore no national economy can avoid the critical role of new technologies and emerging technologies, as exists for instance in bloc chain, 5G, cryptocurrency, and so on. With these new technologies come new cybercrime threats, thereby challenging the capacity of the legislators, regulatory bodies to device new strategies to deal with these new threats by reviewing existing regulations, promulgate new policies in Nigeria to address the growing cyber security threats as they affect the national sovereignty, social life, and economic growth. It also raises the need to protect digital consumers, products, services, and transactions including the various forms

of data. There is dire need to find out the role of the regulatory agencies towards the dissemination and protection of data. Recently the Federal government launched the National Cybersecurity Policy and Strategy, which signifies the need for the integration of cybersecurity policy into promoting digital economy in Nigeria. In fulfilment of her mandate therefore, NIALS hosted the virtual webinar to engender a robust conversation, sensitise the Nigerian public, and proffer solutions to the challenges surrounding the protection of the digital consumer and assets, in a fast-growing digital economy.

3. Faculty
Chief Host and Moderator
Professor Mohammad Tawfiq Ladan PhD, Hubert Humphry Fellow, USA, Director General, Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS)

Keynote Speaker
Isa Aliyu Ibrahim Pantami, FNCS, FBCS, FIIM, The Honourable Minister, Federal Ministry of Communication, and digital Economy
Guest Speakers
Mr. Kashifulnuwa Abdullahi CCIE, Director-General/CEO National Information Technology Agency (NITDA)]

Professor Umar Garba Danbatta Executive Vice-Chairman (EVC), Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC)

Dr. Dan-Azumi Mohammed Ibrahim Director General, National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP)

Lead Speakers
Professor Adewopo Adebambo SAN Research Professor NIALS
Professor Mohammed Bello Abubakar BTech, M.Sc. PhD (MD/CEO Galaxy Backbone)

Mr Babatunde Irukera Chief Executive Officer,

Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC)

Hon. Justice Nelson Ogbuanya (Judge, National Industrial Court)

Mr. Bamidele Ayemibo (Legal Consultant, 3T Impex Trade Academy)

Discussants
Professor Peter Terkaa Akper, Ph.D, SAN, OFR, (Director of Research, NIALS)

Professor AY Shehu Former Director General, GIABA and Nigerian Ambassador Designate to Russia

Mrs Hadiza Ali Dagabana GM Legal, National Identity Management Commission (NIMC)

Dr. Salisu Abdulkarim PhD Chief System Analyst, National Center for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, National Information Technology. Agency (NITDA)
Coordinators
Nkiruka Chidia Maduekwe, PhD
Osatohanmwen Eruaga, PhD
Irekpitan Okupan, PhD
Fatima Bello PhD

Technical team
Engr. Jauda Istifanus
Mr. Ajayi Oisasumi Samson

Rapporteurs
Mr. Emeka Odum Uche Enyabine
Mrs Ijeoma Anozie
Mrs Temitope Alice Omole

Methodology
The virtual webinar was conducted on the Zoom Application. Following the approved concept note, invitation letters were sent to the Keynote Speaker, Lead Speakers, and Discussants, through traditional mail and electronic mail. Follow-up was conducted through phone calls, WhatsApp, physical visits to the offices, and electronic mail.

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TETFund's Sponsored page

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Nigeria, France Sign MoU, To Deepen Relationship In Science, Technology And Innovation In Tertiary Education



BY SYLVIA OLOWOJOBA IDOWU

The Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) has signed, on behalf of the Federal Government of Nigeria, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the French Government and other top institutions in France to facilitate the training of Nigerian Laboratory Technologists.

The MoU is specifically on a hands-on training programme for 500 technologists from Nigerian tertiary education institutions, designed with Campus France and the Association of Institutes of Technology of France (ADIUT).

The signing ceremony which took place at the Embassy of Nigeria in Paris recently was a sideline event of President Muhammadu Buhari's visit to Paris on the summit on African economies.

In attendance to witness the event was the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Geoffrey Onyeama who in his remarks gave credence to the partnership between the two countries, whilst also underscoring the importance of Research and development

to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the Nation.

In his remarks, the Nigerian Ambassador to France, Ambassador Kayode Laro who incidentally resumed office a few days before the event also posited that the MoU will no doubt engender strong institutional collaboration between France and Nigeria. Also in attendance were the newly appointed Nigerian Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of Nigeria to UN Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Dr. Hajo Sani; Senior Special Assistant to the President on Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Abdullahi Omaki and Deputy Executive Secretary of National University Commission (NUC), Dr. Suleiman Ramon-Yusuf who also signed an MoU with HCERES on behalf of the Commission.

Others are TETFund Director of Research & Development/Centres of Excellence, Dr. Salihu Girei Bakari; Acting Director, Public Affairs of TETFund Mr. Abdulmumin Oniyangi; a Consultant on Innovation to TETFund, Mr. Temitope Toogun and other

Nigerian Embassy staff present.

Representing the French Government, a member of the French Parliament, Ambassador Patrice Anato, who spoke through an interpreter, stated that he looked forward to a successful collaboration and expressed hope that the partnership would open a vista of opportunities for possible collaborations in other sectors between the French and Nigerian governments. Also, in attendance as part of the French team were the Director of International Relations of ADIUT, Mr. Olivier Ribault; Director General of HCERES, Mr. Thierry Coulhon, Representative of Campus France, Mrs. Beatrice; Ms Leila Mathieu of the French Embassy in Nigeria and a host of other officials of various French organizations present at the event.

Speaking at the event, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Professor Suleiman Elias Bogoro posited that the various partnerships between the Fund and the French government are in tandem with the initiative already introduced by the Management of TETFund to deepen

Research and Development, he added that no meaningful research can be achieved without the necessary support of the Laboratory Technologist more so that the Fund had procured some technical equipment for some of the tertiary institutions by Skill G it therefore becomes necessary that requisite training is undertaken in order to get full value. Prof. Bogoro ended his remarks by expressing excitement that the event is happening during the visit of President Muhammadu Buhari to France.

Also speaking at the event before the signing of the MoU, the Director of International Relations of ADIUT Mr. Olivier Ribault expressed excitement that since the establishment of the French Institute of Technology in 1966, this is the first time the Institute will be having a partnership with an Anglophone country in Africa and he is therefore looking forward to a successful collaboration with TETFund.

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According to him, the research and innovations will assist in driving the country's socio-economic development in an increasingly globalised and highly competitive knowledge-driven world.

In his remarks, Gov. Abdullahi Ganduje, said that his administration would continue to accord education top priority, adding that no nation could develop above the level of its educational system.

This, he said, was why his administration had declared free and compulsory education in the state.

Represented by Secretary to the State Government (SSG), Alhaji Usman Alhaji, Ganduje said that his government had sponsored accreditation of more than 240 academic programmes at the state-owned

tertiary institutions.

He also stated that his administration would begin consequential adjustments of salaries of staffers of all the institutions.

The acting Chairman, AVCNU, Prof. Timothy Olagbemi, noted that universities worldwide were required to explore creative solutions to societal challenges.

He said that the country's higher educational system remained the largest in Africa, pointing out that currently, there were 197 universities in the country.

Olagbemi, however, identified funding as the major challenge facing Nigerian universities.

He said that the institutions were also facing problems of attack and kidnap, sometimes leading to killing of students.

"To address these challenges, we are

proposing a meeting with all stakeholders to discuss the way forward, especially on how to fund higher education in Nigeria and ensure campus security," he said.

Also speaking, Vice-Chancellor of KUST Wudil, Prof. Shehu Alhaji-Musa, said that the Chancellor of the university, Alhaji Aliko Dangote, would sponsor the recruitment of 15 professors for the institution, both within and outside the country, for four years.

Alhaji-Musa said that the chancellor had also promised to support the institution's agricultural blueprint on rice, sugarcane, tomatoes, palm oil and fish production, covering more than one million farmers.

He commended TETFund, CBN, NCC and National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP), among others, for their continuous support to the university.



Prof. Bogoro, ES TETFund



Futminna Launches New Transcript Software

● VC Commends Its, Registry As Graduates To Get Transcripts In 5 Minutes

The Federal University of Technology, Minna has launched a new software that will enable its graduates applying online for their academic transcripts to receive the document within five minutes.

Speaking during the launch which held on Monday, June 28, 2021 at the Senate, Main Campus, Gidan Kwano, the Director, Information Technology Services (ITS), Prof. Adamu Mohammed, who demonstrated the new software, disclosed that it has multi-step authentication and that student copies of the transcripts can be receiving a maximum five minutes while official copies can be sent to organisations and institutions with valid email addresses within two hours.

In his remarks at the occasion, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fssn, commended the Registrar and the Director, ITS for cooperating towards the success of the new software.

“I must say am very pleased with this development.” The issue of transcript is very

important because it touches on the core integrity of an institution. Any university that cannot manage its examination results or account for the results of students, then that university has a systemic problem,” he said.

Prof. Bala pointed out that transcripts are required for pursuing postgraduate studies and scholarships and stressed the need for the University to respond immediately to requests for the document as failure to do so would mean that the institutions products will loose out on opportunities.

His words: When you begin to have high frequency of your graduates missing opportunities as a result of the inability of the university to provide transcripts in a timely manner, then you are telling both your students that are still with you and your products that you don’t care about them.”

He noted that the University has made tremendous progress in the processing of transcripts as presently, it takes just about five days to complete, adding that all that

is required for the new system to succeed is responsiveness on the part of staff.

The VC said that the new development will bring a lot of good will to the University.

“We want FUT, Minna to always be mentioned when talking about the best universities in any sphere,” said the VC, adding that in all his travels and engagements with government officials, parents and different organisations, the testimonies he has been receiving about the institution have all been positive.

Presently, the University is known to be one of those with the fastest response to requests for academic transcripts in Nigeria.

Present at the occasion were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Faruk Adamu Kuta; Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Prof. Emmanuel Emeka Udensi, fnip; Registrar, Mr. Amos Nmadu Kolo and the Bursar, Mrs. Hadiza Goje, fcna, fcti as well as members of staff from ITS and Registry.

Entrepreneurship Centre Graduates Fresh Batch Of Startup Trainees As Prof Bala Doles Out N.7m

As part of efforts to make graduates of the institution job creators instead of job seekers, the Entrepreneurship Centre of the Federal University of Technology, Minna has graduated 35 start-ups loop trainees under the acadopreneurship programme initiated by the University which is aimed at turning research ideas into businesses.

The graduation ceremony took place on Wednesday, July 6, 2021 at the Entrepreneurship Centre, Main Campus, Gidan Kwano.

Delivering his address at the event, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fssn, congratulated the trainees for excelling during the three months’ programme, adding that the next stage of the programme would be more rigorous, even as he advised them to be focused towards achieving their set goals.

“Setting up a business is not a mean task. People that chose to go into business are not lily- livered. You are going to face a lot

of challenges, especially during this period of our dire economic hardship but that is the main reason you should dare to go into business. The employment market is very competitive and the easiest way for you to get a job is to create one for yourself,” the Vice-Chancellor advised.

Prof. Bala stated that the University would mentor and provide professional tips for the trainees during the second stage of the training at the Incubation Hub so that they can break-even in their chosen businesses, while urging them to be responsive to the needs of their environments and customers.

“The business environment is very competitive and challenging. You must always be on your feet if you want to succeed,” Prof. Bala reiterated.

Further, the University helmsman disclosed that the University needs to look towards the direction of the Small and Medium Enterprises SMEs during the Students Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) and Industrial Training (IT), rather than allowing students

to go to banks and other agencies for the sake of making money without learning anything at the end of the training. He noted that SMEs are the right place to go for those who want to learn how to start their own businesses.

The Vice-Chancellor directed the Director of the Entrepreneurship Centre to liaise with the Director of Advancement Office so that they would include the needs of the Incubation Hub in their requests for financial or equipment support from philanthropists.

Furthermore, he announced a cash gift of N20,000 each to the 35 trainees to motivate and support them towards the growth of their businesses.

Earlier in her address, the Director, Entrepreneurship Centre, Dr. Caroline Alenoghena stated that the training was designed to provide guidance, training and coaching in entrepreneurial and managerial competencies, understanding of the business environment and business planning skills to students as well as members of the University community towards turning ideas into profitable ventures and businesses.

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Tetfund Commends Futminna On Support For Research

The Executive Secretary, Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) Prof. Sulieman Elias Bogoro has commended the Federal University University of Technology, Minna for its support towards research and execution of different projects awarded to the institution.

A former Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Akure Prof. Adebisi Balogun who led a TETFund team on monitoring and evaluation of the National Research Funds disbursed to the researchers in the University gave the commendation on behalf of the Executive Secretary when the team paid a courtesy visit to the University Management on Monday, June 28, 2021 at the Senate Chamber, Main Campus, Gidan Kwano.

The visit is part of an ongoing effort to asses the utilization of funds and the level of integrity shown in the execution of projects awarded to the University in 2019 and to also see if the researcher is mobilizing his team judiciously.

He said that within the period under review, a total sum of 15 million naira was released by TETFund for the execution of the project titled ‘Development of drought early warning system for Northern Nigeria’.

Prof. Balogun said he is proud of the University and thanked the Management for the support given to research which has manifested in the establishment of separate directorate to monitor research and support to researchers.

The project under monitoring and evaluation is led by Prof. Onemayin Jimoh of the Department of Civil Engineering.

Responding, the Vice- Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fssn, while welcoming the visitors to FUT, Minna assured them of the institution’s commitment to making sure they provide the necessary support for research and research activities in the institution.

Prof Bala said the project is very important because through it, the institution will be able to provide technical support to farmers and other policy makers.

He further stressed that the difficulties faced last year due to COVID-19 pandemic should not be a reason not to continue with their research activities and also to make judicious use of any resources given to them.

The VC expressed his confidence in the research team led by Prof. Jimoh and his vast knowledge on research and commended his effort in getting other grants from TETFund.

Other principal officers present at the event are Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Prof. Faruk Kuta Adamu; Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) Prof. Emmanuel Emeka Udensi; Registrar, Mr. Amos Nmadu Kolo and Bursar, Mrs. Hadiza Goje

VC FUL, Prof. Akinwumi, 5 Other Scholars Get Fellows of Nigerian Academy of Letters

● As Mathew Kukah Becomes Academy's Honorary Fellow



Prof. Akinwumi



Most Rev. Matthew H. Kukah

By Samson Yaki

The Vice Chancellor of Federal University, Lokoja, Professor Olayemi Durotimi Akinwumi and five other leading humanistic scholars have been conferred the award of the Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Letters (NAL). The Secretary, Nigerian Academy of Letters, Ayobami Kehinde, who made this known in a statement said the fellows were admitted into the prestigious Fellowship of the Academy on the basis of their outstanding contributions to scholarship and extension of the frontiers of knowledge in their various subfields of the Humanities.

The new Fellows include Professor Ahmed Parker Yerima (Theatre Arts - Regular Fellow), Professor Adebola Babatunde Ekanola (Philosophy - Regular Fellow), Professor Frank Maduabuchi Dukor (Philosophy- Regular Fellow), Professor Olayemi Durotimi Akinwumi (History - Regular Fellow), Professor Lateef Babatunde Ayeleru (French- Regular Fellow) and Professor Isidore Okeawolam Diala (Literature - Regular Fellow). The statement said the six new Fellows were elected after a robust review process that qualified them to be recognised for the excellence of their research outputs.

In the same vein, His Eminence, Most Reverend Dr. Matthew Hassan Kukah, the Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Sokoto, has been elected as an Honorary Fellow of the Academy. Congratulating them for their new appointments on behalf of the College of Fellows, the Executive Committee and Members of the Nigerian Academy of Letters, Mr. Kehinde wished them success in their new status. The Fellows of the Nigerian Academy of Letters are a group of distinguished scholars of the humanities, nominated and elected in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the humanistic scholarship.

NMA Congratulates VC FUL On 100 Days In Office, Lauds His Giant Strides

The Nigerian Medical Association (NMA), Kogi State chapter, on Thursday congratulates the Vice Chancellor (VC) of Federal University Lokoja (FUL), Prof. Olayemi Akinwumi, for his giant strides and achievements as he clocks 100 days in office.

The Chairman of NMA in Kogi, Dr Omakoji Oyiguh, in a statement through the NMA Director of Publicity, Dr. Emmanuel Bola Jonah Kelvin, commended the VC for given priority to the commencement of the

medical school in the University. The NMA further congratulated and applauded the VC for the giant strides and unmatched achievements so far within the 100 days of his assumption of office. The NMA specifically appreciated the vice chancellor for kick starting the process for the kick-off of the medical school in the university, and the appointment of Prof. Mike Ogirima, to lead the process who was already in town for the purpose.

While wishing the VC more successes

in the future, the NMA assured him of their continuous and unflinching support to ensuring that the goal of establishing medical school in the university is achieved as soon as possible.

"Once again, congratulations on your well deserved appointment as the third VC of FUL, NMA strongly believe in your capacity to take the university to a greater heights".

Culled from thereflection.com.ng

Edusoko University, Bida Sets To Instill Exceptional, Exemplary, Moral, Academic Values in Her Students - VC

By Usman Muhammad Minna

The Vice Chancellor of the first and only University in the ancient and historic town of Bida, Niger State, EDUSOKO University, Professor Muhammad Alkali, has assured parents of their potential students that the University has worked out perfect ways of instilling exceptional, exemplary, moral and academic values in them

The Vice Chancellor who spoke in a chat with Education Monitor on the focus of the University as laid down by its founders said, "founders of the University are leaders who have spent their lives in training leaders who have excelled in different fields and have made not only their societies or immediate communities proud, but the entire nation"

He lamented that Nigeria is facing the greatest threat and the most unfortunate trial in its decade long history today and consequently earnestly needs leaders who are selfless, patriotic, with values that can take the country out of its trying moment.

He said these kinds of leaders need to be manufactured and churned out from our Universities on a deliberate programme and during which they will be taught several exemplary, moral and academic lessons, to prepare them for the task ahead To achieve this, he said, EDUSOKO University has started working hard and round the clock to recruit highly trained scholars and administrators with serene moral values and pedigrees who will be saddled with the responsibilities of running the University and giving it direction.

"Our students enrollment too, will be deliberately based on merit and high ethical standard", Dr Alkali further assured.



Dr. Muhammad Alkali

Entrepreneurship Centre Graduates Fresh Batch Of Startup Trainees

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The Director disclosed that the start-up loop developed by German development agency, GIZ in collaboration with other partners is being implemented by competent and experienced trainers in entrepreneurship development, using experiential learning methodology.

Also, she noted that the pioneer incubates in the FUTECH Incubation Hub were admitted in June 2021, following their successes at the just concluded Business Idea Competition.

"We are glad to have a bigger family as we work in transforming the campus into an entrepreneurial haven," she enthused.

Dr. Alenoghena expressed appreciation to the University Management, GIZ, the Artificial Intelligence for Clean Energy (AI4CE) and the trainers for their well-documented support towards the success of the programme.

Also, speaking at the event, the Coordinator AI4CE, Engr. Prof. Abiodun Musa Aibinu, represented by the Deputy Coordinator, AI4CE, Engr. Dr. Lanre Olatomiwa said the concept of acadopreneurship was conceived by the AI4CE research group for the purpose of turning research ideas into businesses, courtesy of the research grant won by the Advanced Engineering Innovation Research Group, FUT, Minna in 2019 from the Royal

Academy of Engineering, United Kingdom.

"I am excited today because we are witnessing the realization of one of the aforementioned objectives set out by our Research Group. I wish to also state that we are committed to nurturing more students who are ready to add value to the society in this specially packaged programme. The reason for this is not far-fetched because we are aware of the multi-faceted challenges that entrepreneurs face in Nigeria and we have prepared these graduating students to solve these challenges," Prof. Aibinu stated.

He urged them to be the pace setters in their chosen fields of endeavour because they have been equipped with real-world skills to

become the best in the society.

In his address, the representative of GIZ, Mr. Bello Dantoro disclosed that the GIZ- SEDIN programme was initiated in 2017 to design a business training and coaching loop on start-ups and the need to develop a modified loop to address the challenges of entrepreneurs in Nigeria.

The Vice-Chancellor and other Principal Officers present at the event were later conducted round the Incubation Hub to interact with the graduates on some of their products that were displayed.

The graduation ceremony is the second in the series of the acadopreneurship programme.

Report On NIALS' 2021 Webiner Series: Protecting Digital Consumers And Assets, Privacy And Data In A Digital Economy



Director-General Prof. Ladan in picture with the Executive Director Wayamo Foundation Dr. Bettina

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Given the multidisciplinary nature of the theme, resource persons were drawn from the academia, public sector, private sector, and Judiciary.

The target audience consisted of the Nigerian public, Academia, Judiciary, Nigerian Bar Association, Executive: specifically, the Honourable Minister of Federal Ministry of Communication and Digital Economy, Federal Ministry of Industry Trade and Investment, Federal Ministry of Communication, Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, GIABA, and Media.

Traditional and electronic mail was used to send out invitations to the target audience. Also, social media platforms such as WhatsApp, Instagram, and Facebook, were useful tools to enable reaching a wider audience.

Opening Session

The Director-General, Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, PhD formerly welcomed the keynote speaker Dr. Isa Ali Ibrahim Pantami, FNCS, FBCS, FIIM, the Honorable Minister of Communication and Digital Economy, the guest speakers, lead speakers, discussants, and attendees to the Webinar. He remarked that no economy can technologically advance without embracing the significance of 5G mobile technology, blockchain and digital marketing. Further stating that technology is an important aspect of history that reveals the percentage growth of Nigeria digital age with an increase in transforming the economy thereby analysing data that were previously inaccessible. Bringing to bear the recent launch by President Muhammadu Buhari of the National Cyber Security Policy which is geared at ensuring that Internet and cyberspace are used for the enhancement of national security and economic progress of the country; Professor Ladan indicated the timeliness of the webinar. In conclusion, stating that the communiqué from the meeting would impressively add value to the Federal Government's resilient effort in advancing and achieving the desired digital

technological prospects of the economy.

In delivering his keynote address, Dr. Alli Ibrahim Pantani FNCS, FBCS FIIM, the Honourable Minister for Communication and Digital Economy, expressed his appreciation to the Institute for inviting him to speak on the discourse 'Digital Economy Regulatory and Cyber Security Law and Policy: Challenges and Prospects in Nigeria.' He explained that Digital Economy includes the use of internet to search, purchase and deliver goods and services across the borders as well as to conduct virtual or electronic meetings. He stated that Digital Economy is dependent on Digital Computing Technology and that Nigerians as highly innovative people fit into the striving and evolving digital economy that would increasingly create more employment opportunities for the populace.

The Honourable Minister further stated that the accelerated growth and modernisation of the Nigeria economy is fast developing into a digital led growth strategy in which the government is in the process of implementing its newly unveiled digital economy potentials of consumer and asset, privacy, and data protection in a digital economy. The Minister also noted that the economy encompasses the sales of goods and services demanded such that the digital economy has grown rapidly to the extent that the power of data can be transferred and duplicated, given the advancement of digital technology. He added that the innovation in technologies has given rise to the increase in mobile and internet usage in the past decade with reference to the United Nations Trade and Development Report on Commerce and Digital Economy, Global Internet, Protocol Traffic Surge of Data of 2017, wherein the usage of 45,000 GB per second was recorded and a projection of its increase to 150,700GB by Year 2022 was anticipated.

