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# NATIONAL Ambassador

N250 VOL. 28 NO.004

"Uplift the people, project the nation"

April 6, 2025

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## Mothering Sunday: Gov Otti Celebrates Women

By Amarachi Uzoukwu

**A**bia State Governor, Dr. Alex Chioma Otti, OFR, has reiterated his governments resolve towards promoting women's inclusion in governance.

He said that he would continue to honour mothers and mother figures who have defied odds to contribute to nation building.

Gov. Otti, who disclosed this during the commemoration of 2025 Mothering Sunday at the St. Michael's Anglican Church Cathedral, Aba, where he worshipped with the Christian faithful, thanked all the women and mothers for their roles and support in moulding the society.

He also thanked the Church for their support and vote for him during the 2023 election and singled out women and mothers for being single-minded and consistent about their support to his aspirations.

The Governor further extolled the virtues of mothers and used the quote by Cardinal Mermillod, "A mother is she who can take the place of all others but whose place no one else can take." To further illustrate the multi-tasking role of good mothers.

Otti assured the people that the modest achievements of his administration in the last 22 months are just tips of the iceberg, urging them to expect more.

Meanwhile, the Bishop of Aba Diocese, Rt. Rev. Christian Chiozoadighi Ugwuzor, thanked the Almighty God for giving Governor Otti to Abians, to rescue the people and State from the shackles of bad governance. He enumerated some of the road projects being executed by Governor Otti's administration

including Ohanku, Omuma, Obohia, and Port-Harcourt Roads.

The clergy thanked Governor Otti for coming to worship with them and prayed for him and his entourage.

In a related development, Governor Otti has also thanked the women of Stella Maris Catholic Parish, Abayi Aba, pledging to compliment the support of his wife, Her Excellency, Mrs. Priscilla Chidimma Otti for their water business project of the women.

The Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Dr. Joseph Anuonye Azuka, had earlier thanked the Governor for honouring the women's wing and prayed God to continue blessing and protecting the performing Governor of Abia State.

The Governor was accompanied to the Churches by the former Member who represented Abia North/South at the Federal House of Representatives, Hon. Chimaobi Ebisike, the Acting State Chairman of the Labour Party, Sir Emmanuel Otti, the member representing Aba North State Constituency, Hon. Aaron Uzodike, the member representing Osisioma South State Constituency, Hon. Fyne Ahuama, member representing Osisioma North Constituency, Hon. Iheanacho Nwogu, the Mayor of Aba South LGA, Hon. Obilor Anyanwu, Mayor of Osisioma LGA, Hon. Chidi Agu, the Chief of Staff to the Governor, Pastor Caleb Ajagba, Ph.D, Commissioner for Sports and Youth Development, Hon. Nwaobilor Nwadianna Ananaba, Commissioner for Trade and Commerce, Hon. Chibueze Nwokocha and other senior Government functionaries.

## Jubilation As Govt Starts Work At Abia Airport

By Amarachi Uzoukwu

**T**he Abia State Government has started the clearing of the access road to the runway of the Abia Airport, Nsulu, sparking widespread excitement among host communities.

Speaking at the site in Umuala Nsulu, Isiala Ngwa North, recently, the Chief of Staff to the Governor, Pastor Caleb Ajagba, reaffirmed Governor Alex Otti's commitment to delivering the project in collaboration with

the Federal Government in record time.

Pastor Ajagba, who dispelled earlier misinformation about community opposition to the project, also noted that the land owners are happy and receptive of the airport project unlike the falsehood that was earlier narrated at the inception of the project process.

"Just like I was telling the women and the host communities that I met shortly when I arrived, this is a very sincere government and everything His Excellency, Dr. Alex Otti has promised, he has always fulfilled.

"You can see that contrary to the wrong notion that the Nsulu community is receptive of this very

important project. You can see for yourself that the notion is wrong, is not correct.

"So you can see the people, the clearing is already ongoing and you can see now that the people appreciate the importance of this airport project and so, anybody that has been given that impression that Nsulu people are not favourably disposed to this project, you can see for yourself that it is not true", he said.



■ Gov. Otti (Middle), cutting cake with women during 2025 Mothers' Day Celebration in Aba, Abia State, recently.

## NDDC Pledges To Collaborate With Uniport, Others, For Greater Height

By Aligwe Stella PH

**T**he Managing Director of the Niger Delta Development Commission, NDDC, Dr Samuel Ogbuku, has announced the Commission's readiness to foster partnerships with educational institutions in the Niger Delta Region.

Dr. Ogbuku, who disclosed this recently, during an interactive session with members of the University of Port Harcourt's Governing Council, led by its Chairman, Senator Mao Ohuabunwa, when they paid him courtesy visit in his office, at the NDDC headquarters, Port Harcourt, promised that the

Commission would construct new hostel blocks and provide the university's Senate with a 300 KVA solar inverter system to reduce diesel expenses.

He also, revealed plans to dispatch a team of Engineers to assess the University's roads and hostels for possible

rehabilitation, While highlighting on the Commission's commitment to achieve results.

"In NDDC, we believe in action. We do not make empty promises, as we are determined to bring the President Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda to reality, he stated.

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**EDITORIAL: The Needs To Protect Nigerian Judicial System From Desecration**



## News

# NIPR Strengthens Ties With MOUAU, Advocates Professionalism In PR

Chukwuemeka Egejuru

**T**he Abia State chapter of the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR) paid a courtesy visit to the Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike (MOUAU) recently with a view to strengthen ties and to enhance professionalism in Public Relations (PR) practice within the institution.

Leading the delegation, the chapter chairman, Deacon Felix Olunkwa, commended the university's leadership and management for their revolutionary initiatives.

He emphasized the importance of professionalism and excellence in public relations and urged the



■ The Vice Chancellor, MOUAU, Prof. Madebibisi Ofo Iwe (1st Right), the Chairman NIPR, Abia State Chapter, Deacon Felix Olunkwa (2nd Left) and others during an award presentation to the former in the University recently.

university to prioritize the registration, training, and continuous development of staff in the information and

public relations unit. He further encouraged the management to continue sponsoring the unit's participation in all NIPR events.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor of MOUAU, Prof. Maduebibisi Ofor Iwe, acknowledged the critical role of PR in the university's positive image and commended the professionalism of the PR staff.

He extolled the Abia NIPR for keeping the group vibrant in Abia state; producing notable personalities.

Prof. Iwe also highlighted the institution's commitment to professional development, revealing that over 200 staff members have been sponsored for training across various professional institutes. He assured the

delegation that the university remains dedicated to providing its staff with continued professional exposure. Commending NIPR's role in promoting transparency and professionalism, he welcomed further collaboration between Abia NIPR and the university.

A key highlight of the visit was the presentation of an Award of Excellence in Image Management to the Vice-Chancellor by Abia NIPR. In return, Prof. Iwe presented a 30th Anniversary Compendium of the university to Deacon Olunkwa as a token of appreciation.

The NIPR delegation included Mrs. Tina Ikwuegbu, Mrs. Onyinye Ralph-Nwachukwu, Dr. Ubadire Agua, Dr. Richard Ononiwu, and Pastor Victor Onwuka among others.

## Jubilation As Govt Starts Work At Abia Airport

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Pastor Ajagba commended members of the host communities for their understanding and urged the contractors to work with the locals while informing that government has started paying compensation to the land owners.

"I want to commend the host communities for the level of maturity, understanding and commitment they have shown. It is quite commendable, and we are all proud of Nsulu people.

"Already, compensation is being paid. Many host communities have already received their payment and you can see palpable joy, everybody is happy because transparency is what engineers trust and that's one thing you can't take for granted in the administration of His Excellency," Pastor Ajagba stated.

The Special Assistant to the Governor on Land and Housing, who also serves as Project Coordinator for the Abia Airport Project, described the clearing of the access road as a major milestone.

"Today marks a crucial phase of the airport project. With enumeration and preparatory work completed, we are now creating the access road to the runway to facilitate soil tests and other investigations. The road spans approximately 853 meters from the main road to the runway point, and we aim to complete the clearing within the next five to seven days," he said.

Also, the leader of the land owners in the Government Land Owners Forum for Abia State Airport Nsulu and Chairman of the Memorandum of Agreement Committee of the project, Rt. Hon. Uzor Azubuike commended Governor Alex Otti for heeding to their plea of reducing the size of the land from initial 1,800 hectares to 1,000 hectares.

"So, the joy you see here today is the original joy of all the Nsulu people and particularly those who feel like Mary, the mother of

Jesus, that we are privileged to be hosting the airport."

Contributing, a land owner, Mr. Andrew Obinna Ijenri appreciated the sincerity of the Governor Otti's administration in carrying the people along.

"I can't exhaust my terms and nature of impression. I've experienced several governments and administrations come and pass. I think the administration of Dr Alex Chioma Otti has distinguished itself from what we used to have. It's not like business as usual.

"The process of acquisition of land is top-notch. The government has been keeping to their promises.

"I have witnessed by phone calls and by oral testimony that some of our people have been paid. We are very happy." Barr. Ijenri said.

