

**MINUTES OF THE OGUN STATE CONSULTATIVE VIRTUAL  
SESSION WITH RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS  
ON THE 2020 BUDGET REVISION**

**HELD ON  
THURSDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2020**

**CHIEF HOST:  
HIS EXCELLENCY, THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF OGUN STATE,  
PRINCE (Dr.) DAPO ABIODUN MFR**

## **1.0. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1. The Prince Dapo Abiodun<sup>MFR</sup> - led Administration in Ogun State has consistently been committed to inclusiveness, openness, accountability and transparency in preparation of the State's Annual Budget, as input from the citizenry and stakeholders form a vital part of budget preparation processes. In May 2019, when this Administration assumed Office, during the preparation for the year 2020 Budget, the State Town Hall Meeting for the first time was held in the Three (3) Senatorial Districts having the State Governor as the Chief Host and present in all the 3 Districts. The Town Hall gatherings comprised representatives of relevant stakeholders across the Senatorial Districts that included Trade and Women Associations; Community Development Associations; Religious and Student Bodies; Youth Representatives; Civil Society Organizations and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs); Professional Bodies; Organized Private Sector; Trade Unions and other Stakeholders of the State, e.t.c.
- 1.2. In the course of year 2020, owing to the Covid-19 pandemic globally, it became imperative for the State to work through and come up with a revised budget. This was the essence of the virtual meeting held on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2020 to have input from relevant stakeholders towards the review of this current 2020 budget. The consultative virtual session was anchored by the State Ministry of Budget and Planning, saddled with the preparation of the annual budget and central planning activities in the State.

## **2.0. ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING**

- 2.1. The virtual session had a very good level of over 120 participants across the representatives from the various stakeholders. In attendance were His Excellency, the Executive Governor of the State, Prince Dapo Abiodun<sup>MFR</sup>; Her Excellency, the Deputy Governor of the State, Engr. (Mrs.) Noimot

Salako-Oyedele; the Speaker of the State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Olakunle Oluomo; the Secretary to the State Government, Mr. Tokunbo Talabi; the Head of Service, Alhaja Selimot Olapeju Ottun; the Chief of Staff, Alhaji Salis Shuaib; Honourable Commissioner of Budget & Planning, Mr Olaolu Olabimtan; other Honourable State Commissioners; Honourable Members of the State House of Assembly; the Body of Permanent Secretaries, Special Advisers, Local Government Transition Chairmen; representatives of the Traditional Institutions; Chairmen of Statutory Boards and Commissions; Community Development Associations; All Progressive Congress Party State Chairman and other Chieftains/Representatives of Political Parties; Religious and Student Bodies; Youth Representatives; Civil Society Organizations(CSOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs); Professional Bodies; Organized Private Sector; Trade Unions and other Stakeholders of the State.

### **3.0. OPENING**

The moderator, Mr. Wole Dosumu, signified the commencement of the meeting at 12:30pm with the rendition of both the National and Ogun State Anthems. Thereafter, the opening prayer was offered by the Chairman, Body of Permanent Secretaries and P. S, Bureau of Service Matters, Mr. Kola Peter Fagbohun. The moderator further added that as part of ground rules for the session, participants should kindly signify by a wave of the hand electronically, should they want to make contributions. He also noted that, selected representatives from the various stakeholders would be allowed 3 minutes each to make their remarks to enable the greatest number of participation in view of the time planned for the sensitive programme.