He cited the provisions of Section 6 (a) and (c) of the NITDA Act 2007 and Section 37 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria which apply to all storage and processing of personal data relating to Nigerian citizens and residents

with the aim of establishing a sustainable data privacy and protection under the Nigeria Law. In conclusion, he added that the surge for proper data management has created a digital opportunity in economic growth, productivity, job creation and transformation of international trade which has translated towards advancing a digital economy. He wished the attendees fruitful deliberation and declared the Webinar open.

Dr. Abimbola, Alale, the Managing Director / CEO NigComSat, who had earlier been scheduled to represent the Honourable Minister, also gave her presentation. Focusing on the aspect of public and private data, she explained that while Public Data are information that are readily available to the public domain, Private Data comprises of confidential information that are kept away from the public. She classified private data to include personal data such as Names, Date of Birth, Identity Numbers etc., emphasizing that proper authorisation must be duly obtained before the disclosure of such data. Dr. Alade specifically highlighted salient reasons for protecting data, namely, that data protection and privacy provide Nigerians with the required security from unauthorised display of their personal data publicly; to encourage the growth and advancement of digital economy on consumer data and protection in Nigeria. In conclusion, she recommended that digital economy would be enhanced in its formidable force of protection of private and public data when given a more collaborative consideration with relevant agencies.

Summary of Proceedings

NIALS Webinar series themed: Protecting Digital Consumers and Assets, Privacy and Data in Digital Economy: Regulatory and Cyber Security Law and Policy Challenges and prospects in Nigeria which commenced at 11am on 25th February 2021, at Zoom with an opening address by the Director General, Professor M.T Ladan, Hubert Humphrey Fellow, USA, the Chief Host for the occasion. The Dg stressed the importance of the topic

of the Webinar series. In his opening address which also set the tune for the discourse had an overview on protecting digital consumers and assets, privacy and data in a digital economy: regulatory and cyber security law and policy, challenges and prospects in Nigeria. The Dg stressed that NIALS as a research Institute has the statutory mandate and responsibility to identify current legal challenges facing the economy and as such this Webinar is aimed at understanding the prospects of the digital economy; why the need to protect digital assets; role of regulatory agencies, jurisdictional problems and issues and also to proffer the way forward. He welcomed all the guests' speakers, speakers, discussants and participants to the programme.

The keynotes address was delivered by the Honourable Minister, Federal Ministry of Communication and Digital Economy, Dr Isa Ali Ibrahim Pantami, FNCS FBCS FIIM. The honourable minister thanked the institute for organizing the Webinar and noted that that the topic was apt and carefully chosen. The honourable Minister in his keynote address said that all activities we conduct via internet including webinar engagement are part of digital economy. The minister observed that there is no legislation in data privacy, but there is strong regulation (subsidiary legislations citing the Nigerian Data Regulation 2019 and with regards to confidentiality of data, he opined that this subsidiary regulation is comprehensive in this regard. He further noted that data privacy and protection of consumers and users is extremely critical, and he recommended that there is need to strengthen regulatory instruments that support digital economy. The Webinar series was declared opened by the Honourable Minister.

This was followed by opening remarks by Chief Executives of relevant stakeholders' agencies in this sector who were guest speakers at the occasion, namely: Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP), Nigerian Communications Satellite (NIGCOMSAT), National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), and Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC).

Professor Umar Garba Danbatta, Executive Vice Chairman (EVC), Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), a guest speaker in his opening remarks said that the topic for the Webinar deals with topical issues in the ICT sector. He observed that ICT innovations have led to a lot of digital issues, and privacy and cyber security challenges has multiplied greatly. He also observed in his remarks that there is no single data protection law in the country. Although the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended) in section 37 wherein made provision for right of privacy of citizens is protected and guaranteed. He noted that the Cyber Crime Act 2015 provides for stiff monetary penalties in terms of breaches. He hinted that there has been series of the Commissions interventions/ partnership with other relevant stakeholders in the sector to protect digital economy consumers including the current partnership with NIMC in SIM registration and personal digital identification. He also recommended that there is the need to expeditiously review and amend the NCC Act to come to terms with the legal requirement and framework of digital economy.

To be continued

ABU Enactus Students Develop First Made-in Nigeria Shoe Polish



Mr. Michael Ajayi, Enactus Country representative (R) presenting award to ABU team Leader, Late Mr. James Onaji



ABU Enactus Students celebrating one of their recent victories in Lagos

ENACTUS team from the prestigious Ahmadu Bello University Zaria Kaduna, has broken the status quo by developing the first ever Nigerian shoe polish. The polish is exceptionally produced from pure water sachets reducing the plastic waste in our environment. The polish is a flagship product of the team's social enterprise project called PUP (Plastic Up-cycled Product). PUP is creating a reality where the lifecycle of plastics can be fully complete — from birth to death situation. PUP is a student owned social enterprise based in Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria where its factory is also situated. It sprang up as the team's project

and has over the years evolved to become a registered business with Corporate Affairs Commission. PUP up-cycles, uses pure water sachets to produce valuable products with limited carbon emissions aiding to a greener and sustainable environment. PUP shoe polish is a waxy paste used to shine, protect and restore footwear. A recent survey indicated that over 40% of Nigerians use leather products regularly, hence a ready-made market that will keep growing with the population. The ban on importation has made the Shoe Polish very expensive; problem PUP is trying to tackle head on.

Enactus team from Ahmadu Bello



University has been the top leading student organization on campus. ENACTUS (ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTION AND US) is the largest student organization in the world with presence in over 700 Universities and in over 36 countries. The ABU ENACTUS team has represented the University in over 14 yearly National Competitions in Lagos and Abuja and has represented Nigeria in two World Cups in the United Kingdom in 2017 and in Silicon Valley, USA in 2018.

The team had over the last 14 years developed and implemented several social and business enterprise projects aimed at, in one hand, solving some social

and economic issues around the ABU surrounding communities; and on the other hand, developing in the ENACTUS students, Leadership, Entrepreneurial and Self reliance Skills. The main aim and objective of the team is to promote and advance the good name of Ahmadu Bello University.

The team this ENACTUS year was led by its president, Mr. James Onaji of blessed memory. Mr. Onaji passed on last month after a brief illness. The team is now being led by Mr. Ahmed Munir for the rest of the ENACTUS year. The team has over the years been mentored and supervised by its Faculty Adviser, Prof. M. K. Aliyu, mni.

ABU Don, Prof Dakyes, Develops Special Ink To Combat Document Theft, Forgery, Seeks Tetfund's Support

By Doka Dennis and Waziri Mahdi Isa

An internationally renowned Academic at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Professor Samaila Usman Dakyes has used locally-sourced materials to create anti-copy, and thermal inks to tackle documents forgery, theft, and counterfeiting. This was made known during an inaugural lecture titled: Forensic Graphics: An R & D Approach To Curbing Document Theft In Nigeria, held on the 26th of May, 2021 at the Assembly Hall, A.B.U main campus. The lecture was attended by top management staff, students of the University, and stakeholders in the security subsector. In his speech, Professor Dakyes said that most official instruments or highly valued paper documents used by government and the private sector in Nigeria are vulnerable

to being counterfeited by fraudsters since little attention is given to document protection. He said that existing protection had become obsolete due to advances in security research and development. "To counter this problem, series of experiments with different locally sourced materials were conducted. Some of the materials used for the experiment include: Euphoria and calototorpis (procera) latexes, honey, and paraffin wax" the Prof said. In his opening remarks, Vice Chancellor of the University, Professor Kabiru Bala praised Prof Dakyes for this wonderful invention and several other contributions, not just to the university but to the nation as a whole. The VC however regretted that official and important documents like school certificates, and money, are easily forged

in Nigeria. Professor Dakyes observed that the consequences of corruption and organized crime include enormous loss of government revenue, undermining national development, damage of national imagine and so on. If put to use, the ink will go a long way to curb the menace of document theft in Nigeria. "If the results of the experiment are fully put to use, agencies like Nigeria Security Printing and Minting, TAWADA Nigeria limited and government could produce and control the use of the inks, thereby achieving some significant level of success in the area of indigenous security printing material development for document protection in line with the concept of 80 percent local content advocated by government" he said. In his remarks, the Vice Chancellor in

an answer to a request by Prof. Dakyes soliciting for grant to further his research, stated that they are hoping to get a grant allocation from the TETFund.



Prof. Usman Dakyes

8 APPOINTMENT/PROMOTION/AWARD NEWS

Yobe State Varsity Gets Deputy Vice Chancellors, Admin, Academic

By Aisha Muhammad Rabiu

Following the elapse of the two-year tenures of two terms of the Deputy Vice Chancellors, Administration and Academic of Yobe State University Damaturu, the institution's Senate has approved the appointment of Dr. Bukar Jamri and Dr. Mohammed Musa Lawan as the new Deputy Vice Chancellors, Administration and Academic respectively.

Before his latest appointment, Dr. Jamri had held several positions in the University which included Director Academic Planning (2019 – Date), Head of Sociology Department (2008 – 2013), Director Consultancy Services (2011 – 2016), Ag. Head of Sociology Department (2014 – 2016), Ag. Dean, Faculty of Social and Management Sciences (2015 – April, 2016).

Born on the 10th of June, 1979, Jamri attended Kur Mohammed Day Secondary School, Bama (1998), Umar Ibn Ibrahim El-Kanemi College of Education, Science and Technology, Bama: IJMBE (1997-1999), University of Maiduguri: B.Sc. Sociology and Anthropology (2000-2004), University of Bradford, UK (PFG) (April-May 2013), University of Bakht Al-Ruda, Republic of Sudan: Ph.D. Sociology (2015-2018).

He joined the services of the Yobe State University as a Graduate Assistant on 23rd December, 2006 and rose through the ranks to Senior Lecturer on 1st October 2018 (Due



Dr. Bukar Jamri

for Associate Professor 1st October 2021).

Dr. Jamri has served in various committees of Council, Senate, Management, faculty, department and other committees within and outside the University.

He is a member of various professional bodies which include: Member Nigerian Association of Sociological and Anthropological Practitioners (NASA): 2006 – Present, Member Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU): 2006- Present, Member, Chartered Institute of Public Diplomacy and Management: 2011- Present. The new Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic, Dr. Lawal who was born on the 17th of



Dr. M. M. Lawan

December, 1979. He attended Damboa Primary School Potiskum from 1985 to 1991, from where he proceeded to Government Senior Science Secondary School Potiskum between the year 1991 to 1996. He also attended The Federal Polytechnic Damaturu (1997-2000), Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi, Nigeria (2001-2005); University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (2008-2009), University of Aberdeen, UK (2011-2015) and obtained a National Diploma in SLT, B.Tech. Industrial Chemistry, M.Sc. Analytical Chemistry and Instrumental Analysis and Ph.D in Chemistry (Environmental Analytical Chemistry)

respectively.

Dr. Lawan Joined the services of the Yobe State University as Assistant Lecturer in July 2011 and rose to the rank of Senior Lecturer, while on studies he worked as Teaching Laboratory Demonstrator (October 2012- April 2014) at University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen UK, a Visiting lecturer at Gombe State University, Gombe. He has co-supervised M.Sc and Ph.D students both within and outside Nigeria. He has been Patron/Grand Patron for many students' organizations/clubs.

Dr. Mohammed Musa Lawan has held several Academic and Administrative positions in the university which included: Acting. Head of Chemistry Department (July 2015 to March 2016), Acting Director School of Pre-Degree Studies (March, 2016 to 2018), Director School of Pre-Degree Studies (October, 2018 to April 2020) Director Information and Communication Technology (ICT) (2020 to Date). He has served in various committees of Council, Senate, Management, faculty department and other committees within and outside the University.

Dr. Lawan is a member of various professional bodies, such as American Chemical society (ACS), Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC), Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment (IEMA), Chemical Society of Nigeria (CSN).

Profs Bugaje, Okwelle Assume Duties as CEOs of NBTE, NCCE



Prof. Idris Bugaje

from page 1

Professor of Chemical Engineering, and Alumnus of Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, Professor Bugaje is one of the most-sought-after Institutions Administrators in Nigeria, because of his hard work, uncompromising principles, passion and unflinching commitment to turn moribund Institutions around.

Despite the huge and uphill challenges at the Board, and which had for long been in a serious state of malfunction, Professor Bugaje is reported to have accepted the appointment as a challenge. The new NBTE Executive Secretary was

also at different times Rector of Federal Polytechnic Nasarawa, Nasarawa State, and Director General of National Research Institute of Chemical Technology (NARICT), Basawa Zaria.

Professor Bugaje who is an indigene of Katsina state is a visiting Professor in multiple Universities in different parts of the world.

It would be recalled that Professor Bugaje was among the more than one hundred candidates that applied for the NBTE exalted seat more than eight years ago, out of whom about 80 candidates were shortlisted for a one-week marathon interview, and out of



Prof. Paulinus C. Okwelle

which he became tops, but was denied the position.

But, because it has been destined that he will hold the position, he has eventually been so appointed.

On his part, Professor Okwelle, a reputable educationist, University academic/administrator, has taught in different capacities in various institutions of higher learning such as College of Education Port-Hacort, Rivers State, Federal College of Education (Technical) Bichi, Federal College of Education (Technical) Asaba, from where he moved to Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Port-Harcourt as

Lecturer II where he rose to the position of Professor.

Prof Okwelle who has written multiple journal articles which were published in different local and international journals, has also published many academic books.

Professor Okwelle has also attended several local and international conferences in Nigeria and in different parts of the world.

The new NCCE Executive Secretary, has supervised several undergraduate, Masters and PhD Students.

It would be recalled that Prof Okwelle's appointment was announced alongside Prof John Okpaku Enaohwo as Chairman, Governing Board of the National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE).

Following Prof Okwelle's popular appointment, Provosts of several Colleges of Education such as Mr. Emmanuel Jurte of College of Education Gindiri, Dr. Wahab Ademola Azeez, Federal College of Education Akoka, Lagos State, Prof. Muhammad Fagge, Federal College of Education (Technical) Bichi, Dr. Suleiman Balarabe, Federal College of Education, Zaria, Dr. Josephine Anene-Okeakwa, Federal College of Education Asaba, and Prof. Faruk Rashid Ibrahim, Federal College of Education Kontagora, congratulated the new Executive Secretary and prayed to the Almighty Allah to support and see him through in moving the commission to greater heights.

Similarly, the Rectors of Federal Polytechnic Bida, and Nasarawa, Dr Abubakar A. Dzukogi and Dr. Abdullahi Alhassan respectively, congratulated the New Executive Secretary of National Board to Technical Education, Prof. Idris Bugaje who they described as one of the most competent administrators appointed in recent time to steer affairs of the board. They prayed to the Almighty Allah to guide him and give him more wisdom to make a difference and leave indelible marks in the board.



His Royal Highness, Etsu Nupe, Alhaji (Dr.) Yahaya Abubakar, with the New Wakili Arewa Nupe, Alhaji Hussaini AbdurRahman, FCNA, during the turbaning ceremony and royalty paying of homage by the new Wakili recently at Wadata Palace, Bida, Niger State



The Registrar, Federal Polytechnic Nasarawa, Alh. Munir Ahmad (Middle) shortly after the Conferment of Honorary Doctorate Degree (Doctor of Arts Honoris Causa in Public Administration and Office Management) Award to him by the European-American University (EAU) in Common Wealth of Dominica/Republic of Panama, recently.



Head of Mass Communication Department, ABU Zaria, Dr. Shamsuddeen Muhammad During a recent inaugural lecture in the University

CBN Exclusive News

CBN Develops Scheme To Reduce Graduate Unemployment



From page 1
The CBN Governor, Dr Godwin Emefiele, stated this in a goodwill message to the 35th Conference of Vice Chancellors of Nigerian Universities, that held recently at

bowa, said there was need to re-orientate youths from waiting for white collar jobs to entrepreneurship. He said that the scheme was designed to support the development of entrepreneurial mindsets and culture, through the introduction of a platform that provides seamless access to affordable finance by graduates. “It would also assist in creating employment for many youths graduating from various institutions of higher learning in the country annually”, he added. He said an estimated 600,000 graduates from our tertiary institutions enter the labour market annually, after participating in the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) programme, seeking the already thinned out white collar jobs. “The situation has contributed significantly to the rising youth unemployment across the country,” the CBN Governor stressed. Emefiele said that the proposed scheme would also provide a platform for building digital skills relevant to Nigeria’s broader developmental goals. He explained that efforts were ongoing aimed at addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on production sectors and dwindling oil revenues in the country. “Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) portend great opportunities for addressing these gaps and accelerating economic growth by leveraging our vibrant youth population,” he added

CBN to Launch Digital Currency Before December

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has disclosed plan to launch a digital currency before the end of this year. The Director, Information Technology, CBN, Rakiya Mohammed, revealed this on Thursday, during a virtual media briefing at the end of a Bankers Committee meeting held that also held virtual. “The digital currency would be accessible to all Nigerians. Just like everybody has access to cash, everybody will have access to the central bank’s digital currency. Let me state categorically that cryptocurrency such as Bitcoin and the rest of them are not under the control of the central bank; they are purely private decisions that individuals make. “We have spent over two years studying this concept of central bank’s digital currency and we have identified the risks. And it is one of the reasons why I said we are setting up a central governance structure that would involve all industry stakeholders to access all the risks as we continue on this journey. “Very soon we would make an announcement on the date for the launch and by the end of the year we should have the digital currency,” the central bank director added. *Culled from www.thisdaylive.com*

Change of Name

I, formerly known and addressed as **AL-MAOJUD AHMAD**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULWA-HAB ALMAOJUD HAMED**.
Former documents remain valid. General public, my bank to please note.

I, formerly known and addressed as **ZAKARI AHMAD MUHAMMAD**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ZAKARI YA’U AHMAD**, wrongly cited date of birth - **15/5/1984**, while correct date of birth is **15/5/1996**. Former documents remain valid. Access Bank and the general public to note



Prof. Paulinus C. Okwelle
 Executive Secretary,
 National Commission for Colleges of Education

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION GINDIRI



Congratulatory Message

On behalf of the Management, Staff and Students of College of Education, Gindiri, I, the Provost, Mr. Emmanuel Jurte, felicitate with the Family, Friends and Well-wishers of our colleague and friend, Professor Paulinus C. Okwelle, on his well-deserved Appointment as the Executive Secretary of National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE).
 May the Almighty Lord be your source of inspiration, guidance, decisions and policy formulations in the administration of the commission. We pray that your dream, to turn around the commission and to make it one of the commissions that its stakeholders and the nation at large, will be proud of, at the end of your tenure, comes true. We trust that the good Lord will bless you with abundant health and inexhaustible wisdom to leave an enviable and indelible record at the Commission.

Congratulations

Signed:

Mr. Emmanuel Jurte,
 Provost, COE Gindiri



Mr. Emmanuel Jurte
 Provost, College of Education Gindiri



Prof. Paulinus C. Okwelle
 Executive Secretary,
 National Commission for Colleges of Education

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST



FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
AKOKA, LAGOS STATE

Congratulatory Message

On behalf of the Management, Staff and Students of Federal College of Education Akoka, I, the Provost, Dr. Wahab Ademola Azeez, felicitate with the Family, Friends and Well-wishers of our colleague and friend, Professor Paulinus C. Okwelle, on his meritorious Appointment as the Executive Secretary of National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE).
 May the Almighty Allah be your source of inspiration, counsel, and direction in the administration of this great commission. May He help you to fulfill your dreams to turn around the commission and to make it an exemplary one. It is our prayers that we will all be proud of you and your achievements, at end of your tenure. We pray that the Almighty Allah will bless you with abundant health and colossal wisdom to steer the commission to enviable heights.

Congratulations

Signed:

Dr. Wahab Ademola Azeez
 Provost FCE Akoka



Dr. Wahab Ademola Azeez
 Provost, FCE Akoka



Prof. Paulinus C. Okwelle
 Executive Secretary,
 National Commission for Colleges of Education

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST



**FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
 (TECHNICAL) BICHI**

Congratulatory Message

On behalf of the Council, Management, Staff and Students of Federal College of Education (Technical) Bichi, the Provost, Professor Muhammad Bashir Fagge, joins the Family, Friends and Well-wishers of our colleague and friend, Professor Paulinus C. Okwelle, in felicitating with him on his meritorious Appointment as the Executive Secretary of National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE).

Sir, no doubt, your appointment as the Executive Secretary of this great Commission is one of the best and deserving in recent times, considering your track and serene records of academic and administrative achievements.

As one of our former colleagues at the Federal College of Education Bichi, we are among those that are in the best position to congratulate you on this well-deserved appointment.

We pray that your dream, to take the commission to enviable heights by the end of your tenure, comes true.

We trust that the Almighty Allah will bless you with good health, patience and the large heart required to administer the Commission and position it on the path of greatness.

Congratulations!

Signed:

Prof Muhammad Bashir Fagge
 Provost, FCET Bichi



Prof. Muhammad B. Fagge
 Provost, FCET Bichi



Prof. Paulinus C. Okwelle
 Executive Secretary,
 National Commission for Colleges of Education

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST



**FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
 (TECHNICAL) GUSAU**

Congratulatory Message

On behalf of the Council, Management, Staff and Students of Federal College of Education (Technical) Gusau, I, the Provost, Dr. Umar Bello, join the Family, Friends and Well-wishers of our colleague and friend, Professor Paulinus C. Okwelle, to felicitate with you on your meritorious Appointment as the Executive Secretary of National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE).

May the Almighty Allah be your source of inspiration, guidance, decisions and policy formulations in the administration of the commission.

May He take charge of your affairs in your commitment to turn the Commission around, and to make it the pride of its stakeholders and the nation at large.

It is our belief that the Almighty Allah that chose and coronated you as the Executive Secretary of the Commission, will bless you with abundant health and enormous wisdom to make an enviable and historic difference at the Commission.

Congratulations

Signed:

Ag. Dr. Umar Bello
 Provost, FCET, Gusau



DR. UMAR BELLO
 Ag. Provost, FCET GUSAU



Prof. Paulinus C. Okwelle
 Executive Secretary,
 National Commission for Colleges of Education

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST



**FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
 KONTAGORA**

Congratulatory Message

On behalf of the Council, Management, Staff and Students of Federal College of Education, Kontagora, I, the Provost, Prof. Faruk Rashid Haruna, felicitate with the Family, Friends and Well-wishers of our colleague and friend, Professor Paulinus C. Okwelle, on his worthy Appointment as the Executive Secretary of National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE).

May the Almighty Allah be your source of motivation, guidance, and policy formulations in the administration of the commission.

Your assumption of office at this point in time in the history of Nigeria, is no doubt, a great challenge to you, but, we are confident that the Almighty Allah will be your strength and will make your administration of the commission a perfect success.

May He also bless you with abundant health, firmness of purpose to make an admirable and landmark difference at the Commission.

Congratulations

Signed:
 Prof Faruk Rashid Haruna
 FCE Kontagora



Prof. Faruk Rashid Haruna
 PROVOST, FCE KONTAGORA



Prof. Paulinus C. Okwelle
 Executive Secretary,
 National Commission for Colleges of Education

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST



**FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
 (TECHNICAL) ASABA**

Congratulatory Message

On behalf of the Council, Management, Staff and Students of Federal College of Education (Technical) Asaba, I, the Provost, Dr Mrs Josephine Anene-Okeakwa, felicitate with the Family, Friends and Well-wishers of our colleague and friend, Professor Paulinus C. Okwelle, on your well-deserved Appointment as the Executive Secretary of National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE).

