



# PTDF Mandate

**Petroleum Technology Development Fund**

...Nigeria's catalyst for sustainable capacity building in the oil & gas industry.

A Quarterly Publication of PTDF

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Who we are...

What we do...

How we do what we do...

## The Nigerian Content Act: What Role For PTDF?



*“Upon the commencement of this Act, all functions and powers conferred on any agency or department of the Federal Government of Nigeria to carry out the implementation of Nigerian Content development or policy in the Nigerian oil and gas industry by any law or enactment is hereby transferred to the Nigerian Content Monitoring Board.”*



**PTDF AND THE FUTURE OF OVERSEAS TRAINING OF SCHOLARS: Is OSS being phased out?**

### NIGERIA @ 50



**Dr. Emmanuel Egbogah**  
Special Assistant to the President  
on Petroleum Matters



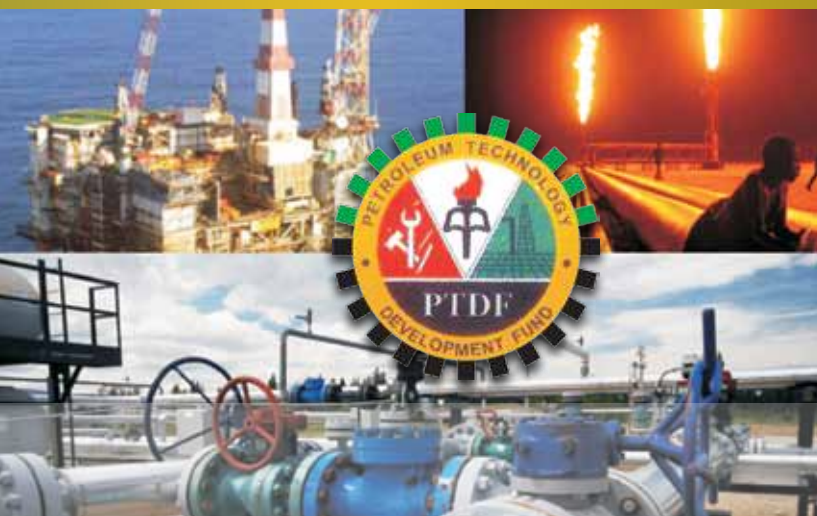
**50 Years of oil exploration and production**

1



**PTDF commemorates  
Ten years of developing  
the manpower needs  
of the oil & gas Industry.**

*“Nigeria is not deriving sufficient growth in GDP from the oil and gas industry as it is supposed to, given its huge expenditure in the industry (GDP due to oil and gas industry is only 20 – 30%). Its citizens are not adequately trained, technology is not transferred, people and companies from other countries make so much money and transfer it to their countries of origin”.*



## Mission

To train Nigerians to qualify as graduates, professionals, technicians and craftsmen in the field of engineering, geology, science and management in the oil and gas industry in Nigeria or abroad.

## Vision

To serve as a vessel for the development of indigenous manpower and technology transfer/acquisition in the petroleum industry as well as to make Nigeria a human resource center for the West African sub-region.

## The Mandate

To develop the capacity, capability and competencies of Nigerians to play effective roles in the operational and management segments of Nigeria's oil and gas industry. This is achieved through Human Capital Development (Education and Training Programmes), Institution and Systems Development (PTI, NCPSK, University Upgrade Projects, Skills Development and Training Centre, NTI Bonny, Federal Polytechnic of Oil and Gas Ekowe etc), Promotion of Research and Acquisition of Relevant Technologies (Research Grant Competition, Professorial Chair Endowments), Manufacturing and Materials Development.



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## INSIGHT INTO THIS EDITION

The Petroleum Technology Development Fund shares a common history with Nigeria. Whereas the entity called Nigeria was created in 1914 following the amalgamation by Lord Lugard, it was not until October 1960, that Nigeria became an independent Sovereign State. All reference to Nigeria as a nation is anchored on October 1, 1960.

For PTDF, the law establishing the Fund was promulgated as a Decree in 1973 (Decree 25 of 1973). However, it was not until September 2000 that the Fund started operation as a fully functional and independent agency of government. This followed the approval by the government of the day of its structure and programme of action and the appointment of a technical committee and an Interim Management Committee to midwife a roadmap for the implementation of its programme of action. Before September 2000, the Fund existed only in name as a desk in the Department of Petroleum Resources and it took the bold initiative of former President Olusegun Obasanjo to liberate the Fund from DPR.

By sheer coincidence, PTDF and Nigeria as a nation both commemorated their year of independence in October 2010. For PTDF it is Ten years of effective operation as a Fund, while our country Nigeria celebrates 50 years of nationhood. The point of convergence for the two anniversaries is the extent Nigerian manpower and technology are utilised in the operations and management of Nigeria's oil and gas industry.

PTDF was established as part of a deliberate policy of government to obviate the heavy reliance on foreign oil technology, technicians and management skills. PTDF has in the last ten years made significant progress in developing indigenous capacity for the oil and gas industry through providing training and research in oil technology, and producing Nigerians with relevant skills and competences required to run the oil and gas industry. The Fund's achievements in its Ten years of operational independence is captured fully in this edition of PTDF Mandate.

At the macro level, as Nigeria celebrates fifty years of independence, the reality is that despite being the 7th largest oil exporter in the world, the industry is still largely dependent on foreigners for technology and management expertise. According to the Special Adviser to the President on petroleum matters, Dr. Emmanuel Egbogah, "Nigeria is not deriving sufficient growth in GDP from the oil and gas industry. Few Nigerians are involved in the productive areas of the industry. Its citizens are not adequately trained, technology is not transferred, people and companies from other countries make so much money and transfer to their countries of origin". We have the full interview with Dr. Egbogah in this edition.

The passage and signing into law of the Nigerian Content Development Act added another impetus to the drive for greater participation of Nigerians in the industry. A provision of the law, directing all agencies of government involved with Nigerian content development to transfer such function to the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board generated some apprehensions on the continued relevance of PTDF as a capacity building agency of government. This is our focus in this edition of PTDF Mandate.

Welcome on board and Happy New!

**Kalu Otisi Esq.**  
Editor-in-Chief



*From*

## THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma



# CORRECTING THE MISREPRESENTATIONS AND WRONG PERCEPTIONS OF THE FUND

In a televised interview programme, it was a surprise to me that the programme anchor kicked off the programme with a poser and a question bundled together and presented PTDF as an extension of the defunct Petroleum Trust Fund. According to him, the name PTDF connotes many things to different people. Once in a while it is involved in controversy. We hear PTDF is giving scholarship. He then went on to insinuate that PTDF is just another scholarship board. Surprised? You don't have to be. For a media personality whose main responsibility is to inform and educate the public to exhibit such ignorance about the Petroleum Technology Development Fund reflects the deep seated cynicism held generally about the Fund by the elites, especially after the unfortunate probe of its operations by both the EFCC and National Assembly years ago.

As a public organisation whose mandate if effectively implemented impacts on the well being of Nigerians, we will not relent in putting out the correct status of the Fund to the public, to empower them to take advantage of the numerous products of the Fund.

Yes it is true that before now, Nigerians only recognised PTDF as a controversial agency of government, but we are also aware that people have started ascribing to PTDF the appellation of a very important agency of government and are eager to know more about the products of the Fund.

The Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) was established by Decree No. 25 of 1973 now an Act of Parliament. The Act provides for PTDF to develop or enhance the capacity, capability and skills of Nigerians to operate and manage the oil and gas industry. Now how does PTDF do this? If you are to establish or develop capacity in petroleum technology, it is pertinent to start

from the first principles. Without sounding too academic, it is apposite to ask what is petroleum technology?

In doing this you also need to define technology itself. Technology has to do with Science and Engineering, and Science is the study of naturally occurring phenomenon. Technology is harnessing science and applying it for human use. Engineering is a natural science that is applied for human use. So when you are talking about science, it is all about naturally occurring phenomenon like the earth sciences, the environmental science. How do these add up to PTDF? Petroleum Technology is the use of science and engineering to facilitate petroleum from exploration to the final use as products.

This is roughly the definition of petroleum technology. So how does PTDF help to develop petroleum technology in Nigeria. In accordance with the mandate of the Fund PTDF engages three approaches in realising that. The first and the most fundamental is to ensure that we have human capability. Human capital development is very fundamental. We do this by providing education, a key element to human development. This is why we give scholarships through the Overseas Scholarship Scheme (OSS). For the OSS we provide scholarship for studies in oil and gas related courses leading to award of M.Sc and PhD degrees. In Local Scholarship Scheme (LSS) we provide scholarship for undergraduate and graduate studies. Our scholars are sponsored to study in 20 selected highly rated universities in the United Kingdom with strong faculty in oil and gas subjects.

The same TV anchor in the interview could not understand why PTDF concentrates its training of scholars in UK universities. According to him "Is UK the only country with universities that have cutting edge engineering based courses. Why not other countries?"



◀ Are we not short changing ourselves by insisting that everybody goes to the United Kingdom?”

I do appreciate these sentiments and of course the concerns of concentrating our training in the United Kingdom. But we have our reasons for this. UK education is unarguably very solid. For instance Imperial College, one of the universities we train our scholars is ranked 2nd or 3rd in the world as far as petroleum engineering is concerned. Herriott Whyte, another university in the UK where we send our scholars is ranked 7th in the world in petroleum engineering studies. If you compare them with universities in the United States for instance, you will discover that they are ranked almost equally but they are cheaper. This is because whereas in the United States, it takes two years to complete a Master's programme, meaning that you pay tuition for two years, it is only one year in the United Kingdom.

One other issue requiring further clarification and which was raised during the television interview is the intervention of PTDF in developing polytechnics, as it appears PTDF concentrates its upgrade activities in oil and gas related departments of some universities in Nigeria. Arising from this is the question of awarding overseas scholarships only to university graduates and not HND graduates of polytechnics and technology institutions.

It is true that PTDF has invested heavily in upgrading the Petroleum Training Institute Warri which by its curriculum is a technical training institute equivalent to some polytechnics and technical institutes. The establishment of the Petroleum Training Institute (PTI) was a requirement of OPEC – the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries which Nigeria became the 11th member in 1971. It provides the middle level manpower requirement of the oil and gas industry and we are upgrading the institute to bring it up to the required

standard. State of the art equipment, new buildings and other infrastructural facilities have been installed in the institute by PTDF as a consequence of the upgrade.

Besides PTI, PTDF is also building the first oil and gas polytechnic in Bayelsa State. It is the first of its kind in the whole of Africa, which will complement manpower that will be produced by PTI Effurun, ie the middle level manpower requirement of the industry which constitute 60% of the total manpower requirement of the oil and gas industry. Welders, fabricators, drillers, filters come under this category. So a combination of the products of the Federal Polytechnic of oil and gas, Ekowe, Bayelsa State, and the Petroleum Training Institute, Effurun, we hope should satisfy the middle level manpower requirements of the industry.

PTDF is in addition building a National Technical Institute in Bonny Island, Rivers State. Its location is close to the Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas Project, and the purpose is to produce middle level manpower that is proficient in gas technology and environmental sciences. Although the Fund is involved in developing these oil and gas related polytechnics and technical training institute, it however does not give scholarships to HND graduates of polytechnics. This is because the universities abroad where we send our scholars for study do not accept HND as qualification for graduate study. The Fund is however providing ICT centres in almost all the polytechnics in Nigeria.

I will conclude this piece with a bit of the dialogue that ensued in the course of the television interview particularly on PTDF and polytechnics.

**Q: Are you saying that there will be no place, no specific programme for polytechnics graduates in the oil and gas industry in Nigeria?**

A: That is not true. 65% of the industry constitutes middle level manpower. The polytechnics are purely established to provide this level of manpower.

**Q: But 100% of your efforts is on the 35% and you are saying that the 65% is of a critical mass, but your programmes are based on the 35%?**

A: I am telling you if a polytechnic graduate wants to have an M.sc, he will move from that 65% to the 35%. So if you are talking about us giving scholarship to the polytechnic graduate, you are telling us to remove the 65%, deplete the number and make them more of the 35%. What I am saying is that there is no need for that. The need is to strengthen the drillers that the polytechnics are churning out, to become better drillers, make sure we strengthen the welders to become better welders, that's why we are also supporting the systems that will strengthen them ■



# EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON THE MARBLE

## PROJECTION OF THE FUND IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS:

I keep on saying that in the next 5 years, I see PTDF training over 10,000 Nigerians to occupy various positions in the oil and gas industry; Training Nigerians to be Engineers, Geo-scientists, Geo-physicists, Chemical engineers, Petroleum engineers, Electrical engineers, Mechanical engineers, Process engineers etc. And then also training them to be fabricators and welders in the intermediate category. Most of the people occupying the junior category in the industry are Nigerians. But we will want to up-skill them to move from that position of junior level to a higher level and eventually take over. But you should also understand that the oil industry as it is today globally is a high-tech industry, is a capital intensive industry that requires a lot of money but in this country it is the industry that people now refer to as the cash cow that is being milked to service other industries and sectors of the economy. So it is very necessary for us to produce the necessary manpower, necessary systems and institutions that will eventually take over the operations and even the operators of the industry. That is what we are looking forward to in the nearest future.

## ON LOBBYING FOR SCHOLARSHIP:

Yes there are lobbying here and there, yes people always will want to have things for themselves, yes people are always egocentric, yes people are always looking for a way things will benefit them. As you can see in order to avoid lobbying we introduced the e-exam. If you do the e-exam what you get is what you get. Even before the exam we told everybody the pass mark is this, so if you don't get the pass mark you wouldn't be given the scholarship. And as we always do it, you may get the pass mark but somebody else will get higher than you have, then that person will also be considered on merit. But I should tell you that I am very happy for three things. One is the overall performance. In 2009, we set the pass mark to be 60 and unfortunately, only one or two states had people who got more than 60. The highest mark that year was 72 and we had to lower the pass mark to 50 for people to get in. But in 2010, I am happy to tell you that we set the pass mark to be 50 based on the last performance. Fortunately, for us we got so many people who scored 50 and above, so there are so many people who have passed and I am happy about that. Now what I am also happy about is that the highest score in 2009 was 72 while the highest mark in 2010 was 92 and that represents an improvement of 20 points.

Now the person that scored 72 in 2009 is either from Ondo or

Osun same as the person that scored 92 last year. The second person with 91.7 is from the north, the third person who scored 84 is from the north, the fourth person who scored I think 82 or 81 is from the north. The last reason why I am happy is because last year Delta State alone fielded more candidates for the OSS examination, than all the 19 states of the north put together. The states in the north also did very well, I think Kogi state was the 3rd or 5th and then we have Kano state, Katsina State and others in the north that fielded a good number of candidates. Even Katsina state fielded more than half of what Delta fielded so you can see the changes. Through this, people now know that it is possible to get the scholarship. When I was talking to the Vice-Chancellor of a second generation university and I said I was surprised we have 11,000 people who applied for PTDF scholarship. His answer was "it is because Nigerians know that it is only through PTDF that they can get scholarship". I said there are other scholarships; state, federal and local governments. He said they only provide to their siblings. So it is like he is trying to say that it is only through PTDF that people can get scholarship from.

## RESOLVING SELECTION CRITERIA BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR CANDIDATES:

If a state has 50 candidates and somebody got 72 percent who is rated number one, somebody with 69 is 2, someone with 62 is number 3 and so on. So if we are taking 4, these 4 will automatically be selected. So the remaining 46 will not get it. It is just an example. They may have up to 50% and above mark but because they are not among the first 4, they will not be selected. But the only thing I will add here is that we are trying to promote science and engineering in petroleum. In science you are talking about pure and natural science, applied science, management and social sciences, so these are all sciences. What we are doing is that for core petroleum related sciences and engineering courses we take a certain number, say 4 for instance. Then we say for supporting courses like the social, management sciences, or law (petroleum law and policy and contract law) we can take 2. Then we can also say from that state we can take one female candidate, and that female candidate may not be among the people who got 50 and above but because she is a woman. She could score 22 and then we will say let us encourage women and so we will bring her on gender basis. But there will not be any consideration as to whether the candidate is from rich or poor parents. After all if a farmer trains his child in a university, the child is also an elite. So he can compete with others on the basis of equal opportunity ■



# The Nigerian What Role

Background by Kalu Otisi Esq

Since hydrocarbon was discovered in Nigeria more than five decades ago, oil has contributed more than 90% of the foreign exchange earnings and has remained the mainstay of the economy. Nigeria has huge oil and gas reserves and is ranked the 7th largest oil exporter in the world. Yet the management of this national economic lifeline is still dominated by foreigners through international oil companies who possess not only the technology and material needs of the industry but also the manpower requirements of the industry.

Statistics show that an estimated 12 billion dollars is spent annually in the upstream sector of the Nigerian oil and gas sector, but about 70% by value of work is carried out by foreigners. It is therefore evident that the participation of Nigerians in the sector remains relatively low. Additionally, over 90% of all goods and services used in the industry are imported from overseas in an industry that spends more than 18 billion US dollars annually.

Fifty years after independence, it is unfortunate that the management of its oil resource whose exploration and exploitation is as old as the country cannot also be said to be independent.

The reality is that Nigeria's oil and gas industry is still largely dependent

on the IOCs in terms of technological and management expertise from upstream to downstream operations. The consequence is that Nigeria cannot be said to have derived or likely to derive maximum benefits from its oil industry. Nigerians are as a result deprived of employment opportunities while technology transfer and local capability development are denied. The impact on the well being of Nigerians from oil industry activities is still not at par with international benchmarks.

While the importance of oil to the economy is highly recognised and appreciated, it is regrettable that only a very small local labour force is employed in the sector. A deliberate policy by government to obviate the heavy reliance on foreign oil technology, technicians and managerial skills and equipment began as far back as 1971 when Nigeria became the eleventh member of OPEC. As a consequence, it created NNPC in 1977 as the state oil company and which provided a semblance of equity in the management of the oil resource.

This however did not guarantee the anticipated heavy participation of Nigerian manpower in the labour force of the industry nor did it translate to the effective acquisition of relevant technological skills and

capabilities by Nigerians. Other actions by government on manpower development include the enactment of the petroleum (drilling and production) regulation which mandated the IOCs to Nigerianise their staff from managerial to both skilled and unskilled level within fixed periods.

The intention was for the IOCs to employ and train Nigerians to within a stipulated period, take over the running of the industry from exploration to marketing. Also in 1972, government established the Petroleum Training Institute Warri, "to provide courses of instruction, training and research in oil technology and to produce technicians and other skilled personnel required to run the oil industry".

The Nigerian government took the policy of local manpower development for the oil and gas sector a step further in 1973, with the establishment of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund for the training of Nigerians to qualify as professionals, technicians and craftsmen in engineering and management studies in the oil industry. PTDF though established by Decree No. 25 of 1973 did not commence operation as a fully independent agency of government until the year 2000. That year it was removed from the Directorate of Petroleum Resources,

# Content Act: For PTDF?

where it had remained as a desk with little function or activity between 1973 and 2000, a total of 27 years.

Following the approval of its programme of action and road map for implementation drawn up by an Interim Management Committee, the Fund sent out its first set of scholars, in 2001 under the Overseas Scholarship Scheme. Since then the Fund has not only increased the number of scholars it sends abroad for training on a yearly basis, it has also succeeded in developing systems and institutions for capacity building and also through research and development intensified its programme of innovative technology development in-country.

With the passage and signing into law of the Nigerian Content Development Act; another impetus has been added to the drive for greater participation of Nigerians in all segments of the industry. A fuller analysis and appreciation of the provisions of the law has laid to rest certain apprehensions on the continued relevance of PTDF under the new Nigerian Content Regime.

The Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development Act, otherwise known as the Nigerian Content Act, was unveiled to the public by the Minister of Petroleum Resources Mrs.

Diezani-Alison Madueke, after its signing into law by President Goodluck Jonathan in April 2010.

She described the legislation as historic and capable of transforming the landscape of the oil and gas industry from an importer of goods and services to an industry that sources major inputs for its operations locally. She therefore expects that the act will create new opportunities for indigenous participation and local capacity building, as it will compel operators and service companies providing services to the Nigerian oil and gas industry to perform designated scope of work in Nigeria.

The Act sets out specific work scope that must be performed in Nigeria, guarantees fair access to foreign companies who want to do business in Nigeria, provides privileges for indigenous companies, creates opportunities for indigene's employment and training.

The Minister of Petroleum Resources at the unveiling of the Nigerian Content Act also announced the appointment of Engr. Ernest Nwapa as Acting Executive Secretary of the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board ■



# ANALYSIS OF THE NIGERIAN CONTENT DEVELOPMENT ACT

By Balarabe Ahmed, AGM Legal (PTDF)

**The Act is to provide for the development of Nigeria Content in the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry; for Nigerian Content Plan; for Supervision, Coordination, Monitoring and Implementation of Nigerian Content and for matters incidental thereto.**

- The law is basically a beautiful piece of legislation aimed at ensuring increased participation of Nigeria and Nigerians in the Oil and Gas Industry and thus its focus is to implement all Federal Government Policies in the Area of Nigerian content development. Specifically, it seeks to provide exclusive rights of Nigerians to partake in Contracts, employment, patronage etc in the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry, the details of which are in the Schedules to the Act.
- The new Legislation will not only promote local participation in the Oil and Gas Industry but cuts across other sectors of the Nigerian economy including the following:
  - (a) Insurance and reinsurance business – Section 50 expressly provides that no insurance risk in the industry shall be placed offshore without the written prior approval of the National Insurance Commission which shall ensure that Nigerian local capacity has been fully exhausted.
  - (b) Legal Services – Section 51 provides for the retention of Nigerian Legal Practitioners or firm (s) of Nigerian Legal Practitioners whose office (s) is located in any part of Nigeria.
  - (c) Financial Services- Section 52 - In addition to the requirement that

the services of Nigerian Financial institutions be retained, (3)(a) of the foregoing Section further provides that all operators, contractors and subcontractors shall maintain a bank account(s) in Nigeria in which it shall retain a minimum of 10 per cent of its total revenue accruing from its Nigerian operations. This will no doubt strengthen Nigerian financial institutions.

- Transfer of implementation of Nigerian Content to the Nigerian Content Monitoring Board (NCMB): Section 106 of the Act provides that “upon the commencement of this Act, all functions and powers conferred on any Agency or Department of the Federal Government of Nigeria to carry out the implementation of Nigerian content development or policy in the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry by any Law or enactment is hereby transferred to the Nigerian Content Monitoring Board established under the Act.
- The foregoing provision has unequivocally relieved the Nigerian National Petroleum Company Nigerian Content Development division (NNPCNCD) of its functions and has transferred same to the NCMB.

