

MINISTRY OF BUDGET AND ECONOMIC PLANNING, SOKOTO

MINUTES OF THE TOWN HALL MEETING ON SOKOTO STATE 2021 BUDGET

HELD AT

**SULTAN MACCIDO INSTITUTE FOR QUR'AN AND GENERAL STUDIES,
SOKOTO**

ON

WEDNESTDAY, 2ND DECEMBER, 2020

ORGANISED BY: MINISTRY OF BUDGET AND ECONOMIC PLANNING, SOKOTO STATE.

MINUTES OF THE TOWN HALL MEETING WITH RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS ON 2021 BUDGET PREPARATION, HELD AT SULTAN MACCIDO INSTITUTE FOR QUR'AN AND GENERAL STUDIES, SOKOTO, ON WEDNESTDAY, 2ND DECEMBER, 2020

PREAMBLE:

The Town Hall meeting was conducted in preparation of 2021 Budget with relevant stakeholders drawn from various interest groups in the state. The stakeholders' consultation was organized to engage with the State citizens in line with the State's fiscal transparency program and Open Governance Policy. It is essentially to draw inputs from participants into 2021 Budget, and an opportunity for interaction with State Executive on issues relating to development strategies.

The meeting was presided over by the State Governor Rt. Honourable Aminu Waziri Tambuwal, CFR (Mutawallen Sokoto) and members of the State Executive Council.

ATTENDANCE

The meeting was graced by His Excellency, the Governor of Sokoto State, Rt. Honourable Aminu Waziri Tambuwal, CFR (Mutawallen Sokoto) and members of the State Executive Council. Other participants were drawn from 23 Local Government Areas of the state, Traditional and Religious leaders, NGO's CSO's and CBOs, Market women, physically challenged, Student's Union and Academic Staff of Basic, Post Basic and Tertiary Institutions across the state.

OPENING

The meeting commenced at 12:00 pm, after the arrival of the dignitaries and opening prayers was led by the State Grand Khadi.

WELCOME ADDRESS

The state commissioner for Budget and Economic Planning, Mohammad Mainasara Ahmad, mni welcomed the participants to the meeting, in his address, he mentioned that, town hall meeting is critical and strategic in modern budgeting process and is required by international institutions.

After the welcome address, the Honourable Commissioner invited His Excellency, the Executive Governor, to preside over the meeting, after which His excellency invited for comments, inputs and contributions from various interest groups on the forthcoming 2021 budget.

COMMENTS FROM PARTICIPANTS

The participants lauded the efforts of the state Government for organizing this important stakeholder's meeting and advised the government to strategize on:

1. Preparing a realistic budget based on the actual anticipated revenue;
2. Revamp the Internally Generated Revenue, block leakages and reduce over dependance on Federal Statutory Allocation;
3. Reduce Recurrent estimates and increase Capital estimates component of the Budget;
4. Government was also advised to open-up the rural economy by providing Infrastructure such as Roads, Electricity and Portable Water;

5. State Government was advised to provide an inclusive education (i.e encourage Girl Child Education, Almajiri and Physically Challenged);
6. Government was advised to increase budgetary provision for Youth Empowerment programs across the state to reduce the level of unemployment among youth and encourage their participation in Economic Growth and Development in the state;
7. Government was further advised to strengthen data generation for effective and efficient planning;
8. Government was advised to entrench institutional mechanism for effective monitoring of Government projects and programs in all communities;
9. Stakeholders demanded Government to hold quarterly Budget performance review meeting for the benefit of the citizen of the state as well as regular financial reporting;
10. Stakeholders equally demanded that the state should provide enough Budgetary provision to the physically challenged sub-sector;
11. From time-to-time updates of Geographical Information System shall be maintained with a view to improving revenue generation and security of the State;
12. Participants equally demanded that budget allocation relating to women and children activities should be increased to accommodate their needs.

13. The stakeholders further advised that Government shall periodically disseminate information to the general public on its projects and programs.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S RESPONSE

After series of deliberations and contributions, the State Governor responded by assuring that issues raised and agreed upon by the participants will be considered as action areas in the 2021 budget estimates.

CLOSING

The meeting was closed at 3:00pm with closing prayers by the state grand khadi.



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Hon. Commissioner, MBEP

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