May the Almighty Lord be your source of ingenuity, guidance, decisions and intentions in the administration of the commission.

We pray that your dream, to turn around the commission and to make it one of the commissions that its stakeholders and the nation at large will be proud of, at the end of your tenure, comes true.

We trust that the good Lord will bless you with sound health and infinite wisdom to make an enviable and notable difference at the Commission.

Congratulations!

Signed:
 Dr Josephine Anene-Okeakwa
 Provost, FCET Asaba



Dr. Josephine Anene-Okeakwa
 Provost, FCET ASABA



Prof. Paulinus C. Okwelle
 Executive Secretary,
 National Commission for Colleges of Education

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST



FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION ZARIA

Congratulatory Message

On behalf of the Council, Management, Staff and Students of Federal College of Education, Zaria, I, the Ag. Provost, Dr. Suleiman Balarabe, felicitate with Family, Friends and Well-wishers of our Boss, colleague and friend, Professor Paulinus C. Okwelle, on his very deserving Appointment as the Executive Secretary of National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE). May the Almighty Allah be your source of inspiration, guidance, decisions and policy formulations in the administration of the commission. We pray that your dream, to bring rapid development to the commission and to make it one of the commissions that its stakeholders and the nation at large will be proud of, at the end of your tenure, comes true. May the Almighty Allah give you sound health and enormous wisdom to make an enviable and extraordinary feat at the Commission.

Signed:
 Dr. Suleiman Balarabe
 Ag. Provost FCE Zaria



DR. SULEIMAN BALARABE
 Provost, FCE ZARIA



Prof. Paulinus C. Okwelle
 Executive Secretary,
 National Commission for Colleges of Education

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST



FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION KATSINA

Congratulatory Message

On behalf of the Management, Staff and Students of Federal College of Education Katsina, I, the Provost, Dr. Aliyu Idris Funtua, felicitate with the Family, Friends and Well-wishers of our colleague-turned Boss, Professor Paulinus C. Okwelle, on his deserving and timely Appointment as the Executive Secretary of National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE). As you settle down for business, we pray to the Almighty Allah to be your source of inspiration and guidance. May you achieve your aspiration to leave unparalleled legacies at the Commission. May He also bless you with abundant health and wisdom.

Congratulations!

Signed:
 Dr. Aliyu Idris Funtua
 Provost FCE Katsina



Dr. Aliyu Idris Funtua
 Provost FCE, Katsina



PROF. IDRIS MUHAMMAD BUGAJE
Executive Secretary,
National Board for Technical Education

**OFFICE OF THE RECTOR
FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC BIDA**



Congratulatory Message

On behalf of the Council, Management, Staff and Students of Federal Polytechnic Bida, I, the Rector, Dr. Abubakar Abdul Dzukogi, join the Family, Friends and Well-wishers of our colleague and friend, Professor Idris Muhammad Bugaje, to congratulate him on his well-deserved Appointment as our Boss - the Executive Secretary of National Board for Technical Education (NBTE).

As a veteran, and one of the most competent and experienced Polytechnic administrators in Nigeria's history today, we are sure your appointment signals future greatness for Nigeria's Polytechnic.

We pray that your dream, to make giant strides at the Board and to make it pride of its stakeholders and Nigeria at large, at the end of your tenure, comes true.

We trust that the Almighty Allah will grant you abundant health and enormous wisdom to make an enviable and memorable difference at the Board.

Congratulations
Signed:
Dr. Abubakar Abdul Dzukogi
Rector, Fed. Poly Bida



Dr. Abubakar A. Dzukogi
Rector, Federal Polytechnic Bida



PROF. IDRIS MUHAMMAD BUGAJE
Executive Secretary,
National Board for Technical Education

**OFFICE OF THE RECTOR
FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC NASARAWA**



Congratulatory Message

On behalf of the Management, Staff and Students of Federal Polytechnic Nasarawa, I, the Rector, Dr. Abdullahi Alhassan, join the Family, Friends and Well-wishers of our Boss, Professor Idris Muhammad Bugaje, to felicitate with him on his meritorious Appointment as the Executive Secretary of National Board for Technical Education (NBTE).

Sir, your well-deserved appointment did not come as a surprise to all those that know you and the giant strides you left behind as indelible legacies when you held sway as our Rector.

As you settle down to apply your priceless experiences in administering the Board, we pray that your aspiration to turn around the Board and to move it to greater heights, comes true.

We also pray to the Almighty Allah to bless you with abundant health and enormous wisdom to make an enviable and momentous difference at the Board.

Congratulations
Signed:
Dr. Abdullahi Alhassan
Rector, Fed. Poly Nasarawa



Dr. Abdullahi Alhassan
Rector, Federal Polytechnic Nasarawa



Susan Croft

Susan is an associate of The Centre for Strategy and Communications in London specialising in communications training, business development, event management, PR/media skills and management/leadership. Susan has strong ties with Nigeria as Head of Institute for the London School of Public Relations/Nigeria and as a consultant and global trainer for the government's Tertiary Education Trust Fund. Susan is an international trainer and meeting facilitator and works in the commercial, academic and non-profit sectors. Susan is also a qualified executive coach and is certified in innovative people development by the Global Academy of Finance and Management. Susan is also co-founder and lead trainer at Career Skills Plus which offers life and business skills workshops to sixth-form students throughout the UK as well as enrichment programmes for Years 10 and 11. She has also played a full and active role in public life and has

focused specifically on women's issues in the workplace. She is a member of the steering group for the European Commission's Women in Industrial Research – a special project looking into ways to encourage more women into science and research across the European Union. She is also former chairman of the London Fair Play Consortium, a joint venture between the UK Government's department for Employment and the Equal Opportunity Commission, whose remit is to identify and help remove the barriers to women playing a full role in the UK economy. She is also a former chairman of the CAM Foundation, the UK's leading awards body for qualifications in marketing, advertising and public relations. In addition Susan has been a Governor of two private girls' schools and has helped shape their development and extra-curricular programmes. She is an Accredited Member of the Public Relations Society of America, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and holds a diploma in Journalism from the UK's National Council for the Training of Journalists.

The Power Of Public Relations



In this, my third column for Education Monitor, I am pleased to address another subject close to my heart: Public Relations. I hope you enjoy reading it.

I am very pleased to let you know that Nigeria now has its own public relations training college – the London School of PR/Nigeria. I am delighted to have been appointed Head of Institute by the founder Charles Edosomwan with whom I have worked on many projects over the past 5 years.

It is interesting to note the exponential growth of PR in Nigeria and other African countries over the past decade. When I first started in the profession PR was considered a nice-to-have but not strategically associated with the business. I spent most of my early years writing press releases, organising media events and hosting journalists

at expensive luncheons. How those days have gone! Now PR is front and foremost in the organisation with many PR executives sitting on the board of directors. PR which is essentially reputation management is considered at the vanguard of strategy and business development. Whereas the skills you used to need some 30-40 years ago were good writing, communications, event management and a sunny personality, now it encompasses so much more (although the sunny personality is still a plus).

Public relations professionals today now need an understanding of finance, management, public affairs, social

media, risk management, technology and they need to keep their pulse on international affairs as well. PR requires an excellent understanding of the organisation or client organisation – be it a university, college, global company, government agency, NGO or charity. PRs need to sit alongside the decision makers and be the first to know when developments happen.

Having worked in academia for many years I know how important reputation management is to education. A good, solid reputation will help you recruit and retain the best talent, engage students, attract government and other funding and may put you in

the global limelight. A poor reputation or the poor handling of risks and crises will do the opposite. It is therefore critical to engage key stakeholders, to communicate effectively with the media and to plan, plan, plan!

For those readers who feel their PR needs improving or developing I can highly recommend taking a course at LSPR – virtually delivered for the time being. Subjects in the diploma programmes range from branding and reputation management to building PR strategies. Take a look: info@teksightedge.com

Good luck building your reputation!

16 For the Record

Faces of the newly appointed Chancellors of Nigerian Federal Universities



Oba Rufus Adeyemo Adejugbe Aladesanmi III, Ewi of Ado-Ekiti
Abubakar Tafawa Balewa Uni., Bauchi

Oba Rufus Adeyemo Adejugbe Aladesanmi III, Ewi of Ado-Ekiti
Abubakar Tafawa Balewa Uni., Bauchi



HM Obi Ofala Nnaemeka Alfred Achebe. Obi of Onitsha
Ahmadu Bello University Zaria



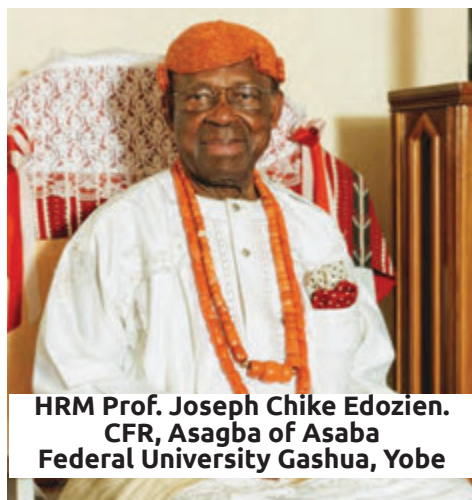
HRM Oba Aremu Gbadebo. Alake of Egbaland
Alex Ekwueme University, Ndufu-Alike



HM, Oba Ewuare 11, Oba Of Benin
Bayero University, Kano



HRM King W S Joshua Igbugburu X, Ibenanawei Of Bomo Kingdom
Federal University, Dutse



HRM Prof. Joseph Chike Edozien. CFR, Asagba of Asaba
Federal University Gashua, Yobe



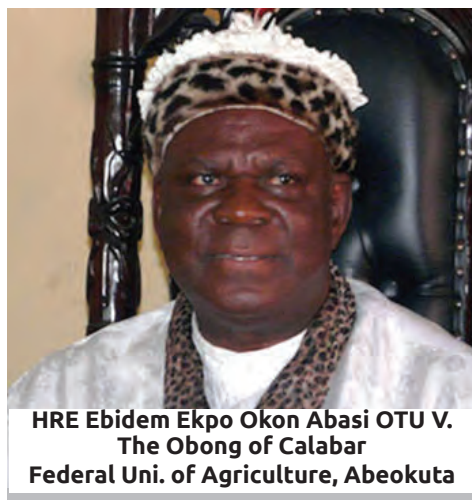
HM, Shekarau Angyu, Masa Ibi Kuyon 11, The Uka Of Wukari
Federal University Lafia



HRH Alhaji (Dr.) Mohammadu Abali Ibn Mohammed Idris, CON. The Emir of Fika
Federal University Lokoja



Prince Opaluwa Okoliko The Attah of Igala
Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State



HRE Ebidem Ekpo Okon Abasi OTU V. The Obong of Calabar
Federal Uni. of Agriculture, Abeokuta



HRH, Oba Babatunde Adewale Ajayi, Torungbuwa 11, Akarigbo Of Remoland
Fed. Uni. of Petr. Resources, Effurun



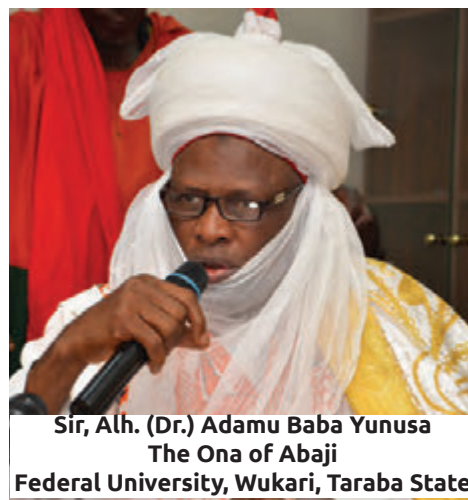
HRH, Alhaji Umar Kabir Umar 11, Emir Of Katagum
Federal University of Tech., Akure



HRM, Aladetoyinbo Ogunlade Aladelusi, Deji Of Akure
Federal University of Technology, Minna



King Dandeson Douglas Jaja jeki. Amanyanabo of Opobo Kingdom
Federal University, Dutsin-Ma, Katsina



Sir, Alh. (Dr.) Adamu Baba Yunusa The Ona of Abaji
Federal University, Wukari, Taraba State



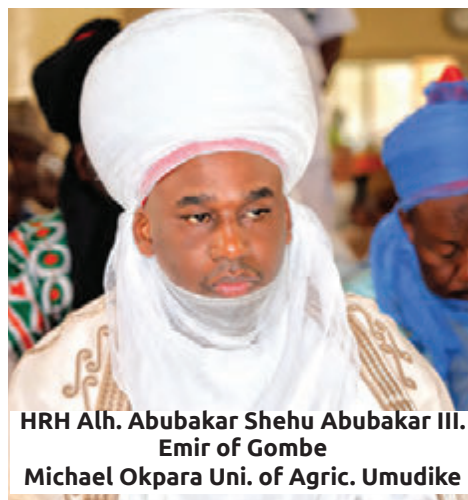
HRM Eze Cletus Ilomuanya Obi of Obinugwu
Federal University, Birnin Kebbi



Hrm, Igwe Amb. Lawrence Agubuzu, Obunechendo, Ezema Olo Kingdom
Federal University, Kashere



HRH, Justice Sidi Bage Muhammad 1, Emir Of Lafia
Federal University, Otuoke, Bayelsa



HRH Alh. Abubakar Shehu Abubakar III. Emir of Gombe
Michael Okpara Uni. of Agric. Umudike



HRM Okuku (Dr.) Uwa Umoh Adiaka III, JP. Paramount Ruler/Ekporikpo of Obot Modibbo Adama Uni. of Technology, Yola

Faces of the newly appointed Chancellors of Nigerian Federal Universities



HRH Agabaidu Elias Ikoyi Obekpa
CON, FCTI, OCH'IDOMA IV.
National Open University of Nigeria



HRM (Dr.) Da Jacob Gyang Buba.
Gbong Gwon Jos
Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka



HRH, Alhaji (Dr.) Yahaya Abubakar, CFR.
The Etsu Nupe
Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife



HRH, Dr Rilwan Suleiman Adamu
CFR, FNIOB, Emir Of Bauchi
University of Abuja, Gwagwalada



Alhaji Ibrahim Sulu Gambari, CFR.
The Emir of Ilorin
University of Agriculture, Makurdi



HRM Prof James Ortese Iorzua
Ayatse, THE TOR TIV.
University of Benin



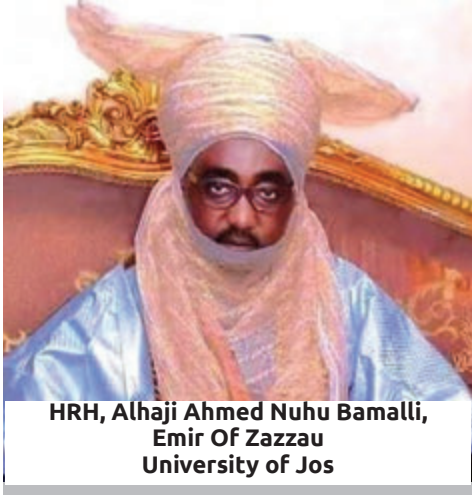
HRH, Alhaji Aminu Ado Bayero,
Emir Of Kano
University of Calabar



HE Alhaji Muhammadu Sa'ad Abubakar
III, CFR, mni. Sultan of Sokoto
University of Ibadan



HRH, Alh. (Dr.) AbdulMumini Kabir
Usman, CFR. Emir of Katsina
University of Ilorin



HRH, Alhaji Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli,
Emir Of Zazzau
University of Jos



Alhaji (Dr.) Abubakar Ibn Umar Garbai
El-Kanemi. The Shehu of Borno
University of Lagos



HRM, Oba (Dr.) Lamidi Olayiwola
Adeyemi III, JP, CFR, LLD. Alafin of Oyo
University of Maiduguri



HRM, Oba Adeyeye Enitan Babatunde
Ogunwusi, Ojaja II. The Ooni of Ife
University of Nigeria, Nsukka



HRH, Muhammadu Ilyasu Bashar
Emir of Gwandu
University of Port-Harcourt



Alayeluwa Oba (Dr.) Rilwanu Babatunde
Osuolale Aremu Akiolu I, CFR, mni.
Oba of Lagos
Usamanu Danfodiyo University



HRH. Alhaji Attahiru Mohammed
Ahmed (CON), Emir Of Zamfara
University of Health Sciences



HRM, Maj-Gen Felix Mujakperuo (rtd),
CFR, mni, ORODJE OF OKPE KINGDOM
Nigerian Army University, Bui



HRM King Alfred Papapereye Diete- Spiff,
Ofr, The Amanyanoabo Of Twon Brass.
Nigerian Maritime Uni. Okerenkoko



EZE DR EBERECHI N DICK JP, EZE UDO 1
OF MGBOKO NGWA, AMAISE
Federal University of Agriculture, Zuru



HRH Alhaji (Dr.) Adamu Abubakar Maje,
CON. The Emir of Hadejia
University of Uyo

How American Journalist Predicted Insecurity Crisis, Plot To Destabilize Nigeria

• Gunmen Take Over Many Parts of Nigeria



BY NEHRU ODEH

American journalist, Gordon Duff, indeed once saw tomorrow. Yet when he wrote in 2011 about a conspiratorial plan by “outside powers” to destabilize Nigeria and balkanize it, not many took him seriously. But 10 years on what he said is fast becoming a sad reality as many now feared that the country is on the verge of a civil war with armed groups springing in every part of the country causing havoc, kidnapping, looting, raping and killing Nigerian citizens with reckless abandon.

The signs of a country on the verge of destruction, as Duff predicted in that article entitled, Nigeria: Targeted for destruction? For those who have ears to hear. A security report of Nigeria’s precarious situation... A Must Read Piece for all Africans, are everywhere. Boko Haram, the terrorist group he mentioned, is still wrecking destruction in the North-East, Bandits and herdsmen have virtually taken over the North West and some parts of the Middle Belt, herdsmen and kidnapers are having a field day in the in the South West and South South while hoodlums and secessionist groups are causing mayhem in the South East.

However, the remarkable thing about Duff’s article is that he wrote with certainty and gusto, as though not only was he in possession of facts not in the public domain, but also knew what he was talking about. As the title of the article implies, the American journalist issued his warning for those who have ears to hear. According to him, Boko Haram “is the construct of outside powers who plan to Balkanize Nigeria and Nigeria is a target for destruction.”

Still, the intriguing thing this intrepid plot is his claim that those outside powers are working in connivance with inside forces, Nigerians – even with those in government-, who believe they have everything to gain and nothing to lose from the crisis, to destabilize the country. “Key Nigerians ripe for bribery are making this possible. They are aware they are bringing about the destruction of their own nation, they simply don’t care. The attitude there is “every man for himself.” Another

way of describing those currently in power, including and especially officials in counter-terrorism and security is “rats abandoning a sinking ship.” In all fairness, the U.S. has a similar elitist clique of politicians, special interest multi-nationals, some of whom have their own intelligence resources that rival most countries. The terror group, Boko Haram, is real but in its current formation, it is a proxy of outside powers who plan to Balkanize Nigeria, simply another domino to fall as have so many others.

“There are no real interests to control the activities of Boko Haram because of the vested interests of certain foreign governments in collusion with their agents in the present administration and the country.

Nigeria is a tinderbox beyond imagination. Decades old hatreds and fears are closer to the surface here than even in the Balkans. This is a very dangerous game some have chosen to begin. Were they available, and who is to say they aren’t, Nigerians would gleefully use nuclear weapons to settle domestic differences.

“I have close personal friends at the highest levels of government and only write these few words out of deep concern,” Duff advised.

Here is the article written by Gordon Duff.

NIGERIA: TARGETED FOR DESTRUCTION? FOR THOSE WHO HAVE EARS TO HEAR – GORDON DUFF

A security report of Nigeria’s precarious situation... A Must Read Piece for all Africans

I won’t write about Nigeria as a journalist. I am known in Nigeria as a national security specialist with decades of experience there. I have close personal friends at the highest levels of government and only write these few words out of deep concern.

For those reading the news about Africa, Nigeria is under terrorist attack and preparing military operations against a group called Boko Haram, an Islamic group from the North, more accurately centred in Niger, a nation to the north, a cesspool of international intrigue.

1. The security of the presidency and the entire nation has been greatly compromised by the activities of certain individuals very close to the presidency.
2. It is common knowledge that the president of Nigeria is not protected at all and you can get at him at any time in or out of his residence.
3. The security around him is a joke to say the least, contrary to the views of certain individuals around the president.
4. The issues of government by settlement which had long plagued Nigeria are the orders of the day now where certain individuals are asking for colossal sums of money from certain security consultants to provide training and security equipment to the government.
5. One individual in particular has been known to collect huge sums of money from these outfits currently parading themselves as security consultants in Abuja
6. The level of cover and protection given the president and his family is simply laughable and nonexistent

Why has the country been compromised?

It is widely known that certain foreign elements are providing security to the president and providing his current security details. What a joke, you might say. These same foreign elements are the same who have sold outdated equipment to the government and are going around Abuja installing CCTV and bomb detection equipment around the capitol, technology decades old.

Huge sums of money have changed hands for second rate equipment. The government pays for a Rolls Royce car but gets a VW Beetle instead!! Why is there so much fear and apprehension among Nigerians that the government can no longer protect its citizens?

Two Nigerian Policemen Caught Bringing In Truckload of Bombs

What are the costs expended so far on security equipment and the so called security consultants?

Why have certain individuals collected bribe money to award these security

contracts at over inflated figures? Now, this is one example of several of how corruption is endemic and goes to the heart of government. You may wonder who stands to benefit from these contracts at the expense of the security of the president, the presidency and the nation. The answers to these questions lie within the presidency itself because of the acts of these individuals in the last few weeks. There are no real interests to control the activities of Boko Haram because of the vested interests of certain foreign governments in collusion with their agents in the present administration and the country.

To some in government, this is another tool to control certain individuals. Most Nigerians are cowards, anyway. Kill a few “Nigerians,” “Christians” and make it look like Christianity against Islam to provoke a reaction from Nigerians.

If you get no reaction, kill a few more or go after prime targets to grab headlines. Again, you may ask yourself, who stands to gain when there are terror scares in the country? Nigerians are highly intelligent and resourceful people and can put an immediate end to all of these happenings when their own status is on the line and their livelihood is at stake or threatened. Boko Haram – No Shortage of Unemployed Young Men Nigeria has not gotten to that point yet but may soon reach the point of no return. Sources within the Intel community have confirmed that Boko Haram is getting

Intel assistance from senior Nigerian intelligence officials. To these officials, this is a means to an end. The danger here is that a monster has been created which sooner or later may go out of control of their political masters. Certain people are benefiting financially from the current security situation in the country, from inflated security contracts. One such individual from within the presidency recently placed orders from a North American and Middle East country located near Tel Aviv. What is the cost of a Nigerian life (Mr.) and how much is it worth to you sir? This is the public version of things anyway. However, outside forces are at play, concerns “from afar” best described in a fictional context.