For the avoidance of doubt, it is worthy to mention that the functions of the Nigerian Content Monitoring Board (as enumerated in Section 70 (a) – (p) and 106 of the Act) do not in any way overlap with the functions of the PTDF which is stated in Section 2 of the PTDF Act as follows; “The Fund shall be available for the purposes of training

Nigerians to qualify as graduates, professionals, technicians and craftsmen, in the fields of engineering, geology, science and management in the petroleum industry in Nigeria or abroad”

In line with the above provision, even though Section 70 (h) of the Act empowers the Board to assist Contractors and the Companies in the development of indigenous capacity, it does not relieve the Fund of its clear mandate/ functions as the Act actually compliments the mandate of the PTDF in that regard.

- **Training of Nigerians:** Section 30 of the Act which mandates operators to ensure every reasonable effort is made within reasonable time to supply training locally or abroad where Nigerians are not employed due to lack of training, further compliments the efforts of the Fund in the pursuit of its core mandate (development of indigenous capacity in the Oil and Gas Industry)
- **Funds of the Board:** in addition to the provision of Section 93 which empowers the Board to establish a fund to which all expenses accruing to it shall be paid into and from which all expenditure shall be defrayed, Section 107 further establishes a Nigerian Content Development Fund for the purposes of funding the implementation of NCD in the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry. The said Section provides that “the sum of one percent of every contract awarded to any operator, contractor, subcontractor, alliance partner or any other entity involved in any project, operation,



activity or transaction in the upstream sector of the Nigeria Oil and Gas Industry shall be deducted at source and paid into the Fund”. This provision has no relation whatsoever with the PTDF source of Funding which is clearly stated in Section 1 of the PTDF Act as follows:

- (a) The balance of monetary assets outstanding in the accounts of the Gulf Oil Company Training Fund at the commencement of the Act;
  - (b) All further sums payable to or received by the Minister of Mines, Power and Steel in terms of any agreement made by the Government and any company in relation to petroleum oil prospecting or mining concessions; and
  - (c) Any other sums from time to time freely donated or accruing to the Government or the Fund for the training and education of Nigerians in the petroleum industry as the said Minister may direct
- Setting up of Nigerian Content Consultative Forum (NCCF) – Section 57 of the Act provides for the setting up of a Consultative Forum for the purposes of providing a platform for information sharing and collaboration in the Nigerian

Oil and Gas Industry. As you may be aware, this body has been in existence prior to the coming into force of the Law (which has now provided the requisite statutory backing). As you may also be aware, PTDF has always been represented in past meetings of the body but unfortunately, the Fund was not expressly made a member of the Forum in all categorical terms. However by virtue Section 58 (h) which provides thus: “The NCCF shall be made up of key Industry Stakeholders, Government and Regulatory Agencies and Representatives from education and training sectors” we may infer and it is indeed arguable that we come under the said Section, more especially since the fund’s mandate and commitment is in the areas specifically mentioned in (h) above. This calls for a need to engage the new Agency to discuss areas of common interest and impress on them the need to have the Fund represented in the NCCF to ensure that the Agency is constantly abreast with relevant information in the above mentioned area which happens to be the core mandate of the PTDF.

- Composition of the Governing Council: - Section 72. We are of the

view that the PTDF being a body set up with a mandate to develop indigenous capacity in the Industry coupled with the vast/valuable experience acquired in pursuit of its mandate, should necessarily have been included in the composition of the Governing Council of the Board, unfortunately that is not the case, as the Fund was not made a member of the Council.

Looking at the functions and responsibilities of the new Agency vis-à-vis that of the PTDF, we are of the firm belief that the Board will be a complimentary Agency to the PTDF. The Act if properly implemented will make the efforts of the Fund more meaningful in the sense that, while the Fund creates capacities/capabilities, the NCDMB will ensure the utilization of same in the Industry.

Moreover, we can also leverage on the activities of the NCDMB and work with them to know the relevant areas where capacities are lacking in the Industry from time to time. This in itself would make the PTDF more effective as we work in conjunction with the Board and the Oil and Gas Companies to ensure that we create the requisite competency to fill the gaps as they arise ■

## INTERVIEW WITH

# ENGR. ERNEST NWAPA

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY NIGERIAN CONTENT  
DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING BOARD

The passage and signing into Law of the Nigerian Content Bill elicited a lot of excitement as well as apprehensions amongst operators of the oil and gas industry in Nigeria. It was considered a very bold statement as to the direction of the Federal Government in the operation of the industry. The Law is also coming at a time when it is obvious that the 2010 target for the attainment of 75% local content in the oil and gas industry was not going to be realised. This was the directive issued by the Federal Government five years ago. Some provisions of the Law are considered bold and ambitious even to the extent of being considered a “nationalisation law”. Earnest Nwapa a former General Manager Nigerian Content Division of NNPC has been appointed the Executive Secretary of the Local Content Development and Monitoring Board. His task of setting up the bureaucracy and giving stability to the operation of the Act is quite arduous. But he is not new to the campaign for local content addition. Kalu Otisi interviewed him for PTDF mandate.

**Q: It seems to be an innovation, it's like an experiment. So how has it been nurturing such a body with a huge, gargantuan responsibility?**

A: I think the responsibility is quite a serious one but it is not very accurate to say that it is an experiment because we have carried out that experiment for the past five years in the NNPC. Although it lasted for long, during that period we had time to try out different models and create different platforms on which we can make substantial progress. Now we are operating under a very strong legal framework. What we have found is that we have been



able to demonstrate over the years that these strategies that have been tested will work. It is manifest in the response we are getting as we progress, that experimental period has been very useful. For instance we came into effect with the signing of the law by President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan on the 22nd of April 2010 and subsequently the Hon. Minister of Petroleum Resources unveiled the body and the Act to the whole industry. Since then we have managed to transform from an NCD within NNPC to a board acting independently under the provisions of the Act, without any disruption to the operators of the industry. And that is because we decided from the get go to integrate all the stakeholders into an implementation committee. We worked for 6 weeks with all Nigerian content managers of the IOC's and other key stakeholders to look at all the aspects of the law and create better understanding amongst stakeholders. That way everybody has gone back to their respective quarters to implement the law and ensure compliance.

**Q: The law is there and in such legislations usually you have**

**transitional periods. I don't know if such a transitional period is embedded in the current legislation within which compliance is expected from the relevant people who are concerned with complying with the legislation.**

A: Unlike many other legislations, this legislation is unique, only that it didn't create a specific transitional period. But I think that in his wisdom the President working on the recommendations of the Hon. Minister, appointed my humble self. I think that in itself granted them some continuity and he also gave approval for the Minister to be chairman of the governing council of NCMB. We have been allowed to utilize a substantial part of the original structure as they comply with private and government sector establishment. That has created a certain continuity that has made the transitional period.

**Q: That is essentially an institutional transition. The law is supposed to affect the operations of certain IOC's who have not met with the strict provisions of that legislation. Are they given some time say 6 months, 1 year, 2 years in which to meet the Nigerian Content Law?**

A: Again, the fact that we have been operating under the 23 guideline framework was enough practice for most of the IOC's. The area we are anticipating strong delay is probably in the area of indigenous producers who have not been working under the 23 guideline framework and we are trying to assist them to come to speed. In respect of the IOC's, we all worked together, we led an industry team to develop this law together before we submitted our proposal to the National Assembly. The National Assembly in its wisdom added some new things. But essentially there is nothing out of the ordinary in this law. There is nothing

that we can say is totally a radical departure from what we have been doing, except that now it is mandatory. And I can tell you that because some of the targets are steep, there is a provision in the law that allows the Hon. Minister to make regulations that will allow capacity that is not available to be imported. That is the transition plan and it is for 3 years. And because of that we know that 3 years is a short time and we don't want to have the waiver mechanism that dogs many laws in Nigeria. So we are working tirelessly with the IOC's to identify those areas where these gaps exist and actively pursue interventions to increase the capacity in Nigerians before the 2013 deadline period and that is the major plank of our strategy.

**Q: It is not unlikely that the IOC's and other major stakeholders were consulted during the making of this legislation. Apparently their input were also considered before this legislation, the bill became law. Is there any response now that the reality has dawned on them that there is a law on local content in Nigeria? What has been the response of the IOC's in Nigeria?**

A: For all intents and purposes, I will use one single word, Positive. That is what I see, that's what I hear, that's what I feel, a positive response. What else can it be? This is the law of Nigeria. I can tell you in unveiling the act we extended invitations to all the IOC's. They were here in very strong numbers and at the highest level of their representations. The first group that the board engaged with after the board sat down to work were the IOC's MD's. And I think out of the six (6) majors 5 of them came with their MD's, the Executive Directors and they listened to us. We told them we are all going to work together a lot because this law is unique again in the sense that the law is promoting capacity building and you do not build alone. If you are going to build anything we are going to build it together and I have gotten evidence of support. I have requested certain things from the IOC's and we are expecting them to send their staff to work with us for expertise on how to build capacity. We

believe that the best way of achieving success is to pull our forces. The IOC's are traditionally known to be people who will recognise national laws. If not for the sake of sovereignty of the country they operate in, but for the fact that their own home country insists that they must obey the law. So our job has been to explain what the law is to them and I believe that as the law puts responsibilities of compliance on the IOC's, it's a major turnaround for the industry.

**Q: I think essentially this legislation is to enable Nigeria to derive maximum benefit from the resources God has given us and the PIB is also titled towards that direction. You just said there is maximum support from the IOC's regarding this local content Act. What is in this legislation that has made them to support it whereas they are kicking so much against the PIB?**

A: When a legislation is being put together there are contending forces, so even when putting together the Nigerian Content Act as bill, the IOC's had different positions on every subject but it takes an effort to pull everybody together and try to bring some compromise so that we can arrive at a position. You may not be able to say that the IOC's were 100% in support of the three (3) year enactment period. I can tell you the way the government works, the moment the PIB is part of the law of Nigeria, nobody has the choice than to support it. But the issue right now is that there are contending issues and I believe the government is working with the contending parties and contending opinions to see how to bring everything together. The final judgement rests with the National Assembly. It is the National Assembly that makes the law, we make inputs as industry whether from stakeholder side or the IOC's side, the most important thing is that we all make our input. The National Assembly decides what comes out and then finally the President has to agree to assent to such a law.

**Q: Do you consider as a lacuna the fact that PTDF whose mandate is essentially to develop capacity is**



**not represented in the board?**

A: I will not take responsibility for that situation because I don't know the judgement, the things that brought up that position. Like I said to everybody there is division of labour and there are opportunities for collaboration. I think that the National Assembly deliberately separated this board from PIB. The Nigeria Content Act is an independent stand alone Act and it is not putting it in PIB for one reason, over the years a lot of emphasis have been placed on things like misplaced fund, things like quality, environment and things like that, etc, without sufficient emphasis on national content. This gives an opportunity to focus squarely and make Nigeria content count.

**Q: You need to conduct some**

**“It is not in conflict with what PTDF is doing, in fact by mere operational relationships the Nigerian content development and monitoring board and PTDF must work together and remember even while we were in NNPC we did not wait for anyone to see the network between Nigerian content and PTDF. I am just trying to tell you that even in our current strategic plan we are working on ways and means to bring our activities together and maybe when we progress we will discuss these strategies”.**



◀ **skills gap survey in the industry to ascertain some of the skills that are not there that require Nigerians to be trained to be there, how are you going to relate with PTDF for instance to achieve this objective?**

A: I think the PTDF is mandated by law to provide capacity for the industry but it is not the only one because it has to work with others. So PTDF will continue to play its strategic role. But again there is a clause in the Nigerian content act that gives the Nigerian content monitoring board a specific mandate. There is a clause that says that any other government agency doing things that amount to Nigerian content must hand that job over to the board. It is not something we want to pursue

as a territorial push. However it is important for co-ordination purposes that issues like that should be discussed and understood at least and that is why very shortly the board and PTDF will sit together and agree on which areas they can collaborate and join forces because that is the only way it will work. Because I have a long standing relationship even as an individual with staff of PTDF and as an organisation knowing the two roles we play, there is no way you can divorce PTDF from the Nigerian content development board.

**Q: With the coming into effect of the local content act, what happens to organisations involved in the development or utilization or has**

**anything to do with local content? What happens to such organisation including NNPC?**

A: Again this is where we have to make distinction between law and reality. The law gives you the steps to follow and guidelines or what to do but in practical terms do you think there is any way that Nigerian content implementation can survive without the support of NNPC?, the National oil company of Nigeria, the answer is no. But NNPC itself is subject to the law of the land, so there has to be somebody or group that will subject NNPC to compliance ■

## Salient provisions of the Nigerian Content Law

- Section 3 (1):** Nigerian independent operators shall be given first consideration in the award of oil blocks, oil field licences, oil lifting licences and in all projects for which contract is to be awarded in the Nigerian oil and gas industry subject to the fulfilment of such conditions as may be specified by the Minister.
- (2)** There shall be exclusive consideration to Nigerian indigenous service companies which demonstrate ownership of equipment, Nigerian personnel and capacity to execute such work to bid on land and swamp operating areas of the Nigerian oil and gas industry for contracts and services contained in the schedule to this Act.
- (3)** Compliance with the provisions of this Act and promotion of Nigerian content development shall be a major criterion for award of licences, permits and any other interest in bidding for oil exploration, production, transportation and development or any other operations in Nigerian oil and gas industry.
- Section 28 (1):** Subject to section 10(1)(b) of this Act, Nigerians shall be given the first consideration for employment and training in any project executed by any operator or project promoter in the Nigerian oil and gas industry.
- Section 30:** Where Nigerian are not employed because of their lack of training, the operator shall ensure, to the satisfaction of the Board, that every reasonable effort is made within a reasonable time to supply such training locally or elsewhere and such effort and procedure for its execution shall be contained in the operator's E and T plan.
- Section 32:** For each of its operations, an operator or project promoter may retain a maximum of five percent of Management positions as may be approved by the Board as expatriate positions to take care of investor interests.
- Section 35:** All operators and companies operating in the Nigerian oil and gas industry shall employ only Nigerians in their junior and intermediate cadre or any other corresponding grades designated by the operator or company.
- Section 51(1):** All operators, contractors and other entities engaged in any operation, business or transaction in the Nigerian oil and gas industry requiring legal services shall retain only the services of a Nigerian legal practitioner or a firm of Nigerian legal practitioners whose office is located in any part of Nigeria.
- Section 52 (1):** All operators, contractors and any other entity engaged in any operation, business financial or transactions in the Nigerian oil and gas industry requiring financial services shall retain services only the service of Nigerian financial institutions or organisations, except where, to the satisfaction of the Board, this is impracticable.
- Section 53:** As from the commencement of this Act, all operators, project promoters, contractors and any other entity engaged in the Nigerian oil and gas industry shall carry out all fabrication and welding activities in the country ■

## INAUGURATION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE NIGERIAN CONTENT DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING BOARD (NCMDB) BY MRS. DIEZANI ALISON-MADUEKE, HON. MINISTER OF PETROLEUM RESOURCES AND CHAIRMAN GOVERNING COUNCIL - NCMDB



It is indeed an honour for us all gathered here to participate in and witness the inauguration of the Governing Council of the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB). The NCDMB is the sole authority established by the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development (NOGICD) Act to superintend over the implementation of Nigerian Content Development in the Oil and Gas industry. This major piece of legislation came into effect on 22 April 2010 when it was signed into law by His Excellency, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan (GCFR).

To put the significance of the enactment of this Act into proper perspective, permit me to inform this gathering that if its provisions are steadfastly implemented and that is our definitive intent,, we shall achieve the following milestones with attendant impacts on our National economic development within the next 4 years;

1. Retention of over \$10 billion out of an average annual Oil & Gas Industry expenditure of \$20 billion in the Nigerian economy compared to the current sum of less than \$4 billion.
2. Creation of over 30,000 direct employment and training opportunities considering the scale of activities to be domiciled in Nigeria.
3. Establishment of 3 to 4 new pipe mills to service the demands of the industry and other ancillary manufacturing plants for coatings, valves, fittings & components.
4. Development of 1 or 2 dockyards and increased utilization of existing shipyards for maintaining marine vessels operating in Nigeria which currently sail out for their maintenance and dry docking.
5. Transformation of ownership profile of marine assets supporting industry activities from a current ratio of 20 Nigerian-owned vessels 280 Foreign-owned vessels to a more equitable ratio of 180
6. (Nigerian):120 (Foreign).
7. Integration of indigenes and businesses residing in the Oil producing areas into the mainstream of industry economic activity.
8. Capture of over 50 - 70% of Banking services, Insurance risk placements, and Legal services supporting industry activities and transactions.

The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation had been pursuing a policy-based domiciliation model of Nigerian Content implementation in the Oil and Gas industry since 2005. It was therefore expedient to build on the already established structures to ensure a seamless transition into the legislative driven implementation framework to be anchored by the new NCDMB.

Consequently, on the 28 of April 2010, exactly six days after enactment, the Act was unveiled to key stakeholders in the Oil and Gas industry, top government officials and members of the National Assembly in a symbolic ceremony to flag-off the formal implementation of the Act's provisions. In the period of four (4) months that have elapsed since the unveiling ceremony, I am pleased to report that there has been measurable and positive impact on the industry landscape. Early performance indicators validate the conviction that a law to guide Local content implementation will focus the industry on the strategic imperatives of building local capacity and capabilities to support industry operations in Nigeria, promote employment of our youth and increase the contributions of the sector to our national GDP. Some of the steps taken and outcomes we have witnessed are outlined as follows;

1. The organizational structure of the NCDMB has been set up to the extent possible with the level of funding currently available to the Board.
2. A six week retreat by an interim implementation committee drawn from a wide industry cross-section brainstormed on the Act's provisions to promote a common understanding of the provisions and identify sections that need regulations for effective implementation.
3. The Head Quarters of the board has been set up in Yenagoa, Bayelsa state in accordance with the provisions of



- the law and the Board's operations from that location are ramping up progressively.
4. The process of supplementary appropriation to provide funds required by the Board to perform its statutory functions is progressing and we hope that the board will be sufficiently funded by the last quarter of the year.
  5. The Board has held comprehensive engagements with various industry stakeholders including the International Oil Companies, Indigenous Operators, Multinational and Local Service Companies, Business and Professional Groupings in the Nigerian Content Consultative Forum, Community groups in the Oil Producing Areas, Regulatory Agencies and other MDAs.
  6. Enlightenment programs for awareness have started with mass media activity, but will migrate in phases to the grass roots. Towards this end, an enlightenment committee comprising of state ministries of information and the Board's resources has been put together to pilot this effort for maximum penetration.
  7. Studies are being commissioned to identify priority areas for capacity building and the Board is promoting industry collaboration for the implementation of identified interventions.

The linkage of the Nigerian Content Act to the post amnesty program of Government is a fundamental imperative. With much more emphasis placed on developing facilities and infrastructures within Nigeria, in alignment with conventional business case to site these facilities close to the oil fields and primary source of energy, a whole range of employment opportunities will materialize in the ensuing months. In tune with one of the key objectives of the Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB), the foregoing implementation steps have resulted in a seamless migration of regulatory responsibility from NNPC to the NCDMB without disruption to critical industry operations. The industry is currently witnessing unprecedented levels of Nigerian Content (NC) commitments in Engineering, Fabrication, Procurement, Training, and Subsurface work scope pursuant to the targets set out in the Schedule of the Act. In maximising Nigerian Content, Let me reassure our JV partners and the international community at large, of Government's fairness whilst pursuing national aspirations.

In my capacity as Chairman of the Governing Council of the NCDMB, I have provided guidance to ensure that Nigerian Content provisions are strictly complied with and where capacity does not currently exist, such gaps must be brought to my notice with clear and concrete strategies for building the necessary capabilities as a prerequisite for any applicable waivers. Our implementation priorities going forward are to;

1. Grow the NCDMB to organizational maturity by establishing the institutional structures identified in the Act to strengthen its governance and operations.
2. Formally launch the Nigerian Content Development Fund to boost access of local players who are Nigerian Content compliant to funding at competitive rates.
3. Develop and issue Regulations governing implementation of various aspects of the Act that need further elucidation.
4. Implement interventions to promote equipment ownership by Nigerians and establishment of critical strategic facilities and infrastructure for maintenance of equipment in Nigeria.
5. Establish a bespoke NOGIC Joint Qualification System to capture relevant operational and Nigerian Content data for tracking, monitoring and categorizing Nigerian Content performance across the entire Oil and Gas value chain.

For highest impact, the implementation cycle for E&P projects will start from the bidding rounds or license renewal stage. This is a critical point to extract Nigerian Content commitments from the Plans of bidders which must comply with the Act's provisions. These commitments will be warehoused in the industry-wide Data base to be administered by the NCDMB. This will allow sufficient lead time to implement any major capacity building activities prior to commencement of Field Development. This approach will be adopted midstream and downstream to ensure NC commitments pre-Final Investment Decision (FID). We believe we have assembled a strong, focused and purpose driven team within the NCDMB with the right qualifications and proper mindset to deliver on the intendments of the Act and the vision of this administration.

With the inauguration of this professional Governing Council in accordance with the provisions of the Act, we expect to build a robust and ongoing collaboration amongst all key Stakeholders to ensure that Nigerian Content growth becomes an inimitable reality that forms the strategic framework upon which indigenous growth within the Oil and Gas sector of Nigeria, can stand.



## INTERVIEW WITH THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY PTDF

The Management of PTDF constituted a committee to devise ways and means through which the Fund can effectively collaborate with the newly created Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB). The committee has as its terms of reference, the determination of the most effective mechanism through which the establishment of the NCDMB can give effect to the mandate of the Fund and add value to PTDF programmes and activities. PTDF mandate spoke with the Executive Secretary on this development.

**Q: What necessitated the setting up of the committee on collaboration between PTDF and the Nigerian content monitoring board?**

**A:** Well actually it is very necessary for us to collaborate with them because the whole issue is that the law establishing Nigerian content monitoring board specifically gave them the mandate of ensuring that Nigerian content is complied with in the oil and gas industry. And like I mentioned Nigerian content is mostly lying in human capacity because if you can upgrade the capabilities and abilities of human beings in Nigeria they can do anything. That is why we feel it is very necessary for us to collaborate with this people so that they know who we are training, they will even tell us the kind of area they will want the training to be focused on, so that by the time we train the people, they will know it is them that recommended the kind of training that we will do, we will do the training and they will ensure compliance with the law establishing them. So that

it means consequently we train people and they are employed by the operators of the industry in Nigeria.

