

**THE REPORT OF THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING WITH CSOs, CBOs AND
NGOs, IN ONDO STATE ON 2023 -2025 MTEF AND 2023 BUDGET
PREPARATION HELD AT THE CONFERENCE HALL, MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC
PLANNING & BUDGET, AKURE ON THURSDAY, 25TH AUGUST, 2022.**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1. In line with the Section 22, Subsection 2 (a) and (b) of the Ondo State Fiscal Responsibility Law (FRL), (2017) which stipulates that the people of the State must be consulted to harvest their inputs into the State’s MTEF which ultimately leads to the yearly budget; a parley with Youth Groups and Student Bodies on the 2023-2025 MTEF and 2023 Budget preparation was held at the Conference Hall, Ministry of Economic Planning & Budget on Thursday, 25th August, 2022. The meeting was presided over by Pastor Igbasan Emmanuel, Commissioner for Economic Planning and Budget.

2.0. OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

- 2.1. The main objectives of the meeting were as follows:
- i. to project for scrutiny of figures for the 2023 – 2025 MTEF which included the estimates for 2023 budget;
 - ii. to harvest inputs of the Youth Groups and Student Bodies in order to include them in the 2023 budget.

3.0. PARTICIPANTS

3.1. Ondo State officials at the meeting were the Honourable Commissioner for Economic Planning and Budget, Pastor Emmanuel Igbasan, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, Mr. Bunmi Alade, Director Development Planning, Mr. B. J. Daisi, Director Budget, Mr. Aworere Stephen, Director Technical Assistance & Aid Coordination, Mr. Adebusey Monday, Director Monitoring and Evaluation, Alhaji Adekunle L. A, Director, Finance and Administration, Mr. Segun Akosile, Deputy Director, PASS, Mrs.

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

3.2. Also, present at the meeting are the members of the Youth Groups and Representatives of Student Bodies.

3.3. The members of the Sector Planning Teams (SPTs) for the preparation of the 2023 – 2025 Medium-Term Sector Strategy (MTSS) were seated to observe and note the contributions of the Youth Groups, and Student Bodies.

4.0. OPENING REMARKS

4.1. The Permanent Secretary, Ondo State Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, Mr. Bunmi Alade, welcomed the participants to the meeting. He remarked that the consultative meeting was organized to harvest the needs, desires and yearnings of the people as inputs into the year 2023 budget.

4.2. He appreciated the contributions of the Youth Groups and Student Bodies towards the development of the Ondo State, especially, in the areas of preparation and implementation of state' annual budget which fetched the state the first position in budget transparency among the 36 states of the country.

4.3. He restated that the meeting sought to examine the projections of the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and brainstorm on how to generate adequate funds for the implementation of the 2023 Budget. Government activities, according to the Permanent Secretary, were to be appraised for better performance.

4.4. Concluding his remarks, he enjoined the all stakeholders to contribute meaningfully to the discussion of the meeting so as to have a robust, people-oriented budget.

5.0. KEYNOTE ADDRESS

- 5.1. Giving his keynote address, the Honourable Commissioner for Economic Planning and Budget, Pastor Emmanuel Igbasan, on behalf of the Executive Governor of the State, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu, *SAW*, enthusiastically welcomed all the participants to the auspicious occasion. While acknowledging the presence of the Youth Groups and Student Bodies, he alluded to the fact that their constructive criticisms and contributions to the activities of the Ministry have enable the State to rank high in budget preparation and performance in the country.
- 5.2. Pastor Igbasan noted that the State has been organizing this type of forum since 2018, and that it might be tempting to see it as an ordinary routine, he appealed to the consciousness of the gathering to pay attention to the peculiarity of each year as each year is significantly different in challenges and opportunities.
- 5.3. He mentioned that the policy thrust for AKETI's second term in office is captioned in the acronym "REDEEMED" which he said has been used to deliver good governance to the people of Ondo State in fulfilment of campaign promises of the present government.
- 5.4. He further stated that, in line with global good practices, the State had taken a radical, bottom-up approach to budgeting process and that the engagement was necessary to foster relationship between the Government and the people and for the people to take ownership of the process.
- 5.5. While concluding his address, he enjoined the participants to speak dispassionately and make insightful contributions, as their aspirations, desires,

requests and feedbacks would be presented to Mr. Governor to see how many of those desires would be accommodated in the 2023 budget.

6.0. BUSINESS OF THE DAY

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

6.1.1. In his presentation, the Director Budget, Mr. Aworere S. R. highlighted negative impacts of insecurity in Ondo State, rising inflation in Nigeria, non-functionality of the nation's refineries which leads to high fuel prices, the Russia/Ukraine war with its negative implications on food and energy prices, and inability of the State's Internally Generated Revenue to finance its running expenses as critical factors that informed the 2023 budget figures.

