

REPORT OF THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING OF HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR, DR. JOHN KAYODE FAYEMI WITH THE STAKEHOLDERS IN THE STATE IN PREPARATION OF THE 2019 BUDGET, HELD ON FRIDAY 23RD NOVEMBER, 2018 AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE PAVILION, ADO-EKITI

1.0. ATTENDANCE

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|-------|---|---|--|
| i. | His Excellency, Dr. John Kayode Fayemi | - | The Governor of Ekiti State |
| ii. | His Excellency, Otunba Bisi Egbeyemi | - | The Deputy Governor of Ekiti State |
| iii. | Rt. Hon. Adeniran Alagbada | - | Speaker, Ekiti State House of Assembly |
| iv. | Barrister Wale Fapohunda | - | Attorney General/Commissioner for Justice |
| v. | Mr. Dapo Kolawole | - | Hon. Commissioner for Finance & Economic Development |
| vi. | Hon. Biodun Oyebanji | - | Secretary to the State Government |
| vii. | Hon. Biodun Omoleye | - | Chief of Staff |
| viii. | Professor Bolaji Aluko | - | State Coordinator, Bureau of Transformation & Service Delivery |
| ix. | Permanent Secretaries | - | |
| x. | General Managers/Executives Secretaries | - | |
| xi. | Other Heads of Non-Ministerial Department | - | Representatives of various Agencies and Tertiary Institutions |
| xii. | Mr. J.B. Folorunso | - | Executive Secretary, Budget Office |
| xiii. | Participants from Towns & Villages | - | Representatives of various Towns and villages in Ekiti State |
| xiv. | DAS, DFAs and DPR&S | - | Represented various MDAs |
| xv. | Local Government Officials | - | Represented 16 Local Govt. Areas |
| xvi. | Private Individuals | - | Represented the CSO, NGO etc. |
| xvii. | Mr. 'Leke Adefolaju | - | Director of Budget |

2.0. INTRODUCTION

2.1. In line with the Public Financial Management (PFM) provision which makes it mandatory for Government to consult with the General Public whenever they are making annual financial plan, Ekiti State Government organized the meeting in order to sensitize the Stakeholders which comprised of

representatives drawn from every community across the sixteen (16) Local Government Areas of the State towards the 2019 Budget Fiscal Principles and preparation. Furthermore, it was an avenue for the government and the general public to have an overview of the actual financial position of the State in the current fiscal year, 2018. Most importantly, the forum facilitated the General Public the participatory opportunity to contribute meaningfully towards the preparation of the 2019 Annual Budget.

3.0 OBJECTIVES

3.1 The intention of the Government for facilitating the meeting was to ensure that the 2019 Budget was primarily designed to substantially capture the prioritized needs of every community in the State in a manner that would be structured around the four (4) cardinal programmes of the present Administration. In the same manner, it was to acquaint the Stakeholders with the policy direction of the Government most especially in the delivery of public goods and other social programmes. It was also to ensure that Stakeholders were given the chance to give meaningful recommendations and suggestions on how the State could generate more revenue internally and also to allow them to air their concerns in the different service areas and documentation of same for Government consideration and action.

4.0 BUSINESS OF THE DAY

4.1 REMARKS BY THE HONOURABLE COMMISSIONER FOR FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

4.1.1 The Honourable Commissioner for Finance and Economic Development welcomed the Governor, the Deputy Governor, the EXCO members, the Executive Secretary, (Budget Office) and all the Stakeholders at the meeting. He also commended the Governor for approving the 2019 Budget Stakeholders Consultative Meeting. Furthermore, he apologized for the delay experienced on the 2019 Budget preparation which he attributed to the change in Government.

4.1.2 The Honourable Commissioner informed the meeting that the Governor, Dr John Kayode Fayemi was the one who pioneered the idea of consultative forum during his first tenure in Office. He said this was facilitated through a periodic tour of the Governor to all the sixteen (16) Local Government Areas of the State. He mentioned that the several initiatives/projects which emanated from the forum were poorly managed by the erstwhile Administration in the State.

