



ICPC NEWS

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ICPC recovered, restrained N166.5bn Asset in Two and Half Years

– Mid Term Report | By: Joy Ajah



Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN Chairman, ICPC (middle), Hon. Igwedibia far left, Sec to the Commission, Prof. Abubakar, left, Hon. Chinda, Right & Hon. Mohammed

Photo: Solomon Kogi

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) has revealed that it recovered and restrained cash and assets valued at N166.51 billion from corrupt persons in the last two and half years.

This represents an increase of 378 percent over the assets' recovery target of N44 billion under the Commission's Strategic Plan 2019 –

2023.

This achievement is contained in the Commission's Mid-Term Performance Report (2019 -June 2021) presented at the ICPC Board and Management retreat held in Abuja recently.

Recovery of proceeds of corruption through seizures and forfeiture of assets is an enforcement activity of ICPC.

According to the Mid-Term Performance

Report, assets worth N81.23 billion were seized and recovered in 2019; N82.57 billion in 2020, and N2.71 billion between January and June 2021.

The recovered assets include houses, vehicles, electronics, jewelry, clothing and accessories, plots of land, and farms.

The Chairman of ICPC, Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN, commended the Board, Management and staff for ensuring that the chain of the Commission remained strong.

He said, "Lead with fresh impetus from the front and not from behind. Be proactive in leadership, pull

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NSCDC Commandant forfeits 60 buildings, land to FG

By: Inalegvu Shaibu

A Federal High Court, sitting in Abuja, has ordered the final forfeiture of 60 buildings illegally acquired by a former Deputy

Commandant of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC), Adenike Ishola Bintu, to the Federal Government of

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK



**PROF. BOLAJI OWASANOYE, SAN
CHAIRMAN, ICPC**

“Anywhere in the world, the youth represent the backbone and the engine room of a nation's socio-economic and political growth and development. In realization of this truism, ICPC had introduced many platforms aimed at engaging the youth actively and effectively in the fight against corruption.

In the long run, we expect that after passing through stages of anti-corruption mentoring processes, before assuming positions of trust in public and private callings, the youth would have developed zero-tolerance for corruption.

They are now at the stage of waging full scale war against corruption anywhere they find themselves....”

Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN,
14th February, 2022

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ICPC recovered/restrained...

your weight and the effects will surely be seen. Be prudent with public funds and be firm with staff who are not adding value”.

While acknowledging efforts of the Commission in the fight against corruption, Prof. Owasanoye enjoined the management and staff not to rest on the achievements.

“We need to walk the talk. You know the problem and you have the solution so just implement it and produce results,” he stated.

In the Mid-Term Performance Report (January 2019 – June 2021), the Commission recorded an overall average performance of 134%, which represents the weighted average of all targets.

The report further indicated that the anti-corruption agency had an impressive performance in some Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) such as corruption monitoring activities; the Ethics and Integrity Compliance Scorecard assessment of Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs); anti-corruption activities undertaken by ICPC-supported CSO platforms; filing

of cases in court; staff training and non-petition intelligence-led investigation.

Under its Constituency and Executive Projects Tracking Initiative, ICPC tracked over 2,000 projects worth over N300 billion during the period under review.

In the same period, 326 contractors of abandoned projects across the six geopolitical zones of the country were forced by the Commission to return to the site to complete projects amounting to N32.183 billion.

The Constituency and Executive Projects Tracking Initiative has aided improved service delivery and higher completion rates for funded projects in compliance with regulatory requirements as well as ensured value for money in the national budget under the present Administration.

The Commission’s Systems Study and Review of personnel and capital votes of MDAs resulted in savings of N261 billion to the government between 2019 and June 2021.

The government saved N89 billion in 2019, N147 billion in 2020, and N25 billion in 2021.

The report further showed that the Commission received 3,940 petitions between January 2019 and June 2021, out of which 1,045 investigations were concluded. It also concluded 119 non-petition intelligence-led investigations during the period.

While the Commission filed 200 cases in courts, it secured 56 convictions during the period under review.

Apart from the notable gains in the enforcement mandate of the Commission, ICPC made giant strides in the areas of sensitisation of the public on and against corruption, staff training, and inter-agency partnerships.

The mid-term report showed that ICPC successfully conducted 1,492 sensitization sessions across government agencies and other anti-corruption stakeholders within the two and half years of the report.

Read from page 01

NSCDC Commandant forfeits...

Nigeria.

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) in a forfeiture proceeding, had approached Justice O. A. Egwuata, praying for an order for the final forfeiture of the 60 buildings and a 9.6-hectare plot of land, both located at Sabon-Lugbe South-West Extension, Airport Road, Abuja, alleged to have been acquired by Bintu through corrupt means.

Counsel to ICPC, John-Paul Okwor, told the court that the Commission was relying on Section 48 (1) (2) and (3) of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000, which gives it the power to approach the courts to forfeit properties corruptly acquired by individuals.

The Commission had argued before the

court that the former NSCDC Deputy Commandant, set up a private company, Faith Winners Victory Properties Limited, through which she allegedly perpetrated the fraud by selling plots of land to unsuspecting members of the public.

The court heard that Bintu claimed that the land, which she used to dupe over 1000 people that subscribed into the estate business, was owned in partnership with NSCDC.

However, the subscribers, who had made several payments running into millions of naira, were never allocated plots of land nor had their funds returned to them by Bintu and her company.

Furthermore, ICPC proved before the court that Bintu, who had jumped bail and is now a fugitive, did not enter into

any partnership with NSCDC to build estates for members of the public.

She told the court in her argument that ICPC had no powers to prosecute civil cases and that Sections 6 and 48 of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000, relied upon by the Commission have been repealed by the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2003. Therefore, the case should be struck out, she prayed.

Her arguments were dismissed by the court for lack of merit, and Justice Egwuata then ruled that all the 60 buildings and the 9.6 hectare of land situated at Sabon-Lugbe South-West Extension, Airport Road, Abuja, listed by ICPC be forfeited to the federal government.

N342 Million Contract Fraud: ICPC secures conviction of Nigeria Export Processing Zones Authority (NEPZA) Employee

By Juliet Ase Omoma



The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), has secured the conviction of Engineer Dasel Nanjwan, an employee of the Nigeria Export Processing Zones Authority (NEPZA).

Engineer Nanjwan was sentenced to

three years imprisonment by the Calabar Division of Court of Appeal for holding a private interest in a N342 Million contract regarding the replacement of warehouses and factories at the Calabar Free Trade Zone.

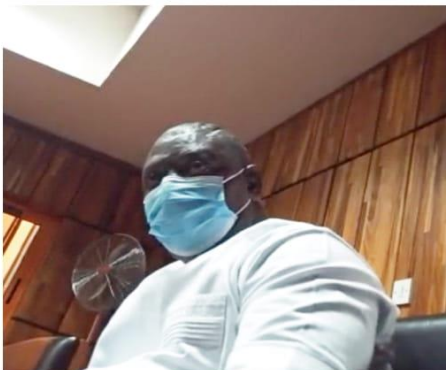
Engineer Nanjwan was a Member of the Technical Committee on the side of the Federal Government in negotiation with General Electric (GE) Africa, on investments in the Calabar Free Trade Zone as well as the owner and sole signatory to the account of Kwop-ri Services, the Company that won the contract.

The defendant was initially arraigned by ICPC before a Calabar High Court presided over by Justice Emily Ibok on a five-count charge which includes knowingly holding a private interest in

a N342 Million contract connected with an office which he is employed, an offence contrary to and punishable under section 12 of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act 2000.

In a judgement delivered at the High Court in Calabar by Justice Emily Ibok on 19th May 2019, the defendant was discharged and acquitted of all charges.

Dissatisfied with the judgement, ICPC filed an appeal at the Calabar Division of the Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal in a unanimous judgement set aside the decision of the lower court and sentenced the defendant to three years imprisonment.



