

MARCH 2020

FMW&H Strides

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING

EXCITEMENT AS CAMPUSES' INTERNAL ROADS GET UPGRADED



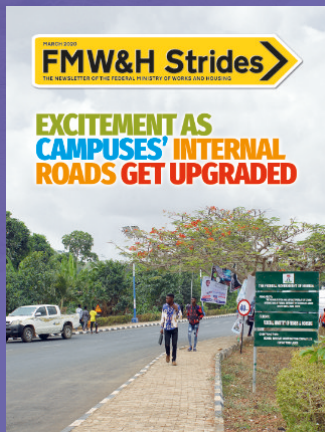
CONTENTS

03 **STARTERS:**
Building teams
to deliver
service for
national
prosperity

04 **COVER:**
Infrastructure
delivery in
tertiary
institutions to
impact
learning

06 **IN PHOTOS**

08 **NOTES:** The
Gombe
Declaration



COVER: A newly asphalted road with a paved sidewalk at Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State

EDITOR'S NOTE

IMMEASURABLE JOY AND ALL THAT



A newly rehabilitated road at Bayero University, Kano, Kano State

ONE University vice-chancellor was effusive. Indeed, when he found his words, he said: "I am excited, excitement is the summary here, in fact any other adjective I use now will water down my joy."

One student noted that until the intervention, going to classes, particularly during the rains, was not easy.

The reason for these compliments is the upgrade of internal roads in federal tertiary institutions across Nigeria by the Federal Government, through the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing. Eighteen of the 43 projects have been completed and 17 handed over to the institutions. The only outstanding handing-over event was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown.

This is the lead report in this issue, and, we hope that you would find it delightful and enriching.

In continuing with the tradition of taking a break to reflect on the performance of their duties and strategise on how to do things better, managers of the Ministry, its departments and agencies, converged on Gombe, capital of Gombe State, on 21 February. Come with us to Gombe.

There are more delightful feasts for you to savour. Go ahead, please.

FMW&H Strides



FMWH Newsletter is published monthly
by the **Federal Ministry of Works and
Housing**, Mabushi, Abuja

Editorial Team:
Boade Akinola, Hakeem Bello, Lanre
Akinsola, AbdulHaruna Mbaruma,
Stephen Kilebi, Salisu Badamasi

Chairman, Editorial Advisory Board:
Babatunde Fashola, SAN

Deputy Chairman:
Abubakar D. Aliyu, FNSE

Members:
Mohammed Bukar, Engr. Uzo
Chukwunwinke and Engr. Otuyemi
Oguntominiyi

Photography:
Lukman Olatonipekun

All Rights Reserved

February, 2020
Daily



Hon. Minister of Works and Housing Mr. Babatunde Fashola SAN, flanked by Minister of State Engr. Abubakar Aliyu (left) and Permanent Secretary Mohammed Bukar, delivers his keynote address on Day 1 of the Retreat

Building teams to deliver service for national prosperity

It has been held religiously since 2015, when Mr Babatunde Raji Fashola, SAN, introduced it as the Minister of what was then known as the Ministry of Power, Works and Housing.

Between 2015 and 2019, the theme revolved around Team Building.

This year, the focus shifted to Service Delivery for National Prosperity.

It is the Top Management Retreat of the Ministry, now known as Ministry of Works and Housing, where its directors, chief executives of departments and agencies and units' heads strategise on achieving excellence in their duties and responsibilities.

This year, the meeting was held from 21-22 February at the Gombe International Hotel, Gombe State. In attendance were the Minister and the Minister of State Engr Abubakar D. Aliyu, FNSE.

Welcoming participants to the retreat, the Ministry's Permanent Secretary, Mohammed Bukar, commended Fa-

shola's foresight in conceiving and sustaining the laudable tradition.

On the choice of the new theme, he said it was to align with President Muhammadu Buhari Administration's stance on Projects' Delivery. Therefore, the challenge for the participants was to strategise on how to complete all the ministry's projects, particularly those at appreciable levels.

In his keynote address, Fashola said there was need for inter-relationship amongst Departments to synergise for

expected outcomes. He said the new focus on teamwork was for ensuring efficient service delivery to accomplish the ministry's mandates; and this could only be meaningful if public servants took ownership of their tasks and assume leadership for providing solutions to their problems.

He advised the participants to ensure that a better approach to service delivery should be adopted and engendered to ensure that all official letters received in the ministry were promptly acknowledged and replied, using a standard template.

He added that all memos, briefs and presentations from staff should not only be personally signed but must also include prayers/recommendations and options for resolutions of issues.

He expressed the hope that the commendable "Staff Recognition and Award" for deserving staff would be sustained and that it would further motivate the awardees while encouraging others to work harder.

He advised that subsequent Awards' events should be better organised with the support of specialist event planners or the ministry should identify and explore in-house capacities.