4.1.3 The HCF&ED introduced the Stakeholders present at the meeting which comprised of Chairman of the State Traditional Rulers, five (5) Chiefs from each community comprising (both men

and women), Honorable Members of the State House of Assembly, Civil Society Organizations, Non Governmental Organizations, Market Women, Artisans, Government functionaries and Political Office Holders. He stressed further that the attendance and report of the meeting would be published on the State Website within a fortnight.

4.1.4 The HCF&ED advised the Stakeholders to contribute meaningfully as their inputs are the vital ingredients for the preparation of the 2019 Budget. He added that all MDAs in the State were ably represented to capture their needs. He stressed that the outcome (needs) that would emanate from the meeting would form the baseline for the 2019 Budget which would be extracted from the Medium Term Expenditure Framework covering the next three years (2019 – 2021) in the State.

4.2 REMARKS OF HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR OF EKITI STATE, DR. JOHN KAYODE FAYEMI

4.2.1 In his remarks, His Excellency, the Governor of Ekiti State, Dr. John Kayode Fayemi thanked all the Stakeholders for honouring the invitation. He stated that the consultative meetings on the preparation of the 2019 Budget could not hold on a community to community basis due to the limited time but nevertheless the Government would still comply with the bottom-up tradition of the Budget preparation thereby making it robust, transparent and accountable.

4.2.2 The Governor emphasized the importance of the meeting which he said was to capture the inputs of the Stakeholders from their vantage point into the 2019 Budget towards their implementation in the 2019 fiscal year. He indicated the efforts of Government to develop the 2019 Budget based on the four pillars of the present Administration which are Social Investments; Knowledge based Economy; Infrastructure and Industrial Development; and Agriculture and Rural Development.

4.2.3 The Governor expressed the intention of the present Administration to improve the State's Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) by blocking all loopholes through effective and efficient monitoring of all Government expenditures and revenues.

4.2.4 Furthermore, he indicated the intention of the Government to develop a constructive Budget that would manifest the actualization of the policy pronouncement of the present Administration. He said this would be done through strategic investments in the education, health and other vital sectors in the State. Equally, he mentioned that the Government had prioritized the completion of all abandoned and uncompleted projects in the State including that of erstwhile Administration before

initiating new projects. The essence, he said, was to maintain a high level of sustainable development in the State.

4.2.5 The Governor remarked that the 2019 Budget Consultative meeting was in consonance with the high level consultative meetings held across the sixteen (16) Local Government Areas of the State recently and it would afford the Government to have an up-to-date position of all critical areas in the State.

4.2.6 Additionally, the Governor also informed the meeting that the State's resources were limited and there was the need to collectively focus on how the sixteen (16) Local Governments in the State would generate more revenue that could be collectively utilized for the development of the State.

4.2.7 The Governor assured the people of the determination of his Administration to foster social development in the State. He expressed the readiness of the Government to commence the Home Grown School Feeding Programme in the State. Equally, he mentioned the intention of the Government to commence free health care, free education, revalidate the payment of stipends to the Elders (Owo Arugbo) and other social programmes in the State.

4.2.8 In conclusion, the Governor remarked that the totality of the 2019 Budget would be geared to create an enabling environment for the restoration of our values, thus positioning Ekiti State to her rightful place in the comity of States in Nigeria.

5.0 PRESENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE STATE

5.1 The Permanent Secretary/Accountant General for the State presented a detailed and up-to-date paper on State financial position. This was done through a breakdown/trend of the revenues accruing from FAAC and the State Internal Revenue from January to October, 2018. Equally, she presented to the Stakeholders the State's outstanding emoluments which comprised of deductions, salaries, leave bonuses, subventions, and repatriation/ Corpers allowances as at October, 2018.

5.2 The P.S/A.G also presented to the Stakeholders a case study of the First-Line Charges of October, 2018; an overview of the State's Loan Debts and the State Receipts and Payments in the last six (6) months (May to October, 2018).

6.0 PRESENTATION OF THE 2018 BUDGET OVERVIEW

6.1 In his presentation, the Executive Secretary, (Budget Office) applauded the Governor for approving the Stakeholders meeting and also for adopting a bottom-up approach in the Preparation

of 2019 Budget. He identified the two standards that could be adopted in the preparation of Budget which are; the International Best Practice and the Home Grown Practice. He expressed further that the 2019 Budget of the State would be an embodiment of the two practices that would culminate into a customized best practice;

6.2 The E.S, Budget Office advised all MDAs and other Stakeholders to help in fast tracking the 2019 Budget preparation process due to the limited time. He also highlighted the dates for other activities of the 2019 Budget preparation as contained in the activities schedule of the Budget Office.