H. G. Wells described it best in his science fiction novel, War of the Worlds:

“No one would have believed in the last years of the nineteenth century that this world was being watched keenly and closely by intelligences greater than man’s and yet as mortal as his own; that as men busied themselves about their various concerns they were scrutinised and studied, perhaps almost as narrowly as a man with a microscope might scrutinise the transient creatures that swarm and multiply in a drop of water. With infinite complacency men went to and fro over this globe about their little affairs, serene in their assurance of their empire over matter...It is curious to recall some of the mental habits of those departed days...Yet across the gulf of space, minds that are to our minds as ours are to those of the beasts that perish, intellects vast and cool and unsympathetic, regarded this earth with envious eyes, and slowly and surely drew their plans against us. And early in the twentieth century came the great disillusionment.”

Thus, fiction again becomes reality, not an enemy from space but one of terrestrial origin, unnamed but recognized by all who see the lands laid waste. In Nigeria, Terrorism is the Rough Version

To be continued

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISTS/RIGHTS ACTIVISTS

This Page shares with readers the history and struggles of celebrated investigative Journalists, Human and Civil Rights Activists (death and alive) who gave their lives in the defence of humanity, particularly, the oppressed, who use(d) their Pen and Speeches to challenge the inhumanity, barbarism, and injustice of the globalists. Such brave Journalists and Rights Activists who are Role Models include - Ida Bells Wells-Barnett, Seymour Hersh, Gideon Levy, Gordon Duff, Bob Woodward, Martin Luther King Jr., Malcom X, etc.

with
Zainab Zakaria



19

Today, a simple marker on a street corner in Memphis, Tennessee commemorates the People's Grocery lynching. In 1892 three black men, co-owners of a store giving white businesses a run for their money, were attacked, fought back and were arrested. They never stood trial. A white mob broke into the jail, dragged them away and lynched them.

The murders were grieved by their friend Ida B Wells, an African American teacher, journalist, civil rights pioneer and suffragist about whom it was once said: "She has plenty of nerve; she is as smart as a steel trap, and she has no sympathy with humbug."

Wells was galvanised to count, investigate and report lynchings in America as no one had done before, hurling her 5ft frame into hostile territory with all the fearlessness of a war reporter.

For a century she has languished as an unsung heroine, overshadowed by more familiar giants of the civil rights movement. In recent years, however, her crusading activism and muckraking techniques are being rediscovered. A society for investigative reporting bears her name; the New York Times – which once branded her "a slanderous and nasty-minded mulattress" – just published a belated obituary, and there are moves to name a street after her in New York and build a monument in Chicago.

"I consider her my spiritual grandmother," says Nikole Hannah-Jones, an investigative journalist covering civil rights. "She was was a trailblazer in every way ... as a feminist, as a suffragist, as an investigative reporter, as a civil rights leader. She was just an all-around badass."

Wells was born into slavery in Holly Springs, Mississippi, during the civil war. She was orphaned at 16 after her parents – as well as a younger brother – died from a yellow fever epidemic. She found work as a teacher to support her five remaining siblings, then moved to Memphis, where she became a leading journalist and civil rights activist.

At 21, Wells clashed with a white train conductor who ordered her to move from the ladies' car to the a section designated for black passengers, despite her having bought a first class ticket. When she refused and the conductor tried to forcibly move her, Wells "fastened her teeth on the back of his hand", as she wrote later.

Wells sued after being ejected from the train and won the case (a newspaper headline declared "Darky damsel gets damages"), though the decision was later reversed in court.

By the time Wells turned 25, she was the co-owner and editor of the Free Speech and Headlight, a local black newspaper, a platform she used to skewer racial inequality. Then came the People's Grocery Lynching. She denounced it in print, armed herself with a

pistol and spent months traveling alone in the south, researching more than 700 lynchings from the previous decade.

Some 4,075 African Americans were lynched in 12 southern states between 1877 and 1950, according to the Equal Justice Initiative's 2015 report, Lynching in America. Some were witnessed by big crowds who brought children and picnic baskets, as if at a public entertainment.

Wells's great-granddaughter, Michelle Duster, an author and public speaker, says: "They would torture people before they were killed and dismember them afterwards and pass around the body parts. It was shocking to me that



Ida B. Wells [Photo: Getty Images]

Ida B Wells: The Unsung Heroine Of The Civil Rights Movement



A crowd surrounds two African American men hanging from nooses on a pole. Photograph: Library of Congress/Corbis/VCG via Getty Images

New York Times Magazine, says: "There was no protection from the law for a black woman who was going into territories where black people had been stolen from the jail and lynched with the help of law enforcement.

"These places would have been hostile to a black person questioning these communities at all, but think about the types of emotion in a community that has just lynched someone and strung their body up for public display and then to have a black woman come in there asking questions. One has to ask: 'Would I have the courage to do that?' There was no help that was going to come for you. There was no protection from the law. Black folks didn't even have a lot of legal rights and they certainly didn't have much protection from law enforcement."

Wells, however, was a force of nature who once said, "One had better die fighting injustice than die like a dog or a rat in a trap." On

another occasion, she wrote: "I had already determined to sell my life as dearly as possible if attacked. If I could take one lyncher with me, this would even up the score a little bit."

She destroyed the mainstream media's narratives that suggested lynching victims were criminals – often rapists of white women – who got their just desserts. Her reporting showed that rape had not been alleged in two thirds of the lynchings or was only alleged after a covert, consensual, interracial relationship had been exposed.

Duster says: "She was putting names to stories and names to statistics. She was putting context into what was happening. Without what she did, it was pretty much 'OK, this person committed a crime, they got what they deserved.' She said, 'No, they did not commit a crime.' The narrative of the mainstream media at this time was very different from the reality she found on the ground."

people would take bones as souvenirs. The more I learned about the level of violence, the more I appreciated what it took for her to do what she did. I am just amazed."

Wells visited places where people had been hanged, shot, beaten, burned alive, drowned or mutilated. She examined photos of victims hanging from trees as mobs looked on, pored over local newspaper accounts, took sworn statements from eyewitnesses and, on occasion, even hired private investigators.

It was astoundingly courageous work in an era of Jim Crow segregation and in which women did not have the vote. Hannah-Jones, who writes for the

from the south for more than three decades but toured the US and UK, raising awareness through public speaking. In 1895 she published a pamphlet, the Red Record, the first statistical record of the history of American lynchings, a forerunner of data journalism projects such as The Counted, the Guardian's project to document people killed by police.

Hannah-Jones says: "She was one of the first people to actually tally the number of lynchings that were happening. We like to say she was one of our early data reporters."

She began to collect data on this to show how actually vast the scope of the problem was."

Wells married Chicago lawyer and newspaper editor Ferdinand Barnett and, uncommonly for the time, hyphenated her name rather than take his. The couple had four children. Wells juggled motherhood, journalism and civil rights. In 1909, she was one of the founders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), although was later ousted because she was perceived as too "radical". She also worked with Susan B Anthony as a leader in the movement for women's suffrage.

When Wells died in 1931 at the age of 68 from a brief illness due to kidney failure, her influence was waning, her autobiography was unfinished and her ambition of a federal anti-lynching law was unrealised. Duster muses: "She went out with a whimper. She was almost obsolete. She writes in her autobiography that there was a generation who didn't know who she was and didn't know about lynching. She wrote the book to stop it being forgotten."

Wells and Barnett are interred together in the Oak Woods cemetery in Chicago. She remains a little known figure in America and abroad. Hannah-Jones, who adopted the Twitter handle Ida Bae Wells, reflects: "A lot of people have no idea who Ida B Wells is. To this day people think my name is Ida; they don't even get the reference of my Twitter handle."

"I think her being a woman, and a black woman, were things that pretty much guaranteed her obscurity. She was also written out of the suffrage movement even though she played a huge role in it and was trying to push the white suffragists on racial equality. Both her gender and her race are the reasons why she was largely written out of history."

But now she is inspiring a new generation of women in journalism. Hannah-Jones is co-founder of the Ida B Wells Society for Investigative Reporting, which aims to increase the ranks, retention and profile of reporters and editors of colour in the field.

What if Wells herself were alive today? "I think she would be very unsurprised by the America of 2018," she says. "In many ways it would look very familiar to her. As long as she was able, she would be one of the sharpest critics of this country right now."

Culled from www.theguardian.com



EDUCATION MONITOR

For Knowledge, Issues-based and Alternative News
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June/July, 2021 Vol. 12 No. 22



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Mu'azu Muhammad Becomes New Emir of Funakaye

Gombe State Governor, Muhammadu Yahaya on Wednesday named Alhaji Muazu Muhammad Kwairanga as the new Emir of Funakaye. The confirmation of the Emir's appointment was contained in an official communication endorsed by the state Commissioner Local Governments and Chieftaincy Affairs, Alhaji Ibrahim Dasuki Jalo who stated that the appointment was in the exercise of the powers vested on the Governor. Presenting the appointment letter to the new monarch at the Emir's palace in Bajoga, Jalo

charged the royal father to embrace all and sundry in the area. Jalo said: "Aside from the three recommended nominees, many other eligible candidates from the royal family contested for the revered position but Allah has chosen Muazu Muhammad Kwairanga as the next emir of this blessed Emirate and as such I am appealing to all other contenders and the entire Funakaye Community to support and rally round the new monarch". He assured that Governor Inuwa Yahaya administration would continue to accord

special recognition and respect to the traditional institution in view of its role in the maintenance of peace and social cohesion. The Commissioner said the coronation and presentation of staff of office to the new emir would be held at a later date. It will be recalled that the newly appointed monarch is a younger brother to the late Emir Muhammad Kwairanga Abubakar. Until his emergence as the new Emir, he was the Dan Maje of Funakaye.

Culled from [vanguardngr.com](#)



Alhaji Muazu Muhammad Kwairanga

PALACE MONITOR

SPECIAL EDITION

Palace Monitor is a Monthly Newspaper: June/July, 2021 Vo. 2 No. 12 First Voice of Our Royal Fathers

Aminu Ado Bayero's Coronation As 15th Emir of Kano:

- Thanks Ganduje, Says Belief in Allah, Destiny, Prayers & Respect Earned Him The Throne
- Buhari Pours Encomium on Emir's Dad, the 13th Emir of Kano, Late Alhaji (Dr) Ado Bayero

By Sameer Sanusi Chiroma Yusuf & Waziri Isa Adam



The ancient city of Kano witnessed, on Saturday, 3rd June 2021, a historic and rare assembly of royal fathers, political leaders, comprising of Vice President of the federal republic of Nigeria, Professor Yemi Osinbajo, Chief of Staff to the President, Professor Ibrahim Gambari, State Governors and several dignitaries from different parts of the world, that were in the state to be part of the coronation ceremony and presentation of Staff of Office to the State's paramount ruler, Alhaji Aminu Ado Bayero, as the 15th Fulani Emir of Kano, by the State's Executive Governor, Alhaji (Dr) Abdullahi Umar Ganduje. The long-awaited event which threw residence of the city into a record state of excitement and memorable celebrations was one of the most attended coronations in recent times in Kano. In an emotion laden speech, Alhaji Aminu Ado Bayero, who thanked the Almighty Allah for sustaining his life and for choosing him to ascend the throne of his ancestors, commended Gov. Ganduje for his boldness, foresight and popular determination to right the past wrongs in the state, and to put the traditional institution in the right historical perspective.

Continue on page 23

Jama'a Emirate Royal Wedding: Kafanchan Stood Still For Magajin Garin Jama'a, Prince Abubakar Muhammadu Isa Muhammadu

By Muhammad M. Isa

The ancient town of Kafanchan, Headquarters of Jama'a Local Government Area of Kaduna State, and the proposed Capital of Gurara State, played host to hundreds of dignitaries who trooped to the town from different parts of the country to witness and bless a historic royal event at the Palace of the 11th Emir of Jama'a, Alhaji (Dr) Muhammadu Isa Muhammadu II CON. The event which took place on Saturday, 12th June, 2021, was the wedding Fatiha of the eldest son of the Emir,



Prince Abubakar Muhammadu Isa Muhammadu, who is also the Magajin Gari (Mayor) of Jama'a Emirate, with Dr Fatima Usman Dahiru, daughter of Dan Masanin Jama'a, Alhaji Shehu Usman Dahiru. The event which was marked by a unique and colourful style of traditional Horse Riding (Durbar) by the Celebrant and his friends, turned out to become more of show of unprecedented solidarity by friends and well wishers of both the Emirate, among whom was the Emir of Wase in Plateau state, Alhaji Muhammadu Sambo Haruna, and the Groom. See page 33 for the colourful Photo news of the Durbar



CORONATION OF THE 15TH EMIR OF KANO

His Royal Highness
Alh. Aminu Ado Bayero
15th Emir of Kano

Congratulations

On behalf of my Council, the Sultanate and Family, I, the Sultan of Sokoto, HRH. Alh. (Dr.) Muhammad Sa’ad Abubakar, felicitate with you on your well deserved coronation and presentation of Staff of Office as the 15th Emir of Kano by His Excellency, the State’s Executive Governor, Alh. (Dr.) Abdullahi Umar Ganduje on the 3rd of July, 2021.

Allah ya kara maka lafiya da zaman lafiya a kasar ka.

HRH. Alh. (Dr.) Muhammad Sa’ad Abubakar
Sultan of Sokoto



Alh. (Dr.) Muhammad Sa’ad Abubakar
Sultan of Sokoto

Aminu Ado Bayero's Coronation As 15th Emir of Kano:

From page 21

Earlier, in several pre-coronation interviews, the emir attributed reasons for his ascension to the throne to his absolute belief in the Almighty Allah as giver to, and taker of power from whoever He wills, belief in destiny, prayers and respect for leaders and elders.

He posits that, “even though it is natural that whoever that is from a royal family, prays and hopes that one day he will succeed his forefathers, nevertheless, we believe that it is not a do-or-die affair. It is something that is destined, and so, anyone from the family can be. Your elder brother can become an Emir, your younger brother, or son, can even ascend the throne before you. Therefore, wishes and prayers are the same for whoever comes from a royal family, but, at the end of the day, it is Allah that decides who becomes the Emir”

He prayed to Allah SWT to grant him the ability to administer his emirate with justice and fair play. He thanked the people of Kano State and the country at large for their love, affection and prayers.

He thanked the Scholars, Business men, civil and public servants and the youth male and female for their Goodwill. He thanked President Muhammadu Buhari and prayed that Allah grants him the ability to discharge the God given trust of giving Nigerians, a good life.

He admonished the Ummah to be God fearing and respect constituted authorities and abide by the Shariah of Allah. He prayed to Allah to grant all Nigerians good health and peace. “We should abide by the teachings of the noblest of creatures, prophet Muhammad (May the peace and blessings of the Almighty Allah be upon him),as this is the only way



HRH. Alh. Aminu Ado Bayero, Emir of Kano

out, out of our present predicament, misery and calamity; for certainly Allah does not change the condition of a people until they strive to change it themselves”, he sermoned “May Allah relieve our people from the calamities that befell us. I would like to seize this opportunity to reassure our people that we are ever ready to serve them and protect their property, lives and dignity. May Allah guide us in this task”, he prayed.

“I also want to seize this opportunity to remind all of us that Almighty Allah will hold all of us accountable for all our actions, on the Day of judgement. So, we should all strive to lead with justice and fair play”, the Emir further preached

In his address at the coronation ceremony, President Muhammadu Buhari extolled the virtues of Alhaji Ado Bayero, deceased Emir of Kano, describing him as a man of remarkable culture and principles.

He said the late Emir staked his own life at several junctures in the defence of his people and urged his son and new Emir, Aminu Ado-Bayero to emulate his father.

Buhari, who was represented at the event by his Chief of Staff, and Uncle to the Emir, Ambassador Ibrahim Gambari, shared some memories and anecdotes of his interactions with the deceased emir whom he said was his friend.

“I remember with nostalgia, the passion and

commitment he always exhibited in pursuit of any cause he believed in, a distinctive character that almost cost him his life prematurely on Jan. 19, 2013, because of his vociferous stand against Boko Haram terrorists,” he wrote.

The president expressed his belief in Aminu, saying: “I have confidence that you will exhibit such leadership qualities and much more as you have demonstrated in the few months of your Emirship.

“My deep and wholehearted congratulations to you for your ascension to the throne of your forefathers as the 15th Fulani Emir of Kano from Sullubawa Clan, culminating in a well-deserved installation.

“Your turbanning’ is providential because it is happening at a time in the history of our country when prevailing social and political conditions resonate with the ascension to the throne of my friend, your late father, the Emir of Kano, Alhaji Ado Bayero. May his soul Rest in Peace.”

President Buhari also prayed for the success of the emir, saying he looked forward to his contributions to uplifting the people of Kano Emirate in particular and the nation in general.

Speaking shortly after presenting the Staff of Office, Ganduje urged the Emir to exude character by promoting peace and unity among his subjects.

The Governor also advised the Emir to distance himself from anything that could tarnish the image of the traditional institution. Ganduje, who described Aminu Ado Bayero as a man of the masses, urged the traditional ruler to ensure the development of his domain like his late father.

Inauguration of 14th Governing Council of COE Gindiri

●Chair Promises Radical Transformations

●Sum Pyem Wants Council To Carry Community Along

By Muhammad M Garba

The 14th Governing Council of the College of Education, Gindiri, has promised to turn around the fortunes of the College within the Shortest possible time.

Chairman of the Council, Hon Gregory Naanyong Dakyp, dropped the hint during an interactive session with Management, Deans, Directors and Union officials of the College, as part of activities of the inaugural meeting of the Council recently.

The Council Chairman assured all that as a member of the College community, he will, along with other members of the Council, ensure that government gives them listening ears in order to achieve set goals of the College.

The interactive session featured remarks from the Committee of Deans and Directors, Chairmen of the three in-house Unions in the College who pledged unalloyed support to the Council, however, reeled out catalogue of problems and challenges faced by the College ranging from absence of fencing to lack of adequate staff and the need for more infrastructure as well as the urgent need to put in place a substantive management



On the left is Council Chair, Hon. Gregory N. Dakyp, the Sum Pyem, HRH Charles Mayo Dakat (Centre), and Provost, Mr. Emmanuel Jurte

among other numerous problems.

Other Council members also solicited for the support of Unions and staff to enable them succeed in their assignment.

Earlier, the Council Chairman in company of other members and Management paid a courtesy visit to the Sumpyem and the Pyem traditional council where the Chairman solicited for the support of the Royal fathers on the need to move the College forward.

Responding, the Sumpyem congratulated the

Chairman and Members of Council on their well deserved appointment by the Plateau state Governor, Mr Solomon Lalong.

The monarch assured the Council of their readiness to partner with the Council in moving the college forward. He stressed that the College should always reciprocate their gesture by carrying the chiefdom along in matters relating to employment, admission and other beneficial things.

The Chairman and members used the

opportunity of the inaugural meeting to undertake an inspection visit of all college structures, facilities and on going projects. The inspection visit took the Council to the various schools of the college where the Deans of each school were at hand to receive them. The Deans, Ag Librarian, Ag Director Medical Services used the opportunity to enumerate the challenges faced by the schools. The Council Chairman asked them to enumerate their challenges in writing and forward same for council deliberation during the next meeting.

Members of the Council are;

1. Hon Gregory Naanyong Dakyp- Chairman
2. Mr Gabriel Yiltoka- Member
3. Comrade Muru Bitrus Song- Member
4. Hon. Davou SB Gyel - Member
5. Mr George McNara Dakur- Member
6. Comr Jibrin Bancir- Member
7. Mrs Christiana M. Barau - Member
8. Mr Nuhu Tamba- Rep PS Finance
9. Mr Solomon Mwadkon- Rep PS Establishment
10. Mrs Mary Danboyi- Rep PS Higher Education
11. Engr Fidelis Gabkwet- Rep PS Works
12. Mr Michael Longshak Damtong- Staff Rep on council
13. Mrs Asabe Nyam Doka- Rep ES NCCE
14. Mr Emmanuel Daniel Jurte- Ag Provost
15. Chief David Fabong - Ag Registrar/ Secretary

Photo news of guests at the coronation ceremony and presentation of Staff of Office to Alh. Aminu Ado Bayero as the 15th Emir of Kano by His Excellency the Executive Governor of Kano State, Alh. Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje. The ceremony took place on Saturday, 3rd of July, 2021 at Sani Abacha Stadium, Kano.



The collage consists of 15 individual photographs arranged in a grid-like fashion. The top row shows religious leaders in white and blue robes, some wearing headwraps, engaged in a ceremony. The second row features a large crowd of people, many wearing face masks, and a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap. The third row shows a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap, and a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap. The fourth row shows a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap, and a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap. The fifth row shows a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap, and a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap. The sixth row shows a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap, and a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap. The seventh row shows a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap, and a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap. The eighth row shows a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap, and a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap. The ninth row shows a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap, and a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap. The tenth row shows a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap, and a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap. The eleventh row shows a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap, and a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap. The twelfth row shows a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap, and a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap. The thirteenth row shows a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap, and a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap. The fourteenth row shows a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap, and a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap. The fifteenth row shows a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap, and a religious leader in a white robe and headwrap.



CORONATION OF THE 15TH EMIR OF KANO

His Royal Highness
Alh. Aminu Ado Bayero
15th Emir of Kano

Congratulations

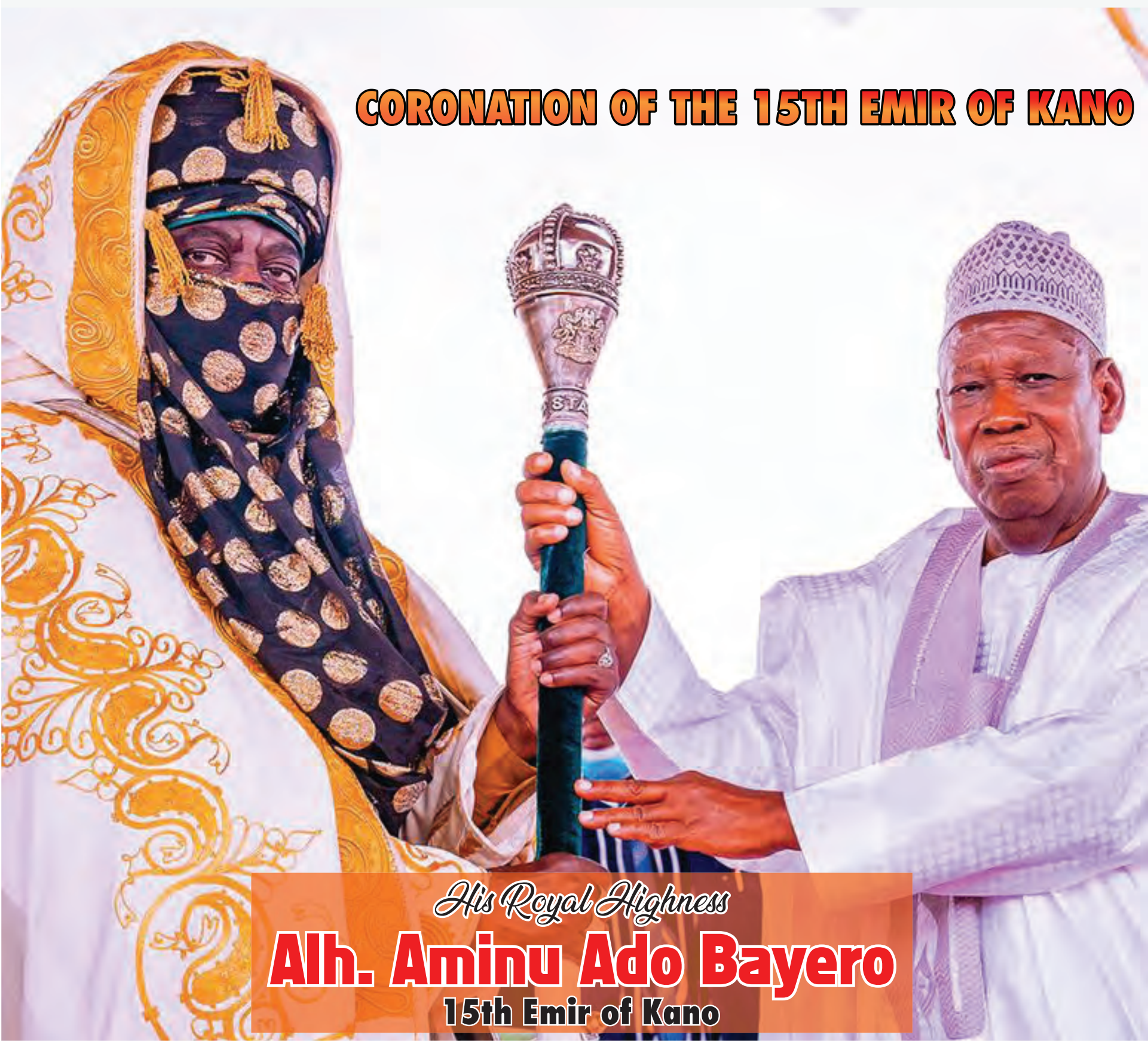
On behalf of my Council, Bichi Emirate and Family, I, the Emir of Bichi, Alh. Nasiru Ado Bayero, felicitate with you on your well deserved coronation and presentation of Staff of Office as the 15th Emir of Kano by His Excellency, the State’s Executive Governor, Alh. (Dr.) Abdullahi Umar Ganduje on the 3rd of July, 2021.