Several Community Representatives, including Nsulu Youth President Prince Chisom Nwaogbe, Umuala Youth President Ifeanyi Nwachukwu, Mrs. Bridget Ijenri, Mrs. Gift Umeh, and Rev. Israel Ukoma, Chairman of Community Relations for the Nsulu Airport Project, expressed their enthusiasm.

They pledged full support for the project and assured the government that the youths would safeguard project equipment and materials.

Earlier the of Manager, CRANEBURG Construction Company, Seba El -Nemer thanked Governor Otti and the Nsulu community for the successful commencement of the processes of creating access road that would lead to the runway.

He promised that the company would deliver the project efficiently and provide employment opportunities for both skilled and unskilled labour from the host communities.

The launch of clearing and road construction for the Abia Airport Nsulu drew a large crowd, with women singing and dancing in celebration of the long-awaited development.

## Local Govt Election Tribunal Starts Siting

By Chinyere Nwachukwu

**T**he Local Government Election Petition Tribunal for the last local government polls in the state has started sitting.

Addressing judiciary correspondents shortly after the inaugural sitting, the secretary of the tribunal, Mr Osinachi Ukata, revealed that so far 13 petitions had been received with five challenging local government chairmanship positions, and eight for councillorship.

According to Ukata, the tribunal which has three months for its assignment was obstructed by the last Judiciary Staff Union of Nigeria (JUSUN) Abia State chapter strike, stressing that serving of petitions to respondents had been successful.

The tribunal secretary said in the meantime sitting have been scheduled to hold three times every week at

Aguiyi Ironsi conference centre Umuahia but is expected to increase as the day goes by.

He expressed satisfaction with the zeal of the three-man member of the tribunal, lawyers of the various parties as well as other various interest groups.

The tribunal which is being headed by a magistrate, has a lawyer and an academic doctor as members.

It would be recalled that the local government chairmanship and councillorship elections took place in the state on the November 8, 2024.

## NDDC Pledges To Collaborate With Uniport, Others

Continued from Page 1

**W**e have undertaken various projects at the University of Port Harcourt, and we look forward to building more partnerships. Let us work together so the region can benefit."

Also, he hinted that as NDDC marked its 25th anniversary, that the

Commission remained steadfast in its mission as an interventionist agency, dedicated to driving development and promoting partnerships across the Niger Delta region.

Speaking, the Senator O h u a n b u n w a commended the NDDC's progress under its current leadership and appealed

to the Commission to continue its support for the University; adding that he's concerned over the University's infrastructural challenges.

He lamented that the total student population was 50,000, while the hostel accommodation capacity was only 5,000; pleading with the NDDC management to support

the university in the provision of electricity, transportation, and gas turbines to enable them have a reliable power supply for the students.

Expressing a heart of gratitude to NDDC for its impactful contributions in Niger Delta region, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Port Harcourt, Professor

Owunari Georgewill, congratulated the management boss on the commendation received from President Tinubu, forecasting optimism in collaborations and as well seek for their presence in the upcoming 50th anniversary celebrations of the University.



## News

### Unubiko Foundation Empowers 18 Female Students

By Chukwuemeka Chijioke

**R**achel Ifeoku Ike Female Education Scheme, a subsidiary of Unubiko Foundation, (a Non-Governmental and profit Organization), has empowered 18 indigenous female scholars from Idima Abam Community in Arochuku Local Government Area (LGA), Abia State with a charge to take their studies seriously.

A trustee of the Education Scheme, and an indigene of the ancient Idima Abam Community in Arochuku, Chief Jones Nnanna Ike, in his address disclosed that the gesture was borne out of passion for the girl-child education his deceased mother, Rachel Ifeoku Ike had advocated while she was alive and emphasized that her mother loved education but never had the privilege to be trained by her parents.

According to Chief Ike, the Education Scheme was established and launched during his Mother's funeral ceremony held at Abam Community on the 9th of August 2024, and was being sponsored by Chief James Chijioke Jnr, The Ike Abam specifically for the girl-child education.

He noted that the essence of the empowerment programme was to equip the girl-child for academic excellence and skills adding that every beneficiary will receive Four hundred thousand Naira (N400,000) and the empowerment would be a yearly scholarship scheme.

Also Speaking, the President and Founder of Unubiko Foundation, Chief James Chijioke Ume, represented by the Rector of Dr. Ogonnaya Onu Polytechnic Aba, Abia State, and the Executive Director of Unubiko Foundation, Engr. Dr. Christopher Okoro Kalu, in his speech disclosed that the 18 female indigenous Scholars from Abam were selected meritoriously having passed through a standard test.

The Abam-born Rector, noted that the scholars have been officially inducted into the Unubiko Foundation via the Rachael Ifeoku Ike Female Education Scheme and will keep receiving the N400,000 scholarship on yearly basis until they are done with their undergraduate studies

adding that their Bank accounts will be credited immediately.

Dr. Okoro maintained that the education empowerment was timely, adding that it coincides with the period when the Abia State Government under the leadership of Governor Alex Chioma Otti, has made education free and compulsory for every child in Abia State.

He further disclosed that Unubiko Foundation is established to render humanitarian assistance to indigent people across the country, revealing that the foundation has over 1000 beneficiaries across the State in its education scheme.

He, therefore, advised the recipients of the scholarship to take their academic studies seriously and shun any form of distractions that would undermine their education pursuit.

He noted that a system has been put in place to monitor their academic performances in their respective schools.

Responding on behalf of the beneficiaries, an undergraduate female Law Student, of Dr. Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ndifu, Ebonyi State, Miss Roseline Daniel, expressed joy and gratitude to the management of Rachael Ifeoku Female Education Scheme and promised that they would work hard academically to sustain the scholarship and make the community proud.

The recipients were, Onwuchekwa Divine Ngozi, Okporie Favour, Francis Chizoba Mary, Ogbasara Kalu Miracle, Ojukwu Miracle Ogechi, Samuel Chisom Favour, and Matthew Chioma Theresa.

Others include: Ifeh Nmesomachi, Matthias Chioma, Francis Ezinne Diana, Matthew Amarachi Precious, Michael Grace, Chidinma Blessing Oruonye, Roseline Daniel, Jessica Origa, Kings Joyce .C, Onuigbo Nmesomachi Precious and Queen Divine Favour.

Engr. Enyinnaya Okereke of Shell Petroleum Development Company, Senior Personal Assistant to the Founder of Unubiko Foundation, Hon. Emma Ike, Clergymen, Community Leaders among others were persons of note that graced the occasion.



■ The Rector, Ogonnaya Onu Polytechnics, Dr. Chris Okoro (8th Left), Chief Jones Ike, the General Manager, Abia Newspapers and Publishing Corporation (9th Right), among the recipients of Rachael Ifeoku Female Education Scheme award ceremony organized by Unubiko's Foundation in Idima Abam Arochuku LGA Recently

### Gov Otti Moves To Transform Umuahia ... Announces Urban Mass Transit Initiative

By Amarachi Uzoukwu

**G**overnor Alex Otti of Abia State has flagged off the reconstruction of the 4.32-kilometer Orpet-Umuafai-Lodu-Ahiaeke Road and the 3.79-kilometer Ahiaeke-Okwuta-Bende Road in Umuahia North LGA, as part of efforts towards transforming the State's Capital City.

Speaking at the ceremony held at Ahiaeke Ndume, Governor Otti who described the projects as more than just road construction, emphasized that the road would on completion in nine months, reshape the Umuahia ecosystem, boost economic activities, and improve the quality of life for residents.

According to the governor, his administration's long-term objective is to make Umuahia a city that holistically supports the dreams of its residents in housing, hospitality, education,

recreation, health, and transportation.

He further noted that beyond reviving existing infrastructure, the road projects would create new employment and income-generating opportunities for thousands of Abians engaged in agriculture, real estate, hospitality, financial services, and technology sectors.

Governor Otti assured that his administration's investments would not only enhance social infrastructure but also increase the city's appeal as a viable business and residential hub, noting that the completion of the roads would significantly end the daily hassles of thousands of people who ply them as they go about their regular social and economic activities.

"We are not just building roads, we are expanding the Umuahia Ecosystem and supporting entrepreneurs and their families as well as lessening the economic

burden of fixed income earners", Governor Otti stated.

He announces plans to launch a state-wide Urban Mass Transit Initiative in the coming months and explained that the further initiative, would improve mobility within Umuahia, Aba, and other major towns as well as ensure cost efficiency and safety for passengers.

According to the governor, the Mass Transit System would be driven by experienced private sector players to ensure operational efficiency and prevent bureaucratic bottlenecks.

He said that the buses, powered by clean energy sources, will be integrated into the new transport infrastructure, including modern bus terminals and road networks, to enhance intra- and inter-city movement.

"The target is to seamlessly move tens of

thousands of people from one part of the town to another, or across different locations of the state at minimal cost

"The modern bus terminals and shelters currently on construction and the superior quality road networks in the city shall form the infrastructure backbone for the new intra and intercity transport regime in Abia", Governor Otti further stated.