#### **4.0. WELCOME ADDRESS**

- 4.1. The Honourable State Commissioner for Budget and Planning, Mr. Olaolu Olabimtan FCA welcomed everyone to the meeting. He went further to reiterate that the Prince Dapo Abiodun-led Administration in the State was one that was committed to good governance and efficient service delivery. Thus, he explained the reason for the meeting as a platform for valuable interaction with the good people of Ogun State in a bid to engage the citizens and residents to obtain inputs for the review of the 2020 Budget. He noted that, one of the elements of citizens' engagement was to feel the pulse of the people while acknowledging the exigencies of the time we had found ourselves in. For this, he thanked the Governor of the State for his sense of leadership and commitment to this noble course.
- 4.2. Furthermore, he said the pandemic which began as a health issue became a financial crisis while justifying the need for the revision of the 2020 budget largely due to the Covid-19 pandemic affecting everyone including Ogun State. He noted that the pandemic had implications which had thus caused the Y2020 budget put together by all stakeholders at the end of 2019 not to be realistic any longer. To this end, he noted that the Ministry had tried its best to invite as much as possible relevant stakeholders to the interactive session in view of the constraint of the pandemic that did not allow for a physical meeting which had prompted the virtual session. While noting that everyone may not be able to talk, he pleaded with participants to seize the opportunity to send in their comments via the chat box, the Email and Whatsapp provided through the letter of invitation, as these entries would be treated duly. He concluded his address by remarkably thanking everyone for listening.



## **5.0. MODALITIES AND RATIONALE FOR THE 2020 BUDGET REVISION**

- 5.1. While awaiting the State Governor to come online, as a result of an equally important federal meeting, the Honourable State Commissioner for Budget and Planning took the participants through the session. In his address, he restated that the effect of the current Covid-19 pandemic started as a health crisis but had very quickly turned into an economic issue which had now caused shutdowns and reduction in the demand for oil, which was the main stay in Nigeria. As a result, coupled with the oil price that had come down, he said revenue accruing to the nation had come down drastically. Unlike last year when the budget was predicated on 57 dollars per barrel, it was now below 30 dollars per barrel while oil production had reduced from 2.18 million per day to 1.7 million per day. By implication, the planned GDP growth of the nation had reduced by -4% while the envisaged revenue estimates accruable to the State had drastically reduced, bringing about a 40% to 50% expected decline, since funds from the Federal Accounts Allocation Committee (FAAC) had been reduced by 45%.
- 5.2. This had necessitated the envelopes allocated to MDAs at the commencement of the 2020 fiscal year to come down in view of the revision of the Y2020 budget. Essentially, he noted this was the financial position for which the State had not of course finalised yet, hence, the stakeholders meeting which was to encourage the citizens to bare their thought processes and contributions on where they thought the State should be; projects that should be looked into or dropped, as well as, what stakeholders would like to see in the new budget. All of these information would be considered and put together for presentation at the House of Assembly for deliberations and passed as an amendment to the year 2020 Appropriation Law. He advised that comments/input from participants would

be for just 3 minutes as earlier remarked by the moderator of the programme to allow for a greater number of stakeholders to present their inputs in view of the constraint of time. He thanked everyone for listening.

#### **6.0. CONTRIBUTIONS FROM STAKEHOLDERS PRESENT**

- 6.1. Chief Yemi Sanusi - Ogun State All Progressive Congress (APC) Chairman: He commended the State Governor for the way His Excellency had handled the outbreak of the pandemic and for his swift action in respect of the year 2020 Budget revision. He noted that for the budget review, the State should make sure it was a realizable one. He thanked all participants for joining the meeting and for their meaningful contributions during the session.
- 6.2. Alhaji K.P. Ikupoliyi - Chairman, Ogun State Community Development Council: His emphasis was on the release of more grants to the Community Development Council so that more projects that would benefit the citizenry could be undertaken.
- 6.3. Engr. Awolana - Chairman, Association of Professional Bodies: His contribution centred on the importance of making use of the inputs of all stakeholders in the State as well as the private sector, in the budget process from the commencement of the planning stage.
- 6.4. Bishop Tunde Akin Akinsanya – Ogun State Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) Chairman: He implored the Government to look into increasing the tax net as well as the occurrence of tax evasion. He noted that those to be paying taxes do not do so. This discouraged others especially entrepreneurs from paying. When these taxes get paid, he admonished those in the various strata of Government to ensure that taxes were judiciously utilized to bring about all-round development in the State.