Allah yayi ma jagora da tsawon rai.

HRH. Alh. Nasiru Ado Bayero
Emir of Bichi



HRH. Alh. Nasiru Ado Bayero
Emir of Bichi



CORONATION OF THE 15TH EMIR OF KANO

His Royal Highness
Alh. Aminu Ado Bayero
15th Emir of Kano

Congratulations

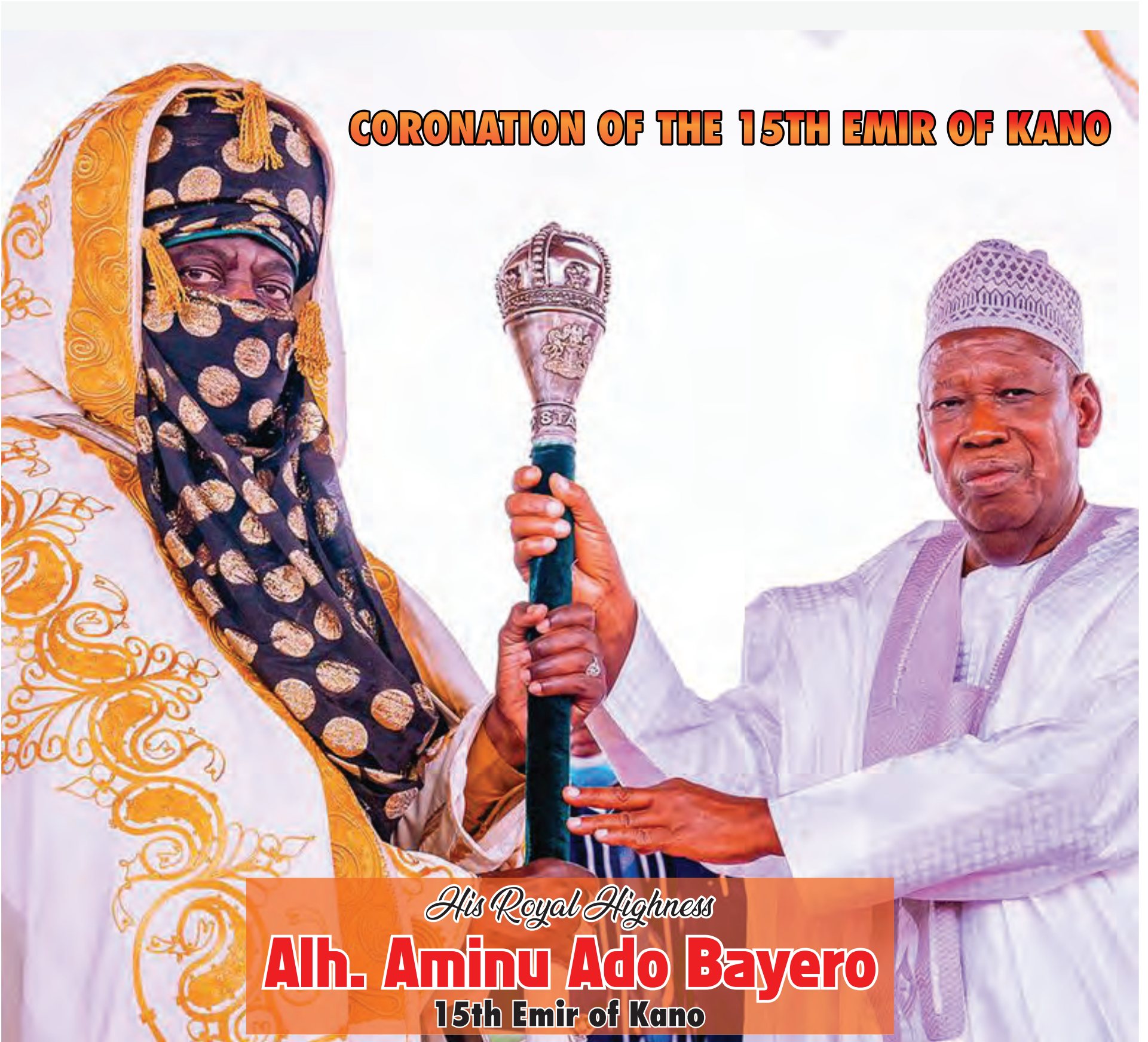
On behalf of my Council, Gombe Emirate and Family, I, the Emir of Gombe, Alh. Abubakar Shehu Abubakar III, felicitate with you on your well deserved coronation and presentation of Staff of Office as the 15th Emir of Kano by His Excellency, the State’s Executive Governor, Alh. (Dr.) Abdullahi Umar Ganduje on the 3rd of July, 2021.

Allah ya taimaki San Kano, ya kuma ja kwana.

HRH. Alhaji Abubakar Shehu Abubakar III
Emir of Gombe



HRH. Alh. Abubakar Shehu Abubakar III
Emir of Gombe



CORONATION OF THE 15TH EMIR OF KANO

His Royal Highness
Alh. Aminu Ado Bayero
15th Emir of Kano

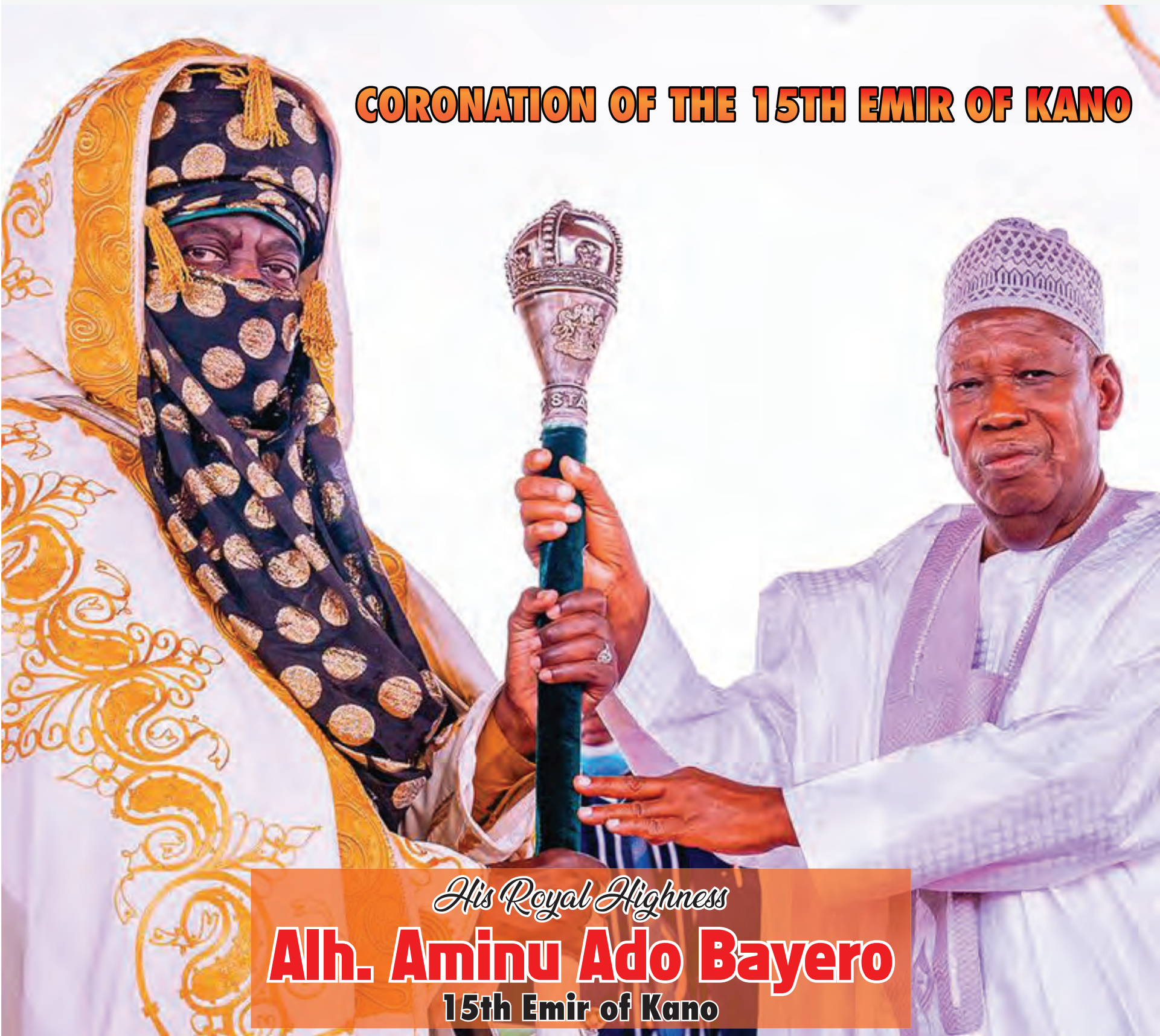
Congratulations

On behalf of my Council, Lafia Emirate and Family, I, the Emir of Lafia, Alh. Justice Sidi Muhammed Bage (Rtd.), felicitate with you on your well deserved coronation and presentation of Staff of Office as the 15th Emir of Kano by His Excellency, the State’s Executive Governor, Alh. (Dr.) Abdullahi Umar Ganduje on the 3rd of July, 2021. Allah yayi ma tsawon rai, yalwar arziki cikin dawwamammen zaman lafiya a kasar ka.

HRH. Alh. Justice Sidi Muhammed Bage (Rtd.)
Emir of Keffi



Alh. Justice Sidi Muhammed Bage (Rtd.)
Emir of Keffi



CORONATION OF THE 15TH EMIR OF KANO

His Royal Highness
Alh. Aminu Ado Bayero
15th Emir of Kano

Congratulations

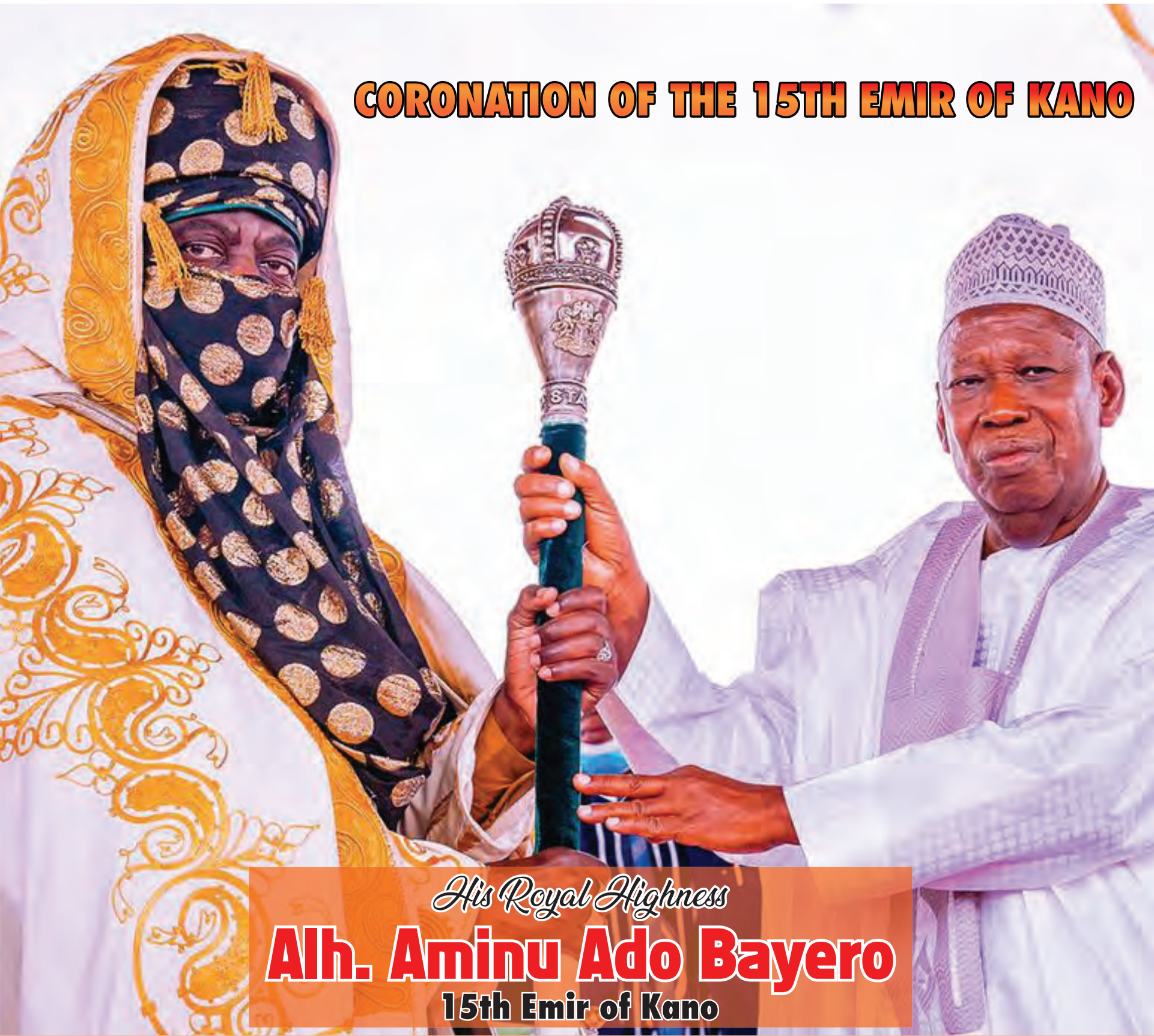
On behalf of my Council, Keffi Emirate and Family, I, the Emir of Keffi, Alh. (Dr.) Shehu Chindo Yamusa, felicitate with you on your well deserved coronation and presentation of Staff of Office as the 15th Emir of Kano by His Excellency, the State’s Executive Governor, Alh. (Dr.) Abdullahi Umar Ganduje on the 3rd of July, 2021.

Allah ya taimaki San Kano, ya ida nufi, ya kuma ja kwana.

HRH. Alh. (Dr.) Shehu Chindo Yamusa
Emir of Keffi



Alh. Dr. Shehu Chindo Yamusa
Emir of Keffi



CORONATION OF THE 15TH EMIR OF KANO

His Royal Highness
Alh. Aminu Ado Bayero
15th Emir of Kano

Congratulations

On behalf of my Council, Karaye Emirate and Family, I, the Emir of Karaye, HRH. Alh. Ibrahim Abubakar II, felicitate with you on your well deserved coronation and presentation of Staff of Office as the 15th Emir of Kano by His Excellency, the State’s Executive Governor, Alh. (Dr.) Abdullahi Umar Ganduje on the 3rd of July, 2021.

Allah ya kara martaba, ya kuma ja kwana.

HRH. Alh. Ibrahim Abubakar II
Emir of Karaye



HRH. Alh. Ibrahim Abubakar II
Emir of Karaye



CORONATION OF THE 15TH EMIR OF KANO

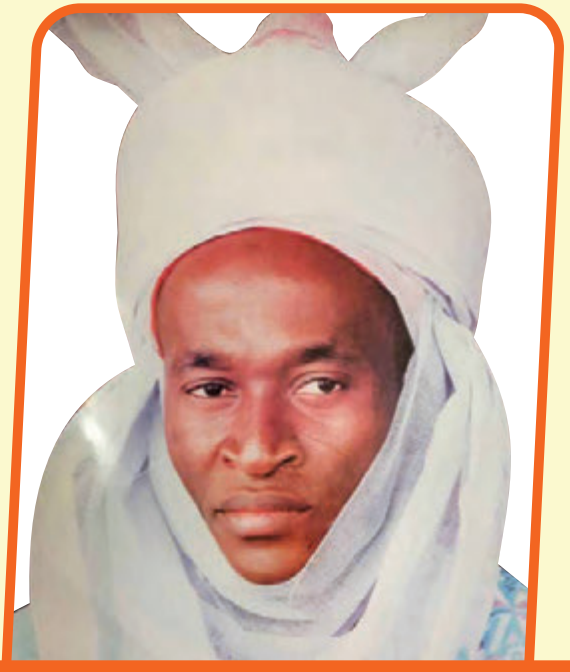
His Royal Highness
Alh. Aminu Ado Bayero
15th Emir of Kano

Congratulations

On behalf of my Council, Jama'a Emirate and Family, I, the Emir of Jama'a, Alh. (Dr.) Muhammad Isah Muhammad II, felicitate with you on your well deserved coronation and presentation of Staff of Office as the 15th Emir of Kano by His Excellency, the State's Executive Governor, Alh. (Dr.) Abdullahi Umar Ganduje on the 3rd of July, 2021.

Allah ya taimaki mai Martaba, San Kano. Allah ya kara lafiya.

HRH. Alh. (Dr.) Muhammad Isa Muhammad II
Emir of Jama'a



Alh. (Dr.) Muhammad Isa Muhammad II
Emir of Jama'a

Magajin Garin Jama'a, Prince Abubakar Muhammadu Isa Muhammadu during the Durbar Ceremony shortly after his Wedding Fatiha with Dr. Fatima Shehu, in Kafanchan, Kaduna State on the 12th June, 2021.



PALACE MONITOR

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CORONATION OF THE 15TH EMIR OF KANO

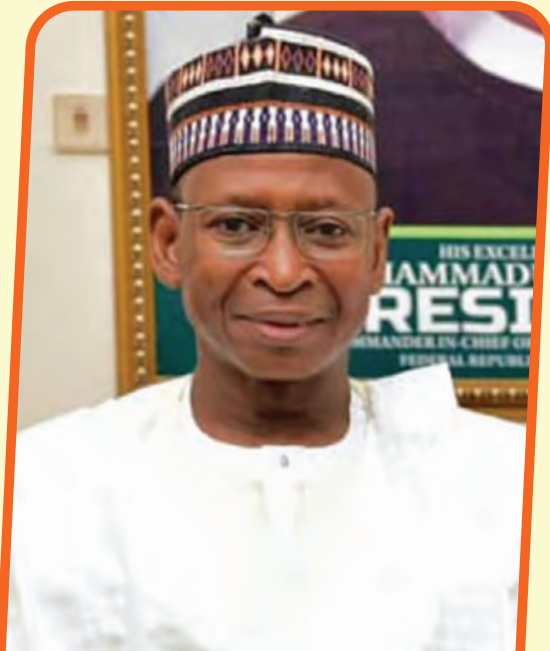


His Royal Highness
Alh. Aminu Ado Bayero
15th Emir of Kano

Congratulations

On behalf of my Family, I, Alhaji Ahmed Idris, a proud and loyal citizen of Kano, believer and respecter of our Traditional Institutions, humbly join family, friends and well-wishers of Alhaji Aminu Ado Bayero to congratulate you on your historic and long-awaited coronation as the 15th Emir of Kano, by His Excellency, the state's Executive Governor, Alhaji, Dr, Abdullahi Umar Ganduje. Your Royal Highness, Sir, I wish you long life, abundant good health and Allah's guidance as you settle down to steer affairs of our most distinguished and culturally rich Emirate. May the Almighty Allah bless you with abundant wisdom, patience and sense of justice and fairness to all, to achieve what your predecessors could not. Allah yaja kwanan Takawa

Alhaji Ahmed Idris



Alh. Ahmed Idris

Lack of Large Commodity Exchanges, Bane of Farmers Development in Nigeria - Okey Umeano

During my teenage years, I watched my father try to make money out of his reasonably-sized cassava farm. He would plant a lot of cassava in a particular season, and at the end of that season, it would turn out that so many other farmers had done the same that there would be excess supply, leading to a fall in price and a loss. The next season, he would plant a much

smaller amount, and so would the other farmers. At the end of that season there would be under-supply, and prices would be high, drawing him into a larger crop the next season. So it continued for several years, some successful, many not so, until in the end he stopped. What my father was missing was a sense of what prices would be at the end of a particular season. That's something a

futures market in cassava would have provided. Had exchanges trading cassava futures contracts been in existence, he would have been able to make better cropping decisions, and maybe had better access to finance. Africa is endowed with numerous commodities and raw materials, including metals and agricultural commodities.

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SPECIAL EDITION

Gezawa Commodity Market & Exchange, Sets To Set Pace in Agribusiness in Nigeria — El-Yaqoub



Administrative Block of Gezawa Commodity Market and Exchange

...Contemplates Establishing 'International Institute' to Boost Business, Skills Acquisition & Economic Development

By Muhammad M. Isa

In its drive to complement government's popular efforts to enhance business, skills acquisition, economic development, growth and development of Commodities exchange as alternative sources of revenue, job creation and train Nigerian farmers on modern ways of farming to achieve values for their farm produce, the management of Gezawa Integrated Farms Ltd., owners of Gezawa Commodity Market and Exchange, is contemplating establishing an International

Institute of Business, Commodity Marketing & Exchange Administration and Skills Acquisition in Gezawa town. Plan to establish the institute, according to the Management of the farms is necessitated in view of the growing need for knowledge and technology driven modern farming and business. If established, according to the management, the Institute will admit students from different parts of the world to train them on different genres of modern businesses and farming techniques.

The Institute will also offer trainings to interested unemployed youth on different skills to prepare them for independent businesses, and to make them private employers of labour in the future. The institute will also train staff of both local government councils all over the country, states and federal ministries of Agriculture, Industry, Trade and Investment, among other ministries. The Institute, which is expected to be the first of its kind in the African continent will, among other academic activities,

draw intellectuals from different world class Institutes, Business schools and Universities, to deliver lectures and preside over local and international conferences and academic trainings that would be organised from time to time. The Institute will also be affiliated to different, but related specialised Institutes and world class Universities within and outside the country to give our students quality and the best of trainings in line with our mandates.