Governor Otti who noted that his administration is raising the governance bar in Abia, emphasised that he had successfully balanced infrastructure development with prompt payment of civil servants and retirees, proving that responsible leadership could deliver on multiple fronts without excuses.

"What we have come to do is to raise the governance bar so high that there shall be no room for little thinkers and self-seeking actors in our political space, when we are done", he said.

### Abia Govt Pledges To Support Federal Fire Service

By Ndubueze Ngozi

**T**he Abia State Government has said that it will continue to support the Federal Fire Service, Abia State Command for effective, responsive and efficient services.

The Secretary to the State Government Prof Kenneth Kalu stated this when he received the Controller, Federal fire

service, Abia State Command, Onyendi Juliet, and her team who visited him in his office.

Prof Kalu maintained that the critical role the agency plays in safe guarding lives and property cannot be overemphasized.

He pointed out that the present administration led by Governor Alex Otti, is poised to ensure that we

have a decent state that will be comfortable for all, hence, has embarked on massive investment in infrastructure of major sectors including security, health education among others.

The SSG assured them that their request will be looked into with a view to tackling them.

In her speech, the leader of the team ASP Onyendi

Juliet, disclosed that the familiarization visit was to solicit collaboration with state government.

She reeled out some of their challenges, which include lack of befitting office accommodation, lack of operational vehicles, among others. She expressed hope that more Abians will be involved in the forthcoming recruitment of the agency.



## News

### Breach of Public Service Rules Attracts Sanctions – Ojeikere

By Ndubueze Ngozi

**T**he Abia State Head of Service, (HOS) Mr. Benson Ojeikere, has stated that henceforth, any breach of the public service rules and regulations will attract sanctions.

Ojeikere who made this known during a meeting with the management staff of the office of the Head of service, noted that it will no longer be business as usual, warned that civil servants should sit up and apply diligence in the discharge of their duties, stressing that laziness and inefficiency will longer be tolerated in the service.

The HOS who noted that the present administration is committed to have a seamless service devoid of corruption and bribery, emphasised the need for civil servants to desist from acts capable of denting their image, pointing out that this will help to restore the lost reputation and integrity of the Abia workforce.

Emphasizing the importance of the work plan, the HOS maintained that it plays a vital role in the sense that it takes into account staff output in their daily activities and urged all to always submit their work plan on weekly basis.

He also stressed the need for the Bureaux under Head of Service to implement a time stamping system, which according to him, will help to monitor file movements.

Ojeikere who reiterated Abia Government's commitment in improving worker's welfare, stressed the need for quality service delivery to guarantee more dividends to Abia worker.

The HOS who underscored the importance of in-service-training, expressed hope that the embargo placed on it can be reversed, if only Abia workers will demonstrate credibility, dedication and efficiency in discharging their duties.

Ojeikere who regretted that recognition and merit awards to diligent and hardworking civil servants have almost gone into extinction, called for its resuscitation in the various MDAs as this will bring about motivation and increased productivity.

The event featured recognition and cash gift from the HOS, to Mr James, a staff member of Bureau of Establishment and Pension.



■ The Commissioner for Arts, Culture and Creative Economy, Hon. Mathew Ekwuribe (Middle), the General Manager, Abia Newspapers and Publishing Corporation (4th Right) among others during a press conference in Umuahia, recently.

## Ekponibro Festival: A Cultural Heritage That Must Be Preserved - Ekwuribe

By Favour Okorie

**T**he Abia State government under the administration of Dr. Alex Otti, has endorsed the Ekponibro festival, partnering Unubiko foundation as the major sponsor for the 2025 Edition.

The Commissioner for Arts, Culture, and Creative Economy, Honorable Matthew C. Ekwuribe, gave the cheering news during a press conference in Umuahia, recently. Ekwuribe described the Ekponibro Festival as an important cultural celebration that is a vital aspect of Igbo cultural heritage and must be preserved for future generations.

The Commissioner who emphasized the importance of safeguarding the Ekponibro Festival and other cultural events, stated that the Festival, which takes place every April in Atan Abam, Arochukwu Local Government Area, Abia State, serves as a reminder of the traditions and practices passed down through generations. He stressed that the festival, which holds both historical and cultural significance, essentially

celebrates excellence, industry, and unity. The Commissioner further emphasized that the Igbo people's rich- cultural heritage should not be allowed to fade away.

Hon. Ekwuribe praised the current administration under His Excellency, Dr. Alex Chioma Otti, for prioritizing cultural preservation alongside other developmental initiatives. He described Dr. Otti as a "round peg in a round hole" and commended his efforts in promoting various aspects of Igbo culture, including cultural festivals.

He also noted that this year's Atan Abam Ekponibro Festival, scheduled for April 29, will serve as an opportunity to celebrate the hard work and accomplishments of the community while fostering a sense of unity and pride.

According to Hon. Ekwuribe, the Ekponibro Festival strengthens communal ties, bringing people together to reflect on values such as excellence, industry, unity, and principles upheld by their ancestors. He pledged his unwavering support for the festival and its preservation.

Earlier, the General Manager of Abia

Newspaper and Publishing Corporation, publishers of the National Ambassador Newspaper and Magazine, Hon. Jones Ike, provided a historical overview of the Ekponibro Festival. He explained that, the festival is celebrated annually by sea merchants, marking the end of their trading year, typically before the rainy season begins.

"Originally celebrated by the Ibibios, the festival was later adopted by their Igbo neighbours who incorporated elements of traditional Igbo culture into the celebration. Today, the people of Atan Abam are striving to maintain the festival's cultural significance in its modern form, while also infusing it with elements that reflect contemporary Igbo culture. Over time, the Abam people have modernized and adapted the festival to reflect their own unique way of life, while honoring its roots."

Hon. Ike also highlighted efforts aimed at raising awareness about the forthcoming Ekponibro Festival, scheduled for April 29, 2025, at Atan Abam community, Arochukwu LGA, Abia State. He Commended Chief James Chijioke (Jnr), the Ike Abam of Abam Onyerubi for his kin interest in promoting the culture of his people and

more importantly for sponsoring the festival through his charity Organization the Unbiko Foundation. Hon. Ike said the Ike Abam has consistently sponsored the Ekponibro Festival over the years, and had by so doing continued to attract significant attention for it. He also commended the state governor, Dr Alex Chioma Otti for not only given strong attention to infrastructural development but also in the promotion and preservation of Igbo cultural heritage.

He encouraged everyone to attend the festival and participate in the celebrations.

The Chairman of the Organizing Committee, Mr. Kalu Olaka Kalu, and Mr. Ben Ogbuzu, a committee member, both expressed their commitment towards ensuring the continued success of the Ekponibro Festival. They emphasized that while the festival has roots in a borrowed tradition, it has been modernized to reflect the lifestyle of the Igbo people. They stressed that the festival is non-demonic and encouraged everyone, especially the youths, to engage in meaningful activities as their

ancestors did. This years festival will also feature awards for individuals who have made outstanding contributions to their community.

According to the organizing committee members, the Ekponibro Festival on April 29, 2025, will be more than just a cultural event. It will serve as a symbol of the resilience and vibrancy of the Igbo people. They emphasized the importance of ensuring that the festival continues to be celebrated and preserved not only as a reflection of the past but as a living tradition that will inspire future generations. The community's dedication to upholding the festival's significance serves as a testament to the enduring importance of cultural heritage in shaping identity and fostering unity.

In attendance at the press conference were the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Arts, Culture, and Creative Economy, Barrister Ehiemere Chibuzor, Director of Culture Mr. Chibuike Ukata, and the Head of the Tourism Department, Lady Godwin Joy Dennis.



# Editorial

## The Needs To Protect Nigerian Judicial System From Desecration

**T**he judiciary, as the third arm of government, plays a vital role in upholding the rule of law, protecting human rights, and ensuring that justice is served.

However, the Nigerian judicial system has often faced numerous challenges, including corruption, inefficiency, and lack of transparency. To address these issues and establish a formidable judicial system, integrity must be the guiding principle.

Integrity is the foundation upon which a credible and trustworthy judicial system is built. It encompasses honesty, impartiality, and accountability. When judges, magistrates, and other judicial officers possess integrity, they make decisions based on the law, without fear or favour. This leads to fair and just outcomes, which in turn, reinforce public trust and confidence in the judicial system.

Unfortunately, the Nigerian judicial system has been marred by allegations of corruption, bribery, and undue influence. These vices have eroded public trust and undermined the integrity of the judiciary. To restore the integrity of the judicial system, several measures must be taken:

- **Appointment of Judicial Officers:** The appointment of judges and magistrates should be based on merit, integrity, and character. The National Judicial Council (NJC) must ensure that only candidates with impeccable records are appointed to the bench.

- **Training and Capacity Building:** Regular training and capacity-building programs

should be organized for judicial officers to enhance their knowledge, skills, and integrity.

- **Code of Conduct:** A strict code of conduct should be enforced, and judicial officers who violate it should face disciplinary action.

- **Transparency and Accountability:** The judicial system should be transparent and accountable. Court proceedings should be open, and judgments should be accessible to the public.

