

**SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 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.

Articles and stories in this publication may be reproduced.

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**CHECK INSIDE**

FOR MORE STORIES



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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.

# Gov Otu Bans Illegal Mining, Orders 24-Hour Surveillance



**C**ross River State governor, Bassey Edet Otu, Friday, announced a comprehensive ban on illegal mining across the state following a strategic meeting

with critical stakeholders in the sector.

The decisive directive, which takes immediate effect, exempts only operators with legitimate approvals

from the Federal Government of Nigeria, as the state government moves to restore order and transparency in an industry increasingly associated with security and environmental concerns.

Speaking during the meeting, Governor Otu said the state could no longer tolerate a situation where a sector with enormous economic potential had gradually become a source of instability and social disruption in several communities.

“This sector is strategic to the economic future of

our state,” the Governor said. “But instead of bringing prosperity to our communities, it is gradually becoming a source of serious concern. We believe wealth can still be created from mining, but it must be done ethically, legally and with full responsibility.”

Governor Otu noted that intelligence reports had shown a worrying influx of unregulated operators into mining communities, including foreign nationals whose identities and operational structures were largely unknown to the state.

“I have been receiving reports about the influx of strangers and

aliens into our various communities,” he said. “The truth is that we do not even know who many of these operators are. We must know those who are in our state and what exactly they are doing in our environment.”

The Governor also lamented that certain local actors had compounded the problem by aiding and abetting illegal activities in the sector.

“Some of the people complicating this situation are unfortunately within our own communities,” he said. “Some clan heads and village heads have become part of the problem by facilitating activities that are not properly regulated.”

Governor Otu disclosed that the state government had initially attempted to manage the situation through dialogue and collaboration with federal authorities, including security agencies responsible for monitoring mining operations.

“I personally initiated discussions with federal authorities and security agencies to strengthen monitoring in the sector,” he explained. “There were assurances that rangers would be deployed to assist us, but the process has taken far too long, and the few personnel on the ground are clearly insufficient considering the scale of the

problem.”

He stressed that after months of patience and observation, it had become clear that the state must take firmer action to protect its communities and natural resources. “We have given enough time of grace,” the Governor declared. “There comes a point where government must act decisively. That time has now come.”

Announcing the new directive, Governor Otu stated unequivocally that all illegal mining activities must cease immediately across Cross River State. “I am imposing a total ban on illegal mining in this state,” he said. “Let

everyone return to their locations. When you are ready to come back, you must first report to the Ministry and be properly profiled before any activity resumes.”

The Governor emphasized that only operators with verifiable approvals and proper documentation would be allowed to continue operating in the state.

“Those who have legitimate approvals from the Federal Government and whose activities are already known to the ministry will not be affected,” he said. “But anybody entering our communities to mine without proper authorization should understand that those days are over.”

Governor Otu also warned that the

government would no longer tolerate uncontrolled mining operations that endanger public safety and agricultural livelihoods.

“This situation is affecting our security,” he said. “It is affecting our farmers and creating too many problems for our communities. Cross River is a hospitable state, but there is a limit to what we can continue to manage.”

To ensure strict compliance with the directive, the Governor ordered the State Security Adviser to immediately coordinate enforcement across the state. “I want the State Security Adviser to take note that this ban comes into force

immediately," the Governor directed. "From tomorrow, people must begin to leave these illegal sites and return to their locations."

He also mandated the Anti-Illegal Mining Task Force to begin continuous surveillance operations in mining areas to prevent attempts to circumvent the directive. "The task force must commence round-the-clock surveillance," he ordered. "There must be 24-hour monitoring to ensure that nobody goes behind the government to continue these activities illegally."

Governor Otu further revealed that the government would soon embark on

professional geological mapping of mining zones in order to properly structure the sector and attract responsible investment.

"We are bringing in professionals to carry out proper mapping of our mineral resources," he said. "Once that is done, those who want to explore or invest legitimately will have the opportunity to present their business cases."

The Governor assured genuine investors that the state remained open to responsible mining but warned that exploitation of mineral resources must now follow a transparent and regulated framework.

"When we say everyone must come to the ministry for

profiling, it is not an opportunity for anyone to extort people," he clarified. "It is simply about ensuring that we know who is qualified to operate and who is not."

He concluded by reiterating the state government's determination to restore sanity to the sector.

"A lot of money is being made in this sector, but some of it is being used for purposes that the government cannot account for," the Governor said. "We will pursue this matter very seriously. Mining will continue in Cross River, but it must be done properly, responsibly and in the interest of our people."



**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 6, 2026

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Gov Otu Orders Transport Agencies Review, Slashes Tickets and Fines**

Arising from the recent protest by commercial bus drivers in the Calabar metropolis and the concerns raised by citizens over the high cost of transport tickets, excessive fines, and alleged harassment by enforcement teams of the Commercial Transport Regulatory Agency (CTRA), the Traffic Management and Regulatory Agency (TRAMRA), and the Vehicle Inspection Office (VIO), His Excellency, Governor Bassey Edet Otu, following the outcome of the meeting involving the Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, Special Adviser on General Duties to the Governor and other critical stakeholders in the transport sector, has approved the following measures to ease the burden on drivers and restore order in the system.

Accordingly, daily tickets for commercial bus operators have been reduced from ₦850 to ₦500, while the fine for failure to purchase the ticket is reduced to ₦10,000.

In addition, all traffic-related fines have been cut by 50 percent and are to be paid only into designated Cross River State Government accounts. Similarly, tickets for tricycle Riders have been reduced from ₦1,200 to ₦500, while riders are expected to terminate operations by 6 p.m as night operations are hereby permanently banned.



Furthermore, CTRA is to focus strictly on the registration of commercial vehicles, sale of tickets at approved rates, and enforcement of ticket compliance, with all enforcement personnel required to operate in proper uniform and with verifiable identification. TRAMRA is also to confine its operations to its statutory traffic management duties.

All dues, levies or fines are henceforth to be paid into the underlisted government number:

TIN NO. : 1900737994 - 001-

PAYER' S NAME : DOPT, CALABAR.

REVENUE CODE : 402064

REVENUE DESCRIPTION : ROAD TAXES/PENALTY FEE.

In a similar vein, the operations of VIO are now restricted to its offices. In the spirit of the Governor's "Season of Sweetness," mini-bus drivers and tricycle riders are also exempted from the purchase of tickets on Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays. These directives take effect from Monday, March 9th, 2026, and the general public is urged to cooperate fully with the relevant agencies.



The image shows a handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'Linus Obogo'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Linus Obogo**

Chief Press Secretary and Special Adviser on Media and Publicity



## GOVERNMENT OF CROSS RIVER STATE

STATE PLANNING COMMISSION  
NEW SECRETARIATE COMPLEX  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
CALABAR

### TIME TABLE FOR 2026 – 2028 ACTION PLAN PRESENTATION WITH BASELINE AT 2023

(VENUE-THE STATE PLANNING COMMISSION CONFERENCE HALL)

