

OFFICE OF THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL

**REPORT ON OGUN STATE GOVERNMENT PUBLIC
CONSULTATIONS WITH CITIZENS ON YEAR 2022 AUDITED
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**HELD ON
FRIDAY, 29TH SEPTEMBER, 2023**

**AT THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE'S CONFERENCE ROOM, OKE MOSAN,
ABEOKUTA**

**CHIEF HOST:
ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL/ PERMANENT SECRETARY (TREASURY)
OFFICE OF THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Town hall consultation forum/meeting was organised by the Ogun State Government to present the year 2023 Citizens Accountability Report (CAR) based on the audited financial statements /reports published online for the financial year 2022. The activity is to ensure the sustainability of the SFTAS program for results.

2.0 ATTENDANCE

The town hall consultation meeting was attended by top Government Officials led by Mr. Tunde Aregbesola, the Accountant-General/ Permanent Secretary (Treasury); Mr. Adesina Towolawi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance; Mrs Arinola Adetayo, Director of Treasury, Office of the Accountant General/Ogun SFTAS Focal Person; Mr. Akintomiwa Osibodu, Director of Budget, Ministry of Budget and Planning; Mrs. Oluyemi Oloyede, Director of Inspectorate, Office of the Accountant-General; Mr Ayodele Sulaiman, Director, Consolidated Accounts, Office of the Accountant-General; Mr Taofeek Adebayo, Office of the Auditor-General for Local Governments; Mr. Abdufatah Odusanya, Director of Information Technology, Office of the Accountant-General; Mr. Adeliyi Mofeoluwa, Representative of the Auditor General (State); Mrs. Olubukonla Olufemi, Director of Compliance and Initiatives, Ministry of Finance/Supervisor SFTAS secretariat. Also in attendance were various representatives of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)/Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)/Community Based Organisations (CBOs). They were: Shodiya Damilola, Positive Community Outreach Foundation; Olufemi Olushola Taiwo, Life Agenda Initiatives; Apostle Tola Adenekan, Centre for Grassroot Education, Healthcare and Empowerment; Adesola Afariogun, Afed Executive Director; Adesegun E. Adesina, Coalition of NGOs in Ogun State; Adetutu Babatunde, Youth Network on HIV; Olayinka Osonuga of Aishat Hariat Rashedat Foundation and Akinsanya Mojisola, Women for Peace and Gender Initiatives.

3.0 OPENING

The meeting which was anchored by Mrs. Olubukonla Olufemi commenced at 11.25a.m with the arrival of the Accountant-General/ Permanent Secretary (Treasury), Office of the Accountant-General. The opening prayer was offered by Mr Taofeek Adebayo.

4.0 WELCOME ADDRESS

The SFTAS Focal Person, Mrs Arinola Adetayo welcomed the guests to the Public Consultation for the presentation of the 2022 Citizens' Accountability Report that was based on the Financial Year 2022 Annual Audited Financial Statements, an activity to sustain the SFTAS Program in the State. She stressed the need for the interaction with the good people of Ogun

State in a bid to engage the Citizens and gather useful observations and comments towards effective planning and an informed governance.

5.0 WELCOME REMARK

The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Mr Adesina Towolawi in his welcome remark, intimated all that the program was organised for everyone to see the financial position of the State and encouraged members to be objective in their contribution.

6.0 OPENING REMARK

The Accountant-General/Permanent Secretary (Treasury) began his opening remark by welcoming everyone to the consultation meeting and stated that the annual meeting was essential as it enabled the State to consistently review her financial activities and helped her to be accountable and responsible. He noted that the lessons gained from the SFTAS Program were worthwhile and that the State would continue to operate as if the program had not ended. He pointed out that there was a great improvement in this year's activities and achievement compared to that of the previous year as targeted deadline was made and met; and hard copies of the year 2022 Audited Financial Statements were made available, some of which would be presented to all the bodies in attendance at the end of the meeting. He appreciated participants for the support accorded the State Government and desired more collaboration in the future. He implored participants to point out their observations and comments on the Financial Statements objectively as the presentation had been simplified, based on IPSAS Accrual.

