

ATTENDANCE:

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. | Ntufam F. Ugbo | - | Secretary to the Commission |
| 2. | Mrs. Rosemary Egu | - | Abia State Liaison Office |
| 3. | Mr. James Garnvwa | - | Adamawa State Liaison Office |
| 4. | Mr. Uduak Iwoh | - | Akwa-Ibom State Liaison Office |
| 5. | Dr. Beatrice Okonkwo | - | Anambra State Liaison Office |
| 6. | Mr. Samuel Orchir | - | Benue State Liaison Office |
| 7. | Mr. Alkali M. Bulama | - | Borno State Liaison Office |
| 8. | Mr. Azogor Idelba | - | Cross River State Liaison Office |
| 9. | Barr. (Mrs.) Ngozi Ebonka | - | Delta State Liaison Office |
| 10. | Mr. Ejim Francis | - | Enugu State Liaison Office |
| 11. | Princess Gloria Akobundu | - | Imo State Liaison Office |
| 12. | Mrs. Obioha Anita I. | - | |
| 13. | Mrs. Anjorin, A. S. | - | Lagos State Liaison Office |
| 14. | Mr. Ubam Isa Tukur | - | Nasarawa State Liaison Office |
| 15. | Mr. Ali, Y. N. | - | Niger State Liaison Office |
| 16. | Mr. Leo Cletus | - | Ondo State Liaison Office |
| 17. | Mrs. Blessing Madaki | - | Plateau State Liaison Office |
| 18. | Mr. Samaila Yakunm | - | Sokoto State Liaison Office |
| 19. | Mr. Godfrey W. Tafida | - | Taraba State Liaison Office |
| 20. | Mr. Eddy Ogbeihe | - | Head (CS) NPC |
| 21. | Mr. Nwozuzu, U. S | - | CPO (CS) NPC |
| 22. | Mr. Olawore, A. A | - | CAO (CS) NPC |
| 23. | Mrs. H. Ohuche | - | PO1 (CS) NPC |

REPORT ON THE MEETING OF THE STATES LIAISON OFFICERS WITH THE SECRETARY TO THE NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION HELD AT THE MINISTER'S CONFERENCE ROOM, NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION, ABUJA ON TUESDAY, 10TH DECEMBER, 2013.

1.0 OPENING

1.1 The meeting started at 12.14pm with opening prayer led by the Anambra State Liaison Officer. The meeting was presided over by the Secretary to the Commission, **Ntufam Fidelis Ugbo, Esq.** who also called for self introduction of members.

2.0 OPENING REMARKS

2.1 The Chairman in his opening remarks welcomed members to the meeting and informed them that the main objective of the meeting was to further smoothen the good working relationship between the States Liaison Offices and National Planning Commission and the Liaison offices with regards to the National Economic Council meetings. He apologized for not hosting the meeting quarterly as was agreed in the last meeting due to some other official engagements. The Chairman informed the meeting that the Commissioners of Planning had started attending the NEC meetings with their principals/Governors. He, therefore, urged them to always liaise with their Commissioners of Planning in order to be in a better position to brief their principals properly.

3.0 READING AND ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

3.1 The motion for the adoption of the Minutes of the last meeting was moved by the Delta State Liaison Officer and seconded by the Anambra State Liaison Officer.

4.0 MATTERS ARISING/GENERAL REMARKS

4.1 The Chairman reminded members of the importance of treating every NEC document as confidential and informed them that the Secretariat would check the calendar and fix the meetings ahead of time then notify members accordingly. He also re-emphasized that the consensus on holding the meetings quarterly still stands. The Chairman, therefore urged the members, as National Planning Commission mirror, to feel free to air their views concerning what they have experienced working with the Commission.

5.0 COMMENTS

5.1 The Anambra State Liaison Officer wanted the names of all the Commissioners of Planning to be forwarded to the Villa Gate permanently to avoid the situation where by the Commissioners' names were often not being sent on time as they often arrive the venue of the meeting earlier than their principals. Speaking in the same vein, the Lagos State Liaison Officer also suggested that the names of the State Planning Commissioners should feature permanently at the villa gate and that there was need to inform members timely if there was a postponement. Responding, the Chairman explained that it was difficult to have a permanent name being forwarded as the States do change Honorable Commissioners from time to time.

- 5.2** A member from Borno State noted the omission of the names of the attendees of the last meeting on the minutes of the last meeting.
- 5.3** Responding, the Chairman told the Secretariat to take note and attach the names.
- 5.4** The Benue State Liaison Officer also spoke on the need for having regular meetings and keeping the members informed early enough any time a meeting was cancelled to avoid not being on the same page with their principals.
- 5.5** A member suggested that the name and telephone numbers of contact persons within the Secretariat should be made available to members. Responding, the Chairman told the Secretariat to take note and urged the members to give their emails/phone numbers to the Secretariat.
- 5.6** The Taraba State Liaison Officer explained that NEC should serve as a platform for improving members' capacity. He reminded the Chairman about the promise to secure approval for trainings for the members at the last meeting of Thursday, 13th October, 2011. He went further and explained that as Ambassadors of their States, they could fill in the gap of the Commissioners of Planning if given the proper training.
- 5.7** The Chairman agreed with the speaker on the importance of building their capacity and again promised to look into it. He emphasized that both the Commission and Liaison offices were working for the successes of their principals and Nigeria as a whole and therefore urged them to forget their political differences and render services to Nigerians.

6.0 Any Other Business (AOB)

- 6.1** The Niger State Liaison Officer pleaded with his colleagues to always treat all correspondences with urgency.
- 6.2** The Chairman told the members that if by any reason, any Commissioner would not be available for the National Economic Council meeting, the Liaison Officer should notify the Secretariat early enough so that the person's name would be substituted.
- 6.3** A member from Imo State sought to know why development programmes from donor agencies were not evenly spread and wanted the Commission to intervene.
- 6.4** Responding, the Chairman informed the meeting that the National Planning Commission cannot influence the location of the projects by the developing partners. However, he urged them to attend the upcoming development partners meeting and assured them of making sure that they would be invited by the International Cooperation Development of the Commission and added that such a forum would give them the opportunity to air their views.

7.0 CONCLUSION

- 7.1** In conclusion, the Chairman thanked the States Liaison Officers present for attending the meeting despite their busy schedules and promised that the Secretariat would produce the 2014 schedule of meetings which would be forwarded to all members for noting.

8.0 CLOSING

- 8.1** The meeting was adjourned at 12:59pm with closing prayer led by the Cross River State Liaison Officer.

**STATES COORDINATION UNIT
NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
11TH DECEMBER, 2013.**