The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) has docked the Chairman of Gwagwalada Area Council, Hon. Adamu Mustapha Danze, for allegedly receiving N10 million kickback from a contractor handling a construction project in the area council.

Hon. Danze was arraigned by the Commission before Justice U. P. Kekemeke of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) High Court 4, sitting in Abuja, on allegations of corruption bordering on abuse of office and gratification.

ICPC had filed a six-count charge before the court in which it accused the

Court jails Civil Servant 5 Years over N.5 Million Fraud

By Inalegwu Shaibu

council chairman of demanding and receiving a N10 million bribe from the director of Remotosh Construction Ltd, Engr. Aremu Omotosho, in exchange for approving payment for the construction of a double cell culvert in Paiko-Kore.

The offence, which was allegedly committed in March 2018, when Hon. Danze directed the contractor to transfer the money to his lawyer handling his election tribunal case, violated Sections 8 (1)(a), 10 (a)(i), 18 (b), and 19 of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000 and punishable under relevant Sections of the same Act.

One of the charges reads, “That you, Adamu Mustapha Danze on or about March 2018 at Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory, while being a public officer as the Executive Chairman of Gwagwalada Area Council received the sum of N10 million from Engineer Aremu Omotosho, the

director of Remotosh Construction Limited for approving payment for the construction of double cell culvert at Paiko-Kore awarded to Remotosh Construction Limited by Gwagwalada Area Council, the sum you asked the contractor to transfer to your counsel defending you in the election tribunal and you thereby committed an offence contrary to Section 10 (a)(i) and punishable under Section 10 (a)(ii) of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000.”

Hon. Danze, who had a bench warrant issued on him, pleaded not guilty when the charges were read to him. The warrant was subsequently dismissed by the trial judge after a plea by the defense Counsel, Abdul Mohammed (SAN).

Mohammed tendered an apology

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Corruption impacts Peace, Security, ICPC Chairman tells Defence College

By Advent Boniface

The Chairman, Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Professor Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN, has stated that “Corruption impacts development, peace, and security” of a nation in multiple ways.



Professor Bolaji Owasanoye speaking at the event

Professor Owasanoye, made the remark recently in Abuja while speaking as the Guest Lecturer to Course 30 Participants of National Defence College (NDC) Nigeria, on the topic: Whole of Society Approach in the Fight Against Corruption and Human Security in Nigeria.

The Chairman stated that corruption weakened the state and eroded its capacity to provide the requisite training and equipment for security and paramilitary agencies such as the police, military, immigration, customs, civil defense, and neighbourhood watches.

According to him, ‘Bad governance, corruption and the collapse of the rule of law lead to insecurity.’ Speaking on how pervasive corruption in defense spending can impact a county’s peace and security, the ICPC boss warned of how a

single transaction of diversion of huge sums could have an immediate impact that may become irreversible or more difficult and costly to reverse, while petty diversion of budget or misallocation of resources may not immediately make an impact but will inevitably impact medium to long term.

Professor Owasanoye also explained that corruption and failure to uphold the rule of law also led to monumental economic losses and threatened development and human security.

“Direct looting of the treasury, Illicit Financial Flows, tax evasion, misapplication of funds, budget padding, ghost workers, deliberate elephant projects, project abandonment, contracts, and procurement abuse have huge implications on development and

human security,” he reiterated.

The Chairman added that just as corruption and weak governance structures were mutually reinforcing, development, peace, and security were also mutually reinforcing, saying “Without development, there can be no peace or security and without peace and security human development is a mirage.”

He then advocated for strong systems and the deployment of technology as a recipe for fighting corruption effectively.

In his remark after the lecture, NDC Commandant, Rear Admiral O.B. Daji, also lent his voice to the fact that corruption was an existential threat to national security because of its ability to undermine the institutions of the state and erode public trust.

The Commandant, therefore, reminded the Course 30 Participants that as strategic leaders, corruption and insecurity should be of concern to them otherwise they would continue to live with the consequences.

Senate seeks Improved Funding for ICPC

The Chairman, Senate Committee on Anti-Corruption and Financial Crimes, Senator Suleiman Abdu Kwari, has emphasized the need for improved funding for the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) to enable it to deliver on its mandate effectively.

Senator Kwari remarked on the defense of the 2022 appropriation proposal by ICPC at the Senate

complex in Abuja.

The Committee Chairman declared that ICPC was one of the few agencies of government carrying out a very special and critical national assignment and therefore needed to be funded adequately if it must rid Nigeria of corruption.

He also noted that given how massive the mandate placed on ICPC by its enabling law was, the current envelope system of budgeting would constitute an impediment

to the realization of this huge task.

Kwari, who is also the Senator representing Kaduna North, while advising the Commission to remain focused in carrying out its mandate, pledged to do all that was required to ensure that ICPC’s budget was improved upon.

Also speaking at the budget defense, the Senator representing

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Court Jails Civil Servant 5 Years over...

to the judge for failing to attend proceedings on two previous dates fixed by the court, as he blamed it on recent kidnapping activities in the Gwagwalada Area Council.

He told the court that the defendant was coordinating rescue operations in the Area Council following the spate of kidnappings and other criminal activities in recent times. He then moved a motion praying that the accused be admitted to bail at the discretion of the court pending trial.

Counsel to ICPC, Michael Adesola, in his counter argument averred that the accused was very deliberate in his actions of ignoring court sittings as he was duly served of all proceedings since, 2020.

Adesola, who also opposed the bail application prayed the court to remand the accused in a correctional facility to prevent him from interfering and intimidating witnesses, some of whom were employees in the Area Council.

Justice Kekemeke, having listened to both Counsels, held that the defendant cannot jump bail based on his current position.

He said, "The defendant who is the current Chairman of Gwagwalada Area Council cannot evade his trial. He has nowhere to hide as I give him the benefit of doubt. The application therefore subsists. Bail is therefore granted to the defendant."

The court admitted him to bail in the sum

of N20 million and a surety in like sum. The surety shall be an owner of landed property with a statutory right of occupancy within the jurisdiction of the court or a Federal Civil Servant in the rank of an Assistant Director and above. The matter was then adjourned to 1st March 2022 for trial.

The trial judge at the end of the sitting warned the accused not to take the court for granted, saying, "Mr. Chairman, that is what you called yourself. We just gave you the benefit of the doubt. You don't play with the court. You don't take the court for levity, if you do that, you will find yourself in trouble."

ICPC Secures Interim Forfeiture of N110.4m Traced to a Primary School Teacher and Her Accomplice

By Inalegyn Shaibu

A Federal High Court in Abuja has ordered the interim forfeiture of N110.4 million traced to the bank accounts of one Mr. James Erebuoye and seven other suspects by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) for allegedly being proceeds of crime.

In an ex-parte motion filed by Raheem Adesina on behalf of ICPC before Justice D. Okorowa, the Commission further prayed for an order of interim forfeiture of a Toyota Lexus Jeep and a Toyota Venza car, including an Ipad device.

The properties were seized by the Commission from Mr. Erebuoye and his accomplices who were alleged to have benefitted from over N500 million illicit funds stashed in the account of a primary school teacher, Mrs. Roseline Uche Egbuha.

ICPC found that N110,364,592.4 was surreptitiously moved sometime in 2020, from the bank account of the primary school teacher, who was being investigated for money laundering and other fraud, into different accounts owned by Erebuoye and eight other persons, including two companies. The money to be forfeited includes N17.4



Mrs. Roseline Uche

million that was transferred to the bank account of Erebuoye, N14.2 million to an account owned by one Ojo Alonge, N16.4 million to a company called DY Bako and Sons Ltd, and N30.8 million to another company known as Dorason Construction ltd.

The order for interim forfeiture also covers the sums of N7.1 million traced to an account owned by Owoyemi Mayowa,

N8.2 million, and N6.5 million traced to the bank accounts of Emon Aje Okune and Maureen Chidinma, respectively.

Recall that Mrs. Egbuha, who teaches at Ozala Primary School, Abagana, Anambra State, was arrested in June 2020 by the Commission for allegedly laundering N550 million.