Five papers were presented at the retreat, namely:

- i) Cyber Security 101, facilitated by the CEO, Mabto Strong Nigeria Limited, Joshua Sadoluwa.

Continued on page 7



Group picture of participants at the 7th FMWH Top Management Retreat at the International Hotel, Gombe

Infrastructure delivery

in tertiary institutions to impact learning

A road at Federal University of Technology, Owerri, newly rehabilitated by Federal Ministry of Works and Housing

“The Federal Government, under the 2017 Appropriation procured 14 contracts under Phase I, for the rehabilitation of internal roads in federal tertiary institutions in the six geopolitical zones nationwide.

An additional 29 contracts for the rehabilitation of internal roads in 29 federal tertiary institutions were procured in the 2018 Appropriation under Phase II.”

Babatunde Raji Fashola, SAN, Minister of Works and Housing, in a speech read on his behalf by the Federal Controller of Works, Kano State, Idi Saje, at the commissioning of the renewed internal roads at the Bayero University Kano (BUK).

That, in a nutshell, was the beginning of new leases of life for internal roads in 43 of Nigeria’s tertiary institutions.

Or, in Fashola’s words: “The intervention by the Federal Government would improve the

ambience and environment of federal tertiary institutions to enhance academic activities.”

Over the past month, 18 of these roads have been commissioned, to warm reception by students and the school authorities.

At the commissioning of its own



One of the completed projects in the Federal University of Gashua where rehabilitation and asphalt overlay, construction of reinforced concrete drainage and patching of potholes of 300 metres were done



A road at University of Benin, Benin City, Edo State after reconstruction



A newly rehabilitated road at Bayero University, Kano



A newly rehabilitated road at Federal University of Technology, Owerri

road in the Federal University of Gashua, Yobe State, the joy of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Andrew Haruna, was palpable. "I am excited; excitement is the summary here, in fact any other adjective I use now will water down my joy," he said, with a broad smile.

At the University of Benin – Fashola's alma mater – the Students Union President, Egbu Benjamin Notana, said: "Before now we found it difficult to access this road (which links the Departments of Pharmacy and Nursing, but now it is no longer as it used to be. Right now, we do not experience flood or gallops when going to classes. It is a very welcome development. We are very much happy about it."

At Bayero University, Kano, Omah Mbah, a Sociology student said: "The roads are beautiful, motorable and neat. My friends and I have been taking pictures on the new road."

Speaking on behalf of students



A rehabilitated road at Federal Polytechnic, Ede, Osun State

of the University of Maiduguri during the commissioning of rehabilitated roads, Comrade Abdulrahman Zanna, President, Students Union Government, UNIMAID, said that the intervention would greatly enhance learning and boost the morale of the students in the pursuit of knowledge.

Similarly, at the Federal University of Technology Owerri (FUTO), where three internal roads were constructed and asphalted (Health Centre and Hostel Roads) or rehabilitated (Smat Road), Donald Anarodo, who spoke on behalf of his co-students, said: "When rain falls, we cannot move easily from our hostels to classes, but now that the roads have been fixed, we can move easily to our classes. We are very grateful to Federal Government."

FUTO's Vice Chancellor, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academics), Professor Ndukwe James Okeudo, at the commissioning, said: "The Senate, Council and the entire Management are very grateful that FUTO was singled out as a

Continued on page 7

IN PHOTOS

13 MAR



Aerial view of the 2.2km Loko-Oweto Bridge over River Benue, linking Loko in Benue State and Oweto in Nasarawa State...during an inspection by the Minister of Works & Housing Babatunde Raji Fashola, SAN and the Minister of State, Engr Abubakar D Aliyu, FNSE and a group of journalists

3MAR



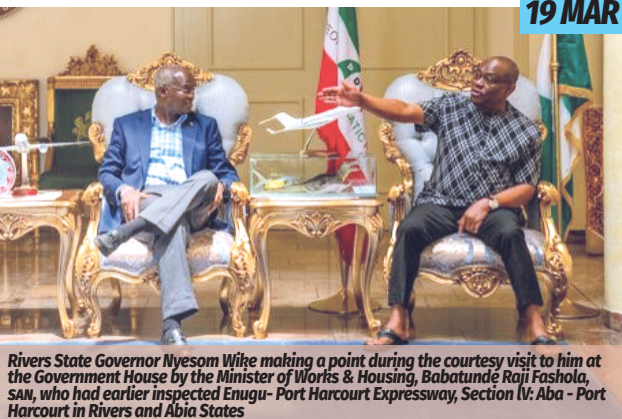
Cross River State Governor Ben Ayade playing host to Works and Housing Minister Mr. Babatunde Raji Fashola, SAN, who paid him a courtesy visit in his office in Calabar during the Verification Tour of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on The Reimbursement of Expenditure incurred on Federal Government projects by State Governments.