- **Independent Funding:** The judiciary should have independent funding to ensure its independence and impartiality.

Moreso, we urge that the temple of justice in Nigeria should indeed be protected from desecration by desperate politicians. The judiciary is a sacred institution that plays a vital role in upholding the rule of law, protecting human rights, and ensuring that justice is served.

Desperate politicians who seek to manipulate the judiciary for their own selfish interests undermine the integrity of the institution and erode public trust. This can have far-reaching consequences, including the subversion of democracy, the suppression of human rights, and the perpetuation of injustice.

To prevent the desecration of the temple of justice also, it is essential to:

- Ensure the independence of the judiciary: The judiciary should be free from interference from the executive and legislative branches of government.

- Judges should also be protected from intimidation, harassment, or attacks from desperate politicians or their agents.

By taking these measures, we can safeguard the integrity of the judiciary and ensure that the temple of justice remains a sacred institution that upholds the rules of law and protects human rights.

The time to act is now. Let us join hands to build a judicial system that is founded on integrity, transparency, and accountability.

LETTERS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:  
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**NATIONAL AMBASSADOR**  
**P.M.B 7245, UMUAHIA**  
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## Needs To Immortalize Professor -Humphrey Nwosu

Dear Editor,

**A**s we reflect on the life and legacy of the late Professor Humphrey Nwosu, I am compelled to write, to emphasize the imperative of immortalizing this Nigerian icon. Professor Nwosu's contributions to Nigeria's democratic landscape, particularly during his tenure as Chairman of the National Electoral Commission (NEC), remain unparalleled.

The June 12, 1993, presidential election, which was conducted under Professor Nwosu's watch, will forever be etched in Nigeria's history as a watershed moment. Despite the challenges and controversies surrounding that election, Professor Nwosu's commitment to fairness, transparency, and integrity earned him widespread respect and admiration. His leadership and vision helped to establish the NEC as a credible and independent institution, which has had a lasting impact on Nigeria's electoral process.

Professor Nwosu's legacy extends beyond his work at the NEC. He was a renowned academic, a respected scholar, and a dedicated public servant. His contributions to the fields of political science, international relations, and public administration have had a profound impact on Nigeria's intellectual landscape. His commitment to good governance, democracy, and human rights has inspired generations of Nigerians to work towards a more just, equitable, and democratic society.

In light of Professor Nwosu's remarkable contributions to Nigeria's democracy, it is imperative that we immortalize him. This can be done in various ways, including:

- Naming a major national institution, such as an electoral commission office or a university building, after him

- Establishing a foundation or scholarship programme in his name to promote democratic values and good governance

- Declaring a national day of recognition or commemoration in his honour

- Creating a Professor Humphrey Nwosu Chair in Electoral Studies or Democracy and Governance at a reputable university

- Publishing his memoirs, speeches, and writings to provide insights into his life, work, and legacy

By taking these steps, we can ensure that Professor Nwosu's legacy continues to inspire and motivate Nigerians to work towards a more just, equitable, and democratic society. We owe it to ourselves, our children, and future generations to honour his memory and celebrate his contributions to Nigeria's democracy.

Best regards.

*From Okenwa, Adaku Jane  
Umuhia, Abia State*

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# I Almost Gave Up - Tinubu Reflects On Presidential Journey

**P**resident Bola Tinubu has shared candid reflections on his presidential campaign journey, revealing a moment of doubt when he nearly abandoned his ambition to run for the office.

Speaking during a special birthday iftar organized to appreciate his close allies as part of his 73rd birthday celebration, Tinubu acknowledged the encouragement he received from Aminu Masari, a trusted confidant, which ultimately propelled him to continue his quest for the presidency.

The event, which was attended by key political figures, also saw President Tinubu express gratitude to Nigerians for their overwhelming support and goodwill.

According to Tinubu, during a particularly challenging period of his campaign, a relative approached him late at night, lamenting the economic hardship allegedly caused by his presidential ambition. The relative claimed people were struggling to access cash, including a wealthy uncle who could not obtain N10,000. Despite this discouragement, Tinubu remained resolute.

"I told him, 'I am running for President, not for you or our uncle.' He left me with doubts, but I was determined. Even when he told me I wouldn't make it, I confidently replied, 'I will make it,'" Tinubu recalled.

The President also spoke about his decision to remove the fuel subsidy on the day of his inauguration, describing it as a critical and timely action necessary to secure Nigeria's economic future.

"The hallmark of a great leader is the ability to make the right decision at the right time. I was criticized and even vilified in the



■ Hon. Joshua Chinedu Obika and Senator Iretti Kingibe FCT Senator, at the commissioning of the 20-seater Capacity WAEC ICT Laboratory at Government Secondary School Orozo in Abuja recently.

media for announcing that the subsidy was gone. But I knew it was the right thing to do for our nation's progress," Tinubustated.

Vice President Kashim Shettima, who attended the event, praised Tinubu for his boldness and unwavering resolve in confronting the nation's most complex challenges. According to Shettima, Tinubu's actions have set a precedent that future Nigerian presidents will benefit from, including eliminating fraudulent fuel subsidies and stabilizing the foreign exchange market.

"True leadership is not for those who seek comfort. It is for those who understand that the path to national greatness is paved with difficult choices," Shettima

noted.

In his words Senate President Godswill Akpabio commended President Tinubu for his capacity to forgive and his relentless drive to improve Nigeria.

Describing him as the most audacious leader in Nigeria's history, Akpabio praised Tinubu's ability to generate more revenue for state governors, thereby enhancing their capacity to deliver quality governance.

Also in his speech, Minister of Communications Innovation, and Digital Economy, Dr. Bosun Tijjani, shared a personal testimony of being appointed by Tinubu despite his previous activism. He described the President as a leader who recognizes merit and is willing to give opportunities based on competence rather

than personal familiarity.

"Before my appointment, I had never met Mr. President. But after my confirmation, he told me, 'I have looked at your records and activism, and I am giving you an opportunity to serve,'" Tijjanirecounted.

Similarly, Governor Hope Uzodinma of Imo State also lauded Tinubu's decisive leadership at a time when Nigeria required stability, acknowledging that only a leader with deep conviction and love for the nation could make such bold moves to restore hope across the federation.

President Tinubu reiterated his commitment to advancing Nigeria's development and expressed his gratitude to those who stood by him throughout his journey.



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## Lawmaker Commissions Project In Abuja

**T**he 20 capacity WAEC standard ICT Laboratory at Government Secondary School (GSS) Orozo, built by the member representing AMAC/Bwari Federal Constituency in the FCT in partnership with OFON Essential Global Foundation has been commissioned.

The initiative underscores Hon Obika's commitment to providing students access to modern technology and resources, which are critical for developing requisite skills in computer science, programming and digital applications.

Speaking on the occasion, Hon Obika harped on the importance of the ICT Laboratory in improving academic performance, preparing students for future career and contributing to the overall development of the community.

He maintained that such investment in education are vital for empowering the youth and equipping them with the tools needed to excel in a rapidly evolving digital World.

The event attracted the presence of the Distinguished Senator Iretti Kingibe, the FCT Senator, who expressed strong support for the initiative.

Senator Kingibe promised to provide a solar-powered generator to ensure steady power supply for the laboratory.

In a related Development, a 2024 special Intervention project comprising a block of six classroom at Lugbe Zone 9, within the AMAC/BWARI Federal Constituency FCT Abuja facilitated by Hon Joshua Chinedu Obika has been completed.

The project is a demonstration of Hon Obika's commitment to improving education and infrastructure in his Constituency.

The new classrooms will provide the much-desired conducive teaching and learning environment.

The gesture is also in agreement with Hon Obika's pledge to deliver quality representation, providing impactful projects to raise the standard of living of his constituents.

Meanwhile, Hon. Obika, has visited the Karu Bridge, the site of tragic accident that claimed many lives.

He was accompanied on the visit by members of the House Committee on FCT Area Councils and Ancillary Matters, led by its Chairman, Hon Frederick Agbedi as well as, the Chairman of the Abuja Municipal Area Council (AMAC), Hon. Christopher Maikalangu.

Speaking, Hon Obika expressed deep sorrow over the unfortunate incident while stressing the need for immediate measures to forestall future occurrence.

The federal law maker made public plans to implement strict laws restricting the movement of heavy duty vehicles within the FCT, particularly during certain hours to enhance safety.

He also warned that severe consequences would be imposed on those who violated the forthcoming bye-laws set by AMAC.

The visit underscores the government's commitment to addressing safety concerns and ensuring the well-being of residents in the Federal Capital Territory.

## Ayogu Becomes Member, Board Of Directors Of CBN

**T**he Nigeria Senate has approved the appointment of Professor Melvin D. Ayogu as a member of the Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Nigeria.

The approval came recently following the presentation and consideration of Senator Adetokunbo Abiru, APC, Lagos East led Senate

Committee on Banking, Insurance & Other Financial Institutions.

Presenting the report, Senator Osita Izunaso, APC, Imo West said "The Senate do Receive and Consider the Report of the Committee on Banking, Insurance & Other Financial Institutions on the confirmation of the nomination of Prof.

