

**MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026**

## Daily InfoNews...

Daily News Bulletin is a daily publication of the Cross River State Ministry of Information and Orientation for the entertainment and Education of all Cross Riverians and the general public about the daily events, activities and programmes of government and the private sector operating in all parts of the State.

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# CROSS RIVER STATE

## **VISION STATEMENT**

To become a leading Nigerian State with prosperous, healthy and well educated citizens; living in harmony with people and nature, and pursuing legitimate interest in freedom moderated by good governance.

## **MINISTERIAL MANDATE**

To project and protect the image of Government and act as Chief Image Maker/Spokesman for the State as well as supervision of the State Media Organisation.

## **VISION**

To be the best organ of the State for the promotion of positive values, its image and overall endowment to Cross Riverians, Nigerians and the Diaspora.

## **Mission**

To utilize in harmony all apparatus of government media to effectively disseminate information, educate and entertain the public, using the electronic, print media and interpersonal communication channels.

# Eid-el-Fitr: Gov Otu Felicitates Moslems, enjoins love, compassion



Mr. Linus Obogo, the governor commended the Muslim community for successfully completing the sacred observance of Ramadan, a period devoted to fasting, prayer, reflection and charity, which he described as one of the most profound demonstrations of spiritual discipline and devotion.

Governor Otu noted that the conclusion of Ramadan and the celebration of Eid-el-Fitr represent a moment of spiritual triumph and renewal, urging the faithful to preserve and sustain the virtues of humility, compassion,

**H**is Excellency, Bassey Otu, Governor of Cross River State, has extended warm felicitations to Muslim faithful across the state and Nigeria as they join millions

of believers around the world to celebrate the joyous festival of Eid al-Fitr.

In a goodwill message released by his Chief Press Secretary and Special Adviser on Media and Publicity,

sacrifice and generosity imbibed during the holy month. "Eid-el-Fitr is a celebration that embodies the noblest ideals of faith and humanity," the governor stated. "It is a time that reminds us of the power of sacrifice, the beauty of compassion, and the enduring value of extending love and kindness to those around us, particularly the less privileged in our society."

He further observed that "the festival offers a unique opportunity for Nigerians across religious and ethnic divides to strengthen the bonds of unity, tolerance and peaceful coexistence," noting that "these values remain

indispensable to the progress and stability of both Cross River State and the nation at large."

Governor Otu reiterated that his administration remains firmly committed to fostering a society anchored on inclusiveness, justice and equal opportunity for all citizens, irrespective of religious affiliation, while continuing to pursue policies that promote social harmony and collective prosperity. "As we celebrate this auspicious occasion," the governor remarked, "let us renew our commitment to peace, mutual understanding and service to humanity. Our strength as a people lies in our unity, our shared

aspirations and our collective resolve to build a society where every citizen can thrive."

He therefore urged Muslim faithful to mark the festival with gratitude, moderation and generosity, while praying that the blessings of Eid bring enduring peace, renewed hope and abundant prosperity to Cross River State and the entire nation.



**GOVERNMENT OF CROSS RIVER STATE, NIGERIA**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF PRESS SECRETARY/SPECIAL ADVISER**  
**MEDIA AND PUBLICITY TO THE GOVERNOR**  
**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, CALABAR, CROSS RIVER STATE**

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March 18, 2026

**PRESS RELEASE**

**2027 polls: Resign on or before March 26th, 2026 -Gov Otu Orders Exco Members**

His Excellency, Bassey Edet Otu, Governor of Cross River State, has directed that any member of the State Executive Council and all political appointees intending to contest in the 2027 general elections must resign from office on or before March 2026.

The Governor gave the directive on Wednesday during a meeting of the State Executive Council, stressing the need for clarity of purpose in governance. "Any member of this Council who harbours political ambitions for the 2027 elections must, in the interest of propriety and focus, tender his or her resignation on or before March 2026," he declared.

Underscoring the ethical basis of the decision, Governor Otu stated, "Public office is a sacred trust. It must not be conflated with personal political pursuits. We owe our people undivided attention, and this administration will not compromise on that principle."

He further emphasized the need for undistracted governance, noting that "our mandate at this critical time is to serve diligently, to deliver on our promises, and to ensure that governance is not encumbered by premature political engagements." He added, "We must remain resolute in our duty to the people who entrusted us with this responsibility."



On the broader democratic imperative, the Governor remarked, "This directive is not punitive; it is principled. It is in line with global best practices and is intended to guarantee a level playing field for all aspirants, while protecting the integrity of government institutions."

Reaffirming his administration's development agenda, he stated, "We will continue to pursue economic diversification, strengthen our strategic partnerships, and enhance our internally generated revenue. Our focus remains on building a resilient and prosperous Cross River State."

Governor Otu urged full compliance with the directive, concluding, "I expect absolute adherence to this position. Together, let us remain committed to accountability, discipline, and service. The progress of Cross River State must, at all times, supersede personal ambition."