ICPC arraigns School Principal over N3.8m Fraud

A Gombe State Secondary School Principal, Mr. Bello Muhammed Abubakar, has been arraigned by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), over alleged fraudulent activities and other ancillary offences.

The Commission, in a 2-count charge brought before Hon Justice Halima S. Muhammed of Gombe State High Court 2, sitting in Gombe, told the Court that the accused person had defrauded unsuspecting admission seekers to the tune of N3,884,200:00.

The charge reads in part: “That you Bello Muhammed Abubakar (m) between the period of 2009 to 2014 or thereabout at Gombe within the jurisdiction of this Honourable Court did obtain by pretense the sum of N3,884,200:00 from unsuspecting admission seekers under the guise of offering them admission into Mukhtar Polytechnic Gombe and Goni Mukhtar College of Education

Gombe State. And you thereby committed an offence contrary to Section 1(1)(a) and punishable under Section 1(3) of the Advanced Fee Fraud and Other Related Offences Act, 2006.”

ICPC, in a Charge No: GM/128C/2021 averred that Mr. Abubakar had obtained by false pretense the above sum when he illegally operated the following institutions: “Mukhtar Polytechnic, Goni, Mukhtar College of Education, and Goni Mukhtar Linguistic Centre,” all in one block of three classrooms in Gombe State between 2009 and 2015.

Counsel to ICPC, Mashkur Salisu, informed the Court how the School Principal was perpetrating the said offences before he was nabbed by operatives of the Commission during an intelligence-led operation.

The Commission has since shut down the said illegal institutions which the accused person was

operating. The defendant’s actions are contrary to Section 13 and punishable under Section 68 of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000, and Section 1(i) of the Advanced Fee Fraud Act, 2006.

When the accused person was admitted to take his plea, he pleaded not guilty to all the charges.

Counsel to the accused, Mr. A.B. Ebrany moved a bail application in favour of his client which was not opposed by the Prosecution Counsel.

The trial judge, therefore, granted the accused person bail for Two Million Naira (N2,000,000) and two sureties in like sum who must be residents within the jurisdiction of the court and must depose to an affidavit of means. Failure of which he would be remanded in Gombe Correctional Centre.

The case has been adjourned to a later date for a hearing.

Ex-Revenue Officer charged by ICPC bags Three Years imprisonment over N4.6m Fraud

By Inalegwu Shaibu



Mrs. Dorothy Chigozie Amalili

A former Revenue Officer with the National Orthopedic Hospital, Enugu, Mrs. Dorothy Chigozie Amalili, has been sentenced to three years in jail for defrauding the hospital of N4.6 million.

Mrs. Amalili, who was jailed by Justice K. Okpe, of the Enugu State High Court, sitting in Enugu, was accused by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) of diverting N4,644,030.00 belonging to the hospital into personal use.

The Commission, in an amended 6-count

charge, had accused her of knowingly furnishing false statements in respect of money received to conceal her actions while performing official duties as a revenue officer.

ICPC Counsel, Enosa Omoghibo, averred before the court that her offences which were committed between February 2017 and December 2018, were contrary to Section 16 of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000 and punishable under the same section of the Act.

The convict, while performing her duties would write the actual amounts collected from patients on the original copy of the receipts, while writing lesser amounts on the duplicate and triplicate copies of the same receipts kept in the Accounts Department for audit purposes, which enabled her to remit lesser sum of money than the actual amount collected to the hospital, thereby fraudulently retaining the difference. She, through

this deceitful means, was able to defraud the hospital of N4,644,030.00, over some time.

Justice Okpe, after the trial, found her guilty on all six counts. He, therefore, sentenced her to six months imprisonment for each of the counts which will run concurrently.

The convict was also given an option of a fine instead of a custodial sentence by the trial judge for being a Person Living with a Disability (PLWD). Her right leg had been amputated due to a diabetic foot ulcer.

The sentencing further includes the convict making a refund of the entire sum she embezzled to the National Orthopedic Hospital, Enugu. She will refund the balance of N4,544,030.00 to the hospital after an initial repayment of N100,000. The money will be taken from her Pension Funds domiciled with IBTC Pensions into the ICPC Recovery Account under the TSA as recovery for and on behalf of the Hospital.



Ex-Delta Poly Rector bags Two-Year, One-Month Jail Term over refusal to appear before ICPC

By Inalegwu Shaibu

A former Rector of the Federal Polytechnic, Ogwashi-Uku, Delta State, Dr. Edna Mogeckwu, has been sentenced to jail for refusing to honour invitations on allegations of corruption from the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC).

Dr. Mogeckwu, who was sentenced to a two-year, one-month jail term, as well as three principal officers of the institution who were also convicted, were charged before Justice Marshal Umukoro, of the Delta State High Court, Asaba, by ICPC over their failure to appear before investigators to clear themselves of allegations of corruption.

The principal officers convicted alongside the Rector by the court to one-month prison term each are a former Registrar, Collins Onyenwenu, a former Bursar, Andy Ughusenua, and

a former Director of Works of the Polytechnic, Joseph Idabor.

ICPC had earlier filed a 5-count charge against the convicts before Justice Umukoro, in which it accused them of repeatedly refusing to honour invitations from the Commission.

ICPC Counsel, Ogochukwu Iwoba, had told the court that the Rector and her accomplices who were under investigation for acts of corruption by the Commission failed to appear for interrogations when they were required.

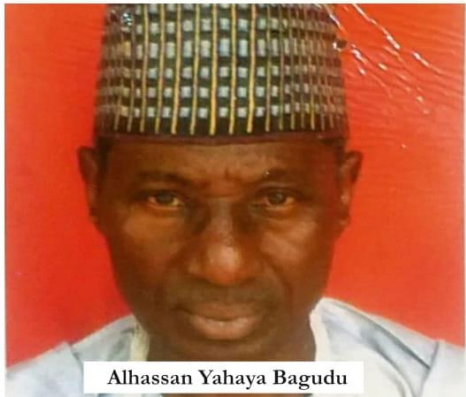
The offences, allegedly committed in 2015, also included their refusal to honour an order to produce documents required by investigators of the Commission, contrary to Section 28 (1) (b) of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000 and punishable under Section 28 (10) of the same Act.



Convicts in court

Justice Umukoro, after trial, found them guilty on four out of five counts and therefore sentenced the trio of the Registrar, Bursar, and Director of Works to one-month imprisonment accordingly.

The Rector was found guilty on counts one, two, and three out of the five counts by the court. Justice Umukoro ruled that she would therefore serve one-year imprisonment for counts two and three and one month's jail term for counts one. The sentences will run concurrently, the Court ruled.



Alhassan Yahaya Bagudu

A High Court sitting in Ilorin, Kwara State, presided over by Justice M. AbdulGarfa has sentenced Alhassan Yahaya Bagudu, a former Chairman of Kaiama Local Government Area of the state to one-year imprisonment for making a false statement to an investigator.

Bagudu was charged to Court by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) on a 2-count charge bordering on making false statements to an investigator of the Commission.

ICPC secures Conviction of Former Local Government Chairman

By Joy Ajah

Bagudu had pleaded not guilty when the charge was first read to him which set the tone for the trial.

During the trial, ICPC Counsels, Peace Arocha, and Golden Iwuagwu told the court how the former Local Government Chairman had purchased a used Toyota Prado Jeep for his official use at the sum of Thirteen Million Naira (N13,000,000) whereas the approval was for a brand new jeep.

The court also heard how Bagudu, in count 2, claimed that the jeep was purchased by Quadrish Motors while knowing same to be false thereby making false statements to a constituted authority.

Part of the charge reads, "That you Alhassan Yahaya Bagudu (M) sometime in April 2018 or thereabout at Ilorin, Kwara State

did knowingly made false statement to Adamu Lere Murtala, an investigating officer of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission in the exercise of his duties as an investigator when you asserted that the Toyota Prado jeep that was bought for your office as the Chairman of Kaiama Local Government was supplied by Quadrish Motors when in fact the Toyota Prado jeep was not supplied by Quadrish Motors....."