6.1.2. While giving an overview of the 2022 budget performance, Mr. Aworere explained both the recurrent and capital budget implementation performance as at June 2022. He stated that total revenue expected for the Mid-Year 2022 was ₦99.641 billion while the total revenue received for the period was ₦78.014 billion, recording a shortfall of about 22%.

6.1.3. On the expenditure side, he explained that about 56.86% of the ₦99.64 billion was expended on recurrent expenditure while the remaining 43.14% was spent on capital projects.

6.1.4. Speaking on the 2023 - 2025 MTEF, the Director Budget briefed the meeting that, in 2023, the National Inflation forecast to be 17.16%, Real GDP to have a growth rate of 3.75%, Oil Production Benchmark is projected to be 1.6900 mbpd and the Oil Price benchmark of \$70.00. The State is proposed to have a total ₦116.893 billion for recurrent revenue and a total budget size of ₦151.523 billion for year 2023. He mentioned that the transfer to the capital account is having a negative figure of ₦13.474 billion meaning that the total

revenue expected in the year 2023 is ₦13.474 billion less than the budgeted recurrent expenditure of ₦151.523 billion.

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

2023-2025 SECTORAL CAPITAL ALLOCATION

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

6.1.6. Mr. Aworere explained that the sectoral capital expenditure was divided into two: Discretionary Funds and Non-Discretionary Funds. ₦39.720 billion for non-discretionary fund which the State does not have outright control over. Concluding his presentation on the 2023 – 2025 MTEF, he stressed that the State needs more revenue in order to continue to prioritise the needs of the people of Ondo State.

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

7.0. OBSERVATIONS/COMMENTS/REACTIONS FROM STAKEHOLDERS

7.1. In reactions to the presentation, the participants appreciated the effort of the State Government for organizing the consultative meeting as a platform to air their views and make requests which may likely make 2023 budget. They, however, commented/reacted as follows:

- i. That due to neglect, the Oba Adeusi Hospital in Ifon is in a terrible position;
- ii. Construction of the in-road to Okeluse and the bridge connecting the town to Edo State are urgently needed;
- iii. Primary and secondary schools lack sufficient staffing;
- iv. The budget line item for youth under the Ministry of Youth and Sports should receive more votes;
- v. That the Youth Parliament Budget has not changed over the years;
- vi. The NOASS secretariat was affected by construction of the new ODIRS building causing a major setback to the administration of the Association;
- vii. Non-existence of Database for different associations of Youth and Students;
- viii. Few parties benefit from the unequal distribution of access to government operations;
- ix. The necessity for Okitipupa-Ilutitun-Akinfosile Road rehabilitation;
- x. State-owned institution transfers and subventions are not given priority;
- xi. Lack of student loans to offset the impact of rising school costs;

- xii. State revenue creation is being lost due to ineffective tourist administration and promotion;
- xiii. Inadequate publicity for government programs;
- xiv. The prospecting of bitumen is not taken into consideration;
- xv. Bursary and scholarship programs for students in state-owned tertiary schools have been discontinued;
- xvi. The student's academic performance and calendar have suffered greatly as a result of the ASUU strike;
- xvii. State-owned universities accept more students than they can handle;
and
- xviii. Civil servants' falsified ages have made it difficult for fresh graduates to get jobs.


8.0. RECOMMENDATIONS


8.1. The followings were the recommendations:

- i. Oba Adeusi Hospital at Ifon should be given attention for maximum health delivery;
- ii. Construction of Okeluse roads and the bridge that linked the area to Edo State;
- iii. Recruitment of Teachers at both level of Primary and Secondary schools;
- iv. Increase provision for Youth in the budget of Ministry of Youth and Sport;
- v. Youth parliament budget should be reviewed upward;
- vi. Provision of administrative space for NAOSS office affected by ODIRS building;
- vii. Robust database for proper administration of Youth and Students clusters;
- viii. Equal access to government programmes bu all and sundry;

- ix. Rehabilitation of Okitipupa-Ilutitun-Akinfosile road;
- x. Regular and consistent subventions and transfers to State owned institutions;
- xi. Provision of student's loan for students in State-owned tertiary institution;
- xii. Exploration of tourism as another source of revenue generation;
- xiii. Adequate publicity of Government programmes for the populace to benefit from;
- xiv. Exploration of Bitumen should be passionately pursued;
- xv. Timely provision of Bursary and Scholarship for State-owned students;
- xvi. Immediate and urgent intervention to call off the on-going ASUU strike;
- xvii. Regulation of admission quota of State- owned Universities; and
- xviii. Clean up of the State Civil service of aged civil servants to give room for fresh intake of young people.

8.2 In closing, the Permanent Secretary reaffirmed the government's determination to work tirelessly to bring the State to a high level of unparalleled development among the States in the nation under the administration of Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN.

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