**Q: Well I believe the committee has submitted its report. Where do we go from there, are there going to be some structures and machineries that will see to the realization of this objective within the confines of PTDF?**

**A:** Within the confines of PTDF, let me not put the cart before the horse. We will consider the report, we will now meet with the local content development and monitoring board and then the two agencies will now consider the report and decide on what to do. If the two agencies decide on a joint committee to ensure that this our agreement works, that is the implementation of whatever will come after our collaborative meeting with them, that's okay, if otherwise, the two committees decide that each agency should go and hold their in-house committee to ensure the



implementation of its own component part of the recommendation then that would be what will happen. So I don't want to say exactly what will happen because at the end of the day when we have this report we will take it and then go and meet with the local content management board.

## REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF PTDF COMMITTEE ON COLLABORATION WITH NCDMB

**T**he committee having deliberated on the terms of reference is optimistic that the Nigeria Content Act will create the impetus for the full and effective realization of the mandate of the Fund especially in minimising the current challenges of Nigeria content utilization in oil and gas projects. The committee views as necessary, a collaboration of the Fund with the Board in order to ensure the optimal realisation and effective attainment of the Fund's interventionist mandate. The Fund will submit a database of

beneficiaries of the Fund's training/development programmes as well as interventions in research and endowment areas. PTDF Mandate spoke with Mr. Usman Pindar, Secretary to the committee.

Our law says that we can use our fund to train people and all that and conduct research, but there is nowhere in our law which says we also have the mandate to enforce or regulate the utilisation of those we train. What that simply means is that you can train 10million people. The oil and gas industry being a global playing field can bring expatriates from



**Mr. Usman S. Pindar**  
Head, Mid and Downstream Dept. PTDF



where ever and use them to exploit your own resources and there is nothing you can do. What Nigerian content development as a policy even before it became law, what it sought to do is to ensure an aggregate increase in the participation of Nigerians in the activities of Nigerian oil and gas industry, now there is a direct correlation between that. If you say you want Nigerians to participate in the activities of the oil and gas companies or you want Nigerian companies to participate in the activities of oil & gas, the IOC's or other players that are foreign will tell you that we (Nigerians) have neither the capacity nor the skills nor intellect to do it and that has always been the bone of contention. Even when PTDF can point at the fact that we have trained X number of people they will still tell you what you have done is just to train them, when they need our experienced hand and we don't have them, when most of our trainees get employed outside rather than inside. What this law seeks to do now which is an extension of what the policy sought to do is to give skin to that policy that says where there are Nigerians with requisite skills, where there are Nigerian companies with requisite capacity you must use them first to do things related to Nigerian oil & gas industry. I don't know if you recall that two years ago we were involved in training people for front-end Engineering design. That was an extension from the Nigerian Content development policies of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Federal Government then issued directives to say there are certain activities that you cannot take outside because we can do it inside. You cannot do Front-end Engineering design or detailed engineering design for oil and gas project outside. However, we discovered that we do not have enough hands to handle the front-end Engineering and detailed jobs that government has said must be done in Nigeria. But we did it just to create



a link and a nexus between what the government wants and what we can do and therefore we went ahead to train people with skills in various aspects of Engineering design so that they can come back and government can enforce that policy and there will be people to do it, then you will have a seamless connection between policy implementation and inter-agency relationship. While NNPC Nigerian Content division was given the list to drive that government policy, they don't have the mandate to train, we have it so we worked with them and that was how we were able to do that. What Nigerian Content development act seeks to do now is to ensure enforceability of all those things that government has always spoken about but has been unable to implement, because there was no single agency that could act on that. There is a whole line of processes and programmes defined inside the act where you cannot bring in somebody to do, even the management of a particular company involved in oil & gas there is a certain percentage that is aggregated in ascending order where you will have to be dropping the expatriates and increasing the number of Nigerians by participation up to a certain extent. So in a way for us, it is very good because it gives an extension, it gives a link to what we were doing to ensure that we not only train but also ensure that the overall value chain becomes enforceable and

value added.

PTDF management indeed has taken steps to ensure that we leverage on the Nigerian Content act so that we can give skin to some of the things they do. Part of that is the setting up of a committee by management to look into what we are doing and from there to fashion out a strategy that will engage the Nigerian Content monitoring board towards fulfillment of the objective. I am privileged to be the secretary of that committee and the nominated liaison between PTDF and the board and we are working on it. ■

*“What this law seeks to do now which is an extension of what the policy sought to do is to give skin to that policy that says where there are Nigerians with requisite skills, where there are Nigerian companies with requisite capacity you must use them first to do things related to Nigerian oil & gas industry”.*



## PARLEY BETWEEN PTDF AND NCDMB

The visit by the management of PTDF to the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB) was a follow up to the recommendations of the committee set up by the Executive Secretary of PTDF, Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma immediately the Bill was signed into law by President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan. The committee was set up to look at the laws establishing the two organizations and how the PTDF and the Board can collaborate for the benefit of the industry and the country as a whole.

The issues of Nigerian Content are not new to both PTDF and the leadership of NCDMB, because both organisations have been working together even before the bill was signed into law. The partnership started when the Federal Government issued series of directives mandating relevant organisations to work towards achieving Nigerian content in the oil and gas industry. The collaboration steamed up between the Nigerian content Divisions of PTDF and NNPC.

Engr. Ernest Nwapa, Executive Secretary (NCDMB) expressed delight at the visit by PTDF and its Management and hopes the deliberations will be fruitful and for the interest of the nation “ I think it is a very beautiful day for Nigerian content Development and for capacity building in general for our country and for our oil and gas industry”.

Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma congratulated Engr. Ernest Nwapa for his appointment as the Executive Secretary of the board. He said the visit is to discuss possible areas of collaboration between the two organizations, adding that though PTDF has been involved in capacity building, the challenge has been that the products of the Fund's training programmes are not being utilized by the industry “we do not have the legal backing to ensure compliance of Nigerian Content, as the law establishing PTDF only mandated the Fund to build capacity” he said.

The Executive Secretary, PTDF expressed his optimism that the NCDMB will address the issue of utilizing Nigerians trained by the Fund. He explained that a committee was set up by the Fund “to look at the law establishing PTDF and NCDMB and try to bring out ways we think we can collaborate with the board and work for the benefit of the industry and for the benefit of the country as a whole”, He stressed that it is important that the Fund meets regularly with stakeholders in order to streamline its activities with industry needs.

The General Manager, Nigerian Content Division (PTDF), Hajia Habiba Wakil in a comprehensive presentation, explained that the Fund is currently reviewing the Skills Gap Audit which started in July and will hopefully be concluded in December,





2010.

She said the training initiatives of PTDF are anchored on soft skills development, promotion of research, training and education. A data base of all the training the PTDF has been doing over the years was presented to the Executive Secretary, NCDMB with the hope that the trainees will be used by the board in up-coming projects. "We want to present the training we have done, the names, the contact addresses of these people, who are available, willing and able to be absorbed into the industry and we know that the NCDMB has the clout to make sure that this people are absorbed into the projects that are coming on very soon" she stated.

The GM (NCD) while presenting the slides on Engineering Design Training Programme, explained that PTDF's intervention was to train 2600 Engineers in various softwares but has successfully trained 1, 649 who have been attached to service companies.

Another area is the welders training programme "I am happy to say that we have trained 20 international welding practitioners and we just completed training 11 international welding technicians and international welding Engineers. These people were trained in South Africa and Turkey, and have made themselves available to train Nigerian welders in-country. PTDF intends to train 2500 welders

at International Institute of Welding standards comprising of three modules A, B and C. The pilot scheme of 500 trainees has just been concluded under Module "A" and they are proceeding to module "B". This pilot scheme was conducted in 11 centres across Nigeria".

She expressed the hope that the trained welders will be absorbed in Nigeria and will also provide a pool of talent, not only for Nigeria and the Gulf of Guinea but as well as in Ghana that is planning to hit the first oil by the end of this year.

The board was also briefed about the individual researches that are being funded by PTDF with the intention of recognising Nigeria as a hub of research. Also presented was the total number of graduates from the Overseas Scholarship Scheme. "Between 2006 to 2010 we have trained 390 Engineers, 112 Geo – Scientists, 84 Environmental Scientists, 50 Offshore related Scientist, 73 in Energy courses, 31 in IT and 153 in various other related fields". She said 192 Phd scholars have been trained so far.

At the end of the presentation, the following recommendations were made:

- The setting up of a platform for constant interaction between the two organisations.
- The development of a road-map with clear and measurable milestones to guide the partnership.

□ The periodic interaction of the leadership of the Fund and the Board.

□ The board was also urged to designate a desk officer that will work closely with the desk officer of PTDF on collaborations between the two organizations.

The Executive Secretary (NCDMB) also made a presentation on the current activities of the board and the future expectations. He stated that the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Committee that would be constituted by the board will provide an avenue for the materialization of the collaboration between the PTDF and NCDMB. The NOGIC he added will promote capacity building and ensure that oil companies and contractors complied with Nigerian Content requirements. He noted that NOGIC will also create a database of competent contractors and national skills pool.

Engr. Ernest Nwapa said that the Nigerian Content Development Fund will be used for capacity building. The fund he added does not conflict with PTDF's role as clearly defined in its mandate. He said a fund manager will be appointed to manage the Fund "the board will oversee and monitor but will not administer it on a day to day basis, we are going to appoint a Fund Manager that will run the fund like a bank and make sure that before anybody benefits from this fund, the project must be bankable and have a base" ■



# NIGERIA AT 50

Interview with

**Dr. Emmanuel Egbogah**

Special Adviser to the President on Petroleum Matters



*Can we share your experience/involvement in Nigeria's oil and gas industry?*

My oil and gas industry experience/involvement is global. It covers Nigeria, North America, Europe, Middle East, Africa, Russia, East Asia including India, Malaysia, and Indonesia. In these areas, I have taught, consulted, managed projects, owned and operated companies, advised governments and professional organizations on the oil and gas industry's technical, commercial and policy matters. My research, professional membership as well as seminars and awards and recognitions in the industry are very extensive. Please reference my website at [www.dregbogah.com](http://www.dregbogah.com) for more details.

My experience and involvement in the oil and gas industry in Nigeria is very vast. As you are aware, Nigeria is my country of birth and I am a Petroleum Engineer and Petroleum by profession. As such, I have always known that I will be giving back to the oil and gas industry in Nigeria.

I was the Pioneer Nigerian Lecturer at the Petroleum Engineering Department of the University of Ibadan at the early stage of my career. Since then, the following institutions in Nigeria have benefitted from my contributions in the educational sector: University of Port Harcourt, Bell's University of Technology Ota, Federal University of Technology Owerri, University of Ibadan, Lagos State University, Community Secondary School, Umuokpu-Awka, Dennis Memorial Grammar School, Onitsha and

Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka.

Each of these institutions benefitted through one or more of the following projects which in total, runs into millions of Naira: construction of education centres, development of bio-fuel research centre, donation of computers, establishment of Emmanuel Egbogah Chair in Petroleum Engineering, conduct of lecture series, award of scholarships, management of annual technology fair, and promotion of Society of Petroleum Engineering activities.

As the current Special Adviser to the President on Petroleum Matters, I advise the President holistically on matters of oil and gas resources planning, exploration, development, exploitation, processing, transportation, management, asset valuation, economics, policy regulation, strategy, governance, legal and regulatory framework, fiscal systems/regimes and petroleum arrangements, financing and all issues pertaining to the orderly development of the nation's petroleum resources.

I have also been leading the effort in the comprehensive reform of the public sector of the oil and gas industry resulting in the preparation of the Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB), a bill that coalesces all existing 16 laws into one comprehensive, all-encompassing legislation, which captures all the experience of past more than 50 years in addressing all institutional matters: policy, structure, legal and governance. The PIB is viewed as an integrated, viable, functional, sovereign enterprise with geostrategic capacity and global market understanding equalling sustainable economic development. When passed into law, the PIB will be a "game" changer in the way the industry operates in Nigeria.

Based on my experience from other parts of the world, I know the need for communities located in the oil and gas industry operational area to benefit

from petroleum activities. That is why I initiated, advised the President and included in the PIB a program for giving back to the communities based on the concept of impact value.

In addition, I currently chair the Oil and Gas Industry Committee on the Post Amnesty programme. The Committee's activities support government's programme on post amnesty which is aimed at training, equipping and rehabilitating the beneficiaries. This programme has helped to improve security in the oil and gas operational areas which in turn has resulted to increase in oil and gas production.

*For 50 years, Nigeria's Economy has relied substantially on oil in terms of GDP, yet Nigerians do not seem to be in firm control in terms of operations and management of the industry. What has been the effect of this in deriving maximum benefit for the natural resources?*

Firstly, Nigeria is not deriving sufficient growth in GDP from the oil and gas industry as it is supposed to, given its huge expenditure in the industry (GDP due to oil and gas industry is only 20 – 30%). The reason is mainly because the industry is an enclave economy and is not employing enough Nigerians. As such, few Nigerians are involved in the productive areas of the industry. Its citizens are not adequately trained, technology is not transferred, people and companies from other countries make so much money and transfer it to their countries of origin. As a result, agriculture is contributing more to Nigeria's GDP than the oil and gas because agriculture employs many more Nigerians.

The reasons oil and gas industry operators adduce for not employing and involving many more Nigerians is lack of capacity. However, the Local Content law recently enacted should help in addressing the issue of local capacity. ►



Companies and other operators would have no choice than to build local capacity throughout the value chain of the oil and gas industry. The Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB) which is currently before the National Assembly when passed into law will also lead to increase in the involvement of Nigerians in the industry. The net effect of these initiatives will be improvement of the Nigerians standard of living and increase in the GDP contribution to the national economy.

*What about other issues of local content in the industry. Are we likely to attain the 75% target in 2010?*

The Local Content Law is poised to transform the oil and gas industry into the economic engine for job creation by ensuring that greater proportion of work is done in-country to promote capacity development and indigenous participation. The policy thrust of domiciling the procurement of products and services in Nigeria and boosting value addition to the domestic economy is pivotal to government's strategy for addressing national Economic development.

In fact, the passing of the Local Content Law has witnessed increase in activities of Nigerians in the oil and gas industry. Any investor who operates within the provisions of the Local Content Law will have competitive advantage over others who don't. Therefore, no company will knowingly go contrary to the provisions of the law. Regarding the 75% local content target in 2010, all the companies involved should be working towards its achievement in due course.

*Will PIB bring about increased local content development? Is it a form of oil nationalization?*

Let me answer this question by stating what the PIB is all about. It is at the core of the ongoing reform in the oil and gas industry. It covers virtually every aspect of governance and operations across the oil and gas value chain, ranging from fundamental objectives of state policy, institutional framework, upstream and downstream operations, fiscal system and down to matters of health, safety, environment and community relations. When passed into law, it will ensure a level playing ground for all the stakeholders. It will

also lead to alignment of resources and creation of capacity for effective and value adding competition in the award of contracts and execution of projects in the industry. Based on this description, it is obvious that PIB will lead to increase in local content.

It is not another form of nationalization. Rather, it is about updating 50+ years of law guiding the industry to the realities of the 21st century which would allow more Nigerians to compete and participate in the activities of the industry. As a matter of fact, the multinational oil companies and other investors will benefit from the PIB when passed into law because not only will it create a level playing ground but will also institutionalize transparency in the industry, transforming Nigeria from being one of the most opaque to one of the most open and transparent in the world.

*Can you assess the role of PTDF in manpower development and local content initiative?*

PTDF has significant role to play in manpower development, capacity building in order for government objectives in the Local Content law and PIB to be achieved.

Its main role is to build indigenous manpower in the oil and gas industry as very well articulated in its vision and mission statements:

Vision - To serve not only as a vessel for the development of indigenous manpower and technology transfer/acquisition in the petroleum industry but also to make Nigeria a human resource center for the West African sub-region.

Mission - To train Nigerians to qualify as graduates, professionals, technicians and craftsmen in the field of engineering, geology, science and management in the oil and gas industry in Nigeria or abroad.

Based on what I have seen so far, PTDF is living its vision and mission statements.

*PTDF is surprisingly not represented in the local content management of monitoring board. Is this a Lacuna?*

PTDF should continue to pursue its objectives of training manpower and building capacity in the oil and gas industry regardless of whether it is represented in the Local Content

Management Board or not.

*As Nigeria celebrates 50 years of Nationhood, what is your vision of the oil and gas industry in terms of the use of local manpower, local materials and services and to what extent do you think PTDF can contribute further towards this realization?*

My vision for the Nigerian energy industry is for an industry which is guided by modern and institutional framework, a restructured industry which ensures that National Oil Company (NOC) evolves into an integrated, international, commercial oil and gas corporation driven by revenue generation and profit oriented motives. I vision an industry where the regulators roles are spelt out and do not overlap, an industry which is deregulated and encourages competition, an industry with greater focus on research and technology and application of these in the exploration and production activities, an industry where local capacity is created and indigenous companies can compete in the entire value chain of the industry.

My vision is for an industry which will not depend on the government for funding, an industry where gas is not routinely flared, an industry which encourages investments from upstream through downstream. I vision an industry which can ultimately operate like the Malaysian oil and gas industry. The ongoing reform in the industry, if properly implemented will lead to the realization of such a vision. All "hands must be on deck" to make sure that this happens ■





## EXECUTIVE SECRETARY PTDF BAGS FELLOWSHIP AWARD

The Governing Council of the Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Unwana, Afikpo has honoured the Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma with the distinguished Fellowship Award of the Institution.

The Rector of the Polytechnic, Professor Francis Otunta said at the conferment of the Fellowship Award that Engr. Darma has in no small measure contributed to national development and to the development of humanity in his service to the nation. He said that Engr. Darma influenced and facilitated positive changes in the society, by encouraging the development of Institutions and systems for the empowerment of Nigerians to be relevant in various fields of human endeavour particularly the Oil and gas industry and Information Communication Technology ICT. According to Professor Otunta, “we are aware that PTDF under the leadership of this young astute administrator has done so much in the upgrade of relevant departments and faculties of Nigerian Universities and the development of ICT centres in Secondary and Tertiary Institutions across the Country. The Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic is a beneficiary and we did not lobby for it. PTDF on its own decided to locate an ICT centre in the Polytechnic and

this has been of immense benefit to our students”. He said the leadership of the Fund therefore deserves to be recognised especially for his outstanding transparency in public Service.

The Executive Secretary of PTDF Engr. Darma was before his current appointment, a University teacher, three time Commissioner in his home State, Katsina, and a member of the following bodies; Nigerian Society of Engineers, Nigerian Institute of Management, Renewable and Alternative Energy Network and Alumnus, London Business School.

Since assuming office as Executive Secretary of PTDF in November 2008, he has strived to justify the status of the Fund as the only Agency of Government with the sole responsibility of developing indigenous capacity, institutions and systems for the Oil and gas industry, by re-inventing PTDF to focus on its primary mandate. In this direction, he succeeded in building consensus among stakeholders to make PTDF the lead catalyst for capacity and competency building for the Nigerian oil and gas industry. In achieving this, the Executive Secretary overhauled and restructured the operations of the Fund, by streamlining and enlarging the Fund’s programmes and activities and Instituting a transparency and integrity based governance regime. ■



# AFRICAN PEACE FOUNDATION CONFERS **AFRICAN PEACE LEGEND AWARD** ON EXECUTIVE SECRETARY PTDF

*The Local Organising Committee of the World Peace Conference Africa has conferred on PTDF Executive Secretary, Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma, the highest peace award on an individual, the African Peace Legend award. The Committee responsible for ensuring the successful hosting by Nigeria of the World Peace Conference announced the conferment of the award during a courtesy visit on the Executive Secretary in Abuja.*

The African Peace Foundation is collaborating with the National Universities Commission, and the Nigeria Institute of International Affairs as well as International experts and intellectuals in global peace issues to organise the world peace conference. Chairman of the Local Organising Committee Professor Ola Makinwa who led the team of African Peace Foundation and some delegates of the World Peace Conference on the visit said the decision to select Engr. Darma for the award was based on his antecedents and current disposition to issues which present him as a person who “by nature is peaceful”. “We are picking your nature and picking your personality. Your being a politician has added more to your credentials of propelling peace at the grassroots” he said.

Professor Ola Makinwa said despite efforts at global peace, so much conflicts, and conflict situations keep rising in different societies and across ethnic and religious lines globally. “There are many things requiring to be done that are yet to be done to address conflicts and crisis in the Niger Delta region, in Jos, Plateau State, in Zungeru, Niger State, in Odi, between Umuleri and Aguleri in Anambra State, between the Modakeke’s and Ife’s and Ilaye’s, and between the Igbiras and Ibasas.” Though conflict and religious crisis are critical problems of the day, Professor Makinwa said Nigeria has been doing a lot in conflict resolution. He solicited PTDF partnership in organising the world peace conference as a part of the continuing campaign to institute a culture of peace in the polity.

Responding, the Executive Secretary of PTDF, **Engr. Darma** expressed his gratitude to the foundation for considering him a peaceful person. He said given a wide interpretation of the Fund’s mandate, conflict resolution in the Niger Delta, is a fundamental issue that need to be addressed by the Fund.

“There is a lot of conflict to be resolved in the region. PTDF has the mandate to develop the science and engineering of petroleum technology but we cannot do that without peace. As a result, the Fund will support any initiative that will promote peace on a sustainable basis in the Niger Delta region. In this regard, the Fund will be disposed to sponsoring a day in the World Peace

Conference dedicated exclusively to issues and concerns on conflict resolution in the Niger Delta. If I don’t have peace in the Niger Delta I cannot promote technology in the oil and gas sector” he said.

In a related development, the Executive Secretary also received an **Award of Excellence** by the National Association of Niger Delta Students for being an “**Icon of quality education and hope for Nigerian youths**”.

The National Executive of the Niger Delta student body, said its decision to confer the award on the Executive Secretary was based on his outstanding leadership qualities, dedication and commitment towards the promotion of quality education, his philanthropic gesture to the needy in the society and his strong passion and support for youth and students movements as well as advocacy for sustainable peace and development in the Niger-Delta.