16 MAR



Courtesy visit by members of the Nigerian Institute of Building to the Minister of Works & Housing, Mr. Babatunde Fashola, SAN (middle) and Conferment of the Institute's Honorary Fellowship on him...at the Minister's Conference Room, Mabushi Abuja. Present at the event was Minister of State for Works and Housing, Engr Abubakar Aliyu, FNSE (3rd left).

19 MAR



Rivers State Governor Nyesom Wike making a point during the courtesy visit to him at the Government House by the Minister of Works & Housing, Babatunde Raji Fashola, SAN, who had earlier inspected Enugu-Port Harcourt Expressway, Section IV: Aba - Port Harcourt in Rivers and Abia States

22 MAR



Minister of Works & Housing, Babatunde Raji Fashola, SAN, during the inspection of the Enugu-Port Harcourt Expressway

beneficiary. We thank Mr. President and the Minister for this honour done to us," noting that the roads would aid access and movement around the school.

The Minister spoke the minds of many Nigerians when he expressed the hope that the schools would ensure that the assets are "used properly and not abused."

At BUK, VC Prof. Muhammad Yahuza said that the authorities would ensure their effective use and maintenance.

So did FUTO's Prof. Eze.

UNIBEN's VC Prof. Lillian Salami, represented at the commissioning by the DVC (Administration, Prof. Ikponwosa Omoruyi, also assured that the road - linking the Departments of Pharmacy and Nursing, with three car parks and drainages would be put into good use and maintained.

Prof Aliyu Shugaba, VC, UNIMAID, who described the 1.653km road delivered to the university as the "busiest on campus" gave a similar assurance.

Mr. Quazeem Ajibade, President of the Students Union Government of the Federal Polytechnic, Ede, where a 2km road was rehabilitated and culverts constructed, expressed pleasure that the projects were delivered during his tenure promising that they would be highly protected and maintained.

There was a request from Prof. Joseph Adeola Fuwape, VC of the Federal University of Technology Akure (FUTA) where 1.80 kilometres of internal roads were rehabilitated. He would like the engagement of the students of Civil and Engineering Department of the institution in the ministry's highway and housing projects in the State for practical experiences, to help the students acquire the nitty gritty of construction of roads and housing before graduation. "We are excited about this (but) we want more like Oliver Twist," she said.

- WITH REPORTS FROM BOADE AKINOLA, ATTARI MONDAY HOPE, SALISU HAIBA, STEPHEN KILEBI

STATUS UPDATES ON THE 43 INTERNAL ROADS

INSTITUTION	STATUS
University of Benin	Delivered
Bayero University Kano	Delivered
Federal University of Oye-Ekiti	Delivered
University of Maiduguri	Delivered
Federal University, Lokoja	Delivered
Federal College of Education, Katsina	Delivered
Federal University of Technology Owerri	Delivered
University College Hospital, Ibadan	Delivered
Kaduna Polytechnic	Delivered
Federal University, Gashua	Delivered
Federal University Otuoke	Ongoing
University Teaching Hospital, Ituku	Ongoing
University of Agriculture Makurdi	Ongoing
Federal University Dutse	Ongoing
Federal University Dutsinma	Ongoing
The Federal Polytechnic Nasarawa	Ongoing
Federal Polytechnic Damaturu	Ongoing
University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital	Ongoing
Usman Danfodiyo University, Sokoto	Ongoing
Federal Polytechnic Offa	Delivered
University of Nigeria Enugu Campus	Ongoing
Federal Polytechnic Bauchi	Ongoing
Federal Polytechnic Lafia	Ongoing
Federal Polytechnic Wukari	Ongoing
Federal Polytechnic Oko	Ongoing
Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ndufu-Alike Ikwo	Ongoing
Federal University of Technology Port Harcourt	Ongoing
University of Calabar	Ongoing
University of Ibadan	Delivered
Nigerian Law School, Bwari FCT	Ongoing
National Institute of Nigerian Languages, Aba	Ongoing
Federal College of Education, Zaria	Ongoing
Nigeria Institute of Oil Palm Research	Ongoing
Federal Polytechnic, Nekede	Ongoing
Federal College of Education Asaba	Ongoing
Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta	Ongoing
Modibbo Adamawa University Yola	Ongoing
Michael Okpara University of Agriculture Umudike	Ongoing
Federal Polytechnic Ede	Delivered
Federal Polytechnic Kaura Namoda	Ongoing
Federal School of Dental Technology and Therapy Enugu	Ongoing

STARTERS: Continued from page 3

- ii) The Silent Killer: A focus on hepatitis, facilitated by Dr. Ojo Eyi-tuoyo, the Senior Medical Officer, Staff Clinic, Federal Ministry of Works and Housing, Headquarters, Abuja.
- iii) Sensitisation on Blood Donation and Transfusion by Dr. Oluwatoyin Smith, represented by Dr. Ize-

donmwon Omosigbo.