- 6.5. Alhaji Tajudeen Adewunmi – Representative of the Ogun State Chief Imam and the Muslim Community: He also concentrated on the importance and monitoring of tax payment; enforcement of relevant vehicle particulars. He observed that in the past years, in his younger days, all citizens paid tax. Now, it appeared only Public/Civil Servants paid tax while about 60% of residents of the State do not pay their taxes. He also advocated for enforcement on vehicle registration documents which would bring in more revenue. He appealed to citizens and organizations outside the country to assist the State Government in the fight against the deadly virus.
- 6.6. Mr. Samuel Durojaiye – A former Commissioner in the State: He counselled that Government should restructure itself and focus on the well-being of the people in the health sector, especially drinkable water; and poverty alleviation through agriculture. He equally mentioned the need to generate revenue from other sources such as land use charges, industries, etc as well as ensure adequate statistics and data of all property owners. More so, he advised that emphasis should be on flood control and turning waste into wealth. In terms of infrastructure, he noted construction of township and rural roads to enhance commerce and flood control.
- 6.7. Comrade Emmanuel Bankole – Representative of the Trade Unions and the Ogun State Nigeria Labour Congress Chairman: He noted that the town hall meeting should not be a yearly ritual, while noting that the evaluation of the budget should be brought up for information purposes at the meetings in terms of actual expenses, etc. He advocated that the process of governance should be bottom-driven as there were infrastructural gaps everywhere while stressing the need for prioritization of infrastructural development for the benefit of industries towards investment comparative



advantage. Also, he enjoined Government to concentrate on capacity building for Public/Civil Servants as well as prompt payment of salaries and deductions as part of measures to get the best from all government workers. He mentioned that the system had not been fair owing to bad roads around the industrial areas where substantial Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) was generated from. He concluded by noting that the State should partner with foreign investors for investments and employment opportunities, etc.

- 6.8. Bamgbose Tomiwa – Representative of the National Association of Nigerian Students, Ogun State Chapter: His contribution centred on the need for Government to invest massively in education. He cited the example of China, where students / youths of that country were involved in production of smart phones being used here in Nigeria. He advocated for a similar initiative here in the State. Also, he mentioned that qualified personnel ought to be engaged to manage the affairs of the education sector in the State.
- 6.9. Alhaji Abdul-Jabar Ayelaagbe – Chairman, National Youth Council of Nigeria, Ogun State Branch: He canvassed for the need for accurate data of residents as a necessary tool for our societal development. Also, he advocated for provision of accessible business loans for small scale business owners so they could be strengthened and stabilized. Lastly, he stressed the need to extend developmental initiatives to empower young people in acquisition of vocational and digital skills in the State.
- 6.10. Mrs. Doyin Bello – The Representative of the Organized Private Sector and the Secretary-General of the National Association of Small Scale Industries: She emphasized the effect of the pandemic leading to more borrowings, lay-offs and increase in high cost of living. To pull through the difficult period, she emphasized the need to adopt the concept of prioritization for the



purpose of budget revision so that excessive spending would be avoided while re-allocating revenues and making allowances for unexpected expenses. Equally, she stated that both the agriculture and the Small and Medium Scale Enterprises sector should be strengthened so that, more revenue could be generated. Meanwhile, she mentioned that taxes and levies collected should be properly handled by the appropriate agencies of government and utilized in an effective and efficient manner.

- 6.11. Mr. Kehinde Sogunle - Former Commissioner for Finance in Ogun State: He drew attention to the place of digitalization in the development of economies in the world today which reduces the cost of governance. Thus, he encouraged active participation of the private sector that is, a Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) in development of the State economy. More so, he enjoined that the Federal Government's Sustainability Programmes be replicated in the State while ensuring that it percolates to the grassroots. He also stated that environmental impact evaluation should be put in place to avoid duplication of initiatives or lopsidedness. The former Commissioner also encouraged the pursuit of global goals in the interest of Ogun State.
- 6.12. Adesegun Emmanuel Adesina (Esq.) – Representative from the Civil Society Organizations and Chairman, Coalition of Non-Governmental Organizations: He remarked that the yearly State approved budget should be posted on the State online portal so that their role of budget tracking and monitoring of projects in the State would be easier. He made a passionate appeal that the State should work aggressively on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He noted that implementation would expose the State to funding opportunities from Donor Partners all over the world. Thirdly, he noted that the State being a highly sophisticated

State, should work closely with Civil Society Organizations/NGOs in the State, who had always been invited to previous town hall meetings, but were not recognized properly or given adequate opportunity to make their contributions. He pleaded that this should be given consideration henceforth. He also stressed that the State should align with the dictates of the Open Government Partnership (OGP). He judged the State as having been doing well, but however, he noted the need for the State to do more in the area of ecological control to avoid such flood disasters that have been witnessed in the State.

