



## AKEREDOLU LANDMARK INTERVENTION

### MAKING QUALITY DRUGS AND HEALTH COMMODITIES ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

■ Adewale Omomowo  
■ Ikusemiju Ayokunle

According to the World Health Organisation (2020), over 200 million people living in developing nations, including Nigeria, lack access to basic medical supplies - ranging from drugs to vaccines, among others. Hence, healthcare systems at all levels, are confronted with significant obstacles that hinder the success of Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Meanwhile, the concept of UHC is to provide access to affordable, safe, effective and quality medicines and health commodities among people living in the developing world. As captured in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), UHC aims to reduce influx of counterfeit pharmaceuticals that have invaded various countries' supply chains. Over the years, counterfeits remain unlawful and pose significant public health risk that can result in death and undermine public trust in healthcare systems and experts.

Through the UHC, majority of the leading causes of death and disability in developing nations

can be avoided, treated, or at least reduced using affordable, high-quality basic medicines. Access to improved healthcare is therefore subject to availability and affordability of quality drugs and health commodities by all, irrespective of class or social status in the society.

In Nigeria, the Audit Report of Global Fund Grants stated that government and development partners are increasingly frustrated by this menace. So much funds have been spent to provide healthcare to the people but with little impact, owing to poor management of resources. Following this development, the Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF) resolved to prioritize three key areas in the health sector, one of which is the attainment of Universal Health Coverage. To actualise this mandate, the Forum identified strengthening of States Drug Management Agencies (DMAs) which led to an advocacy for the establishment of Drugs Management Agencies (DMAs) in all 36 States and Federal Capital Territory in Nigeria.

**Contd. on Pg 3.**

## Editorial

Dear colleagues, we are now in the second half of the year 2023, I must appreciate you for your support, dedication to duty and commitment to the focus of the present administration. I also want to appreciate you for supporting the reforms in the service, as I believe you are beginning to familiarize yourself with the Revised Edition of the Public Service Rules (PSR) and Civil Service Commission Regulations (CSCR). The adoption and implementation of the PSR cut across every sector of the Public Service and this has put to an end several debates from many quarters that the Rules are meant for only those in the Civil Service. On this note, I wish to emphasize that it is one administration driving towards effective service delivery and improved revenue generation.

In the revised Rules, several directives in various circulars hitherto issued in line with current trends in the Public Service have been properly documented in the Books. As such, it is very important that Accounting Officers and all critical stakeholders take note of these developments and act on them in line with the established rules. As often said, law is no respecter of anyone and ignorance is not an excuse in law.

In the past few months, the State Public Service has been able to distinguish itself and has offered excellent representation in various capacities while Mr. Governor has also been keeping to his promises for the entire workforce. It is therefore necessary to hint that the government is making various consultations with strategic and critical stakeholders on how to ameliorate the biting effects of subsidy removal on public servants in Ondo State. Just like the success recorded in the health insurance scheme for public servants and their dependents plus giant strides recorded for the benefits of those in the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS), I am confident that very soon public servants in the State will smile seeing Mr. Governor's characteristic positive intervention in favour of the workforce.

On the just concluded Year 2023 Promotion Exercise, I want to assure you that very soon workers will begin to receive their Promotion Letters and implementation of appropriate financial benefits will commence immediately. Considering these and many more, I urge everyone of us to keep his/her eyes on the REDEEMED Agenda of government and with other critical stakeholders in the business of making Ondo State the benchmark for good and responsive governance for Nigeria.

In this edition of ODSIP newsletter, we shall be looking at what the present administration is doing on the provision of affordable quality drugs and health commodities to the citizenry. The edition will delve into the strategic framework and implementation template for a supply chain management system in the State which will, no doubt, support the State healthcare delivery system, ensure availability and

accessibility to affordable quality drugs and safe health commodities in the State.

It is worthy to note that the Akeredolu led administration has positively impacted on the State health sector. The establishment of Ondo State Drugs and Health Commodities Management Agency, ongoing digitalisation of the State Central Medical Store, among others, have led to continuous, uninterrupted supply of quality-assured health commodities to users, clients and customers whenever and wherever these commodities are needed, thus serving as benchmark for other States.