The National President, **Lucky Emonefe** who presented the plaque to **Engr. Darma** hoped that the award will stimulate the Executive Secretary to strive more in ensuring greater service to the region and to the nation in general. He identified restiveness, militancy and lack of educational consciousness as the prevalent issues confronting the region. The association he said intends to organise a sensitization programmes with the theme “From Gun-Militancy to Pen-Militancy as its contribution to a non- violent struggle. “We are ready to carry out programmes that will create strong education consciousness in the Niger Delta region by launching a programme tagged “save education save the future of the Niger Delta region”.

Mr. Emonefe said the association will partner with genuine Niger-Delta leaders and corporate bodies in looking for practical solutions to the Niger-Delta problems.

Executive Secretary, Petroleum Technology Development Fund, **Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma** commended the non violent approach to the Niger-Delta cause. The Fund he said is poised to transform oil endowed States in such a way that in the next five to ten years, no single person from these States will be without a skill for productive use to cater for his family ■

## PTDF RECEIVES MOST VALUABLE INSTITUTIONAL AWARD

For being the most consistent organisation in promoting petroleum technology and other oil and gas industry interests, the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) has been awarded the Most Valuable Institutional Member award by the Nigerian Mining and Geosciences Society (NMGS).

President of the society Professor Azubuike Elueze said the award which is unconditional is based on the leadership of PTDF in capacity building programmes implementation as well as in carrying along the stakeholders of the industry particular the NMGS in the implementation of its programmes.

Executive Secretary of PTDF Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma identified NMGS as a critical stakeholder in the industry that is helping PTDF to focus on its mandate.

He said the society's contributions to the Fund has assisted in no small measure in charting the course of the Fund's training activities in Geology, Geosciences, Geophysics and other related disciplines. The Executive Secretary promised that the award will ginger the Fund to do more in fulfilling the objectives of its mandate. "We will depend on stakeholders like you to continue giving us guidance in our programmes".





# Executive Secretary accepts Patronship of Youth Organisation

As Nigeria's political landscape lights up for the 2011 election year, several political interests and groupings are beginning to emerge that may likely determine the shape of the politics of 2011. Among them are Nigerian youths of different ethnic nationalities and professional callings but bonded together by a common purpose; that of seeing to the emergence of Goodluck Jonathan as a credible presidential candidate and his ultimate election as the president in 2011. Goodluck Jonathan, erstwhile vice President and later Acting President was sworn-in as President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, following the death of President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua on Wednesday May 5, 2010. The youths under the aegis of Nigerian youths for Goodluck Jonathan 2011 are embarking on a strident nationwide campaign for President Goodluck Jonathan to continue in office as president beyond the one year that fate has imposed on him following the demise of his principal.

In this regard the Nigeria youths for Goodluck Jonathan have been visiting notable Nigerians to apprise them on the objectives, action plans and road map for realising their set goals.

On a visit to the Executive Secretary of PTDF, Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma, the spokesperson of the 28 member Executive of the youth body Daniel Mshelia said that having followed the pedigree of Goodluck Jonathan as Chairman, Local Government Council, Deputy Governor of his home State, Bayelsa and later Governor of the State, then Nigeria's Vice-President and President, and having taken a cursory look at political developments and history of Nigeria as a nation, it is their firm belief that only a purposeful and visionary leadership as manifested by Goodluck Jonathan's presidency can wrest Nigeria from the pit of undevelopment.

Every nation and its peoples according to him is defined by its leadership and for Nigeria to emerge a great nation with immense possibilities, it needs a competent and unspoilt leader in the person of Goodluck Jonathan. The group also through its campaign is seeking for equity in the polity, the liberalization of the political landscape and against zoning of the presidency. "We are in this regarding standing for and rallying around Mr. President for the presidency in 2011".

The group emphasised that their coming together is to ensure that Nigeria emerges a virile, great nation where justice and equity come as a natural birth right of every Nigerian, without labouring under the weight of tribalism, nepotism, corruption, communal rivalries, and religious intolerance that have been entrenched in the nation's polity. The group also announced the appointment of Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma as a patron of the youth organisation.

In accepting his appointment as patron of the youth body, the Executive Secretary of PTDF, Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma gave three reasons why he personally supports the cause of Goodluck Jonathan's presidency.

"I know a number of people from the North and the South who hold or have held leadership positions, but the only person i know as President who looks at you in the face and gives you value as human being is Goodluck Jonathan. I have known people who are in positions of authority and positions of power, but i do not know any single person who considers power and authority as positions of responsibility like Goodluck Jonathan. He does not come from the group of well meaning Nigerians who by virtue of their positions considers you as subhuman but also respects people in much lower class".

These reasons, Engr. Darma said makes him as a faith based person to believe, that the peculiar manner of the emergence of Goodluck Jonathan as Nigeria's president has the hand of God in it, and "God will not just do anything without a purpose and that reason may really be for Nigeria to have a purposeful leadership".

President Jonathan he said had a humble beginning and despite having tasted and experienced power at different levels of authority had remained humble. The hallmark of leadership, Engr. Darma said is humility.

He promised to assist the cause of Nigerian youths for Goodluck Jonathan 2011, in his personal capacity and within the means available to him without compromising his office, "as the man you are supporting will not tolerate the abuse of government process. We will only do what we are able to do personally" ■



# BRIEF ON THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FUND (PTDF)

## ENGR MUTTAQHA RABE DARMA, MNSE, MNIM



Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma, a grassroots politician, Youth Leader and former University Don was born on 23rd July, 1966 in Katsina City. He attended Rafindadi Primary School where he obtained his first school leaving certificate in 1978. He proceeded to Government Day Secondary School K/Yandaka, where he got his West African School Certificate (WASC/WAEC) in 1983. Darma was admitted into Bayero University, Kano (BUK) and graduated with Second Class Upper Division (2.1) in Mechanical Engineering (Bachelor of Engineering) in 1989. He also obtained his Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from the same university in 1994. His quest for professional excellence took him to the University of Benin where he obtained a second Masters Degree, this time in Engineering (Production) in 1995.

2. Engineer Darma began his working career as a Graduate Assistant in the Department of Mechanical Engineering of his alma-mater in 1990. He rose to the position of Lecturer II in 1996 before transferring his services to

the defunct National Electric Power Authority (NEPA) as Assistant Manager, Egbin thermal station, Lagos. That same year Engr. Darma moved to SCOA industries, Apapa, Lagos as Head, Department of Industrial Engineering System and Methods, a position he held until 1999. He further served as Sales Manager, responsible for multi-lateral finance and diplomatic organisations in Coscharis Motors (BMW/Rover Division) Lagos in 2000.

3. After a successful career stint in both the public and private sectors spanning about two (2) decades, Engr. Darma resigned his appointment and went into politics. An astute politician and a grassroots mobiliser, Darma came into political limelight when he was appointed Director, Research in the Political Affairs Office of Katsina State Government House in 2002 by the then Executive Governor of Katsina State, Umaru Musa Yar'adua. He was also appointed Executive Director, Katsina State Environmental Protection Agency. Because of his political prowess and profundity in grassroots mobilization, especially among the youths of Katsina State, the then Governor, Umaru Musa Yar'adua appointed him as Commissioner in-charge of Rural Development, Women Affairs, Youth Sports and Social Development in 2003. He was later moved to the Ministry of Works, Housing and Transport, as Commissioner between 2006 and 2007. Engr. Darma is a member of the Nigeria Society of Engineers (MNSE), member Nigeria Institute of Management (MNIM), member Renewable and Alternative Energy Network, and an Alumnus of the London Business School.

4. As a grassroots politician with large followership among his people, Engr. Darma was chosen to serve as the Chairman/Convener of the following Community based development associations:

- i. Chairman/Convener, Cikin-Birni Consultative Forum, Katsina.
- ii. Chairman/Convener, Committee of Concerned Citizens on Education in Katsina State.
- iii. Chairman/Convener, Movement for the Creation of Dan-Marna Local Government, Katsina State.
- iv. Chairman, Movement for the creation of additional/local governments in Katsina State.
- v. National Coordinator, Shehu Musa Yar'adua Memorial Association in all the States of the Federation.

5. The appointment of Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma as the 5th Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) on 8th November, 2008 is a clear testimony of the confidence reposed in him by the Federal Government of Nigeria. Engr. Darma came to PTDF with a vision of not only justifying the Fund as the only agency of government with the sole responsibility of developing indigenous capacity, institutions and systems for the enhancement of local content in the oil and gas industry, but also re-inventing PTDF to focus on its primary mandate.

In this regard, Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma embarked on wide consultations among all stakeholders for consensus building, collaboration and partnership, to make PTDF the lead catalyst for capacities and competency building for the Nigerian oil and gas industry.



This also manifested in his overhaul and restructuring of key operations of the Fund, the streamlining and enlargement of programmes and introduction of transparency and integrity based governance regime such that within the last two years of his appointment, he achieved the following:

i. The complete take-over of the entire Management of the Overseas Scholarship Scheme by the Fund following the termination of the consultancy for the overseas segment of the scheme. The Fund made a savings of N300 Million which made it possible for more candidates to be sponsored for the scholarship. This resulted in the phenomenal yearly increase in beneficiaries from a maximum of 200 in the preceding year to 500 scholars in the 2008/2009 scheme.

ii. He introduced a more vigorous contract management regime making it mandatory for contractors of the Fund's projects to adhere diligently to work plans and timelines for implementation. This led to non-performing contracts being revoked and advance payments recovered, while setting new benchmarks for valuation, monitoring, and evaluation of projects. The effect was to fast track the implementation of most of the Fund's projects which for years were stagnated. These include:

- The Upgrade of the Petroleum Training Institute (PTI), Effurun, Delta State.
- The Development of the Federal Polytechnic of Oil and Gas, Ekowe, Bayelsa State.
- The Development of the National Technical Institute, Bonny, Rivers State.
- ICT projects in 24 universities, 20 federal colleges of education and 102 unitary schools.

iii. The physical upgrade of the National College of Petroleum Studies Kaduna (NCPSK) which had been on the drawing board since 2007, took off less than one year after Engr. Darma's assumption of duty as the Executive Secretary, PTDF. The 90 hectre location of the

project has been transformed into a huge construction site with most components attaining between 40% to 60% completion levels. NCPSK is set to be transformed from being just a training centre for senior Managers of NNPC to becoming a flagship institution for training senior Management personnel of the entire oil and gas industry and a fully fledged apex institution for petroleum policy and strategy.

iv. Under the university upgrade projects, Engr. Muttaqha Darma completed and commissioned eight upgraded departments offering oil and gas related courses in selected universities. He also extended the upgrade projects to include 10 state universities and institutions.

v. Nigeria's recognition as an international welding nation was made possible under the leadership of Engr. Darma as Executive Secretary of PTDF. As a result, Nigerian welders with certification by the international institute of welding are now in high demand by the oil and gas industry. This followed his intensification of the Welders Training and Certification Programme which made it possible for the first African female International welding specialist to be produced in Nigeria by PTDF.

vi. Engr. Darma conceived and commenced the establishment of a skills development and training centre in Port-Harcourt, Rivers State, the aim being to provide basic skills required in the oil and gas industry to unemployed youths in the areas of automobile works, basic electronics, catering, electrical repairs, masonry etc.

He also stepped up the implementation of the following programmes and activities:

- Review of Skills Gap Audit.
- Engineering Design Training Programme (EDTP).
- Seismic Interpretation Software Training for University Lecturers.
- Geosciences Training Programme.
- Collaborative Activities with

#### Stakeholders

- Oil and Gas Training Association (OGTAN)
- Capacity Building Enhancement Programme
- Collaboration with United Nations Office for Special Projects (UNOPS)
- University Endowment Programme in Seven Federal Universities to advance indigenous research in petroleum and related disciplines for the nation's oil and gas industry.
- Welders Training and Certification Programme (WTCP) aimed at training 2,500 welders to international certification in various programmes.
- Enhancing the Fabrication Capabilities of Nigeria (EFCN).
- "Catch them young competitions" in petroleum technology targeted at senior secondary school students to create awareness and interest in petroleum technology.
- University Lecturers Skills Enhancement Training Programme (ULSEP) to be run in partnership with interested UK universities.
- Technology Knowledge Sharing Programme (TKSP) to facilitate the sharing, dissemination and utilization of the knowledge of senior or retired experts on the oil and gas sector.
- Annual Research Grant Competition.

The positive results being realized from the implementation of these programmes are already having an impact on the perception and psyche of Nigerians about the Fund. PTDF that was cynically referred to as "slush" Fund is now being regarded as "a very important organization" in Nigeria.

Engr. Darma has brought his wealth of experience, both in the public and private sector, his patient understanding and appreciation of situations and his strong belief in God as the ultimate determinant of Man's earthly sojourn, to influence his leadership style and relationship with his staff ■

## VICE PRESIDENT NAMADI SAMBO MEETS PTDF MANAGEMENT – SETS TARGET FOR THE DELIVERY OF MAJOR PTDF INTERVENTION PROJECTS



The invitation by the office of the Vice President titled **‘Briefing session with the Vice President’** was taut. It read “Following the assumption of office by His Excellency, the Vice President, please be informed that briefing sessions have been scheduled for all the heads of Parastatals/Agencies under his supervision”

The Petroleum Technology Development Fund listed as one of the agencies under the supervision of the Vice President, therefore took its turn in a 45 minute presentation to the Vice President encapsulating information on the activities, achievements, and challenges of the Fund as well as suggestions on the way forward.

The Executive Secretary Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma in a power point presentation titled “The situation in PTDF: Year 2000 to Date” explained in succinct details, the history, objectives and mandate of the Fund and took his audience which included principal officers of the Vice President through the programmes and activities of the Fund from year 2000. The Fund he said

was established by an Act of Parliament (PTDF Act of 1973) for the purpose of training and educating Nigerians in science and engineering disciplines that will lead to their effective participating in the oil and gas industry. This he said involves developing the human capital requirement of the industry; developing the institutions and systems that provide the necessary training for the human resource requirement of the industry; promoting innovative research for the manufacture in-country of materials used by the oil and gas industry. PTDF in this regard facilitates manufacturing processes and materials development for the industry.

These objectives of PTDF, the Executive Secretary said, are implemented through the award of scholarships (overseas and local) to deserving Nigerians, and through the numerous intervention projects which include the organisational and infrastructural upgrade of the Petroleum Training Institute, Effurun, Warri Delta State; Development of National Technical Institute for Gas Technology and Environmental Sciences in Bonny,

Rivers State; Re-development of the National College of Petroleum Studies, Kaduna; Re-development of the Federal Polytechnic of oil and gas Ekowe, Bayelsa State, Development of IT Centres in selected secondary, polytechnics and Colleges of Education across the country and the development of the College Engineering and Technology of the Federal University Petroleum Resources, Effurun, Delta State etc. All these he said are meant to provide world class training and education facilities to enable Nigerians fit directly into the oil and gas industry. Other programmes of the Fund where verifiable achievements have been recorded include the professorial Chair endowments in selected universities having departments offering oil and gas related courses, the Nigeria content development programmes such as welders training and certification programme and Engineering design training programme amongst others.

The fund he said is also set to develop a National Skills Acquisition and development centre in Port-Harcourt, Rivers State, and also engages in



software, software for design rating and debottlenecking of vent systems and dynamic design software for pipe network and integrity.

The Executive Secretary is optimistic that with the Petroleum Industry Bill and other reforms in the oil and gas industry a lot more can be achieved by the Fund in this regard. With the understanding that welding and fabrication constitute 65% of the local content requirement in the industry, PTDF was mandated to train not less than 2500 welders for the mid and downstream sectors of the industry. However, with the upcoming natural gas pipeline project and the transahara oil pipeline project, the Fund realised that more than 10,000 welders will need to be trained and certified as international welders. Engr. Muttaqha told the vice President that for such international certification to be realised, there should be in existence a national body recognised by the International Institute of Welding and capable of issuing internationally recognised certificates to trained welders. He said the Fund discovered that Nigerians did not have a single national training body and certified trainers. Following PTDF intervention, the Nigerian Institute of Welding in January 2010 received interim certification by the International Institute of Welding. The Fund has also made substantial progress in training Nigerians to become internationally recognised welding practitioners after undergoing training in South Africa and Turkey in specialised welding programmes.

Welding and fabrication he said remains the bedrock of the oil and gas industry and PTDF he said will not relent until that critical aspect of the industry are populated with trained and certified Nigerians.

The Fund he said is also involved in the upgrade of key fabrication yards in-country to provide the platform for use by welders and fabricators. These include the Defence Industries Corporation of Nigeria (DICON), Nigerian Naval Dock Yard, Nigeria Airforce Institute of Technology and PTI, Effurun, Delta State.

These Institutions are in partnership

◀ strategic partnership with stakeholders in the industry.

A further breakdown of the score card of the Fund by the Executive Secretary, indicate that about one thousand eight hundred scholars have been trained by the Fund since the inception of the overseas scholarship scheme in 2002. 250 of these are PhD scholars.

Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma said the Fund has shifted its focus on PhD scholarship to mainly university lecturers who will come back and teach in the upgraded departments. PTDF he said is also sponsoring eligible students in the PTDF upgraded University for Oil and gas related studies at both the M.sc and PhD levels. On the intervention projects, the Executive Secretary told the Vice President that work has progressed up to 75% completion level at the National College of Petroleum Studies Kaduna and when completed, there will be a law to establish the institution as National Institute for Petroleum Policy and Strategy.

The National Technical Institute, Bonny Island is being developed by the Fund for the training of low and middle level manpower on gas technology and Environmental Science, while the Petroleum Training Institute is being up graded by the Fund to enhance its effectiveness in training middle level manpower for the petroleum industry. The development of the School of Engineering and Technology of the Federal University of Petroleum Resources which started last year will incorporate five departments dealing with oil and gas courses, he said.

The development of the Federal Polytechnic of oil and gas, Ekowe, according to the Executive Secretary had to be repackaged following the lack of progress in the construction of the first phase of the project in 2006. The repackaged contract has been awarded and preliminary works have commenced on the site. Sustained militant activities affected the progress in the development by the Fund of a secondary and primary schools in the two oil producing communities of Okerenkoko and Oporoza. With the abatement of militant activities in the areas, the Fund will soon continue with the project, the Executive Secretary said.

So far, not less than 20 universities have benefited from the PTDF upgrade of relevant departments offering oil and gas courses in selected universities under its university upgrade project. PTDF endowment programme he said was set up for the purpose of advancing indigenous research in petroleum and related disciplines for the nation's oil gas industry. Eight (8) universities have so far been endowed.

Nigeria Content Development is a strategic mandate of the Fund to enhance the skills of Nigerian graduates in engineering and related courses. The Fund he said has trained not less than 2,600 Nigerians in Engineering design softwares relevant to the industry. These include Process Simulation Software, Plant Design Management System, Structural analysis, Calculation System, Project management Software, smart plant instrumentation



with PTDF to attain the status of internationally certified training bodies. The Executive Secretary said that one of such bodies, the Naval College, Sapele serve as centre for training underwater welding practitioners. This is because Nigeria does not at the moment have a single wet welder while the industry will require 20,000 man hours for the industry. For now he said PTDF is sponsoring three hundred Nigerians for specialised training in wet welding. The Fund is also building the capacities of lecturers in seismic interpretation. Under the programme, 2 lecturers from each of the 20 upgraded university departments are sponsored by the Fund periodically to seismic interpretation software training. Additionally, Engr. Darma said the teaching skills of university lecturers are being upgraded by the Fund through the university lecturers skills enhancement programmes, by shadow learning eminent professors in universities abroad.

On stakeholder collaboration the Executive Secretary identified the following organisations as major stakeholders of the Fund. They are; the Nigerian Mining and Geosciences Society(NMGS), the National Association of Petroleum Explorations(NAPE), the Society of Petroleum Engineers(SPE), the National Mathematics Centre(NMC), the Petroleum Technology Association of Nigeria(PETAN), The Nigerian Association of Indigenous Petroleum Explorers and producers(NAIPEC), The Nigerian Society of Engineers(NSE),

and the Petroleum Training Journal. PTDF he said is mandated to facilitate the sponsorship of their publications, sponsor their members to local and international conferences and disseminate information relating to geosciences, mathematics and oil and gas related programmes.

In conclusion, the Executive Secretary of PTDF, Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma said the Fund is aware that the local content expectation in the oil and gas industry has not been met. He emphasised more particularly on the 2005 Federal Government directive setting a target of 75% local content by the end of 2010. So far he said only about 35% has been achieved. This situation he said will be fundamentally reversed with the coming into effect of the local content law and the setting up of the Local Content Monitoring Board by the Federal Government.

PTDF he said will continue to provide competitive training and research programmes for the development of human and institutional capacity as well as technology acquisition. He is optimistic that by the end of the year, PTDF would have provided Nigerians with sufficient manpower with relevant skills and competencies to handle any operational and management challenges of the oil and gas industry. It is left to the Local Content Management Board to ensure the utilization of these manpower created by the Fund by ensuring that they are adequately engaged in the industry.

The Vice President, Architect Mohammed Namadi Sambo thanked the Executive Secretary for the comprehensive presentation on the Fund. He however observed that the National Technical Institute, Bonny, the Federal Polytechnic Ekowe, and the Petroleum Training Institute are projects that should have been completed by the Fund by now. He therefore requested for a schedule of completion of the projects as they are very relevant to the Federal Government amnesty programme in the Niger-Delta. According to the Vice President "I will like to have a schedule of completion of these projects with utmost urgency as I will like to take Mr. President to go and commission the institutions as part of efforts to address the issues of Niger-Delta youths which is the purpose of the institutions. How do we commission these projects within 90 days" he asked?

The Executive Secretary pleaded for more time to enable the Fund complete all segments of the projects especially equipping the workshops and laboratories components of the projects. On the Ekowe project, the Executive Secretary further explained that three years after the first phase of the contract was awarded, only 5% completion was recorded by the contractors who merely took mobilization fees and abandoned the project. The Fund he said had to group the phases together and re-awarded the contract to new contractors who have just commenced work.

The Vice President requested for the revised programme of work and schedule of completion to be submitted to his office in respect of the projects. He also requested for an update on the implementation of ICT Centre projects especially the beneficiary institutions and the status of facilities in the centres. The Vice-President commended the university upgrade project of the Fund and advised the Fund to adequately enlighten Nigerians about the projects. Having failed to realise the Federal Government directive on 75% local content in the oil and gas industry by the year 2010, the Vice-President directed the PTDF to liaise with other relevant agencies and organisations to set a new realisable target ■





## PTDF MANAGEMENT BRIEFS

### PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM RESOURCES

**T**he Management of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund PTDF was invited to brief the Permanent Secretary Engr. Sheik Goni on the programmes and activities of the Fund. This followed a letter of invitation to Chief Executive officers of Parastatals under the Ministry.