S/N	DATE	MDAS	TIME SLOT
1	05-FEB-2026	MINISTRY OF HEALTH	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
2	05-FEB-2026	PRIMARY HEALTH CARE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
3	05-FEB-2026	GENERAL HOSPITAL, CALABAR	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
4	05-FEB-2026	HEALTH INSURANCE	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
5	05-FEB-2026	AGENCY FOR THE CONTROL OF HIV/AIDS	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
6	05-FEB-2026	UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
7	06-FEB-2026	MIN. OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION DEV	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
8	06-FEB-2026	MIN. OF LIVESTOCK, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
9	06-FEB-2026	CRS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
10	06-FEB-2026	CRS FORESTRY COMMISSION	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
11	06-FEB-2026	DEPT. OF FORESTRY BIODIVERSITY & CONSERVATION	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
12	06-FEB-2026	MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
13	09-FEB-2026	CRS UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION BOARD	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
14	09-FEB-2026	CRS LIBRARY BOARD	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
15	09-FEB-2026	AGENCY FOR ADULT & NON-FORMAL EDUCATION	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
16	09-FEB-2026	UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATN & ENTREPRENEURSHIP	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
17	09-FEB-2026	MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
18	09-FEB-2026	UNICROSS	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
19	10-FEB-2025	INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT & TECHNOLOGY, UGEP	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
20	10-FEB-2026	SECONDARY EDUCATION BOARD	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
21	10-FEB-2026	STATE TECHNICAL EDUCATION BOARD	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
22	10-FEB-2026	CRS SCHOLARSHIP BOARD	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
23	10-FEB-2026	TEACHERS CONTINUOUS TRAINING INSTITUTE	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
24	10-FEB-2026	COLLEGE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
25	11-FEB-2026	COLLEGE OF NURSING & MIDWIFERY SCIENCES, CAL	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
26	11-FEB-2026	COLLEGE OF NURSING & MIDWIFERY SCIENCES, ITIGIDI	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
27	11-FEB-2026	COLLEGE OF NURSING & MIDWIFERY SCIENCES, OBU	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
28	11-FEB-2026	COLLEGE OF NURSING & MIDWIFERY SCIENCES, OGO	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
29	11-FEB-2026	MINISTRY OF TOURISM, ARTS AND CULTURE	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
30	11-FEB-2026	CRS TOURISM DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
31	12-FEB-2026	CRS TOURISM BUREAU	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
32	12-FEB-2026	CRS CARNIVAL COMMISSION	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
33	12-FEB-2026	OBUDU RANCH RESORTS	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
34	12-FEB-2026	DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE AND HERITAGE	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
35	12-FEB-2026	OFFICE OF THE SA HOSPITALITY	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
36	12-FEB-2026	OFFICE OF THE SA ON EVENT MANAGEMENT	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
37	13-FEB-2026	MINISTRY OF WORKS & INFRASTRUCTURE	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
38	13-FEB-2026	MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
39	13-FEB-2026	COMMERCIAL TRANSPORT REGULATORY AGENCY	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
40	13-FEB-2026	CRS INLAND WATERWAY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
41	13-FEB-2026	TRAFFIC REGULATORY & MANAGEMENT AGENCY	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
42	13-FEB-2026	MINISTRY OF POWER & RENEWABLE ENERGY	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
43	16-FEB-2026	STATE ELECTRIFICATION AGENCY	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
44	16-FEB-2026	CROSS RIVER ROAD MAINTENANCE AGENCY	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

45	16-FEB-2026	MINISTRY OF AVIATION	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
46	16-FEB-2026	RURAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
47	16-FEB-2026	MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
48	16-FEB-2026	CRS WATER BOARD LIMITED	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
49	23-FEB-2026	INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
50	23-FEB-2026	BORDER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
51	23-FEB-2026	RUWASTA	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
52	23-FEB-2026	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
53	23-FEB-2026	MINISTRY OF MINERAL RESOURCES	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
54	23-FEB-2026	CALABAR URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
55	24-FEB-2026	IKOM URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
56	24-FEB-2026	OGOJA URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
57	24-FEB-2026	OBUDU URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
58	24-FEB-2026	UGEP URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
59	24-FEB-2026	GREATER CALABAR DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
60	24-FEB-2026	WASTE MANAGEMENT AGENCY	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
61	25-FEB-2026	CALABAR URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
62	25-FEB-2026	URBAN BEAUTIFICATION	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
63	25-FEB-2026	MINISTRY OF JUSTICE	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
64	25-FEB-2026	DUE PROCESS & PRICE INTELLIGENCE BUREAU	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
65	25-FEB-2026	DEPT. OF RELIGIOUS MATTERS	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
66	25-FEB-2026	CHIEF OF STAFF	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
67	26-FEB-2026	CONFLICT RESOLUTION & MANAGEMENT OFFICE	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
68	26-FEB-2026	LEGAL ADVISER TO THE GOVERNOR	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
69	26-FEB-2026	OFFICE OF THE SA INTER PARTY	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
70	26-FEB-2026	OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE STATE GOVT.	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
71	26-FEB-2026	STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
72	26-FEB-2026	STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY COMMISSION	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
73	27-FEB-2026	CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
74	27-FEB-2026	MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENT, TRAINING & PENSIONS	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
75	27-FEB-2026	CROSS RIVER STATE JUDICIARY	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
76	27-FEB-2026	CROSS RIVER JUDICIARY MULTIDOOR COURTHOUSE	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
77	27-FEB-2026	MIN. OF SOCIAL WELFARE & COMMUNITY DEV.	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
78	27-FEB-2026	SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE OFFICE	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
79	2-MAR-2026	DEPT. OF SPECIAL DUTIES & INTER GOVT. RELATIONS	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
80	2-MAR-2026	CHIEFTAINCY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
81	2-MAR-2026	MIN. OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS POVERTY ALLEVIAT	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
82	2-MAR-2026	MIN. OF HUMAN CAPITAL & ENTREPRENEURIAL DEV.	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
83	2-MAR-2026	STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
84	2-MAR-2026	CRS FIRE SERVICE	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
85	3-MAR-2026	MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
86	3-MAR-2026	MINISTRY OF WOMEN AFFAIRS	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
87	3-MAR-2026	MINISTRY OF SPORTS DEVELOPMENT	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
88	3-MAR-2026	CRS SPORTS COMMISSION	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
89	3-MAR-2026	CONSUMER PROTECTION DEPARTMENT	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
90	3-MAR-2026	MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
91	4-MAR-2026	MINISTRY OF COMMERCE	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
92	4-MAR-2026	MICROFINANCE & ENTERPRISE DEV. AGENCY	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
93	4-MAR-2026	CRS LOTTERY & GAMING AGENCY	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
94	4-MAR-2026	MINISTRY OF WEALTH CREATION & EMPLOYMENT	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
95	4-MAR-2026	MINISTRY OF FINANCE	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
96	4-MAR-2026	CROSS RIVER STATE ASSET MANAGEMENT	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM

97	5-MAR-2026	OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR GENERAL	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
98	5-MAR-2026	DEBT MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
99	5-MAR-2026	OFFICE OF THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
100	5-MAR-2026	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
101	5-MAR-2026	MINISTRY OF LANDS	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
102	5-MAR-2026	MINISTRY OF HOUSING	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
103	9-MAR-2026	OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR-GENERAL	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
104	9-MAR-2026	CRS GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION AGENCY	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
105	9-MAR-2026	MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
106	9-MAR-2026	LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION BOARD	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
107	9-MAR-2026	LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE COMMISSION	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
108	9-MAR-2026	AKAMPKA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
109	10-MAR-2026	AKPABUYO LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
110	10-MAR-2026	ABI LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
111	10-MAR-2026	BAKASSI LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
112	10-MAR-2026	BIASE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
113	10-MAR-2026	ETUNG LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
114	10-MAR-2026	IKOM LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
115	11-MAR-2026	OGOJA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
116	11-MAR-2026	OBUBRRA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
117	11-MAR-2026	BEKWARRA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
118	11-MAR-2026	OBANLIKU LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
119	11-MAR-2026	YAKUUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
120	11-MAR-2026	YALA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
121	12-MAR-2026	CALABAR SOUTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
122	12-MAR-2026	CALABAR MUNICIPALITY LOCAL GOVT. COUNCIL	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
123	12-MAR-2026	OBUDU LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
124	12-MAR-2026	ODUKPANI LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
125	12-MAR-2026	BOKI LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
126	12-MAR-2026	MINISTRY OF INFORMATION	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
127	13-MAR-2026	MINISTRY OF FINANCE INCORPORATED (MOFI)	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
128	13-MAR-2026	OFFICE OF THE CHIEF PRESS SECRETARY	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
129	13-MAR-2026	OFFICE OF SA CONTENT DEVELOPMENT & ACHIEVING	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
130	13-MAR-2026	OFFICE OF SSA NEW MEDIA	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
131	13-MAR-2026	OFFICE OF SSA DIGITAL MEDIA	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
132	13-MAR-2026	OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SPEECH WRITER TO GOVERNOR	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
133	16-MAR-2026	CRS BROADCASTING CORPORATION, CALABAR	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
134	16-MAR-2026	CRS NEWSPAPER CORPORATION, CALABAR	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
135	16-MAR-2026	STATE SIGNAGE & ADVERTISEMENT AGENCY	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
136	16-MAR-2026	STATE PLANNING COMMISSION	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
137	16-MAR-2026	CRS STRATEGIC POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
138	16-MAR-2026	PROJECT/PROGRAMS MONITORING EVALUATION UNIT	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
139	17-MAR-2026	MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL DONOR COORDINATION	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
140	17-MAR-2026	OFFICE OF THE ECONOMIC ADVISER	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
141	17-MAR-2026	CRS BUREAU OF STATISTICS	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
142	17-MAR-2026	BUDGET MONITORING & EVALUATION DEPARTMENT	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
143	17-MAR-2026	OFFICE OF THE SA ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING	02:00 PM - 03:00 PM
144	17-MAR-2026	OFFICE OF SA ON POLICY AND STRATEGY	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
145	18-MAR-2026	MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