GEZAWA COMMODITY MARKET & EXCHANGE

Is Here To Make You Achieve Value For Your Farm Produce

— A Trial will convince you.



2 Special Report on Commodity Market and Exchange



Chuck Kowalski

Chuck Kowalski has more than 20 years of experience in the futures markets as a trader, analyst and broker, and currently working with clients to advise on investments in Managed Futures and education for trading in the futures and commodities markets. Mr. Kowalski writes regular market commentary on FuturesBuzz.com, which is a dba of Foremost Trading. He also writes market analysis for SeekingAlpha.com, TalkMarkets.com, Consensus-inc.com and Investing.com. He offer access to a Commodity Trading Advisors (CTA) database for research on the performance of CTAs and their profile sheets. Futures traders can also join his Futures Trader Mentoring Program to learn how to trade futures and get regular guidance on how to trade properly for long-term success.

The Importance of the Commodities Market

Commodity Markets are Critical To The Economy



U.S. investors have been trading in the commodity markets for more than 150 years, and there's evidence that commodity trading began in 18th century Japan. The commodities industry includes simple goods and the manufacturing of goods that make up the basis of our food supply. Most commodities come from agricultural, energy, or metals producers. Common examples of U.S. commodities include corn, soybeans, gold, and natural gas.

Commodity Exchanges

Commodity exchanges serve a vital role in the economy, and without them, it's unlikely that the U.S. would have experienced as much economic growth throughout the 20th century. The purpose of exchanges is to provide a centralized marketplace where commodity producers—the commercials—

can sell their commodities to those who want to use them for manufacturing or consumption.

The beauty of a commodity futures exchange is that it makes it easy to connect buyers and sellers. For example, someone like a corn farmer can lock in a price for their crops months before they're even harvested. This process increases business survival among farmers, and the exchanges always make sure there's a buyer for every seller (provided their prices meet).

Market Volatility

Commodity exchanges certainly make the economy much more efficient, but is it necessary to have such active trading in the markets? And what about the extreme volatility that's associated with the commodity markets?

Many attribute the volatility in the

commodity markets to speculators. Although speculators are indeed responsible for a large portion of the trading activity on the exchanges, it's debatable as to whether they cause price volatility, or if the markets would be better off without them.

Whether or not they cause volatility, speculators do help make the commodity exchanges more efficient. They provide liquidity, which has helped the exchanges survive for more than 150 years.

The Role of Speculators: Pros and Cons

While speculators now make up more of the trading activity on commodity exchanges, the exchanges still serve the same purpose as they did a hundred years ago. The extra trading from speculators can provide more opportunities for producers and users to hedge their operations. Volatility in the

commodity markets can create better pricing and hedging opportunities for the commercials.

However, some commercials might argue that speculators cause commodity prices to rise to unnecessary extremes. Those high prices can negatively impact the profitability of their operations.

Whether the impact of speculators is a net benefit or drawback to the markets has been an ongoing argument among the parties involved. These conflicts will probably always exist, but the fact remains that the commodity exchanges, as a whole, benefit everyone.

Small-scale speculators don't need to be concerned about all the inner workings of the commodity exchanges. The main thing to realize is that there's an efficient marketplace that offers opportunities to commercial hedgers as well as to speculators. It's up to each individual to determine how they want to utilize the exchange. A speculator can bet on the price of a commodity moving up or down. A hedger can lock in the price of a commodity to help ensure profitability.

Where Would We Be Without Commodity Exchanges?

Without commodity exchanges, it would be difficult—if not impossible—to establish a standardized price for a commodity. Those in the commodity industry would be personally responsible for finding individual buyers and sellers. Prices would be determined by those who they could manage to contact. There would be a higher possibility of commodity producers going bankrupt if they couldn't hedge their operations with the use of a commodity exchange. That, in turn, would likely lead to higher prices for commodities and higher operational costs around the globe.

Culled from www.thebalance.com

Lack of Large Commodity Exchanges, Bane of Farmers Development in Nigeria - Okey Umeano

From page 1

Products such as cocoa, beans, bananas, sesame, cashew nuts, cassava, gum arabic, kolanut, maize, melon, millet, oil palm, rubber, sorghum, soybeans and yams are heavily produced and exported by countries in the continent but most are not exchange-traded. Those that are, are traded on exchanges outside Africa.

For many of these commodities, Africa is the dominant producer – Ghana and Ivory Coast account for about 60% of world cocoa and Nigeria and Senegal for 40% of world cashew nut production. Yet prices are quoted on faraway exchanges, with Africa having little say on the level they are set at.

This position is even worse for the many commodities that are not exchange-traded. These commodities, like cassava, produced

in large quantities, have found no exchange where they can be traded, denying the producers essential benefits such as price discovery, access to finance, hedging opportunities and market information.

Of more than 12 commodities exchanges in Africa, just a few, such as the Ethiopia Commodity Exchange, are doing well. Many others, including Nigeria's exchange, are struggling. The existing exchanges are small, have little depth and are unable to meet the needs of the continent's commodities producers. Many also operate contracts that are unsuitable for many producers and traders.

Among the challenges to establishing viable commodities exchanges in Africa are the lack of infrastructure (warehousing, transportation, processing plants) and enabling laws, ill-designed

government interventions, competition from commodities boards, and the inability of the commodities markets to attract the mainstream financial sector.

African governments spend considerable amounts of money each year trying to support, even boost, agricultural production by giving farmers improved seeds and fertilisers. These measures have led to an increase in production but a large part of this produce is undersold or wasted. It is time for African governments to realise that the market has the best allocative efficiency and that they should begin to direct their efforts through the markets. They should help set up effective commodities exchanges and provide the benefits of exchange trading to commodity producers. Maybe that would enable people like my father to continue to produce.

www.accaglobal.com



Gezawa Commodity Market & Exchange, Sets To Set Pace in Agribusiness in Nigeria — El-Yaqoub



MD, Gezawa Commodity Market and Exchange, Mallam El-Yaqoub

Gezawa Commodity Market and Exchange, the fifth of its kind in Nigeria today, was recently established, though not yet officially commissioned, in the suburbs of Kano by some patriotic indigenes of the state cum businessmen, under the auspices of Gezawa Integrated Farms Ltd., to, among other things, help in complimenting government's efforts to enhance the growth and development of commodities exchanges as alternative sources of revenue, jobs creation, and above all, assisting Nigerian farmers achieve value for their farm produce. This initiative is no doubt a commendable one as it is coming at a time when Nigeria is singing the chorus of diversifying her economy and Forex earnings, the sure routine to take in this regard, therefore, is no doubt via functional commodities market exchanges where all asset classes: agriculture, hydrocarbon, and solid minerals etc. are tradeable in the most efficient and transparent manner and the quality of tradeable commodities are guaranteed. A Team of Green Monitor's Editors, a sister publication of Education Monitor, recently embarked on a two day tour of the Gezawa Commodity Market and Exchange to see for themselves what the market is really up to, and to hear from the market's Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, Malam Muhammad Rabiu El-Yaqoub, who in an elaborate interview revealed how the market plans to set pace in modern agribusiness in Nigeria. The interview goes thus:

Your background Sir?

My name is Muhammad Rabiu El Yaqoub, I am the Managing Director of the Gezawa Commodity Market and Exchange, and

basically, I am a kano man. I went to ABU Zaria where i studied Business administration in my first degree and also obtained my MBA. I worked for most part of my life at the New Nigerian Development Company (NNDC) Kaduna Group, where I served in different subsidiaries in the main office. I later left the NNDC in 2016, to join Gezawa Commodity Market in the early part of this year (2021).

Conceptualization of the market

Gezawa Commodity Market and exchange is a concept that was evolved as a strategy to actualize the goals of self-reliance, diversification and economic development of our nation, you will realize that the basic thrust of this administration in terms of agriculture provides a lot of opportunities in the whole of agricultural value chain. And Gezawa Commodity Market and exchange was designed to take advantage of that opportunity in the Agric value chain as part of the self-reliance policy of this administration and the importance the administration has attached to agriculture. We have all seen the successes recorded in terms of production of rice and other staple crops. As a result this policy, the administration has given a lot of priorities to agriculture, and Gezawa commodity market and exchange decided to key into the government's initiative, especially giving the fact that it's our intention to take advantage of the opportunities that abound in the agricultural value chain. Because of this government's policy therefore, today, Nigeria is now more or less self-reliant in rice production.

Why the choice of Gezawa as location of the market?

Gezawa is a very unique area in Kano

State, we realized that Kano city itself is chucked up with so much infrastructure. But, Gezawa is just a stone throw away from Kano, about 24kms, to be precise. Gezawa provides serene atmosphere where one can establish a whole business hub like this with much availability of land and it's also a place quite renown for agriculture.

Owners/Founders of the market

Gezawa is a 100% privately owned business, owned by Gezawa Integrated Farms Ltd, in conjunction with a couple of some private individuals who are investors in the project.

Challenges at the beginning

The challenges faced at the beginning of the construction of the market are not many, actually, and this is because the principal promoters of this business happened to have more relations in Gezawa, with many years of extensive links. So, the community here has accepted Gezawa Commodity Market and exchange as its own project. In fact, the community has been very cooperative, right from the formation stage of this company. The government too, has been cooperative in terms of giving approvals to start the project. So, I must say that we are very happy that the challenges we faced in the evolution of Gezawa Commodity Market and exchange are not many; and we thank God for this.

Partnership with government.

As I said earlier, Gezawa Commodity Market and exchange is 100% privately owned by Investors. I must agree with you that this kind of business idea needs government's support in terms of policies and regulations that will support the business because it's actually a new concept that will require some kind of support from

government to make it succeed. But as for ownership, its 100% privately owned.

Getting farm produce

Gezawa has a system designed to ensure that the supply chain for the produce that we will be dealing with here, are well established. We have Farmers' Support groups, Farmers' cooperatives that we have registered with us. We have over 3000 different cooperatives with almost 40,000 members that registered to collaborate with us to ensure that the produce that are needed to be traded in this market are made available at the right time, and the right quantities. However, we also go to different markets, especially outside Kano state. We also go to several other markets in the entire north to source for other produce that will not be available in the immediate environment.

Business relationship with other countries

Gezawa Commodity Market and exchange is designed to be an international hub, to have trading platforms that will be live 24/7 all over the world, as soon as we become operational, our market will extend beyond Africa, our market will be in the whole world where people who are into commodity trading business will view us online and will see our products and prices, and can easily place orders from all over the world through their brokers. So, the concept of the marketing of Gezawa is a worldwide thing from wherever you are in the world if you're able to see our platform and you will be able to trade directly through your broker. While doing this, we don't need a special arrangement for selling our products.

Any data or statistics of amount spent in establishing this state-of-the-art market?

The investment so far made in Gezawa Commodity Market and exchange is quite enormous, and, as at the level that we are, we are still planning to go into phase two in the future. I don't have the accurate figure, but, I can assure you that construction of the market is still ongoing. Actually, we are done with phase One. In the future, we are also going to phase 2. If the figures are ready, we will make them available to the public, if it becomes necessary.

Can you confidently say you are on the right track?

By the grace of God, we are. What we need to understand is that right now there are five commodities exchanges registered in Nigeria by the Security and Exchange Commission, One of which is Gezawa, and there may still be many more that will come up in the future. The size of the agricultural economy in Nigeria is quite large and we have the feeling that it will accommodate all actors in the field. So, we are confident that we are on the right track and the opportunities that abound in the agricultural sector will be enough to justify our existence.

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4 **Cover Story**

Gezawa Commodity Market & Exchange, Sets To Set Pace in Agribusiness in Nigeria — El-Yaqoub



Group Editor-in-Chief Education Monitor Ltd., Waziri Isa Adam (L) during an interview with the MD, Gezawa Commodity Market and Exchange Mallam El-Yaqoub

So, we don't have any doubt that we are on the right track and the future is very bright for us.

Expected or projected Annual return

We are actually just starting. In fact, we have just been able to start the stock market just recently, where we opened our doors for the basic trading in commodities, people who have commodities are free now to come and trade in our premises and through our subsidiaries, we have also appointed market makers who will also help us to kick start activities in the market. So, at the moment, we are just trying to evolve the activities, and very soon we will have the concept much more clearer, especially when the exchange itself becomes operational, because as it is now, the exchange is not operational. What we are trying to do now is to complete the infrastructure required in terms of the platform and the IT software we are going to be using.

When do you hope to see the market become fully active?

We are hoping that by the end of this year, the market should be fully active and operational in most of the areas that have been identified as our core business. Staff population of the market at the moment Right now, our staff strength is about 50. As we are just starting, the management's software is just being put in place and as soon as activities pick up, our staff strength will definitely go up, higher than the present level.

Special message for government

Actually, the opportunities that abound in the agricultural value chain are very enormous and with the importance attached to agriculture by the present

administration, opportunities will only go up and not down. So, the concept of commodity exchange is the in thing now the world over. People are graduating from trading in ordinary markets and prefer to have organized places where trading in agricultural commodities, which Nigeria is well known for. Exports of sesame seed in Nigeria is over N22bn per annum. So, one can clearly see that if a chunk of this trade flows through exchanges, one will see the level of revenue that will accrue to the exchanges.

Any advice to the general public, particularly potential investors?

My advise to anybody who is interested in the agricultural value chain is to invest in commodity exchange because the future is there, people are looking for organized places to do trading and not local markets. So, this is the position of things that we hope will drive the agricultural value chain in the future.

As a point of emphasis, Gezawa Commodity Market and exchange is established as a hub in the sense that it provides a lot of opportunities for other businesses to coexist with the market.

We have provision for lands for banks to establish branches, because banks are going to be central to our trading system when we start the online trading platform. Banks are going to be in the medium to effect settlement of transactions. We have land for hotels, filling stations, spaces for warehouses, that people can come and acquire land to build warehouses in our place, we have provision for trailer park. People can also come and invest in our commercial trailer park. When the market becomes fully operational, there will be a lot of movements in terms of haulage, trucks will be coming and going out that is why we need provision for trailer park,

we also have provision for simple car park where customers who come into the market to trade, participants will require spaces to park their cars. So, we have a commercial car park in view.

We also have provision for way bridges which will be quite useful in terms of commodities that will come into the market. We also have plans for processing facilities, people can come and acquire land to establish agricultural processing facilities, laboratory for testing agricultural produces. So, the investment opportunities in our concept are quite large that investors are most welcome to come and take advantage of this opportunities and we are willing to provide enabling environment, and the processes will be simpler for them to come and participate.

Any plan to replicate the initiative in other parts of the country?

What we have done here is just the first phase of the market. We have an expanse of land covering over 200Ha that we intend to develop the second phase, so, at the moment, our focus is to remain in Gezawa and see to its full development. But, if in the future, opportunities to set up similar projects in other parts of the country arose, we will be ready and willing to take it up.

Plan to commission the market

The commissioning ceremony is coming up very soon, we have now been able to open the market for business, and as soon as we reach some milestones, the commissioning ceremony will also take place in due course.

How many total shops

We have over 400 shops here of various categories, mainly single shops and what we call luxury shops which are shops that have provision for both ground floor and

upper floor. These are basically the types of shop we have, they are over 400 in number and people are free to come and buy the shops and we are also willing to accommodate people who are going to rent, so this is the provision we have for the shops.

Capacity of the Warehouses

We have two categories of warehouses, type A is the smaller warehouse which can accommodate about 150 trucks of produce, type B, which is the bigger one, that has the capacity to carry about 400 trucks in all. You can clearly say they are big warehouses, and this is the standing we have established which we intend to replicate in the second phase, people are free to come and take spaces.

Criteria for employment and catchment areas of staff

These are open for competent people to work for us. Competent is the key word, wherever we have gaps and we are able to attract competent people to come and work for us we are open. It's not an issue of indigene or whatever, all we are interested in is competence and the ability to deliver. Anybody who can deliver and has the competence to do so, will be welcome to work with us.

The name international

By nature and inference it is actually an international market. Wherever you see commodity market and exchange, the word exchange connotes international. By the time we come online, people can participate in our trading activities from any part of the world. It's not just about Nigeria. Anybody can log on to our website and see our activities and then can participate and give orders for whatever he wants from Nigeria.

One of the core functions of the market is to provide an avenue where farmers can get value for their products, get transparency in the way they sell their products, because in the normal setting, you find out a lot of farmers don't have access to information about prices, don't have access to market, they are always exposed to middle men, they don't give value to what they do. Gezawa is supposed to give them an avenue where they can form cooperatives and be able to channel their produce through their cooperatives to aggregate and then come forward to the market and get value for their products.

This is one of the key functions of the market and the value the market is supposed to add to the economy.

When you talk about the marketing board, this is a marketing board in a more private sense, government is not involved but the avenue is being created for farmers to come forward and get better prices, more transparency in their dealings in selling their commodities.

Special Report on Commodity Market and Exchange

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Evolution Of Commodity Trading Markets



Commodity trading history can be traced to the agricultural revolution of 8500BC during which farmers and traders fashioned a means to secure prices of commodities against price fluctuation caused by weather, conflict, and supply and demand gap. Trading evolution, excess supply and the quest of merchants to raise money while commodity was in storage formed the basis for futures agreement. The first recorded commodity futures trades occurred in the 17th century in Japan, although there is some evidence that rice may have been traded some 6,000 years ago in China.

The first contract for a future price was created in the early 1800s in the US. This forward contract allowed a buyer to pay for the commodity in advance of taking delivery of it. The Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT) was set up in 1848; trading in contracts that were standardized in terms of quantity, quality and delivery. The CBOT added soybeans contract in 1936 and has since merged with the Chicago Mercantile Exchange to form the CME Group.

Exchanges added cotton and lard contracts in the 1940s while livestock was added in the 1950s. Contracts for precious metals such as silver started trading during the 1960s. By the 1970s, when global currencies were delinked from gold prices, currency value fluctuated based on supply and demand, and financial futures became a tradable "commodity". With that, it became possible for cash settlements of trades instead of the traditional physical "delivery" of commodities. In the 1980s and 90s, stock indices such as the S&P 500 and government debt instruments were introduced.

Technology brought considerable innovation to the market including online trading which has heightened interest in

commodities and futures trading as buyers and sellers could from the comfort of their homes and offices, place trade orders through electronic trading systems and online brokerage houses.

Apart from providing hedging instruments for commodities, the futures market has become an important hedging mechanism against possible losses in financial instruments such as stocks and bonds. However, it is important to state that interest in futures trading is not only to hedge the price of a commodity against an adverse price movement but it can also be used as a speculative instrument to profit from a desired price movement which could be up or down.

Commodity Exchanges in Africa
In 1861, the Egyptian Cotton Exchange was established in Alexandria and became one of the earliest commodity exchanges in the world. It played a key role in global trade, attracting users from the international community including Africa, Asia and the Americas. The exchange closed 100 years later in 1961 with the entry of the government as a player in the cotton trade.

African governments' quest to deregulate their economies and open up the financial markets in the 1990s triggered their withdrawal from commodity trading and led to the establishment of commodity exchanges in a number of African countries with varying degree of success. Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Kenya all established commodities exchange in the 1990s. The African Union Abuja Treaty of 1991, identified the need for an African Commodity Exchange and might have provided some awareness and push for the set - up of commodity exchanges in the continent, at the time. The concept of an African Commodity Exchange became one of the "instruments of integration" of the

African Union (AU). In West Africa, there was also an attempt to create a regional exchange for food products following the adoption of the UEMOA Agricultural Policy paper by UEMOA heads of state in December 2001.

The South African Futures Exchange has been one of the most successful Exchanges in Africa and remains operational to this day. Established in 1995 it was acquired by the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) in 2001 and now is its subsidiary. The Zambian and Zimbabwe exchanges initially thrived but successive government intervention and commodities price volatility led to their failure. The Kenyan and Ugandan Commodity Exchanges experienced similar fate as both exchanges could not garner sufficient trade volume to survive. The Uganda Exchange subsequently transformed to the government regulator of warehouses while Kenya Exchange became a prices data disseminator.

A new wave to establish functional Commodity Exchanges arose in the 2000s and saw Nigeria set up the Abuja Securities and Commodities Exchange (ASCE), now known as the Nigerian Commodity Exchange (NCX), the African Commodities Exchange (ACE) in Malawi as well as the East African Exchange in Rwanda. Another attempt to set up a commodity exchange was made by Zambia through its Agricultural Commodity Exchange (ZAMACE). The Ethiopian Commodities Exchange (ECX) that was established in 2008 is today often seen as a model for other African countries as it is considered as one of the most successful in Africa. Based on a model of standardized warehouse receipts, it initially experienced low trade volumes as trading was then limited to maize, beans and wheat. However, its operations soured when the

exchange introduced export commodities in December 2008. Furthermore, trading volume significantly rose on the back of government policies that mandated export trades such as coffee be carried only through the Exchange.

The success of ECX has been attributed largely to the support of the Ethiopian government. Coffee export in Ethiopia is said to have increased from \$529 million in 2007/2008 to \$797 million in 2011/2012. More recently, it has been recognized that this success has come at a price. The main beneficiaries of the exchange have been the traders and not the coffee farmers as hoped. Further, again because of Government intervention in standardization, the marvelous specialist varieties of coffee had all to be sold as 'Robusta'. This did away with any hope of a premium price for quality. Within the last 18 months, this has been recognized in Ethiopia and the policies are changing in the hope of reducing the large black market in specialist coffees which has arisen as a result of simplistic policies of standardization

In Ghana, the Cocoa Board ensures transparency and guarantees prices to farmers directly, which negates the need for such intermediaries. Today, the Ghana Commodity Exchange is in an advanced stage of becoming operational. Tanzania and Kenya coffee auctions also provide efficient differentiation and traceability. Ghana is currently in the process of setting up a commodity exchange.

It is important that to build a thriving commodity exchanges in Africa, the experience of other countries needs to be taken cognizance of in order to avoid pitfalls and gain maximum advantage.

History of Commodities Trading in Nigeria

Some of the modern day agricultural marketing challenges such as access to market and produce funding were also present in the colonial era and responsible for the setting up of the Produce Marketing Boards by the colonial administration. The boards were to link the peasant farmers to market at stable prices. The Marketing Boards were set up in the three existing regions between 1947 and 1963 before the Western Region was spilt into Western and Mid-Western Regions. Cocoa Marketing Board was established in 1947 in the Western Region while Cotton and Groundnut Marketing Boards were set up in the Northern Region and Palm Produce Marketing Board in the Eastern Region in 1949.

The Boards were set up not only for price stabilization but also to serve as a source of funds for the economic development of the regions as well as to carry out research and development principally in cocoa, cotton, groundnuts, palm products and rubber.

The commodity boards subsequently set up "gazetted markets" across the country where the commodities were subjected to quality checks before they were bought from the Licensed Buying Agents (LBAs). The LBAs had produce buyers accredited to buy on their behalf. The produce buyers in the process went to different villages and farmsteads to buy the produce based on ...

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weight, physical appearance of the produce and allowance for possible quality defects from the farmers. They paid the farmers on the spot or sometimes at a later date depending on the relationship between them and the farmers. This arrangement largely promoted quality assurance right from the farm gates where the produce were inspected for quality prior to payment of farmers.