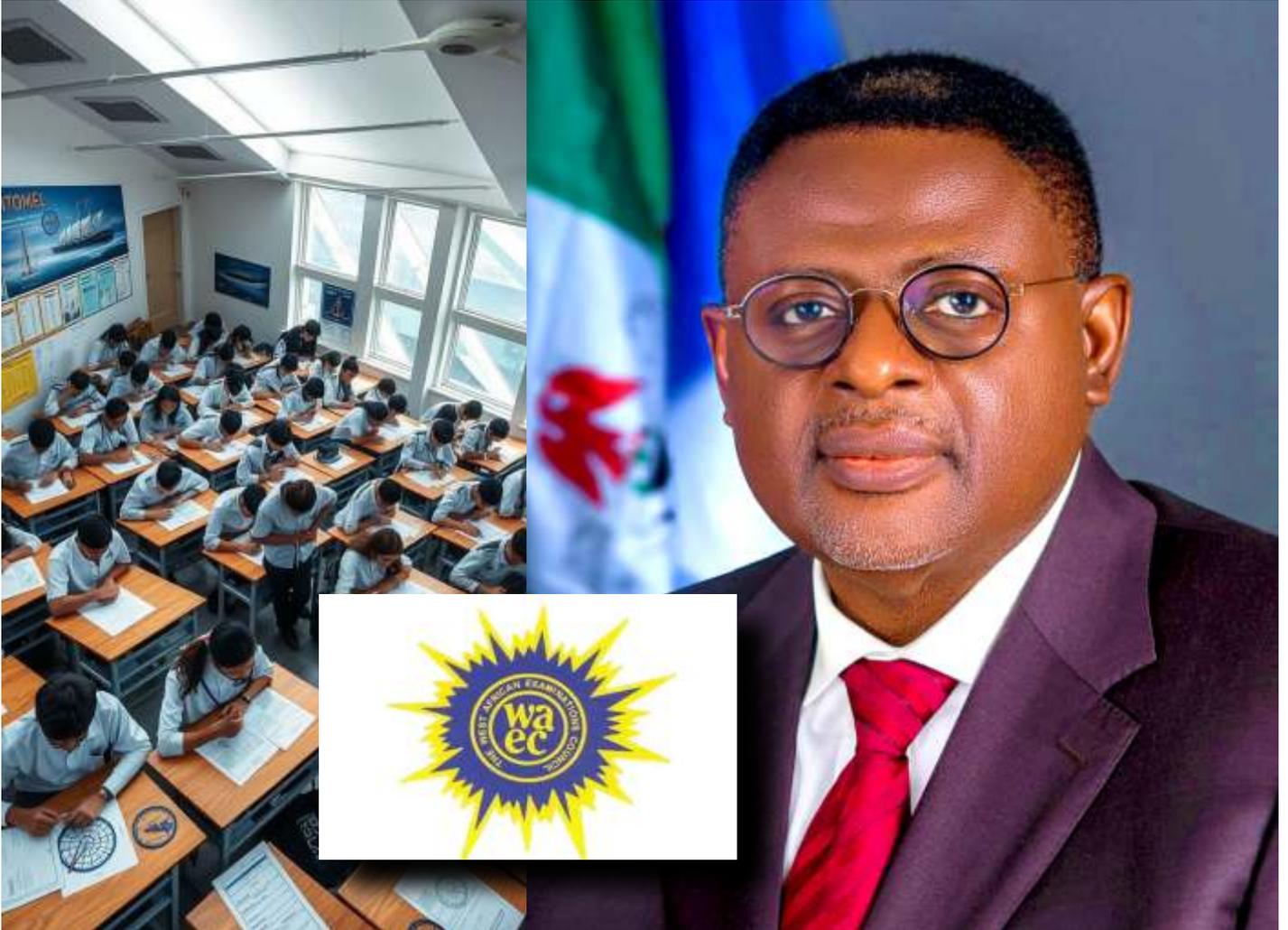


**Linus Obogo**

Chief Press Secretary and Special Adviser on Media and Publicity

# Cross River Approves N339.9m for WAEC Fees of 12,589 Students

By Kingsley Agim



**T**he Cross River State Executive

Council has approved the release of ₦339,903,000 for the registration of 12,589 indigenous students for the 2026 West African

Examinations Council (WAEC).

The approval was part of resolutions reached at the first Executive Council (EXCO) meeting of 2026, held at the State Executive Council Chamber,

Governor's Office, Calabar.

The intervention is aimed at easing the financial burden on families while expanding access to education for eligible students



across the state.

Government said the move underscores its continued commitment to human capital development and the "People First" agenda of Governor Bassey Edet Otu's administration.

The gesture is also expected to improve examination participation rates and enhance academic opportunities for students, particularly those from underserved communities.

Education stakeholders have consistently emphasized the importance of such interventions in boosting school enrolment, retention and performance in external examinations.

# Gov. Otu Approves Emergency Intervention on Ikom–Obudu Highway, Expands Road Projects, Others

By Kingsley Agim



**G**overnor Bassey Edet Otu has approved emergency intervention works on the Ikom–Obudu highway, alongside a raft of road construction and rehabilitation projects across

Cross River State.

The approval was part of resolutions reached at the first Executive Council (EXCO) meeting of 2026, held at the State Executive Council Chamber, Governor's Office, Calabar.

Top on the list is the emergency repair of a 10-kilometre stretch of the Ikom–Obudu road, a major economic corridor that has long posed challenges to commuters and businesses.

Council also approved a 5-kilometre intervention on the Oban–Ekang road, as well as the construction of road networks in Akpabuyo, including the 5km Ikot Ekpo Eyo–Esuk Mbat road and a 23.5km stretch covering Ikot Edemesa Abakot–Ikot Ekpo–Esuk Eyo–Abasi Obo.

Further approvals include extensive road projects in Abi and Biase, covering Ikot Ana

Road, the 10km Adim–Ijom road, Etono Beach and Uwana–Abawan road, as well as network developments in Bekwarra, Obanliku, Odukpani, Etung, Obudu and Bakassi.