It is on this note, that I want to assure you that this edition is an eye opener into the uniqueness of the State health sector. It will definitely provide you with needed facts about our health sector and some of the secrets responsible for the success recorded so far in the sector. As usual, it will be interesting to read other educating and inspiring columns and subject matters in this edition. I thank you for accepting this medium and I implore you to continue to support my office in the business of giving our best for a better Ondo State. God bless you!



**Kayode Ogundele, FCIPM., FPA**  
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief

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**DRUGS MANAGEMENT AGENCY...(Contd)**

In a related development, one of the resolutions at the 63rd National Council on Health (NCH) held in December 2022 in Abuja was the establishment and strengthening of Drug Management Agency in all States of the federation. The focus of DMA is therefore to provide a strategic framework and implementable template for a supply chain management system which fully supports the State healthcare delivery system. This can only be achieved by ensuring availability of and accessibility to affordable quality drugs and safe health commodities in the State.

Since the inception of the Akeredolu led administration in Ondo State, there has been a positive outlook in the delivery of healthcare, part of which culminated into the birth of the Ondo State Drugs and Health Commodities Management Agency (ODHCMA). The Agency was conscripted out of the Logistics Management Coordinating Unit of the Ministry of Health, and has since been the central logistics data repository of all Public Health programmes in the Sunshine State. It thus serves as the pillar for ensuring commodity security – a continuous, uninterrupted supply of quality-assured health commodities to users, clients and customers whenever and wherever these commodities are needed.

Going forward, the agency has efficiently coordinated public health commodities, without any external support, by integrating and centrally warehousing them at the State Central Medical Store. It therefore integrates both essential medicines and public health commodities to ensure a single integrated supply chain system that provides sustainable health care financing, thus, serving as benchmark for other States in Nigeria.

With the approval of Mr. Governor, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi O. Akeredolu, SAN, CON, a legal framework for the establishment of the Ondo State Drugs and Health Commodities Management Agency was put in place on 27th July, 2021. Through this, the Governor reiterated that his administration would not relent in achieving effective and qualitative healthcare delivery for the people of the State and since then adequate and timely supply of quality and affordable drugs and health commodities are readily accessible in both public and private hospitals.

The Ondo State Drugs and Health Commodities Management Agency therefore hopes to maintain a sustainable Drugs And Health Commodities Revolving Fund, enhance production activities for drugs and other health commodities manufacturing unit by sourcing for indigenous raw materials, as such, serving as source of Drugs and Health commodities procurement center to private facilities within and outside the State. The Agency hopes to accomplish these functions through the concept of Essential Drugs List, Drugs and Health Commodities Revolving Fund Schemes, Revised National Supply Chain Policy Documents, Basic Health Care Provision Fund, and Public- Private Partnerships, subject to the internal regulations of the Agency. Statutorily, it would



regulate the prices of drugs and health commodities across all health facilities to enable fair pricing system for all, using the principle of “economy of scale”.

Away from the above, the Agency is carrying out some strategic action plans to enhance delivery of its mandate. They include: (i) inter-sectoral collaboration, marketing, efficient client services and technology/innovations, utilising stakeholder-inclusive approach to deliver the mandate of government to save and improve quality of life in Ondo State; (ii) collaboration between the Ondo State and Federal Ministries of Health for the upgrading of the State Central Medical Store (CMS) to Pharmagrade, wherein larger quantities of medicines and health commodities will be warehoused in line with best practices, so as to maintain the integrity of health products. Advocating for the deployment of relevant personnel to ODHCMA; (iii) procurement and massive distribution of essential drugs and basic equipment for improved health care service delivery in the State; (iv) study tour of local and international pharmaceutical industries and State Drugs and Hospitals Consumables Management Agencies in different States; (vi) deployment of electronic warehouse management information system through the assistance of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), to streamline the supply chain procedure and provide inventory control for an end-to-end logistic data visibility and informed decision-making; and (v) establishment of Ondo State Herbal Research Laboratory.

Considering the above, it is evident that Mr. Governor is demonstrating his commitment to the provision of quality medicine and health commodities in Ondo State. At the same time, Government is making sure that these products are accessible to the people free of charge, while others are at affordable rates. Thus, it can be said that the establishment, effectiveness, management and efficiency of the Ondo State Drugs Management Agency are critical to the achievement of significant improvement in health care delivery in Ondo State. The State is unquestionably on the path to having an integrated, sustainable Drugs and Health Commodities Supply System that ensures citizens' access to safe, effective, quality, and affordable essential medicines and health commodities, resulting in significant advancements in their healthcare.