7.0 PRESENTATION OF HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2022 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND CITIZENS ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS

The Director, Consolidated Accounts thereafter presented the highlights of the Revenue, Expenditure and other components of the year 2022 Audited Financial Statements as well as the details of the citizens' Accountability Report during the meeting.

8.0 SALIENT COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PARTICIPANTS:

1. Mr Afariogun Adeshola requested to know what the Government did in cases where budgeted items later had counterpart/private funding.
2. Mr Olufemi Olusola asked why the social support for the aged and vulnerable children were not conspicuous in the budget.
3. Apostle Tola Adenekan mentioned that the basic and secondary educations in the State needs urgent attention.

4. Babatunde Adetutu commended the State Government in respect of citizens' nominated projects like that of Ijaye Oja-Ale road and encouraged the State to consider others such as that of Adatan road, especially at its Moore junction end.
5. Mr Afariogun Adeshola mentioned that the NGOs were not on the State palliative committee list.
6. Mr Olufemi Olusola asked why the Government was over ambitious in respect of the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR)
7. Mr Adesegun Adesina said he could not understand why the budget for rural infrastructure was as high as N85Billion and most of the roads in the rural areas were still not developed
8. Mr Afariogun Adeshola queried why the total budgeted personnel cost was not expended.
9. Mrs Osonuga Olusola mentioned that the Town Hall meetings for year 2023 budget held at Sagamu and Ijebu Ode were jam packed and rowdy, that she had to excuse herself from the venues.
10. Apostle Tola Adenekan mentioned that there is need to intensify effort on Open Government Partnership in the State.
11. Mrs Osonuga Olusola mentioned that the case between the suspended Ijebu East Local Government Chairman and His Excellency, Prince Dapo Abiodun^{MFR} on Local Government allocation was not clear to her and that she needed to know how to answer the people at the grass root.

9.0 RESPONSE ON THE COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **Items with counterpart funding:** In his response, the Accountant-General/ Permanent Secretary (Treasury) said that every item that had counterpart funding was adequately captured by the respective Ministries, Departments and Agencies concerned, especially Ministry of Finance, Office of the Accountant-General, Ministry of Budget and Planning and/or Office of the Auditor-General through the IPSAS accrual system of reporting.
2. **Social Benefits:** In his response, Mr Ayodele Sulaiman, Director, Consolidated Accounts informed that the State Government was able to achieve much in the area of Social benefits through the OKOWO DAPO Scheme and Nigeria for Women Project. These were captured under the activities of Ministry of Women Affairs.
3. **State of Education:** The Accountant-General/ Permanent Secretary (Treasury) responded that the State Government has really been largely involve in ensuring the best is borne out of the State's educational system and that is the reason for giving Subvention to all Tertiary Institutions in the State, running cost to all Primary and Secondary schools, helping to finance the conduct of the schools' examinations at the end of every term and carried out various infrastructural developments in schools among others.

4. **Citizens nominated projects:** Mr Akintomiwa Osibodu, Director of Budget informed that projects conducted by the State were those harvested from the citizens engagement forum (Town hall meeting) held in the four Senatorial districts. He encouraged the representatives of CBOs to have better interaction with the Ministry of Budget and planning in order to assist the Ministry in collation of expected projects.

5. **Palliative Committee:** In his response the Accountant-General/ Permanent Secretary (Treasury) informed that the selection of the palliative committee was done in good faith and assured that the issue was noted.

6. **Over Ambitious IGR:** In his response the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance, explained that a lot of qualitative and quantitative factors affect the IGR on yearly basis. Attack on Staff and other micro factors also affect the IGR.

The Accountant-General/ Permanent Secretary (Treasury) also commented that the era of preparing budget on incremental basis was over, that the State Government now do realistic zero-based budgeting. He explained that oil price, State allocation and other factors were considered in revenue projection. He pointed out that the IGR the State does not have control over were due to expectation from the Federal Government such as refund of money spent on construction/rehabilitation of Federal roads. He informed that the Airport and Deep Seaport (which is in the pipeline) projects would be beneficial to the State.