It was this quality assurance and the adherence to best agronomic practices by farmers that enhanced agricultural production and exports, and financed development projects in the regions. For storage of their produce, the regional governments built warehouses, many of which were large warehouses around the port area for their export commodities.

Warehouses start usually as storage device set up by commodity owners during seasons when harvest exceeds consumption. It is therefore reasonable to assume that in Nigeria, farmers started storage facilities to keep seasonal harvest of the crops. With increased communal interactions in the early years, trading activities also increased, eliciting different forms of storage arrangement. By the time the European traders came into the scene, the first set of structured warehouses or stores were built. These were essentially owner-operated or subsidiary warehouses as they were operated by the owners or by subsidiary companies, which were wholly owned and controlled by their parent companies based locally or overseas.

Colonial trading giants like John Holt, GB Ollivant and United African Company (UAC) owned the oldest of warehouses in Nigeria. The warehouses were used to store mainly export produce and imports from their parent companies.

The companies simply establish their own warehouse standards, which were adopted from their parent company or home country. There were no national standards or agencies until the introduction of the Federal Produce Inspection Service (FPIS) and State Produce Inspection Service (SPIS) in 1954.

The developmental impact of the marketing boards cannot be overemphasized as that period witnessed the establishment by the regional governments of some academic citadels such as the University College Ibadan (now University of Ibadan), University of Ife, University of Nigeria and Ahmadu Bello University. Funding of these institutions came from revenue from commodity exports. Besides these institutions, other landmark



Evolution Of Commodity Trading Markets

projects and policies were executed/implemented through revenue from the activities of the marketing boards. They included the establishment of the first television station in Africa, the Cocoa House, which was the tallest building in Nigeria at that time and the free primary education programme by the Western Regional Government, which was funded by proceeds from cocoa.

The Eastern Regional government did the same by implementing free primary education programme in 1957 from Palm Produce and Rubber exports while the Northern Region also undertook development projects from such export proceeds. The surplus that accrued to the regional governments from commodity exports arose from the difference between producer prices as fixed by the government of each of the regions and the prices at which the produce were sold overseas by the Nigerian Marketing Company established for this purpose by the Federal Government. The marketing boards later became Commodity Boards with the creation of states in 1967.

Under the marketing board arrangement, the farmers gradually felt short changed by what they received and formed a pressure group to protect their interest. One remedy they sought was an increase in producer prices approved by the boards. There are arguments today, as to the success of the marketing boards. For instance, Iweze argued that the marketing boards only succeeded to some extent in stabilizing seasonal producers' price, but achieved little in stabilizing producers' income.

The commodity boards

were scrapped following the liberalization of the economy under the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) in 1986. Ironically, commodity exporters to date, still buy cash crops on the basis of the framework developed by the commodity boards.

However, unlike the era of commodity boards when farmers knew the buying price of all commodities under each board's control, farmers nowadays suffer from price information asymmetry as they don't know what the price of what they are selling goes for in the next village or the next rural market. It is these and other challenges that reinforce the need for the establishment of commodities exchanges as alternative marketing platform for commodities.

The Central Bank of Nigeria noticed the vacuum created by the abolition of Commodity Boards in 1986 and advised the Federal government to establish a Commodities Exchange. There was no gainsaying that the abolition of the commodity boards affected the standards and quality of commodities particularly, export produce, as there was no strong quality control and grading agency to ensure standards of the commodities. The private sector perhaps saw a business opportunity in the newly liberalized commodities business and paid little attention to quality. As a result, substandard commodities became wide spread. This defect was to impact negatively on the reputation of Nigeria's export commodities.

The intervention by the Central Bank was therefore, an attempt to address the resultant effect of scrapping the marketing boards. The thinking was that a commodities exchange would

provide standards and grading and assume that function of the commodities board and invariably promote produce quality, particularly of exports. Obviously, while this was a major concern for the CBN, it also recognized the wider benefits of having a thriving commodity exchange in the country.

An Inter-Ministerial Technical Committee was consequently set-up in 1989 to examine the possibility of setting up a commodities exchange in the country. The committee submitted its report a year later supporting the establishment of a commodity exchange. However, there was no evidence that concrete action was taken by government to do so. Nonetheless, an unsuccessful attempt was made by FALCOMEX, a private sector initiative, to establish a commodity exchange. Other than these efforts, no other attempt either by government or the private sector is known to have been made until August 8, 2001 when the Federal Government directed the conversion of the then Abuja Stock Exchange to a Commodities Exchange vesting the Ministry of Finance with the responsibility of midwifing the conversion process.

The SEC was part of the Inter-ministerial Committee constituted to examine the gap that arose after abolition of the marketing boards. Following the conversion of Abuja Stock Exchange to a commodities exchange, the SEC developed regulatory framework for supervision of the commodities exchange and engaged both the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) and the Exchange to kick-start trading.

In 2014, SEC developed a 10-year capital market master

plan to transform the Nigerian capital market. Mindful of the need to have an organized commodities market, one of the recommendations of the master plan is to develop a thriving commodities trading ecosystem. To achieve this mandate, the SEC set up a committee consisting of major stakeholders to review and come up with recommendations and road map for implementation. These efforts are key to the development of the commodities market.

The Nigerian Commodity Exchange (NCX)

As stated earlier, the Federal Government in 2001 directed that the Abuja Stock Exchange be converted to a commodities exchange. The conversion process however, started 3 years later in 2004 when an Inter-Ministerial Committee was constituted by the Federal Ministry of Commerce and Industry for that purpose. The report of this committee gave rise to another committee, a Steering Committee that was chaired by the Deputy Governor (FSS), Central Bank of Nigeria. The Steering Committee concluded its work in 2005 and trading commenced on the Exchange in June 2006.

It was a challenge to convert the exchange, which had operated solely as a stock exchange to be suddenly re-calibrated in all respect to a commodity exchange. The sudden transformation meant that the trading platform had to changed, operations had to be modified, new membership types had to be created, new products admitted for trading and new capacity developed, amongst others challenges. These changes required funds, capacity, products and new participants.

Unfortunately, the exchange lacked proper funding to carry out its functions and could not even mobilize sufficient funds to enable it enter into technical collaboration for capacity building and knowledge transfer which it needed badly with established commodity exchanges. In addition to these challenges, the exchange faced weak supply, lack of interest by operators in the securities market to open commodities trading subsidiaries, low understanding of the workings of the Exchange and the absence of supportive infrastructure and institutional arrangements that could strengthen the supply side of the market.

There was also the non - existence of vibrant farmers' co-operatives that could bulk the produce of their members for wholesale marketing on the floor of the Exchange. Equally lacking were commodity grades and standards as well as farmers' credit system based on Warehouse Receipts.

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Special Report on Commodity Market and Exchange

Commodity Trade: Effects On Economic Development



By M.A. van Meerhaeghe

Through their repercussion on export earnings, price fluctuations are often held responsible for the variations in the growth rate of countries producing primary goods, especially since exports of a single primary good account for a large part of the total exports of many countries. But apart from the fact that, as described above, quantities exported influence export earnings as much as prices, there are many other factors that determine export earnings. Such factors include the type and destination of exports and, above all, the economic policies of the countries concerned.

It is thus difficult to generalize about

the relation of foreign trade to economic growth. Many countries with very unstable exports have relatively stable national incomes; others whose exports are stable have highly unstable national incomes. The stimulus from exports will usually be stronger, for example, if the rate of demand for these exports is growing rapidly. Often, however, the transmission of growth to the nonexporting sector of the economy is impeded in less-developed countries by the economic, social, and political organization of the economy. It is important, for example, for some countries to try to decrease exports of goods that have a slowly growing demand and at the same time to try to increase exports of

goods, such as minerals, for which world demand is growing more rapidly.

Efforts to stabilize prices

The uncertainty both for private producers and for governments resulting from sharp and sudden commodity price changes has resulted in many efforts to achieve greater stability on the market in primary goods.

Action in individual countries

In theory a country could insulate domestic producers against international price fluctuations through variable charges and subsidies, but politically it is difficult to tax away producers' profits during a period of rising prices and to hold the resulting revenue in order to redistribute it

should prices and profits fall.

In Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, and The Gambia, for instance, national marketing boards that attempted to even out price fluctuations of cocoa, cotton, and peanuts (groundnuts) were in operation before those countries became independent. In the former French territories in Africa, stabilization funds fixed producer prices and controlled margins and profits. The main dangers inherent in national stabilization schemes are inconsistent government policies and the excessive operating costs of the public bodies concerned. These factors explain the unsatisfactory results of many national price agencies.

International cooperation

In the 1920s international cartels were created for rubber, sugar, tin, and tea, but they yielded no lasting results. Nor did cooperation between the governments of exporting and importing countries (such as in the International Wheat Agreement of 1933 and the International Sugar Agreement of 1937) serve to attain the desired goals during the Great Depression. Of special significance among more recent attempts to raise and stabilize a commodity price has been the one made by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). (The special features of the oil market are considered below.) Other attempts to stabilize commodity prices since World War II have mainly assumed three forms—the multilateral contract agreement, the quota agreement, and the buffer-stock agreement. Transactions are effected at world market prices. When a minimum or a maximum price is reached or approached, efforts are made to ensure that prices remain within the two limits. Each of the three systems achieves this in a different way.

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At the time, it was thought that giving the exchange a dual license to trade both commodities and securities, and thereafter privatising it would solve some of the challenges it was facing. Thus in 2003, in preparation for privatization, which unfortunately never materialised, the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) directed the Exchange to change its name from Abuja Commodity Exchange (ACE) to Abuja Securities and Commodity Exchange (ASCE). This was to enable it acquire a composite trading license that would allow it trade commodities as well as securities such as stocks and bonds.

The perceived advantage of a dual license then was to attract enterprises for privatization. In the bid to spur activities, the exchange organized sensitization programmes for various stakeholder groups and pursued the introduction of a Warehouse Receipt System (WRS) in Nigeria. This has yielded some result with an executive bill on the subject matter sent to the National Assembly in 2017. The bill,

as at the time of preparing this report, had been passed by the Senate and awaiting the concurrence of the lower house.

Believing that the enactment of a law on commodities exchange in Nigeria was necessary to get adequate funding from government and legal support for its operations, the Exchange in 2010 sponsored a Bill for an Act to establish Nigeria Commodity Exchange and Other Allied Matters, which is yet to be passed into law by the National Assembly. The Bill is said to be at the Committee stage of the House of Assembly. The NCX has also been involved in an initiative to develop the Market Information System (MIS) and a National Grading System (NGS) for agricultural produce in the country that is yet to be exposed to commodity market participants for comments by the Standards Organisation of Nigeria.

In terms of improving its operational efficiency, the NCX plans to acquire and install a non-proprietary electronic trading system to provide a trading platform for Warehouse Receipts. Based on the size

of Nigeria and the relative robustness of its telecommunications and financial system, the Exchange intends to deploy a decentralized electronic trading system for standardized spot contracts that would facilitate a T+1 trading cycle with six (6) Remote Access Sites (RAS) one in each geo-political zone.

The RAS, which it said will be located in areas where particular commodities are grown, will provide facilities for electronic floor-based trading and would be electronically linked to the Exchange's central trading engine at head office for the clearing and settlement of all trades. The sites are to be located in; Kano (North West), Gombe (North East), Jos (North Central), Akure (South-West), Abakaliki (South East) and Calabar (South South).

Each RAS shall be linked to NCX head office for effective management and service delivery. The Exchange stated that all commodity warehouses under its purview will be linked to the central depository to facilitate trading in electronic warehouse receipts WR issued by the Depository.

NCX hopes to develop a robust and efficient real-time Market Information System (MIS) that will provide producers, processors, industrialists and traders with objective up-to-date market information analysis, market outlook, and other references to assist in marketing decisions. As a result, the Exchange intends to set up three Market Information Centres (MICs) in each geo political zone of the country. The information provided by the MICs is expected to play a key role in effective pricing and help in eliminating artificial trade barriers that may be created by middlemen in the value chain. The market information centres will engender perfect knowledge of the markets among various players in the agricultural produce markets. It is important to point out that the privatization of NCX is still in progress with the planned investment of the Nigerian Sovereign Investment Authority (NSIA). Of course, any new investor may review the aforementioned planned initiatives of the Exchange.

Culled from www.sec.gov.ng

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In the multilateral contract system, consumers and producers undertake to buy or sell a specified quantity of the commodity at agreed minimum and maximum prices, or at a price within the agreed range.

In the quota method, the quantity negotiated is determined by a previously fixed quota when a minimum or maximum price is exceeded. When there is a surplus, the producers restrict their exports or production; when there is a shortage, quotas are allotted to the consumer countries. With the buffer-stock method, stability is ensured by a combination of an export control arrangement and a buffer-stock arrangement. In certain circumstances exports are restricted by the controlling body. The buffer-stock agency buys when the market price is in the lower sector or at the floor price set out in the agreement; the buffer-stock agency sells when the market price is in the upper sector or at the ceiling price.

Results

The utility of commodity agreements in general can hardly be judged on past experience. Experience with wheat, sugar, and tin agreements, which cover a comparatively long period, is not conducive to generalization. Some degree of stability, though at a high price level, was achieved in the case of wheat, but this was due to the dominant influence of U.S. and Canadian policies. In the case of tin, too, transactions for the U.S. strategic stockpile exerted an influence. Political factors (including the Cuban revolution) underlay the de facto suspension from 1962 to 1969 of the sugar agreement, which had covered, and still covers, only a limited share of the world market.

The value of world transactions in tin, wheat, coffee, and sugar amounts to only a small part of the value of the world's entire commodity trade. Furthermore, the agreements in question do not cover all transactions. It is, in a way, understandable that only a few such agreements have been concluded; during a boom the producer countries are not inclined to conclude them, and during a depression there is little incentive for consumer countries to enter into them.

Conditions for success

A prerequisite for the success of commodity agreements is that they should embrace the vast majority of producers and especially the largest of them. No transactions should be excluded, and substitute commodities should be covered by the agreements.

The most intractable of the difficulties in concluding commodity agreements lies in the fixing of the price range. Neither unduly high nor unduly low price scales are tenable. Future market conditions are not easily foreseeable, so the possibility of errors cannot be ruled out; regular adjustment of the price ranges is necessary.

When it comes to determining the price range, the importing and exporting countries, respectively, do not systematically advocate low and high prices. Certain importing countries are not opposed to a relatively high price because the difference between the international price and the tariff-protected price of domestic producers is thereby reduced; exporting countries in a favourable



competitive position are often in favour of lower prices so that they will be able to increase their share of the market at the expense of less-competitive countries.

In concluding an agreement, the parties have to bear in mind that complete price stabilization is impossible. It would in fact be undesirable, because in the long run supply and demand need to remain in equilibrium, and the necessary adjustments in the economies concerned must not be precluded. Price fluctuations do not necessarily imply failure, because the fluctuations might well have been larger had the agreement not been concluded.

The method of stabilization needs to be chosen carefully, with due regard for the characteristics of the commodities concerned. The multilateral purchase contract and buffer-stock systems offer the advantage of not requiring any restrictions on production; new producers with improved technical equipment may participate.

A buffer stock needs to be sufficiently large if it is to achieve its purpose. Wider financing facilities are necessary; this is something to which the importing countries could contribute. Even then the buffer stock is better used together with other methods of stabilization. Because of the perishable nature of certain commodities or their bulk and high storage costs, however, a buffer stock is not always feasible. Buffer stocks alone often are not sufficient for the control of prices, and it is sometimes necessary for producers to restrict exports in order to reduce supply, thus pushing prices up.

Interests of the less-developed countries

So far as the producer countries are concerned, stabilization of incomes, rather than of prices, is the most important factor. Although commodity agreements may contribute to this, their relatively limited success has caused other proposals to be

advanced.

Compensatory financing refers to international financial assistance to a country whose export earnings have suffered as a result of a decline in primary commodity prices. Such a system was instituted in 1963 by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). In 1969 the IMF also began making loans available to countries having a balance-of-payments need in relation to the financing of buffer stocks under international commodity agreements.

EEC stabilization fund

The European Economic Community has established a stabilization fund for its associated overseas countries; prices must fall by a specified percentage before the mechanism of the fund goes into effect, and the richer beneficiary countries must repay the aid received.

Other proposals involve the introduction of simultaneous negotiations for a whole range of commodities.

These discussions, however, and more particularly the administration of the resulting multicommodity agreement, would be highly complex. It may also be argued that the significance of export instability has been exaggerated and that most of the economies involved have suffered no serious damage. Thus, the resources devoted to countering price fluctuations and compensatory financing might be better employed in investments or technical assistance.

As to the possibility of the less-developed countries themselves influencing prices, circumstances vary from commodity to commodity. In the case of primary goods, such as coffee, that are produced only in the less-developed countries and for which practically no substitutes exist, action to increase prices can easily be taken if demand is not too much affected by price increases. A simple way to raise prices

would be for the governments of producing countries to levy a duty on exports. Attempts by some developing countries to raise prices, however, can induce other developing countries to increase their output. For example, African coffee production was stimulated when Latin-American countries took steps to raise the price of their coffee.

Limitations on pricing

The fact that there are substitutes for a few primary goods (such as cotton, wool, and rubber) limits the extent to which primary-goods producers can raise their prices. Also, most commodities produced by less-developed countries face competition from the developed countries, which may produce the same commodities (such as petroleum, sugar, rice, and tobacco) or goods substitutable in varying degrees (such as soybean oil for peanut oil).

Many agricultural commodities are protected in the developed countries by tariffs, which means that their requirements are often met entirely from domestic production. Some developed countries produce surpluses that are sold abroad at low, subsidized prices. Such commodities are therefore traded to a relatively small extent on world markets. The sales of the less-developed countries are thus influenced by the developed countries' national policies and by the price at which these countries sell their surpluses on the residual markets. The less-developed countries that produce minerals and metals seemingly have the most favourable export prospects because demand for such finite commodities is expanding among the developed countries, many of which are concerned over the depletion of their domestic resources.

Culled from www.britannica.com

Special Report on Commodity Market and Exchange

Commodities Trading Ecosystem In Nigeria



One of the recommendations of the Nigerian Capital Market Master Plan 2015 – 2025 is the development of a thriving commodities trading ecosystem. This is necessary to deepen the capital market, increase the number of product offering, enhance agricultural and solid mineral production and spur economic development. As part of the implementation strategy therefore, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) constituted a Technical Committee (TC) in June 2017 on the Commodities Trading Ecosystem in Nigeria with the following terms of reference:

1. Undertake assessment of existing framework/infrastructure to identify challenges and gaps;
2. Develop roadmap for the enhancement of the Commodities Trading Ecosystem; and
3. Undertake any other activity that may be relevant to the achievement of this mandate

COMMODITY TRADING AND ITS IMPORTANCE

Commodity trading ecosystem can be defined as the environment within which commodities trading takes place and directly or indirectly, affects activities and development of the commodities market and the exchanges. The ecosystem is comprised of various elements, which are integral to the architecture of the market and vital to the smooth and efficient functioning of a commodity market or exchange. The ecosystem encompasses all spheres of the commodity trading environment such as its operations, products traded, infrastructure, logistics, traders/brokers, commodity merchants, farmers, miners, end users and other stakeholders. It also covers the legal and regulatory environment. If these elements are absent, inefficient or underdeveloped, the commodities trading ecosystem would not be well functioning and so maximum value may not be derived from its existence.

A commodities market is simply a market, a medium for connecting buyers and sellers of commodities. It may be formal (organised) or informal (unorganised), have physical location with central trading places or virtual without a specific trading

location, in which case trading can be conducted remotely by participants. Our focus is however, primarily on promoting the formal or organized market such as commodity exchanges, which provide a formal and more structured mechanism for trading in designated commodities.

We believe that such markets provide significant value addition to economies; a reason why countries make concerted efforts to develop them. This view is buttressed by Chuck Kowalski who observed that “it’s unlikely that the US would have experienced as much economic growth in the last 100 years as it has without them (commodity exchanges).” This observation by Chuck Kowalski is perhaps also true of many other countries. This importance has seen commodity exchanges sprang up all over the world, in developed and developing countries, trading all kinds of commodities from agriculture, to metals and precious stones. While commodities exchanges have existed for more than a century in some developed countries, they are a more recent phenomenon in developing countries. In Africa, most exchanges, with the exception of the defunct Egyptian Commodities Exchange, which was established in the 19th Century, are relatively very recent initiatives.

A commodity exchange is a market, which provides facilities (platform), regulations and standards for the orderly, efficient and transparent trading of designated (selected) commodities. Contracts are created with standardized features, which thereafter become tradable financial instruments. The commodities traded may or may not be for delivery and indeed in many exchanges, most trades are not for physical delivery. Commodity exchanges tend to gravitate from spot market to forward to the more complex derivatives market.

Benefits of Commodity Exchanges

There are several reasons why commodity exchanges are important to the economy. Many of these reasons have been well documented, some of which are listed below:

1. They promote economic growth by fostering the development of both soft and

hard commodities by efficiently linking commodities to industry, which could improve industrial output and profitability. A thriving commodity trading ecosystem, can therefore, facilitate industrialization of the economy and improve tax revenue;

2. They create employment and raise the living standard of the farming community as opportunities are provided for better access to market, produce marketing, access to market price and other important information, which could lead to improved produce prices for farmers, among other benefits. Since small holder farmers are usually the rural poor, improvement in their living standards can have positive impact on rural development and mitigate rural - urban migration;
3. They can serve as a platform for small holder farmers to be brought into the financial sector as they get exposed to financial services such as bank deposit and credit facilities, thereby fostering the much needed financial inclusion;
4. They engender economic diversification. This is more so for an economy like Nigeria, which is heavily dependent on a single product for its foreign exchange earnings, namely crude oil. For an essentially agrarian economy like ours, with good solid mineral deposits, developing the commodities market remains a potent way to diversify the economy away from crude oil, as well as widen the national tax base. A diversified economy will potentially diversify the export base and improve government revenue;
5. They improve the attractiveness of agribusiness and foster agricultural production as farmers and end users benefit from the use of the exchange. As value is seen and derived from the exchange, more people are likely to be drawn to agribusiness. Increased production would reduce import dependence and encourage more private investment in the agricultural sector;
6. As a platform and transparent pricing mechanism is provided for trading solid minerals, activities in this sector could go up and more investment attracted with multiplier effect on the economy;
7. Through the provision of price and other information transparency as well as

better access to market, they reduce the exploitation of smallholder farmers by intermediaries. This enhances value to farmers, improves their well-being and encourages farming activities;

8. They provide rules and regulations, which bring order to the market. This in turn forces and encourages producers, including farmers, and traders to meet the ethical and quality standards of the market;

9. By efficiently linking buyers and sellers in sufficient number, commodity exchanges create liquidity and facilitate price discovery, which further bolsters commodity trading. Market information such as price, quantity and quality are regularly made available to the public which aids decisions and trades;

10. They provide a ready market for the sale of commodities and incentivise the use of storage facilities (warehouses) which can help minimize post-harvest losses;

11. Through grading and standardization of commodities, commodity exchanges promote high standards of quality thereby boosting export as confidence is strengthened in the quality of commodities exported through the exchange;

12. Commodity exchanges provide risk management tools; enabling entities hedge against possible adverse development in the future prices of commodities. Such facilities help industries plan by providing price and supply certainties. Farmers can also use the market to hedge their commodities against adverse price fluctuation;

13. They promote agricultural produce financing and development of warehouse receipts which can enables farmers including small holder farmers borrow against the commodities in the warehouse;

14. Commodity exchanges provide reliable price benchmarks for non-exchange traded markets such as the Over – The – Counter (OTC) market;

15. Through the use of warehousing, they help to ensure continuous supply of commodities regardless of the season. This guarantees raw materials for the industry at all times, reducing risk of production disruption as well as storage and production cost;

16. Commodity exchanges can also assist in moderating consumer price because of their ability to drive up agricultural production;

17. They provide opportunity for securitization of commodities through the warehouse receipt system, which can also be used as collateral to unlock finance from financial institutions;

18. They provide opportunities for investment in the commodities value chain such as warehousing, assaying services, brokerage and logistics;

19. They promote the development of derivative markets as derivative instruments with commodities as the underlying instruments are developed with the attendant benefits such as permitting farmers and others to hedge their investments; and finally

20. A thriving commodity exchange can contribute to moderating and reducing illegal mining of solid mineral products as the exchange tracks and records the origin (source) of all commodities traded on its platform.