- 6.13. Mrs. Disu Irete - Representative of the Civil Society Organizations from the Justice Development and Peace Commission, Ijebu-ode: She noted that the Government should be looking at what the State had been able to achieve under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through 3 basic areas viz: **'Food for All', 'Health for All' and 'Education for All'**. She noted that as part of their mandate as Civil Society Organizations in the State, they were expected to monitor these areas. She equally noted that the primary healthcare centres were not in good shape in terms of staffing. She opined that, there should be general hospitals in Local Governments in the State. She noted that for the education sector, there were not enough students' furniture as well as school buildings. She commented on accessing the budget of the State for monitoring and evaluation on the website which were not online. She also noted the need for regular town hall meeting in the State to enable ease of information on the activities of Government and budget performance.

6.14. Otunba Babatunde Osokoya – Former State Secretary to Ogun State Government and Head of Service, and Representative of the Association of Retired Heads of Service and Permanent Secretaries: He noted that his Association had put together a paper titled ***“Managing the Effects of Corona Virus in Ogun State”*** which had been forwarded to the Ministry of Budget and Planning via the e-mail address provided. His contributions concentrated on budget funding and the need to widen the State's tax net so that more revenue can be available. Also, that Government should see to it that all land rents and levies, funds from Certificates of Occupancy (C of O) and agricultural lands be remitted to Government coffers. Also, he advised that industrial plan areas and modern roads be put on concession to allow for more revenue. He enjoined that all MDAs should desist from running multiple revenue accounts in order to eliminate leakages while economic solvency should be strengthened by ensuring that IGR matches recurrent expenditure so that there would be more funds available for capital expenditure. Equally, he implored that Public Private Partnership be intensified so as to enable Government to do more with less efforts. Lastly, that Government should ensure to pay up all deductions, outstanding gratuities/pensions, and the welfare of both retirees and workers improved upon, so that the workforce could be highly encouraged.

6.15. Mr. Wasiu Lawal, Ado-Odo Local Government Transition Chairman, also representing the Transition Chairmen from Ogun West Senatorial District: He stressed that creativity and innovation should come to play and he enjoined Government to strengthen IGR of the Local Governments so that they would be able to complement the efforts of the State Government. He noted that rural development should be amplified by diversifying into agricultural products for more revenue generation in the informal sector and



the yet untapped formal sector. He equally solicited for an increase in the revenue sources at the Local Government levels. He stated that the budget objectives for the State should be made known while noting that he knew that the harmonization of revenue was on-going at the State. Also, he noted that the land use initiative of the Government in some areas should be intensified especially in the commercial areas. He pleaded that for the tenement rates in the residential areas, the Local Governments should be allowed to concentrate on the collection of revenue in this particular sector while the State Government should handle the commercial sector.

- 6.16. Alhaji Balogun – President, Ogun State Cooperative Federation (OGSCOFED): He appreciated the State Government for being proactive and for the way of dealing with the current Covid 19 pandemic. He explained that there were up to 12,000 registered co-operative societies within their jurisdiction while each member of this movement contributed his or her resources to assist other members in the co-operative societies. He said this was their contribution to reducing unemployment and poverty in the State. He advocated for the provision of very good roads in the rural and urban areas of the State. He equally pleaded for prompt remittance to the co-operative societies of deductions from the salary of Public/Civil Servants whenever salaries were paid, to engender a hitch-free management of the co-operative societies in State. He equally appealed for an enabling environment for the progress of the organisation. He concluded by noting that Government should kindly address the release of annual grants given to the Co-operative Body in the past for developmental programmes/projects across the Local Governments.