The court was told that the action of the former Chairman was in contravention of Section 25 (1) (b) of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act 2000 and punishable under the same Section.

The trial judge found Bagudu guilty on count 2 and sentenced him to one year imprisonment with an option of N100,000 fine.

PFAN Seeks ICPC’s Intervention Over Maltreatment of Nigerian Football Players

By Bello Ibrahim

The Professional Footballers Association of Nigeria (PFAN) has sought the intervention of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) over the plight and maltreatment of Nigerian domestic players by their clubs.

The PFAN President, Tijjani Babangida, pleaded for the Commission’s intervention in protecting the players’ welfare and jobs at their Nigerian Clubs during a courtesy visit to the ICPC Chairman, Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN.

Babangida was accompanied on the visit by a former Super Eagles player, Emmanuel Babayaro, who acted as the spokesman for the visiting team.

The PFAN President decried the exploitation of Nigerian players by their clubs in the signing of agreements and payment of salaries and allowances.

He said, “The Nigerian player is one of

the most negatively exploited in the world, and back home in Nigeria, it is even worse.

“From non-payment of salaries and allowances despite a contractual agreement to the sacking of players at the beginning or middle of their contracts without payment, and official bloating of players’ wages while paying them peanuts, these have been the plight of Nigerian players.”

Babangida stated that the Association would like to partner with ICPC in the sanitisation of the football system in the country, particularly with regards to ethics and professionalism.

“Considering the role played by Nigerian footballers in the interest of national integration, they are treated like slaves. The plight of the Nigerian player has become pitiable, a situation that calls for emergency intervention,” he added.

The PFAN president further decried the misappropriation of funds by the body saddled with the responsibility of managing the affairs of football in the country.

The Association expressed the hope that ICPC’s intervention will help the system to function properly. The ICPC Chairman acknowledged the contributions and services rendered by the former national team players, commending their passion for the country.

He advised the association to come up with a standard contract document for its members to guard against exploitation by their employers as well as engage an Attorney who specializes in sports.

He assured that the Commission will look into the partnership request by the association for the improvement of the game in the country.



The Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN, has been bestowed with the 2021 Presidential Award of Excellence of the Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (NIQS).

The award was presented to the ICPC Chairman at the Institute’s Investiture and Awards Night held at the Abuja International Conference Centre.

The President of the NIQS, Mohammed Abba Tor, who presented the award to the ICPC boss, said it was approved by the institute’s National Policy Committee (NPC) in

ICPC Boss Bags Quantity Surveyors’ Excellence Award

recognition of Prof. Owasanoye’s commitment to ensuring prudence in the expenditure of public funds in government projects.

Tor said, “The award is also in recognition of the collaboration between your esteemed Commission and the NIQS in the monitoring of projects across the six geopolitical zones of the country.”

The NIQS President added, “As a pragmatic and diligent professional, your sterling qualities and laudable initiatives are speedily ending the era of contractors siphoning public funds and abandonment/shabby execution of constituency projects across the country.”

Notable Nigerians who were also conferred with the 2021 Presidential Award of Excellence of the NIQS include Governor Nasir el-Rufai of Kaduna State; the Senator

representing Ebonyi South Senatorial District, Senator Michael Ama Nnachi; Chairman of the Fiscal Responsibility Commission, Victor Muruaka; Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics), Federal University of Technology, Akure, Prof. Deji Rufus Ogunsemi; Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics), Obafemi Awolowo University, Prof. Olubola Babalola, and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Pro. Ahmed Doko Ibrahim, among others.

Earlier in his address at the investiture, the Organising Committee Chairman, Ahmadu Adamu Muazu, a former governor of Bauchi State charged the recipients of the excellence award to continue to work hard in the various spheres.

“The recipients have all distinguished themselves and should be recognised. This award should make you all work harder,” Muazu stated.

Reps to collaborate with ICPC in Tackling IFFs, Corruption



From left: Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye (SAN), Hon. Nicholas GarbaShehu & other participants

Photo: Solomon Kogi

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) is to strengthen its collaboration with the House of Representatives in addressing corruption and Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) in the country.

The Chairman of ICPC, Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, made this known at the opening of a two-day capacity building retreat for members of the House of Representatives Committee on Anti-Corruption, and Board members and Directors of the Commission held in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State.

The retreat deliberated on corruption, IFFs, and financing for National Development.

Speaking at the event, Prof. Owasanoye stated that regulations were required from the legislature to eradicate corruption and IFFs.

He noted that the regulation of cryptocurrency trading in Nigeria would help to prevent the swindling of unsuspecting members of the public.

He emphasized the need for more regulations to address IFFs and other related offences, stating that the breaches in the law and absence of

regulatory framework have encouraged perpetrators of the crimes to continue to engage in them.

This, he added, would strengthen the economy, and lessen the rate of borrowings by the country.

“Nigeria needs regulatory intervention in cryptocurrency trading. Some people trading in cryptocurrency have used digital currency and assets to engage in corruption, money laundering, and terrorism financing. Corruption in digital assets is not easily traceable,” he stated.

The ICPC boss assured the legislators that the Commission would continue to cooperate with them to achieve its mandate of ridding Nigeria of corruption through lawful enforcement and preventive means.

The Chairman of the House of Representatives Committee on Anti-Corruption, Hon. Nicholas Garba Shehu commended the Commission for collaborating with the House in the fight against corruption in Nigeria.

Shehu said, “Corruption has held

Nigeria backward for many years and whatever we can do, we will do to help the fight against corruption. The 9th National Assembly has made the fight against corruption one of its cardinal mandates.”

“The House of Representatives stands ready to partner with the ICPC in the achievement of its mandate which is to rid the country of corruption.”

Speaking on the topic “National Security and the Opportunity Cost of Corruption”, Prof. E.E. Alemika of the University of Jos and a member of the Presidential Advisory Committee Against Corruption (PACAC) decried the depletion of critical national resources with renewal due to corruption.

“We are having less and less of what we used to have and not refilling them. We have discouraged productivity, creativity and we are not investing in the real sector of the economy,” Alemika stated.

Also speaking at the event, Prof. Jonathan Aremu of Covenant University gave an in-depth analysis of the topic “Illicit Financial Flows Typologies – Trade, Tax, and Oil”, while Mr. George Tyendezwa of the Federal Ministry of Justice explained Cryptocurrencies, Money Laundering & Terrorist Financing Threats.

Another paper on “Public Service and Integrity, including the NEIP” was presented by a representative of the former Chairman of ICPC, Mr. Ekpo Nta.

The 2-day event also featured an interactive session between the House of Representatives Members and the Management of ICPC on ways to improve the operations of ICPC. The programme rounded off with a city tour of Uyo and a Dinner for the participants.

Senate seeks Improved Funding for ICPC

By Mahmud Magaji

Kogi West, Smart Adeyemi, said that it was imperative to allocate enough resources to ICPC so that it would enable the Commission to expand its network in terms of physical presence across the nation.

Senator Adeyemi added that having ICPC operatives at the grassroots or each senatorial district would aid in checkmating corrupt practices at that level.

He reiterated the Senate’s commitment to supporting improved funding for the effective discharge of the Commission’s mandate, saying that “Whatever it will take to do that in terms of resources, we will support you.”

Other senators who also lent their support to the development were Senators Yusuf A. Yusuf and Stella Oduah representing Taraba Central and Anambra Central respectively.

Responding to some of the issues raised



Professor Bolaji Owasanoye SAN (middle) & mgt Staff of the Commission

by the senators, ICPC Chairman, Professor Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN, explained to the Committee how the Commission was empowered by its enabling act to carry out a three-pronged mandate of enforcement, prevention, and public enlightenment and education.