146	18-MAR-2026	CRS BUREAU FOR PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP	11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
147	18-MAR-2026	OFFICE OF THE SA ON PUBLIC UTILITIES	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
148	19-MAR-2026	AUDIT SERVICE COMMISSION	01:00 PM – 02:00 PM
149	19-MAR-2026	OFFICE OF THE AG FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT	02:00PM - 03:00 PM
150	19-MAR-2026	STATE OPERATION COORDINATING UNIT (SOCU)	03:00PM - 04:00 PM
151	19-MAR-2026	CROSS RIVER GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION AGENCY	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
152	19-MAR-2026	WOMEN DEVELOPMENT CENTER	11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
153	19-MAR-2026	FED COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, OBUBRA	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM

NB: MDAs ARE REQUESTED TO COME WITH 6(SIX) HARD COPIES OF THEIR PRESENTATION AND SOFT COPY

# Tinubu Approves Posting Of 31 Career, 34 Non-career Ambassadors (Full List)



President Bola Tinubu has approved the posting of 31 career and 34 non-career ambassadors to various countries and the United Nations.

The Senate confirmed the ambassadors-designate in December 2025.

A statement by the

Special Adviser to the President on Information and Strategy, Bayo Onanuga, on Friday, disclosed that while former Minister of Aviation, Femi Fani-Kayode, was posted to Germany, ex-presidential aide, Reno Omokri, was posted to Mexico.

According to the statement, the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs has already received agrément from the United Kingdom for the High Commissioner-designate, Ambassador Aminu Dalhatu. Similarly, France has sent the agrément for Ambassador Ayo Oke.

Onanuga said the Ministry has also conveyed the nominations of the

other 62 designated envoys to all the countries concerned, including a request for their agréments in line with standard diplomatic practice.

The presidential aide added that Tinubu has directed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to immediately commence the induction programme for the ambassadors-designate and High Commissioners.

See the full list below:

**POSTINGS OF  
 NON-CAREER  
 AMBASSADORS /  
 HIGH  
 COMMISSIONERS  
 S/N NAME  
 MISSION  
 APPROVED**

SENATOR GRACE  
 BENT: LOME-TOGO  
 SEN. ITA ENANG:  
 SOUTH AFRICA  
 IKPEAZU VICTOR:  
 SPAIN  
 NKECHI LINDA  
 UFOCHUKWU: TEL-  
 AVIV, ISRAEL  
 MAHMUD YAKUBU:  
 QATAR  
 PAUL OGA  
 ADIKWU: THE  
 VATICAN CITY  
 HOLY SEE  
 VICE ADMIRAL  
 IBOK-ETE EKWE  
 IBAS: THE  
 PHILIPPINES  
 MR. RENO OMOKRI:  
 MEXICO CITY,  
 MEXICO  
 HON. (ENGR.)  
 ABASI BRAIMAH  
 (FMHR): BUDAPEST,  
 HUNGARY  
 MRS. ERELU  
 ANGELA ADEBAYO:  
 PORTUGAL  
 BARR. OLUMILUA  
 OLUWAYIMIKA  
 AYOTUNWA:  
 TOKYO, JAPAN  
 RT. HON.  
 UGWUANYI  
 IFEANYI

LAWRENCE:  
 ATHENS, GREECE  
 BARR. CHIOMA  
 PRISCILLA  
 OHAKIM:  
 WARSAW, POLAND  
 AMINU DALHATU:  
 UNITED  
 KINGDOM, UK  
 LT. GEN  
 ABDULRAHMAN  
 BELLO  
 DAMBAZAU:  
 BEIJING, CHINA  
 HON. TASIU MUSA  
 MAIGARI: GAMBIA  
 OLUFEMI PEDRO:  
 AUSTRALIA  
 BARR.  
 MUHAMMED  
 UBANDOMA  
 ALIYU:  
 ARGENTINA  
 LATEEF KAYODE  
 ARE: USA  
 AMB. JOSEPH  
 SOLA IJI: RUSSIA  
 SEN. JIMOH  
 IBRAHIM: UN  
 PERMANENT  
 REPRESENTATIVE  
 FEMI FANI  
 KAYODE:  
 GERMANY  
 PROF. ISAAK  
 FOLORUNSO  
 ADEWOLE:

OTTAWA, CANADA  
 AJIMOBİ FATİMA  
 FLORENCE (F):  
 AUSTRIA  
 MRS. LOLA  
 AKANDE (F):  
 SWEDEN  
 AYODELE OKE:  
 FRANCE  
 YAKUBU N.  
 GAMBO: SAUDI  
 ARABIA  
 SENATOR PROF.  
 NORA LADI  
 DADUUT: SEOUL,  
 SOUTH KOREA  
 BARR. ONUZE  
 CHUKWUJİKA JOE  
 OKOCHA SAN:  
 DUBLIN  
 DR. KULU HARUNA  
 ABUBAKAR:  
 TUNIS, TUNISIA  
 RT. HON. JERRY  
 SAMUEL MANWE:  
 PORT OF SPAIN,  
 T&T  
 POSTINGS OF  
 CAREER  
 AMBASSADORS /  
 HIGH  
 COMMISSIONERS  
 LIST  
 S/N NAME  
 MISSION  
 APPROVED  
 AMB. NWABIOLA

EZENWA  
 CHUKWUMEKA:  
 COTE D'IV/OIRE  
 BESTO MAIMUNA  
 İBRAHİM: NIAMEY-  
 NİGER  
 MONICA  
 OKWUCHUKWU  
 ENEBECHI: SAO  
 TOME, STP  
 AMB. MOHAMMED  
 MAHMUD LELE:  
 ALGIERS-ALGERIA  
 ENDONI SYNDOPH  
 PAEBI:  
 OUAGADOUGOU-  
 BURKINA FASO  
 AHMED  
 MOHAMMED  
 MONGUNO: CAIRO  
 EGYPT  
 AMB.JANE ADAMS  
 (NEE OKON)  
 MICHAEL (F):  
 KINGSTON-  
 JAMAICA  
 AMB. CLARK-  
 OMERU  
 ALEXANDRA (F):  
 LUSAKA-ZAMBIA  
 CHİMA GEOGGREY  
 LIOMA DAVID:  
 BAMAKO-MALI  
 AMB. ODUMAH  
 YVONNE  
 EHİNOSEN:  
 MALABO

-E/GUINEA  
 AMB WASA SEGUN  
 İGE: BEIRUT,  
 LEBANON  
 RUBEN ABİMBOLA  
 SAMUEL (F):  
 ROME, İTALY  
 AMB.ONAGA  
 OGECHUKWU  
 KINGSLEY:  
 MAPUTO,  
 MOZAMBIQUE  
 AMB.MAGAJI  
 UMAR: KİNSASHA,  
 DR CONGO  
 AMB.MUHAMMAD  
 SAİDU DAHIRU:  
 NEW DELHI-İNDIA  
 AMB.  
 ABDUSSALAM  
 HABU ZAYYAD:  
 DAKAR-SENEGAL  
 AMB SHEHU İLU  
 BARDE: ACCRA  
 GHANA  
 AMB.AMINU  
 NASIR: ETHİOPIA  
 ABUBAKAR MUSA  
 MUSA:  
 N'DJAMENA, CHAD  
 AMB. HAİDARA  
 MOHAMMED  
 İDRIS: THE  
 HAGUE-  
 NETHERLANDS  
 AMB.BAKO ADAMU  
 UMAR: RABAT-