# YOU and the RULES

Aderemi Olabode

## VIRTUAL MEETINGS

You are welcome to "You and the Rules". As Public Servants, there is the need for us to acquaint ourselves with the new provisions in the 2022 Revised Edition of Public Service Rules (PSR). Therefore, we are going to examine them one by one.

In this edition, we are discussing *Virtual Meetings* under Rules 02901-02903. It states as follows:

- Whenever it is impossible to transact Government business through physical meetings, Information Communication Technology (ICT) shall be deployed.
- Policy on virtual meetings will be applicable to all Ministries, Extra-Ministerial Offices and Agencies. Specifically, the policy shall address virtual participation for the following meetings:
  - (a) Executive Council;
  - (b) Board of Statutory Commission;
  - (c) Board of Agency/Parastatal;
  - (d) Head of Service with Permanent Secretaries;
  - (e) Senior Management Committee;
  - (f) State Tenders Board;
  - (g) Ministerial Tenders Board;
  - (h) Senior Staff Committees;
  - (i) Junior Staff Committees; and
  - (j) Ad-hoc Committees set up by Government.

## GUIDELINES FOR VIRTUAL MEETINGS

The following are the guidelines for Virtual meetings:

- (i) Participants for every virtual meeting should be identified, notified and invited formally.
- (ii) Virtual meetings shall be run on Government approved network for maximum security.
- (iii) Government owned hosting platform should be employed to guarantee confidentiality of the meetings.
- (iv) Virtual engagements shall not be in breach of Government Regulations such as Data Protection Regulation.
- (v) Breach of regulations in the use of virtual meeting platforms, its usage and Government information shall be properly investigated by appropriate Agencies of Government.
- (vi) Deployment of trained ICT professionals to MDAs to support the hosting of virtual engagements and other Government Digital Services (GDS) activities shall be done by the Office of the Head of Service.
- (vii) All virtual meetings should be strongly encrypted end-to-end.

## ODSIP PHOTO SPEAK



Group Photograph of the Special Adviser, Union Matters and Special Duties, Mr. Dare Aragbaiye with the Head of Service, Pastor Kayode Ogundele, FCIPM, FPA, Labour Union Leaders and Accounting Officers during the 2023 May Day Rally in Akure



Participants at the 5-day training facilitated by Ondo State Government in collaboration with Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation held at the PSTI, Ilara-Mokin, Ondo State



From right, the Head of Service, Pastor Kayode Ogundele FCIPM, FPA, the PS, Office of Establishments and Training, Mrs. Dare Atunse, the Administrative Secretary Service matters, Mr Femi Ayodele with Civil Servants at the flag off of 2023 Promotion.



Cross Section of Change Ambassadors with the Head of Service, Pastor Kayode Ogundele at the 13th HoS' Interaction with Change Ambassadors

# ODSIP Update

Adewale Omomowo

John Edema

## INTERACTIVE SESSION: HoS CHARGES PUBLIC SERVANTS TO ENSURE EFFICIENT BUREAUCRACY.

The Ondo Service Improvement Programme (ODSIP) Change Ambassadors have been charged to join hands with government in ensuring a virile public service in the State. This charge was given in an address delivered by the State Head of Service, Pastor Kayode Ogundele, FCIPM, at the 13th edition of his quarterly interactive session with the Change Ambassadors held on Thursday, 8th June, 2023 in Akure.

The interactive session featured lectures on 'The Impact of Planning and Control on Effective Service Delivery' and 'Management of Waste, Access to Quality Environmental Health and the State Environmental Related Laws' which were delivered by a retired Permanent Secretary, Mr. Chris Kolawole and the General Manager, Ondo State Waste Management Agency, Prince Fola Omowole, respectively.

The Head of Service stated that the quarterly interactive sessions provide the opportunity to rub minds on how to move the state public service forward and proffer solutions to noticeable challenges across ministries, departments and agencies of government, using the instrumentality of the reform programmes of the Governor Akeredolu's administration in the public service. Noting that the state is blessed with abundant human resources, the Head of Service urged public servants to consistently work in line with the REDEEMED agenda of the present administration to deliver dividends of good governance to the citizenry. He added that the Reform Office under his office would soon conduct the appraisal of the Change Ambassadors for the first half of the year 2023.

