



**THE COMMUNIQUE OF THE 21ST EDITION OF THE JOINT
PLANNING BOARD (JPB) MEETING HELD FROM 6TH - 7TH APRIL,
2022 AT THE NEW EXCO COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GOVERNMENT
HOUSE, ABAKALIKI, EBONYI STATE**

**PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF MAJOR CONCLUSIONS
FROM THE JPB MEETING**

The 21st edition of the Joint Planning Board (JPB) meeting organized by the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning (FMFBNP) in collaboration with the Ebonyi State Government was held from the 6th – 7th of April, 2022 at the New Executive Council Chambers, Government House, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State. The theme of the meeting was ***"Good Governance and Institutional Capacity: Pathways to Sustainable National Development"***.

2. The main objective of the meeting was for critical Stakeholders and delegates to deeply discuss pathways to sustainable national development, as well as, engage in technical discussions on policy issues in order to propose an optimal approach for improving the nation's economic management process. It also provided a veritable platform for discussions on how to steer the ship of governance and meet the needs and aspirations of the citizenry amidst the challenging socio-economic climate.

3. The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Budget, Planning, Research & Monitoring, Ebonyi State, Mrs. Mfon Williamson gave the Welcome Address while the Permanent Secretary, Budget & National Planning, Abuja and Chairman of the JPB, Mrs. Olusola O. Idowu gave the Opening Address.

4. Goodwill Messages were also received from Hon. Solomon B. Elisha, Hon. Commissioner for Budget and Planning, Taraba State; the Director General, Nigeria Governors Forum (NGF), represented by Mr. David Nabena,

Dr. Stephen Odo, Hon. Commissioner for Commerce & Industry, Ebonyi State and the representative of the Chairman of ICPC (**Hon. Obiora Samuel Igwedibia**).

5. The meeting was formally declared open by the Executive Governor of Ebonyi State, His Excellency, Engr. David Nweze Umahi, FNSE ably represented by the Deputy Governor, His Excellency, Barrister Eric Kelechi Igwe who delivered the Keynote Address and declared the meeting Open. This was followed by the Context/Agenda setting done by Dr. (Mrs.) Gloria K. Ahmed, the Director, Special Duties (FMFBNP).

6. The meeting was structured into two (2) Technical Plenary sessions and three (3) Panel Discussions. A total of nine (9) papers were presented by Resource Persons, including a lead paper on “**Unlocking the Nigeria Economy through the National Development Plan (2021 – 2025): The Implementation Strategies**”. The Technical Sessions focused on the following sub-themes:

- a) Strengthening Institutional Capacities for Good Governance in Nigeria;
- b) Infrastructure Development and Industrialization in Nigeria: Option for Nigeria; and
- c) National Food System Transformation: A Strategy to Accelerate the Achievements of SDGs within the National Development Plan.

7. The list of papers presented by Resource Persons at the JPB meeting is as shown in the table below:

S/N	TITLE OF PAPER	PRESENTER
i.	Unlocking the Nigeria Economy through the National Development Plan (2021–2025): The Implementation Strategies	Dr. Sarah Alade, Special Adviser to the President on Finance and Economy represented by Mr. David T. Adeosun, Director (Macroeconomic Analysis), FMFBNP.
ii.	Status Report on the Implementation of Key Resolutions of the 20 th Edition of the	Dr. (Mrs.) Gloria Ahmed, Director, Special Duties,

	JPB/NCDP Meetings	FMFBNP
iii.	Developing Effective, Accountable and Transparent Institutions at all Levels	Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, Chairman, ICPC represented by Mr. Abbia Udofia, Director Systems Study and review.
iv.	Open Government Partnership: Co-creation as a strategic mechanism for National Public Reform - A case for Open Government Partnership (OGP)	Mrs. Obialunanma Nnaobi, Programme Director, Meluibe Empowerment Foundation, OGP
v.	Government Business, Smart Technology and Digital Economy	Panel Discussion
vi.	Infrastructure Development and Industrialization in Nigeria: Option for Nigeria	Panel Discussion
vii.	Early Warning System/ Weather and Climate Prediction for 2022 Growing Season	Professor Mansur Bako Matazu, Director General, NiMET
viii.	Transforming Food System through Farm Settlement, Youth and Women Engagement	Dr. Omotola Bamidele
ix.	Operation Feed Yourself for Food Security and Subsistence Farming	Dr. Tayo Adeyemi/Panel Discussion

7. The JPB meeting was conducted using a hybrid format (physical and virtual). 531 delegates (522 physically and 9 virtually) drawn from 27 States of the Federation namely: Abia, Adamawa, Akwa Ibom, Anambra, Bauchi, Benue, Borno, Delta, Ebonyi, Edo, Ekiti, Enugu, Gombe, Imo, Jigawa, Kebbi, Kogi, Kwara, Lagos, Niger, Ogun, Ondo, Osun, Oyo, Plateau, Rivers, Taraba, Yobe and Zamfara States participated. Others in attendance included 12 State Hon. Commissioners, 50 State Permanent Secretaries, 115 representatives from Federal MDAs, 83 delegates from State Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Representatives of Development Partners, Organized Private Sector, Academia, Civil Society Organizations and the Media.