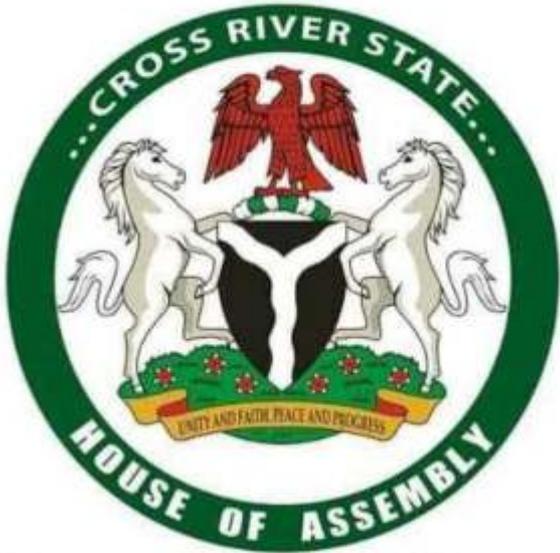


MOROCCO  
 AMB. SULU  
 GAMBARI  
 OLATUNJI AHMED:  
 MALAYSIA  
 AMB.ROMATA  
 MOHAMMED  
 OMOBOLANLE (F):  
 TANZANIA  
 AMB. SHAGA JOHN  
 SHAMAH:  
 BOTSWANA  
 SALAU, HAMZA  
 MOHAMMED:  
 TEHRAN, IRAN  
 AMB.IBRAHIM  
 DANLAMI: KENYA

IBRAHIM ADEOLA  
 MOPELOLA (F):  
 COTONOU-BENIN  
 AMB.AYENI  
 ADEBAYO  
 EMMANUEL:  
 BRUSSELS,  
 BELGIUM  
 AMB.AKANDE  
 WAHAB ADEKOLA:  
 BERNE-  
 SWITZERLAND  
 AMB. AREWA (NEE  
 ADEDOKUN)  
 ESTHER (F):  
 WINDHOEK-  
 NAMIBIA  
 AMB.GERGADIq

JOSEPH JOHN:  
 LIBREVILLE-  
 GABON  
 AMB. LUTHER  
 OGBOMODE AYO-  
 KALATA (F):  
 SIERRA LEONE  
 DANLADI YAKUBU  
 NYAKU :  
 KHARTOUM-  
 SUDAN  
 BELLO DOGON-  
 DAJI HALIRU:  
 BANGKOK,  
 THAILAND

# C'River Assembly Suspends Hon. Ovat Agbor Indefinitely Over Alleged Violent Conduct



CROSS RIVER STATE  
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



The Cross River State House of Assembly has suspended Hon. Dickson Ovat Agbor, member representing Obubra I State Constituency, indefinitely over alleged violent conduct.

The decision was reached during plenary following a motion moved by

Rt. Hon. Davies Etta and seconded by Rt. Hon. Francis Basse Asuquo.

In the motion, the Assembly strongly condemned the alleged violent behaviour involving Hon. Agbor, describing it as conduct unbecoming of a lawmaker and contrary to the ethical standards expected of

members of the legislative arm of government.

After deliberations, the House resolved that Hon. Agbor be placed on indefinite suspension from all legislative activities.

The Assembly also approved the constitution of a committee to investigate the



matter and report its findings back to the House for further legislative action.

Following the resolution, Hon. Agbor was escorted out of the chamber by the Sergeant-at-Arms, in compliance with the directive of the House.

In a remarked, the Speaker of the

House, Rt. Hon. Elvert Ayambem, stated that the House remains committed to upholding discipline, dignity, and the integrity of the legislature. He emphasized that members of the Assembly must conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the trust reposed in them by the people.

The suspension remains in force pending the outcome of the investigation by the committee set up by the House.

# SUBEB Chairman Commends Gov. Otu for Support to Education During Distribution of Learning Materials

By: Joy Ndoma



The Chairman of the State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB), Mrs. Fedelia Okpo Ene, has commended the Governor of Cross River State, Prince Bassey Edet Otu, for his immense support toward the development of education in the state.

Mrs. Ene gave the commendation

during the distribution of the Renewed Hope educational materials to pupils in some government primary schools across the state. She expressed appreciation to the governor for his continued commitment to improving the quality of basic education and providing learning resources for pupils.

According to the SUBEB chairman, the governor's efforts demonstrate his administration's dedication to strengthening the education sector and creating a conducive learning environment for young learners.

She noted that the provision of the educational materials would



significantly enhance teaching and learning in public primary schools.

Mrs. Ene also encouraged pupils to take their studies seriously and make the most of the opportunity

provided by the government. She urged them to work hard in their academics and strive to make the governor, their parents, and the state proud.

The distribution of the Renewed Hope educational

materials forms part of ongoing efforts by the state government to support basic education and improve learning outcomes in public schools across Cross River State.



# SEE FULL LIST OF NEWLY ELECTED CRS WORKING COMMITTEE OF THE ALL PROGRESSIVES CONGRESS, APC

1. Hon. Chris Sunny Etta – State Chairman
2. Barr. Ogana Lukpata – Deputy State Chairman
3. Pst. Patrick Asuquo Okon – State Secretary
4. Isek James – State Assistant Secretary
5. Princess Tity Ndifon – Zonal Vice Chairman I
6. Ayiba Ojong Ayiba – Zonal Vice Chairman II
7. Hon. Ignatius Adida Agabi –Zonal Vice Chairman III
8. Barr. Lawrence Ugah Momba- State Legal Adviser
9. Barr. Bassey Edet Asuquo – Assistant Legal Advisers
10. Martins Erasmus – State Treasurer
11. Fetus Ofum – Assistant Treasurer
12. Hon. Sunday Udeh – State Financial Secretary
13. Akanya Agbor Akanya – Assistant Financial Secretary
14. Dr. Erim Agbor – State Organizing Secretary
15. Hon. Bassey Bassey Eyo – Assistant Organizing Secretary
16. Mr. Emmanuel Edem Inyang – State Publicity Secretary
17. Dr. Matthew Egong – Assistant Publicity Secretary
18. Emmanuel O. Bassey – State Welfare Secretary
19. Odey Oshorbuchi – Assistant Welfare Secretary
20. Chief Ogbodim Obongha Ogbodim – Auditor
21. Hon. Ekom Etuk – Assistant Auditor
22. Monica Ugi – State Woman Leader
23. Mrs. Ekanem Edet – Assistant Woman Leader
24. Otu Womi – State Youth Leader
25. Akiba Ayi – Assistant Youth Leader
26. Mr. Ushukiushi ThankGod – State Special Leader
27. Hon. Chief Maurice Ase – Senatorial Youth Leader I
28. Bruce John Armon – Youth Leader II
29. Mr. Daniel Beshel – Senatorial Youth Leader III
30. Hon. Roseline Ukam Ometu – women Leader I
31. Mrs. Love Eroma Agbor – Senatorial Woman Leader II
32. Victoria Otayan Odey-Senatorial Woman Leader Iil
33. Hon. Samuel O. Asu- Ex-Officio I
34. Moses Achu – Ex-Officio II
35. Hon. Ntete Ita – Ex-Officio Iil
36. Daniel Itonim Ex -Officio IV

# APC Repositions for 2027 as Etta Charges Chapter Chairmen on Party Supremacy, Unity, Discipline

By Kingsley Agim



**T**he Chairman of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Cross River State, Hon. Chris Sunny Etta, has charged newly inaugurated local government chapter chairmen

of the party to uphold the principles of party supremacy, unity and discipline as they assume leadership of the party's grassroots structures across the state.

Etta gave the charge in Calabar during the inauguration of the chapter chairmen, reminding them that their emergence represents a call to



service and a strategic responsibility to strengthen the party ahead of the 2027 general elections.

He cautioned the new officials against allowing personal ambitions or the influence of political sponsors to overshadow the collective interest of the party, stressing that their foremost duty is to protect and advance the ideals

of the APC at the local government level.

“Your election is a call to duty, not an opportunity to serve the interest of any godfather or to build personal influence,” Etta said. “You must work as a team with your executives. The party must always come first. Make yourselves accessible to party members and remain responsive to their needs.”

The state chairman emphasized that as leaders at the grassroots, the chapter chairmen must conduct their affairs with integrity, transparency and accountability, noting that their emergence reflects the confidence reposed in them by party faithful in their respective council areas.

He further urged



the officials to commence work immediately in view of the demanding political activities ahead, including preparations for the party's zonal congress and national convention.