The council also approved the rehabilitation of roads within Calabar metropolis, construction of Ikom network of roads Phase II, and emergency channelisation works at Parliamentary Extension, Jonathan

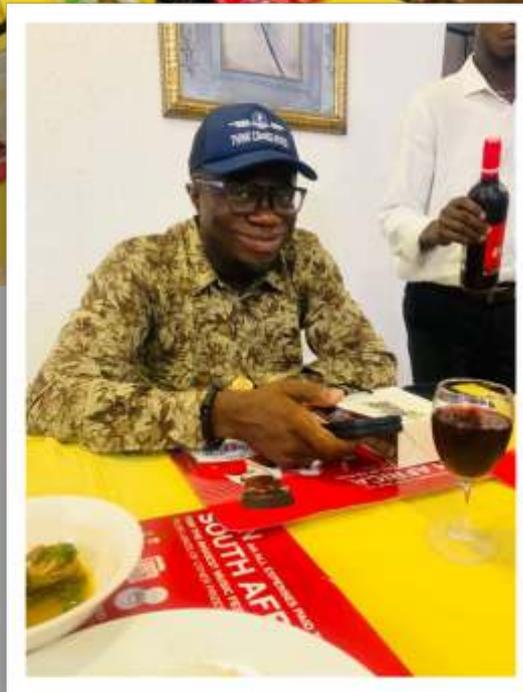
Bypass and Ikot Ansa.

In the aviation sector, EXCO gave the nod for the construction of a Nigerian Air Force hanger and apron at the Margaret Ekpo International Airport, Calabar.

The projects are expected to improve connectivity, ease transportation challenges and stimulate economic activities across the state.

# Otu Okor Unveils Cross Riverians in Diaspora Support Group in Rivers State

By Deborah-Oyo Oyo



**T**he Chairman of the Cross River State Diaspora Commission (CRIDCOM), Otuekong Chief Otu Okor, has unveiled the Cross Riverians in

Diaspora Support Group for the Governor of Cross River State, Sen.

Prince Bassey Edet Otu, and his deputy, Rt. Hon. Peter Odey, during a town hall meeting with Cross Riverians in Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

The gathering



brought together Cross River indigenes resident in Rivers State for an interactive session aimed at strengthening ties among the diaspora and encouraging their participation in the development of Cross River State.

Speaking at the meeting, Chief Okor emphasised the importance of unity among

Cross Riverians wherever they reside. "Our Cross Riverians in Diaspora Support Group is about bringing our people together, wherever we are, to strengthen the progress of our State and support the continued leadership of Governor Otu and his deputy, Rt. Hon. Peter Odey," he said. "By working as one family, we can

ensure that the vision for Cross River State is sustained and that our State continues to thrive."

The event also featured discussions on key opportunities for the State, including renewable energy development and the establishment of an art and craft hub to showcase Cross River's



creative talent, preserve cultural heritage, and create economic opportunities.

Attendees described the launch of the support group as a timely and impactful step, noting that it strengthens the bridge between

the State Government and Cross Riverians living outside the State while mobilising diaspora support for the continued leadership of Governor Bassey Otu and his deputy, Rt. Hon. Peter Odey.

Notable attendees at the meeting included Mrs. Emerald Effiwatt Akpan, Mrs. Magdalene Effiom, Mr. Edwin Okokon, Mr. Frank Nsan, and Mr. Ekeng Lawrence, among other Cross River indigenes resident in Rivers State.

# Sallah: Gov. Otu Earns Praise, Prayers from Muslim Community



**T**he spirit of unity and religious harmony took centre stage in Cross River State as members of the Muslim community, alongside non-indigenous leaders, paid a

Sallah visit to Governor Bassey Otu, offering prayers and reaffirming their support for his administration.

Congratulating Muslims on the successful

completion of the Ramadan fast, Governor Otu described the season as one of deep reflection and strengthened interfaith bonding.

“Permit me to start by wishing you Ramadan Mubarak. We thank God for the 30 days of fasting which brought people together spiritually. This kind of bonding strengthens us as a people and moves our society forward,” he said.

He commended the Muslim community for its peaceful conduct and contributions to development but raised concern over the activities of scrap metal



dealers, warning against the vandalism of public infrastructure.

“We appreciate that people are trying to make a living, but we

cannot condone the destruction of government infrastructure. Even newly installed traffic lights are being vandalised. I appeal to your leaders to speak to those involved

because such acts affect all of us,” he cautioned.

The governor reassured residents of his administration’s commitment to economic growth



and unity, urging citizens to embrace love, service, and peaceful coexistence regardless of religious

differences.

“Whether Christian or Muslim, we serve the same Almighty God. Let us continue to live together in peace.

If you want to be great, serve others,” he stated.

Otu also appreciated prayers offered for his administration



and the nation, calling for continued support for Nigeria's leadership, including President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, while pledging support for young

achievers preparing for an upcoming competition.

Speaking earlier, Chairman of the State Muslim Pilgrims Welfare Board, Imam

Kabeer Olowolayemo, said the visit was anchored on humanity, peace, and unity, describing the governor as a servant-leader



whose “People First” agenda reflects genuine commitment to the people.

He noted that the Ramadan fast, which coincided with the Christian Lenten season, strengthened interfaith harmony, adding that the delegation came to

appreciate, pray for, and seek continued collaboration with the governor.

Also speaking, the Special Adviser on Non-Indigenous Affairs, Mazi Okey Madueke, said the visit underscored unity across ethnic and religious lines, noting that non-indigenes are proud

of the administration’s achievements and remain fully supportive.