- 6.17. Dr. Gbenga Adeoye – A Chartered Accountant: He drew attention to resuscitating the Investors' Forum to engender more revenue for the State. Also, he counselled that all revenue leakages needed to be blocked while he suggested other sources of revenue like investment in roads to have toll gates that could bring in more funds.
- 7.0. Following the signal of the State Governor's presence at the meeting, the Chief of Staff, Alhaji Shuaib Salis, requested that the Honourable State Commissioner for Budget and Planning presented a brief recall in about five minutes of the issues that had been raised by the participants during the meeting.
- 7.1. The following were the highlights presented by the Honourable State Commissioner for Budget and Planning:
- i. Appeal for citizens/residents, etc. to pay their taxes regularly to increase the revenue base of the Government.
  - ii. The need for increase in revenue generation by widening the tax net to have a lot more money coming into Government coffers.
  - iii. In the health sector, Government was advised to increase the funding of the health sector based on what Covid-19 had shown us in terms of the gaps and staffing of some of the primary health centres across the State.
  - iv. Posting of the budget on the State website for accessibility and monitoring. This, the Honourable State Commissioner for Budget and Planning quickly responded to by stating that the budgets were online since the advent of the current Administration.

- v. At gatherings to obtain inputs from stakeholders, the achievement of the budget and stages of implementation should be shared for ease of assessment.
- vi. The need to ensure the building of infrastructure, investing in educational infrastructure in a way that students/youths could be productive to enhance the economic wellbeing of Ogun State.

#### **8.0. HIS EXCELLENCY'S REMARKS**

- 8.1. His Excellency, Prince (Dr.) Dapo Abiodun *MFR* who joined the zoom meeting mid-way following an important meeting of the National Economic Council (NEC), heartily welcomed all to the consultative meeting.
- 8.2. He noted that the 2020 Appropriation Bill was presented to the Ogun State House of Assembly on Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2019. His Excellency recalled that the Y2020 Bill was as a result of the consultation meetings held across the 3 Senatorial Districts at 3 different dates after which the inputs of these consultation meetings formed the basis of the year 2020 Budget. However, the Governor noted that the whole world had witnessed the unforeseen pandemic sometime in February/March this year, causing consequential damages that had impacted unprecedented damages to the economy, revenue and way of life, such that the whole world had never seen before. He explained that this was the reason for having the meeting virtually as a result of the pandemic which was the new norm. This had therefore necessitated the need to revise the budget with current realities.
- 8.3. He noted that, in line with the Administration's commitment to inclusiveness, openness, accountability and transparency, Government saw it necessary to subject the draft document to participation across board by well-meaning citizens of the State. The Governor stressed that expenses continued to be the same, salaries and emoluments, etc. However, revenue which majorly



was oil-based had been naturally on the decline because of the effects of the pandemic. He said expenses associated with the health sector had been staggering. He revealed that Ogun State had to react with dispatch due to the over-flow and being the only neighbour to Lagos State the epi-centre of the deadly virus with the highest number of infections. He recalled that with the pandemic that was expected to create unimaginable disaster, the State had to take faith in her hands, especially as the first case in Nigeria was recorded in Ogun State.

- 8.4 The Governor further revealed that the State had to immediately react by setting up 4 isolation centres – in Olabisi Onabanjo University Teaching Hospital (OOUTH), Sagamu and in Ikenne-Remo, that were world-class isolation and treatment centres equipped with special Intensive Care Units (ICUs); and 2 others located at the State Capital (the 250-bed hospital at Oke-Mosan and the 75-bed Infectious Disease Hospital at Iberekodo, both equipped with ICUs. He further noted that Government had to train essential health personnel to give the required support. He remarked that, Ogun State was the first State in Nigeria to acquire 2 molecular laboratories for testing of the virus. He said that at the ranking done by National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), as was revealed during the National Economic Council meeting he had just attended, before coming online for the meeting, it was revealed that Ogun State merited to be classified as one of the States that had tested the required number of persons in line with the number of laboratories in the State. He said for this feat, the State was ranked one of the 10 leading States to have carried out the expected number of Covid-19 tests. He noted that the State had done about 6,000 tests across the 3 Senatorial Districts and produced about 2 million face masks in the first instance for the citizens and continued with fumigation to reduce the rate of infections. The Governor further noted that, Government had embarked on

distributing relief items to the poor and vulnerable/elderly, continued to maintain sensitization on the pandemic through the media, as some citizens/residents had not yet understood the need to maintain social distance, wearing of face masks and to go out only when it was absolutely necessary. All these had serious impact on the financial position of the State while dealing with the pandemic.