Professor Owasanoye, while also

acknowledging that the envelope system was a serious challenge, revealed that the effort at fighting corruption was being escalated.

The Chairman also spoke on the efforts ICPC was making to get critical stakeholders to own the National Ethics and Integrity Policy especially traditional rulers and professional bodies.

COVID-19 Intervention Fund: ICPC Investigates University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital, Other Health Institutions

Advent Boniface and Sulieman Achile

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) has commenced an investigation into the utilisation of the N950 million COVID-19 Intervention Fund by the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital and all other health institutions that benefited from the COVID-19 Intervention Fund of the Federal Government.

This follows an alleged violation of the provisions of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000 by the beneficiaries of the Fund.

An immediate investigation by the Commission into the utilisation of the N950 million intervention fund by the teaching hospital in Port Harcourt has therefore been initiated.

The Commission has obtained documents from the Federal Ministry of Health, Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning, and the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital that would assist in its investigation of the utilisation of the COVID-19 Intervention Fund by the health institutions.

The Federal Government had

approved and released the sum of N950 million each to 52 Federal Teaching Hospitals and Medical Centres under its Economic Sustainability Plan for the building and furnishing of Molecular Laboratories, Isolation Centres, 10 bedded Intensive Care Units (ICU), and procurement of Personnel Protective Equipment.

**Stop corrupt
act NOW**

60th Anniversary: OAU Honours Owasanoye, Dipeolu, Adesina, 57 Others



Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN receiving the award plaque from Prof. Eyiotope Ogunbodede

The Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU), Ile Ife has honoured the Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN, and 59 other distinguished alumni in celebration of the University's 60th anniversary.

The notable alumni were presented with Awards of Excellence during the formal launching of the Great Ife Advancement Foundation held at the Marriot Hotel, Ikeja, Lagos.

Among the honorees are: the Governor of Ondo State, Arakunrin Rotimi Akeredolu, SAN; First Lady of Ekiti State, Erelu Bisi Fayemi; former Osun State Governor, Prince Olagunsoye Oyinlola; former Ondo State Governor, Dr. Olusegun Mimiko; former First Lady of Lagos State, Senator Oluremi Tinubu; Minister of Information and National Orientation, Alhaji Lai Mohammed; Minister of State for Health, Senator Olorunimbe Mamora; Chief of Defence Staff, General Lucky Irabor, and the Orangun of Oke-Ila, His Royal Majesty, Oba Adedokun Omoniyi Abolarin.

The awardees also include the Special Adviser to the President on Media and Publicity, Chief Femi Adesina; Special Adviser to the President on Economic Matters in the Office of the Vice-President, Ambassador Adeyemi Dipeolu; Special Adviser to the President on Political Matters, Senator Babafemi Ojodu; former Chairman of Access Bank and Chairman of Board of Trustees of Great Ife Advancement Foundation, Mr. Gbenga Oyebo; Justice of the Supreme Court, Hon. Justice Amina Augie; Chief

Executive Officer of Nigerians In Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM), Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa; Human Rights Activists and lawyers, Mr. Femi Falana, SAN and Chief Mike Ozekhome, SAN, and Chairman of ThisDay Editorial Board, Mr. Olusegun Adeniyi, among others.

The former Chairman of First Bank of Nigeria (FBN) Group and a member of the Board of Trustees of Great Ife Advancement Foundation, Dr. Ibukun Awosika, presented the Award of Excellence to the ICPC Chairman, Prof. Owasanoye.

Speaking at the occasion, the Vice-Chancellor of Obafemi Awolowo University, Prof. Eyiotope Ogunbodede, said the 60 awardees were dedicated "Great Ife ambassadors" who had contributed over the past 60 years to the advancement of the institution and the country.

Ogunbodede said, "This well-deserved Award of Excellence for 60 very passionate, supportive and dedicated Great Ife ambassadors who have contributed over the past 60 years, is to further show the University Management's appreciation."

The Vice-Chancellor further noted that the institution had in its 60 years of existence lived up to the expectation of the founding fathers.

"The University has achieved rapid growth and development, particularly in the areas of Academic Programmes, Research, Infrastructural Development, and Human Resources Development".

"The University which started with 244 students, 64 academic members of staff, and 15 senior administrative and technical

staff in five faculties, now has over 25,000 students and more than 4,000 members currently has two Colleges, 13 faculties, and 94 academic programmes.

"All the 94 academic programmes in the University are currently accredited by the National Universities Commission, making OAU one of the few universities with 100 percent accreditation of its programmes," Prof. Ogunbodede added.

In his reaction to the award by the OAU, the ICPC Chairman called for support for Nigerian Universities by their alumni, noting that such support was globally acceptable and in line with best practices.

"It is gratifying to be among the honorees and I accept the award with humility. What OAU has done is in line with the best practices. All over the world, great institutions are supported by their alumni by promoting endowments to support and advance the development of the institutions," Prof. Owasanoye said.

The ICPC boss had only last month bagged the 2021 Presidential Award of Excellence of the Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors' (NIQS).

The award was approved by the NIQS's National Policy Committee (NPC) in recognition of Prof. Owasanoye's commitment in ensuring prudence in the expenditure of public funds in government projects. "As a pragmatic and diligent professional, your sterling qualities and laudable initiatives are speedily ending the era of contractors siphoning public funds and abandonment/shabby execution of constituency projects across the country," the NIQS President, Mohammed Abba Tor had stated while presenting the award to the ICPC Chairman.

Nigeria signs Agreements with the State of Palestine, IACA to combat Corruption

By Olayinka Akintunde



Mr. Raed Radwan and Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN, exchanging document

Nigeria's Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) has signed two Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) with the State of Palestine's Anti-Corruption Commission and the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) based in Laxenburg, Austria.

The agreements are part of measures by the ICPC to enhance its fight against corruption in the country.

The Chairman of ICPC, Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN, signed the two agreements on behalf of Nigeria while the Commissioner of the Anti-Corruption Commission of the State of Palestine, Mr. Raed Radwan, signed for his country and the Dean of IACA, Thomas Stelzer, signed for his organisation.

The signing of the agreements is part of the side events at the ongoing Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties (CoSP9) to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) organised by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) at the International Conference Centre in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

The ICPC boss, in his remarks at the signing ceremony, expressed his delight at the culmination of one-year discussions with the Anti-Corruption Commission of the State of Palestine on the fight against

corruption.

He said, "This agreement has been approved by the Federal Ministries of Justice and Foreign Affairs. It seeks to identify areas of cooperation and coordination between the two parties in the field of preventing and combating corruption in accordance with the principles and objectives set out in the United Nations Convention Against Corruption".

"The two organisations shall, in accordance with the legal systems of their respective countries, cooperate and coordinate in the field of prevention and combat of corruption by studying the factors and conditions encouraging their practice, measuring and assessing their risks, and the most appropriate ways to combat it."

Prof. Owasanoye, who likened corruption to the Covid-19 pandemic, averred that corruption was perilous and did not spare anyone and countries.

He advocated international and regional collaborations between organisations and countries towards addressing the menace.

The Commissioner of the Anti-Corruption Commission of the State of Palestine, Mr. Raed Radwan, also conveyed the pleasure of the organisation and country to the signing of the agreement with ICPC. "We are very happy to sign this agreement and to benefit from

Nigeria's experience in anti-corruption. We will like to express our pleasure to Nigeria and ICPC for making this MoU come to a realisation.

"We are fully aware of the many challenges in combating corruption, and we hope that the MoU will greatly assist to confront and address corruption in our respective countries. Both organisations have received strong political backing from the Presidency towards this agreement," said Radwan.

In a related development, the ICPC also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA), an international organization and centre of excellence in the field of anti-corruption education, training, networking, cooperation, and academic research, with its seat in Laxenburg, Austria

The ICPC Chairman stated that the agreement had become necessary due to the seriousness of the multi-dimensional threats posed by corruption to societies, undermining institutions of governance, ethical values and justice, and jeopardizing sustainable development, social and economic prosperity, and the rule of law, including the full enjoyment of human rights.