Dignitaries at the event included the APC State Chairman, Rt. Hon. Soni Etta; APC Deputy Chairman, Barr. Ugana Lukpata; APC State Secretary,



Hon. Pst. Patrick Asikpo; Secretary to the State Government, Prof. A. Owan Enoh; Chief of Staff, Hon. Dr. Emmanuel Ironbar; members of the State Executive Council; and the Director

General of CRISSA, Mr. Ubong Sam.

Others were leaders of the Hausa/Fulani community, including Alhaji Sariki Garba Lawal and Alhaji Sani Baba Gombe;

Special Adviser on Religious Affairs, Apostle Frank Umo; other special advisers; and members of the Muslim and non-indigenous communities.



# CROSS RIVERIANS IN DIASPORA SUPPORT GROUP



HIS EXCELLENCY  
**RT. Hon. Peter Odey**  
DEPUTY GOVERNOR



HIS EXCELLENCY  
**Sen. Prince Bassey Otu**  
GOVERNOR

# Nigeria will be Great Again with NIPR's Initiatives – Gov. Otu



**G**overnor of Cross River State, Sen. Bassey Otu has said the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR) has the required competence towards making Nigeria great again, stating that the Institute's current

reputation projects will reposition the nation for global competitiveness. Stressing the importance of perception and reputation in nation-building during his investiture as Patron of NIPR in

Calabar on Tuesday, Gov. Otu commended the Institute for the establishment of Nigeria Reputation Management Group (NRMG), first University of Public Relations and Leadership (UPRL),



and winning of the hosting right for 2026 World Public Relations Forum (WPRF). "Your investiture is completely different from others and the difference is clear. I will be a very active patron because what you are doing is apt and good. For the events you have mentioned, we will participate in all of them. The challenge of manning our

reputation gate as a nation is a very serious one, but when you move in as an Institute and with the calibre of people I am seeing here, the story will change and our nation will be on a path of visible growth." Earlier, NIPR President, Dr. Ike Neliaku said the Institute as part of efforts to achieving its mandate of regulating the practice of public relations in Nigeria is presently seeking collaboration with

credible leaders and institutions to build solid reputational asset for the country. Dr. Neliaku applauded Gov. Otu for his commitment to quality service delivery, noting that his human-centred projects across the state, covering education, agriculture, roads and other developmental infrastructure demonstrate leadership capacity



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**BOLDLY  
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# Cross River State Executive Council Approves Bill to Institutionalise Tree Crops Development

By Patricia Ogbeche



Akim Qua Town Calabar Municipal, where the Commissioner for Education, Senator Professor Stephen Odey Esq, represented the State Governor Senator Dr. Bassey Edet Otu launch the initiative in the presence of ministry of education management staff and key education stakeholders.

The Cross River State Governor, Senator Dr. Bassey Edet Otu, has flagged off the distribution of Literacy and Numeracy textbooks alongside Teachers' Guide

materials for public primary schools for the 2025/2026 academic session under the Project HOPE GOV./World Bank Project.

The official flag-off ceremony took place at the PCN Primary School

Speaking during the event, Senator Professor Odey disclosed that the state government has provided textbooks of the academic centres across the state, describing the initiative as a

significant step toward strengthening the education sector.

The Commissioner further explained that the programme aligns with the administration's "People First" mantra, which focuses on ensuring that every child in Cross River State has access to quality and adequate education.

"The Cross River State Government is committed to providing essential infrastructural facilities and instructional materials, including textbooks and other learning resources, to improve teaching and learning in our schools, the commissioner

stated.

He noted that the distribution of the literacy and numeracy textbooks supported by the Trace and Track digital platform under the Project HOPE GOV. initiative, forms part of the government's broader education reform aimed at enhancing learning outcomes across the state.

Professor Odey further explained that the event marks another milestone in the governor's achievements in the education sector and reflects the administration's dedication to improving learning standards.

Commissioner Odey commended the Governor Senator Dr. Bassey Edet Otu

for making the initiative possible through Project HOPE GOV. and the World Bank-supported programme, emphasizing that the distribution of the textbooks and teachers' guide materials would significantly improve teaching effectiveness in public primary schools.

The commissioner also expressed appreciation to the governor for his unwavering commitment to raising education standards and ensuring that pupils across Cross River State have access to the resources needed for effective learning.

# UNICROSS Holds 11th Inaugural Lecture, Oloidi Advocates Innovation in Arts

By Kingsley Agim



The University of Cross River State on Thursday held its 11th inaugural lecture, with a call for greater innovation, originality and institutional support for the arts in Nigeria's academic system.

The lecture, delivered at the institution's main campus in Calabar, was presented by Professor Wale Oloidi of the Department of Visual Arts, who also serves as Dean of the Faculty of Environmental Sciences.

In her opening remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francisca Bassey, commended the dedication and resilience of academic staff, describing their contributions as vital to the growth of scholarship and academic



excellence.

“Our academic staff have continued to demonstrate unwavering commitment to scholarship and excellence, and their contributions remain invaluable to the advancement of this university,” she said.

She urged

professors yet to deliver their inaugural lectures to take advantage of the platform to showcase their intellectual contributions.

“I encourage all professors who are yet to deliver their inaugural lectures to make use of this platform to share their research and enrich the academic community,” she

added.

The Vice-Chancellor also disclosed that the university has designated a space for an arts gallery, noting that “the Cross River State Government remains committed to the advancement of the arts.”

A citation read by Professor Stephen



Delivering his lecture titled "From Mustard to Oak: The Role of Art as Midwife to the Birth of Painting in an Unassumed Entangled Environment," Professor Wale Oloidi examined painting as a deeply personal and expressive medium shaped by perception and creative insight.