Areas of interest to the Permanent Secretary include the law establishing PTDF, the specific mandate of the Fund, how PTDF is funded and how such funds are applied. The Executive Secretary, Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma who led his Management team to the briefing responded to the areas of concern to the Permanent Secretary.

**On PTDF Mandate:** Principally capacity building in oil and gas industry.

**Human Capital Development** which is the corner stone of PTDF function and fundamental to the oil and gas industry. This is done through education supplemented by training.

The Education aspect involves provision of scholarships internally in Nigeria (LSS) and externally in the United Kingdom (OSS).

The Local Scholarship Scheme covers both undergraduate and graduate studies. The Local Scholarship is awarded to Nigerian Students studying oil and gas related courses in any of the PTDF upgraded Universities across the country. For the Overseas Scholarship Scheme, PTDF awards scholarship to qualified Nigerians for graduate studies (Msc and PhD) in 20 top ranked universities in the United Kingdom (Science and Engineering Courses) which include Environmental

Sciences and all fields of Engineering studies. Scholarships are also awarded for support courses such as oil and gas Finance, Economics, Law and policy and oil and gas management.

Although PTDF was established by a decree in 1973, it became only functional in the year 2000, with the pilot years as 2000, 2002, 2003.

In 2007 - 111 were sponsored under OSS.

2008	- 295
2009	- 409
2010	- 450

#### INSTITUTIONAL INTERVENTION

##### National College of Petroleum

**Studies Kaduna:** Training College for people in Senior Management Cadre transiting to General Management level. Although established in 1995 by NNPC to train its staff, PTDF was mandated to upgrade the institution to international standard and capable of serving the entire oil and gas industry as an apex training institute for petroleum policy and strategy.

**Niger-Delta Projects:** 80% of PTDF projects are domiciled in the Niger-Delta. These include the National Technical Institute in Bonny Island, Rivers State, Petroleum Training

Institute, Effurun, Warri, Delta State, Federal Polytechnic of oil and gas in Ekowe, Bayelsa State, the National Centre for Skills Development and Acquisition in Port-Harcourt and the Federal University of Petroleum Resources in Effurun, Warri, Delta State.

##### Petroleum Training Institute (PTI):

The PTI was established in 1973 as a requirement of membership of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries to produce middle level manpower for the oil and gas industry. Over the years, the institution degenerated to a level that it was no longer capable of achieving the purpose for its establishment. PTDF was mandated to intervene in 2004/2005 to upgrade it to the level expected of an international institution. This includes infrastructure upgrade, building and civil works and renovation of existing facilities.

##### Federal Polytechnic of Oil and Gas

**Ekowe:** It is the one and only Federal Polytechnic of oil and gas in Africa as at now. It is being established from scratch by PTDF. It was started in 2006, but over time was abandoned by contractors due to militant activities and the ineptitude of contractors who refused to make appreciable progress on the contract. The project was revoked as a result and regrouped and given to established contractors to



develop.

As at June 2010, work has appreciated up to 30% progress. It has 1½ years time frame for completion. However, there is a law already in place that established the Polytechnic, with the administration, academics, governing board and rector on ground. It already has its first intake of students.

#### **Federal University of Petroleum Resources Effurun, Delta State (FUPRE):**

The Federal University of Petroleum Resources (FUPRE) in Warri, Delta State, when completed will be the only University of Petroleum Resources in the entire African Continent. It is already in existence and its first set of students are already in their 3rd level of study. PTDF is intervening to upgrade a college of the university, the school of science and technology.

**Other Projects:** PTDF is also intervening to develop a primary and secondary schools in Okerenkoko and Oporoza Communities in Delta State. The development of such schools is ordinarily the primary responsibility of States and Local Governments. But in 2006, PTDF was mandated by the then President Olusegun Obasanjo to develop the schools as compensation to the community for ensuring the security of installations and pipelines in their areas. Due to high level of militant activities the projects were terminated and is being re-awarded to competent contractors with the amnesty programme on course.

PTDF has also established **ICT centres** across the country. Altogether 209 have been established with 63 fully equipped with the relevant ICT facilities. The remaining 146 whose buildings have been completed are now being equipped. Each centre which is domiciled in Federal Colleges, and Polytechnics, and Colleges of Education will be handed over to the schools upon completion.

#### **Overseas Scholarship Scheme (OSS):**

Last year, there were over 11,000 applications for our OSS programme. After screening, more than 6000 were found to be qualified for the aptitude test (exam). At the end less than 5% totalling 450 candidates were considered for scholarship.

## DIALOGUE

### **Permanent Secretary**

*What determines the cut off point? is it budget or success rate of applicants?*

**Executive Secretary:** Budget and performance of applicants at the test. Because of the high demand for our OSS, we believe that if universities in Nigeria are upgraded as we have done in about 20 universities with oil and gas related departments, if these department are upgraded to international standards in terms of infrastructure, laboratory, and workshop equipment and enhancing the teaching skills of the faculty members and providing a congenial environment for teaching and research, for quality education, then instead of sponsoring only 450 candidates to UK universities for training the Fund can sponsor instead about 5000 candidates under a local scholarship in-country. We are establishing virtual libraries in the upgraded departments to link them with similar departments in advanced universities abroad for purpose of conducting research. We have 26 university departments either upgraded already or in the process of being upgraded.

### **Permanent Secretary**

*Is there any particular university in Nigeria that has been so upgraded that you are confident can be used for that purpose?*

**Executive Secretary:** We have 16 that we are comfortable with the infrastructure, research capability and capacity for imparting same knowledge as counterparts abroad. Last year 2010, the Fund sent 30 students to both the African University of Science and Technology, in Abuja, and the Institute of Petroleum Studies, University of Port-Harcourt. We endowed chairs in universities for research to be carried out, papers published, and findings exposed to the public. We are converting the findings into commercial use and commercial value.

### **Permanent Secretary**

*Has there been any publication arising from the research conducted as a result of PTDF professorial Chairs endowment?.*

*Is there a forum where the findings will be presented to Nigerian people and to discuss and interact with relevant stakeholders who may find some use for these findings?*

**Executive Secretary:** The condition of the award is tied to the chair occupant making an international publication at least once a year. At the end we will convene a technology knowledge sharing programme where Chair holders will make presentations and be critiqued. This also applies to research grant competition recipients.

### **Permanent Secretary**

*It will be good to have a summary of these publications instead of having them in different publications. There should be a single compendium where these works by researchers will be published and become a one stop publication on the endowment and Research Grants. This is because the work done by these researchers are not generally known. Scholars/Teachers only use them for promotional consideration in their universities. This will simplify access to information.*

**Executive Secretary:** From 2010, all M.Sc students under the sponsorship of the Fund are expected to submit their research papers to PTDF library. Similarly PTDF will hold the patent to all PhD students Research works .PTDF has also taken over the Petroleum Training Journal and renamed it PTDF Journal for Research and Training and will be used to publish the research findings of scholars.

**On Nigerian Content:** one of the most important arteries of PTDF in offering training to a number of people already in the industry, or are recruited for training in a particular area of choice in the oil and gas industry is Nigerian Content Division (NCD). Under the Engineering Design Training Programme (EDTP), we have specialised software for training engineers to use the software. We also have the Welders Training and Certification Programme (WTCP).

We asked training vendors to apply for accreditation. Out of the 48 that



applied only 11 got certified and that's where we are sending our welders for training. We are also training welding technologists and welding Engineers. As at now, we have an initial 500 welders for filet welding, we are also training 15 people to become trainers of welders in specialised water welding techniques. We don't have any in Nigeria. We import water welders. We are training up to 500 in the next 3 years. We are sending 15 people to Trinidad and Tobago and France to acquire skills. We are also using Sapele Naval Training Command for the underwater welding training programme in-country.

New Softwares are being developed for the oil and gas industry. One of such is the seismic interpretation software. We took university lecturers from geology departments of universities we have upgraded and trained them on the use of the software-Seismic data processing and application.

The Permanent Secretary advised that people trained in the use of the software should be attached to the industry to practicalise the training in Seismic interpretation. "Let us get people to address day to day requirements of the industry. PTDF intervention should be targeted at skills acquisition and not degree certificate awards. Emphasise the practical aspects".

At the end of the submission by the Executive Secretary, the Permanent Secretary Engr. Sheikh Goni, said the Fund should pay particular attention to the following:

- Adequate monitoring of its intervention programmes. The Petroleum Training Institute (PTI) for instance is not happy with so many things that the Fund has done and is doing in the upgrade of the institution. They allege for instance that

the equipment provided by PTDF in the upgrade are not put to practical use such as the generating set not being energised and water supply not functioning. They allege that PTDF is giving them things that really do not work and they also have contractual problems with the contractors.

- "We will like to see intended deliverables for 2010, things that the Fund hopes to achieve in line with mandate" the Permanent Secretary Said.
- Sources of funding and if the funds are being remitted or not.

He thanked the Executive Secretary for the comprehensive report on the Fund which he said addressed the main objectives and targets of the Fund and pledged that the Ministry will assist and support the Fund in overcoming some of the challenges observed ■

## POINTS TO NOTE ABOUT PTDF FUNCTION IN CAPACITY BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT OF PETROLEUM TECHNOOY

Three fundamental things are involved.

1. There is the development of the human capital requirement of the oil and gas industry.
2. There is also the requirement of developing the institutions that are used to develop the human capital. The dynamic nature of the oil and gas industry makes it imperative for institutions and systems to be developed to provide the necessary training on a continuous basis and to contend with the frequent technological innovations of the industry.
3. The third is materials and manufacturing. The oil and gas industry is a high tech. Industry that requires tonnes of materials. Petroleum technology cannot be developed in Nigeria if the industry continues to rely on materials manufactured outside the country and imported into the country. PTDF therefore strives to promote manufacturing processes and materials development.



# IMPACT OF PTDF EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMME SURVEY REPORT

By **DR ZAYYANA SHEHU**, *Tech Asst. to Executive Secretary PTDF*

PTDF Scholarship Schemes (overseas and local scholarships) seek to address national priority and target specific skills gap established by the 2005 national oil and gas skills gap audit. PTDF provides an enabling environment and requisite funding to facilitate acquisition of international standard education in oil and gas and related disciplines.

From the year 2000 to date, PTDF has produced over 1700 combination of MSc and PhD scholars. The details of the areas of specialization of the candidates are presented in Tables 1 and 2.



**Table 1: MSc Scholars Produced by PTDF**

N	Subject Area	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
1	Engineering	48	39	29	38	46	53	151	140
2	Geological Science	5	12	35	27	22	15	28	47
3	Environmental Sciences	8	13	31	16	24	13	11	36
4	Offshore Related Courses	9	4	8	2	6	6	14	24
5	Energy Courses	12	5	8	7	6	8	12	47
6	Information Technology	16	10	4	10	8	2	13	58
7	Others	21	33	6	13	16	14	66	57
<b>Total</b>		<b>119</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>409</b>

**Table 2: PhD Scholars Produced by PTDF**

S/N	YEAR	NO. OF SCHOLARS
1	2003 (Pilot year)	15
2	2004/2005	25
3	2005/2006	18
4	2006/2007	28
5	2007/2008	39
6	2008/2009	47
7	2009/2010	78
<b>Total</b>		<b>250</b>

Having sponsored about 1700 scholars in the pursuit of its mandate, PTDF embarked on an impact assessment survey to ascertain the percentage of the sponsored candidates that are currently working in the oil and gas sector. Although, by its mandate, the Fund does not have any enforcement right to compel the industry to absorb its products, it however believes that the data acquired will provide insight into how the programmes of the Fund can be properly streamlined to address the local skills gap in the oil and gas sector.

In the course of collecting the data, advertisements were published in selected national daily newspapers directing beneficiaries of PTDF multiple programmes to visit the Fund's website to participate. In the four weeks set-aside for the collection of the data, a total of 355 useable responses were collected and analysed. Table 3 presents the summary of the details as provided by the respondents.



S/N	Programme Sponsored	No.	%
1	Overseas Scholarship Scheme (OSS)	158	57
2	Local Scholarship Scheme (LSS)	45	16.5
3	University Lecturers Enhancement Scheme (ULEP)	1	0.4
4	Engineering Design Training Programme (EDTP)	63	23.1
5	Conferences	0	0
6	Seminars	6	2.2
7	Other Programmes	82	23.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>355</b>	<b>100</b>

From the simple descriptive data collected, it can be seen that 57% of the sample have been sponsored to undertake post graduate courses at MSc and PhD levels overseas, while 16.5% benefited from PTDF Local Scholarship Scheme (LSS). Other Programmes like ULEP, EDTP, Seminars and others accounted for 0.4%, 23.1%, 2.2% and 23% respectively.

In other sections of the questionnaire used in collecting the data, leading questions that will enable the researcher to determine the extent of the engagement of the sponsored candidates in the oil and gas industry were asked. These questions include 'Are you working at the moment?' and "is your current job as a result of the programme attended (sponsored by PTDF)?". Out of 330 responses received in the enquiry of work status, 201 admit that they were working at the time of the data collection.

In responding to the question seeking to establish whether the jobs were as a result of the PTDF funded programmes, 266 responded; it appears that only 56 candidates were working based on attending PTDF training programme(s). Based on the responses collected, it has been established that 21.1% of the candidates were in employment as a result of PTDF's intervention.

To be employed may not necessarily be in the oil and gas industry, hence, another question was asked to establish if the current job was in the oil and gas sector; thus, another question was asked. 'is your current job in the oil and gas sector?' Two hundred and sixty two responses were received on this question. Out of the 262 responses, 80 indicated that they work in the oil and gas sector. In summary, 30.5% of the respondents work in the oil and gas sector.

In view of the diversity and significance of PTDF's programmes in addressing the persistent Nigerian-skills shortage in the oil and gas industry, a general question was asked to confirm if the respondents see PTDF as an effective means of bridging the oil and gas skills gap in Nigeria. Three hundred and twenty nine (329) responses were recorded. 311 agreed that PTDF is an effective means of bridging the Nigerian oil and gas skills shortage.

In the general comments section of the questionnaire, various comments have been passed by the ex-scholars/beneficiaries; they all indicate their satisfaction with the programmes and comment on the need for continuous feedback and improvement of the schemes ■

## Feedback

For comments and contributions,  
please contact us on  
**ptdfmandate@ptdf.gov.ng**  
or visit our website: **www.ptdf.gov.ng**



## PTDF BEGINS GRADUAL PHASING OUT OF MASTERS DEGREE COMPONENT OF ITS OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

The Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF), has begun the gradual phasing out of the Masters Degree component of the Overseas Scholarship Scheme. This follows the domestication of the training programme in reputable institutions in Nigeria beginning from the next academic year starting September 2010. The Fund has since the inception of the flagship capacity building programme trained one thousand, eight hundred scholars at the Masters level and two hundred and fifty at the Doctoral level in top ranked universities specialising in oil and gas courses in the United Kingdom.

The Executive Secretary of the Fund, Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma who gave a time frame of three years for the complete withdrawal of overseas training for Masters Degree Programmes, said this became imperative following the development by the Fund of sufficient and competent manpower to operate and manage the oil and gas industry in Nigeria.

Additionally, he said the Fund has made significant progress in upgrading the physical infrastructure and teaching facilities of some Nigerian Universities offering oil and gas related courses as well as enhancing the teaching skills and competences of faculty members of these institutions to a level that the universities can deliver the same quality of academic training as their counterparts abroad.

The PTDF Executive Secretary who addressed the first batch of the 2010/2011 PTDF Overseas Scholarship recipients in Abuja, said in test running the in-country training for Masters Degree Programmes, the Fund will be sending 25 students for post graduate studies in the Institute of Petroleum Studies, University of Port-Harcourt and the African University of Science and Technology, Abuja. He said out of the more than eleven thousand candidates that applied for



the 2010/2011 PTDF scholarship, the Fund could only award about 500 scholarships. This he said reflects the competitiveness of the scheme and the level of confidence reposed by Nigerians on the management of the scheme. He regretted the inability of the Fund to provide more scholarship slots especially to the more than 10,500 who could not access the scholarship.

More qualified Nigerians, he said will be able to benefit from PTDF scholarship with the domestication of the training programmes. "Subsequently, beginning from next year, we will concentrate more on sponsoring students to go for post graduate studies in Nigerian universities. It is our aspiration to place at least one university offering oil and gas course in Nigeria for ranking among the top ten universities teaching oil and gas courses in the world" he said.

The Fund he said will now award 85% of its yearly Overseas Scholarships at the PhD level to university teachers. In concentrating the PhD scholarship awards to university lecturers, the expectation is that they will come back and apply the skills acquired in teaching Nigerian students in our local universities. "Among the 250 scholars out on PhD training abroad, 12 will be rounding of their programme early this year. 6 of them are university teachers. 22 of the PhD scholars will be finishing later this year out of whom 16 are university teachers. What this means is that PTDF has trained a pool of university lecturers, a huge resource base equipped with the necessary skills and competencies to conduct modern

teaching and research in our local universities" Engr. Darma Said.

The Executive Secretary urged the scholars to reciprocate the Federal Government gesture in sending them to top world class universities abroad by being good ambassadors and to excel in their academics and win laurels that will

promote the image of Nigeria. "The story of PTDF overseas scholarship scheme is a very successful one. Our scholars have performed exceedingly well in their scholarship abroad. I urge you to go there and maintain the record" he said.

The students will sign consent letters that will enable their universities of study to be sending quarterly progress reports on their performances to the Fund. This will enable the Fund to monitor the scholars' performances. The Fund will terminate the scholarship of those who are not doing well.

The PTDF Overseas Scholarship Scheme has a long standing tradition and reputation of supporting and promoting scientific, educational, professional and intercultural activities and expanding international understanding and development through sponsorship of qualified Nigerians to top universities in the United Kingdom to qualify as professionals in the field of Engineering, Geology, Science, ICT, Environment and Management Sciences at post graduate level.

The objective of PTDF Overseas Scholarship Scheme is to meet the long term capacity requirements of the oil and gas industry through sponsoring the training of young Nigerians in the United Kingdom in disciplines that are related to the oil and gas industry at post graduate levels.

Beneficiaries on successful completion of their studies will return to Nigeria and fit directly into the oil and gas industry or the academia ■



# PETROLEUM TRAINING JOURNAL – NOW CALLED PTDF JOURNAL OF TRAINING, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

The Petroleum Training Journal which for many years was acknowledged locally and internationally as the most authoritative publication of research outcomes, articles and dissertations on different aspects of the oil and gas industry, has formally been taken over by the Petroleum Technology Development Fund.

This follows the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding MoU between the publishers of the journal and the management of the Fund.

Before now PTDF has been supporting the publication of the Journal and also served as member of the Editorial Board.

Pioneer Editor of the Journal, Dr. Momodu Kassim Momodu said at the signing ceremony that the journal will do better if it comes under the ownership and management of the Fund. “Unless PTDF takes over, the journal was going to die”. He urged PTDF management to strive always to maintain the quality of the journal and improve on the content. Executive secretary of PTDF who signed on behalf of the Fund said PTDF will infuse its quality of being the best establishment providing technical education and training into the publication of the journal. “We will therefore panel beat, re-engineer and remodel the publication but will not allow the journal to die. We will give it an identity of our own. We will call it PTDF Journal of Education, Training and Research”.

He said the takeover of the Journal will aid the Fund’s programme of providing education and training, developing institutions and systems and the sustenance of materials and manufacturing processes in the oil and gas industry by serving as a tool for archiving information. “It is also important to our quest to see that the oil and gas industry is populated with skilful manpower”.

He said the Fund will retain the editorial board as presently composed, while no article will be published in the journal without being peer reviewed. “The editorial Board will be granted full independence in selecting articles”.

The Executive Secretary gave the assurance that the Fund will not lack well researched materials for publication in the Journal which will be derived from the programmes of the Fund such as Ph. D scholarship, endowment chair occupants, research grants and from lecturers in the upgraded departments in universities ■





## PTDF STRENGTHENS INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF UNIVERSITIES

The Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) has set a benchmark for any university or institution offering oil and gas related courses to benefit from the university upgrade programme of the fund.

PTDF as part of its intervention projects upgrades the facilities and faculty of oil and gas related departments of selected universities that will transform them into world class institutions that are comparable to similar departments anywhere in the world.

For a department of any university to be qualified for PTDF upgrade, it must be accredited to offer oil and gas related courses, and exhibit a capacity to carry out extensive scientific and technical research relevant to the oil gas industry. It should in addition be capable of attracting strong industry collaboration in the development of local capacity for Nigeria's oil and gas industry.

Executive Secretary of PTDF, Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma gave these conditions at the commissioning of the upgraded Chemical Engineering department complex of the Federal University of Technology, Minna, Niger State, designed, built and equipped by the Fund to provide a conducive learning environment for the teaching of oil and gas related courses.

Facilities in the complex include a 200 seating auditorium, classrooms with modern teaching aids, laboratory and workshop equipment, library and computer rooms, fully furnished offices for lecturers and professors, IT facilities, books and journals, and ancillary facilities such as an electricity generating plant, borehole with water treatment plant.

The Chief Servant of Niger State, Governor Babangida Aliyu who commissioned the complex, commended the Fund for transforming the Chemical Engineering department of the University into a centre for academic excellence and research likely to address specific concerns for manpower development in the industry.

The Chemical Engineering Department Complex, Federal University of Technology, Minna, brings to 16, the number of departments so far completed, commissioned and handed over to the respective universities by PTDF under the first and second phases of the University

upgrade programme.

Others include Department of Applied Chemistry, University of Calabar, Department of Petroleum Engineering, University of Uyo, Department of Electrical Engineering, Bayero University, Kano; Department of Geology and Mining sciences, University of Ilorin; Department of Petroleum Engineering, Federal University of Technology, Owerri; Department of Geology, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife; and the Department of Chemical Engineering, Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi. Others are oil and gas related departments in the University of Ibadan, University of Benin, University of Nigeria Nsukka, University of Port-Harcourt, University of Jos, University of Maiduguri; Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and Usman Dan Fodio University.

Another set of Ten (10) universities and Institutions including state universities have been slated for upgrade in the 3rd phase of the implementation of PTDF Universities upgrade projects. These are, the Benue State University, Katsina State University, Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Enugu State University of Science and Technology, and Niger Delta University, Wilberforce Island, Balyelsa State. Others include, the University of Abuja, University of Lagos, Federal University of Technology Yola, Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka, and the Nigerian Defence Academy.

