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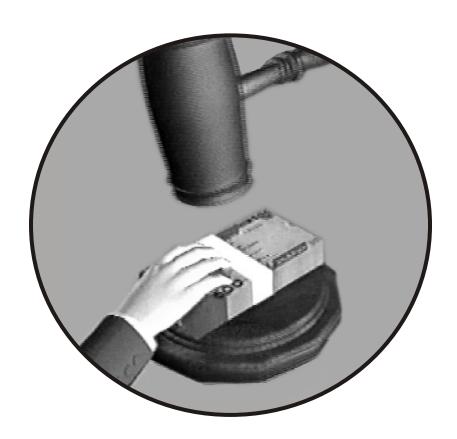
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"Corruption Must Go" ...Join the battle



There is need to allow the rule of law to operate unhindered, to stop pointing fingers at each other and point instead in the direction of progress.

Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan. President, Federal Republic of Nigeria

From the Chairman's Desk

Corruption and other related offences are major impediments to good governance and a bane to national development. Achieving success in tackling this cankerworm is dependent upon a very strong political will of our leaders especially the president. We in the ICPC therefore believe that the electorate could be largely convinced through a forum to vote a Presidential Candidate perceived to have the potency to combat corruption through a realizable strategic plan.

...The ICPC is saddened by the fact that some of our leaders in the past had no specific anti-corruption blue print with which to facilitate and fast track the effective and efficient fight against corruption. For the fight against corruption to succeed, it has to be institutional, systematic and pragmatic and not based on guess work. We therefore consider it our duty as the arrow head in the fight against corruption to challenge our prospective leaders to develop realizable anti-corruption framework in order to make the national crusade against corruption more effective and purposeful.

AIG (rtd) Dr. Rose Abang-Wushishi Acting Chairman, ICPC

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MAJOR STORIES

OUR OWN INDIFFERENCE ENCOURAGES CORRUPTION ABANG - WUSHISHI

By Winifred Ingobro and Confidence C. Onwuchuruba

The acting Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Dr. Rose Abang-Wushishi(AIG rtd) has said that the accomplice to corruption is the indifference of citizens to various acts of corruption in the society.

Dr. Wushishi made the observation in her address at the 2011 Presidential Anti- Corruption Interactive Forum organized by the ICPC for presidential aspirants at the Nicon Luxury hotel in Abuja shortly before the 2011 general elections.

The ICPC boss explained that the forum was organized by the Commission to create an opportunity for the electorates to listen to the anti-corruption agenda of each party and ask informed questions which would help them to vote for the right candidate "The Forum specifically seeks to guide the public in general and the electorate in particular on which presidential candidate has the most realizable, comprehensive and pragmatic anti-corruption agenda." She said.

Dr. Wushishi pointed out that "Corruption and other related offences are major impediments to good governance and a bane to national development, therefore, achieving success in tackling this cankerworm is dependent upon a very strong political will of our leaders especially the President", adding that through the Forum, the electorate would convincingly vote a presidential candidate perceived to be ready to fight corruption.

Although the forum was organized for all the presidential candidates of the various political parties, only two of the presidential candidates were present; Chief Dele Momodu, the Presidential Candidate for National Conscience Party (NCP) and Mr. Yahaya Ndu, candidate for African Renaissance Party (ARP) while the presidential candidate for Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN) Mallam Nuhu Ribadu was represented by his campaign Coordinator, Mr. Sony Ugochukwu and that of All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) Alhaji Ibrahim Shekarau was represented by his running mate, Chief John Oyegun.

Mr. Yahaya Ndu while presenting his Party's Anti-corruption Agenda said the ARP

will run a transparent government that would ensure mass participation in governance while encouraging individual innovation to empower citizens economically and prevent them from depending on fraudulent means for survival.

Chief Dele Momodu of the NCP said his party will empower the police to better fight crime and corruption and will never use public funds to finance private projects. He also said his party will address the economic needs of the people, for when the people are adequately provided for, the incidence of corruption will be reduced.

Chief Oyegun on his part said his party symbolizes zero tolerance for corruption and that all offenders will be duly punished without fear or favour. He emphasized that transparency in government would be a major agenda of his party.

Mr. Sony Ugochukwu said Mallam Nuhu Ribadu of the ACN would build 1,000,000 houses per year to address the primary need of man which is shelter and that the past record of the presidential aspirant as the EFCC chairman speaks for him as a man of integrity.

During the interactive session, all the candidates objected to death penalty as the solution for corruption, saying it is an extreme measure that does not necessarily achieve the intended objective. Mr. Ugochukwu said if more stringent measures were adopted as punishment for corruption and agencies responsible for fighting this menace are adequately empowered, the chances of a corrupt person being apprehended is as high as 90%...

On how to make the economy more buoyant, Dele Momodu said he would create more access to credit facilities and cut down on government recurrent spending so as to channel more money into appropriate development projects. Yahaya Ndu emphasized qualitative education as the basic agenda of his party and the diversification of the economy to encourage development in all fields of human endeavor.

The Forum was divided into two sessions. During the first session, the candidates were given the opportunity to present their anti-corruption agenda to the audience while the members of the audience were given opportunity to ask questions based on the presentation of the candidates in the second session.

ICPC MEMBER ELECTED CHAIRMAN, AFRICAN UNION ADVISORY BOARD ON CORRUPTION

By Folu Olamiti

A member of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Dame Julie Onum-Nwariaku has been appointed Chairman of the African Union Advisory Board on Preventing Corruption.

Mrs. Nwariaku is the only Nigerian in the 11 man committee set up by the African Union at the 16th ordinary session of the Assembly held in Addis Abbas, Ethiopia in January 2011. Other countries represented in the advisory board are Ghana, Kenya, Malawi Mali, Senegal, Tanzania, South Africa, Burundi and Ethiopia.

Before her election as Chairman, the African Union in her letter of appointment to the board indicated that Mrs. Nwariaku and others would serve for two years on the board and shall be eligible for re-election for one more term after the expiration of the first term.

In the letter signed by Mr. Ben Kioko, Legal Council/Director of the AU, Mrs. Nwariaku and other members of the Advisory board on corruption are charged, inter alia, in terms of article 22 of the African Union Convention on preventing and combating corruption, "with the promotion of and the adoption of anti-corruption measures on the continent." The Advisory board is also expected to collate and document information on the nature and scope of corruption and related offences in Africa as well as advise government on how to deal with the scourge of corruption and related offences in their domestic jurisdictions.

"your responsibilities as a member of the African Union Advisory Board on corruption are of immense importance and I have no doubt that your election and appointment confirms the confidence the African Union has in you in relation to your new responsibilities. I am confident that you will effectively discharge your mandate, as stipulated in the convention and work assiduously to prevent and combat corruption in Africa," the letter stated.

ICPC ARRAIGNS 4 OFFICERS OF THE POLICE SERVICE COMMISSION IN COURT

By Mike Sowe

Four officers of the Police Service Commission Abuja were billed to appear in court on 20th April 2011 to answer 14 charges brought against them by the ICPC for inserting pseudo names into the pay roll of the Commission between may 2009 and march 2010.

The officers who are staff of the Accounts Division of the Commission include Jonathan Abutu Attah, Francis Nwabundu, Imam Yaqub Ishaq and Mrs Ramatu Ibrahim .They are alleged to have illegally enrinched themselves to the tune of millions of naira by inputting ghost names into the pay roll of the Commission.