"There is no time to waste," he said. "You are expected to inaugurate your

ward executives this weekend and report back to the secretariat by Monday. Strong grassroots coordination will be critical to our success as a party."

Responding on behalf of the chapter chairmen, Chief Kevin Njong pledged their loyalty to the party and its leadership, assuring

members that they were fully prepared to deliver on the mandate entrusted to them.

"We have been given a clear responsibility and we understand what is expected of us. We will work tirelessly to promote unity and strengthen the APC across Cross River State," Njong



said.

The inauguration comes on the heels of the recent election of a 36-member State Executive

Committee of the APC, led by Hon. Chris Etta, to steer the affairs of the party in Cross River State for the next four years, a development party

leaders say signals renewed unity and strategic repositioning ahead of the 2027 elections.



Our Ref: GO/HOS/4/VOL.III/292

March 5, 2026

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 & Boards,  
All Permanent Secretaries/Special Assistants,  
The Clerk of the House/Chief Registrar,  
The Accountant-General/Auditor-General (State/Local Govt),  
The Head of Personal Staff to the Deputy Governor,  
All Heads of Extra-Ministerial Departments/Parastatals,

### DIRECTIVE FOR NOMINATION OF OFFICERS FOR PROFESSIONAL SAFETY TRAINING

The Head of Service has directed the nomination of **Three (3) Officers** across cadres from each Ministry, Department and Agency (MDA) to participate in a forthcoming **Professional Safety Training** organized by the Office of the Head of Service and duly approved by His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Cross River State.

The training is aimed at strengthening workplace safety standards, enhancing risk management capacity, and promoting compliance with established safety protocols across MDAs.

Accordingly, each MDA is required to submit details of their three (3) nominees, providing the following information:

S/N	Full Name	Designation	Email Address	Phone Number	MDA
1					
2					
3					

The above details should be forwarded on or before **Friday, March 13, 2026** to the following email address: [eyoedem120@gmail.com](mailto:eyoedem120@gmail.com)

All Permanent Secretaries, Directors of Administration, and Heads of Administration are to treat this directive with utmost priority and ensure strict compliance within the stipulated timeline.

Eyo, Edem E.  
Director of Administration  
For: Head of Service



# Ekpang Applauds Cross River Traceability programme, Urges Farmers to Embrace Global Standards

By Blessing Enagu



**C**ross River State Commissioner for Information, Dr. Erasmus Ekpang, has lauded the State Traceability Programme, describing it as a forward-looking initiative that will strengthen the state's agricultural credibility and align its produce with emerging

global market standards.

Commissioner Ekpang gave the commendation when he joined critical stakeholders including commodity groups such as the All Farmers Association of Nigeria (AFAN), Cocoa Farmers Association of

Nigeria (CFAN), Cocoa Association of Nigeria (CAN) and the Oil Palm Growers Association of Nigeria (OPGAN), alongside development partners, government officials and agricultural experts in Calabar during the Cross River State Traceability



## System Stakeholder Engagement.

"I have seen the work that has been done in the agricultural sector, and it is evident that deliberate steps are being taken to improve our agricultural status in the state," Ekpang said,

while encouraging farmers and commodity groups to fully embrace the traceability programme.

Describing Cross River as richly endowed with fertile "rainbow soil" and favourable climatic conditions, the Information Commissioner

noted that the state is naturally positioned to become a major agricultural hub if it aligns with evolving international best practices in traceability and compliance. "Cross River State has a rainbow soil and the right conditions for agricultural



production. It is therefore important that we meet international standards so that our crops will not be left out of global markets," he said, urging farmers to ensure their farms and produce are properly registered under the programme.

Dr. Ekpang also acknowledged the foresight of the State Governor,

Senator Prince Bassey Edet Otu, noting that the administration's determination to position Cross River as the first state in Nigeria to implement a structured traceability system reflects a deliberate effort to set the pace nationally and position the state as a traceability hub for Nigeria.

In a keynote address, the

Commissioner for Agriculture and Irrigation Development, Hon. Johnson Andiambey Ebokpo, described the programme as a major milestone in the state's agricultural transformation agenda. He stated that Cross River State is proud to be the first state in Nigeria to commence a structured, state-



backed traceability programme, a move he said demonstrates leadership and strategic foresight.

According to him, the initiative is designed to establish a credible, technology-driven and transparent traceability system that will capture farm-level data, integrate geolocation mapping and

strengthen agricultural value chains, thereby positioning Cross River State as a trusted origin in the global agricultural market.

The Agriculture Commissioner also noted that the Calabar engagement marks the first phase of consultations in the Southern Senatorial District, adding that similar stakeholder engagements will

be held in the Central and Northern Senatorial Districts to ensure that farmers and producing communities across the state are fully integrated into the programme.

The meeting also featured technical presentations on the Cross River State Strategic Development Plan, as well as an overview of the State



Traceability System with emphasis on its benefits and implications for market access. Presenters also highlighted the roles of various actors across the agricultural value chain, which stimulated robust discussions and collective engagement

among stakeholders present.

The engagement was also attended by the Chairman of the Multistakeholders committee, Prof. Susan Ohen and her members, Director General of the Cross River Geographic Information

Agency (CRGIA), Mr. Williams Archibong; the Surveyor General of the State, Surveyor Patrick Bassey; representatives of the Lead Consultant for the programme, PULA Advisors; as well as representatives from NIRSAL and NIFOR.

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WORLD PUBLIC RELATIONS FORUM

WPRF Abuja 2026  
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# WORLD PUBLIC RELATIONS FORUM (WPRF) 2026

## Special Pre-Event

In solidarity with the world's women on the occasion of the

## International Women's Day

**THEME:** Responsible Communication as a Tool for Advancing Women's Rights and Social Justice

**Sunday**  
March 8 2026

**5pm - 6.30pm**  
WAT (Lagos)

### LEAD PERSPECTIVES



**Dr. Abiodun Essiet**  
SSA to the President of Nigeria on Community Engagement (North-Central)



**Mr. Ronald Kayanja**  
Director, United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) in Nigeria



**HE Amb. Liberata Mulamula**  
African Union Special Envoy on Women, Peace & Security  
Fmr. Minister of Foreign Affairs & East African Cooperation, United Republic of Tanzania



**HE Matthias Schmale**  
United Nations Resident & Humanitarian Coordinator Ukraine



**HE Toyin Saraki**  
Founder/President, The Wellbeing Foundation Africa  
Global Ambassador, WHO Foundation



**Prof. Justin Green**  
President & CEO, Global Alliance for Public Relations



**Dr. Ike Nelioku, mnipr**  
President, Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR)



**Inimfon Etuk, mnipr**  
Chair, Civil Society Task Team WPRF National Planning Committee



**Suleiman Haruna, PhD, mnipr**  
Chairman, National Planning Committee, WPRF Abuja 2026

Meeting ID **849 5328 1773**  
Passcode **562443**

Zoom Link:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84953281773?pwd=yydcAfujbl0eohVIWA8Qc0RlL3lXGm.1>

[wprfnigeria2026](#)

[www.wprf.nipr.ng.org](http://www.wprf.nipr.ng.org)

What better way to roll out the series of pre-events in the countdown to the **Global Alliance World Public Relations Forum (WPRF)** holding November 2026 in Abuja, Nigeria than to stand in bold solidarity with the world's women as the global community marks International Women's Day on March 08, 2026

Date: Sunday March 08

Time: 5pm WAT (Lagos)

**JOIN US** for an inspiring session of solidarity messages from around the world as we celebrate the irrefutable value of the world's women.

**JOIN the SESSION on SUNDAY** using link below.

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84953281773?pwd=yydcAfujbldoehVIWA8Qc0rIIL3XGm.1>**

**Meeting ID:** 849 5328 1773

**Passcode:** 562443

Set your notifications and prepare to be inspired to "Give To Gain"

Full details on poster

#IWD2026 #WPRFAbuja2026 #GiveToGain #CSW70  
#Womensmonth

# C'River Reviews Tractor Acquisition Scheme, Moves To Strengthen Sustainability

By Blessing Enagu



The Cross River State Government has reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening the Tractor Acquisition Scheme following a post-distribution review meeting with stakeholders, beneficiaries and technical partners in Calabar.

