

COMMUNIQUE OF THE FOURTH (4TH) TOP MANAGEMENT RETREAT FOR DIRECTORS, HEADS OF UNITS AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF AGENCIES AND PARASTATALS OF FEDERAL MINISTRY OF POWER, WORKS AND HOUSING HELD AT TRANSCORP HOTEL, CALABAR, CROSS RIVER STATE ON FRIDAY 3RD AND SATURDAY 4TH AUGUST 2018

The Fourth in the series of Quarterly Top Management Retreats for Directors, Heads of Units and Chief Executive Officers of Agencies and Parastatals of Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing was held at the Conference Hall of Transcorp Hotel, Calabar, on 3rd and 4th August, 2018 with the Theme **‘Goal Setting and Goal Reaching for a Focused Team’**.

2. The Retreat was declared open by the Honourable Minister, Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing, His Excellency, Babatunde Raji Fashola, SAN, who presided over the two-day event. The Retreat was also attended by the Honourable Minister of State II, Surveyor Suleiman Hassan Zarma, Permanent Secretary, Works and Housing Sector, Muhammed Bukar, Directors, Managing Directors/ Chief Executive Officers of Parastatals and Heads of Units in the Ministry.

3. The Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing (Power Sector), Louis O.N. Edozien, represented by Engr. Ahmed Abdu, Director Procurement (Power Sector) welcomed participants to the Retreat. In his remark, he pointed out that the theme of the Retreat sets the objective of the gathering which was to key into competencies, goal setting and achieving results through good health and effective communication. He urged Senior Management staff of the Ministry to develop team working skills and positive attitudes to manage the task ahead effectively.

4. In his keynote address, the Honourable Minister, Babatunde Raji Fashola, SAN, welcomed participants to the Fourth Edition of the Top Management Retreat holding in

Calabar. He stated that the purpose of the Retreat was to create an enabling environment for members to relax, reflect and assess the achievements of the Ministry and re-strategize on how to overcome challenges.

5. Particularly, he referred to progress in specific sectors, such as Power, where generation has increased from 4,000MW to 7,000MW, transmission from 5,000MW to 7,000MW and distribution from 2,690MW to 5,222MW; Roads, where the contracts are now being executed such that there is no state in Nigeria where Federal Government is not constructing a road; and Housing, where the pilot National Housing Programme is being undertaken in 34 States of the Federation and the FCT which have provided land.

6. Speaking further, he stressed that our collective responsibility as Public Servants was to solve problems through team work and identification of areas of urgent needs with a view to addressing them. He encouraged participants to familiarize themselves with the Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP) document put in place by the present administration that offers direction to what the Government focuses on. He said the document, amongst others, seeks to improve Nigerian state by building on growth, making the economy more competitive in all aspects and investing in the people and urged the Ministry to align with the objectives of the document. He further noted that, the Medium Term Sector Strategy (MTSS) is now being prepared for the next three years (2019-2021) using the ERGP. He remarked that as Public Servants, our role in the implementation of the MTSS provides a unique opportunity to decisively prepare for what Nigeria will look like over the next few years.

7. Finally, he appreciated the support and cooperation of the Government and the good people of Cross River State for their hospitality and support towards the successful hosting of the Retreat.

8. The meeting had a recap of the third Management Retreat which took place at the Conference Hall of the Bristol Palace Hotel, Kano on the 9th and 10th March 2018. The recap emphasized on the implementation of the major decisions reached and urged implementing departments and agencies to fast track the implementations of other pending decisions.

9. The Retreat received and discussed five presentations as follows:

- i. Renewable Energy Development in Nigeria – The Opportunities and Challenges;
- ii. Report on the Implementation of the National Housing Programme;
- iii. Impact of Technical and Commercial Losses in the Nigerian Electricity Market;
- iv. Prevention and Management of Diabetes Mellitus; and
- v. Managing Life after Retirement.

10. The Retreat concluded that the Ministry should be seen as one, where implementations of decisions reached at events are uniformly carried out.

Accordingly, the Retreat resolved as follows:

A Renewable Energy Development in Nigeria – The Opportunities and Challenges:

- i. **Stressed** the importance of renewable energy in the provision of power, particularly in terms of its advantage in environmental safety and job creation over other sources of energy;

- ii. **Noted** that the National Renewable Energy Policy has been approved by the Federal Executive Council;
- iii. **Acknowledged** the efforts of the Energy Commission of Nigeria (ECN) to the development of energy research and development centres in five (5) Nigerian Universities to undertake research on renewable energy;
- iv. **Noted** the effort of Government to optimize renewable energy resources of wind, solar and hydro in places like Katsina, Jigawa, Zungeru and Kashimbila; and
- v. **Directed** that the Renewable and Rural Power Access Department to keep data of the renewable energy being generated through home solar panels in the country.

