



RECAP OF DAY ONE PROCEEDINGS OF 2022 (21ST) JOINT PLANNING BOARD [JPB] MEETING

Held at
Executive Council Chambers, New
Government House, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State.

Presented on Thursday 7th April, 2022.
by Olusola O. Idowu (Mrs.)
Permanent Secretary, Budget and National Planning, Abuja

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- The 2022 (21st Edition) of the JPB meeting held at the Executive Council Chambers, Government House, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State on Wednesday, 6th April, 2022 with the theme “***Good Governance and Institutional Capacity: Pathways to Sustainable National Development***” 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.
- The meeting was convened as hybrid (Physical and Virtual). The turnout was impressive with 238 physical attendees and 9 virtual participants drawn from the Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), States, Private Sector, Civil Societies, Development Partners, NGOs, Academia, and the Media.
- 25 States namely Abia, Adamawa, Akwa Ibom, Anambra, Bauchi, Benue, Borno, Delta, Ebonyi, Edo, Ekiti, Enugu, Gombe, Imo, Kebbi, Kogi, Kwara, Lagos, Niger, Osun, Plateau, Rivers, Taraba, Yobe and Zamfara State were in attendance.

2.0 OPENING

- Mrs. Mfon Williamson; the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Budget, Planning, Research & Monitoring, Ebonyi State gave the Welcome Address while Mrs. Olusola O. Idowu, the Permanent Secretary, Budget & National Planning, Abuja gave the Opening Remarks.
- The Deputy Governor of Ebonyi State, His Excellency, Barrister Eric Kelechi Igwe delivered the Keynote Address.
- Goodwill Messages were also delivered by Hon. Solomon B. Elisha, Hon. Commissioner for Budget and Planning, Ebonyi State; the Director General, Nigeria Governors Forum (NGF) ably represented by Mr. David Nabena; and Dr. Stephen Odo, Hon. Commissioner for Commerce & Industry, Ebonyi State.
- Dr. (Mrs.) Gloria K. Ahmed, the Director, Special Duties (FMFBNP) set the Context/ Agenda for the meeting.

3.0 TECHNICAL SESSIONS

- The first day featured one (1) Technical Plenary Session, with the sub-theme: **“Strengthening Institutional Capacities for Good Governance in Nigeria”**.
- A total of five (5) 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”**. Other papers included;
 - Status Report on the Implementation of Key Resolutions of the 20th Edition of the JPB/NCDP Meetings;
 - Developing Effective, Accountable and Transparent Institutions at all Levels;
 - Open Government Partnership: Co-creation as a strategic mechanism for National Public Reform - A case for Open Government Partnership (OGP); and
 - Government Business, Smart Technology and Digital Economy.

4.0 KEY COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS

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

- The need for the formulation of implementation strategies to address the challenges of high inflation and exchange rates, which are critical components of national planning; and
- Monitoring and Evaluation is essential for government to achieve good governance and strengthen institutional capacity as a pathway to sustainable development.

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

- The CSOs to be adequately involved in the implementation of the resolutions of the JPB meetings;
- The need for the forwarded templates to States to be redesigned to speak directly to the resolutions of the JPB meetings for adequate insertion of the requested inputs;
- The inclusion of Kebbi State among States that have dedicated at least 10 per cent of its budget to Agricultural development in line with the Malabo/Maputo Declaration for the acceleration of national development and food security; and

4.0 KEY COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS [CONT'D]

- Delta State had constructed 19 new technical Colleges in addition to the existing 6 schools totalling 25 in number, thus, its inclusion among States that have encouraged enrolment into Technical Colleges.

Government Business, Smart Technology and Digital Economy

- Role of the digital economy and Delivery process should be identified in the National Development Plan.

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

- As observed, OGP does not have any instrument of coercion or enforcement in case of failure, however, extant rule in public serve could be applicable;
- Fighting corruption requires human integrity but seems exclusive due to the fact that activities are sometimes contradictory to Acts/ extant Laws established to fight corruption; and
- The need to ensure that information on the implementation of CSOs and Development Partners projects/programmes are in the public domain to ensure equal partnership.

5.0 KEY DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

- 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);
- Sub-National Governments encouraged to develop “States Development Plan” (SDPs) and properly aligned them with the NDP;
- The FGN should institutionalise a strong reward and sanction system to support the implementation of the plan; and
- 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**

- Research into high yielding crops species is capital intensive and requires experts, therefore, should be referred to Research Institutes and not States ADPs; and
- States should submit template on the status of implementation of the JPB resolutions before subsequent meetings.

5.0 KEY DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS [CONT'D]

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

- The need for more training, orientation, sensitization, public awareness and adoption of Open Government Partnership (OGP) at the grassroots for a better society by both National and Sub-National Governments; and
- 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

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

Thank You for listening