The business meeting, held recently at Monty Suites Calabar, brought together representatives of benefiting farmers' cooperatives,

project managers and technical partners to assess progress and fine-tune the operational framework of the initiative.



Speaking on behalf of the Commissioner for Agriculture and Irrigation Development, Hon. Johnson Andiambey Ebokpo, KSM, the Director of Planning, Research and Statistics in the Ministry, Elder Ayi Ita Ayi, described the scheme as a deliberate intervention initiated by His Excellency, Senator Prince Bassey Edet

Otu, aimed at transforming agriculture through mechanisation and repositioning the small holder farmers from subsistence to large scale/ commercial agriculture.

He noted that the State Executive Council approved the procurement of 108 mini tractors fabricated to suit the state's terrain, with 54 already delivered in the first phase to duly registered and

qualified cooperatives across the 18 local government areas.

According to him, the success of the programme will be measured not just by distribution but by effective utilisation, proper maintenance, expanded hectarage and increased farm output.

Presenting an overview of the scheme, the Director

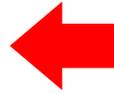


Mechanisation and irrigation, Engr. Mrs Justina Ulafor emphasised that agricultural mechanisation remains critical to achieving food security, stressing that mechanised farming enables expansion of cultivated land and improved productivity. She disclosed that digital booking systems have been introduced to ensure transparent scheduling and

direct payments, while technical and manufacturer support remain available to beneficiaries. " The meeting focused on sustainability, operational efficiency and workforce development. The government is formalising plans to engage booking agents, tractor operators, and technicians primarily drawn from cooperative

members and host communities in order to promote ownership and accountability, she added.

Also speaking, Chairman of the Tractor Committee and State Project Director of Project Grow, Mr Denis Ikpali, assured participants that concerns over the moratorium period would be reviewed and possibly adjusted to reflect operational



realities. He also revealed plans to establish an Agri-Mechanisation Board with centralised repair and training hubs across the three senatorial districts.

The meeting also welcomed virtual presentations and feedback sessions where Mr Ikpeme Ikpeme of Bespoke Design Concepts Nigeria Limited as well as Mr Pelumi John of Hello Tractor, focusing on maintenance, cooperative

collaboration, and financial sustainability.

Participants, drawn from the benefiting cooperatives, raised operational concerns such as geofencing issues, which government pledged to address through committee deliberations.

The meeting ended with renewed commitment from stakeholders to ensure that the Tractor Acquisition Scheme evolves into a sustainable

business ecosystem capable of boosting farm productivity, creating rural employment and advancing food security in Cross River State ahead of the 2026 farming season. Also, help lines were made available to ensure that beneficiaries of the scheme find quick solutions when necessary.



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

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# Ekpang Pledges Partnership With Nigerian Police

By Mary Obe, Akpo Ironbark, Miriam Eduabanga



**T**he Cross River State Commission  
er for  
Information, Dr. Erasmus Ekpang, has assured the Nigerian Police Force of the State Government's continued support in the discharge of their constitutional duty of

maintaining peace and order.

Dr. Ekpang gave the assurance on Thursday when he received the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) of the Cross River State Police Command, ASP Sunday Eitokpah, during a familiarisation visit

to his office in Calabar.

He said the administration of Governor Sen. Prince Bassey Edet Otu was committed to strengthening security across the State, adding that an enabling environment will be created to



enhance their operational efficiency at all times.

According to him, "His Excellency, Sen. Prince Bassey Edet Otu, is very passionate about taking security measures to the next level." The commissioner urged the police spokesman to always seek clarification from the ministry when necessary to



avoid misinformation.

The Chief image maker of the State also stressed the need for sustained collaboration between the Police Command and the Ministry of Information to

ensure accurate and timely dissemination of information to the public.

Dr. Ekpang further described the Ministry as a "second home" for the PPRO and reaffirmed its



readiness to work closely with the Police Command to promote peace and security in the State.

Earlier, PPRO, ASP Eitokpah said the visit was to familiarise himself with the Ministry and appreciate the commissioner for the warm reception accorded him and his team.



He pledged the command's commitment to collaborate with the Ministry for effective policing through improved

information management in Cross River State.





# Gov Otu Celebrates Prof. Ekanem Braide at 80, Hails Her Scientific Legacy



**C**ross River State governor, Senator Bassey Otu, has extended warm and heartfelt congratulations to renowned Nigerian scientist and distinguished academic, Professor Ekanem Ikpi Braide, OFR, as she marks her 80th birthday.

Governor Otu described the celebrated parasitologist as “one of the brightest intellectual beacons to have emerged from Cross River State,” whose life’s work has brought honour to the state and Nigeria at large.

In a congratulatory

message issued his Chief Press Secretary and Special Adviser on Media and Publicity, Mr. Linus Obogo, to commemorate the milestone, the governor praised Prof. Braide’s extraordinary contributions to science, public health and higher education, noting that her legacy

continues to inspire generations of scholars and innovators across the country. He said her career represents a remarkable blend of scholarship, leadership and humanitarian service.

"Prof. Ekanem Braide's life is a glowing testament to the power of knowledge in the service of humanity," Governor Otu said, "nothing that "through her pioneering work in parasitology and public health, she helped lead one of the most historic public health victories in Nigeria, the eradication of guinea worm disease, thereby restoring hope,

dignity and health to countless communities."

Governor Otu said beyond her scientific achievements, Professor Braide's leadership in academia has left an enduring institutional legacy. He recalled her tenure as Vice-Chancellor of the then Cross River University of Technology (CRUTECH) and her historic role as the pioneer Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Lafia.

"Her administrative brilliance and intellectual discipline helped shape institutions that continue to produce outstanding graduates and innovators," the Governor said. "In

every assignment she has undertaken, Professor Braide has demonstrated uncommon vision, integrity and devotion to national progress."

The Governor also commended her groundbreaking emergence as the first female President of the Nigerian Academy of Science, describing the achievement as a watershed moment for women in science and leadership in Nigeria. According to him, the honour reflects the depth of her scholarship and the respect she commands within the global scientific community. "Her elevation to



the presidency of the Nigerian Academy of Science was not merely a personal milestone," he said. "It was a national affirmation that excellence, perseverance and intellectual rigour will always find their rightful place in history."

Governor Otu further acknowledged Prof. Braide's continuing service to society, including her role as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Leprosy Mission

Nigeria and as Pro-Chancellor of Arthur Jarvis University, Akpabuyo. He noted that her commitment to humanitarian causes and educational advancement has remained steadfast even in the later years of her distinguished career.

"As she celebrates this remarkable milestone, Cross River State proudly honours a daughter whose brilliance has illuminated classrooms, laboratories and communities

across the nation and beyond," the Governor stated. He prayed for her continued health, peace and fulfilment for the revered scholar. "On behalf of the government and the good people of Cross River State, I congratulate Professor Ekanem Ikpi Braide on her 80th birthday and wish her many more years of strength, grace and continued service to humanity."

# Cross River State Partners with FAO to Revamp Coastal Management Policies

By Egbe Iloke, Daniel Bebia



**A**s part of conscious effort towards sustainable environmental management, the

Cross River State Government, in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United

Nations, has convened a multi-stakeholder workshop aimed at reviewing and strengthening policies for



Integrated Mangrove and Coastal Zone Management.

The workshop held at Naks Hotels, Calabar,

brought together policymakers, environmental experts, the representatives from Federal, State and Local Government and

civil society.

The primary objective was to critically assess existing Agriculture, Forestry, and

Other Land Use (AFOLU) policies and legal frameworks to identify gaps and opportunities for better mangrove conservation and sustainable use.

Declaring the workshop open on behalf of the Governor, His Excellency, Senator Prince Bassey Edet Otu, the Commissioner for Ministry of International Development Coordination, Dr Hippolatus Lukpata said Cross River State house the largest Nigeria's remaining mangrove forests, which are vital for biodiversity, carbon sequestration, coastal protection, and the livelihoods of local

communities. However, these ecosystems face mounting pressures from deforestation, pollution, unsustainable agricultural practices, and urban expansion.

He said coastal protection is necessary against flooding and erosion, biodiversity conservation which serve as a nursery ground for fisheries that sustain the livelihood of coastal communities.

According to him, mangroves are not only assets but lifeline for food security, income and resilience in the face of climate change pressure for fisheries and forest-dependent

families.