8. Arising from the presentations, exhaustive discussions and deliberations, delegates unanimously agreed as follows:

■ **Unlocking the Nigeria Economy through the National Development Plan (2021 - 2025): The Implementation Strategies**

- i. Strong political will on the part of Key Actors at the highest level is strongly required to support the effective implementation of the National Development Plan (NDP);
- ii. Sub-National Governments are encouraged to develop "State Development Plan" (SDPs) and properly aligned them with the NDP;
- iii. The FGN should institutionalise a strong reward and sanction system to support the implementation of the Plan; and
- iv. The FMFBNP should support the strengthening of M&E system at the Sub-National levels for effective delivery of SDPs.

■ **Status Report on the Implementation of Key Resolutions of the 20th Edition of the JPB/NCDP Meetings**

- i. Research into high yielding crops species is capital intensive and requires experts, and should be carried out by Research Institutes and not States ADPs;
- ii. States should submit completed template on the status of implementation of the JPB/ NCDP meetings resolutions on/ before 3 months to the next JPB/NCDP meetings; and
- iii. The FMFBNP to redesign the forwarded templates to the States' and ensure it speaks directly to the resolutions of the JPB/ NCDP meetings for adequate insertion of the requested inputs on/ before 3 months before the next JPB meeting

■ **Open Government Partnership: Co-creation as a strategic mechanism for National Public Reform - A case for Open Government Partnership (OGP)**

- i. The need for more training, orientation, sensitization, public awareness and adoption of OGP at the grassroot for a better society by both National and Sub-National Governments; and

ii. The OGP National Secretariat to assist the States in the implementation of OGP at the Sub-National levels.

■ **Government Business, Smart Technology and Digital Economy**

- i. Both National and Sub-National Governments should introduce Smart Technology and Digital Economy into government businesses; and
- ii. The Sub-National Governments need to popularize the concept of digital economy

■ **Infrastructure Development and Industrialization in Nigeria: Option for Nigeria**

- i. Federal and State Governments should collaborate with the Private Sector in the execution of key infrastructure projects;
- ii. National and Sub-National Governments are enjoined to provide the enabling environment for the Private Sector to be fully involved in infrastructure development; and
- iii. The Private Sector to establish a Community of Practice meeting with the aim to share ideas on financing infrastructural development projects in Nigeria.

■ **Early Warning System/ Weather and Climate Prediction for 2022 Growing Season**

- i. Federal Government should continue to strengthen human capacity to meet the requirements of the challenging climate change and advancement in technology;
- ii. National and Sub-National Governments should mainstream Meteorological information into the planning and implementation of agricultural activities to manage the impact of weather-related risks;
- iii. Federal and State Governments should collaborate with all relevant stakeholders on the utilization of NiMet predictions and services to minimize risks, reduce losses, improve livelihood and promote sustainable developments through food security;
- iv. The Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development should ensure that NiMet products are cascaded down to State Ministries of Agriculture and other relevant Actors in the production of food and nutrition products;

- v. NiMet should intensify collaborations with Telecommunication Service providers to widen their coverage and weather information dissemination; and
- vi. The National Orientation Agency (NOA) should be involved in the dissemination of information to the general public.

■ **Transforming Food System through Farm Settlement, Youth and Women Engagement**

- i. Government at both National and Sub-National levels should encourage regional industrialization through allocation of resources and introduction of new farm implements to local farmers;
- ii. The reintroduction of farm settlements should be adopted in the 36 States of the Federation and FCT to create jobs, improve livelihood and reduce poverty;
- iii. Farm settlements should be made attractive and secured for youths and women willing to invest and engaged in farming activities at the Sub-National levels; and
- iv. Emphasis on the training of youths and women to enjoin human capacity freely

■ **Operation Feed Yourself for Food Security and Subsistence Farming**

- i. Need for adequate information and data for effective implementation of the Operation Feed Yourself intervention for sustainability of the programme;
- ii. Federal and Sub-National governments to support Commercial farming through the provision of appropriate farming inputs and equipment;
- iii. States Governments are encouraged to key into GAIN Programme to boost agricultural production to ensure food security;
- iv. States working with relevant stakeholders need to address the challenges of Human resources in the short, medium to long term to promote Operation Feed Yourself Programme;

- v. Power of volunteerism system among the youths need to be structured by the Sub-national government to provide incentives that will attract the youth to farming and agricultural value chain;
- vi. Pre-graduation training scheme that will enhance youth participation in agriculture and other relevant sectors should be included in the tertiary education curriculum;
- vii. Need for the States to support agriculture extension services to reach farmer in the rural areas on Operation Feed Yourself Programme;
- viii. Government should evolve strategies to address insecurity, farmer-herder conflict that affect food production and food security; and
- ix. Farmers are encouraged to form cooperative societies to ensure easy access to credit facilities, farm inputs and other benefit to improve agricultural production at the Sub-National levels.

9. The motion for the adoption of the major conclusions of the 2-days Joint Planning Board meeting was moved by Mr. Efe E. Iserhienrich, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning and seconded by Mrs. Titilayo Cline, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Budget & Economic Planning.

10. The delegates expressed appreciation and gratitude to the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning and the Ebonyi State Government, as well as, all the Honourable Commissioners, Permanent Secretaries and all other participants for the successful hosting of the 21st edition of the JPB meeting.

11. Delegates resolved to recommend the outcome of the Board's 2-Day meeting to the National Council on Development Planning (NCDP) for consideration and endorsement.

12. The 22nd edition of the JPB/ NCDP meeting is expected to hold in Ado Ekiti, Ekiti State as volunteered by Engr. Odesanmi Olugbenga, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security with second option in

Akure, Ondo State as volunteered by Bunmi Alade, Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Economic Planning at a date to be determined soon.

**Joint Planning Board Secretariat,
Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning, Abuja**

7th April, 2022