

**22ND NATIONAL COUNCIL ON SPORTS MEETING HELD AT THE
UNITY HALL, GOVERNMENT HOUSE, ASABA, DELTA STATE
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2020**

COMMUNIQUE

The 22nd National Council on Sports Meeting took place at the Unity Hall, Government House, Asaba, Delta State on Friday, 6th November, 2020. Council deliberated on issues relating to sports development in Nigeria and:

- i) expressed appreciation to the Governor of Delta State, His Excellency, Dr. Ifeanyi Arthur Okowa, the Government and good people of Delta State for their warm reception, hospitality and support towards the hosting of the 22nd National Council on Sports Meeting;
- ii) applauded the Federal Government for the numerous funding interventions for youth based initiatives in the country;
- iii) commended the Honourable Minister of Youth and Sports Development, Mr. Sunday Dare for his pragmatic approach to sports development in the country;
- iv) extolled the Edo State Government for its commitment to the successful hosting and organisation of the 20th National Sports Festival;
- v) noted that sports has been reclassified from a recreational activity to business concern by the Federal Government of Nigeria;
- vi) adopted the draft Nigeria Sports Industry Policy (2020) as amended, with its ten (10) Policy Thrust Areas, which took cognizance of the Industrialization Agenda of the sports industry value chain through the 3Is&P Concept with defined roles for the Public, Private and Social Enterprise Sectors;

vii) approved the following as members of the Committee to collate and incorporate the inputs of Council members into the amended Nigeria Sports Industry Policy, with a delivery period of 4 weeks:

- a) South West -Executive Chairman,
Lagos State Sports Commission
- b) South East -Hon. Commissioner, Abia State
- c) South-South -Chairman, Edo State Sports Commission
- d) North-West -Hon. Commissioner, Kano State
- e) North-East -Hon. Commissioner, Yobe State
- f) North-Central -Hon. Commissioner, Niger State
- g) Representative of NESG
- h) Representative of NAPHER-SD
- i) Director, PMI (FMYSO)
- j) Director, FEAD (FMYSO)

viii) approved the phasing of the competition days and arrivals by States' Contingents for the 20th National Sports Festival in compliance with all Protocol Guidelines put in place by the Presidential Taskforce on COVID-19;

ix) directed that all participant at the 20th National Sports Festival must conform with COVID 19 protocol (i.e testing 3 day before the commencement of the competition and testing at 2 days intervals during the competition in line international COVID-19 protocol)

x) approved the revised dates of December 3-18, 2020, for the 20th National Sports Festival activities as follows:

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| Opening of Games Village | -Thurs. December 3, 2020 |
| Arrivals for 1 st Phase | -December 3-4, 2020 |
| Opening Ceremony | -Sat. December 5, 2020 |
| Competition Days (Phase I) | -December 6-10, 2020 |
| Break/Arrivals for 2 nd Phase | -Fri. December 11, 2020 |
| Competition Days (Phase II) | -December 12-16, 2020 |

Closing Ceremony
Closure of Games Village

-Thu. December 17, 2020
-Fri. December 18, 2020

- xi) noted that with the conclusion of Delegation Registration Meetings (DRM), request for a review of any State's Contingent List for the 20th NSF would be considered on case by case basis;
- xii) noted rebirth of two national competitions, namely, the National Headmasters Cup and the National Principals Cup in Nigeria;
- xiii) noted that the National Headmasters Cup would be an annual competition amongst all pupils in Primary Schools (Public and Private), while the National Principals Cup is for students in Secondary Schools (Public and Private) from the 36 States and the FCT;
- xiv) noted the memorandum on the recognition of the certificates issued by the National Institute for Sports (NIS) for upgrading of Coaches in the Ogun State Sports Council;
- xv) noted that Council took a decision on the upgrading and conversion of the Coaches Cadre at its Meeting in Benin city, Edo State and that the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development had interfaced with the National Council on Establishment on the subject;
- xvi) urged the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development to interface with the Federal Ministry of Education and National Council on Establishment as regards the status of the certificates awarded by the National Institute for Sports (NIS);
- xvii) directed the National Institute for Sports to interface with the relevant agencies to regularise and upgrade their courses;
- xviii) noted that Nigeria has become the headquarters of the Olympic Movement in Africa with the completion and commissioning of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA) Headquarters in Abuja;

- xix) noted and commended Nasarawa and Niger State Governments for the various sports and youth development initiatives in the State;
- xx) noted that the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development is developing a national template for sports development in the country, which will be driven by the States;
- xxi) urged the Honourable Minister of Youth and Sports Development to seek for a Sports Development Intervention Fund akin to what the Federal Government provided for the youth sector;
- xxii) urged the Federal Government to approve one-time funding, to build a Multipurpose Hall in each State of the Federation;
- xxiii) directed the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development to interface with the Federal Ministry of Education in order to ensure that every educational institution in the country has adequate provision for sports arena

**Issued in Asaba, Delta State, this Friday, the 6th Day of November,
2020.**

SUNDAY AKIN DARE

Hon. Minister of Youth & Sports Development/
Chairman, National Council on Sports