Ochang, University Orator and former Acting Vice-Chancellor, traced Oloidi's academic journey, highlighting his early career and international exposure.

According to him, "Professor Oloidi's initiative led to the establishment of the Department of Fine Arts, which has since evolved into a full-fledged degree-awarding programme."



"Painting is not just a visual exercise; it is a deeply personal engagement shaped by perception, experience and creative insight," he said.

He emphasized the need for innovation and originality, urging artists to develop distinct identities.

"Artists must strive for originality and cultivate a unique voice that reflects their individual experiences and worldview," Oloidi stated.

The professor also highlighted key challenges confronting artists, including creative block, piracy, limited patronage, financial constraints and inadequate

institutional support.

Despite these challenges, he encouraged perseverance, drawing on the metaphor of growth.

"Like the mustard seed, artistic growth requires patience, consistency and unwavering dedication," he



said.

Oloidi further advocated stronger institutional recognition of the arts, stressing that "the arts are central to holistic education and must be given the prominence they deserve."

The ceremony featured the formal presentation of the inaugural lecture note to the Vice-Chancellor, as well as the unveiling of the lecturer's book, "Creating Oak From Mustard: The Lyrics of The Times."

Dignitaries at the event included Professor Ekanem

Ikpi Braide, former Vice-Chancellor of UNICROSS and the Federal University Lafia, alongside members of the university community and other invited guests.



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**RESOLUTIONS OF THE 1ST 2026 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING  
OF THE CROSS RIVER STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY, 18TH MARCH, 2026 AT THE STATE EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, CALABAR.**

**INTRODUCTION:**

The 1st Meeting of the Cross River State Executive Council for 2026 took place on Wednesday, 18th March, 2026 at the State Executive Council Chamber, Governor's Office, Calabar.

The Meeting was presided over by His Excellency, Senator (Dr.) Prince Bassey Edet Otu, PNIPR, Governor of Cross River State and was attended by the Deputy Governor, His Excellency, Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Peter Odey, Honourable Commissioners and other critical stakeholders in the State's developmental trajectory under the 'People First' Agenda.

**GOVERNOR OTU'S WELCOME REMARKS**

In his remarks at the 1st EXCO Meeting for 2026, His Excellency, Senator (Dr.) Prince Bassey Edet Otu, PNIPR Governor of Cross River State welcomed members to the meeting after the long break, adding that they must necessarily get more focused while at the same time intensifying engagements with the grassroots.

Governor Otu further expressed confidence that greater things will be achieved in 2026, assuring that he is very committed to all MDAs reaching



their targeted results.

The Governor also restated his determination to operate an open-door policy and make his administration more participatory, pointing out that more appointments are underway for all stakeholders.

He charged all appointees to increase physical responsibilities in order to be more visible in attracting investors to expand businesses in the State with the ultimate target of increased internally generated revenue.

As preparations are on-going towards the 3rd Year anniversary of the People First administration, Governor Otu directed all Heads of MDAs to submit a compressed report of their milestones in the last almost three years of his stewardship to reach the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the State on or before 1st May, 2026 while all Political appointees with intentions to participate in the 2027 General Elections were given up to 26th March, 2026 in order to be within the Electoral Act time frame.

## **EXCO RESOLUTIONS:**

After thorough deliberations on all Memos brought before Council by Members, the following Memos were ratified and approved for implementation:

1. The release of the total sum of ₦339,903,000.00(Three Hundred and thirty-Nine Million ,Nine Hundred and three thousand Naira) for the registration of 12,589 indigenous Students in the 2026 West African Examinations Council.
2. The construction of network of roads across some Local Government Areas, including emergency repairs on 10km sections of Ikom-Obudu road; 5km intervention on Oban-Ekang Road; Construction of network of roads in Akpabuyo including 5km Ikot Ekpo Eyo- Esuk Mbat; 23.5 km Ikot Edemesa

Abakot-Ikot Ekpo-Esuk Eyo-Abasi Obo Roads, Abi, Biase network of roads including Ikot Ana Road, 10kmAdim-Ijom, Etono Beach and Uwana-Abawan Road; Bekwarra Network of roads, Obanliku, Odukpani, Etung, Obudu, Bakassi, Calabar South, Old roads in Akamkpa; Rehabilitation of roads in Calabar Metropolis, Construction of Ikom Network of roads Phase II; emergency Channelisation of Parliamentary Extension, Jonathan Bypass and Ikot Ansa, Construction of NAF Hanger/Apron at Margaret Ekpo International Airport, amongst others.

3. Approval of a Bill for presentation to the Cross River State House of Assembly for the enactment of the Cross River State Pension Reforms Law 2026.

4. Approval of a Bill for presentation to the Cross River State House of Assembly for the enactment of the Cross River State Taxes and Levies Law 2026.

5. Approval of a Bill for presentation to the Cross River State House of Assembly for the enactment of the Cross River State Revenue Administration Law 2026.

6. Approval of a Bill for presentation to the Cross River State House of Assembly for the amendment of the Cross River State Consumer Protection Law.

7. Approval of a Bill for presentation to the Cross River State House of Assembly for the enactment of the Cross River State Tree Crops Development Agency Law 2026

8. Ratification of the proposed Public-Private Partnership for the reform and revitalisation of the Cross River State Water Board Limited.

9. Ratification of the Engagement of Singapore Cooperation Enterprises for Development Framework and Master Plan of Bakassi Port City.

10. Approval for the Institutionalisation of Staff Performance Management Framework and Service Contract System in the State Public Service

11. Approval of upgrading of the Cross River State Management Development Institute into a Public Service Development Academy.

