

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON EDO STATE 2021 – 2023 MEDIUM TERM EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK (MTEF) AND YEAR 2021 BUDGET PREPARATION ON MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2020 IN FESTIVAL HALL, GOVERNMENT HOUSE BENIN CITY.**

**1.0 Preamble:**

The Stakeholders' consultative meeting was geared towards deepening stakeholders' awareness of government projects and programmes, allowing the public to participate in the formulation of the annual budget of the State. It is also aimed at ensuring efficient management of available resources to derive maximum benefit.

The Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning organized the forum on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 in Festival Hall, Government House, Benin City.

**2.0 Objective:**

The Functioning Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning gave the objectives of the meeting.

He appreciated the stakeholders for attending the forum in spite of the short notice given to them as a result of the rescheduled meeting due to the End-SARS protest that led to a State wide curfew.

He thereafter said the objectives of the meeting were:

- to inform citizens of the basis for multi-year (medium term) realistic estimation and effective utilization of available resources in the State, to achieve identified macro-economic priorities and goals. (i.e. the Medium Term Expenditure Framework – MTEF)
- to deepen stakeholders' awareness of government projects and programmes earmarked for the annual budget
- to allow the public participate and share inputs in the development of the State budget.
- to inform citizens that the approved annual budget will be prepared in a simpler form called the Citizens' Budget and uploaded on the State website.

**3.0 Attendance:**

96 participants from across the State attended the meeting. They were representatives of the Media, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Academia, CEOs of Private Businesses, Local Government Chairmen including Head of Planning Department and Chief Accountant of Local Government Council, Religious Associations, Hon. Commissioners, Permanent Secretaries & Staff of the Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning.

**4.0 Opening:**

The Meeting commenced with an opening prayer by Pst. Oladele Ogundele, a member of CAN Edo State by 10:50am. This was followed by an opening remark by the Hon. Commissioner for Budget and Economic Planning, Princess (Mrs.) Otse Momoh Omorogbe.

In her address, she welcomed participants to the meeting on behalf of the Executive Governor of Edo State, his Excellency Mr. Godwin Noghaghase Obaseki. She informed participants that the meeting signifies the involvement of the citizens of the State in the preparation of the State annual budget. In addition, she said the forum intends to get inputs from the public for improved service delivery and society development.

In conclusion, she advised everyone to get the State financial information from the State website at <http://www.edostate.gov.ng>.

She further urged participants to concentrate and take advantage of the interactive meeting, she thereafter declared the meeting opened.

## **5.0 Technical Sessions/Presentations**

### **5.1 Edo State Citizens' Budget**

The Functioning Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning, Mr. Efe Iserhienrhien, facilitated the presentation on the approved year 2020 Citizens' budget of Edo State.

The thematic areas of the presentation were as follows:

- i. Reduction in the State IGR: The State Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) dropped due to outbreak of covid-19 pandemic. This led to the review of year 2020 budget. He said the initial budget was N179.21B which was then revised to N128.88B
- ii. Allocation of resources to different sectors of the State: He gave the breakdown of how the resources in the State were allocated to the different sectors of state budget.

### **5.2 Edo State 2021 – 2023 MTEF**

Mr. Micheal Oseh from the Budget Department of the Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning facilitated the presentation of the State draft 2021-2023 MTEF.

He gave a brief introduction of the Edo State Economy and the challenges faced by the State due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition, he educated participants that globally as well as Nigeria in particular, different economies are faced with a negative growth rate due to coronavirus pandemic.

Nigeria Economy in particular, experienced a decline in sales of oil, which led to a fall in oil prices, and prediction of GDP of -4.3 at the end of the year.

On 2019 Budget Performance of Edo State, he informed participants that the total budget size for year 2019 was N183.7B and the budget performance was 84%.

He further highlighted citizen's inputs gathered and executed in the State annual budget from previous consultation forums organized by the MBEP to include:

- i. Establishment of the John Odigie Staff training center, which will help to train members of staff for efficient and effective service delivery across the State.
- ii. Renovation of the Benin Technical College
- iii. Construction and rehabilitations of roads, etc

## 6.0 Key Recommendations:

Below are the key recommendations reached at the forum:

- i. **Security Challenges:** Mrs. Dora Oviojie, Head of Planning Department, Egor Local Government council, shared her views on the need to beef up security across the State as the herdsmen attack on farmers is negatively affecting agricultural sector of the State.
- ii. **Health Matters:** Government should build and equip more Primary Health Care Centres across the State.  
Also the looted medical materials at the State warehouses during the EndSARS protest should be replaced and captured in the budget.  
Recruitment of medical personnel is necessary as hospitals across the State are short of staff.
- iii. **Corrupt Practices:** Plans should be put in place to penalize officers found wanting in the fraudulent execution of State Budget.
- iv. **Education:** Developmental strides in the Basic education of the State should be extended to the tertiary education including recruitment of more teachers.
- v. **Poverty Alleviation Scheme:** Need for Government to conduct State poverty assessment and curb the high poverty rate across the State. In addition, take advantage of National poverty alleviation schemes  
Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises should be evenly distributed among citizens of the State to reduced poverty.
- vi. **Multiple Taxation:** The issue of multiple taxation in form of levies, fines, license, fees and taxes should be checked. More people should be encouraged to pay taxes to reduce the burden for others that are already paying.
- vii. **Water and Sanitation:** There is the need to increase supply of portable water across the State. The moribund water works should be revived in both the rural and urban areas of the State.
- viii. **Electricity:** There should be provision of stable power supply in major towns of the State. The Ossiomo electricity project should be replicated in the three senatorial districts of the State.
- ix. **Market:** Building and reconstruction of markets across the State especially the Markets that were recently razed down by fire.
- x. **Roads/Traffic Light:** Stakeholders at the forum identified some roads for rehabilitation and construction. The roads are as follows:
  - Okunwague-Evbabogu road from Upper Sokponba at 3 house to Sapele Road
  - Completion of Ogba Road linking Upper Ekenwan Rd by Ekenwan Army Barracks
  - Opoji-Usugbenu-Uromi-Afuda Road
  - Eworia Road -Orhionmwon
  - Old Agbor Road from Uromi Township via Ewoyi Qrts, Esan North East LGA
  - Old road at Ehor- Ugianmwun-Emuhi/Igor-Ekpoma
  - Provision of Traffic Light at Country Home/Ugbor-Amagba Road to reduce traffic
  - Aretah Street at Uhunmwode LGA
  - Owina Street from Ekenwan Road via Evbuotubu
  - Second Cementary Road
  - Erhunmwunse Street to Okhokhugbo axis
  - Agho Street to Erhunmwunse Junction
  - Ekae-Ohen Road- Sapele Road
  - Guobadia Road off Country Home Motel Road
  - Ugbekun Police Station Road at Upper Sokponba Road
  - Umengbi to Igogokiniyekogba Road
  - Estako Central Roads: Fugar-Weppa Road; Fugar-Ukho-Imiava-Ogbona Rd; Ogbago-Osomhegbe-Udochi-Ofukpo-Udaba-Anegbette Rd; Ugbekpe-Odame-Ibie Rd; Ogbona-IvienakaEkperi; Iraokhor-Apana; Anegbette-Ugbokhai

- Old Benin Sapele Road
- Emuhi Ukpenu Road
- Okhun Road opposite 7up Company – Upper Siluko Road
- Owan East LGA: Afuze-Erah Road; Ihievbe-Ihievbe Ogben Road; Arokho – Ikin Road; Uokha-Ohami Road; Iyeu-Amoya Road (Otu)
- Completion of Ekosodi Road
- Ikpenu, Emuhi, ogiamien Road
- Oko ADP Road by NNPC filling station leading to trade fair from Airport Road
- Ohovbe Road opp Agbor Park, Ikpoba hill B/C
- Poincer Road in Egba Community
- Independence Road , Upper Sokponba Road, B/C
- Esan North East LGA: Utako Road; Onewa Road, Efandion Road; Afuda-Idumoza – Usugbenu Road; Idumu – Uwangu; Idumu Obodo Idumu – Oniha Road, Along Ubiaja Roads in Efandion; Taxona – Unuwazi Road, Uromi
- Police Barrack – Useh – Orunwon Road
- Construction of Ososo to Okpella Road in Akoko Edo LGA
- Rehabilitation of Ososo – Igarra Road
- Iyekogba – Ekenwan Road via Airport road

## 7.0 Conclusion

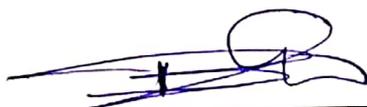
The Hon. Commissioner for Finance gave the closing remarks, he thanked participants for coming and said every issues raised will be well documented and looked into by our amiable governor and wished everyone a safe journey back to their respective destinations.

Thereafter, the meeting came to a close with a closing prayer said by Pst. Osagie Godsent Erhunmwunse representing Edo State CAN chairman by 1:40pm.

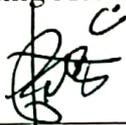
The undersigned are key participants of the year 2020 Public Consultative Forum on MTEF towards the year 2021 budget preparation of Edo State.



**Princess (Mrs.) Otse Momoh Omoregbe**  
Representing all Hon. Commissioners



**Dr. Ighodaro (HOD Eco. & Stat.)**  
Representing Academia



**Hon. Peter Aguele**  
Representing Local Govt. Chairmen.



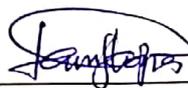
**Mr. Oladele Ogundele**  
Representing Religious Bodies



**President Aigbokhan Esq**  
Representing CSOs



**Mrs. Roselyn Odiase**  
Representing NGOs



**Mrs. Joy Egbo**  
Representing Media