He noted that prevention and combating of corruption can be substantially enhanced by international cooperation, involving all sectors of society, including the corporate sector, individuals, as well as civil society and non-governmental organizations, through sharing knowledge and expertise, as well as other joint efforts at the global and regional levels in support of the UNCAC and other relevant instruments.

The ICPC and the IACA have agreed to explore, develop and strengthen their collaborative efforts and cooperation in the field of anti-corruption training and research, particularly by creating a strong partnership that will enhance the sharing of anti-corruption knowledge and expertise between them and other stakeholders.

IFFs, Money Laundering: Unmask Artificial Entities' Owners Now, ICPC Boss Tells UN, Global Community

By Olanyinka Akintunde



Professor Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN at the event

The Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN, has called on the United Nations and global community to unmask the owners of artificial legal entities to combat money laundering, Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) and hidden ill-gotten wealth.

The ICPC boss made the call as a panelist at the Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties (CoSP9) to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) organised by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) at the International Conference Centre in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

The CoSP9 is being attended by top government officials and heads of anti-corruption agencies from the United States, United Kingdom, France, Netherlands, Australia, Austria, Ukraine, India, United Arab Emirates, Nigeria, Egypt, Burkina Faso, Mali as well as international bodies, civil society organisations, and the private sector. Speaking on the draft resolution L9 entitled “Enhancing Access and Use of

Beneficial Ownership Information to Facilitate the Identification, Recovery, and Return of Proceeds of Crime,” Prof. Owasanoye affirmed that artificial legal entities were being used for illegality and financial crimes including illicit financial flows.

He said, “We have held so many meetings and conferences on beneficial ownership. This is the time for action. We need to act now and lift the veil on these artificial legal entities that are being used to perpetrate crimes against the developing countries”.

“Lifting the veil on these owners of artificial legal entities will assist in asset tracing and recovery of hidden and stolen funds. The developing countries are being deprived of funds required for development”.

“There is no need for the continuous debate on artificial legal entities and beneficial ownership. We need to reduce these meetings and debates and take action now. Action is what is required which is the lifting of the veil on these owners. We need to know those behind these artificial entities.”

Although welcoming the acts of charities, the ICPC Chairman, however, noted that charities are now used for corruption.

He canvassed information sharing and collaboration among intelligence agencies to assist in their operations, adding that the absence of transparency and information makes it difficult to know those behind crimes.

In a related development, Prof. Owasanoye has called for global cooperation and information sharing in addressing corruption if Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are to be achieved.

The ICPC Chairman stated this as a panelist at a side event organised by the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) during the Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties (CoSP9) to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

“Corruption undermines efforts at realising the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) if not combat. It escalates poverty as well as increases inequality.

“Therefore, networking and information sharing has become necessary to combat corruption, and invariably address poverty and inequality gap,” Owasanoye stated.

**“Integrity
pays
Avoid
Corruption
as much as
you can**

ICPC bags 2021 SAEMA Award for “Diligent Investigation”

By Azuka Ogugua

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) has been recognized and presented with an award for “Diligent Investigation” at the 2021 Security and Emergency Management Awards (SAEMA).

Presenting the award in Abuja, at the event organized by the Emergency Digest, a publication of Image Merchants Promotion Limited, in conjunction with the Centre for Crisis Communication (CCC), the organizers observed that the Commission abhorred media trials, even while recording great achievements.

The citation went thus, “The ICPC’s due diligence in investigations and exposure of corrupt practices is unique. It is renowned for exposing 257 projects amounting to N20.138bn being



duplicated in the 2021 budget. Its diligent investigations have also led to the recovery of 301 houses from 2 civil servants and crackdown on illegal job recruitments”.

The convener of the event, Mallam Yushau Shuaib, CEO of Image Merchants Promotions Ltd, explained that the SAEMA award initiative recognizes military, security, intelligence, and response agencies, their management, and personnel for their invaluable contribution to the security, peace, and development of Nigeria.

He said, “We believe that by instituting the Awards of this nature, the organizations, agencies, and individuals being honoured will further motivate others in their patriotic duties”.

The ceremony, which also featured the Spokesperson’s Communications Awards, had in attendance security and emergency agencies who were recognized for various aspects of their work.

ICPC Cooperative Launches Housing Estate

... ICPC Chairman warns against Shoddy Execution

By Advent Boniface

The Chairman, Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Professor Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN, has warned the developer handling the ICPC Multi-purpose Cooperative Housing Estate, Gefen Group, against substandard and poor execution of the project.

The Chairman gave the warning in Abuja during the official Groundbreaking Ceremony of the Estate, which is named Professor Bolaji Owasanoye Housing Estate, and located in Kagini Village of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

Professor Owasanoye who spoke against cutting corners advised the developer to ensure that only the best was delivered to the staff of the Commission.

He, therefore, encouraged the Cooperative to be vigilant by getting experts to supervise the work as the construction progresses. The ICPC boss also admonished

Infinity Trust Mortgage Bank, the Primary Mortgage for the housing estate to always play by the rules, saying that ICPC was not an agency to play with.

The project, which covers a total of 1.36 hectares of land, is designed to accommodate 32 units of 2-bedroom flats, 32 units of 3-bedroom flats, and 16 units of 4-bedroom flats making a total of 80 units of flats.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Cooperative President, Mr. Joshua Wakili, stated that the Kagini Housing Estate project was conceived with a view towards “covering the housing deficit faced by public servants and the residents of Abuja which is one of the cardinal aspirations of the current President of our nation.”

“This Project is also poised at providing quality and

affordable houses to members of our amiable cooperative society thereby meeting the mandate of the cooperative society which is above all, welfare,” he added.

The President also explained that the Estate was designed to have a good road network;



enough parking spaces; two 500kva generators; industrial boreholes; solar-powered streetlights; security posts; perimeter fencing; recreational ground and a shopping mall amongst others.

The Estate according to Mr. Wakili is estimated to cost about One Billion, One Hundred and Seventy-Six Million, Eight Hundred and Eight

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ICPC Cooperative Launches Housing Estate

Thousand, Eight Hundred and Four Naira.

Speaking at the ceremony, the Emir of Jiwa, Alhaji Musa Idris, who was represented by the District Head of Kagini, Alhaji Ayuba Barau, lauded the ICPC Cooperative for adequately compensating the local community.

The Royal Father, therefore, pledged his continuous support for ICPC whenever the need arises.

Giving a historical perspective, Mr. Bello Dauda, under whose

stewardship the Kagini Land was acquired, explained that the motivating factor was the challenge of housing for members of the Cooperative. He narrated the processes they followed before the land was acquired and the Certificate of Occupancy given.

On his part, President Abuja Cooperative, Mr. Emmanuel Atama, described ICPC Cooperative as one of the frontline cooperative societies in the FCT.

Mr. Atama who spoke on some of the fraudulent activities in some cooperative societies expressed his willingness to partner with the

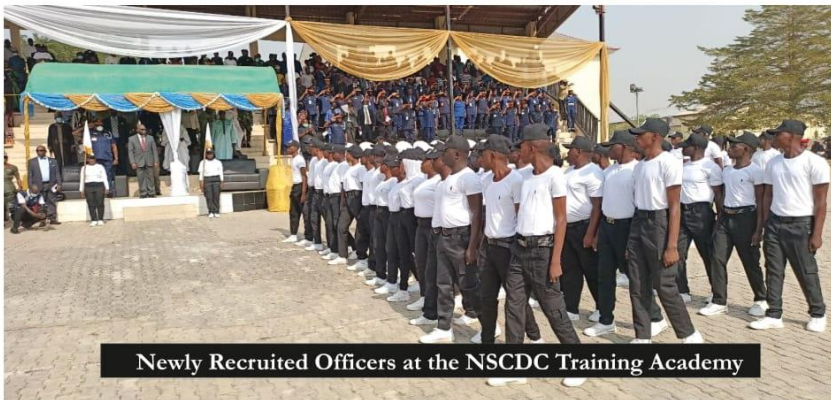
Commission to ensure transparency in the body of cooperative.