He noted that the workshop is to develop a cohesive strategy for integrated Mangrove Management to ensure that mangrove protection is embedded within broader land-use plan and agricultural development policies with a key expected outcome of the formulation of a draft Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Action Plan for the State

He added that the plan will provide a comprehensive roadmap for balancing ecological conservation with economic development along the State's

extensive coastline.

The Commissioner further stated that legal gaps, institutional issues, implementation hurdles and pressure from unsustainable practices in the existing policies pose a serious threat

Dr. Lukpata charge the participants to bring their expertise to bear while expressing hope that with open dialogue, collaboration and shared vision in advancing sustainable development a secured future of coastal ecosystems can be built for the State.

Also speaking,, Chairman, Cross River State Forestry Commission, Dr. Oben Enche emphasized the State's commitment for sustainable mangroves management. "Our mangroves are not just trees; they are life-support systems.

He expressed worries over mangroves loss through nypa palm invasion, depletion by coastal communities as source of fuel.

Dr E'tchi express gratitude to FAO towards restoring the State's Mangrove ecosystem already depleted with over 10,000 hectares reclaimed.

This collaborative effort with the FAO marks a pivotal step in translating the State's political will into actionable, legally sound policies that will protect these treasures for generations to come.

The FAO National Project Coordinator, represented by the Climate Change Specialist, Mrs Nifesimi Ogunkwa stated that to cushion the effects of overdependence on mangroves for fuel and other sustainable use, the organization has provided coastal communities with energy stoves, alternative livelihood support and restoration of



degraded mangrove landscape.

She highlighted the strategic importance of the review workshop in about building a foundation for resilience.

Mrs Ogunkwa advance that integrating mangrove management into formal agricultural and forestry policies, we are investing in food security, climate action, and sustainable development simultaneously with Cross River State model as a benchmark for

other coastal regions in Nigeria.

The review workshop was climaxed with technical presentations on Review of AFOLU policies, Laws and Legal apparatus: observed gaps, recommendations and institutional mandate alignment with global best practices for mangrove management, Cross River Integrated Coastal Zone Management Action Plan; Observed gaps, recommendations and institutional mandate, Alignment of Climate Change

National Social Protection: recommendations and group discussion.

With this policy overhaul it is believed that it will not only safeguard critical ecosystems but also foster a new era of blue and green economic growth for the State. Other highlights include presentation of different topics and was moderated by Dr Asuquo Okon, who was also part of the organizers of the event.



Yesterday marked a new chapter for Cross River State as **\*Rt Hon Christopher Sunny Eta\*** resumed office as APC Chairman. With his proactive spirit and instinct for discipline, he is ready to lead with excellence. A proven track record of delivering results makes him the game-changer we need.

Expect aggressive change, expect progress, expect greatness! His leadership will surely bring development and prosperity to Cross River State

**\*Sweetness overdose\***



**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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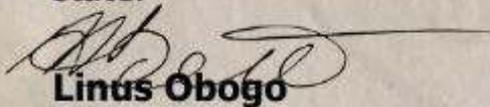
March 4, 2026

**PRESS RELEASE**

Governor Bassey Edet Otu OTU Appoints Akedo Okoi Edet As Statistician-General Of The State

His Excellency, the Governor of Cross River State, has approved the appointment of Mr. Akedo Okoi Edet as Statistician-General of the state. The appointment takes immediate effect and reinforces government's commitment to data-driven governance and excellence.

This strategic appointment underscores the administration's resolve to strengthen statistical systems, enhance evidence-based planning, and deepen transparency in policy formulation. Mr. Edet is expected to deploy his expertise toward advancing data management across the state.



**Linus Obogo**

Chief Press Secretary and Special Adviser on Media and Publicity to the Governor



# Cross River LG Pensioners Appeal To CRSG Over Unpaid Entitlements



Frank Ulom/Converseer.com

**L**ocal Government Pensioners in Cross River State have appealed to the State Government to immediately pay their outstanding entitlements to avoid an impending Protest

over what they described as persistent neglect, unpaid entitlements and delayed pensions by the state government.

The appeal was made on Thursday

during a press conference in Calabar by the State Chairman of the Association of Cross River State Local Government Pensioners, Comrade Bassey Okosin.



Frank Ulom/Converseer.com

Okosin said the planned protest became necessary following what he described as the "callous treatment" of retired local government workers, which he said had resulted in prolonged delays in payments, mounting pension

arrears and severe hardship among retirees.

Comrade Bassey Okosin, State Chairman of the Association of Cross River State Local Government Pensioners According to him, the situation has also caused psychological trauma and

avoidable deaths among pensioners who depend solely on their monthly pensions for survival.

"The main purpose of this press conference is to highlight the callous treatment of local government pensioners. This



has resulted in unnecessary delays, unpaid backlog of entitlements, severe psychological trauma and avoidable death among our retirees," Okosin said.

He disclosed that the association had earlier notified the state

government of its intention to stage a protest through a letter "Ref. ACRLGP/014/VOL.I I/370" dated February 13, 2026, but said no response had been received after two weeks.

Okosin added that the association subsequently issued a reminder

letter "Ref. ACRLGP/014/VOL. II/376" on March 2, 2026, warning that the protest would proceed if the government fails to address their demands.

Among the key demands listed by the pensioners is the payment of monthly pensions on or before the



end of every month, as well as the inclusion of local government retirees in government palliative programmes such as Christmas and Easter bonuses.

They also called on the Cross River State House of Assembly to pass into law a

bill establishing a functional Local Government Pension Board to properly manage pension matters.

Other demands include the harmonisation of pensions for local government retirees, payment of outstanding pension arrears dating back to

2016, implementation of the Consolidated Health Salary Structure (CONHESS) for retired nurses and health workers who served in local government councils, and payment of gratuities to pensioners who were verified in 2024 but are yet



to receive their benefits.

The association further demanded the payment of all outstanding pension arrears and the release of a second tranche of gratuities for retirees from 2016 onwards.

Okosin also rejected a proposed plan to

transfer the payment of local government pensions to the office of the State Accountant-General, insisting that the responsibility should remain with a properly constituted Local Government Pension Board.

The pensioners'

leader attributed many of the delays in pension payments to what he described as a cumbersome and bureaucratic process involved in the movement of pension vouchers.

He explained that the current system requires vouchers

prepared by the Local Government Pension Board to pass through multiple government offices before approval and payment, a process he said causes unnecessary delays.

According to him, vouchers move from the pension board to the Auditor-General for Local Government for verification, then to the Ministry of Local Government Affairs, and subsequently to the Governor through the Accountant-General for approval before being returned to the ministry and later to local government councils for payment.

Okosin argued that a fully operational Local Government Pension Board would simplify the process and ensure quicker payment of pensions.

The association also raised concerns about the staffing of agencies managing local government pensions, alleging that most personnel are drawn from the state civil service rather than the unified local government service.

Okosin said this arrangement undermines accountability and commitment to the welfare of local government retirees.

He cited the 1985

implementation guidelines of the 1976 Local Government Reforms, which stipulate that only career local government staff should be posted to the headquarters of the Local Government Service Commission and the Local Government Pension Board.

According to him, adherence to the guideline would promote better understanding of local government operations and improve service delivery to pensioners.

Okosin further alleged that the absence of a fully functional Local Government Pension Board has worsened the

challenges facing retirees.

He noted that although the Local Government Pension Board was established under the 1994 edict, its provisions have not been fully implemented.

The chairman recalled that during the administration of former Governor Prof. Ben Ayade in 2020, a committee was constituted to restructure the pension board. However, he claimed that the committee's report was never released because it threatened the interests of influential stakeholders.

According to him, two experienced

local government officers were later deployed to manage the board and succeeded in streamlining its operations within a year before they were removed and replaced.

He also criticised the period between 2020 and 2023 when the office of the Auditor-General for Local Government allegedly took over the payment of salaries and pensions of local government workers and retirees.

Okosin described the arrangement as abnormal, noting that the same office acted both as auditor and paymaster.

He claimed that during the period, several pensioners

were allegedly declared "ghost pensioners" and removed from the payroll.

The development, he said, triggered a peaceful protest by pensioners on November 3, 2020, which led to the blocking of the Murtala Muhammed Highway in Calabar before the situation was eventually resolved.