Melvin Damian Ayogu for appointment as a member Board of Directors, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN)."

President Tinubu had earlier, last week, asked the Senate to consider and confirm the nomination of Professor Melvin D. Ayogu as a member of the Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Nigeria.

According to the letter

read by the President of the Senate, Senator Godswill Akpabio during plenary, President Tinubu said, "In compliance with the provisions of Section 10(1) of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) (Establishment) Act, 2007, I am pleased to present, for confirmation by the Senate, the appointment of Prof.

Melvin D. Ayogu as a member of the Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Nigeria. His Curriculum Vitae is attached herewith.

"The Senate is invited to kindly note that this nominee is to make up the number of the Board of Directors as provided by Section 6 of the CBN Act, 2007."



# Advertorial



## GOVERNMENT OF ABIA STATE OF NIGERIA

ABIA STATE UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION BOARD (ASUBEB)  
P. M. B 7278 UMUAHIA, ABIA STATE.

### INVITATION TO TENDER/EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR YEAR 2020, 2021, 2022 UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION (UBE) INTERVENTION PROJECTS

#### 1. INTRODUCTION:

The Abia State Universal Basic Education Board (ASUBEB) is a State Agency established under Law No. 9 of 2004 by the Abia State House of Assembly. It is mandated to oversee the implementation, management, and regulation of Basic Education delivery across the State.

As the regulatory authority for Basic Education, the Board is responsible for administering and executing policies, programmes, and projects, aimed at enhancing the quality of teaching and learning. Its scope of operation encompasses all Early Child Care Development Education (ECCDE), Primary, and Junior Secondary Schools in Abia State, ensuring the effective implementation of educational initiatives to foster academic excellence and sustainable development.

#### 2. SCOPE OF WORK:

The Abia State Universal Basic Education Board (ASUBEB), Umuahia, in collaboration with the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC), Abuja, intends to utilize the Federal Government's UBE Intervention Funds allocated for the years 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 to implement various infrastructural projects. These projects include the construction and renovation of classroom blocks, the provision of teachers' and learners' furniture, and the procurement of essential equipment and materials to enhance Early Child Care Development Education (ECCDE), Primary, and Junior Secondary Schools across the State.

In light of this, the Board hereby invites eligible companies and firms to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) and Tender for the procurement of works, goods, and services. The scope of procurement includes, but is not limited to:

UBE YEAR 2020 INTERVENTION PROJECT			
PROCUREMENT OF WORKS			LOT A
S/N	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	LOT NO
1.	Renovation Of 2-Classroom Block And 2 Offices; Construction Of 300m Length Perimeter Fence And Gate House	Bende Community School Bende	A1
2.	Construction Of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Eziobu Primary School Aba North	A2
3.	Construction Of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Eziobu Primary School Aba North	A3
4.	Construction Of Perimeter Fence With Gate House	Eziobu Primary School Aba North	A4
5.	Construction Of 4-Compartment WC Toilet	Eziobu Primary School Aba North	A5
6.	Construction Of School Hall And Construction 200m Length Perimeter Fence with gate house	Osusu Primary School III Aba North	A6
7.	Construction Of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Iyinla Community School Ikwuano	A7
8.	Construction Of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Oboni Upa Central School Ikwuano	A8
9.	Renovation Of 4-Classroom Block/Office	Eziobu Primary School Aba North	A9



## Advertorial

10.	A. Renovation of school hall; b. Renovation of classroom block/ office/ store	Mba Community School Isiala Ngwa South	<b>A10</b>
11.	Renovation Of 3-Classroom Block /Office/Store And Renovation Of 4 Classroom Block/ Office/Store	Amano Umuezigbe Comm. School Obingwa	<b>A11</b>
12.	Construction of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Osusu Community Secondary School Aba North	<b>A12</b>
13.	Construction Of 700m Length Perimeter Fence With Gate House	Eluama Secondary School Isuikwuato	<b>A13</b>
14.	Construction Of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Mkporobe C/School Ukwu East	<b>A14</b>
15.	Construction Of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Umunato C/School Ameke Item Bende	<b>A15</b>
16.	Renovation Of 5-Classroom Block	Eluama Secondary School Isuikwuato	<b>A16</b>
17.	Renovation Of 5-Classroom Block	Eluama Secondary School Isuikwuato	<b>A17</b>
18.	Renovation Of 5-Classroom Block	Eluama Secondary School Isuikwuato	<b>A18</b>

### UBE YEAR 2020 INTERVENTION PROJECT

PROCUREMENT OF GOODS			LOT B
S/N	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	LOT NO
13.	Procurement Of Plastic Lockers And Chairs	Amano Umuezigbe Comm. School Obingwa	<b>B1</b>
14.	Procurement Of Plastic Lockers And Chairs	Bende Community School Bende	<b>B2</b>
15.	Procurement Of Plastic Lockers And Chairs	Amankalu Alayi Primary School Bende	<b>B3</b>
16.	Procurement Of Plastic Lockers And Chairs	Iyinla Community Primary School Ikwuano	<b>B4</b>
17.	Procurement Of Plastic Lockers And Chairs	Oboni Upa Central School Ikwuano	<b>B5</b>
18.	Procurement Of Plastic Lockers And Chairs	Osusu Community Secondary School Aba North	<b>B6</b>
19.	Procurement Of Plastic Lockers And Chairs	Eluama Secondary School Isuikwuato	<b>B7</b>



## Advertorial

UBE INTERVENTION PROJECT YEAR 2021			
PROCUREMENT OF WORKS			LOT C
S/N	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	LOT NO
1	Construction of 700 M Length of Perimeter Fence with Gate House	Mba Community School Isiala Ngwa South	C1
2	Construction Of 2-Classroom Block	Amaise Ukpakiri Central School Obingwa	C2
3	Construction Of 3-Classroom Block	Mba Community School Isiala Ngwa South	C3
4	Construction of 700m Length of Perimeter Fence with Gate House	Amano Umuezigbe Community School Obingwa	C4
5	Construction of 700m Length of Perimeter Fence with Gate House	Ngwaobi Community Primary School Isiala Ngwa South	C5
6	Construction of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Ngwaobi Community Primary School Isiala Ngwa South	C6
7	Construction of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Ngwaobi Community Primary School Isiala Ngwa South	C7
8	Construction Of 3-Classroom Block with Office	Ngwaobi Community Primary School Isiala Ngwa South	C8
9	Construction of 700m Length of Perimeter Fence with Gate House	Umuobiala Community School Isuikwuato	C9
10	Construction Of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Eluama Central School Isuikwuato	C10
11	Construction of 700m Length of Perimeter Fence and Gate House	Eluama Central School Isuikwuato	C11
12	Renovation of U-Block Of 7 Classrooms	Ngwaobi Community Primary School Isiala Ngwa South	C12
13	Renovation of 3-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Amano Umuezigbe Community School Obingwa	C13
14	Renovation of 2-Classroom Block/Office	Amuda Primary School Umuogele Umunneochi	C14
15	Reconstruction of School Hall	Bende Community School Bende	C15
16	Reconstruction of 4-Classroom Block	Bende Community School Bende	C16



## Advertorial

17	Reconstruction of 2-Classroom Block/Office	Amankalu Alayi Primary School Bende	C17
18	Reconstruction of 2-Classroom Block/Office	Amankalu Alayi Primary School Bende	C18
19	Drilling of water bore Hole/Construction of 3.6m High Stanchion /Procurement of 2 Nos. 650 Gallons GP Tanks and 1 Nos. 5.5kva Gasoline Generating Set	Mba Community School Isiala Ngwa South	C19
20	Drilling of Water Bore Hole/Construction of 3.6m high Stanchion /Procurement of 2 Nos. 650 Gallons GP Tanks and 1 Nos. 5.5kva gasoline generating set	Ngwaobi Community Primary School Isiala Ngwa South	C20
21	Drilling of Water Bore Hole/Construction of 3.6m high Stanchion /Procurement of 2 Nos. 650 Gallons GP Tanks and 1 Nos. 5.5kva gasoline generating set	Amano Umuezigbe Community School Obingwa	C21
22	Construction of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Boys' High School Umuokparazara Olokoro Umuahia South	C22
23	Construction Of 700m Length of Perimeter Fence with Gate House	Otodo Model Secondary School Asaga Ohafia	C23
24	Construction of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Mbom Community Junior Secondary School Umuahia North	C24
25	Construction of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Mbom Community Junior Secondary School Umuahia North	C25
26	Construction of 700m Length of Perimeter Fence with Gate House	Mbom Community Junior Secondary School Umuahia North	C26
27	Renovation of Classrooms 5-Classroom Block with Office	Umuaku C/S Umunneochi	C27
28	Renovation of Classrooms 5-Classroom Block With Office	Umuaku C/S Umunneochi	C28
29	Renovation Of 6-Classrooms with Office	Amaise Ukpakiri C/School Obingwa	C29