Also, speaking at the ceremony, the Managing Director, Gefen Group, Dr. Nosa Edeko, pledged to do everything within his power to ensure that professionalism was not compromised to provide high quality projects.

The high point of the event was the Foundation Laying ceremony which was performed by the ICPC Chairman in the company of ICPC Board Members, Secretary to the Commission, Royal Fathers, and developers.

ICPC graduates 246 Newly Recruited Officers from Training Academy ... Recruits charged to have Integrity and Honesty as their Watchword.

By Inalegwu Shaibu



Newly Recruited Officers at the NSCDC Training Academy

A total of 246 officers newly recruited by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) have graduated from the Nigerian Security and Civil Defense (NSCDC) training academy after a rigorous six-week course.

The Chairman of ICPC, Professor Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN, who was the Reviewing Officer at the Passing Out Parade (POP) of the new officers, which held at the NSCDC training academy in sauca, Abuja, said that the coming on-board of the new staff would bridge the human capacity gap being faced by the Commission.

Owasanoye stated that the recruitment of the 246 staff, comprising senior and junior cadres, out of over 400,000 applicants, would enable the Commission to tackle the problem of corruption that had been bedeviling Nigeria.

He said, “Consider yourself lucky to have been selected by the Commission out of the over 400,000 that applied for the job. Your conduct must be above board because the ICPC mandate demands it. Integrity and discipline are essential character traits you must have to excel in your career. You must make integrity and honesty your watchword.”

The chairman also informed them

that as the country was battling with the menace of corruption posed by illicit financial flows, internet fraud, and grand corruption among others, they were expected to shun all acts of corruption, warning that defiant staff would be shown the way out of the Commission.

In his words, “You have the herculean task of ridding Nigeria of the menace of corruption. This board and management have zero tolerance for corruption, indiscipline, and other forms of official malfeasance. You must strive to always live above board. Any act of disloyalty to the Commission will not be tolerated and the person will be shown the way out.”

On his part, the Commandant-General of NSCDC, Dr. Ahmed Audi, said the new staff had been rigorously trained and equipped to function as anti-corruption officers.

Audi, who was represented at the POP by Deputy Commandant Nnamdi Nwenyi, added that the training had churned out well cultured, disciplined, and loyal staff for ICPC.

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The camp commandant, Mr. Wellington Nkemadu, speaking to the ICPC Media crew after the event, gave the assurance that the new staff would perform any task assigned to them having undergone six-week rigorous military and technical training.

He added that the senior cadre would be moved immediately to the Anti-Corruption Academy of Nigeria, (ACAN), the training arm

of ICPC for another six-week training focusing on technical and core mandates of the Commission, while the junior cadre will remain in sauka for another two weeks.

The event, which witnessed excellent displays such as a parade of the graduating officers in slow and quick march, unarmed combat, and other non-regular military drills also featured the presentation of awards to four outstanding officers.

Those awarded for outstanding performances and best behavior are the Course Senior, Akanmode Olayemi, Aisha Mohammed, and the two parade adjutants, Ahmed Mohammed and Mariam Suleiman. Akanmode Olayemi who spoke after the parade said the training had toughened her to cope with the rigors of anti-corruption work, while also admitting that they had been adequately prepared as integrity officers who would not condone any act of corruption.

ICPC, CoDA Sign Pact on Recovery of Stolen Assets

By Roseline Maduako

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) and the Coalition for Dialogue on Africa (CoDA) have entered into a Cooperation Agreement on the implementation of the Common African Position on Asset Recovery (CAPAR).

The partnership will enable the two organisations to collaborate and push for the quick recovery of assets stolen from Africa.

The Chairman of ICPC, Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN, signed the cooperation agreement on behalf of the Commission while the Executive Director of CoDA and Head of African Union-High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs), Mrs. Souad Aden-Osman, signed for the organisation.

CoDA, which has been chaired by former African Presidents, is currently being chaired by former Nigerian President, Olusegun Obasanjo.

Prof. Owasanoye, who expressed the Commission’s delight in the cooperation agreement, commended the efforts of CoDA in the execution of CAPAR and recovery of stolen assets from Africa.

The ICPC boss stated that African countries had continued to lose huge



From left, Mrs. Souad Aden-Osman and Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN

proportions of their resources through illicit consignment of financial and other assets to foreign jurisdictions, thereby contributing to the underdevelopment of the continent.

“If harnessed properly, these stolen assets and resources could make huge differences in Africa’s development”.

“The CAPAR is, therefore, a critical step in stemming and reversing illicit financial flows from Africa and for the recovery and return of assets within a contextualized historical, political, economic, and social narrative,” he stated.

Aden-Osman explained that CoDA was the special initiative of the African Union (AU) to support the

implementation of CAPAR, in collaboration with the African Development Bank and other partners, following its adoption by the Assembly of African Union Heads of State and Government at its 33rd session on 9th February, 2020.

She added that the agency will provide support to ICPC in implementing CAPAR-related activities.

“The purpose of the cooperation agreement is to regulate the relationship between the parties in pursuing their common objective towards advancing asset detection and identification; asset recovery and return; asset management as well as cooperation and partnership in Africa,” she said.

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ICPC, CoDA sign Pact on recovery of Stolen Assets

Under the cooperation agreement, the ICPC and CoDA are to implement joint activities to facilitate and advance the mapping of strategies and action plans for CAPAR implementation, strengthening systems for the detection and identification of African assets in foreign jurisdictions, and advocating

for CAPAR at national, regional and global levels.

The two parties are also to facilitate partnerships, collaborations, networking, and consultations among senior government officials, policymakers, researchers, and civil society towards the realisation of the

objectives of CAPAR.

CAPAR is a political, policy, and advocacy instrument to assist Africa in identifying, repatriating, and effectively managing Africa's assets for the common good of its citizens in a manner that respects the sovereignty of member-states.

ICPC Chairman warns against Substandard Work as FRCN launches Cooperative Housing Estate

...Cooperative names street after ICPC

By Inalegwu Shaibu



President, ICPC Multi-Purpose Cooperative Society, Mr. Joshua Wakili speaking at the event

The Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Professor Bolaji Owasanoye, SAN, has warned the developer and promoters of the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN), Multipurpose Cooperative Housing Estate not to engage in substandard work.

Owasanoye, who gave the charge during the official Groundbreaking Ceremony of the Estate in Wurna District, Gwagwalada, warned that the Commission will not hesitate to prosecute anyone involved in corruption in the execution of the project.

The chairman, who was represented at the ceremony by the President of the ICPC Multipurpose Cooperative Society, Barrister Joshua Wakili, lauded

the efforts of the Executive of FRCN Cooperative Society for coming up with a project that will help bridge the national housing deficit.

He said, "This is a lofty project that supports the welfare and economic development of staff of FRCN. This project also supports the national housing project of Nigeria. It is now possible for the vulnerable members of the public and low-income earners to have houses of their own."

Earlier, the President of FRCN Cooperative, Mr. Victorson Agbenon, said the project offered FRCN staff the opportunity to become homeowners at affordable rates.

He said that the ongoing work in the estate which sits on 41 hectares, was possible through the efforts of ICPC

that led to the recovery of the land from encroachers.

He said, "The current executives inherited a disputed land and many allegations of corruption from members of the cooperative. However, ICPC was able to help resolve all the issues with land, including getting us compensations from the encroachers."

The project which is to be handled by 2 Cube Technology, comes in two and three-bedroom bungalows including duplexes of four bedrooms. The prices range from N8.7 million for a two-bedroom, N10 million for three bedrooms, and N24 million for a four-bedroom duplex.

The ceremony witnessed the naming of a major street in the estate as 'ICPC Street' as a show of appreciation to the Commission.

Agbenon urged members of the cooperative to either use their national housing fund to start building or personal savings rather than wait for a lump sum of money.