7. **Rural Infrastructure:** Mr Akintomiwa Osibodu, Director of Budget explained that the amount expressed for rural infrastructure was an error. He informed that the sum of N85Billion was the total amount expended for infrastructure; both rural and urban infrastructure and not rural infrastructure alone that it would be corrected.

8. **Personnel cost:** In his response, the Accountant-General/ Permanent Secretary (Treasury) explained that the reduction in personnel cost is as a result of mass migration of Nigerians for greener pastures abroad (JAPA) and the ability of the Government to block all areas of leakages through the biometric exercise. He hinted that by next year, there could be increment in the wage bill because of the Year 2021 and Year 2022 promotion.

9. **Town Hall Meetings:** Mr Akintomiwa Osibodu, Director of Budget apologised for the rowdy nature of the town hall meetings in terms of crowd control. He explained that Security Agencies were always engaged during the meetings to curb thugs and assured that subsequent meetings would be organised better.

10. **Open Government Partnership:** The Accountant-General/ Permanent Secretary (Treasury) assured that the Open Government Partnership synergy with the State would be strengthened.

11. **Suspended Ijebu East Local Government Chairman :** The Accountant-General/ Permanent Secretary (Treasury) responded that the accusation of the suspended Local Government Chairman against His Excellency was false as the Local Governments fund from

the Federal Government (Abuja) was always forwarded directly to the Local Governments Account, which was deliberated on, on monthly basis by the Joint Account Allocation Committee in terms of Salaries and allowances to be paid, Traditional Rulers emoluments, pensions and other costs. The remaining would thereafter be shared among the Local Governments. He explained further that most of the time, their costs were not covered by their allocation and the State Government had to augment it.

10.0 CONCLUSION

The representatives of the Non-Governmental Organisations/Civil Society Organisations appreciated the steps of the State Government on inclusive governance adopted by the Governor, Prince Dapo Abiodun MFR and the continuity of the SFTAS program.

11.0 VOTE OF THANKS

The Accountant-General/ Permanent Secretary (Treasury) appreciated everyone for attending the meeting and for their valuable contributions. Photographs were taken to symbolize the event.

12.0 CLOSING


The citizens public consultation meeting came to an end at 1:20 p.m. with the closing prayer said by Surveyor Fisayo Yemi.

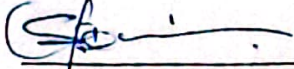
13.0 DOCUMENTATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING

Jointly observed and documented by the African Foundation for Environment and Development (AFED) Ogun West, Centre for Grassroot Education Ogun central and Aishat Hariat Rashedat Foundation Ogun East and others present.


14.0 NAMES OF RAPORTEURS FOR THE MEETING


- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Mrs. Olubukonla Olufemi | SFTAS Secretariat |
| 2. Mrs. Olubusola Fabusoro | SFTAS Secretariat |
| 3. Mr. Samson Tovishede | SFTAS Secretariat |
| 4. Mr. Taiwo Idowu | Consolidated Accounts Department |

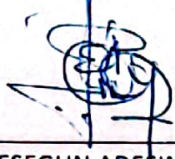

29/09/23
SHODIYA DAMILOLA
POSITIVE OUTREACH FOUNDATION

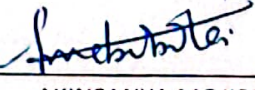

29th Sept 2023
OLUFEMI OLUSOLA TAIWO
LIFE AGENDA INITIATIVES

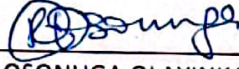
A. O. A. 29-09-23
APOSTLE TOLA ADENEKAN
CENGHE

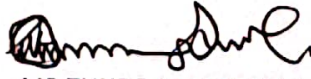

29/09/23
ADESOLA AFARIOGUN
AFED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR


29/09/23
IGBODIPE OLUMIDE FIDELIS
COMMUNITY DVPT INITIATIVES


29/9/23
ADESEGUN ADESINA
COALITION OF NGOS IN OGUN STATE


29/09/23
AKINSANYA MOJISOLA
WOMEN FOR PEACE & GENDER INITIATIVES


29-09-23
OSONUGA OLAYINKA
AHR FOUNDATION


MR TUNDE AREGBESOLA
ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL/PERMANENT SECRETARY (TREASURY)
OFFICE OF THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL