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## "WE CANNOT AFFORD TO PLAY POLITICS WITH DRUGS AND CORRUPTION" - Former NDLEA Boss

...JAMB Is Now Example That Our Country Is Not Hopeless



■ Mr. Otunba Lanre Ipinmisho, Former, DG, NDLEA.



■ Col. Muhammad Mustapha Abdallah (Rtd) Chairman DG, NDLEA.

Mr. Otunba Lanre Ipinmisho is a former Director-General of National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA). An erudite legal practitioner and crime buster, who has served on the board of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) for six years and member of the Council on Legal Education for four years, is a critical JAMB stakeholder and a refined politician cum philanthropist.

During his tenure at NDLEA, he modernised the agency and extended its scope of operations nationwide. It is pertinent to state that it was during his tenure as the NDLEA boss that the United States of America removed Nigeria from the drug list. The Asiwaju of Ogidiland in this interview with *JAMB Bulletin* was highly elated with the uncommon transformation under the

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## JAMB BOARD MEMBER, PROF. KURAWA APPOINTED VC

A member of the Governing Board of the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB), Prof. Mukhtar Kurawa, has been appointed the Vice-Chancellor, Yusuf Maitama Sule University, Kano.

Until his appointment, he was the Rector, Kano State Polytechnic.

Prof. Mukhtar Atiku Kurawa was born 28th August, 1970, at Kurawa Quarters, Kano Municipal Local Government Area,

Kano State. He obtained his Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry at the prestigious University of Bristol, the United Kingdom, in 2005 and he became a Professor in 2015. He was appointed Rector, Kano State Polytechnic, in 2016.

Prof. Kurawa is a member of various professional bodies and is currently a member of the JAMB Tenth (10th) Governing Board.



■ Prof. Mukhtar Kurawa, Vice-Chancellor, Yusuf Maitama Sule University, Kano.

## JAMB CONDUCTS INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATION FOR WACS

The Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board has conducted a qualifying examination for the West African College of Surgeons (WACS). Some 2784 certified medical doctors sat the examination in Accra and Kumasi in Ghana as well as Abuja, Enugu and Ibadan in Nigeria.

The West African College of Surgeons

trains high calibre surgeons to provide accessible high quality surgical services throughout the sub-region.

To sit this examination, one must have first possessed a basic medical degree or qualification recognised and registrable by the local medical council; must have served the pre-registration year/years in their own country or in any other country

accepted by the local medical council and must have been fully registered. The preliminary screening for the examination and other in-house assessment and training requirements are conducted by the West African College of Surgeons while candidates' names and other essential details are forwarded to the Board in order to make

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## ...“ We Cannot Afford To Play Politics With Drugs And Corruption” -Former NDLEA Boss

leadership of Prof. Is-haq Oloyede. He advocated that the achievements be institutionalised, adding that his faith was strengthened by "the phenomenal turnaround of JAMB" which underscores the fact that the country is not beyond redemption with the monumental achievement the examination and assessment body has recorded.

Otunba bared his mind on the war against illicit drugs and PACEDA, among other sundry issues.

Otunba Ipinmisho recalled the modest efforts at the war on illicit drug trafficking, saying "I thank you for acknowledging my humble contributions in NDLEA. I am actually still worried about the prevalence of drug abuse and the future of our country. So it was a job I was passionate about and I feel I owe this country the best I could offer as the son of an illiterate peasant farmer who struggled to become a lawyer. I rose to become DG NDLEA, equivalent to the Permanent Secretary at Federal Level without a godfather. I have a responsibility to encourage and strengthen that kind of system."

Generally," drugs refers to narcotics and medicines now referred to as substances that are prescribed for our general or specific health benefits."

Continuing, he said, drugs are substances taken or administered to alter the natural functioning of our brains and or central nervous system. These may include natural leaves like cannabis, synthetic medicines like Tramadol, cocaine, heroine, etc. Drugs become illicit when so defined by law. Ordinary cough syrup becomes illicit if taken without prescription by approved experts."

