

MINUTES OF CITIZEN BUDGET INPUTS AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING TOWARDS THE 2020 BUDGET PREPARATION AT THE AKANUIBIAM INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE, ABAKALI ON 26TH JULY, 2019

1. ATTENDANCE:

The following Ebonyians attended the meeting.

- His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Ebonyi State Represented by His Excellency, the Deputy Governor of Ebonyi State.
- The State Executive Council members.
- Traditional Rulers Council members.
- Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)/NGO reprehensive.
- Town Union Presidents.
- Nigeria Labour Congress and Trade Union Executives.
- Market Women/Men's representatives.
- Representatives of Physically Challenged persons.
- Representatives of Youth Organization.
- Religious groups representatives.

2. NATIONAL ANTHEM:

National Anthem was recited at exactly 3.30pm.

3. OPENING PRAYER:

Opening prayer was said by Pastor Moses Agama at about 3.33pm.

4. OPENING SPEECHES:

The Chairman SFTAS Steering Committee and Hon. Commissioner for Finance and Economic Development, Professor Ogbonnaya Chukwu, gave opening remarks. In the remarks, he disclosed that the purpose of the meeting was to enable the Citizens of Ebonyi State participate in the preparation of Fiscal year 2020 budget.

The Hon. Commissioner for Budget, Planning, Research and Monitoring, Chief Mrs. Deborah Okah Chinwe, in her speech, said that the purpose of the meeting was to generate the inputs of Ebonyi Citizens to be incorporated in the Fiscal year 2020 budget. She then presented the budget proposal to Ebonyians in the meeting the breakdown of the budget proposals were as follows:

REVENUE S**N**

Opening	19,666,170,852.79
Allocations from FAAC	74,601,600,000.00
Internally Generated Revenue	12,200,000,000.00
Reimbursement and Grants (FGN)	7,000,000,000.00
Fixed Deposit Interest	500,000,000.00
Earnings from market and Agric. Products	4,072,315,421.70
Loan Recoveries	2,348,518,000.00
Loans	42,377,030,700.00
Other Revenues	15,371,000,000.00
Total Revenue	178,136,634,973.00
Recurrent Expenditures	

Sectors**Personnel****Overhead****Total****N****N****N**

Administrative	2,538,997,363.39	16,524,157,230.00	19,063,154,593.30
Economic	2,921,896,656.09	906,144,110.00	3,828,040,766.09
Law and Justice	2,153,196,429.00	717,485,000.00	2,870,681,429.00
Regional	67,140,158.00	10,550,000.00	77,690,586.00
Social	10,476,946,412.60	4,764,003,203.00	15,240,949,615.60
Contingency		5,000,000,000.00	5,000,000,000.00
Total	18,158,177,447.41	27,922,339,553.00	91,080,516,990.40

Capital Expenditures**Sectors****N**

Administrative	9,473,909,924.24
Economic	80,742,340,568.75
Law and Justice	1,583,126,825.00
Regional	122,631,245.00
Social	35,134,109,422.39
Contingency	5,000,000,000.00
Total	132,056,117,985.38

She noted that 41% of the budget representing ₦91,080,517,990.40 was for the recurrent expenditures while 59% was for capital expenditures.

5. INPUTS FROM THE CITIZENS:

(i) HRH Eze Iyioku

HRH Eze Iyioku, thanked Government for inviting Ebonyi Citizens to be part in the preparation of fiscal year 2020 budget. He suggested that the following should be included in the 2020 budget:

- (a) Traditional Rulers' Palace maintenance;
- (b) Upward review of monthly stipends to traditional rulers;
- (c) Ward robe allowance to traditional rulers;
- (d) Vehicle maintenance allowance;
- (e) Provision of drivers, watchman and cooks.

He also urged government to always implement budget as passed by the State House of Assembly.

(ii) Mr. Nwokpor Julius

Mr. Anya P Akpa, one of the representatives of Civil Society Organization CSO, said that the view of his group was to include the following in the fiscal year 2020 budget:

- (a) Increase fund for Agriculture;
- (b) Increase fund for Education in the area of scientific findings;
- (c) Increase fund for Health;
- (d) Funding small scale farmers;

He however, thanked government for organizing the programme to get the views of Ebonyians towards the fiscal year 2020 budget and as well urged government to always implement budgetary provisions.

(iii) Mr. Ikele Francis

Mr. Ikele Francis, one of the representatives from Town Unions, thanked government for organizing the Town Hall meeting and acknowledged the numerous infrastructural developments in the State. He urged government to provide, in the fiscal year 2020 budget, for:

- (a) More Community Development;
- (b) Establishment of industries;
- (c) Provision of Mobility such as motor bikes for town union presidents.

(iv) Comrade Charles Nwali

Comrade Charles Nwali, a representative of organized Labour, thanked government for the meeting and urged government to include, in the 2020 budget, the approved minimum wage of ₦30,000, for workers' promotion and Housing for Civil Servant.

(v) Mrs. Obiageli Igwe

Mrs. Obiageli Igwe, a representative of the market Women Organization thanked His Excellency, the Governor of Ebonyi State for the numerous people orientated projects in the state. She requested government to include in 2020 budget the construction of shops for market women, provision of electricity in the market and equally grant soft loans to them.

(vi) Pastor Paul Eze

Pastor Paul Eze, a representative of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), thanked government for building ecumenical centre in the state capital, Abakaliki. He requested that additional 13 ecumenical centres be constructed in each of 13 Local Government Areas. He went further to request that a provision be made for funding of moral instructions in our schools.

6. His Excellency, the Executive Governor's speech

His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Ebonyi State, represented by the Deputy Governor of Ebonyi State Bar Eric Kelechi Igwe noted that Ebonyi State has been engaging her citizens in budget preparation process over the years. He also observed that the essence for the meeting was not only to enable Ebonyi State Government to access a grants through the SFTAS programme but also to rub minds with Ebonyi citizens and generate their feelings where government should do more for them. He responded to the issues raised by the representatives of the groups and assured them of including their views and needs in the year 2020 budget. He also advised the representative of all the groups to articulate their inputs in writing and forward same formally to the Ministry of Budget and Planning for inclusion in the 2020 budget.

He however, announced that the State Government can not build Ecumenical Centres in all the 13 Local Government Areas but would rather encourage the local government area chairmen to build Ecumenical Centres in their respective local government areas if they have the funds.

Vote of thanks

Pastor Moses Agama thanked His Excellency, the Governor of Ebonyi State ably represented by His Deputy, Bar Eric Kelechi Igwe for being citizen friendly in the State as he approved the hosting of the town hall meeting and thanked the Deputy Governor who represented the Governor effectively in the meeting.


8. Closing Prayer


Closing prayer was said at exactly 4.45pm by Mrs. Jane Ajah.

9. National Anthem

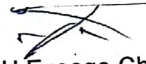
National Anthem was recited at exactly 4.47pm.


Mr. Nwokpor Julius
Civil Society Organization
08035163021



Comrade Charles Nwali
Rep: for Organized Labour
07030863407


Mr. Ugo Uduma Ndukwe
Civil Society Organization
07033706538


Ezaka Godwin
Civil Society Organization
08060215066


HRH Ezeogo Charles Azuenya
Traditional Ruler
08165413180


Mr. Elechi Emmanuel
SFTAS Focal Person (TA)


UZOMA B.I (Mrs)
SFTAS Focal Person (P for R)