ICPC investigators discovered that the suspects used various bank accounts with the United Bank for Africa(UBA), Intercontinental Bank, Guarantee Trust Bank(GTB), and Zenith Bank to perpetrate the crime. It was established during investigation that the scam was initiated by Jonathan Abutu Attah, the schedule officer in charge of Salary Mandate Register at the Central Pay Office of the Police Service Commission Abuja. He is said to be the main beneficiary of the fraud.

Francis Nwabundu, the schedule officer with the internal audit in charge of vetting payment vouchers is accused of passing salary payment vouchers to the Central Pay Office while deliberately refusing to detect the pseudo names he knew had been fraudulently inserted into the pay roll.

Imam Yaqub Ishaq the schedule officer with the Salary Unit in charge of entering pay roll into the Vote Book is being charged with deliberately refusing to detect the pseudo names while passing the Personnel Vote Book to the Internal Audit for checking.

Mrs Ramatu Ibrahim, the head of Salary Unit in charge of printing out and inputting the salary schedule into the Commission's computer is accused of deliberately and knowingly inputting three pseudo names into the Salary Schedule and Pay Roll between may 2009 and February 2010.

The four accused persons were to appear before Justice Ishaq Bello of the FCT High Court.

SHUN CORRUPTION ITS EVIL

ELECTORAL OFFICER CHARGED TO COURT

By Mark Faison

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) has charged the Chief Electoral Officer of the Delta State Independent Electoral Commission (DSIEC), Mr. Victor Nwabueze and two others to Court on a 10 count charge of criminal conspiracy, making false statements, abuse of office and making false entry in a document with intent to conceal a crime.

The three accused persons, Mr. Victor Nwabueze Obi, Chief Electoral Officer DSIEC, Mr. Enwenede Solomon, the Education Secretary, Isoko South Local Government Area, Delta State and Victor Eterigho, Councilor sworn-in for Uzere 06 Ward of Isoko Local Government Area of Delta State, had conspired among themselves in May 2008 at Oleh, Delta State to make false statement to the effect that Councillorship election was conducted at Uzere 06 ward of Isoko South on 10th May 2008 where Victor Eterigho of the PDP was acclaimed to have emerged winner of the said election, while no councillorship election had taken place.

They are also charged for having intentionally misled the Chairman, Delta State Independent Electoral Commission into issuing a certificate of return to the said Victor Eterigho as the duly elected councilor for Uzere 06 Ward of Isoko South Local Government Area, which enabled him to be sworn-in as the Councilor when no election took place.

Mr. Victor Nwabueze is also charged for abusing his office as the Chief Electoral Officer overseeing the Isoko South Local Government Area Ward elections scheduled for the 10th of May 2008 when he misled the Chairman of DSIEC into issuing a certificate of return to Victor Eterigho wrongly.

The trio, who were on 14th October, 2010 arraigned before Justice Bikiri Okolose at the Delta State High Court sitting in Asaba, pleaded not guilty to the offences. The matter was adjourned to 12th April, 2011.

"Corruption Must Go"
...Join the battle

FORMER LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHAIRMAN LOSES APPEAL TO OVERTURN JAIL SENTENCE

By Femi Gold

The former Chairman of Lagos Island Local Government, Prince Lukman Ajose has lost his legal battle to quash the jail sentence slammed on him for conferring corrupt advantage on himself.

Ajose, who was arraigned in 2007 by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) based on petition against him alleging various acts of corrupt practices was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment without option of fine.

In one of the charges filed against him, the former local government chairman was said to have converted about N2m to his personal use under the guise of spending same to attend seminars and conferences.

Even though he pleaded not guilty to the charge, the Hon. Justice Joseph Oyewole of Lagos High Court found him guilty after the prosecution had called five witnesses and tendered twenty exhibits. Unsatisfied with the lower court's judgment, Prince Ajose appealed against his conviction at the Court Of Appeal, Lagos Division. His appeal and application for bail pending the determination of appeal were dismissed for lack of merit.

By the decision of the Court of Appeal, the former chairman will spend 2 years in prison for using his office to confer corrupt advantage on himself as prescribed by section 19 of ICPC Act.

ICPC INVESTIGATES EX-EBONYI STATE COMMISSIONER OVER N349M FRAUD

By Mike Sowe

The ICPC has commenced investigation into a petition alleging that a former Commissioner for Health under the administration of ex-Governor Sam Egwu of Ebonyi state embezzled public funds to the tune of N349 million. The money was earmarked for the construction, rehabilitation and equipping of three General Hospitals at Ezzamgbo, Amasin and Agba.

MAJOR STORIES (Cont'd)

Preliminary investigation indicates that the money was diverted to Company Accounts owned by the Commissioner and Associates; and used for purposes other than the execution of the projects. Apart from the Commissioner, Mr. Henry Aloh, ICPC investigators have so far identified three other possible beneficiaries from the scam. These beneficiaries are said to be close associates of top officials in the Sam Egwu administration. The level of involvement of the Commissioner and other suspects involved in the scam are being unearthed by operatives of the Commission.

period spanning several months between January 2003 and June 2008 and equally confessed that they made no effort to return the money to the Agency. It was however confirmed that the syndicate had refunded the sum of N3.6million through its operatives.

Also, the Commission has ordered deduction of the amounts over-paid cutting across several months from the monthly emoluments of the affected staff while the machinery has been in motion to prosecute the Assistant Chief Internal Auditor of the agency, Mr. Joe Wakwe, the Salary Officer, Monday Okoh and 13 others.

ICPC BUSTS BURSARY SYNDICATE IN LASU

By Folu Olamiti

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) has discovered a syndicate in the Lagos State University which specializes in defrauding the institution through its bursary programme.

So far, two officials of the Bursary Department of the institution had been nabbed and quizzed by Operatives of ICPC on the bursary scam which involves more than N15 million. The two staff involved, Mrs. O.O. Andrew and Mrs. F.M. Obayomi Davies, had perfected the act of importing fictitous names into the list of bursary award originally received from Delta State Scholarship Board before forwarding the list to the banks for payments.

The ICPC is also verifying reports that similar bursary scam syndicates exist in many states scholarship boards, with a view to stepping in to stop the fraudulent practice.

In another development, the ICPC is set to recover the sum of N30.6million from 21 staffs of Benin/Owena River Basin Development Authority who were allegedly involved in salary scam in the Agency.

The staff of the Accounts Department and Internal Audit of the Agency were alleged to have made several attempts to undercut the system of the agency by manipulating the computers to cause over payment of salaries to several staff including themselves.

The officials confirmed during interrogation that they were over-paid for a

TWO FEDERAL OFFICIALS ARRAIGNED OVER N16M CONTRACT SCAM

By Winifred Ingobro and Atiku M Tanko

Two officials of the Federal Ministry of Housing and Urban Development in Abuja, Mr. Umar Aliyu and Mr. Augustine Ochoge Atabo have been arraigned before Justice Ishaq Bello of the Federal Capital Territory High Court of Justice, Maitama Abuja for contravening the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act 2000.

The accused persons were arraigned in court on an eight count charge over falsification of documents and payment in respect of renovation and maintenance work not executed contrary to section 15 of the ICPC Act.