Other key approvals by the 1st EXCO Meeting of 2026 include:

12. Ratification of the newly crafted State Civil Service Song

13. Approval for the additional Furnishings at the Presidential Lodge

14. Approval for the release of the total sum of ₦790,062,259.00 only for the Commencement of Hosting obligations and related works at the Calabar International Convention Centre (CICC) for AFSNET 2026.

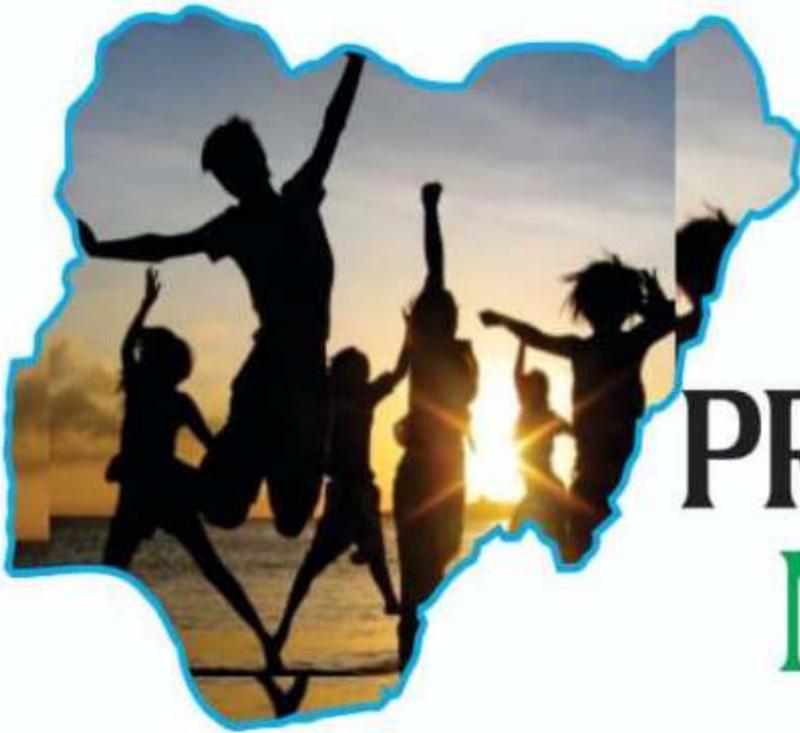
Thank you all as we look forward to a better 2026.



**Erasmus Ekpang** *Ph.D., anipr, ftifuh*  
Commissioner for Information.



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Government of Cross River State, Nigeria

23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2026

## PRESS RELEASE

### **SUSPENSION OF ALL SCRAP-RELATED ACTIVITIES IN CROSS RIVER STATE**

The Cross River State Government expresses grave concern over the alarming rise in vandalism, theft, and the destruction of public infrastructure and private property across Cross River State. Critical assets, including public utilities, road installations, and essential community facilities, have been deliberately targeted, resulting in service disruptions, economic losses, and heightened threats to public safety.

Investigations and security reports have established a direct nexus between these destructive acts and the activities of scrap dealers, scavengers, and their agents operating within the State.

Given the urgency and severity of the situation, His Excellency, the Governor of Cross River State, Senator Prince Bassey Edet Bassey Otu, has directed the immediate review of all laws, policies, and regulatory frameworks governing scrap-related activities in the State and as an urgent interim measure to halt further damage, restore order, and safeguard State and private assets, His Excellency has further approved the immediate suspension of all scrap-related activities in Cross River State for an initial period of 6 (six) months.

This suspension applies comprehensively to all forms of scrap dealing, including but not limited to trading, scavenging, transportation, and any related operations within, into, or out of the State. Any individual, group, or entity found in violation of this directive shall be dealt with in accordance with the law and

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shall face the full force of legal sanctions. All law enforcement bodies and relevant security agencies are hereby mandated to ensure strict compliance and enforcement without exception.

The Cross River State Government remains resolute in its duty to protect public infrastructure, defend private property, and ensure that residents feel safe and secure. These measures are necessary to prevent further sabotage of critical assets and to maintain public confidence.

The full cooperation of all residents, stakeholders, and lawful business operators is expected and appreciated.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping, sweeping strokes that form a stylized, elongated shape.

**Ededem Charles Ani, Esq.**  
Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice



16<sup>th</sup> February, 2026

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to notify the general public that the recently Inaugurated Cross River State Planning and Development Control Enforcement Team has commenced the enforcement of compliance with town planning and development control laws across the State.

To this end, all property owners, developers and contractors are required to make available their duly approved building plans issued by the State Ministry of Lands, Town and Urban Planning at all ongoing and completed project sites.

Likewise, persons who have developed and are occupying government land without proper documentation and approval, are advised to do so forthwith.

Any development without approved plans, or failure to present same upon request, will attract penalties including stop-work orders, fines and possible demolition.

The public is thereby enjoined to cooperate with enforcement officers in the interest of orderly, safe and sustainable urban development.