The Administrative Secretary, Department of Public Service Reform and Department, Mr Adewale Omomowo in his welcome address said that his office has recorded some successes in the area of Public Service Reforms. He also charged the Change Ambassadors to live up to their responsibilities by cascading what they learnt from the quarterly interactions in their respective MDAs. He noted that as ambassadors, they are expected to lay good examples for other categories of officers in the public service so that the Ondo State Public Service can rank as one of the best across the federation.



## ODSG INTRODUCES BIODEGRADABLE CARRIERS TO REPLACE POLYTHENE/NYLON BAGS.

In its quest to bequeath a safe and clean environment to the citizens of Ondo State, the State Government has introduced biodegradable carrier bags to replace polythene/nylon bags. This was disclosed during the Ondo State Environmental Protection Agency (OSEPA) stakeholders' meeting recently held in Akure. The move was taken to further protect the State's environment in line with world best practices.

The Chairman of the event and Chief Executive Officer of Community Energy Social Enterprise Limited, Dr. Patrick Tolani noted that biodegradable carrier bags are designed to naturally decompose into non-toxic components, thus minimizing their impacts on the environment. He further explained that polythene and nylon bags are non-degradable and can persist in the environment for hundreds of years, thereby polluting the ecosystem and harming wildlife.

He stated that biodegradable bags help reduce waste accumulation when discarded as they easily break down over time. He explained that, polythene/nylon bags accumulate in landfills, constitute nuisances and unnecessarily add to the growing waste problems.

Researchers from higher institutions contributed meaningfully to the discussion and expressed their willingness to partner with the State Government in order to combat the menace of plastic pollution in the State. Ondo State government is the first State in Nigeria to adopt this laudable initiative.

## ODSG GOES TOUGH ON ILLEGAL DEVELOPERS.

The Ondo State Government has read out a riot-act against indiscriminate constructions that do not have the mandatory land use clearance, building permit and survey plan, a situation which often cause incessant building collapse and indiscriminate fire outbreak with resultant human and material casualties.

The Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development, Mrs. 'Lola Fagbemi said the Ministry is irrevocably committed to enforcing rules and regulations, to avert building collapse while ensuring proper planning and development of the State.

She said some illegal structures have always been sealed-off with stop orders placed on them for violating the law, asking the owners of the buildings to provide approved documents validating the construction of such buildings while warning against attempt to remove such seal.

The Commissioner frowned at the attitude of some developers who dis-regard **STOP-WORK** order and announced that they would be prosecuted for flouting the order of the State government.

Mrs. Fagbemi re-iterated the State government's commitment towards enhancing modern Physical Planning and Urban Development of major cities and towns, with a view to making the state attractive for living and also as an enviable model in Nigeria.

She vowed that the Ministry will also reclaim all government land encroached upon by individuals, groups or organisations, notwithstanding their status or connections.

## ODSIP Update Contd.

### WORKERS' DAY CELEBRATION: HOS CALLS FOR REDEDICATION

Workers in Ondo State joined the rest of their counterparts across the nation to celebrate the year 2023 Workers' Day on Monday, 29th May, 2023, where the state Head of Service, Pastor Kayode Ogundele, FCIPM, called on workers to rededicate themselves to work.

Speaking at a rally to commemorate the 2023 Workers' Day celebration held at the Gani Fawehimi Freedom Arcade in Akure the state capital, the Head of Service, while felicitating the workers for yet another Workers' Day celebration, said there is yet a lot of grounds to cover in the service to the people of the state which calls for their rededication to service.

Ogundele, who appreciated Gov. Akeredolu's workers friendly posture in the scheme of things, said the only way to reciprocate the gesture is for workers to rededicate themselves to service. According to him, while salaries of workers have been paid up to date, the process of promoting deserving officers for the year 2023 had commenced as approved by Mr. Governor.



### ONDO STATE COMMENCES THE YEAR 2023 PROMOTION EXERCISE.

The Ondo State Government has begun the 2023 promotion exercise for public servants in the state. The State Head of Service, Pastor Kayode Ogundele, while flagging off the year 2023 promotion exercise in Akure called on the officers to always ensure efficient service delivery on their beats.

He stated that efficient service delivery is vital as performance appraisal would henceforth be based on the inputs of workers. According to him, the only way officers can reciprocate the huge investment of the present administration in the welfare of workers is to put in their best.