Umar Aliyu was arraigned for falsifying documents which led to the payment of about N16 million for the renovation and maintenance of the headquarters of his Ministry in Abuja and its field office in Birnin Kebbi, Kebbi State.

The second accused person, Augustine Ochoge Atabo was arraigned on a seven count charge based on the allegation that he furnished false returns to collect the sum of N16 million for work not executed with regard to the renovation and maintenance work in Federal Ministry of Housing and Urban Development Abuja and Birnin Kebbi respectively.

The defense sought for the bail of the accused persons and the presiding Judge, Justice Ishaq Bello granted the accused persons bail in the sum of N5 million each and two sureties in like sum while the matter was adjourned to 17th of May 2011 for further hearing.

ICPC SET TO ARRAIGN OYO STATE COMMISSIONER

By Mark Faison

A serving Commissioner in Oyo State, Dr. Kola Balogun and his wife Gbonjubola Balogun, who since 2007 had tried to prevent the Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) from prosecuting them on allegations of corruption have finally bowed to the course of justice as 6th of May 2011 has been fixed for the arraignment of the duo on a three count charge before an Oyo State High Court in Ibadan.

Dr. Balogun and his wife are alleged to have solicited for a share of the contract sum of N801, 000.00 (Eight hundred and one thousand naira) payable to Bayo Trading while serving as Commissioner of Works and Housing in Oyo State; an offence contrary to section 22 (6) of the Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Act 2000.

Mrs. Gbonjubola Balogun, is alleged to have in February 2006 at Ibadan whilst being a teacher at the Queen of Apostles Grammar School Ibadan did hold a share in a contract for the printing and supplying of 2000 copies of the 2006 Calendar awarded to Bayo Dele Trading under the name, Bayo Dele Group by Legelu Local government for procuring the said contract. She is therefore charged for knowingly holding an indirect private interest in a contract made on account of public service contrary to and punishable under Section 12 of the ICPC Act 2000.

She will also be charged for soliciting for a share in the sum of N801,000.00 (Eight hundred and one thousand naira) payable to Bayo Trading as a reward for using influence to procure a contract with a public body contrary to Section 22 (2) (a) and punishable under Section 22 (6) of the ICPC Act 2000.



ICPC SWOOPS ON OGUN LOCAL GOVT. AREAS, RECOVERS STOLEN FUNDS

By Folu Olamiti

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission ICPC has launched a probe into series of allegations of financial impropriety leveled against the education authorities in Ijebu East Local Government of Ogun state.

Some officials of the local government had petitioned the Commission, calling for the probe of SUBEB in the local government on suspicion that some top officials have been pilfering from the salaries of teachers in the local government.

Although the petitioners did not give a figure of money which had allegedly been stolen by the officials in question, findings by ICPC revealed that a total of N2.8 million had been recovered already following the intervention of the National Anti-corruption Volunteers Corps (NAVC) in the local government.

The recovered sum, according to the State Coordinator of NAVC, Mr. Idris Abu is part of the sum that was alleged to have been fraudulently deducted from salaries of teachers in Ijebu East Local Govt.

Against this background, the ICPC has instructed the Executive Secretary of the local government to ensure the recovery of the illegal deduction and its return into treasury, just as the NAVC affirmed that the sum of N1 million had been paid to teachers through it.

In another development, Mr. Abu said NAVC had swung into action in Ogun State to recover a vehicle, Camry Saloon car belonging to Odeda local government. The vehicle was recovered in December 2010

He said an attempt was made in February 2011 to change the registration number of the official car into a private one by an official in the local government. The NAVC members had closely monitored its movement until it was located in the house of the local government official in Abeokuta who was already being investigated. The car, has been recovered and handed over to the Acting Chairman of the local government, Mr. Ogunbona.

In the same vein, the ICPC was able to recover a Camry car with registration number AE 676 ABG; belonging to Obafemi Owode Local Government in Ogun state. The Car, was allegedly taken away by a local government official until it was intercepted and taken to a police station in Abeokuta.

CRISIS IN THE JUDICIARY: NBA APPROACHES ICPC FOR HELP

UNIVERSITY DON LOUDS ICPC STRATEGIES

By Mike Sowe

The Judicial Crisis Committee set up by the Nigerian Bar Association has appealed to the ICPC to make available any information or evidence of corruption against any member of the Judiciary or the Legal profession in the country. The Chairman of the Committee Chief Okpoko (SAN) made the request when he took an 8 man delegation to the ICPC recently.

Chief Okpoko stressed that the NBA has been disturbed by the allegations of corruption against the Chief Justice of Nigeria and the President of the Court of Appeal, allegations which he said his committee is handling with utmost seriousness, adding that the sanctity and reputation of the two institutions are at stake.

He explained that his committee has the moral and social responsibility to find out the truth and come out with definitive findings and cannot therefore rely on allegations. He promised to forward to the Commission specific requests on areas that would enhance the Committee's successful execution of its mandate.

ICPC Secretary Mr. Elvis Oglafa, who stood in for the acting Chairman of the Commission pointed out that because of the symbiotic relationship between the ICPC and the Judiciary, any crisis within the Judiciary would ultimately affect the Commission's work. He commended the NBA for setting up the Committee and promised to render the necessary assistance.

The ICPC Secretary revealed that the Commission's focus for 2011 is to fight institutional corruption through system study and review. He accused some Federal Departments and Agencies of generating revenue and not remitting same into the coffers of the Federal Government, warning that the Commission will take appropriate action on any defaulting Agency.

Mr. Oglafa also explained that the collaboration between the ICPC and the INEC towards credible and successful elections in April this year will be concretised through the active participation of ICPC staff who will act as observers and supervisors in the 36 states of the federation.

By Mark Faison

The Dean Faculty of Law, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife, Professor Ademola Popoola has commended the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) for maintaining steady collaboration against corruption with all Professional Bodies in Nigeria.

He was speaking at the Conference for Inter-Professional Dialogue Against Corruption organized by the ICPC in conjunction with the Nigerian Bar Association, Osogbo Branch, which was held recently in Osogbo Osun State.

The University Don said that the move by the ICPC - through the Systems Study and Review mandate of the Commission to encourage professional bodies in the country to always ensure that the provisions of their Codes of Ethics were adequately implemented, was a sure way to achieving zero tolerance for corruption in the land.

He is of the view that, if Professional Bodies, through these Codes of Ethics could monitor strictly the conduct of their members professionally, ensuring that the right things were done at the right time, corruption would be reduced to the barest minimum.

Representative of the Acting Chairman of ICPC at the conference, and Head, ICPC Osun State office, Mr. Basil Momodu, had in his opening remarks, maintained that, the theme of the conference: Endemic Corruption in Nigeria: The Way Out, was chosen to emphasize the fact that there is still much to be done in the fight against corruption. "it is not an admission that the anticorruption agencies are not doing their best in the fight against corruption neither is it an admission of the fact that the problem of corruption defies solution but it is to provoke thoughts at evolving realistic, pragmatic and people driven strategies for the fight against the scourge of corruption which is the main purpose for this meeting of professional bodies", he said.

The ICPC Osun State office Chief pointed out that, the fight against corruption could only succeed if Nigerians at all levels stop paying lip service to the fight, change their corrupt ways and embrace integrity, transparency and accountability as the only way forward to national honour and prosperity.