**Akiba .E. Akiba**

Chairman,

Cross River State Planning & Dev. Control





STATE PLANNING COMMISSION  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
NEW SECRETARIAT COMPLEX  
P.M.B.1104, CALABAR

Our Ref: GO/SPC/VC/VOL.1/202

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2026

The Speaker  
The Hon. Chief Judge,  
All Commissioners/Special Advisers,  
The Secretary to the Government State,  
The Chief of Staff,  
The Head of Service  
All Chairmen of Commissions & Boards,  
All Permanent Secretaries/Special Assistants,  
The Clerk of the House/Chief Registrar,  
The Accountant General/Auditor General (State and Local Govt)  
The Head of Personnel Staff to the Deputy Governor,  
All Heads of Extra-Ministerial Departments/Parastatals

**CROSS RIVER STATE PLANNING COMMISSION CIRCULAR NO. 3/2026**

**COLLABORATION WITH THE STATE BUREAU OF STATISTICS ON ALL STATISTICAL SURVEYS AND DATA COLLECTION ACTIVITIES**

In order to mend the observed fragmented and unco-ordinated data production across sectors in the State, it has become imperative to issue this circular, as a reminder of the need for compliance by all MDAs and other organizations with government's subsisting guidelines/Laws on the conduct of statistical surveys and data collection activities in the State.

It is noteworthy that the authorized Agency to provide overall strategic direction and clearance on the conduct of statistical surveys and data collection in the State is the State Bureau of Statistics.

Regrettably, most MDAs/Organizations embark on statistical surveys and data collection exercise in the state without collaboration with, or due clearance of the Bureau. Thus, undermining the State Bureau of Statistics Law, our commitment to producing high quality, productive and mutually acceptable data for evidence driven governance, and ultimately the socio-economic development of our dear State.

Accordingly, in order to strengthen the quality, comparability, and utility of any statistical data originating from the State, all MDAs and our development partners intending to



collaborate closely with the State Bureau of Statistics in planning, designing and implementation of their surveys and data collection activities.

Any data generated and disseminated at any level without due involvement or clearance of the State Bureau of Statistics shall not be accepted as official statistical data of Cross River State.

The Planning Commission in collaboration with the Bureau of Statistics is committed to supporting in building MDAs Institutional Capacity for data collection.

The contents of this circular should be brought to the notice of all concerned.

This circular takes immediate effect.

Thank you, and please, be assured of our esteemed regards.



**Dr. Bong Duke**

Vice Chairman/CEO

Cross River State Planning Commission



**COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE,  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
OBUBRA - CROSS RIVER STATE  
*Shaping Leaders for Sustainable Development*

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
OBUBRA  
CROSS RIVER STATE

# CALL FOR ADMISSION INTO **ND & HND** PROGRAMMES FOR 2026/2027 ACADEMIC SESSION

## Purchase of Admission Forms

This is to inform all prospective applicants seeking admission into College of Agriculture, Science & Technology Obubra, that application forms are now available on the College website. Applicants are required to pay a non-refundable application fee of **Twenty-Five Thousand Naira (N25,000.00)** only into the College Account with **United Bank for Africa (UBA), Account No: 1028613027, Account Name: College of Agriculture.** Proof of payment, completed application form and credentials should be uploaded via the College portal at [www.castobubra.ng/applications](http://www.castobubra.ng/applications)

## Available Programmes

- National Diploma (ND) Animal Health and Production
- National Diploma (ND) Forestry and Environmental Technology
- National Diploma (ND) Fisheries Technology
- National Diploma (ND) Horticulture and Landscape Technology
- National Diploma (ND) Computer Science Technology
- National Diploma (ND) Hospitality and Tourism Management
- Pre-National Diploma/Remedial Programme
- Higher National Diploma (HND) Animal Production Technology
- Higher National Diploma (HND) Crop Production Technology
- Higher National Diploma (HND) Fisheries Technology
- Higher National Diploma (HND) Forestry Technology
- Higher National Diploma (HND) Agri-Business Management
- Higher National Diploma (HND) Agricultural Extension & Mgt.

## Certificate Programmes

- Veterinary Clinic Assistant
- Forest/Game Management
- Beekeeping/Honey Production
- Fingerlings Productions
- Mushroom Production
- Snail Farming

## Requirements for Obtaining Admission Form

Prospective Applicants are kindly requested to visit the College website at [www.castobubra.ng/requirements](http://www.castobubra.ng/requirements) to peruse admission requirements before completing the application form

## Contact Lines

+234 813-191-3864, +234 706-108-0676

Technical Support: +234 812-393-4461

Email: [enquires@castobubra.ng](mailto:enquires@castobubra.ng)

**Visit the College at Ovonum-Obubra  
for Further Enquiries**

Purchase of Form commences on  
**Monday 16th February, 2026** and ends on  
**Tuesday 17th March, 2026 @ 12Midnight**  
Visit: [www.castobubra.ng/applications](http://www.castobubra.ng/applications)

Signed: **Dr. Gabriel Ojie Osang** - Registrar

Connect with us on our Social Communities     @castobubra

# Extension of Early Bird Registration – NPRW 2026

Dear **Professional** Colleagues,

Following the overwhelming number of requests received by the National Planning Committee from various chapters across Nigeria regarding an extension of the Early Bird registration deadline, we are pleased to announce that a one-week extension has been approved.

We encourage all members who are yet to complete their registration to take advantage of this additional opportunity.

Please note that the new deadline for Early Bird registration is midnight, 8th March 2026.

We look forward to your active participation.

## National Planning Committee NPRW 2026



**NPRW**  
Nigeria Public Relations Week  
**Croc City 2026**  
April 19-25th

"Food Security: From Policy Paper to Public Plate; the Imperatives of Public Relations."