Ogundele appreciated the Governor, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN, CON, for approving the yearly promotion of deserving officers with the financial benefits despite the daunting economic challenges. He reiterated that productivity and efficiency based on output would be used to measure workers stressing that government is already looking at performance appraisal in a more objective way.

Earlier in her remarks, the Permanent Secretary, Office of Establishments and Training, Mrs. Funke Dare-Atunse, commended Governor Akeredolu for promoting officers and paying their rightful financial benefits. She stated that the approach was different from what obtains in some other states of the federation where workers may be promoted, but still receive salaries on the old grade levels.

### ONDO STATE GOVERNMENT COLLABORATES WITH AIG-IMOUKHUEDE FOUNDATION.



Ondo State Government in collaboration with Aig-Imoukhuede foundation organized a 5-day training on "Project Management" and "Process Improvement" for some selected civil servants at the Public Service Training Institute, Ilara-Mokin.

The Ondo State Head of Service, Pastor Kayode Ogundele, while declaring open the training, stressed the need for civil servants to effect transformational changes in their various Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) in order to achieve improved project management and process improvement. According to him, it is important that participants imbibe the culture of discipline of change and ensure the sustainability of positive attitudinal change, noting that they will drive the process of transformation that the state public service deserves.

While expressing appreciation to the Governor, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN, CON, for giving priority to welfare of public servants and also for initiating the training, he called for cooperation and sacrifice of participants to achieve an improved service delivery. The HoS also referred to participants as apostles of process improvement of the public service and admonished them to cascade the knowledge gained in their MDAs, adding that they should enlighten others on process improvement.

In his remarks, Representative of Aig-Imoukhuede foundation, Mr. Olaitan Oludare appreciated the government for the partnership which showed the values placed on learning. He stated that the training was aimed at refreshing participants' learning, aspiring knowledge for better performance and enhancing productivity in the workplace by promoting the ideals of project management.

According to him, it will enable participants understand the fundamentals of project management, appreciate the importance of project management to public service delivery and also understand project performance domains.



# ODSIP Lens

## GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION (GESI) MAINSTREAMING IN HEALTH

ODSIP lens was present at the 2-day training for the staff of Ondo State Health Insurance Agencies (SHIAs), Ondo State Primary Health-Care Development Agency, Ondo State Drug, Health Commodities Management Agencies and the Ministry of Health organized by Ondo State Government in collaboration with Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) on "EXPANDING HEALTH INSURANCE TO IMPROVE SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES".

The training was to build confidence, familiarity and skills of CHAI project staff to become trainers on how to integrate Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in health sector programs. The trainees are expected to organise and step down the training to designated staff in State Health Insurance Agencies (SHIAs) and other health Stakeholders.

The Director-General of Ondo State Contributory Health Commission, Dr. Abiodun Oyenyin stated that the Commission's relationship with CHAI is a mutual one that will help the Commission to advance the course of the attainment of Universal Health Coverage in Ondo State beyond its present level.

The training was anchored by Mrs Hadiza Sale, Mr Olamide Ayedun and Mrs Ruth Adetokunbo Adeniyi.



## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS FOR MR. GOVERNOR.

Civil Servants across Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) in Ondo State gathered in their numbers on Friday, 16th June, 2023 in their MDAs to intercede for Mr. Governor, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN, for divine healing and quick recovery.

Mr. Governor, who is currently on a 21-day medical vacation is scheduled for resumption on Thursday, 6th July, 2023.

ODSIP Lens is grateful to all those who stood in the gap for Mr. Governor. We pray that Mr. Governor shall be back to Ondo State hale and hearty.

# FUN FACTS

Australia is wider than the moon. The moon sits at 3400km (2,113 miles) in diameter, while Australia's diameter from east to west is almost 4000 km (2,485 miles)

Headphones can increase the bacteria in your ears. Wearing headphones for just an hour could increase the bacteria in your ears by 700 times

# Words on MARBLE

"The easiest thing in the world is to come up with an excuse not to do something. I found that the most important thing in life is to stop saying, *I wish*, and to start saying, *I will*."  
- DAVID COPPERFIELD

Letter  
to the EDITOR



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# HOS CUP

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COMPETITION  
FOR ONDO STATE  
PUBLIC SERVANTS**



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