## Advertorial

UBE INTERVENTION PROJECT YEAR 2021			
PROCUREMENT OF GOODS			LOT D
S/N	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	LOT NO
1	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Mba Community School Isiala Ngwa South	D1
2	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Ngwaobi Community Primary School Isiala Ngwa South	D2
3	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Mbom Community Junior Secondary School Umuahia North	D3
4	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Umuaku C/S Umunneochi	D4
5	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Ngodo Girls' Secondary School Isuochi Umunneochi	D5
6	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Oboro Community Junior Secondary School Ikwuano	D6
UBE INTERVENTION PROJECT YEAR 2022			
PROCUREMENT OF WORKS			LOT E
S/N	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	LOT NO.
1	18- Classroom Block with all Accessories	Umuehim Model School Isialangwa South LGA	E1
2	Construction of 700m Length of Perimeter Fence with Gate House And Landscaping of Entrance Road And beautification of Premises with Flowers and Trees	Umuehim Model School Isialangwa South LGA	E2
3	Construction of HM's Quarters and Construction of Teachers' Quarters	Umuehim Model School Isialangwa South LGA	E3
4	Construction of 700m Length of Perimeter Fence with Gate House	Abia Community Primary School Ohafia	E4
5	Construction of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Isiadu Primary School Umuahia North	E5
6	Construction of 700m Length of Perimeter Fence with Gate House	Isiadu Primary School Umuahia North	E6
7	Construction of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Umntowe Central School Itaja Umuahia South	E7
8	Construction of 700m Length of Perimeter Fence with Gate House	Umntowe Central School Itaja Umuahia South	E8
9	Renovation/Retrofitting Of 4-Classroom Block	Urban primary school 3 Umuahia North	E9
10	Renovation Of 3-Classroom Block A Hall (Block D)	Oberete Ibeme community school Obingwa	E10



## Advertorial

<b>11</b>	Renovation of School Hall	Umuzomgbo Primary School Ihechiowa Arochukwu	<b>E11</b>
<b>12</b>	Renovation Of 3 Classroom with Office	Umuzomgbo Primary School Ihechiowa Arochukwu	<b>E12</b>
<b>13</b>	Renovation of 2 Classroom with Office	Umuzomgbo Primary School Ihechiowa Arochukwu	<b>E13</b>
<b>14</b>	Renovation of Hall And 2-Classrooms and Renovation Of 3- Classroom Block/Office/Store (Block B)	Abia Community Primary School Ohafia	<b>E14</b>
<b>15</b>	Reconstruction Of 2-Classroom/Library/Off/Store (BLK C) And Renovation Of 2 Classroom Block (Blk E)	Abia Community Primary School Ohafia	<b>E15</b>
<b>16</b>	Construction of 700m Length of Perimeter Fence with Gate House	Umuakwu Nsulu Community Junior Secondary School Isiala Ngwa North	<b>E16</b>
<b>17</b>	Construction Of 4-Classroom Block with Office and Store	Umuakwu Nsulu Community Junior Secondary School Isiala Ngwa North	<b>E17</b>
<b>18</b>	Construction of 700m Length of Perimeter Fence with Gate House	Okpulu Ukwu Community School Isiala Ngwa North	<b>E18</b>
<b>19</b>	Construction of 4-Classroom Block with Office and Store	Okpulu Ukwu Community School Isiala Ngwa North	<b>E19</b>
<b>20</b>	Construction of 4-Classroom Block with Office and Store	Onyerubi Comprehensive Secondary School	<b>E20</b>
<b>21</b>	Construction of 3-Classroom Block with Office and Store	Amafor Isingwu Primary/JSS Umuahia North	<b>E21</b>
<b>22</b>	Renovation of 4-Classroom Block/Office and Renovation of 3 Classroom Block	Umuakwu Nsulu Community Junior Secondary School Isiala Ngwa North	<b>E22</b>
<b>23</b>	Renovation of 4-Classroom And Renovation Of 2 Classroom With School Nall	Okpulu Ukwu Community School Isiala Ngwa North	<b>E23</b>
<b>24</b>	Renovation of 3-Classroom/Office	Amafor Isingwu Primary/JSS Umuahia North	<b>E24</b>
<b>25</b>	Renovation Of 4-Classroom Block/Office/4-Stores and Renovation of 4 Classroom Block/ 2 Offices/ One Store	Amuda Community School Umuogele Umunneochi	<b>E25</b>



## Advertorial

UBE INTERVENTION PROJECT YEAR 2022			
PROCUREMENT OF GOODS			LOT F
S/N	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	LOT NO.
1	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Umuehim Model School Isiala Ngwa South LGA	F1
2	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Atani Primary School Arochukwu	F2
	Construction of Teachers Tables and Chairs Made with Complete HDF Wood		
	Procurement of White Magnetic Marker Board (2.4M X 1.2M)		
3	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Umuzomgbo Primary School Ihechiowa Arochukwu	F3
	Construction of Teachers Tables and Chairs Made with Complete HDF Wood		
	Procurement of White Magnetic Marker Board (2.4M X 1.2M)		
4	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Abia Community Primary School Ohafia	F4
	Construction of Teachers Tables and Chairs Made with Complete HDF Wood		
	Procurement of White Magnetic Marker Board (2.4M X 1.2M)		
5	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Umuntowe Central School Itaja Umuahia South	F5
	Construction of Teachers Tables and Chairs made with Complete HDF Wood		
	Procurement of White Magnetic Marker Board (2.4M X 1.2M)		



## Advertorial

<b>6</b>	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Umuakwu Nsulu Community School Isiala Ngwa North	<b>F6</b>
	Construction of Teachers Tables and Chairs made with Complete HDF wood		
	Procurement of White Magnetic Marker Board (2.4M X 1.2M)		
<b>7</b>	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Isiadu Primary School Umuahia North	<b>F7</b>
<b>8</b>	Construction of Teachers Tables and Chairs Made with Complete HDF Wood		
<b>9</b>	Procurement of White Magnetic Marker Board (2.4M X 1.2M)		
<b>10</b>	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Oza Umuebukwu Community Primary School Ugwunagbo	<b>F8</b>
	Construction of Teachers Tables And Chairs Made With Complete HDF Wood		
	Procurement of White Magnetic Marker Board (2.4M X 1.2M)		
<b>11</b>	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Ezeukwu Central School Ezeukwu Bende	<b>F9</b>
	Construction of Teachers Tables and Chairs Made With Complete HDF Wood		
	Procurement of White Magnetic Marker Board (2.4M X 1.2M)		
<b>12</b>	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Amafor Isingwu Primary/JSS Umuahia North	<b>F10</b>
	Construction of Teachers Tables and Chairs Made with Complete HDF Wood		
	White Magnetic (Marker) Board		
<b>13</b>	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Onyerubi Comprehensive Secondary School	<b>F11</b>
	Construction of Teachers Tables and Chairs Made with Complete HDF Wood		
	Procurement of White Magnetic Marker Board (2.4M X 1.2M)		
<b>14</b>	Procurement of Plastic Locker and Chair	Ezigbere Secondary School Bende	<b>F12</b>
	Procurement of White Magnetic Marker Board (2.4M X 1.2M)		

## Advertorial

UBE INTERVENTION PROJECT YEAR 2023			
PROCUREMENT OF WORKS			LOT G
S/N	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	LOT NO
1	Construction of Perimeter Fencing (700M) and Gate House	Umunteke Primary School Ukwa West	G1
2	Renovation of 6 Classroom Block /Office/Store	Umunteke Primary School Ukwa West	G2
3	Renovation of Block of 4 Classrooms and Block of 5 Classrooms at Amuzukwu Primary school Umuahia north	Amuzukwu Primary school Umuahia North Amuzukwu	G3
4	Construction of 4 Classroom Block and Office/Store at Amuzukwu Community School Umuahia North	Amuzukwu Primary school Umuahia North	G4
5	Construction of 4 Classroom Block and Office/Store at Amuzukwu Community School Umuahia North	Amuzukwu Primary school Umuahia North	G5
6	Renovation of Block of 6 Classrooms at Amuzukwu comm. School Umuahia North	Amuzukwu Primary school Umuahia North	G6
7	Renovation of Block of 6 Classrooms	Akanu Ngwa Community Primary School Ugwunagbo	G7
8	4-Classroom Block/Office and Store	Amator Community Primary School Amator Osioma	G8
9	Construction of Perimeter Fence (700m) and Gate House	Amator Community Primary School Amator Osioma	G9