The Chairman, NBA Osogbo Branch, Mrs.

Toyin Adejoke observed with dismay that government officials at the helm of affairs, who were expected to make things work for the country were themselves corrupt. She however warned that irrespective of the call for equal representation in governance, those elected or selected for public offices, should emerge on the basis of competence and not by the mere fact that "one is either a man or a woman, but that laws should be administered equally."

Other discussants at the conference include: the Chairman Nigerian Union of Journalists, Osun State, Alhaji Ayodele Jimoh, Chairman Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) Obafemi Awolowo University Ile-Ife Dr. Ife Adewumi, Chairman Nigerian Society of Engineers, Ile-Ife, Dr. Adelana Adetunji and the ICAN President Osun Chapter.

ICPC PARTNERS WITH FTA ON TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY INDEX

By Mustapha M Hussain

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) is partnering with the Foundation for Transparency and Accountability (FTA) for the creation of Transparency and Accountability Index for State Governments, Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies in their execution of contracts and observance of due process.

This was disclosed at a One Day interactive session with the head of Education department ICPC, Mrs Rasheedat Okoduwa and members of FTA at the Foundation's secretariat in Abuja.

Mrs Okoduwa commended the efforts of the FTA for the strides it has made in the fight against Corruption in Nigeria and for the courage and openness it has displayed by inviting the ICPC to scrutinize its activities.

Impressed with the programmmes and initiatives of the Foundation which include a 5,000 man march against Corruption, Transparency and Accountability Awards and free Anti-Corruption capacity building, Mrs Okoduwa said the foundation will be included in the ICPC showcase of NGOs.

Also speaking during the interactive session, Mr Demola Bakare and Mrs Azuka Ogugua, from the Education Department of the

ICPC commended FTA for initiatives like the Transparency and Accountability Index, and urged them to extend the Transparency and Accountability Awards to Organisations in the Private Sector.

The Programme Coordinator of the FTA, Musa Dachung thanked the ICPC for honouring their invitation and pledged continuous collaboration with the ICPC in the fight against Corruption in Nigeria.

2011 GENERAL ELECTIONS; ICPC SENDS 74 OBSERVERS

By Folu Olamiti

Seventy four members of staff of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) were engaged as observers in the 2011 General Elections in 37 states including the Federal Capital Territory

This is in line with the ICPC collaboration with INEC to ensure the integrity of the conduct of 2011 elections including voting, counting, collation and declaration of the results

Sending forth the ICPC observers shortly before the elections, the Acting Chairman AIG Dr. Abang Wushishi (rtd) admonished them to be good ambassadors and urged them not to expose themselves to undue risk. She reminded them that as observers they were expected to observe and record events at polling stations, collation centers and payment points

In her remark, the Co-Chairperson, INEC/ICPC, Mrs. R. A. Okoduwa tutored the observers on their responsibilities as well as code of conduct, and reminded them to be neutral and non-partisan, to wear the observers identification tag issued by INEC and carry ICPC ID cards, to bring irregularities to the attention of the election officers. She also told them not to pre-judge election outcomes and not to accept any gift or favours from anyone.



PUBLIC ENLIGHTENMENT DEPARTMENT ORGANISES WORKSHOP FOR ITS STAFF

By Confidence Chichi Onwuchuruba

To freshen the memory of old staff and enlighten them on new developments in the media world and techniques of report writing so as to better equip them for carrying out their work, the public enlightenment department of the ICPC recently organized a one day workshop for its staff.

Resource Persons invited for the workshop were Hajiya Medina Dauda Nadabo, a consultant for Kiss FM radio station working with Voice of America, Abimbola Yusuf Deputy Director Programs with Voice of Nigeria, Mr. Martins Oloja, The Bureau Chief of Guardian Newspapers in Abuja and the northern states, as well as Sola Atere and Ben Nwordi of the NTA Headquarters.

Delivering the first paper titled "Media Relations", Mr. Yusuf explained that media relations is the relationship an organization has with journalists which goes a long way to portray the public's view of the organization since the media gives the public the image it has about any organization by what it says about the organization. Media relations, he continued, involve working with various media bodies for the purpose of informing the public of an organization's mission, policies and practices. He explained that without the media, it would be impossible for an organization like ICPC to reach the people with its anti-corruption message.

Explaining why good media relations is important, Mr. Yusuf said maximizing positive coverage of an organization's activities without necessarily paying for it and having the opportunity to say one's own side of the story should controversy arise in an organization are some of the benefits good media relations can bring.

The challenges he said that are associated with the media include the fact that the media cannot be controlled and they have ultimate power to decide if stories sent to them will be aired or published as the case may be. He however emphasized that media officers in an organization must work hand in hand with the mass media to build public support.

On ways to improve media relations, the speaker said the first thing to consider is choosing an appropriate reporter, adding that the personality of the media officers will either attract or repel journalists. He emphasized that a

social and welcoming attitude is always appealing to journalists who will be more inclined to cooporate with such officers even at the shortest notice.

Medina Dauda Nadabo, the second speaker from Kiss FM spoke on "What makes a story news worthy". According to the speaker, news is communication of selected information and this can be done through print or electronic media. She said the major factors that make a story news worthy are its timeliness, significance, proximity to the people and the prominence of those involved.

On how to send information for radio reports, she said news meant for the radio must be very descriptive, explaining that the intended audience should be able to form a mental picture of what they hear. On how to write press releases, she explained that the information must be as concise as possible and put in a logical order. Press releases also, she said, must carry fresh information, should not be opinionated, should have an apt title and should not contain inaccuracies.

The third speaker, Mr. Martins Oloja said the first thing anyone given an ICPC appointment should do is get acquainted with the ICPC Act. This, he said, will help keep the person armed to defend and say what the Commission stands for whenever the need arises.

According to him, a good understanding of the structure of the Nigerian mass media will help to ensure that news releases are sent out in a manner that would not offend anyone especially those with the responsibility of publishing them to avoid keeping the information aside. He cautioned that we Nigerians are more tribe conscious and religious minded than we accept. Media officers must therefore take into account the different religions of news editors before sending across information to them.

The speaker emphasized that the Nigerian media is hugely under-capitalized and encouraged the media officers to show understanding with journalists, adding that journalists should not only be contacted when there's news but the media officers should show concern for their welfare even when there's nothing happening so as to create a good relationship between both parties.

Many questions were raised in the course of the interactive session and the speakers gave adequate responses. Responding to one of the questions raised about the best means of communication across the Nigerian people of various regions, Mr. Oloja said *Daily Trust* sells better in the northern parts of the country; *The Sun* reaches the Eastern states conveniently, while *The Guardian* is a sure way to reach the Political and Business class. He said another good way to reach the people of the North is the Radio, for it is a tradition amongst many to listen to radio first thing in the morning.

Participants confessed at the end of the workshop that they had learnt more from the Resource Persons than they did in the classroom.

Earlier in his remarks, the secretary to the Commission, Mr. Elvis Oglafa commended the HOD and staff of the department for initiating the workshop and urged them to uphold the good image of the Commission. Stressing the need for self improvement, the Secretary said the Commission wants all members of staff trained to be the best they can be and as such will continue to sponsor training both locally and internationally for staff.