- iv) Service Delivery for National Prosperity: The Lands and Housing Development Perspective - facilitated by Mrs A.D Great-Edereka, Director/HOD (Lands & Housing Development)
- v) Delivery of Road Infrastructure for National Prosperity, by Engr. Yemi Oguntominiyi, represented by Engr. Kunle Yusuf.

To show that the retreat was organised successfully, the Planning Committee was given a standing ovation.

It was decided that the next retreat be held in a State in the South-South geopolitical zone, excluding Calabar, which hosted the fourth edition.

The retreat had a full attendance of the ministry's top managers.

See: The Gombe Declaration, Page 8



NOTES

The Gombe Declaration

Top management staff of the Federal Ministry of Works & Housing held a retreat from 21-22 February 2020 at the Gombe International Hotel, Gombe State and issued the following Communique:

The Retreat -

acknowledged that the issuance of land title documents including Certificate of Occupancy add value to land resource and facilitates wealth creation;

emphasised the need for team work to be entrenched in the ministry;

noted the lapses in land administration in the country and called for a review of the methods and strategies currently being applied; the need for the Lands Department to provide guidelines for consent approval in liaison with the Director, Legal Services to enhance prompt service delivery; the need for adherence to administration of the Land Use Act especially in the payment of compensation;

advised on the need to obtain the Gazette of Right of Way from the Federal Lands Survey Office in Lagos for record purposes;

urged the Lands Department to come up with strategic ideas to reposition it for effective service delivery through streamlining and automation of documentation processes.

noted the poor state of some of the roads was due to over reliance on the road infrastructure, vehicles overload and other human induced factors in the transport sector;

Urged Highways Departments to:

re-double efforts in the provision of road infrastructure and rehabilitation of failed sections of highways to cater for the welfare and well-being of the citizenry for national prosperity;

review the process for award of contracts and payments to contractors to ensure better delivery on road infrastructure;

liaise with relevant Government institutions to enforce appropriate sanctions on commuters who do not comply with relevant traffic laws including overloading.

noted the need to strengthen the manpower at the Field Offices for effective monitoring and evaluation of projects;

noted the critical role of Technical Officers in the Highways Departments and urged that the Ministry to recruit such cadre of Officers to ensure seamless mentoring and succession to optimize service delivery in road infrastructure delivery for national prosperity;

noted the need to include, in road contracts being awarded by the Ministry a component for maintenance of the roads to check the continuous deterioration of some portions of the road;

noted the need for proactive and effective interface and partnerships between the Ministry and her Agencies to avoid working at cross purposes, especially in the award of road contract;

noted the need to fast track the completion of some strategic road projects across the country, especially the Cham-Numan, Enugu-Onitsha, Odukpani-Itu, Obajana Junction - Auchi-Okene-Benin, Suleja-Minna roads;

noted the concerns of the short life expectancy of the road which are largely induced by over-dependency on the road in the transport sector;

noted that the Ministry is working with the Presidency to secure the issuance of an Executive Order towards enforcing compliance with Vehicles Axle Load Regulations aimed at sanctioning violators to improve the life expectancy of the roads;

directed the Legal Department to review the existing rules and regulations governing road contracts and advise top management of the Ministry to appropriately advise on the processes for enforcing compliance and sanctions;

noted the need to expand the opportunities for more job creation through conceptualising and construction of Rest Points and Warehouses for commercial purposes along the federal highways.

Other decisions taken at the retreat include:

- i. the constitution of three Committees on, (a) Axle Load Regulations, (b) Job Redefinition and (c) Record keeping/ICT, whose composition and specific Terms of Reference will be communicated by the Permanent Secretary.
- ii. **urged** the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation to collaborate with the Lands Department and other government institutions as their success depends on availability of requisite geo-information particularly base maps for the whole country;
- iii. **directed** the Senior Special Assistant on Administration and strategy to the Honorable Minister to procure the book titled *The Mystery of Capital – Why Capitalism Triumphs in the West and Fails Everywhere Else* by Hernando De Soto for every member of the retreat.
- iv. **encouraged** the generation of new ideas in addressing challenges in delivering public infrastructure in the country;
- v. **urged** the Director Human Resource Management to liaise with relevant Departments to streamline the Field Offices and redeploy redundant staff to areas of need and as well building capacity to address identified gaps;
- vi. **resolved** to ensure proper records keeping and minimised indiscriminate practice of opening temporary files;
- vii. **urged** participants to think and ACT outside the box and apply their acquired knowledge, professional skills and expertise towards a more effective service delivery for national prosperity.