## Advertorial

10	Perimeter Fence (700m)/ Gate House	Etiti Abam Central School II Atani Abam Arochukwu	G10
11	Construction of 3-Classroom Block	Migrant Farmers Primary School Akanu Ndoki Ukwu East	G11
12	Perimeter Fence (700m)/ Gate House	Umuogo Primary School Ubakala Umuahia South	G12
13	Renovation/Retrofitting of 5-Classroom Block	Okpocha Primary School Ohafia	G13
14	Reconstruction of 4-Classroom Block/Office (BLK C)	Elu Community School Ohafia	G14
	Renovation Of 4-Classroom Block (BLK B)		
	Renovation of 3-Classroom Block/HM'S Office (BLK A)		
15	Renovation of 4-Classroom Block/Office/Store	Umunteke Primary School Ukwu West	G15
16	Renovation Of School Hall ( BLK F)	Umunteke Primary School Ukwu West	G16
17	Reconstruction of 4-Classroom Block	Etiti Abam Central School II Atani Abam Arochukwu	G17
18	Reconstruction of 3-Classroom Block/Office/Library	Igbere Central School Bende	G18
19	Construction of 4 Classroom Block and Office/Store	Ukebe Ngwa Nomadic Pry. School Ugwunagbo	G19
20	Renovation of 5 Classroom Block	Okon Aku Comprehensive Secondary School Ohafia	G20
21	Renovation of 5 Classroom Block	Okon Aku Comprehensive Secondary School Ohafia	G21
22	Renovation of 4 Classroom Block	Abayi Nchokoro community school Ugwunagbo	G22
23	Renovation of Story Building School Hall and 6 Classrooms	Amuzukwu Girls Secondary School Umuahia North	G23
24	Renovation of Story Building School Hall and 6 Classrooms	Amuzukwu Girls Secondary School Umuahia North	G24
25	Construction of 700m Perimeter Fencing	Okon Aku Comprehensive Secondary School Ohafia	G25
26	Renovation of 6 Classroom Block	Abayi Nchokoro community school Ugwunagbo	G26

## Advertorial

27	Construction of 2 Classroom Block	Community School Amapu Ngwa IsialaNgwa North	G27
28	Renovation/Retrofitting Of 4-Classroom Block	Ogbor Hill Pry 2 School Aba North	G28
29	Reconstruction Of 3 Class BLK To 4-Classroom Block	Ndume Otuka Junior Secondary School Umuahia North	G29
30	Reconstruction Of 3 Class BLK TO 5-Classroom Block	Ndume Otuka Junior Secondary School Umuahia North	G30

### UBE INTERVENTION PROJECT YEAR 2023

### PROCUREMENT OF GOODS

S.N	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	LOT H
1	Procurement and Delivery of 300 Pupils' Lockers/Chair	Akanu Ngwa Community Primary School Ugwunagbo(100):: Okpocha Primary School Ohafia(100): Ukebe Ngwa Nomadic Primary School Ugwunagbo (100)	H1
2	Procurement Of 150 Nos. Pupils' Lockers/Chair	Elu Community School Ohafia	H2
	Procurement of 10 Nos. Teachers Tables/chairs		
	White Magnetic (Marker) Board		
3	Procurement of 150 Nos. Pupils' Lockers/Chair	Amator Community Primary School Amator Osioma	H3
	Procurement of 10 Nos. Teachers' Furniture	Amator Community Primary School Amator Osioma	
	White Magnetic (Marker) Board	Amator Community Primary School Amator Osioma	
4	Procurement of 200 Pupils' Locker/Chair	Umunteke Primary School Ukwu West	H4
	Procurement of 20 Nos. Teachers' Furniture		
	Procurement of 15 White Magnetic (Marker) Board		



## Advertorial

5	Procurement of 300 Students Lockers/Chairs	Etiti Abam Central School II Atani Abam Arochukwu (200): Urban Primary School 1 Umuahia North (100)	H5
	Teachers' Furniture	Etiti Abam Central School II Atani Abam Arochukwu	
	White Magnetic (Marker) Board	Etiti Abam Central School II Atani Abam Arochukwu (10): Urban Primary School 1 Umuahia North (5)	
6	Procurement of 300 Nos. Pupils' Locker/Chair	Migrant Farmers Primary School Akanu Ndoki Ukwu East (150): Ohanku Primary School Ukwu East (150)	H6
7	Procurement of 250 Pupils' Locker/Chair	Isieke Central School I & II Umuahia North	H7
8	Pupils' Locker/Chair	Ahiaeke Primary School Umuahia North	H8
	Teachers' Furniture		
9	Pupils' Locker/Chair	Umuogo Primary School Ubakala Umuahia South	H9
	Teachers' Furniture		
	White Magnetic (Marker) Board		
10	Pupils' Locker/Chair	Ezeleke Primary School I & II Umuahia South	H10
	Teachers' Furniture		
	White Magnetic (Marker) Board		
	Teachers' Furniture		
11	Procurement of Plastic Students' Lockers/Chairs	Amuzukwu Girls Secondary School Umuahia North (150): Community School Amapu Nwa Isialangwa North (90): Okon Aku Comprehensive Sec School (90)	H11

## Advertorial

<b>12</b>	Procurement of Plastic Students' Lockers/Chairs	Ndume Otuka Junior Secondary School Umuahia North (100): Umugo Community School Ugwunagbo (100): National Secondary Azumini Ukwu East (100): Girls Sec Uzuakoli (100): Ogbor Hill Pry School 2 Aba North (100)	<b>H12</b>
<b>13</b>	Procurement of Plastic Students' Lockers/Chairs	Afugiri Junior Secondary School Umuahia North	<b>H13</b>
<b>14</b>	Procurement of Plastic Students' Lockers/Chairs	Ezeukwu Technical Secondary School Ezeukwu Bende	<b>H14</b>
<b>15</b>	Procurement of Plastic Students' Lockers/Chairs	Okpuala Ngwa Government Junior Secondary School Isiala Ngwa North	<b>H15</b>
<b>16</b>	Procurement of Innoson Brand New Hilux Van 2022	ASUBEB Headquarters	<b>H16</b>

### 3. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Evidence of Certificate of Incorporation with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) including form CAC2 and CAC7;
- Evidence of Company Income's Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three (3) years valid till 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024;
- Evidence of current Pension Compliance Certificate valid till 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024;
- Evidence of current Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Compliance Certificate valid till 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2024;
- Evidence of current Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) Compliance Certificate valid till 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2024;
- Evidence of Registration on the National Database of Federal Contractors and Service Providers by submission of Interim Registration Report (IRR) expiring on 31/12/2024 or valid Certificate issued by BPP
- Company's Audited Accounts for the last three (3) years – 2021, 2022, 2023
- Company profile with Curriculum Vitae of Technical/Management Staff and with evidence of previous work experience, detail clients, nature of work/contract, contract sum and copies of academic and professional qualification. i.e COREN, QSRBN, etc.
- Verifiable documentary evidence of similar jobs executed in the last five (5) years including Letters of Award, Valuation Certificate, Job Completion Certificates and Photographs of the projects;
- Evidence of Financial Capability to execute the Projects including reference letters from a reputable Commercial Bank including willingness to provide Credit Facility for the Execution of the Projects when needed.
- Sworn Affidavit disclosing whether or not any officer of the relevant committees of the **Abia State Universal Basic Education Board (ASUBEB)**, or the Bureau of Public Procurement is a former or present Director, shareholder or has any pecuniary interest in the bidder and to confirm that all information presented in its bid are true and correct in all particulars.
- An affidavit that none of the Directors have been convicted in any country for any criminal offence, including fraud or financial impropriety.
- m. List of Plants/Equipment with proof of Ownership/Lease
- n. All documents for submission must be transmitted with a covering/forwarding letter under the company/firm's letter headed paper bearing amongst others, the Registration number (RC), Contact



## Advertorial

address, Telephone number and E-mail address. The letter headed paper must bear the Names and Nationalities of the Directors of the company, duly signed by the authorized officer of the company/ firm.

- o. Document submitted shall be subject to due diligence without recourse to the bidder.

#### 4. COLLECTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

Interested companies are to collect the Standard Bidding Document (SBD) from the office of the **Head of Procurement; Abia State Universal Basic Education Board (ASUBEB)**, with evidence of payment of **Registration Fee** of Fifty Thousand naira (N50,000) only and a **Non-refundable Tender Fee** of One Hundred Thousand Naira (N100,000.00) only for Procurement of Works and Fifty Thousand Naira (N50,000.00) only for Procurement of Goods and Services, to 'Abia State Pay Direct Account' with customized teller at any bank. Evidence of such Payments is to be presented at the Cash Office Abia State Universal Basic Education Board (ASUBEB), for collection of official receipt.

#### 5.0 SUBMISSION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

Prospective bidders are to submit a bid for the **Lot**, two (2) hard copies of Technical and Financial Bids packaged **separately** in sealed envelopes and marked as "**Technical Bid**" or "**Financial Bid**". Thereafter, put the two **sealed envelopes together in a bigger sealed envelope** and address them to **The EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, ABIA STATE UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION BOARD, P. M. B 7278 UMUAHIA, ABIA STATE**, and clearly mark (the **name of the project** and the **lot** boldly written at the back of the envelope).

Furthermore, the reverse side of the envelope should be marked with the name and address of the bidder and dropped in the designated tender box at the **Procurement Office, Abia State Universal Basic Education Board (ASUBEB)**, not later than **12:00 noon on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2025**. The working hours are 8:00 am to 4:00 pm on weekdays, excluding weekends. Please ensure that you sign the bid submission register in the office of the **Head of Procurement** of the ASUBEB as the Board will not be held liable for misplaced or wrongly submitted bids.