B. Report on the Implementation of the National Housing Programme:

- i. **Noted** that for the first time since the regime of President Shehu Shagari of 1979-1983, the National Housing Programme was being implemented by the present administration;
- ii. **Noted** that the pilot scheme under the National Housing Programme was being implemented in 34 States of the Federation and the FCT that have provided land in line with the Local Content Policy of the Government; and creating jobs for Small and Medium Scale Enterprises and Artisans;
- iii. **Noted** that the housing units under construction in the six Geo-Political Zones of the country consist of five (5) types of designs made up of 1-bedroom, 2-bedroom, 3-bedroom semi-detached respectively and condominiums are at various stages of completion;
- iv. **Noted** the plans to commence Phase II of the National Housing Programme in order to drive economic growth and create further employment for Nigerians; and

- v. **Noted** the policy of inclusiveness in the designs of the housing units to adapt to the needs of physically challenged persons.

C. Impact of Technical and Commercial Losses in the Nigerian Electricity Market:

- i. **Noted** the measures taken by the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) to rehabilitate, stabilize, provide the necessary flexibility and expand the electricity wheeling capacity of the national grid and the progress made in recovering 690 containers from the Port which are being deployed to strengthen existing sub-stations nationwide;
- ii. **Noted** series of efforts made by TCN at managing both technical and non-technical electricity system losses and in ensuring optimum frequency compliance in the generation of power to the Grid;
- iii. **Appreciated** the efforts made by TCN to minimize the losses particularly through the Federal Government's investment plan of ₦72b in the distribution chain; and
- iv. **Noted** that Government is not in conflict with the distribution Companies (DISCOs); as erroneously believed by the public. Rather, Government had directed on the need to ensure that the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) and the Nigerian Bulk Electricity Trading Plc (NBET) adhere to the terms of contract agreement and performance bond so as to minimize technical and commercial losses thereby increasing performance of Nigerian Electricity Supply Industry (NESI).

D. Prevention and Management of Diabetes Mellitus:

- i. **Noted** that diabetes is a chronic disease that affects the body due to the impairment of the pancreas which produces insulin that maintains and regulates glucose in the blood;
- ii. **Noted** that there are many types of diabetes but for the purpose of this Retreat, only three types were discussed, namely Type 1, Type 2 and Gestational Diabetes with approximately 425 million people living with the disease worldwide in which Nigeria constitute a quarter of 15 million cases of diabetes in Africa;
- iii. **Noted** the risk factors of diabetes to include; overweight/obesity, family history, sedentary lifestyles arising from lack of exercises amongst others; and
- iv. **Noted** that the management of diabetes can be achieved through dietary control, regular exercise, regular check-up, consistent use of drugs as may be prescribed by Medical Practitioner.

E. Managing Life after Retirement

- i. **Observed** that retirement from public office has become a nightmare for many public officers due to poor planning or lack of preparation for it and family interference;
- ii. **Noted** that retirement from public life avails Retirees ample time for self-discovery and to undertake self -fulfilling ventures that make life worth living if adequate planning and preparations are made prior to retirement;
- iii. **Advised** participants to plan well ahead of retirement so as to manage post service life successfully through investments in Treasury Bills, Federal Government Bonds, Federal Government Savings Bond, Farming, Private Businesses; and
- iv. **Advised** participants on specific ways on how to manage relationships with immediate and extended family members as well as to network with members of the immediate community while on retirement.

F. Other Matters

- i. **Emphasized** the need for proper time management for effective and efficient service delivery;
- ii. **Enjoined** participants to uphold public trust, exhibit professionalism and confidentiality in the conduct of government business through adherence to the Oath of Secrecy;
- iii. **Expressed** resolve to work as a team with a view to implementing the mandate of the Ministry;
- iv. **Thanked** the Honourable Minister, Honourable Ministers of State I and II and the Permanent Secretaries for consistently supporting the Retreat innovation in the Ministry.

ISSUED TODAY, SATURDAY 4TH, AUGUST, 2018 AT CALABAR, CROSS RIVER STATE