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10 Special Report on Commodity Market and Exchange

Commodity Exchange – Functions, Advantages And More



A Commodity Exchange or Comex is a regulated market allowing the purchase and sale of contracts backed by commodities such as gold, silver, crude oil and so on. Such an exchange serves as the central location for trading the commodities. Some of the major commodity exchanges in the world are Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME), Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT), Carbon Trade Exchange (CTX), New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), London Metals Exchange (LME), Tokyo Commodity Exchange (TOCOM) and more.

Brief History

Most historians are of the opinion that the use of gold coins as a medium of exchange in medieval Europe played a crucial role in the development of markets for trading commodities. Initially, these coins were traded with the merchants from the East Indies and Asia. Later, the need was felt for centralized exchanges.

There are four main participants in a

commodity exchange;

Producers: These supply the commodities for trade. Without them, there will be no commodity to trade, and thus, no need for an exchange. Producers are usually oil and gas companies, farmers, mining companies and cattle ranchers.

End-users: These could be individuals and companies and help to build a demand for a commodity. For instance, the end-users could be companies using the commodities in their production processes, such as cloth makers, food manufacturers and more.

Speculators: These are the traders that bet on the movement of the commodities prices. They often serve as a liquidity source for producers and the end-users as well.

Traders: They serve as an intermediary between the producers and the end-users. At times of market imbalances, they help to provide liquidity. For example, if a producer has an excess inventory and there are no end-users to buy it. Then, traders may buy this inventory to restore the prices.

Commodity Contract Features: Each

contract has the following standard feature:

Quantity: Generally refers to the quantity of the commodity stated in the contract. It can be either in the metric unit or traditional units such as a bag or barrel or the imperial unit.

Price: The price of the contract is determined through fair price discovery between the buyer and the seller. Exchanges, usually, do not play any role in the price determination unless there is some dispute.

Quality: It is not that relevant usually. Quality refers to the specifications of the commodity such as the commodity might be from a specific region and so on.

Delivery: Exchange decides the delivery date of each contract along with the method and place. There would be some contracts that are settled through financial payments rather than physical delivery.

What Commodities Are Traded?

Initially, in the 19th century, the exchanges were in use for trading agricultural products such as wheat, corn, cattle. Today, commodity markets have evolved and offered a wider range of products.

Generally traded commodities on the exchange are:

Natural soil produces such as cotton, jute, tea, etc.

Manufactured products such as artificial jams, hides, gunny bags and so on.

Mineral products such as lead, crude, mica, gold, silver, and others.

Commodity Qualification for Trading on Exchange

Not all the commodities are fit for trading on the commodity exchange. There are a few characteristics that a commodity should possess to qualify for trade on the exchange. These characteristics are;

Durability – since the expiry of the contracts can be extended up to one year, the commodities should have a longer shelf life. Goods that can perish quickly can't have long term contracts, and therefore, traders can't trade them on the commodity exchange.

Homogeneity – all units of a commodity must be the same. This ensures that the dealers meant the same commodity when they talk about it in their dealings.

Price Fluctuation – the price of the product should have frequent fluctuations in order to be fit for trading. If the price remains steady for most of the time, the speculators would have only little to gain from trading it on the exchange.

Gradeability – if it becomes difficult to categorize the product into well-defined grades, then trading it on the exchange becomes challenging. If there is no grading before, then the quality of the commodity will have to be ascertained each time before trading.

Open Supply – there should not be a monopolized market for the commodity, either Government or any private party. If it is so, it will only make trading impossible on the exchange.

Forward and Futures Markets

Like with the stock markets, the commodity markets also have Forward and Futures contracts. In fact, the need for such contracts is more in commodity markets.

During the 1800s, the phenomenal growth in the grain trade in the US-led to the development of commodities forward contract. Farmers from other parts of the globe will bring their crops to Chicago to store them before shipping them. However, it was possible that the prices of these crops might change during the time it actually reaches the buyer. Also, the quality of the crop could deteriorate during the process.

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Commodities Trading Ecosystem In Nigeria

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Commodities market can be broadly classified into the Cash or Spot Market and the Derivatives Market. In the cash market, transactions are conducted for immediate delivery of physical commodities or securities while in the derivative market delivery is at a future date. The derivative market can be broadly categorized into the forward and futures markets. The forward market trades in contracts of commodities and financial instruments which are for future delivery but customized to the specifications of the transaction parties. They are traded over-the-counter and not on an exchange.

In other words, a derivatives commodities

market deals in financial contract between parties, which is derived from ascertaining the value of an underlying commodity. Because the derivative market relies on the price of the underlying market, it is essential that a strong cash (spot) market exists prior to the introduction of derivatives.

In the futures market, buyers and sellers agree on the quality and quantity of a specified commodity to be delivered at an agreed price and date in future. In the options segment, parties enter into contract that confers the right, not the obligation, of a buyer to buy or sell a given commodity at a particular price for delivery on or before a given period.

A major distinction between the cash and

derivatives commodities market is that transactions in the cash market are usually carried out by buyers who have immediate use for the commodity purchased while transactions in the derivatives market do not often result in physical delivery as they can be offset before the delivery date.

Nigeria Outputs and Exports of Commodities

This subsection further underscores the importance of commodities in Nigeria, focusing on output and exports.

Tables 2-4 give the structure of Nigerian agriculture and mineral resources in terms of production (Gross Domestic Product), relative contributions to the economy and

real growth rates.

It is depicted that agriculture GDP rose from N19.64trn in 2015 to N21.52trn in 2016. The GDP of agriculture stood at N7.2trn in the third quarter of 2017. In terms of percentage contribution, table 3 shows that Nigeria's agriculture sector contributed 20.86% to the country's GDP in 2015, 21.21% in 2016 and this rose to 24.44% in Q3 of 2017. The crop production sub-section of agriculture is usually responsible for about 90% of agriculture production while other activities like livestock, forestry and fishing contribute relatively lower.

Culled from www.sec.gov.ng

Types of Commodity Market:



Hard and soft commodities are traded on the exchanges. Metals, crude oil, etc. fall under the category of hard commodities whereas agricultural commodities like corn, wheat, cotton, soybean, guar are soft commodities as they have a limited shelf life. Let us concentrate on the types of commodity market in India and list of commodities traded on commodity market.

Types of commodities traded in India (MCX):

Bullion: Gold, Silver

Base Metals: Aluminum, Brass, Copper, Lead, Nickel, Zinc

Energy: Crude oil, Natural gas

Agri commodities: Black pepper, Cardamom, Castor seed, Cotton, Crude palm oil, Mentha oil, Palmolein, Rubber

List of commodities traded in India (NCDEX):

Cereals and pulses: Barley, Chana, Maize kharif/south, Maize rabi, Wheat, Moong, Paddy (basmati)

Fibres: Kappa's, Cotton, Guar seed, Guar gum

Oil and Oil seeds: Castor seed, Cotton seed oil cake, Soybean, Refined soy oil,

Mustard seed, Crude palm oil

Soft: Sugar

Spices: Pepper, Turmeric, Jeera, Coriander

List of most traded commodities:

Crude oil, Gold, Brent oil, Silver, corn, Natural Gas, Soybeans, Cotton, Wheat, Coffee are the most traded commodities on a global level. Below is the detailed information of few commodities belonging to the list of traded commodities.

Crude oil:

Crude oil is the most sought-after commodity as there are several products that are produced as a result of refining crude oil such as petroleum, diesel, etc. Geopolitical tensions erupt all over the globe for dominance over crude oil reserves. The demand for crude oil is poised to increase with growing demand for automobiles. OPEC is a consortium of oil producing nations and the supply of crude oil gets disrupted due to wars, armed rebellion, etc. Top oil producing countries in the world are US, Saudi Arabia, Russia.

Gold:

Gold is always considered as a haven. Whenever the US dollar prices fall, people start buying gold and when the price

of dollar increases, gold prices fall. US dollar and gold prices share an inverse relationship.

Soybeans:

Factors that affect soybean prices are biodiesel demand, weather and demand for dollar.

Participants of commodity market:

Speculators:

Speculators and hedgers are the drivers of commodity market. These traders constantly analyze the prices of commodities and forecast the future price movement. For example, if they predict the prices to move higher, they buy commodity futures contract and if the prices seem to move higher, they sell the contracts at a price higher than the price at which they bought. If they feel that the prices would move down, they sell the contracts and then buy them again at an even lower price. In both the cases, they tend to make profits.

Hedgers:

Producers, manufacturers, etc. usually hedge their risk by using commodity futures market. Let us take an example to understand this concept. There is a wheat farmer and if there is fluctuation of prices

during harvest and if price falls, farmer would face loss. To hedge this risk, the farmer enters into a futures contract. When there is fall in price in the local market, the farmer can compensate this loss by making gains in the futures market. In case there is increase in price during harvest, the farmer would face loss in the futures market but he can compensate this loss by selling it at a higher price in the local market.

What benefits does one get by trading in commodities?

Transparency in trading transactions:

As commodity trading happens over the exchange, there is no manipulation of prices neither by buyers or sellers. The buyer quotes a price and in the same way a seller quotes a price and if there is a match between the two, the order gets executed. Price discovery of commodities is possible without any manipulation and this is the major advantage of using advanced online trading platforms. Lower margins in commodity futures encourage small trades to use this segment to hedge their risk and get higher leverage.

Risk Management:

As trading takes place on exchanges, there is no fear of counterparty risk. Proper risk management procedures are enforced by the exchanges to safeguard the investors.

Major Commodity Exchanges in India:

Multi Commodity Exchange of India
National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange

Indian Commodity Exchange

National Multi Commodity Exchange of India

Important points to note while trading in commodity:

Commodity prices area affected by many reasons and it is important to understand these factors and the strategies that must be employed before trading in commodities.

One should have a clear idea about the demand-supply chain to trade in commodities.

While one gets higher leverage, risk associated with commodity trading is also higher.

If you are a beginner, take the support of research experts because a thorough knowledge and constant monitoring of the market is necessary.

Have clarity on the commodity types list and read extensively on how the price of a particular commodity gets impacted before you begin trading in commodities

www.karvyonline.com

Commodity Exchange – Functions, Advantages And More

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To overcome such challenges and many more, the buyer and sellers were allowed to lock prices even before the delivery. This led to the formation of the forward contracts. It ensures that the seller delivers an agreed amount of grain for an agreed price at an agreed date.

Functions of a Commodity Exchange

To serve as a platform for a different type of investors for buying and selling the commodities through fair price discovery. To acquire and disseminate the commodity news, in` order, to help traders in making decisions.

Exchanges also help in settling the disputes between the traders.

Exchanges are also responsible for grading the commodities available for trade. This allows dealers and other parties to enter into an agreement quickly.

Advantage of Commodity exchange

It gives an option to the investors and traders to transfer their risk to professional risk bearers.

Exchanges offer a continuous and fair market for the price discovery wherein the producer of the commodity is free from middlemen.

Since the commodity exchanges ensure the

continuity of trade, financiers and bankers have no issues to extend a loan against the commodities.

Commodity exchanges offer hedging opportunities. This helps to reduce the effect of fluctuation in the price.

Disadvantages

Leverage – margin requisites by the exchanges are kept low, thereby, causing poor money management. This sometimes leads to unnecessary risk-taking.

Physical Delivery – traders don't prefer the physical delivery of the commodities because they cannot afford to take deliveries of huge quantities of commodities.

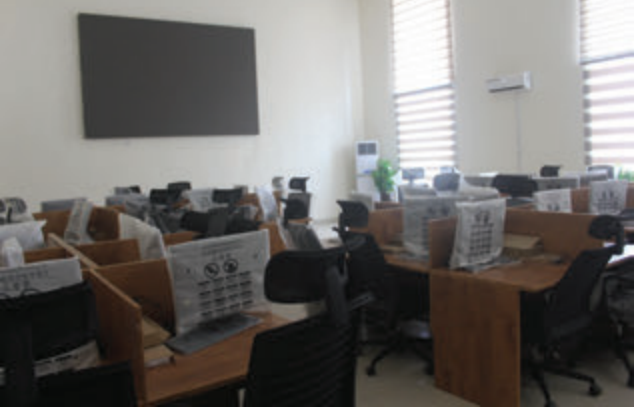
A Risky Business – matching the speed of the bots and Algo trading is always a risky business with many traders burning their hands due to either greed or fear.


Final Words: Many criticize speculators and traders in the commodities exchanges for driving up the prices of the food, gasoline or other commodities. In reality, no speculator can affect the price of commodities. And, even if they do it somehow, the markets react very quickly to correct any imbalance.

Culled from www.efinancemanagement.com

12 Photo News

Pictorial news of the Ultramodern Gezawa Commodity Market and Exchange which comprises of 420 shops, 400 and 150 trucks capacity warehouses, processing plants, administrative block, control room, and state-of-the-art trading floor.





Prof MK. Aliyu

Prof MK Aliyu, (mni) one of the leading Archeologists in Nigeria, is a lecturer and the first Professor of Archeology in the Department of Archeology and Heritage Studies, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria – Nigeria. Professor Aliyu, a widely travelled Scholar, has taught Archeology for the past 30 years in different Universities in Nigeria. These includes his main University, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Federal University Gusau (FUGUS), Federal University Dutsinma, Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University Lapai (IBBUL), and Nasarawa State University Keffi (NSUK). Professor Aliyu is also the Pioneer Editor of the Pioneer Newspaper birthed in Nigeria’s protracted history of Print Journalism to cover and report activities of the Education Sector – EDUCATION MONITOR.



Excavated Pit and Trench made during the Fieldschool

2021 Fieldschool of ABU’s Department of Archeology

There are some misconceptions about these three concepts by some students to assume that they all mean the same. Fieldtrip is the actual setting out to the field through whatever means to engage in some practical aspect of some disciplines. On the other hand, fieldwork is the actual engagement in the practical application of filed methods in the field in a particular site or location. Meanwhile, field school is the arrangement to create the school environment in the field through camping while at the same time engaging in practical fieldwork and some form of classwork in the field. What the three concepts mean in common is that the intention in all is to expose the students to some field practical experiences to complement the theories explained in the comfort of the school classrooms. It also means field work can be arranged only without field school.

Archaeology Fieldschool In Ahmadu Bello University Zaria

Archaeology is the science and art that seeks to reconstruct the past lifeways of man from the earliest time to the present through the cultural material remains left behind by man. The process of the recovery from the field of the material remains of man in Archaeology is a science; while the writing of history through the interpretation of the result is an art. The main way archaeological data is collected is through fieldtrip, fieldwork

and field school. For several years since the inception of Archaeology program in Ahmadu Bello University in 1975, fieldwork has been arranged for students to be exposed to Archaeological Field Methods. At the beginning and up to 2006, Archaeology program has been under History Department as a Unit. The field exercises arranged then were a mixture of field works and field schools. Students were taken in some years to some sites close to the University to do some field works without camping; while when the situation allows, they were taken to camp in a form of field school. This situation continued up and until 1997 when the University purposely, under the Sole Administrator, late retired General Mamman Kontagora, instituted the field school camping for Archaeology program. This has been sustained by all the succeeding University Administrations up to 2020. The field school program in Ahmadu Bello University Zaria has developed to a stage that it is now one of the best field school programs in Nigeria and can compete favorably with its kind anywhere in the world in terms of content and practice.

Under field school conditions, the students are transported to a carefully selected real archaeological site and accommodated either in tents or in primary or secondary schools. Feeding arrangements are made; security arrangements are made; medical First Aid arrangements are made; and local

arrangements are made to expose the students to the principle and practice of data collection through oral interview, ethnographic surveys, field archaeological reconnaissance and surveys, excavation, field data handling and packaging and lifting technics and field classification in field laboratory. This is Archaeological Field School in Ahmadu Bello University Zaria. From a Unit under history Department up to 2006, a Department of Archaeology was created under the Prof. Shehu Usman Abdullahi Administration. From the creation of Archaeology Unit under History Department in 1975, through when the Department of Archaeology was created in 2006, more than 45 field schools have been organised for students yearly for between 12 to 14 days as stipulated by the NUC minimum benchmark for a student of Archaeology to graduate. It was organized for part 2 and part 3 students only during the session system up to late 80s, but from around 1991 to date, it is organised for 200, 300, and 400 level student. The post graduate students are also fully involved as a requirement for their graduation too. With that, the field school program progressed more with additional students and more funding. The field school program over the years have been staged in different States of Northern Nigeria. Field works have been arranged in several other sites in Northern Nigeria such as Kargi, Tsauni, Samaru West and Kufena (all in

Kaduna State), Zungeru (in Niger State), Boko (in Plateau State), Gozaki, Dayi, Karofi, Wurma, Birchi, Tandama, Faskari, Rimaye, Karfi, Mahuta, Yaribori, Dabai and Radda (all in Katsina State), Kwatarkwashi and ‘Yandoto (in Zamfara State), Surame (in Sokoto State), Shikam, Mkar and Ushongo (in Benue State), etc. This has made the Zaria Field School Program the best in the country. Reports from these field schools are available in the Departmental Library. In line with international best practice, there are plans and agitations to take the Ahmadu Bello University field exercise to famous archaeological sites abroad like that in Nile Valley in Egypt, Sudan or Ethiopia and even beyond. These plans can only materialize with increase funding. But in the meantime, the Department is doing all things possible to maintain the standards already set against all odds.

The Archaeology Unit at initial stage and up to late 90s had few students between 25 to 30 students as both parts 2 and 3 students attending the field schools yearly. But from early 2000 the admission intake began to improve alongside number of academic and technical staff. The staffing situation rose from 5 lecturers up to 1999 to about 22 lecturers presently. The Department now have up to 700 students that attend field school yearly in Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

Benefits of a Commodities Exchange



In other parts of the developing world, a commodity exchange may act in a broader range of ways, in order to stimulate trade in the commodity sector.

This may be through the use of instruments other than futures, such as the cash or “spot” trade for immediate delivery, forward contracts on the basis of warehouse receipts, or the trade of farmers’ repurchase agreements for financing known as “repos”.

Alternatively, it may be through focusing on facilitative activities, rather than on the trade itself, as is the case in Turkey, where exchanges have served as centres for registering transactions for tax purposes.

By trading on a commodity exchange the benefits are numerous. There is an efficient price discovery mechanism since a commodity exchange is ideally bringing in large number of buyers and sellers.

Because of the laid-down rules and procedures which ensures a guaranteed settlement system it reduces price risks.

Deals are transparent in that prices are published and market information is available to all players.

Availability of rules of transacting across the exchange ensures the integrity of member companies and brokers is monitored.

The exchange system makes available a dispute settlement system through rules of arbitration, which offers a shorter route to the court system.

The exchange ensures maintenance of standards of quality of commodities and trading practices.

It also offers cost effective marketing system through transparent transaction costing and pricing of the commodities.

Commodity exchange contracts are signed by both parties and are legally binding hence there is security, certainty and transparency.

The contracts will cover, quality, quantity, passing of ownership and risk, price, payment terms, inspection, transport, delivery and weight, packaging, force majeure, demurrage, interest and arbitration.

The futures trading allow producers and buyers to offset the effects of adverse future price movements through transparent, standardised, and efficient hedging of agricultural commodity prices.

One of the primary functions of a commodity exchange is price discovery.

Price discovery refers to the mechanism through which prices come to reflect known information about the market.

The price level established on the open market can therefore represent an accurate depiction of the prevailing supply/demand situation in the underlying commodity markets, whether in the spot market for current deliveries or in the forwards/futures markets for deliveries at specified time and place.

Farmers are more likely to find a market

for crops when true level of demand is reflected in the price signals.

Farmers become more informed about market and pricing information. There is improved received price from intermediaries because of authoritative and accurate reference price.

Cropping based on futures rather than spot price increases likely returns and facilitates crop diversification where farmers can better appreciate price, and ultimately income differentials.

It reduces intra-seasonal spot price volatility, increases returns to farmers as better enables them to hold until price level is good and empowers farmers as they can take more marketing decisions into their own hands.

The futures also take a price risk management function as it helps farmers to avoid serious losses when prices fall.

It enables farmers to receive a guaranteed price from a purchaser or intermediary and facilitates more effective planning and investment because of greater income predictability

Despite the above obvious advantages there are barriers that will hinder smallholder farmers from participating in a commodity exchange.

These include contract sizes that may far exceed the annual quantity of production those smallholder farmers are capable of; lack of knowledge, resources and capacity; infrastructure deficiencies; and

cumbersome process of execution that may be beyond the farmer’s capacity.

Farmers may be able to break these barriers by participating through commodity associations or farmers’ associations who aggregate the hedging needs of several small-scale farmers and execute the trade on the exchange.

The association or farmers’ union can manage the positions in the market and liquidate the contract at an appropriate time

Warehouse Receipt System
The use of warehouse receipts system allows for farmers as individuals or groups to deposit their produce in registered warehouses thereby reducing post harvest storage losses and solving lack of storage challenges.

Warehouse receipts can be negotiable or transferable and used as collateral by smallholder farmers thereby improved access to finance.

Farmers are well informed of movements in the markets and are able to access markets rapidly, so they can wait to sell at the right time for the best price.

Market information and knowledge improves bargaining position for the farmers, create production incentives, and stimulate competition among the traders and matches supply and demand.

In Zimbabwe there is need for awareness and training and familiarity raising for the banking community on warehouse receipt systems.

Government’s objectives to intervene in markets are: to support prices and ensure food security.

These objectives can still be addressed as governments can accept warehouse receipts when prices drop below a support floor, rather than taking delivery of physical inventories.

Governments can achieve their food security objectives by merely holding these receipts.

For a commodity exchange to be successful there is need for policy consistence on agricultural marketing, that is there is need to perpetuate the market liberalisation policy.

Controls will literally make it impossible for a commodity exchange to operate.

The Zimbabwe Agricultural Commodity Exchange case was killed by lack of consistency in policy.

For Zimbabwe, it was from controls and then liberalisation during the Economic Structural Adjustment Programme era then back to controls post Esap to the present liberalisation of grain marketing. Thus we have gone full cycle regarding marketing policy.

In the region, there are examples of successful commodity exchanges including the South African Futures Exchange.

Culled from www.herald.co.zw