In his closing remarks, the Head of Department Mr. Mike Sowe said with the track record of the Resources Persons invited and the knowledge they had impacted on the staff of the Department, he was confident that there will be great improvement in their work henceforth. He thanked the Resource Persons and beckoned on them to be available when next the Department come calling.

ICPC PRESENTS 2011 BUDGET PROPOSAL BEFORE SENATE COMMITTEE

By Confidence Chichi Onwuchuruba

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on Drugs, Narcotics, Financial crimes and Anti-Corruption Senator Sola Akinyede has expressed concern over the non-computerization of the ICPC's operations as well as the delay in acquiring a permanent site for the Commission.

Speaking at the presentation and defense of the Commission's 2011 budget before the Committee at the National Assembly, Senator Akinyede stressed that computerization of the Commission's operations would make for speedy and efficient work and urged members of the Commission not to delay any further in achieving it. He also said more emphasis should be placed on training the staff in line with international standards and advised that recurrent expenses should be reduced so that capital projects would be better funded. He said the Commission should emphasize these

changes while adjusting the 2011 budget proposal.

In his contribution, a member of the Committee, Senator Jibril Aminu observed that with the Capital expenditure of the ICPC representing only 0.15 percent of the 2011 budget proposal, the implication is that the Commission was not growing or expanding as expected.

Presenting the 2010 budget performance, the secretary to the Commission, Mr. Elvis Oglafa said the Overhead and Personnel Cost recorded 100% performance each while the capital performance stood at 47%. He added that the reason for the low Capital performance was the late release of funds which were released only in January 2011 and assured the Committee members that the Commission will exhaust the balance of the funds for capital before March 31st the deadline for completion of its 2010 projects given that there are ongoing capital projects such as the ICPC Academy which will be completed soon.

The members of the Commission present were the acting chairman Dr. Uriah Angulu, Chief Simeon Oguntimehin, Dame Julie Nwariaku, Dr. Rose Abang- wushishi and Bako Abdullahi.

PAT UTOMI DECORATED PATRON OF NAVC

By John Okor Odev

Erudite Professor of Finance, Business Management and Director of the Lagos Business School, Professor Patrick Utomi has been decorated Patron of the National Anti-Corruption Volunteer Corps (NAVC), by the Lagos Chapter of the Volunteer Corps.

Speaking on Thursday 24th February, 2011 at the Centre for Management Development CMD Shangisha, Lagos during the one day election Sensitization Programme against rigging put together by volunteers Against Rigging and Multiple Voting (VARM) in conjunction with the NAVC Lagos State chapter, Professor Utomi decried the seeming docility of Nigerian youths in the face of large scale corruption against our collective dreams and aspirations.

In his speech titled "The Youth Must Rise Against Corruption to Retrieve their Future from the jaws of Death" Utomi paid tribute to the youth of Tunisia and Egypt for their courage in holding their leaders accountable and demanding for change. He wondered why in the face of massive youth unemployment, massive and mindless display of wealth by public officials occasioned by massive corruption, the streets are not overflowing

with angry young protesters in Nigeria.

He challenged the youth to confront corruption in the country by demanding explanation for why the huge foreign reserves have disappeared with no improvement in infrastructure or quality of life of citizens.

In accepting his decoration as Patron of the NAVC, Professor Utomi praised the National Anti-Corruption Volunteer Corps for its strides so far in the struggle to create a better Nigeria. He pledged to make himself available to both the NAVC and VARM in the discharge of his duties as patron. He urged all involved in the Anti-Corruption Crusade to walk the talk saying "that Nigeria has to rise from the ashes of corruption in a new birth of integrity because righteousness exalts a nation"

Shortly before Utomi's decoration, Mr. Sampson Iroka who represented the Lagos State head of the ICPC, had in an address thanked Professor Utomi for accepting to serve as patron of the NAVC, saying that the NAVC and indeed the Nation stand to benefit greatly from Professor Utomi's wealth of experience, contacts and knowledge. Mr. Iroka explained the role played by Patrons of NAVC in line with the NAVC's standing order.

Mr. Iroka and the State Co-ordinator of NAVC, Ambassador Akin Gbadejogbin thereafter decorated Professor Utomi.

CROWN AGENTS U.K SEEK COLLABORATION WITH ICPC

By Atiku Muhammad Tanko.

The top management staff of the Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offences Commission and some officials of the Crown Agents,a United Kingdom Organisation with an outlet in Nigeria recently held an interactive forum, to find ways of collaboration in the areas capacity building, Public Finance Management, Procurement and Supply and other courses within Nigeria and the United Kingdom.

Mr. Charles Okah and Mr. Isaac, the Marketing manager and the head of Financial Training respectively explained that their collaboration with the ICPC would help the Commission in its herculean task of fighting corruption in Nigeria, adding that the training programme can be tailored towards achieving

the Commission's mandate.

The head of Business Development, Mr. Stuart Ponder, further explained that their foreign courses would create an opportunity for exchange of information, and drawing of action plans, among other areas.

The head of investigation department ICPC Mr. Sotonye Wakama, and the Assistant Director administration Mallam Sule Yahaya expressed interest in the areas of training highlighted by the officials, while Mrs. Habiba Umar of the Commission's training Unit requested for a discount on the amount slated for each training.

The Secretary to the Commission Mr. Elvis Oglafa vouched for the competence of the Crown Court Agents having attended one of their training programmes in the past. He indicated that the Commission may sponsor its staff to attend courses on Procurement, good governance, and organizational integrity, areas which he noted are integral to the achievement of ICPC's mandate.

ICPC URGES UNI ABUJA, BUK STUDENTS TO JOIN THE ANTI GRAFT CAMPAIGN

By Atiku Muhammad Tanko and Ani Chinenye Thelma

The Assistant Director, Education department of the ICPC, Mallam Ashiru Baba has called on Nigerian Students to participate actively in the anti corruption campaign as a way of safeguarding a better future for themselves. He made the call while receiving members of the University of Abuja branch of the National Association of Political Science Students who were on a fact finding visit to the ICPC.

Mallam Baba emphasized the need for the Nigerian youth to consider the anti graft war as a personal crusade because they constitute over fifty percent of the population and are most likely to suffer from the evil effects of corruption.

The President of the association, Mr. Olusegun Barnabas explained among other things that their visit was prompted by their concern for the damage corruption has caused in Nigeria, adding that as future leaders of this country it was in their best interest to collaborate with Agencies that are fighting the menace.

Mrs. Azuka Oguguo of the Education department further highlighted the role of the youth in the anti corruption campaign and urged them to become agents of positive change in the society.

The Accounting Students Association of Bayero University Kano also paid a similar visit to the ICPC. While welcoming them to the Commission, Mallam Ashiru Baba called on the students to shun examination malpractices which include impersonation, paying to get good results, buying results, and lack of integrity. He urged the students to be of good conduct and to act as role models worthy of emulation, resisting corruption at all times and always displaying integrity as the future leaders of tomorrow.

In her presentation, Mrs. Azuka Ogugua, gave the students a general overview of the duties of the Commission as set out in section 6 of the ICPC Act. She stated that the Commission is trying to ensure that Corruption is fought and won, not only in the education sector, but in all sectors

The president of the Association Mustapha Bello, expressed satisfaction with the quality of knowledge imparted in them, promising that they would always try to live above board as active anti-corruption crusaders that are ready to partner with the Commission.