6.3 Finally, the E.S, Budget Office sensitized and also presented a detailed analysis of the 2018 Revised Budget Overview. Through the sensitization, Stakeholders were enlightened on the need to understand all the revenue and the expenditure components of the 2018 Budget in order to have a clear picture of what the 2019 Budget would reflect.

7.0. THE INTERACTIVE SESSION

7.0.1 The interactive session was anchored by the Secretary to the State Government. He opened the floor for comments suggestion, questions and requests from all the Stakeholders. The summary of requests from some Stakeholders on Local Government basis are as follows:

(a) IJERO LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

- i. Chief Oladimeji Kolawole from Iloro Ekiti suggested that revenue head of the State Government should be well differentiated from that of the Local Government for easy identification by citizens and to prevent double taxation.
- ii. Chief Boluwaji Daramola of Ara Ekiti proposed that Government should monitor the outflow of fruits and timbers from the Local Government as a means of generating IGR, He further requested as follows:
 - that the State Government should intervene in EKSCDA programmes to ensure community development; and
 - provision of primary school class rooms in their community.
- iii. Chief Ayegbusi Samuel Anifowose from Ijurin Ekiti said that the process of revenue generation and collection in the State should be well monitored. He also requested thus:
 - Repair of Iloro-Ijurin-Temidire-Ayegunle access road; and

- Extension of Electricity in the community.

(b) **IREPODUN/IFELODUN LOCAL GOVERNMENT:**

- i. Chief Ojumola who spoke on behalf of Igbemo township suggested that the State should use a single account for the tax collection/payment to prevent leakages or fraudulent activities. He further requested as follows:
 - that in view of the limited resources accruable to the State, the Government should not embark on too many project, but rather focus on the abandoned projects;
 - that the Igbemo-Ikole-Isaba road be constructed; and
 - that Ilupeju-Ire-Ijan road be completed.
- ii. Chief (Mrs.) Kolawole Elizabeth Dayo from Awo-Ekiti proposed that the State Government should look into generating revenue by way of fines/taxes from the Trailers and Trucks which pass through Ekiti State.
- iii. Chief Coker Ologuntoye from Iworoko stated that Government should supervise the construction of all projects embarked upon to ensure successful completion. He further appealed that the Igbemo-Iworoko-Igede road be constructed.
- iv. Chief (Mrs.) Adebayo – the Iyalode of Iworoko Ekiti requested Government to build a modern market in Iworoko-Ekiti.

(c) **IKOLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT:**

- i. Chief Olu Kolawole who represented Ikoyi Ekiti suggested that both the Local and the State Government could increase their IGR through the following taxes:
 - Flat rate – which could be driven by Chiefs in their communities;
 - Market/Bicycle rate;
 - Cocoa/Timber; and
 - Rearing/Slaughtering of cattle.

Chief Kolawole further requested for the completion of

- Isaba-Ikoyi-Irele-Igbemo road; and
- Town Hall in Ikoyi town.

- ii. Chief Ayojobi Fatile who represented Itapaji Ekiti from Ikole Local Government pleaded with the State Government to look into the abandoned road within the Local Government. He also mentioned construction of the underlisted roads:
 - The Bridge leading to Iyemero;
 - Oke Ako road; and
 - Itapaji Dam.

(d) **OYE LOCAL GOVERNMENT:**

- i. Pastor Olu Olosunde of Ilupeju Ekiti in Oye Local Government suggested the imposition of Entertainment Tax in the State as he claimed that lots of money was wasted on parties and ceremonies in the State. He also requested that there should be a clear distinction between the State Tax heads and the Local Government in order to prevent double taxation.
- ii. Chief Adeyinka Adelabu from Ire-Ekiti requested that the Ire Bricks Industry be revived and that the Ire township road be constructed.

