

**COMMUNIQUE ON CITIZENS' ENGAGEMENT IN BUDGET PROCESS TO STRENGTHEN  
STATE GOVERNMENT THROUGH EFFECTIVE AND IMPACTIVE PLANNING AND  
BUDGETING SYSTEM TO ENHANCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ORGANISED BY BUDGET  
DIRECTORATE, MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HELD AT  
BANQUET HALL ILORIN, ON 10TH DECEMBER 2019.**

***PREAMBLE***

The support of the Executive Governor of Kwara State His Excellency, Mallam Abdulrahman Abdulrasaq in making this interaction a reality being first of its kind in the history of Kwara State, is highly appreciated and commendable. The unwavering commitment of His Excellency towards rebuilding Kwara State of our dream by creating an enabling environment for Kwara citizens to have input in budgetary process, through consultation on programs and activities of the Government, will go a long way to accelerate the socio-economic development and improve well-being of Kwarans.

Thus, without doubt year 2020 budget will form a comprehensive framework for the development of Kwara State, which will meet the aspirations of the people in the state coupled with the outlined priority policy strategies by the government in the areas of education, health, water, work, and agriculture. The essence of the meeting is to increase openness, transparency and citizens' engagement in the budget process. The engagement of citizens in budgetary process is one of the eligibility criteria of the World Bank States Fiscal, Transparency, Accountability, and Sustainability (SFTAS) program for result. The program was to have Citizens' input in Budgetary Process, for Inclusive Transparency, Accountability, which will drastically reduce government inefficiency, give marginalized and excluded groups the opportunity to have their voice heard and to influence public decision-making on budget developmental issues which are vital to their interest.

However, we appreciate the effort of the Kwara State Government for its intervention and support for having this kind of direct public link into budget

process in the history of Kwara State. If the meeting is sustained and effectively adhered to, Kwara State will be better off.

The following resolutions were agreed upon during the meeting viz.

- 1.0 There is need for Kwara State Internal Revenue Service to be encouraged as a matter of urgency to improve on revenue generation and block the leakages. The Kwarans should cooperate to achieve increased Internal Generated Revenue (IGR).
- 2.0 There should be a long term plan which will be capable of addressing the dimensional challenges facing the people of the state and it will be a type of plan that shall reflect the framework of National Agenda towards attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 3.0 The design of the proposed plan should set out policy options to provide a clear road map required to revamp the Kwara State Economy and place it on the path of Sustainable Development Goals.
- 4.0 The Plan should embrace the current reality and needs of Kwarans via political will and readiness.
- 5.0 The plan should spell out the initiatives to embrace the diversity of Kwara Economy via investment mobilization, employment generation, poverty eradication and wealth creation, it should also ensure effective relationship between the public and the private sectors
- 6.0 There is need to accommodate the views of the people and be considered in the budgetary preparation as expected
- 7.0 His Excellency Executive Governor of Kwara State, stated that the Labour Union should always be in attendance during budget defence for them to understand more about the situation of minimum wage agitation and the process. He further said that, all the projects being awarded will be monitored by the State House of Assembly and the next year Pre-Budget preparation will be conducted on Senatorial basis in order to bring Budget closer to the people at grass-root level. He pledged to resuscitate shonga farms.
- 8.0 It was advised that copy of prepared Budget should be given to Citizens for proper scrutiny in order to enable them contribute to budgetary process as expected.


- 9.0 It was suggested that Government should improve in the following: Provision of Infrastructural Development in the State; Rural access Roads; Agricultural Production Programmes; The Information needed by the NGOs should be provided in order for them to be fully keyed in to the State Budgetary Process.
- 10.0 It was resolved to have Government intervention in Agricultural sector by providing the farmers with Tractors, Planters, Harvesters, and post-invest processing equipments to solve the challenges confronting them and make provision for easy loan to the farmers to boost their Agricultural activities.
- 11.0 It was agreed upon that the State should award contract to the citizens of the State and make it open for public monitoring as well as creating Mekunnu market in three Senatorial districts.
- 12.0 It was suggested that Government should establish a Bureau of Integrated Board for Public Forum for Rural Dweller Complaints.
- 13.0 Journalists should be fully involved in Budget Process to have large coverage, and also advocate for more women journalists to be included in the State Affairs.
- 14.0 KWIRS were notified to avail itself with the opportunities available in tracking ICT online business to boost their revenue generation for the State as being proposed by the Federal Inland Revenue Service.

The participants expressed their Profound gratitude and appreciation to our amiable and reliable Executive Governor of Kwara State, His Excellency Mallam Abdulrahman Abdulrasaq for approving and making this communiqué to see the light of the day. We also extend our appreciation to all MDAs and NGOs for their participation in the program which has contributed to the success of the program. We equally appreciate the resource persons from the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development for their tremendous and wonderful contributions.

Conclusively, the total commitment of our staff is equally commended for their efforts toward the success of the program.

We are grateful to everyone who turned up for the success of this meeting. All the suggestions, recommendations, given shall be considered.

***Thank you all, and remain bless.***



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(Pastor Ade Bodunde)  
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TOWN HALL MEETING ON CITIZENS' ENGAGEMENT IN BUDGET PROCESS  
 ORGANIZED BY BUDGET DIRECTORATE OF MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND  
 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HELD AT BANQUET HALL ILORIN ON 10<sup>TH</sup>  
 DECEMBER, 2019

ATTENDANT LIST FOR NGOs

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1	Frank Oluwalanlehin	CONCED	07067241044	[Signature]
2	Olayun Nicholas	Women & Youth Dev. Institute	07038211875	[Signature]
3	AbdulRahmed Abdul Kareem	O.S.E	0706725520	[Signature]
4	Ibrahim A. Ajayi	MATEC	08066587196	[Signature]
5	Shemire Afolayan	Wp-bodev	07068586251	[Signature]
6	Abdulganiyu Abdul Kareem	MATEC	08130555409	[Signature]
7	Hayla Ibrahim Sheriff	SWIFON	08097485181	[Signature]
8	Pastor Ade Bodunde	Tris Foundation	07064404909	[Signature]
9	Salun Bashim Kehode	M.C.D.O	0816332270	[Signature]
10	Orungbeni Henry Bamijele	HLA CCIR/A	08068593811	[Signature]
11	Suloman Medupe	SWIFON	08060708291	[Signature]
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