- 8.5. in this direction, the Government had therefore prepared for post-pandemic (that is, the recovery phase), by putting in place legacy structures that would stand the test of time. In view of this, the Government had allocated 20% of the revised budget to ameliorate the effects of the pandemic. He noted that, other sectors like Agriculture, Housing and Infrastructure were key in providing leverage to the people to cushion the effects of the virus. To accomplish all these in view of the overall benefit for the populace, he stressed that, the Government had approached the bond market, in spite of some challenges in this regard. He also remarked that the Ogun State House of Assembly had approved for his Administration to have access to the bond at an era of low interest rates. He recapped that the fore-going were efforts to mitigate the biting effects of the pandemic. Also, he noted that a committee had been set up to manage the IGR knowing that factories would not be operating at optimum capacity, which would reduce level of taxes from this sector.
- 8.6. In addition to this, His Excellency explained that his Administration had applied for health intervention fund under the Federal Government in view of rehabilitation of primary health centres in phases across the State. He stressed that, any patient who walked into any health primary centres should be seen as a potential Covid-19 victim and for this reason, the health workers should therefore be given the requisite training and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) gadgets in eliminating the deadly virus.

- 8.7. Also, His Excellency stated his Administration's effort at providing housing facilities for the populace. Thus, about 250 housing units had been recently completed in Abeokuta the State capital and ready for occupants' claims. This gesture was expected to be replicated across the 3 senatorial districts in the State.
- 8.8. The Governor also revealed that Ogun State was the first State to introduce the Digi-Class in terms of reacting to the pandemic in the education sector. Also, he noted that for preparation of school resumption (though not yet certain), he had directed that, there should be provision of water supply in every school. This resolve had been handed over to a committee to oversee. He reiterated that Agriculture, Housing, Infrastructure and Education Sectors were pillars that would continue to alleviate the effects of the pandemic in the State.
- 8.9. His Excellency apologised that he was unable to join the virtual meeting from the beginning, owing to the National Economic Council meeting which bordered on the way forward as a Nation; how to sustain ourselves as a people; managing the effects of the pandemic; as well as immediate and remote steps to be undertaken, towards addressing the resuscitation of the economy.



8.10. In conclusion, His Excellency, the State Governor prayed that the pandemic would soon be a thing of the past and that our country and indeed Ogun State would be better for it.

8.11 His Excellency thanked everyone for listening to him.

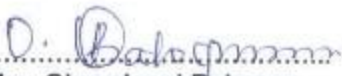
#### 9.0. VOTE OF THANKS


The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Budget and Planning, Mrs. Oluwafunmilayo Ajimo Dada, appreciated His Excellency for creating an enabling platform for the conduct of the consultative stakeholders' meeting on the year 2020 budget revision, while appreciating His Excellency's leadership acumen. She thanked Almighty God for sparing the lives of everyone and for the gift of life thus far. She equally thanked all the esteemed stakeholders who joined the session and prayed that all our efforts at uplifting the State would not be in vain.


#### 10.0. CLOSING

The meeting ended at 3:01pm with closing prayer by the Permanent Secretary, Bureau of Cabinet and Special Services, Alhaji Lanre Saka after which the rendition of the National Anthem took place signifying the end of the virtual session.

**SIGNATURES OF THE CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS / NON-  
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs):**

  
.....  
**Mrs. Oluwakemi Balogun**  
Representative of the Family Health Initiative,  
Ogun State. 27/7/2020

  
.....  
**Mr. Tola Adenekan**  
Representative of the Centre for  
Grassroot Education  
Healthcare and Empowerment,  
Ogun State.

  
..... 28-07-2020  
**Adesegun Emmanuel Adesina (Esq.)**  
Representative of the Coalition of Non-  
Governmental Organizations, Ogun State.

  
.....  
**OSIBODU, AKINTOMIWA O.O**  
Director of Budget  
Representative of Government, Ogun State