Executive Secretary, PTDF, Engr Muttaqha Rabe Darma justifies the upgrade of the structures and facilities of relevant departments in universities at huge expense to government based on the realisation that international oil companies operating in Nigeria were reluctant to engage graduates of Nigerian Universities for the reason that these graduates were deficient in training and lacked the relevant skills to work in the Industry.

"The local graduates were considered inadequate in training and therefore incapable of functioning in the industry" says Engr. Darma.

PTDF as a short term measure designed the Overseas Scholarship Scheme to train young Nigerian graduates in oil and

gas related disciplines at Masters and doctoral levels in top universities in the United Kingdom, to fill the deficiency gap and equip them with the necessary skills and competencies to fit in directly to the oil and gas industry.

To ensure that students in local universities received the kind of world class training as their counterparts abroad, PTDF embarked on the upgrade of the facilities of relevant departments as value addition in bringing up the right calibre of graduates that will be immediately qualified for assimilation into the industry. In doing this, PTDF adopted a 4 pronged approach. First is to upgrade the structure and facilities, second is to enhance the faculty of the teaching and academic staff by sending them abroad on scholarship for doctoral and post doctoral studies abroad. The third is to endow professorial chairs in the upgraded departments to promote innovative research in oil and gas technologies and advance indigenous research in petroleum related disciplines. The Fourth is to award local scholarships to outstanding undergraduates and graduate students in the upgraded departments.

An issue of concern to the Fund is the rising demand for the Fund's Overseas Scholarship Scheme. From the less than 70 at the inception of the scheme in 2001, the fund is sponsoring over 550 candidates at both MSc and PHD for the 2010/2011 scheme. This number represents about 5% of the 11,500 people that applied for the scholarship award. The reality is that faced with dwindling resources, the Fund may need to re-appraise the overseas scholarship scheme with a view to strengthening the local scholarship scheme so that more Nigerians can benefit from the scholarship schemes of the Fund. It therefore becomes imperative to continue strengthening the capacity of local institutions to absorb more candidates for local scholarship. This will make it possible for a greater number of qualified Nigerians to be sponsored for scholarship awards ■

# PTDF SIGNS MoU WITH UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR PROJECT SERVICES (UNOPS)

By **TIMILAYEFA NWAJUEBOE**



Mr. Vitaly Vanshelboom, the Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer of United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) visited the Fund as part of a 3 day visit to Nigeria. He was accompanied by Mr. Jose Selema, UNOPS Regional Director for Africa, Mr. Alidu Wirba, Programme Coordinator UNOPS Nigeria and Mr. Johannes Toun, Programme Support Officer UNOPS Nigeria.

During the visit, Mr. Vitaly Vanshelboom signed the MoU which is aimed at fostering a partnership with the Fund and UNOPS in the area of internship for beneficiaries of some of PTDF training programmes particularly the Skills Development and Technical Centre (SDTC) in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. The MoU also provides the legal framework for co-operation with UNOPS and for making contributions on mutually

beneficial projects as may be identified from time to time.

In the MoU, UNOPS agreed to be committed in the following areas:

- a. Supporting the PTDF skills acquisition centre to become a United Nations education Vocation Centre (UNESVOC) with international certification and accreditation capabilities.
- b. Capacity building and knowledge sharing with the PTDF through the development of curriculum for the PTDF Skills Acquisition Centre in Port Harcourt as well as the National College of Petroleum Studies in Kaduna (NCPSK).
- c. Assistance to PTDF with placement of trainees to national and international training/learning institutions which UNOPS has standing agreements

with.

- d. Collaboration in the area of providing industrial attachments for trainees of both PTDF and UNOPS skills acquisition centre.
- e. Make available to PTDF the possibility of participation in certain joint developments, projects and other UNOPS initiatives.

In his remarks, Mr. Vanshelboom stated that the MoU was not for a short term basis rather it is going to exist for a long period, adding that “it is very important to nurture skills and potentials in Nigeria”. He equally pointed out the importance of having human capacity development programmes in Nigeria which he said was for Nigerians to learn and that skills learnt are valuable potentials.

The Executive Secretary PTDF,

Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma thanked the visiting team and made a recap of the first visit by the UNOPS delegation where possible areas of partnership and ways to realize this partnership were discussed. A committee was thereafter constituted to look into the implementation of the terms of collaboration with UNOPS as captured in the MoU that both parties just signed.

Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma pointed out that the MoU takes immediate effect, while the envisaged support will be for UNOPS to provide institutions where candidates can embark on their post-training after concluding their programmes in either NCPSK or SDTC.

The Executive Secretary stated that "there is no profession that is irrelevant in the oil and gas industry",

adding that the Skills Development and Technical Centre, Port Harcourt intends to provide about 23 vocational programmes with a yearly intake of 1,000 trainees who would be accommodated within the centre with the exception of those resident in Port-Harcourt who might decide to be coming from their homes. He further emphasized that the post training is not designed for all fields ■





# NIGERIAN SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS SIGNS MoU WITH PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FUND ON LOCAL CONTENT CAPACITY BUILDING



The Nigerian Society of Engineers is a regulatory body for engineering practice in Nigeria. Due to the peculiar nature of the profession of Engineering which is at the core of petroleum technology development, the Society has had a long standing relationship with the Fund. Indeed most of the training and research programmes of the Fund are focussed on developing capacity in engineering and related disciplines.

The MoU between PTDF and NSE therefore seeks to formalise the existing relationship and deepen the partnership and collaborative engagements between the two bodies. According to the Executive Secretary, PTDF, Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma, himself a member of the Society, "this MoU which covers a lot of issues,

signals a perfect beginning for all the collaborative things we have been doing. It formalises our relationship and lifts the successes inherent in the collaboration between PTDF and NSE through the Nigerian Content Committee"

PTDF as a government agency responsible for training Nigerians to qualify as graduate professionals in related fields of Engineering, Geology, Science and Management in the oil and gas industry will as a result of the MoU fund the training and other collaborative activities with NSE, as well as involve the Society in the formulation of the selection criteria for nominating candidates that will participate in human capacity development programmes. NSE will also be involved in conducting

periodic surveys to identify skills gap in the Nigerian oil and gas industry as well as in developing a data bank of qualified engineers and engineering companies in Nigeria. The MoU will be in effect for an initial period of ten years.

The NSE local content award was also conferred on PTDF for performing very well its mandate of building capacity for the oil and gas industry especially for providing the necessary skills and competencies to graduate engineers for direct assimilation into the industry. The Distinguished NSE Award for Local Content was presented to the Executive Secretary, PTDF, by the President and Chairman of Council, Nigerian Society of Engineers, Engr. Chief Alade Olumuyiwa Ajibola ■

## INDUSTRY TERMS

**Octane Rating (Octane Number):** A measure of a fuel's resistance to self ignition, hence a measure as well of the antiknock properties of the fuel.

**Kill:** 1. In drilling, to control a kick by taking suitable preventive measures (for example, to shut in the well with the blowout preventers, circulate the kick out, and increase the weight of the drilling mud). 2. In production, to stop a well from producing oil and gas so that reconditioning of the well can proceed.

**Leaching:** Slow passage of solvent through a layer of porous or crushed material in order to extract valuable components; for example, gold can be extracted by heap leaching a porous ore or pulverised tailings.

**Vein:** An occurrence of ore, usually disseminated through a gangue, and having a more or less regular development in length, width and depth. When metalliferous, a vein is described as a lode.

# Petroleum Technology Development Fund [PTDF]

...Nigeria's catalyst for sustainable capacity building in the oil & gas industry.



By Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darna

**T**he Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) shares a common history with Nigeria. Although the geographical entity called Nigeria was coined in 1914 following the amalgamation of the various entities by the British Colonialists, it was not until October 1960, that Nigeria became a truly independent sovereign state. Nigeria's nationhood therefore started counting from that date.

Similarly, although the Petroleum Technology Development Fund was established in 1973 with the promulgation of Decree 25 of 1973 (now an act of National Assembly), it was not until September 2000 that the Fund became a fully functional and independent agency of government. This was after its liberation from the Department of Petroleum Resources DPR, where for 27 years (1973 - 2000) it existed only as a desk, dormant with no function or activity. The Fund therefore took off effectively in September 2000, with the constitution of an interim Management Committee and the approval of the administrative structure and programme of action.

Ten years on, has the Fund justified the vision of the founding fathers who for strategic and patriotic reasons set up the Fund to obviate the heavy reliance on foreign oil technology, technicians, managerial skills and equipment? Has the Fund succeeded in its mandate of developing indigenous capacity for the oil and gas industry through providing training and research in oil technology, and producing Nigerians with adequate skills and competencies required to run the oil industry?.

Before answering these questions, it is necessary at this point to acquaint you with the fundamental objectives underlying the mandate of the Fund.



PTDF is involved in the development of the human capacity requirement of the oil and gas industry. PTDF is also involved in developing the institutions that are used to develop the human capital requirement of the industry. The dynamic nature of the oil and gas industry makes it imperative for institutions and systems to be developed to provide the necessary training on a continuous basis and to contend with technological innovations of the industry.

The third functional limb of the Fund is on developing materials and manufacturing processes. As you well know, the oil and gas industry is a high technology based one requiring the utilization of tonnes of materials. Petroleum Technology cannot be developed in Nigeria if the industry continues to rely on materials manufactured abroad and imported into the country. PTDF therefore strives to

promote manufacturing processes and materials development.

In spite of the many challenges and controversies, PTDF is proud to say that it has performed reasonably well in these functional areas with measurable successes. We begin with the premise of changed perceptions. As you may recall, following the multiple probes sometime in the history of the Fund, public perception of the Fund became very negative, sometime cynical, with many Nigerians ascribing to the fund such appellations as "slush" Fund, or a Fund set up with no clear function but to satisfy emergent political interests. Today, it is now being looked upon as a very important agency of government. We therefore have cause to celebrate for the reason of not only changing the negative public perception, but for making tangible and verifiable successes in achieving our mandate. We are proud to say that we have succeeded



in populating the oil and gas industry with well trained and internationally certified young Nigerians in different fields of specialization in the industry. This resulted from the following interventions:

- a. As at September 2010 PTDF has trained over 1, 800 Nigerian Scholars at both Masters and Doctoral levels in critical disciplines in the oil and gas sector at top ranked universities in the United Kingdom under the Overseas Scholarship Scheme.
- b. Completed the training abroad of select Nigerians to become internationally certified international welding practitioners, International Welding Specialists, and International Welding Technologists and Engineers to form the core of Nigerian Specialist Welders to train welders in-country for the oil and gas industry. So far 500 Nigerians have been trained in-country in fillet welding as the first stage of welding and certification programme, while plans have been completed to commence the training of 300 underwater welders.
- c. Training of 2, 700 Nigerian Engineers in Engineering Design Software relevant to the industry. These include Process Simulation, Plant Design management System, structural analysis, project management Software, etc.
- d. Training of lectures from the Fund's upgraded Universities in Seismic Interpretation software.
- e. Commenced the enhancement of the teaching skills of Nigerian University Lecturers by sending them to Universities abroad to shadow learn eminent Professors in these universities. This is expected to enrich and improve their practice of teaching and research activities in core oil and gas related disciplines.
- f. Established 209 ICT centres across the country with 63 fully equipped.
- g. Completed the full upgrade of relevant oil and gas departments/faculties in 20 Universities. Professorial Chairs have been endowed in these upgraded

departments to advance indigenous research while students in these upgraded departments can access the Fund's Local Scholarship as value addition.

This is in addition to training a thousand others who are considered and regarded as stakeholders in the industry such as National Assembly members, Professional Associations etc. PTDF institutional and systems capacity building programmes have also yielded the following successes:

- Substantial completion of the National Technical Institute, Bonny, Rivers State and facilitating its upgrade to a Federal Polytechnic, specializing in Gas Management and Environment Studies.
- Completed substantial infrastructural upgrade of the Petroleum Training Institute Effurun, Warri, Delta State.
- Development of the National College of Petroleum Studies, Kaduna into an apex training institution for Petroleum Policy and Strategy. The infrastructural development has attained 80% completion.
- Establishment of Federal Polytechnic of oil and gas Ekowe, Bayelsa State.
- Establishment of the college of Engineering and Technology, Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun, Warri, Delta State.

The Fund is also establishing a National Skills Acquisition and Development centre in Port Harcourt, Rivers State where Nigerian Youths without any form of educational qualification will be encouraged to acquire some form of vocation that is relevant to the oil and gas sector business.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Having fully upgraded the facilities and faculty of not less than sixteen oil and gas related departments in sixteen Universities across the country, we believe that the time has come to fully domesticate the training of Nigerians in Nigeria without compromising the high standard of education and competencies required for assimilation

into the industry. It is our expectation that in three years time, PTDF will stop sending scholars abroad for training to acquire Masters Degree in oil and gas disciplines. However, training in specialised courses arising from the dynamic nature of the oil and gas industry, and for which we do not have the teaching facilities and personnel in – country will be exempted. We are confident and resolute in achieving this objective, having made significant progress in upgrading the physical infrastructure and teaching facilities of some Nigerian universities offering oil and gas related courses as well as enhanced the teaching skills and competencies of faculty members of these institutions to a level that the universities can deliver the same quality of academic training as their counterparts abroad.

Welding and fabrication constitute about 60 - 65% of the local content requirement of the oil and gas industry. PTDF is mandated to train not less than 2500 welders for the mid and downstream sectors of the industry. But with the upcoming natural gas pipeline project, PTDF intends to train not less than 10, 000 welders to proficiency level recognised and certified by the International Institute of welding.

I also see PTDF training over 20, 000 Nigerians in the next five years to occupy various positions in the oil and gas industry as Petroleum Engineers, Geo- Scientists, Geo-physicist, Chemical Engineers, Process Engineers etc. It is necessary for us to produce the necessary manpower, necessary systems and institutions that will facilitate the takeover by Nigerians the operations and management of the industry.

Over 90% of all goods and services used in the industry that spends more than 18 billion US dollars annually are imported from overseas. The consequence is that Nigeria cannot be said to be deriving maximum benefits from its oil and gas industry in terms of employment, technology transfer and impact on their well being.

PTDF is determined to bridge the manpower and technology gap in the Nigerian oil and gas industry.

Thank you for listening ■

# PTDF Projects Implementation for Systems and Institutional Development

In its ten years of existence, PTDF as a Fund has succeeded in developing institutions and systems for enhancing indigenous manpower in the oil and gas industry. Mr. Jide Adebulehin is the Assistant General Manager in charge of Projects and Technical Services Division.



**Q: Part of the mandate of PTDF is to develop the human capacity of the oil & gas industry and PTDF has been doing this through so many intervention projects and programmes. We want to know how your division is working to achieve this mandate of capacity development in the oil & gas industry.**

**A:** Like you said the chief and major mandate of PTDF is to develop capacity in the oil & gas industry. What is capacity? Capacity is human resources, machinery and infrastructure. Now in the area of human resources development which is outside my division but dwells in training/education and Nigerian content divisions, we have programmes like the Welders Training & Certification Scheme and the Overseas Scholarship Scheme but infrastructure development is the business of my division. While the OSS is supposed to be a short term measure, the long term measure is to actually develop the infrastructure of oil & gas training institutions and departments in Nigeria that is where the projects of PTDF are focused. Now the oil & gas industry says that the graduates that are coming from the institutions in Nigeria are not directly employable

because of some deficiencies in their training that is why they employ Asians to do technical, particularly the middle technical work in oil & gas industry. Now what is the deficiency in their training? Deficiency in their training is not in terms of university lecturers that are teaching. It is in terms of equipment and facilities that they were exposed to when they were in school and for which they trained with. You will not be surprised there are so many people with a degree in petroleum engineering and geosciences that have not seen what a geo-physical exploration equipment is. Following that, PTDF went into the development of infrastructure in some of the institutions. That is why Petroleum Training Institute Effurun which is a School created in 1972 as a pre-requisite for us being a member of OPEC for the development of middle level technical manpower. From 1972 till now the infrastructure there has dilapidated, the laboratories and others.

As of today we have supplied and installed up to 60 brand new laboratories and workshops in PTI. We have trained the junior staff there. We are building hostels, constructing roads, making the school anew so that they can fulfil their primary

responsibility which is the training of middle level technical manpower. We didn't only stop at that, we went to the universities in Nigeria, we went to departments that are relevant to oil & gas training. We construct brand new departmental buildings, supply water and power, supply books and journals, training accessories in those departments we are upgrading in the Universities. As at now we have done 16, we have upgraded the Petroleum Engineering department in University of Ibadan. We have upgraded Gas Engineering department university of Port-Harcourt, we have upgraded Geology department in the University of Nigeria Nsuka, we have upgraded Chemical Engineering department in ABU Zaria, we have upgraded Petroleum Chemistry department in Usman Danfodio University, we have upgraded Geology and Mining department University of Jos, we have upgraded the Geology department in the University of Maiduguri, we have done Chemical Engineering department in the University of Uyo, we have done Petroleum Chemistry department in the University of Calabar, we have done Electrical Engineering department in Bayero University, we have done Chemical Engineering department in FUT Minna. Now we are starting the 3rd phase of it in other Universities that will make it 24 Universities, in departments that are relevant to oil & gas training.

The reason is that when the Universities have correct infrastructure





to teach Nigerians in Nigeria then the oil industry will not say that the graduates of these schools are not directly employable in the industry. Apart from this University upgrade we are involved in other things. There is a school in Bonny Island which is called National Technical Institute, which was created at the time that the LNG in Bonny was established. That Institute was supposed to be a source of human resources for the LNG and relevant industries around Bonny. It was to be established by Rivers State Government to complement the human resources need of Bonny LNG but because of financial problems PTDF was mandated to take over the development of the infrastructure and hand it over. Now the PTI and NTI Bonny are meant for the middle level technical manpower. We now realize the need to provide training for senior management and the managers, people that will sit down and determine the faith of billions of contracts in their offices. If they don't have an in depth knowledge of the oil & gas industry they will not perform their responsibilities

effectively. That is why government approved for PTDF to go and build the College of Petroleum Studies in Kaduna which is only for senior management training. Equally as the fallout of the past administration, Niger Delta stakeholders forum here, we were asked to go and establish a Federal Polytechnic of oil & gas in Bayelsa State. That project is under construction in Bayelsa State. It is going to be established for training in oil, gas and environmental sciences. Among our new projects is a skills development centre in Port-Harcourt for the training of the young graduates or young secondary school leavers in relevant skills in the oil and gas industry. They can be tool pushers on the offshore or onshore drilling, suppliers of facilities on offshore rig. All these things we are doing in preparing for in-country capacity, infrastructural development so that the training of engineers and geo-scientists of tomorrow will be guaranteed from all these institutions.

**Q: About the NTI, you said it is a complement that is meant to be**

**training staff for the LNG?**

**A:** No it is not supposed to be training staff. It is suppose to be producing human resources for industries like LNG and relevant industries around that area. It is suppose to train middle level technical manpower for the industry around that Bonny area, LNG and other ones that are there, that is the way it should be.

**Q: The training you said is meant for middle level manpower. Don't these institutions have similar training programmes?**

**A:** Yes they have similar programmes and similar training programmes. The training institutions are still grossly inadequate. The more we can have the better because the oil and gas industry in Nigeria is a very big industry.

**Q: Can we know on the average the level of investment PTDF has put into some of these things?**

**A:** A lot of investment. Like PTI we are looking at around 14 billion that we have spent. The Polytechnic of oil and gas in Ekowe we are looking in the region of 15 billion. The college of Petroleum studies Kaduna we are looking in the region of 3 billion. NTI Bonny we are looking in the region of about 5 billion and other projects we have taken a lot of investment.

**Q: The PTDF has been able to upgrade about 16 Universities and they have been handed over to the schools. After the provision of such facilities the next thing that comes in is maintenance and sustenance. Does PTDF have the means of ensuring that these facilities are maintained?**

**A:** PTDF is an interventionist agency. Our own is to go, develop the facilities and hand it over to the host institution for sustenance and maintenance. We are not here to take over the responsibility of NUC in different Universities. It is like if you have gotten an agency to give me something for free without asking you to produce counterpart funding. Your own counterpart contribution is to ensure that the facilities are maintained and sustained in the interest of the masses of Nigeria and the people that will benefit. Of course the institution can maintain any other facility ■

**REMARKS BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FUND (PTDF) ENGR. MUTTAQHA RABE DARMA**  
**ON THE OCCASION OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BOOK:**  
**“The Most Significant Achievements of the Obasanjo Presidency” (volumes 1 and 2)**  
**ON SATURDAY, 16TH OCTOBER, 2010.**

I feel highly honoured and privileged to stand before this distinguished audience of eminent personalities within and outside Nigeria to join in presenting this literary work on the most significant achievements of the Obasanjo Presidency.

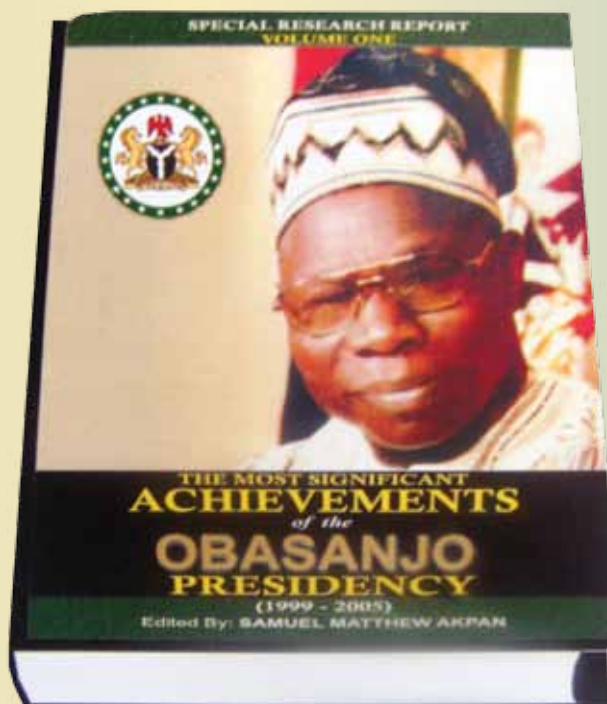
The book reviewer has done a wonderful job of providing an insight into the contents and direction of the publication. However I wish to add that this book, though comprehensive, only succeeds in encapsulating just a fraction of the revolutionary impact and achievements of the Obasanjo Presidency. I dare say no book, no matter the intellectual depth, can fully and exhaustively capture and convey to the appreciation of all, the phenomenon called Obasanjo, and the fundamentals of his administration. What about his body language which were many and diverse? The man Obasanjo is beyond documentation as he continues to reveal himself every day

To me, Olusegun Obasanjo could be described as an enigma, but a positive one whose actions in government and outside government continues to shape and impact the entity called Nigeria, and even beyond Nigeria. So while I commend the initiators of this publication, let me advise them not to rest on their oars. They should immediately begin the process of producing the 3rd volume. This is particularly so, if the role played by President Obasanjo in giving meaning and purpose to the organisation which I currently head, The Petroleum Technology Development Fund, is not given prominence in the publication.

Let me publicly affirm that without the intervention of the Obasanjo Presidency, there would be no PTDF as you know it today. Although PTDF was established in 1973, as a consequence of the promulgation of Decree No.23 of 1973, it was not until the year 2000 that it started to operate effectively as a fully functional agency of government. This was made possible by the Obasanjo Presidency which liberated the Fund from the Department of Petroleum Resources where for 37 years it operated only as a desk without any programme and activity. As a result of the role of the Obasanjo Presidency, thousands of Nigerians have been trained in critical areas of the oil and gas sector, and have acquired the relevant skills and competences to effectively participate in the operations and management of the oil and gas industry. Today, through the intervention of PTDF not less than 1,500 Nigerians have been found professionally competent and skilful for assimilation into the industry locally and internationally. I therefore have more than sufficient cause to be grateful to the Obasanjo Presidency.

I therefore recommend this book to all Nigerians of discerning minds, as I join in presenting The Most Significant Achievements of the Obasanjo Administration to the glory of God and posterity.

Thank You.





## ITSHEKIRI LEADERS OF THOUGHT ON FACT FINDING MISSION TO PTDF

A delegation of the Itshekiri leaders of thought led by chief I.O Jemide, retired manager with Shell Petroleum Development Company, and two time member of Old Bendel State House of Assembly, met with the Executive Secretary of PTDF Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma, to seek clarifications on the following issues:

- » Methods and system applied by PTDF in ensuring equity and fair spread in the award of Overseas Scholarships such that Nigerians in general and oil producing areas particularly the people of Itshekiri are not short changed.
- » Does PTDF place advertisements in national newspapers requesting interested Nigerians to apply for the scholarships and if yes the papers predominantly used for such advertisements.
- » Are there documents showing the spread of the beneficiaries over specific periods in the award of Overseas Scholarships.

Chief Jemide, a former Chairman Presidential Committee on NDDC, described the Itshekiri leaders of thought and those they represent as important stakeholders of the Fund coming from major oil producing communities in the Niger-Delta region. He said they represent the Ijaws from Bayelsa, Rivers and Delta States whose communities have that combined advantage of being the 2nd largest source of oil production in the region.

Chief Jemide who was accompanied on the courtesy visit by Edward Ekpoko, Mr.

Mene, Amaechi Ogbonna, Major-General C. Doyle (Rtd) and former NTA producer and Head corporate communications of Central Bank of Nigeria, Mr. Tony Ede, explained to the Executive Secretary that they share a strong belief that young men and women from their areas, are not benefitting from the scholarship scheme of PTDF. He said their meeting with him is to clear these concerns and also provide a forum for mutual understanding such that the Itshekiri derives maximally from the products of the Fund.

Contributing, a member of the delegation Amaechi Ogbonna from Warri, said they will demand from PTDF the siting of intervention projects such as primary and secondary schools, and technical colleges in their communities which produce 70% of the oil in Nigeria.

The Executive Secretary said it is difficult for the Fund to deal with different ethnic groups and nationalities in the allotment of scholarships and other intervention projects of the Fund. It is difficult to separate Itshekiri from Delta State for which the Fund has several on-going projects. He said for instance Delta State has always been among the oil endowed State that received greater number of scholarship slots. "PTDF has about 80% of its projects in the Niger Delta. Over 85% of that is in Delta State including the upgrade of the Petroleum Training Institute Warri for which the Fund is spending 25 billion Naira".

# REPORT ON THE SEISMIC INTERPRETATION SOFTWARE TRAINING FOR UNIVERSITY LECTURERS

By Olayinka Agboola, *Head, Upstream Department, PTDF*

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Petroleum industry is a technology intensive one, that requires the optimal utilization of resources to develop petroleum resource at the lowest cost. However most of these technologies are imported for use in Nigeria and the challenge is to develop / acquire these technologies so that Nigerians can take full charge in the management of the nation's Petroleum industry.

Further to the above, it is also quite evident that the prevalent skills gap and lack of skilled capacity in the petroleum industry is already a global issue. Current pattern shows that worldwide demand for Petroleum is outpacing the industry's capacity and capability to find and develop the resource. This then calls for a continuous in-flux of new talents into the industry and the starting point for this is at the tertiary institutions.

To redress the situation stated above, there is need for adequate partnering and collaboration among various industry stakeholders to ensure an effective capacity, capability and competence development of indigenous manpower for the industry.

It is in furtherance of the above that PTDF in line with its mandate of building capacities in the Oil and Gas industry, sponsored the Opendtect seismic interpretation software training programme for 40 lecturers from 20 PTDF Upgraded institutions. The training was organised by Danvic Concepts International Ltd in partnership with its Netherlands based technical partner, dGB Earth Sciences. The programme is a unique collaboration (which emphasises the need for partnering between Government agencies and private organizations) between Danvic concepts/ dGB Earth Sciences which donated and licensed the software to geology/geosciences departments in the various institutions, Shell Petroleum Development Company which donated workstations to the institutions and PTDF which sponsored the training on the use of the software.

The software which had previously been donated and licensed to 58 Universities in Europe, 12 in the Middle East, 7 in Africa, 28 in Asia, 10 in the Asia Pacific region and 43 in North and South America is widely used in the oil and gas industry and provides a simplified and rapid method of interpreting earth horizons and well data from global locations. It also enhances the calculation of the potentiality of oil well.

**The programme was designed to build capacities of lecturers in the area of seismic interpretation so that the skills and knowledge acquired can be transferred to students who will form the pool of new employees to be engaged by the industry in future.**

The 4 days intensive programme featured an opening ceremony which was attended by Vice Chancellors from some of the participating Universities, an official from NUC, industry organization representatives and the media.

In his opening address, the representative of the Executive Secretary, PTDF stated that the Fund's intent in sponsoring the training programme was to enhance geosciences education in the various institutions. He also used the opportunity to express the need for Government agencies to collaborate with institutions and private organizations in furtherance of capacity building in-country to ensure the attainment of the Federal Governments Nigerian Content aspirations in the Petroleum industry.

## 2.0 PROGRAMME DELIVERY

The programme was well attended by all the 40 lecturers from PTDF upgrade institutions and was delivered by the president/ CEO of dGB Earth Sciences (from Netherlands) and other staff of Danvic Concepts coy. in a very serene and conducive location in Lagos. The training methodology

covered theoretical and practical aspects of seismic interpretation as well as syndicate exercises.

**The software is one of the widely used open source seismic interpretation platform in the petroleum industry, providing a highly practical tool through which the understanding and interpretation of structural geologies can be enhanced.**

The programme was also designed to enable trainees skills in the use of the following Opendtect applications:

- The Dip-steering plug-in for calculating dip and azimuth maps.
- The Sequence stratigraphic interpretation system (SSIS) which enables the better understanding of the depositional history of sedimentary basins.
- The Neural network plug-in to detect geological meaningful patterns (3D bodies or 2D horizon based areas)
- The Common contour binning (CCB) plug-in which highlights subtle hydrocarbon related seismic anomalies and accurately pin-points gas-water, gas-oil, and oil-water contacts.

## 3.0 TRAINEES REMARKS

At the end of the training programme, the trainees expressed their appreciation to the Fund for the privilege offered to them to be trained on the Opendtect Seismic Interpretation software. They equally commended the training organiser and the resource person from Netherlands for educating them in a systematic way on the use of the various programmes embedded in the software.

They also stated that the programme has added value to their knowledge of geological evaluation techniques and that they will ensure that the knowledge acquired is imparted to their colleagues and students ■

# PTDF PAYS COURTESY CALL ON DAAR COMMUNICATIONS PLC.

By Ebele Ezeakunne



The Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF), Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma, accompanied by some Management Staff of the Fund paid a courtesy visit to Daar Communications Plc, owners of AIT and Ray Power radio station.

The visit according to Engr. Darma is to thank the management of Daar Communications Plc for their co-operation over time and efforts in making Nigerians know about the mandate of PTDF. The Executive Secretary stated that the current management has been able to salvage the image of PTDF through the help of the media by letting Nigerians know about the role, mandate and activities of the Fund which prior to this time has had negative conceptions by the public. "I would also want to ask you to please continue to extend your hand of friendship to PTDF and continue to render help and assistance you have given us in the last in 1 ½ years I assumed office".

The Executive Secretary said that PTDF now has an array of programmes and activities which have almost tripled and to get the programmes known to the people the Fund needs the media to achieve that. He further stated that the Fund recognises the fact that AIT/Daar Communication is a business entity, but solicited for a little consideration in their dealings with the Fund. This could be achieved by PTDF and Daar Communications Plc going into a mutual partnership to ensure that the Fund's programmes and activities are given adequate publicity. "We want a situation whereby it is not every programme

of the Fund AIT covers that will be paid for." Engr. Darma also briefed AIT/Daar Communication team about the 2010/2011 Overseas Scholarship Scheme (OSS), and how committed the Fund is in letting the public know about its transparency. To this extent, the Executive Secretary gave a breakdown of the 2010/2011 OSS awarded by the Fund as follows:

- (a) 9 candidates from each of the 36 States in the order of performance at the aptitude test = 324.
  - (b) 3 candidates for FCT = 3
  - (c) 4 additional candidates from each of the 9 oil endowed States = 36
  - (d) 40 candidates already in the oil and gas industry in order of performance at the aptitude test = 40.
  - (e) 47 whose awards were deferred last year = 47.
- Total = 450

The important point to note is that all of those who qualified to go on the OSS got it by merit, after passing our rigorous aptitude tests," Darma added.

In his opening remark, the Group Managing Director of Daar Communications Plc, Mr. Tony Anegbe Akiotu, thanked the PTDF management team and maintained that the Chairman of Daar communications plc would have had the singular honour to welcome the August visitors. "I am quite honoured and I have heard a lot about PTDF.

We have abiding responsibility as media practitioners to discharge unbiased balanced information to the people".

Mr. Akiotu confirmed that the activities of PTDF are quite commendable. "I do know that we have hundreds of Nigerians who do have the where withal intellect, some of them are from poor homes but do to what I consider the magnanimous efforts of PTDF, many of these people are able to travel abroad to have access to quality education". He further told the PTDF management team to keep the OSS process transparent, although people are bound to criticise the activities of what one organisation is doing. But what is important is to make sure that the criteria as explained by the Executive Secretary are followed to the letter. He added that this can be achieved by making sure that nobody is unduly favoured or made to enjoy undeserved favours from PTDF.

The Group Managing Director on behalf of the Chairman said he has taken note of the requests made by PTDF and assured the Fund that their requests would be documented as is obtainable with State Governments and other agencies of government. He proposed that AIT/Daar Communications can have a dedicated coverage arrangement on regular basis on the activities of PTDF, which will be exposed on AIT, Ray Power both locally and internationally. This he said will make the people to know the genuine efforts and steps the Fund has taken in making sure that the good deeds and activities of the Fund are made known to Nigerians and Nigerians in Diaspora.

In his closing remarks, Mr Tony Akiotu noted that the meeting is to strengthen the partnership and synergy between PTDF and Daar Communications Plc ■

# PHOTO SPEAK

## PTDF'S MANAGEMENT VISIT TO NIGERIAN TELEVISION AUTHORITY IN PIX



**Petroleum Technology Development Fund [PTDF]**  
...Nigeria's catalyst for sustainable capacity building in the oil & gas industry.



**Conferment of Award on Chief Olusegun Obasanjo** GCFR, former President, Federal Republic of Nigeria, by the Executive Secretary PTDF, to commemorate **Ten Years of effective operation of the Fund.** The event took place at the former President's Hilltop Residence, Abeokuta.





# PTDF CREATES AWARENESS IN SCIENCE SUBJECTS

By Timilayefa Nwajueboe



The Petroleum Technology Development Fund has moved a step further in actualizing its objective of improving the human capacity of the oil and gas industry by ensuring that interest in the foundation courses that leads to a career in the sector is well appreciated from the secondary school level.

Science subjects which are the bedrock of pursuing a career in the industry needs to be encouraged at this level in order to produce seasoned graduates in the oil and gas industry. If the interest is not generated at the secondary level, there will be a dearth of Nigerian professionals in the future. The PTDF realizing these facts organized the PTDF Catch Them Young Competition as an avenue for creating interest, awareness and zeal in the industry by involving the young students who are expected to man the industry in the next generation.

The Catch Them Young competition is in two phases, first is the Essay, Quiz

and debate competitions developed to identify and encourage the younger generation to be interested in the sciences and to assist them in focusing on their career path especially in the oil and gas sector. Secondly, is the visit to oil and gas installations both in-country and abroad by the winners of all categories. This aspect of the programme will actually instil in them the interest of working in the sector as having experienced what the oil installations look like, would build the interest of the students towards towing a career in the oil and gas sector, which is the direction of PTDF.

The catch them young competition kicked off in all the states of the Federation at the end of which the first to third place winners were qualified for the zonal competitions that were held in the six geo-political zones. The first and second place winners at the zonal level qualified to compete at the National Level. Aside from having to qualify for the next levels

in the competition, winners in all the categories were presented with cash prizes.

A total of 72 students, 36 teachers and 21 State coordinators converged in Abuja for the last lap of the “catch them young” competition which lasted for three days. Arrangements are ongoing for the winners to visit the oil and gas installations in Nigeria and abroad.

The GM (Accounts and Budget), Mr. Jolomi Arenyeka who represented the Executive Secretary at the opening of the finals of the competition in Abuja, He reminded the participants that the competition was designed to curb the problem of insufficient skilled personnel to operate in the oil and gas industry by creating awareness through the quiz, debate and essay-writing competitions. He added that “the programme is targeted at the senior secondary school students, to encourage and create awareness in core science subjects necessary for oil

Action shots of the students performing during the Debate and Quiz segments of the 'Catch Them Young' competition.



and gas courses”.

He said the goal of PTDF in organising the competition is to motivate learning of science and technology especially in the oil and gas related areas. “I want to encourage you that mathematics and other science subjects as an embodiment of your career is quite rewarding. And I want to encourage all of you to keep the spirit flying and show enough interest in science and technology because that is where ultimately the future of Nigeria rest”.

The head Planning, Research and Statistics department of PTDF responsible for co-ordinating the competitions, Professor Dulu Appah in his remarks at the opening ceremony said the event is in line with the Fund's mandate of capacity building in the oil and gas industry, by facilitating through training the development of specialized knowledge in oil and gas related disciplines such as Geology, Engineering, Oil and Gas Accountants/

Accountancy, Oil and Gas Management, Environmental law etc. On the decision to restrict participation in the competition to only SS2 students, Professor Appah said “the issue is that we want those people who have come to a stage where they are into core subject areas that can lead to oil and gas business, those in physics, chemistry and mathematics, and you know the medium of communication is English, so we decided to add all essay competition with topics derived from relevant areas of the oil and gas industry”. He said the competition which began at the state level also had the quiz component whose questions were asked in Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics, and the debate aspect was centred on these subjects.

All the states he said presented representatives for the competition and through elimination process, the best participating states in the competition moved up to the zonal level of the contest. The winners at the

zonal levels of the competition which took place in the 6 geopolitical zones of the country simultaneously and the runners up were selected for the national and finals of the competition.

The Assistant General Manager, legal department of PTDF, Balarabe Ahmed re-instated the essence of the programme which is to inculcate on the youths at strategic points of their Secondary School career, the value of Arts and Sciences, and particularly to stimulate interest in the study of Sciences and Mathematics which constitute the bedrock of Science and Technology “so if you want to take this Country to the next level you need to pay more attention to science and technology and that means you have to pay attention to such subjects in your various schools. “ he admonished the participants. Altogether 34 schools made it to the final of the competitions from the zonal competitions.

Some of the teachers disclosed to PTDF Mandate that the Catch Them



Young Competition was a learning ground for them and they would go back to their various schools to further improve on their students hopefully for next year's contest.

Mr. Azuka Bernard of the National Mathematical centre Abuja was one of the coordinators, he stated that indeed the catch them young Competition was quite wonderful "You can see that we really sieved out the best from the country. We all witnessed the competition and I can conclude that there is hardly any school in Nigeria that could have done better". He also added that "one thing with education is motivation. We have witnessed the promises of the Executive Secretary that the winners will be taken to foreign countries and if there is motivation of course heaven is the limit for education".

At the end of the competition, the first to the sixth place winners in all categories were presented with various prizes ranging from cash, laptops and desk top computers for the Schools.

In the school's quiz competition, Dority International Secondary School, Abia State came first.

Master Uzor Micheal of Government Secondary School, Owerri Imo State was the overall winner of the Essay competition who represented the South- Eastern zone and received a hundred thousand naira cash and a laptop computer; he equally won a desktop for his school. Master Uzor Micheal thanked PTDF for the experience and stated "naturally I feel very happy and I thank God for making today a reality in my Life. I want to also show appreciation to my teacher who prepared me from state level to this stage, I really thank God and I pray God to replenish her strength".

The debate competition took an interesting turn as Top Faith Secondary School, Akwa Ibom State emerged winner in this category. Coming as the 2nd place during the South- South zonal competition held in Rivers State, to qualify for the national level, it was indeed fascinating as Top Faith Secondary School were equally at the forth position during the end of the semi- final contest before emerging overall winner. PTDF Mandate spoke with the students after the competition who attributed their success to God's favour. Miss Daramfom Etum one of the contestant commended PTDF for the wonderful experience and exposition stating that participating in the competition has added more value in their perception of the industry "before we thought the Petroleum Industry was just about oil but now I know it actually has a wide scope. I have learnt more" she added.

The debate session presented rational views from both proposing and opposing teams as topical issues that are relevant within the oil and gas industry were debated by the contestants. The topics debated on were Corruption at the Local Niger Delta Level is really to blame for the woes of the region for the eliminating stage, Privatization of the downstream sector is the answer to the problems associated with the petroleum Industry in Nigeria for quarter final stage, the oil-producing states of Nigeria have done more for their own people than any other government has done for its own people for semi- final stage and PTDF has contributed more to the development of the Nigerian educational system than ETF for final stage.

The Executive Secretary Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma presented

the prizes to the winners. In his closing remarks he commended the participants for their exceptional performances and emphasized that the competition will be organised yearly by the Fund "And I want you to go back to your schools and tell your school principals and other managers of the school that they should start preparing for next year's competition which is going to be tougher than this year's competition".

The Executive Secretary said in deciding to organise the competition, PTDF set out to bring out the basics of petroleum technology and creating the opportunity for young Nigerians to embrace the knowledge of petroleum technology. He expressed optimism that the programme will encourage young students to take special interest in the study of oil and gas related subjects. "The winners will be tracked and your performances will be monitored in your schools and by the time you get into the university in Nigeria, we will give you scholarship under the Fund's Local Scholarship Scheme".

He reaffirmed the Fund's commitment to sponsor the winners in the 3 categories of the competition to a visit to oil installations in Nigeria and abroad "you will go to oil installations and by that we mean you will go to places where oil is produced and see the production process. You will have the opportunity of seeing how oil companies explore, produce and exploit oil, and how petroleum products after production are transported to storage facilities and how they are translated into usable forms like fuel, kerosene and gas

The Executive secretary promised that the winning essays at both the state, zonal and national levels of

the competition will be edited for publication to enable Nigerians appreciate the thoughts of young Nigerians in the industry. "If you go to these oil installations we will expect you to write critically what you found out to be the difference between what

is happening in Nigeria and what is happening in the country you will visit. You will give special focus to local content. How many people you see working in the oil installations that are Nigerians where such installations are situated in Nigeria and operated

by an oil major?, how many people you see working in Netherlands being operated by the same oil major in a platform in Netherlands that are Nigerians" ■



Resource Person Tabitha J. J. making an announcement



Coordinator Mr. Azuka MF of the National Mathematical Centre



Team of Resource Persons



A cross section of Contestants/Students during the Quiz Competition



ES PTDF and Prof. Dulu Appah presenting a Desktop Computer to Dority International Secondary School, Abia State (1st Prize Winner in the Quiz Competition)



Demonstration Secondary School, Edo State, 5th Prize Winners receiving their Award



## The Winning Essay:

# THE MODERN WORLD TURNS INTO PETROLEUM

Over the years since the discovery of crude oil in several countries of the world, the world's international market has witnessed a lot of investments and trade between different countries. These investments evidently have proved to have petroleum products such as petrol, kerosene, diesel, oil and gas as the most traded commodities. This is as a result of the huge benefits derived from the petroleum sector. These benefits include; the generation of foreign revenue, subsequent development of these countries and international recognition enjoyed by these countries.

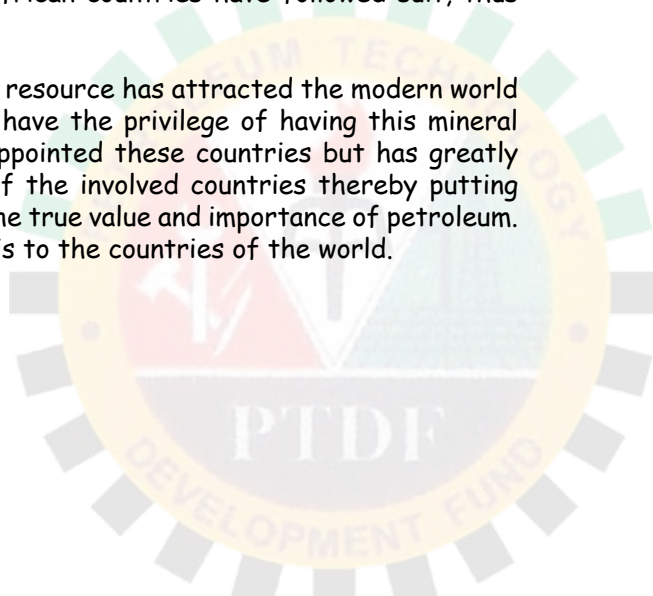
Petroleum products such as petrol, kerosene, diesel, oil and gas are very essential to humanity. The exportation of these commodities has generated huge amount of foreign revenue for most crude oil or petroleum dealing countries. Country such as Nigeria, Angola and Saudi Arabia have witnessed tremendous boost in their economy. This is as a result of the huge money they derive from the exportation of petroleum products. Consequently, it has led to the commencement and completion of most capital intensive projects across their individual countries. These projects include; construction and repair of roads, building of refineries and electricity power plants, building of health care facilities, these few among others. The developments attained by these countries have encouraged other countries to show interest in the petroleum sector.

More so, the world has become globalized with certain technology coming up. The petroleum sector which is capital and labour intensive has led to the innovation of modern ways of doing things. The United States of America being viewed as the world power achieved its development by dealing in petroleum related business and transactions. It then becomes imperative for other countries who wish to achieve what United States of America has achieved to involve themselves in petroleum transactions. By so doing the world now revolves round petroleum.

It is evident that petroleum has overshadowed other sectors of the economy. Nigeria as a country has become internationally recognised by other countries of the world. Being the largest producer of oil in Africa, the fifth OPEC producer of oil and the eleventh largest producer of oil in the world, Nigeria has made waves in developing herself. This has earned her the renowned term "Giant of Africa". Through this substantial developments achieved by Nigeria other African countries have followed suit, thus increasing the number of countries involved in petroleum.

Finally, it is an undisputable fact that petroleum as a mineral resource has attracted the modern world both those endowed with crude oil and others who do not have the privilege of having this mineral resource. Subsequently, the petroleum sector has not disappointed these countries but has greatly improved the standard of living and the economic status of the involved countries thereby putting them ahead of other countries who still have not embraced the true value and importance of petroleum. Petroleum is economically viable and has evidently proved this to the countries of the world.

**Uzor Michael**



## PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FUND

# ‘CATCH THEM YOUNG’ COMPETITION



### RESULTS OF THE NATIONAL QUIZ COMPETITION

S/N	NAME	SCHOOL	POSITION
1	1. Chuks-Ezike Oyochukwu 2. Uwalaka Chiamaka	Dority International Secondary School, Abia State	1st
2	1. Okoroafor Justin 2. Onuoha Ugoaru	Airforce Comprehensive School, Agbani, Enugu State	2nd
3	1. Oyesola Luqman 2. Ogungbem Dare Oladipupo	Alayande School of Science, Oyo State	3rd
4	1. Jideama Chiagozie 2. Sambo Abubakar	Gombe High School, Gombe state	4th
5	1. Cookey-Gam Tamuno-Opubo 2. Ime Precious	Jephtal Comprehensive Secondary School, Port-Harcourt, Rivers State	5th
6	1. Itanka Ubong C. 2. Paul Utibemfon	Federal Govt. College, Ikot-Ekpene, Akwa-Ibom State	6th

### RESULTS OF THE NATIONAL DEBATE COMPETITION

S/N	NAME	SCHOOL	POSITION
1	1. Chidiebube Okorie 2. Diana-Abasi Ubokudom 3. Daramfon Etom	Top Faith Secondary School, Akwa-Ibom State	1st
2	1. Magdalene Effiong 2. Uwen Udoh Akpan 3. Ofusia Sobechukwu	Innovative International School, Nassarawa state	2nd
3	1. Adegunloye Mary 2. Akiode Akeem 3. Oyesola Fiyin	Abeokuta Grammar School, Ogun State	3rd
4	1. Godswill Guda 2. Aaron Yusuf 3. Benjamin Bitrus	Government College Kagoro, Kaduna state	4th
5	1. Okobia Isioma 2. Adeche Eseosa 3. Osunbor Osas	Demonstration Secondary School, Edo State	5th
6	1. Oso oluwatosin 2. Shola- Shittu Iyimide 3. Ogunyebi Tobi	Federal Govt. College, Ikole, Ekiti State	6th

### RESULTS FOR NATIONAL ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

S/N	NAME	SCHOOL	POSITION
1	Uzor Micheal	Government Secondary School, Awka, Anambra State	1st
2	Ndukwe Chukwuemeka	Nigerian Navy Secondary School, Calabar, Cross Rivers state	2nd
3	Okpe Abba King	Federal Govt. College, Keffi, Nassarawa State	3rd
4	Anyah Josephine	Lead City High School, Ibadan, Oyo State	4th
5	Griffin Olusegun	FSTC USI-Ekiti, Ekiti State	5th
6	Edeh Emmanuel	Igwebuike Grammar School, Awka, Anambra State	6th



## PTDF CATCH THEM YOUNG



### **EJIOGU UGOCHUKWU (STUDENT)**

MARIST COMPREHENSIVE COLLEGE, ANAMBRA STATE.

The competition is a project well articulated. For me, it has helped to discover some hidden talents, which would have been left undiscovered. This shows that there is hope for this great country. My experience was a wonderful one. The competition has offered me another opportunity to visit Abuja for a second time. About PTDF - I say kudos, more powers to your elbows.

Areas to improve: In the next edition, please employ the services of experts who in the various subjects areas will help to moderate the quiz questions to avoid unnecessary mistakes or mix up during the competition.

### **UFONDU C.N. (MRS)**

SECRETARY, ANAMBRA STATE SCHOLARSHIP UNIT, AWKA.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCHOLARSHIP UNIT, AWKA, ANAMBRA STATE.

The 'Catch Them Young' competition is a laudable programme. I would suggest that this competition should kick off at the primary school level to be able to catch them young. To really harness these talented children, the competition should be in the following stages; LGA level, Zonal level, State level, Geo-political zone level and finally National level. This may be cost intensive but will pay off in the end.

Suggestions: Ample time should be allowed for preparation before the actual time for the exam. The State coordinators should be properly briefed about his/her responsibilities. The quiz, debate and essay writing should be filmed and covered by the media to enable those children at home to participate fully. I commend PTDF for this maiden edition, however, there are areas that need improvement such as Logistics for students and teachers at the State level. Eg some schools in the rural areas missed the State level competition due to late arrival at the venue. Students from different terrains should be adequately empowered to be able to take part in future competitions. Winners at the State, Zonal and National levels should be awarded scholarship in addition to prizes to university level. Tapes (video) of this competition should be sent to state coordinators.

### **NUHU DENIS**

BAPTIST ACADEMY, GOMBE  
GOMBE STATE.

The "Catch Them Young" competition is a very good innovation made by PTDF to encourage reading among young students. Through this programme, students prepare by reading extensively which invariably makes us better for it. Therefore, this is a welcomed development for Nigerian Students.

The experience here during the competition was great, because I got the chance to meet new students from different schools. Most importantly, the competition was conducted fairly and we had exposure to a new environment.

PTDF has done very well to organise and conduct this programme successfully. The area I want PTDF to improve is the area of date fixing for the programme. For instance, the final stage of the competition has come in the time when students and schools have resumed fully, the implication is that students will miss lectures, tests and other academic activities. I implore PTDF to find a suitable date that won't affect the school calendar.



## MRS. NWANKWO GLORIOUS

AIRFORCE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL AGBANI-ENUGU,  
ENUGU STATE

The "Catch Them Young" competition has been very educative, expository and interesting. The judgement during the competition at all levels has been, to a reasonable degree fair.

This programme needs to be continued in order to achieve its goals. I believe that if the subsequent years will be as orderly and fair as year's, then the educational system in this country will take a positive turn around especially in petroleum related subjects.

During the competition, I saw the need for our teachers, schools and ministries of education in our various States to be more dedicated to the teaching of our children. I also learnt many things I did not know especially about the Niger-Delta crisis and militants. I was also opportuned to visit the F.C.T.

I had the opportunity of meeting other teachers from other parts of the country and share ideas on how to improve on our jobs. I also learnt some new things about debate, quiz and essay writing which will help me to prepare my students for future competitions. I also acquired knowledge about petroleum production in Nigeria. I think I should be able to encourage my students to study petrochemical related courses in the university.

One area I would want the PTDF to improve about the "Catch Them Young" competition is in ensuring that every participant is qualified for the competition. Let there be a strict and concrete means of confirming that the competitors are actually SS2 students not SS3 students or undergraduates.

## UNIVERSITY LECTURERS SKILLS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME (ULSEP)



### Fadiya Suyi Lawrence

Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife Osun State.

*Post Graduate Certificate in Advanced Studies in Academic Practice (Intensive).*

This programme is actually timely, if not overdue. It is very thoughtful of PTDF to start the programme at this time. From available statistics, Nigerian students are very brilliant as demonstrated by the performance of our students from universities abroad. One could therefore start looking at why these students do so well over there and why is the performance lesser in Nigerian universities. Two things will come to mind:

1. Facilities available for training and
2. Quality and the level of exposure of the university teachers.

PTDF has therefore done so well by taking a bold step to address the second issue and I know that the issue on training facilities is not left out in the enhancement programme.

The exposure and interaction with the experienced instructors on this program will aid not only my teaching ability but also my relationship with the students. There is no doubt that the program will bring about innovations in my teaching technique. The attendant cooperation of stakeholders especially the Nigerian oil industry will aid in field exposure to myself and the students and all the others that I may be involved in their training.



### Aliyu Awwal

Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria

*Post Graduate Certificate in Advanced Studies, in Academic Practice (Intensive)*

The University Lecturers Skills Enhancement Programme is a very good initiative towards the development of academic activities through the lecturers, to the students and the country and its citizens in general. It is the first of its kind and therefore stand as a challenge to the universities involved, and the PTDF Nigeria that volunteer to take absolute responsibility of the first set of lecturers to study in the UK to make sure there is



◀ continuity of this programme and good correspondence between the stakeholders involved.

There are many ways by which this programme should enhance my work, but I will be in the best position to make comment during or after the programme. However, from the way things are actualising, I'll say the perception on how this programme will enhance my work is very positive.



### **Dr. Bassey Offiong Ekpo**

University of Calabar, Calabar

*Post Graduate Certificate in Advance Studies in Academic Practice*

The University Lecturers Skills Enhancement Programme initiated by PTDF is the first of its kind and a welcome idea aimed at improving the quality of teaching and research in the Nigerian Universities in the area of oil and gas sectors.

The programme will enhance my teaching and research capacities which will enable me identify missing gaps in oil and gas related research which will be of benefit to the oil and gas industries in Nigeria. It will enable me to develop a research network within Nigerian universities and technical experts from other countries so that best practices and new ideas can spread quickly through training programmes and workshops for other lecturers and students.



### **Ige Olusegun Omoniyi**

University of Ilorin

*Geology and Mineral Sciences*

This is a welcoming idea from the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF). The programme will bridge the wide gaps in teaching skills between Nigerian universities and top rated university since it is focuses on training Nigerian Lecturers.

I also like to recommend that the programme should be continued because the eventual output will bring about a better Nigeria.

- i. This programme will make teaching, for me, an easy task
- ii. It will also instill confidence in me, having learnt and known that my teaching strategies are now to the standard of best universities in the world
- iii. The programme will expose me to modern and standard teaching techniques



### **Sulaimon Aliyu Adebayo**

University of Ibadan

*Petroleum Engineering*

The University Lecturers Skills Enhancement Programme is a much-awaited and laudable programme by the PTDF to empower and improve the quality of teaching and research in Nigerian universities. Undoubtedly, human capacity development is a key requirement for nation building, interaction and collaboration between Nigeria academics and their counterparts in developed countries will go a long way in providing the necessary networking and cross-fertilization of ideas which will ultimately lead to effective academic teaching and cutting-edge research works.

- a. The ULSEP will enhance my work in the following ways:
- b. Acquisition of state-of-the-art techniques in modern academic teaching and research.
- c. It would afford me the opportunity of understanding a senior academic in the best university in the U.K.
- d. It would provide me the opportunity to acquire more books and other accessories that are not available locally.



### **Joseph Okon Etim**

University of Uyo

*PG - Certificate in Advanced Studies in Academic Practice*

The University Lecturers Skills Enhancement Programme is going to be a very rewarding programme organised by PTDF.

This programme as the theme implied academic practice, will endeavour us to enhance our teaching skills and also will be of good benefits to our students in our various universities. I am extremely grateful to our sponsor for developing such a good programme in times like this that we needed it most.

## VIEWS FROM OUR SCHOLARS



### UZOR UGOEZE EMMANUELLA

I heard about PTDF in my final year. I have always planned to further my education so I decided to try the PTDF OSS. Initially I was doubtful of the credibility when I discovered it was online and you had to buy scratch card unlike the old method of writing on paper. When I went to the centre for the examination I was surprised at the crowd but I thank God, I prayed and eventually was successful.



### CHIPANDU CHUKWUEBUKA FRANKLIN

Let me start by commending the management of PTDF, they have been so wonderful, nice, cordial and friendly. Sir I would like to say you have a very wonderful team and I know that in this country vision 2020 is realizable. But for my case it is a goal achieved and prayer answered. I did my IT in Abuja in 2006 and where I was living was close to PTDF office, I saw the sign board and I said to myself that one day I will be a beneficiary of the scheme. Early 2010, I had two prayer points and this was one of them, it is a wonderful thing. And for us the privileged and blessed ones please let us not disappoint this body, let us make this nation a great nation. Thank you.



### OKORIE OGBONNAYA STANLEY

I want to use this opportunity to thank PTDF so much and the management team for the transparency in the selection process. I didn't know that I will be selected because I come from a rural area in Ebonyi State, I didn't know anyone, I just applied and wrote the exams and I never knew I was going to make it but at the end of the day God helped me and I was able to make it. I want to use this opportunity to thank PTDF and to assert that I didn't know anybody before being awarded the Scholarship because a lot of people feel that PTDF is cynical about the selection process and the process is not transparent but that is not true.



### MUSTAPHA ALI

I got the scholarship in my second attempt, in the first attempt when I wrote the exams I wasn't successful so I believed they were selecting big people, I never believed it was credible. I applied and was shortlisted for the exams and found out the centre was in Maiduguri. I didn't know anybody and even two of my friends never knew anybody but they got it, so if God wants you to get it you will. After two or three weeks I opened my mail and realized I was successful and also shouted in joy. So I thank PTDF for this.

## MR. IDOKO OCHUMA (2003 – 2007 PhD SCHOLAR)

### “MY DREAM WAS MADE REAL BY PTDF”

The PTDF OSS is a golden opportunity especially for the under privileged but talented Nigerians. I believe that ordinary people can do extraordinary things when they are given the opportunity, and I am a living testimony to that.

Firstly, I am the second child in a family of seven and my parents were teachers while I was growing up at Ugwolawo in Kogi State. They worked very hard to provide the basic education for the whole family and I remember how hard life was for us. I remember going to the farm in the morning before going to school. I remember having only one pair of sandals and one set of school uniform. But with all these, I had a dream...and today, I can tell you that dreams come true otherwise nature won't incite us to have them.

Today, I hold a PhD in Chemical Engineering from the University of Birmingham, United Kingdom, thanks to the PTDF OSS. How did it start? Following the successful completion of my B.Eng Chemical Engineering degree in Yola with a First Class, I decided to study in the UK for a Ph.D. in Chemical engineering. I applied to the top four Chemical engineering departments in the UK (Cambridge, Imperial College London, University College London and University of Birmingham) and I was offered admissions immediately. With the offers, I started sending out applications for scholarship. I remember applying for a Commonwealth Scholarship, Gates Cambridge Scholarship, British Council Scholarship, Shell Chevening scholarship, DFID Scholarship, just to mention a few. I was determined to study abroad and I held unto my dream. I did not lose my focus, because with God, all things are possible. I continued to pray to God and also work hard on my applications day and night. Then I heard about the PTDF OSS. I immediately applied for a scholarship to embark on a new route Ph.D. programme organised by the top chemical engineering departments in UK. This programme, titled “Ph.D. chemical Engineering with Integrated Study” is for a minimum duration of four years and maximum of five years. The tuition fee for this programme is approximately sixty thousand GBP. After going through the PTDF application process including interviews, I was awarded a scholarship in 2003. The scholarship paid my tuition fee, accommodation, travel, living expenses, books etc. I became the first person to enrol on an ‘advanced Ph.D.’ titled Ph.D. chemical Engineering with Integrated Study, at the University of Birmingham. Thanks be to God, I completed my PhD in 2007 (four years later) and I am currently working as a Technical Advisor to UOP (A Honeywell Company), at the Company's headquarters in the USA.

# Congratulations!



**TIMILAYEFA NWAJUEBOE**  
of the Press & External Relations  
Unit PTDF bags **MSc Corporate  
Communications and Public Affairs**  
*Robert Garden University, Aberdeen UK*



**BOLANLE KEHINDE-AGBOOLA**  
**MSc Information Management**  
*University of Glasgow*  
Bola is of the Training Department,  
PTDF.



**Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel  
Chukwuma Ezeakunne**  
recently joined together  
in holy matrimony at Our  
Lady Queen of Nigeria  
Catholic Pro-Cathedral,  
Area 3, Garki, Abuja on  
July 10th, 2010. (Mrs.  
Ebele Ezeakunne works  
in the Press & External  
Relations Unit).



**Mr. & Mrs.  
Udochukwu Maduka**  
were joined together  
in holy matrimony  
at the Living Faith  
Church Durunmi,  
Abuja on 20th  
November, 2010. Mrs.  
Maduka Ndidi is of the  
Training Department,  
PTDF.

## COMMISERATION

### Obituary



With heavy heart, the management and staff of Petroleum Technology Development Fund regret to announce the passing on of our colleague, Late **Musa Umar** on Tuesday August 31, 2010 after a brief illness.

Aged 41, Late Musa Umar was until his death a Deputy Chief Officer in the Internal Audit Unit of the Fund. He is survived by a wife and four children.

We pray that Almighty God grants repose to his soul and give his family the fortitude to bear the loss.



Signed  
Management

### OBITUARY

With deep sorrow in our hearts, the management and staff of Petroleum Technology Development Fund regret to announce the passing on of our colleague Mr. Mustapha Hamidu which sad event occurred on Thursday May 21, 2010 after a short illness.

The late Hamidu was until his demise an Assistant Supervisor and was married with three children.

We pray that the Almighty God grant repose to his soul and give his family the fortitude to bear the loss.



Signed  
Management



## PTDF ACTIVITIES

### ACTIVITIES OF THE FUND:

#### EDUCATION:

- Overseas Scholarship Scheme(OSS)
- Local Scholarship Scheme(LSS)

#### TRAINING:

- Strategic Institutional Interventions

#### NIGERIAN CONTENT DEVELOPMENT

- Project Specific Industry Demand-based Interventions
- Engineering Design Training Programme (EDTP)
- Welders Training and Certification Programme (WTCP)

#### INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

- University Upgrade Projects

#### STRATEGIC SUPPORT & COLLABORATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

- Annual PTDF Research Grant Competition
- Universities Endowment Programme

### STRATEGIC INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING INTERVENTION

#### PETROLEUM TRAINING INSTITUTE (PTI) UPGRADE PROJECT:

Educational, organizational and Infrastructure upgrade, to achieve a world class institution of international standard at Effurun, Delta State

#### UNIVERSITY UPGRADE PROJECT:

The upgrade of facilities to international standards in selected departments (related to oil and Gas) in 24 Universities spread across the country in order to train Nigerians to compete on equal footing with their counterparts in the global industry.

#### INFORMATION COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY (ICT) CENTRES:

Provision of Information Communication & Technology (ICT) Centres in 24 Universities, 38 Polytechnics, 19 Technical colleges, 20 Colleges of Education and 102 Unity schools nationwide to encourage information technology which is the bed rock of activities in the Industry.

#### NATIONAL COLLEGE OF PETROLEUM STUDIES KADUNA (NCPSK)

The establishment of a National College of Petroleum Studies, Kaduna (NCPSK) as a world class institution for training of senior and executive staff in the Industry

#### CENTRE FOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING (CSDT), PORT HARCOURT, RIVERS STATE

The development of a centre for basic skills development for artisans and craftsmen to enhance community participation in the Oil and Gas Industry

#### NIGER DELTA PROJECTS

As a strategic intervention towards improving man power and socio-economic development of Niger Delta region, PTDF embarked on:

- Construction of National Technical Institute in Bonny, Rivers State
- Establishment of Federal Polytechnic of Oil and Gas at Ukwue, Bayelsa State
- Development of Secondary and primary schools at Okerehoko and Oporosa, Warri, Delta State.

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE (NTI), BONNY, RIVERS STATE

The Institute was conceived to serve as a feeder institute for human resource and technology development to meet human resource requirement of the NLNG and related projects. Components include; construction of New hostels, classrooms, laboratories, workshops and provision of water and electricity.

#### FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC OKIOWE, BAYELSA STATE

The Polytechnic was established following the desire of the Federal Government to improve Local Content skills levels in the Niger Delta Region.

Components include; Construction of New hostel, staff quarters, administrative building, workshops, classrooms, dining hall, generator house and craft centre.

#### UNIVERSITIES ENDOWMENT PROGRAMME:

This is aimed at advancing indigenous research in oil and gas related disciplines for the nation's oil and gas industry. To date the Fund has endowed seven (7) professorial chairs in various universities within Nigeria.

#### THE PTDF ANNUAL RESEARCH GRANT COMPETITION:

This programme is geared towards enhancing the capacity of Nigerian based researchers to conduct research in areas relevant to oil and gas technology development, by promoting the retention of such capacity and encouraging its application in the industry.

#### STRATEGIC SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS:

The PTDF collaborates closely with various strategic stakeholders in the industry in the areas of sponsorship of publications, annual conferences, participation in local and international conferences and dissemination of information relating to the industry.

#### WELDERS TRAINING CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME (WTCP)

To complement National efforts directed at enhancing capabilities of the Nigerian Oil & Gas Industry, a welders training and certificate programme is being executed in conjunction with key industry players where 2,500 welders would be given advance training in various aspects of welding, leading to globally accepted certification.

#### ENHANCING FABRICATION CAPABILITIES OF THE NIGERIAN OIL & GAS INDUSTRY (EFCN)

As part of the Steering Committee, the PTDF is leading efforts at enhancing the fabrication capabilities of the Nigeria Oil & Gas Industry (NOGI). The EFCN which arose from a co-operation agreement between Nigeria and Republic of Norway is being funded and driven by the PTDF, as well as other Nigerian & Norwegian Key Oil & Gas industry players.



# *Celebrating*

## **Petroleum Technology Development Fund [PTDF]**

*...Nigeria's catalyst for sustainable capacity building in the oil & gas industry.*



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# N I G E R I A