#### 6. OPENING OF BIDS.

The technical bids will be opened immediately after the close of submission at **12:00 noon on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2025, at Conference Room, Abia State Universal Basic Education Board (ASUBEB) Umuahia** in the presence of bidders or their representatives and civil society organizations. The financial bids, however, will remain unopened. The successful bidder will be invited to the financial bid opening after the evaluation of the technical bids. Please ensure you sign the Bid Submission Register in the office of the **Head of Procurement, located at the first floor of the Abia State Universal Basic Education Board (ASUBEB) Temporal Office, E-library Ogurube Layout, Umuahia**. The Board will not be held liable for misplaced or wrongly submitted bids. For further inquiries, please contact **The Executive Chairman** via email. [lydia.onuoha@abiastate.gov.ng](mailto:lydia.onuoha@abiastate.gov.ng) and phone number 07076904864.

#### 7. GENERAL INFORMATION:

- Bids must be in the English Language and signed by an authorized official the of the firm;
- Bids submitted after the deadline for submission would be rejected and returned unopened;
- Delivery by courier will not be accepted;
- All costs incurred as a result of the bid invitation shall be borne by the bidders
- The Board is not bound to consider any bidder for an award and reserves the right to cancel the bidding process and proceeding, without incurring liabilities to the bidders;
- Only successful bidders in the technical evaluation will be invited for the opening of their financial bids
- The Abia State Universal Basic Education Board (ASUBEB)** is not bound to shortlist any bidder and reserves the right to annul the Procurement process at any time without incurring any liabilities in line with section 28 of the Public Procurement Act, 2007
- Abia State Universal Basic Education Board is not obliged to award the contract to the lowest bidder.

Signed:

LYDIA ONUOHA

Executive Chairman

Abia State Universal Basic Education Board (ASUBEB), Umuahia

## Advertorial



### GOVERNMENT OF ABIA STATE OF NIGERIA

Office of the Honourable Commissioner  
Ministry of Land and Housing

#### ENFORCEMENT OF TITLE RECERTIFICATION / RENT DEMAND NOTICE

An announcement on the Recertification of all land title documents, was made by the Ministry of Lands and Housing, Abia, in May and July, 2024 - and anyone with any claim to any land or property in Abia (developed or undeveloped) was required to submit his or her title document.

The Ministry of Lands and Housing has commenced the enforcement of non-compliance with this announcement, and you are required by this notice to **produce the underlisted documents**:

1. Evidence of submission of your title document for recertification
2. Evidence of up-to-date payment of your Ground Rent and other Statutory Fees
3. Fencing Permit and Approved Building Plan (where applicable)
4. A copy of your title document, if not already submitted for recertification

This notice includes all the Housing Estates - such as IBB Phase I, Agbama, Ehimiri, Isieke, World Bank (Umuahia and Aba), and others.

This enforcement notice also extends to authorised changes in the land use of a property, and as such, the purpose clause unit will also be following through on its enforcement activities.

Please note that non-compliance to this notice, will be deemed as evidence of non-payment of your Ground Rent or non-fulfillment of the terms of your land allocation - which is a basis for the revocation of your Certificate of Occupancy (CofO) or withdrawal of your land allocation, in line with the extant laws.

Following the extensive timeline given, since May 2024, for the submission of your title document for recertification, you are expected to **comply to this notice within 14 days** of this announcement, or face full legal action.

As announced by the Board of Internal Revenue, the revised rates on all land transactions will be applied as part of our enforcement activities.

The requested documents should be **submitted** to the **Customer Service Unit of the Ministry of Lands and Housing**, Abia State Secretariat, Ogurube Layout, Umuahia or, the **Aba Zonal Lands Office** at No. 2 Industry Road, Off Ikot Ekpene Road, Aba. You may reach us on **09160002083** or **09160002084**; and via email on [cofo@abiastate.gov.ng](mailto:cofo@abiastate.gov.ng)

**Chaka Ikenna Chukwumerije**  
Honourable Commissioner



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## MANCHESTER DERBY:

### City Storm Old Trafford On Revenge Mission

By Joseph Jacob

**P**ep Guardiola will lead his Manchester City side to Old Trafford to take on their city rivals Manchester United in the biggest clash of this weekend's English Premier League fixtures.

Both clubs have had a season to forget with City dropping from a club that wins the league back to back to a club contesting for just a Champions League place while United have waned from a club that contest for the title to a mid-table club.

However, Manchester City will be coming with revenge in mind after losing the reverse fixture at the Etihad 2-1.

Playing in front of their cheering fans, Manchester City seemed to be on course for another routine win when Josko Gvardiol's first-half header gave the Citizens the lead. With only two minutes to full time Amad Diallo was fouled in the penalty area by Matheus Nunes and United skipper, Bruno Fernandes did not miss from the penalty spot.

As City tried to overcome the shock of United's equalizer Diallo pounced again to score the winner from a tight angle. This defeat was the fourth in 105 Premier League home game in which City were ahead at half-time under Pep Guardiola. It was also the first win Manchester United secured after trailing at half-time away from home in the Premier League since May 9, 2021 against Aston Villa.

Therefore, this weekend's trip to

the red-side of Manchester is much more than just another league match as it is a must-win for both sides

In other matches, resurgent Everton welcome Arsenal to the Goodison Park. The reverse fixture at the Emirate Stadium ended goalless.

Crystal Palace will be hoping to do a double over Brighton this season as they welcome the Seagulls to the Selhurst Park. Recall that the reverse fixture ended 3-1 in favour

of the Eagles.

Ioswich will hope to reinact their breath-taking performance last December, which earned them a 2-1 victory when they host Wolves as West Ham United confront Bournemouth. The reverse fixture at the Vitality Stadium ended 1-1.

Aston Villa will take on Nottingham Forest while the Bees, Brentford attempt to sting Chelsea at the Gtech Community Stadium.

Fulham will hope to fully harm leaders Liverpool at the Craven Cottage while Tottenham Hotspurs will tread tackles with hapless Southampton, whom they spanked 5-0 in the reverse fixture.

## SUDOKU

Puzzly By: Prince Blessing Lazarus

	8	6	9					
5	9		6	2				
7					1			
2	5					7		
	4						3	
		3					9	2
			3					1
				5	8		6	9
					2	5	8	

All you have to do is fill the grid in such away that every 3X3 box and row and column, contains the numbers 1-9.

## BLAST FROM THE PAST: How Enugu Rangers Showed Mahalla 'Wahala'

**N**orth Africans are notorious for deploying underhand tactics to defeat visiting teams. From the harassment of hostile fans to abandoning opponents at the airport for a long time; from keeping the visiting team in a substandard hotel to making noise at the hotel throughout the night so their opponents would not have a good night rest; from denying their opponents a feel of the venue to putting off the light while they were training. Not to talk of their fall at every contact during the match, especially when they are winning.

A typical example was what happened recently between the Super Eagles of Nigeria and Libya in an Africa Cup of Nations qualifier, where the Nigerian Super Eagles were abandoned in an abandoned airport for more than 14 hours. They neither provided them a conducive place to sleep nor provided food or water for the team at the airport.

But, the North Africans met their match in Rangers International of Enugu during the 1975 African Cup of Champions Club semi-finals.

Rangers started their campaign in the competition defeating Great Olympics of Ghana 4-1 on aggregate in the first round of the competition. After defeating them 2-0 in Accra, Rangers finished them off in Nigeria 2-1.

Young Africans of Tanzania were their opponents in the second round and Flying Antelopes progressed on away goals rule after aggregate score stood at 1-1. After goalless draw in Nigeria, Rangers knew their only hope of survival is scoring in Dar Salam, which they did and secured a 1-1 draw.

Rangers took on Green Buffaloes of Zambia in the quarter-final. The first leg in Lusaka ended in a 2-2 draw. Rangers defeated the

Zambians 2-1 in the second leg to qualify for the semi-final on a 4-3 aggregate.

Rangers were pitched against Ghazi El Mahalla of Egypt. The first leg took place in Egypt where the host did what they are known for and defeated rangers 3-1. With elimination steering at the Flying Antelopes in the face, Rangers had to do something extra-ordinary to turn the table.

The weather was the answer. The North Africa is usually not as hot as West Africa, which is around the equator. So rather than play the match in the evening or night, which would have suited the Egyptians, Rangers fixed the match earlier, in the peak of the afternoonsun.

On the D-day nature smiled on Rangers, there was neither rain nor a cloudy sky. Under the scorching sun the Egyptian waned quickly like butter under heat. They could not keep pace with the Flying Antelopes, who were galloping all over the pitch as if the sun was an energizer. The Egyptians kept on drinking water yet the heat was unbearable for them. They kept on squatting and bending down to catch their breath from time to time.

At some point they wished they could ask the referee to end the match and hand Rangers the final ticket, but the rules must be followed and the match must get to 90 minutes.

The Egyptians heaved a sigh of relief when the referee blasted the final whistle. They were happy to leave the scorching sun not minding that their 3-0 loss means that Rangers have eliminated them from the competition.

This incident was dubbed "Mahalla saw Wahala." The Egyptians will never forget what they went through in Nigeria.

Rangers qualified for the final and lost 3-1 on aggregate to Haifa of Guinea.