MISSION STATEMENT

To highlight and present activities of the Commission in an objective manner and to serve as the most authoritative voice in exposing corruption through-out Nigeria.

CITIZENS' FORUM ON PARTICIPATORY BUDGET HOLDS IN KADUNA

By Edet Ufot

Recently, Citizens from various walks of life in Kaduna gathered to appraise the Kaduna state 2011 budget and to map out strategies for monitoring the implementation of the budget. The event which held at Asa pyramid Hotel was organised by the Civil Liberties Organization and had in attendance representatives of many civil society organizations.

Mr. Okechukwu Igbudu, head of the Kaduna state office of the ICPC who chaired the event praised the conveners of the forum saying that their effort was in line with the Kaduna state ICPC's own budget awareness initiative known as "Operation Know Your Budget", which seeks to deepen transparency and awareness in the budget process.

A Key discussant at the event, Mr. Z.K.A Bonat of the Centre for Population and Development noted the Kaduna state government's 92% increase in the state's health budget for rural hospitals and primary health care over the previous year's but still posited that it was grossly inadequate "because it is still just 6.1% of the total budget for health". He advocated an increase in budgetary allocation for the provision of electricity and water supply to hospitals. According to him; "effective health care cannot be delivered in an unhealthy environment".

Another discussant, Dr. Emmanuel Bonet of AID Foundation, kaduna, took a hard look at the Kaduna state 2011 budget and its stated objectives and declared that a faithful implementation would amount to a " bold step to reform the technical aspects of budget-making in Kaduna state". Some of the stated objectives that excited Dr. Bonet were the government's decision to match expected expenditure profile with expected revenue inflow; a pragmatic arrangement to raise internally generated revenues (IGR); and that internal and external loans appropriated but not realized in the 2010 budget would not be rolled over into the 2011 budget. Dr. Bonet advocated the government's shift from the procurement of chemical fertilizers for agriculture to a development of organic manure which he said is acclaimed to be cheaper and more environmentally friendly.

Various speakers at the event praised the government's seeming sincerity but condemned the obvious lack of crucial details in the budget.

ICPC HOSTS BOOK READING EVENT

YOUNG SCOUTS VISIT TO ICPC ON FOUNDER'S ANNIVERSARY DAY

Atiku Tanko & Maryam Mu'azu.

Hundreds of students from secondary schools within the Federal Capital Territory recently gathered at the auditorium of the ICPC to see and listen to the 2010 Commonwealth prize winner for literature Ms Adaobi Tricia Nwaubani as she read some passages from her book "I DO NOT COME TO YOU BY CHANCE" The occasion was a special Book Reading session hosted by the Commission in collaboration with the Writers' Squad(Aroja Concept), aimed at reviving and encouraging the culture of reading among students and the society at large.

While welcoming participants, ICPC Secretary Mr. Elvis Oglafa admonished the students to imbibe the culture of reading which can broaden their horizon of knowledge and writing skills. The head of sharpen their education department, Mrs Rasheedat Okoduwa explained the functions and mandate of the ICPC and emphasized the importance of education and public enlightenment to the realization of the enforcement and prevention mandate. She described the Book Reading event as crucial to the mental and moral development of the Nigerian youth and wrapped it up with Theodore Roosevelt's words-"to educate a person in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to the society'

The Author of the book Miss Adaobi Nwaubani read an excerpt from her book which clearly depicts the scourge of corruption in the society and how it affects the nation. She said she took it upon herself to write the book because she feels corruption has eaten the society so deeply, adding that by reading it, the younger ones will know the ills of corruption.

The interactive session was perhaps the highlight of the event as students presented their own impressions of the characters in the book and their roles in perpetrating corruption in the society.

At the end of the event, the Commission bought 350 copies for distribution to secondary schools in Abuja.

Your **NO** counts say **NO** to corruption

Atiku Muhammad Tanko.

The Members of the scouts Association of Nigeria, Asokoro District, paid a courtesy visit to the Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offences Commission (ICPC) recently as part of activities to commemorate the annual Scout Founder's day which is 22nd February.

In his welcome address, the Assistant Director Education, Mallam Ashiru Baba, highlighted the functions and mandate of the ICPC and explained terms like: extortion, bribery and corruption. He advised the young Scouts to desist from acts of indiscipline, lateness, lying and wickedness.

Mr. Justin Kutsea, representing the Planning Research and Review department, admonished the future leaders of tomorrow to be beneficial to themselves and the community.

The Group Scout master, Mr. U.S Nathaniel gave the vote of thanks, expressing his elation at the commission's warm reception, enlightenment and entertainment provided for the young scouts.

A staff of the ICPC is vested with all the powers, privileges and immunities of a police officer, under the police Act and any other laws conferring power on the police, or empower ing and protecting the law enforcement agents in accordance with S.5(1) of Act No.5 of 2000

ICPC TRAINS NYSC MEMBERS NATION WIDE

By Sani Tukur Tarauni (In Sokoto)

As part of its efforts towards inculcating the virtue of integrity into the minds of Nigerian youths; the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) recently embarked on a training exercise of Batch "A" NYSC corps members deployed to the 37 orientation camps nationwide; including that of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

The training is part of the Commission's collaboration with NYSC to fight the malaise of corruption in Nigeria by engaging the youth Corps members in the crusade against corruption.

This year's National Youth Service Corps Orientation Camp exercise marked the 38 years of its existence, since General Yakubu Gowon inaugurated the laudable scheme in 1973.

The objective of the NYSC scheme is to infuse the spirit of work ethics into the Nigerian youths, after graduation from universities and other tertiary institutions, and to enable them interact with their fellow citizens in other parts of the country.

The scheme also serves as an avenue for youths to appreciate and benefit more from ideas, beliefs and the social activities of various ethnic groups in the country.

The Commission's involvement in the NYSC Orientation Camp activities started in September, 2002. The activities include delivery of sensitization lectures, training, enlistment of youths corps members into NAVC, formation of NYSC CD clubs and other youths related projects.

The programme also provides the ICPC window of opportunities towards attaining the grassroots participation of Nigerians through mass mobilization and re-orientation towards a corruption free Nation.

At Jega in kebbi State and Sokoto Orientation camps the NAVC training and Sensitization lectures were delivered by the information and legal Officers of Sokoto State office. The lecture titled "Stemming the Tide of Corruption: The Role of the Youths" challenged the youth Corps Members to serve with utmost integrity in their respective places of primary assignment, so as to stem the tide of corruption in our society.

They were called upon to sensitize and mobilize the public through the National Anti -

Corruption Volunteer Corps (NAVC) wherever they may find themselves.

They were further reminded that NAVC is an initiative of the Commission aimed at enlisting Nigerians who feel strongly against the evils of corruption; and want to take positive action against its menace. It is a vehicle for mass mobilization and sensitization against corruption and all volunteer members are expected to be the vanguard of the demand for integrity, transparency and accountability at various levels of governance.

A total of 1,403 NYSC Corps Members were deployed to Jega Orientation Camp, Kebbi State as 2011 Batch "A" Youth Corps Members.