Umaru Musa Yar'Adua Centre (Murtala Square), Kaduna State

**REGISTRATION FEES:**

Category	Early Bird (19th Dec 2025 - 20th Feb 2026)	Regular (19th Mar - 10th Apr 2026)	Late Registration (11th - 19th Apr 2026)
NIPR MEMBERS	<b>₦95,000</b>	<b>₦120,000</b>	<b>₦170,000</b>
NON NIPR MEMBERS	<b>₦135,000</b>	<b>₦170,000</b>	<b>₦200,000</b>

Scan me

0803 253 8883  
08022229908

partnerships@nprweek.org.ng  
www.nprweek.org.ng | vlc@nprweek.org.ng

Instagram: @nprofficial, Facebook: @nprofficialpage

Nigerian Institute of Public Relations

National has approved a 20% discount for WPRF registration for those who register for NPRW



**NPRW**  
Nigeria Public Relations Week  
**Croc City 2026**  
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# PGF VALUE REORIENTATION CAMPAIGN



## PEACE IS A COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY.

### **For more information:**

Website: [www.pgf.ng](http://www.pgf.ng)

E-mail: [info@pgf.ng](mailto:info@pgf.ng)

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/pgfnigeria/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ProgressivePGF>

Tiktok: [https://www.tiktok.com/@pgf\\_2023](https://www.tiktok.com/@pgf_2023)

YouTube: <https://youtube.com/@ProgressiveGovernorsForumPGF>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pgfnigeria>



The Hon. Speaker,  
The Hon. Chief Judge,  
All Commissioners/Special Advisers,  
The Secretary to the State Government,  
The Chief of Staff,  
All Chairmen of Commissions and Boards,  
All Permanent Secretaries Special Assistants,  
The Clerk of the House/Chief Registrar,  
Accountant-General/Auditor-General (State & Local Govt.),  
The Head of Personal Staff to the Deputy-Governor,  
All Heads of Extra-Ministerial Departments/Parastatals

**HEAD OF SERVICE CIRCULAR NO. 1/2026**

**PAYROLL AUDIT, CREDENTIALS/PROGRESSION VERIFICATION FOR SERVING OFFICERS AND PENSION VERIFICATION FOR PENSIONERS**

The attention of all Civil Servants in the State Public/ Civil Service is hereby drawn to the approval of His Excellency, the Governor of Cross River State, authorising the Office of the Head of Service to conduct a comprehensive Payroll Audit and Pensioners Verification for the State Public Service.

The exercise is aimed at:

- Ensuring the integrity and accuracy of the State payroll.
- Verifying Staff credentials, appointments, promotions and progression records.
- Eliminating payroll irregularities and strengthening personnel management systems.

The Payroll Audit will be conducted simultaneously with Credentials and Career Progression Verification for serving officers. While a Pension Verification Exercise will be carried out for pensioners. The Nigerian Union of Pensioners (NUP) is hereby notified accordingly.

All serving officers are directed to immediately collate and present copies of their service records to the administrative heads of their MDAs, but not limited to:

- Letter of First Appointment
- Letter of confirmation of appointment
- All Promotion Letters up to current grade level
- All Educational Certificates used in the course of service
- Any other official personnel records as may be required

Further details on the schedule, modalities and documentation requirements for the exercise will be communicated in due course.

  
**Orók Bassey Oken**  
Head of Service





**Indiscriminate**

**BUSH**

**BURNING**

**is still outlawed  
in Cross River State.**

**Do not indulge in indiscriminate bush  
burning. Avoid the wrath of Government.**

**CRSEMA**

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Flights Commencement From

**15th October, 2025**



Ministry of Information  
Cross River State

For Enquiries  
Call Customer Care:

(+234)9125950403  
(+234)9153823424  
(+234)7047108136  
01-4482998





## STEPS TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY IN CROSS RIVER STATE

- 1** Obtain an Application Form at CRGIA's Office, Old Secretariat Road, Off Murtala Mohammed Highway, Calabar, Cross River State
- 2** Submit Application Form with Required Documents  
Fill and submit the form along with necessary documents, e.g. Registered Title Document, survey plan, identification, etc.
- 3** Assessment and Payment of Fees.  
The office will assess applicable charges, registration fees, processing fees, etc. Make the required payment.
- 4** Inspection and Publication (for private land)  
Property is inspected by LUAC officials  
Notice of application is published for 21 days to allow for objections.  
After clearance, Governor's Approval in Principle is obtained.
- 5** C of O (Certificate of Occupancy) Engrossment and Signing  
The Certificate of Occupancy is prepared (engrossed) and signed by the Governor or delegated authority.
- 6** Registration and Delivery  
Final registration is completed at the Lands Registry.  
Registered documents are delivered to the applicant (client).

# NATIONWIDE CONTINUOUS VOTER REGISTRATION (CVR)



## Register to Vote

**ONLINE PRE-REGISTRATION  
STARTS ON 18TH AUGUST, 2025**  
[www.cvr.inecnigeria.org](http://www.cvr.inecnigeria.org)

**IN-PERSON REGISTRATION  
STARTS ON 25TH AUGUST, 2025**  
*All 37 INEC State Offices or 774 Local  
Government Area (LGA) Offices  
Nearest to You*



- i** New Voters 18+
- Collect or Transfer your PVC
- Replace your lost or damaged PVC
- No Multiple Registration

✉ [iccc@inec.gov.ng](mailto:iccc@inec.gov.ng)

🌐 [www.inecnigeria.org](http://www.inecnigeria.org)  
[www.inecnews.com](http://www.inecnews.com)

**0700-CALL-INEC (0700-2255-4632)**  
INEC Short Code: 4632  
09050858629, 09050858675,  
09050858649

*INEC, Making your votes count...  
Consolidating our democracy.*

📱📺📷 @inecnigeria

**Avoid  
Overspeeding:**

**Speed thrills  
But Kills.**

**Always obey  
speed limits**

**— FRSC —**

**CROSS RIVER STATE SECTOR COMMAND**