(e) **EKITI WEST LOCAL GOVERNMENT:**

- i. Chief Akintayo Oyedeji of Erijiyan Ekiti presented as follows:
 - that the Ikogosi Tourist Centre be revamped;
 - that Ipole Iloro-Ikogosi-Erijinyan-Aramoko road be re-constructed; and
 - that Electricity, Water and good roads be restored in the area.

(g) **ADO LOCAL GOVERNMENT:**

- i. Mr. Adewale S.A. spoke on behalf of Irewumi Community off Bawa Estate. He requested for provision of Transformer and Health Centre in the Community. He also suggested the reduction in the cost of Certificate of Occupancy to enhance more people to make payment.
- ii. High Chief Abiona from Better Life Area in Ado-Ekiti said Government should look into Environmental issues particularly erosion because of its negative impact on the community.
- iii. Faluyi Ayeni from Temidire community in Ado-Ekiti requested Government to look into the Ago-Aduloju-Afao-Araromi-Obo-Temidire Obo access road.

- iv. Alabi Timileyin from Moboluwaduro around Doctors Quarters requested that their electricity supply issue should be re-visited as they were given a transformer during the previous tenor of Dr. Kayode Fayemi but the transformer was currently not working.

In addition, some other representatives advised Government to engage indigenous Contractors for construction works in the State. It was also said that security issues be looked into to ensure safety of lifes and properties in the State and that Armoured Personnel Carriers (APC) be provided at strategic places in the State.

8.0. RESPONSE FROM THE STATE GOVERNMENT

8.1 The Deputy Governor appreciated everyone for their contributions and development strides in making Ekiti State great again. He however enjoined payment of tax by all Ekiti Citizens and not just Civil Servants alone, as tax payment was one of the most important IGR source to the State.

He further stated as follows:

- (i) that at the inception of the Administration, they had moved round the Local Governments, identified the road problems and the Government was already looking into it;
- (ii) that all abandoned projects had been well noted and it would be the priority of this Administration;
- (iii) that the Ecological fund coming into the State would be well utilized to handle issues on erosion and other environmental challenges;
- (iv) that since Ire Burnt Bricks was the baby of Oodua Investment Company, the Company should invited to look at the Ire Bricks Industry;
- (v) that the issue of Double taxation would be looked into and citizens would be enlightened on this;
- (vi) that market was important and as such abandoned market buildings would be completed and new ones built where necessary; and
- (vii) that the Government was particular about well built structures that would last. He therefore encouraged local Contractors to be very competent as only good and capable ones would be engaged by the State Government.

9.0. REMARKS BY THE STATE CO-ORDINATOR, EKITI STATE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (EKSCDA) – DR. AYENI

9.1. He thanked Mr. Governor for facilitating the meeting which he said was in conformity with the best practices of bottom-up approach of Administration. He remarked that the meeting would allow the Government to have a holistic view of the critical needs of all the Communities.

9.2. Equally, he thanked the Stakeholders present for their support to the present Administration and also indicated the readiness of Ekiti State Community Development Agency (EKSCDA) to work with the Government in delivering the dividends of democracy that would impact meaningfully in the lives of Ekiti people.

10.0. VOTE OF THANKS

10.1 The Director of Budget appreciated the Governor for his benevolence and hospitality shown to the people of Ekiti State. He also expressed gratitude to the Governor for making the Stakeholders consultative meeting on the 2019 Budget a reality.

10.2 Furthermore, he informed the meeting that the Stakeholders Consultative meeting on Budget was one of the requirements by the World Bank for the State Fiscal Transparency Accountability and Sustainability (SFTAS) grant for which Ekiti State has been earmarked to benefit from in 2019. He mentioned that the SFTAS Grant would be one of the revenue lines in the 2019 Budget for the State.

10.3 He also thanked the Deputy Governor for his gallant and indomitable acts displayed by him since the beginning of the meeting. Equally, he applauded the Rt. Hon. Speaker and other Hon. Members of the State House of Assembly for their cooperation and requested them to kindly ensure that the 2019 Budget was delivered on time in view of the limited time.

10.4 In conclusion, he thanked all the EXCO members, Government functionaries and all other Stakeholders at the meeting for their cooperation and contributions.

11.0. CLOSING

11.1 The Stakeholders consultative meeting on 2019 Budget came to an end at exactly 1.35p.m. with the recitation of Ekiti State Anthem.