At the end of programme, 77 Corps Members were trained as volunteers and foot soldiers under the auspices of the National Anti-Corruption Volunteer Corps (NAVC).

THE BEAUTY OF CATCHING THEM YOUNG

By Confidence Chichi Onwuchuruba

The inauguration of Anti-corruption Clubs in schools was partly an initiative of Corps members acting under the umbrella of the National Anti-corruption Volunteers Corps (NAVC), an organ of the ICPC established to foster public participation in the anti-corruption crusade.

The Anti-corruption Clubs have proved to be a veritable tool in inculcating the appreciation of integrity in youths. The objectives of the Club include fighting corruption in all its forms.

In Ola Oluwa Grammar School in Ado-Ekiti, this initiative has paid off tremendously. The series of seminars and awareness programs organized by the Corps members have helped the students understand from their youthful age the ills of fraud, examination malpractice, looting, greed, selfishness and other social vices. It has also helped them develop a strong resolve to guard and fight against these vices as best as they can. The slogan of the club is "fight corruption, corruption is evil". The activities of the club are actively monitored by their Principal, Mrs. T.M. Akinyede.

To further encourage better participation in the activities of the club and the internalization of its objectives, quiz competitions are regularly organized by the umbrella body for all the ICPC Clubs in various schools round the federation. It is on record that the Ola Oluwa Grammar School has performed credibly well in essay competitions both at zonal and state levels winning many prizes

for the school. Two of its students Aisha Ibrahim and Akinola Sarah, have been of exceptional performances in these competitions.

The club in the school has been doing well but the officials of the school are convinced that it will be better encouraged if vests and caps with the ICPC logo are given to them as a symbol of their membership. They can wear these while going for their meetings as a sign of their identity which will help to pass the message they preach to those around them. Also regular monitoring of the club by members of the umbrella body, the ICPC, would go a long way to strengthen its resolve to do better.

ICPC PARLEYS WITH ACTUS

Atiku Muhammad Tanko

Selected Anti-Corruption and Transparency Monitoring Units (ACTUs) in Ministries, Departments and Agencies, (MDAS') recently met with ICPC officials to rub minds and proffer solutions to the entrenched menace of corruption and other problems being expressed by the Units.

Eleven organizations including the National Youth Service Corps, National Primary Health Care Agency; Petroleum Equalization Fund; Corporate Affairs Commission; Security Exchange Commission; National Communications Commission; Energy Commission of Nigeria; Kuje Area Council; Bureau for Public Enterprises; Ministry of Interior; Federal Housing Authority were invited for the session.

In his welcome address, Mr. B.B Gaji, said: "the MDAS' were chosen based on their lackadaisical attitude to the effective running of their Anti-corruption and Transparency Monitoring Units (ACTUs) in their various organizations." He recalled that a circular from the office of the Head of Service of the Federation, makes inauguration of ACTU in every Ministry, Department and Agency mandatory.

The Secretary to the Commission, Mr. E. Oglafa, emphasized that ACTU is precious to the ICPC and the Nation at large adding that even though over 400 MDA'S have ACTUs, these ACTU are feeble and paralyzed. This is why he said ICPC is restrategizing to invigorate the ACTUs via a capacity building within and outside the country. He said Donor Agencies

have indicated there interests in funding the ACTUs and noted that the French Embassy has pledged giving financial support to the forth-coming ACTU summit.

The representative of ACTU from National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) apologized on behalf of the Head of ACTU, who was absent along with his colleagues, because of their presence on N.Y.S.C camps. She further admitted that the ACTU in N.Y.S.C was inaugurated only a few weeks earlier.

Mrs. Abimbola Kuro (Head of ACTU) Bureau for Public Enterprises gave a synopsis of the activities of B.P.E, and highlighted its activities which include rigorous scrutiny fair play and transparency, signing of Bids; Bids openings; aptitude test recruitment; seminars and workshops organized by ICPC and other anti-graft organization and system study.

The spokes person of the National Primary Health Care Agency, said the ACTU supervises and monitors technical care system in the Local Government Areas; sensitizes staff and contractors on the ills of corruption and attends seminars, workshops, organized by ICPC. The Chair person (ACTU) Petroleum Equalisation Fund said the, ACTU is new in the organization and in spite of that: it attends seminars organized by ICPC, including an anti-corruption workshop in the United Kingdom. He stressed the problems the ACTU members face with top management officials who don't understand the role of the unit.

Mr. Kunle Omobole, of the ACTU in Corporate Affairs Commission; Mr. Abatcha Bulama of Security Exchange Commision; Mr. Tony Ojobo; of Nigeria Communications Commission; Dr Joseph Diaho of Energy Commission of Nigeria and Mr. Idris Muhammed of Federal Housing Authourity, all spoke on the activities of their units

The representative from Kuje Area Council admitted that the ACTU is epileptic and needs resuscitation. While the ACTU representative Mrs. Emmabang Equere from Ministry of Interior confessed that the ACTU once existed and needs to be resuscitated and re constituted.

The Head, Planning Research and Review Department Mr. BB Gaji, did not concur with the reasons reeled out by most ACTU in the MDAS'. He pledged there has to be collaboration between ICPC and organizations to fortify funding ACTUs in all MDAs and stated that new desk officers would be assigned to liaise between ICPC and the organizations and demanded full participation in the ACTU summits taking place in Minna and Yenegoa respectively. He gave all the participants the ACTU Standing Orders to be given to the Top

FROM THE ANTI-CORRUPTION UNITS

management of the MDAS'.

The representative of the Head of Service appraised the session and affirmed that this kind of sitting would strengthen the ACTUs in the MDAS' and improve the awareness campaign of the Government.

Mr. Kennedy Ebhotemen, of the Planing Research and Review Department, gave the closing remarks and expressed the hope that the interactive session would improve the performance of the ACTUs

FIVE ANTI-CORRUPTION CLUBS INAUGURATED IN ALKALERI LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF BAUCHI STATE

By Bello Ibrahim

To enlist the public support of youth particularly in secondary schools across the federation in the fight against corruption, the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) introduced numerous programmes which include the inauguration of anti-corruption Clubs in Secondary Schools.

The Zonal Office of ICPC Bauchi under the leadership of Mr. Adigun Bamidele and the Education Officer Mr. Basheru Godwin recently inaugurated five (5) Anti-corruption Clubs in five (5) secondary schools in Alkaleri Local Government in Bauchi State. The schools are Government Girls Arabic College Alkaleri, Government Day Secondary School Alkaleri and Government Junior Secondary School Alkaleri. Others are Government Secondary School Duguri and Lawal Community Secondary School Gwaram.

In his key note address, the Vice-Principal of Government Girls Arabic College Mallam Mohammed A. Maikasuwa who represented the principal of the school showed their appreciation for choosing their school as a host, and also assured that they will give all the necessary support for the club to function effectively.

The Bauchi Zonal Head Mr. Olusegun Adigun spoke on the 'Overview of the ICPC Act 2000'. Mr. Adigun enjoined the students to study very hard and avoid mixing with bad company so that they may become very useful to the society. He highlighted the provisions of the Act as well as the mandate of the Commission.