The representative of the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Information and Culture, Mrs. Bunmi Morgrich, in her goodwill message said that it was noteworthy for the members of the cooperative society to own houses in Nigeria when housing is difficult to come by.

ICPC STATE OFFICES LOCATIONS

Report any act of corruption to the ICPC Headquarters, Plot 802, Constitution Avenue, Central Business District, Abuja, or the nearest ICPC State office in the following addresses:

Adamawa State Office

Bachure Road, Jimeta,
Yola, Adamawa State.
State Commissioner: Mr. George Lawal
Phone: 08034514607
E-mail: adamawa@icpc.gov.ng

Akwa Ibom State Office

Plot 37, G Line,
Ewet Housing Estate,
Uyo, Akwa-Ibom State.
State Commissioner: Mr. O. Shodipo
Phone: 08037051806
E-mail: akwaibom@icpc.gov.ng

Bauchi State Office

Plot 10946, Yaya Abubakar Link
Off Federal Secretariat Road,
Bauchi, Bauchi State.
State Commissioner: Mr. Gali Rogo
Phone: 08065413880
Email: bauchi@icpc.gov.ng

Benue State Office

26 Jonah Jang Crescent,
High Level, Makurdi, Benue State.
State Commissioner: Mr. C. Ogwuegbu
Phone: 07063494060
E-mail: benue@icpc.gov.ng

Edo State Office

No 13, Delta Crescent,
G.R.A, Benin City, Edo State.
State Commissioner: Mr. Y. Olatunji
Phone: 08033260396
E-mail: edo@icpc.gov.ng

Enugu State Office

55B, Ezilo Street
Independence Layout,
Enugu, Enugu State.
State Commissioner: Mr. K. Ebotemen
Phone: 08069534719
E-mail: enugu@icpc.gov.ng

Imo State Office

BF/1 Area E, (around 40-40
roundabout),
Opposite Index Filling Station,
New Owerri, Imo State.
State Commissioner: Mr. P. Alumbugu
Phone: 08099809631
E-mail: imo@icpc.gov.ng

Kaduna State Office

No. 7 Wurno Road, Badarawa GRA,
Kaduna, Kaduna State.
State Commissioner: Prince H. Mohammed
Phone: 08077985160
E-mail: kaduna@icpc.gov.ng

Kano State Office

No. 7 Usmaniyya Link,
Off Abdullahi Bayero Road,
Kano, Kano State.
State Commissioner: Mr. Ibrahim Kagara
Phone: 08032851353
E-mail: kano@icpc.gov.ng

Kogi State Office

No. 1 Abacha Crescent, Mabee's Court,
Behind Kogi State Government House,
Lokoja, Kogi State.
State Commissioner: Mr. Ulu O. James
Phone: 08033133367
E-mail: kogi@icpc.gov.ng

Lagos State Office

10, Okotie Eboh Street,
South-West Ikoyi, Lagos State.
State Commissioner: Mr. Kabir Elelu
Phone: 08090392021
E-mail: lagos@icpc.gov.ng

Osun State Office

No 5 Olu Alabi Street,
G.R.A, Okefia, Osogbo, Osun State.
State Commissioner: Mr. Baba Alaro Shuaib
Phone: 08062067670
E-mail: osun@icpc.gov.ng

Oyo State Office

Opposite Aerodrome,
Along Airport Road, Samonda,
Ibadan, Oyo State.
State Commissioner: Mr. Dennis Idoko
Phone: 08037865494
E-mail: oyo@icpc.gov.ng

Rivers State Office

No. 5, Olumeni Street
Off Forces Avenue, Old G.R.A
Port Harcourt, Rivers State.
State Commissioner: Mrs. Ekere Usiere
Phone: 08023510484
E-mail: rivers@icpc.gov.ng

Sokoto State Office

Plot 2253, Tsafe Road,
Opposite WAEC Office, Sokoto,
Sokoto State.
State Commissioner: Mr. M. Alkali Ibrahim
Phone: 08033736069
E-mail: sokoto@icpc.gov.ng

Ondo State Office

Plot 348B, Block XXVIII, Ilaje Street,
Ijapo Residential Estate, Akure, Ondo State.
State Commissioner: Mr. Kupolati Kayode
Phone: 08035825773
E-mail: ondo@icpc.gov.ng

Katsina State Office

No. 7, Bayajidda Road,
Off Daura Road, Near INEC Office,
GRA Katsina, Katsina State.
State Commissioner: Mr. M. Wala
Phone: 08036521917
E-Mail: katsina@icpc.gov.ng

Niger State Office

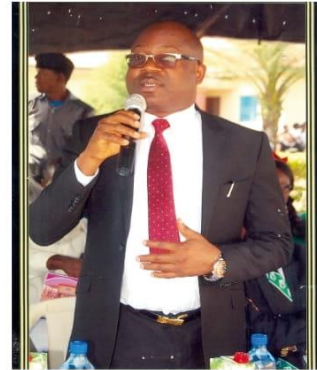
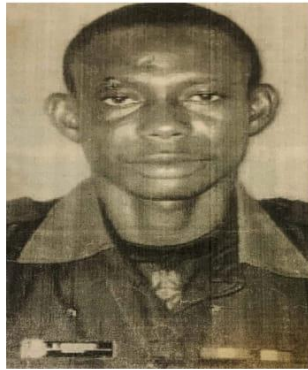
No. 1 Azikwe Road, Behind
Radio Niger,
Chachanga LGA Minna,
Niger State
State Commissioner: Mr. Danmusa
Phone: 08086621491
E-Mail: niger@icpc.gov.ng

**Do not
give or
take bribe
report any
corrupt
act to ICPC**

WANTED PERSONS

The following persons have been declared **WANTED** by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC).

Anyone who has useful information on their whereabouts should report to ICPC Headquarters Abuja, any of the ICPC State Offices, or the nearest police station, or call ICPC Toll-Free lines: 0803-123-0280, 0803-123-0281, 0803-123-0282, 0705-699-0190, 0705-699-0191, and 0800-CALL-ICPC (0800-2255-4272)

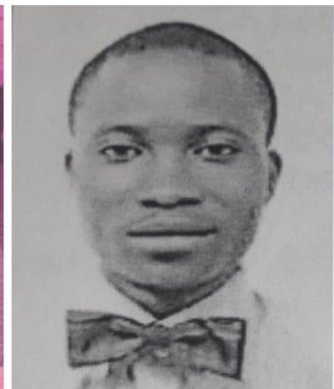
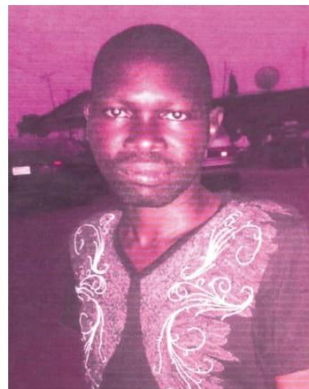


DR. CHRISTOPHER O. UGWUJIRO

Mr. SAHABO ABUBAKAR AHIWA

Mr. OKWUENU SUNDAY HILARY

DR. LAWRENCE M. AYODELE

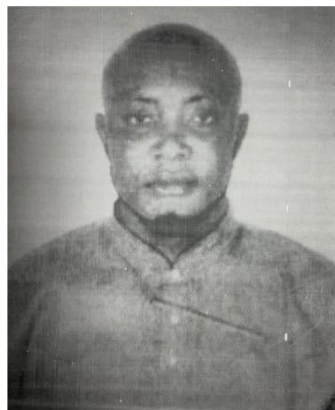


MR. TONY AIYEJINA

MRS. GLADYS AGINWA

MR. DAVID AKILE

MR. IDOWU PAULADEBOLA



SALEH AMSHI MOHAMMED

MR. AMINU EMEJE SHEHU

DEBORAH IGHIIWIYISI AGBONAYINMA

MR. MUHAMMADU SAGIRU UMAR