Okosin maintained that the Ministry of Local Government later took over the responsibility for pension payments, but warned that any further attempt to transfer the function to another agency would be strongly resisted.

“We demand that these agencies hand over the management of local government pensions to the appropriate authority as provided by law,” he said.

He urged the state government to urgently address the concerns of pensioners to prevent the planned protest and alleviate the suffering of retirees.

When contacted, the Speaker of the Cross River State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Elvert Ayambem, told journalists on the phone that there are several procedures for the passage of a Bill.

“There are three stages in passing a Bill, which are: first hearing, second hearing, commit it to a committee that’ll call on stakeholders to come for a public hearing, where the views and the opinions of the people would be made known. After that, that is what will now inform the report of the Bill that will be presented to the House and thereafter, onward deliberations will be done and then pass the Bill into Law and then take it to the Governor for assent,” the Speaker said.

Ayambem said the Governor, Senator Bassey Otu, is very meticulous, and so, for any Bill to be passed, it must be people’s friendly.

He stressed that, “It is better to pass a Bill that can add value, rather than enslave or increase the suffering of the people.”

Efforts to get comments from the Head of Service, Orok Bassey Okon, and the Accountant-General, Dr Glory Effiong, proved abortive at the time of filing this report.



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

 **Office of the Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice Cross River State**

 Ministry of Justice, New Secretariat Complex,  
Murtala Mohammed Highway, Calabar

 [Attorneygeneral@crossriverstate.gov.ng](mailto:Attorneygeneral@crossriverstate.gov.ng)  
 [www.crossriverstate.gov.ng](http://www.crossriverstate.gov.ng)

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

# FEC Approves New Gratuity Scheme For Retiring Federal Civil Servants



The Federal Executive Council (FEC) has approved a new gratuity scheme for retiring federal civil servants in Nigeria.

In a statement on Thursday, the FEC said the new gratuity scheme provides one full year's salary for federal civil servants after 10

years of service, effective January 1, 2026, complementing the 2004 Contributory Pension Scheme that previously lacked this benefit.

"The Federal Executive Council (FEC) has approved a new exit benefit scheme that introduces a gratuity payment for retiring officers," the statement read.

"The approval, granted during FEC meeting in Abuja, follows recommendations from an inter-ministerial technical committee established by the Office of the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation (OHCSF). "The committee worked in collaboration with

the National Pension Commission (PenCom), the Budget Office of the Federation, and the Office of the Accountant-General to create a sustainable framework.”

Under the new scheme, retiring federal civil servants in treasury-funded ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs) will receive a gratuity equivalent to 100% of their total annual emoluments (one full year’s salary package).

This benefit applies to officers who have served for a minimum of 10 years and complements the existing Contributory Pension Scheme

(CPS), which was introduced 22 years ago and previously operated without a gratuity component for many retirees.

Head of the Civil Service of the Federation, Didi Walson-Jack, described the approval as “a profound acknowledgement of the invaluable contributions of our civil servants who have devoted their productive years to public service and national development.”

Walson-Jack added that the initiative “significantly enhances the retirement package of our officers and boosts confidence in the federal government’s commitment to their welfare,” while aligning with broader reforms for

a more motivated, performance-driven, and people-centred civil service.

Director of Press and Public Relations at the OHCSF, Eno Olotu, said: “The scheme is designed to strengthen the welfare structure of the federal civil service and ensure that officers who have served the nation for a minimum of 10 years retire with financial security.”

Detailed implementation guidelines are expected to be issued soon but the news stems from inter-ministerial recommendations aimed at enhancing welfare and morale amid economic pressures.



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



# Constitution Of Ikom Stadium Management Committee

**T**he Cross River State Sports Commission hereby announces the constitution of a seven member Management Committee for the Ikom Stadium.

This development is in line with the Commission's commitment to strengthening sports administration, ensuring proper facility management, and promoting grassroots sports development across the State.

The newly constituted Committee is charged with the responsibility of overseeing the effective management, maintenance, and optimal utilization of the Ikom Stadium.

The Committee's core mandate includes:

1. Ensuring proper maintenance and preservation of stadium

facilities.

2. Supervising sporting and non-sporting activities within the stadium premises;

3. Enforcing compliance with approved usage guidelines;

4. Promoting revenue generation initiatives in line with government policies;

5. Enhancing security and safety standards within the facility; and

6. Fostering community engagement and grassroots sports development.

The seven-member Committee comprises individuals carefully selected based on their competence, integrity, and commitment to sports development.

Their collective experience is expected to reposition the Ikom Stadium as a vibrant hub for sporting excellence

# Sports

 football	 basketball	 volleyball
 handball	 hockey	 boxing
 tennis	 curling	 bowling
 karate	 baseball	 archery

- 4. MR SUNNY LIVINUS OGORJA--- MEMBER
- 5. MS HELEN CHARLES KINGSLEY - SECRETARY
- 6. MR SUNNY ATU - MEMBER
- 7. ERIM JACOB INYANG

The Cross River State Sports Commission expresses confidence in the ability of the Committee to discharge its

and community activities in Ikom and its environs.

Members include:

- 1. MR HENRY ASIMA - CHAIRMAN
- 2. PASTOR ELIAS AJAH UDUO - MEMBER
- 3. MR AMBA EGBE TASEN JNR - MEMBER

responsibilities diligently in the overall interest of the State.

All stakeholders, sports enthusiasts, and members of the public are enjoined to cooperate fully with the Committee to ensure the smooth operation and sustainability of the stadium.



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	₦95,000	₦120,000	₦170,000
NON NIPR MEMBERS	₦135,000	₦170,000	₦200,000

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0803 253 8883  
08022229908

partnerships@nprweek.org.ng  
www.nprweek.org.ng

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**  
April 19-25th

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

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Scan me

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partnerships@nprweek.org.ng  
www.nprweek.org.ng

Nigerian Institute of Public Relations  
National has approved a 20% discount for WPRF registration for those who register for NPRW



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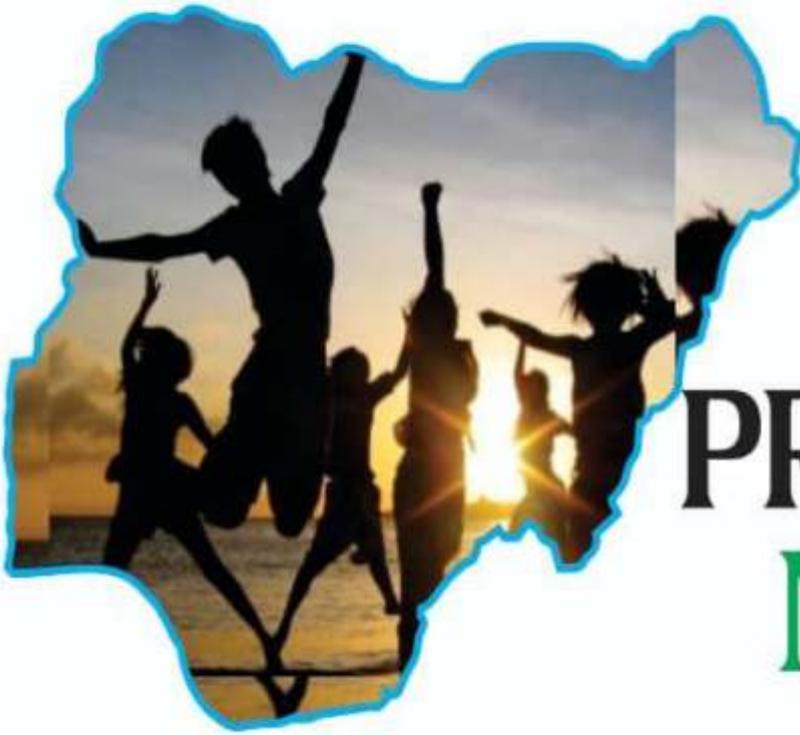
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YouTube: <https://youtube.com/@ProgressiveGovernorsForumPGF>

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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**LAGOS**



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## 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
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- No Multiple Registration

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

🌐 [www.inecnigeria.org](http://www.inecnigeria.org)  
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**Avoid  
Overspeeding:**

**Speed thrills  
But Kills.**

**Always obey  
speed limits**

**— FRSC —**

**CROSS RIVER STATE SECTOR COMMAND**