Mrs. Clare Brown-Iferi, a staff of the Zonal Office presented a paper titled 'The Ideals, Functions and Roles of Members of Anticorruption Clubs in Secondary Schools'. She said that the establishment of the club was an opportunity for its members to work hand in hand with the ICPC by gradually re-orientating the minds of their fellow students, educating them about the ills of corruption (especially examination malpractice) and also to inculcate sound work ethics in the students so that they will begin to appreciate the maxim "there is dignity in labour".

She further advised them to show good level of discipline and high level of integrity so that others can emulate them as examples on whatever they are doing.

In his remarks, the President of ICPC/NAVC/NYSC CDS Group Mr. Abiodun Awosanya expressed their gratitude over the gesture shown to them by the Zonal Office in making the event a glamorous one.

There was also a question-and-answer session where issues bordering on the mandate of the Commission and other germane issues were addressed.

The Fear
Of The Lord
Is Wisdom,
To Shun
Corruption
Is
Understanding

ATBU TEACHING HOSPITAL INAUGURATES ACTU

By Bello Ibrahim

The Anti-corruption and Transparency Unit (ACTU) of the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University Teaching Hospital Bauchi has been inaugurated.

The Acting Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) Dr. Uriah Angulu who was represented at the occasion by Barrister E. A. Shogunle from Prosecution Department, called on the members to operate as watchdogs on corruption and other related offences in their establishment.

He added that members of ACTU are expected to perform the duties of ICPC as enshrined in the Corrupt Practices Act 2000, except that of arrest and prosecution which are to be reported to the Commission.

Alhaji Musa Alkali who represented the Department of PRR presented a paper on the Operations of ACTU in MDAs. Others who presented papers at the inauguration include the Bauchi Zonal Head, Mr. Oluwasegun Adigun on 'The Methods and Strategies of Preliminary Investigation'.

Also speaking at the inauguration, Suleiman Mohammed Audu who is the Secretary of the ACTU Committee in the Federal Ministry of Health Abuja highlighted the role of ACTUs in MDAs for national development. He charged the Committee members and staff of the hospital to shun all forms of corruption that will affect the smooth running of the services in the hospital for the betterment of people. Members were charged to live above board and discharge their duties with honesty and integrity.

ANTI-CORRUPTION VOLUNTEER STUDENTS SENSITIZE COMMUNITIES

By Condita Uwaya

Members of the National Anti-Corruption Volunteer Corps (NAVC) in Omoluorogbo Grammer School, Akure have embarked on anti-corruption awareness campaign admonishing the people to imbibe the spirit of integrity.

The Coordinator of the group, Pastor Jayesimi Aiye said the group's decision to

embark on the project was informed by its conviction that for the war against corruption to be effective, it must be fought by everyone and from every angle.

He also said that the Group believes that the fight should not be left for government and antigraft agencies alone, saying it is the responsibility of every Nigerian, irrespective of age, status and gender not only to expose corruption but also to ensure that corruption is reduced to its barest minimum in Nigeria.

The NAVC Coordinator said the school chapter, which also has teaching staff as members has come to stay not only in Omoluorogbo but in Ondo state.

"We have exposed and will continue to stand as barrier against examination malpractices in the school" he added.

He thanked the ICPC for providing them with the platform to be involved in the fight against corruption, promising to ensure that members themselves abide by NAVC operational guidelines.



DO YOU WISH TO REPORT ANY ACT OF CORRUPTION?

You must consider the fight against corruption a personal cause. It is a struggle for the betterment of our lives as individuals, as a nation and for generations yet unborn. The battle must be approached collectively, tenaciously and holistically with all the seriousness and doggedness it deserves.

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 states and addresses:

- **OYO**: No.19B University crescent, Old Bodija Estate, Ibadan
- **LAGOS**: No. 10 Okotie Eboh Street Ikoyi-Lagos
- **KADUNA**: No. 7 Wurno Road Malali-Kaduna
- **KANO**: No. 417 Shehu Kazaure Street, Off Mohammed Road Hotoro GRA, Kano
- <u>BAUCHI</u>: Plot 10946 Yahaya Abubakar Link, Off Federal Secretariat Road, GRABauchi
- **EDO**: No. 81 Boundary Road, Benin City.

- **KOGI**: Behind the State Secretariat, Off Barracks Road Lokoja.
- ENUGU: No. 55B Ezilo Street Independence Layout, Enugu.
- **BENUE**: Along Ochagwu Lawani Street, Off Otukpo Road, New GRA Makurdi.
- <u>SOKOTO</u>: No. 18 Sama Road Gwiwa Layout Sokoto.
- **IMO**: Plot 100 Works Layout, Sister N. Ajaelu Street Owerri.
- **AKWA IBOM:** No. 55D Line Ewet Housing Estate Uyo.
- OSUN: No B382 Imo Akure Road, Ilesa
- ADAMAWA: Former P.T.F. Office, Sir Kashim Imam Way, Yola, Adamawa State.

You may also report through the following telephone numbers 09-6286717, 09-6286691, 09-6286956.

Visit our website at: www.icpc.gov.ng

With every genuine report forwarded to the ICPC, the corrupt are brought to book. Report a corrupt act today.

WEEKLY UP-DATE OF CRIMINAL CASES IN VARIOUS COURTS HANDLED BY PROSECUTION DEPARTMENT, ICPC - ABUJA

CHARGE NO	TITLE OF CASE	COURT	STATE	STATUS	DATE
	FRN V. SGT. PETER ABBAH	H/C JOS	PLATEAU	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	19&20/01/2011
CR/96/2010	FRN V. UMARU ALIYU & ANOR	HC FCT	ABUJA	FOR ARRAIGNMENT	24/01/2011
A/ICPC/2C/2007	FRN V. AUSTIN BEBETEIDOH	H/C SAPELE	DELTA	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	24&25/01/2011
NSD/LF 13C/10	FRN V. ABDULHAMEED YAKUBU KWARRA	H/C LAFIA	NASAARAWA	FOR ARRAIGNMENT	26/01/2011
KDH.KAD/I/ICPC/07	FRN V. PROF. LAMIDO TANKO ZARIA & ANOR	H/C KADUNA	KADUNA	FOR HEARING OF MOTION	27/01/2011
BA/29/2008	FRN V. AUGUSTINE C. OKONKWO & ANOR	H/C KADUNA	KADUNA	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	27/01/2011
HC/37C/2009	FRN V. IBRAHIM MOH'D & 3 ORS	H/C BAUCHI	BAUCHI	APPLICATION FOR LEAVE	27/01/2010
	FRN V. HON KALASALE STANLEY & ANOR	H/C YENAGOA	BAYELSA	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	27&28/01/2010
	FRN V. DR. MICHAEL ESSEYIN	H/C KOTON KARFE	KOGI	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	31/01/2010
KDH/KAD/1C/ICPC/10	FRN V. GAMGARI TOYIN SULEIMAN & ANOR	H/C KADUNA	KADUNA	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	1&2/2/2011
HU/79C/2010	FRN V. JULIE WOKOCHA & ANOR	H/C UMUAHIA	ABIA	FOR ARRAIGNMENT	7/2/2011
KTH /20C/2010	FRN V. MOH'D TASIU YAMEL	H/C KATSINA	KATSINA	FOR DEFINITE HEARING	8/2/2011

COMPILED BY: MARKUS ILIYA (Legal Dept. ICPC)



DO NOT GIVE OR TAKE

BBBBE

Report any corrupt act to the ICPC