On the impact of the war, the crime fighter said, "We are far from winning the war. On the contrary the prevalence is increasing! We need to give drug abuse the priority it deserves. Our wish and talks will not do it but massive and concerted national efforts led by the Federal Government. It must be all embracing; Federal Government, State Governments, all Local government authorities, All Security and Intelligence agencies, religious bodies, parents, youth, women, school administrators, Civil Society Organisations, etc. all must be on board if we must win the war."

On his membership of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Eradication of Drug Abuse(PACEDA) the soft-spoken

crusader said, I thank God for someone like Prof. Is-haq Oloyede, JAMB Registrar who nominated me for the PACEDA assignment. He may not like you, but if he feels you could help in resolving matters that touch the soul of our country, he will look for you! He nominated me and told me "it is an area I know you have the competence, if I have someone better I would have recommended the person!"

Nigeria is at a crossroads now and we need people who will look for our best to work things out to bring us back for meaningful development.

"At the inauguration of PACEDA, the President said his greatest problem as the President was the very high prevalence of drug abuse that was fuelling all the heinous crimes in our country.

"We have submitted our report and waiting for further or other directives. As at last week, the Bureau of Statistics indicated that with Covid-19 lockdown the drug abuse situation has gone worse!"

He said, "PACEDA had the privilege and benefit of one of our best as the Chairman. He is Gen. Mohammed Buba Marwa. The level and extent of our study which gave birth to our recommendations is such that would sufficiently resolve our drug challenges to the barest minimum within a year."

Otunba Ipinmisho said, "For the country to make an in road in the fight against illicit drugs, Nigeria needs the kind of arsenal that the Federal Government unleashed on Covid-19 to defeat drug abuse. It must be total; bringing all on board and consistent. I am so afraid of what lies ahead of all of us if we fail to make this drug challenge our urgent national priority it will consume us. We cannot afford to play politics with Drug and Corruption!"

"Nigeria is at the moment fighting a war in which her opponent is deploying massive sophisticated modern weapons but we are here deploying our broken sword and non-committed, significantly disloyal personnel! What results are you expecting? Miracle maybe?"

On the feat and strategy deployed to delist Nigeria from the US drug list, the Kogi-born administrator said, "I simply suggested openness in what we do and the authorities approved and permitted me to lead our discussions with America and it worked. I had a personal relationship with the American Head of

Drugs in Nigeria. He made me to realise that America did not trust our operations, arrests, seizures, investigations, prosecutions, disposal of exhibits, etc. As an insider, I knew that the Federal Government was committed to the war totally. But this must be reflected in the activities of the response agencies. We stopped pretending that we don't have bad eggs. We identified their kingpins and flushed them out gave it the widest publicity as approved by the President. We realised that in drug war you must be open to your partners if you want to be trusted. We tried that and it worked. I went for an official programme at the Transcorp Hotel Abuja when the USA Drug Attaché who was at the programme suddenly told me congratulations DG. He showed me his Blackberry phone where it was announced to him that his recommendations on Nigeria had been accepted and that Nigeria was out of the annual certification rituals! Sincerity and openness help to secure and sustain our partners' cooperation and understanding. I am grateful to those who accepted and approved my recommendations."

On JAMB's assessment, the Asiwaju of Ogidi said, "I am proud to see JAMB a foremost agency when Nigerians are discussing the fight against corruption and good governance. JAMB is now an example that our country is not totally hopeless. It is even more amazing that 99% of those the management is using to turn around JAMB are Nigerians! My faith in Nigeria was strengthened by the phenomenal turn around of JAMB! I have not come across a single foreign expert in the turnaround process in JAMB under Prof. Oloyede. Leadership therefore is the bane of our development as a nation.

"Let the right people be in the right places and we can watch this country peacefully progressing and taking its rightful place in leading Africa out of the woods! Tell me which Nigerian is not proud of JAMB today. Particularly that this feat was achieved using the same staff! They simply understood that to remain on board, certain painful decisions must be taken and not only executed but to be the new norm and standard.

The highly -elated legal practitioner said, "The present management has laid a great foundation which must be built and sustained, the turnaround that has been achieved so far must be institutionalised.

# EDUCATION IN THE MEDIA

## **PUNCH TUESDAY OCTOBER 13, 2020 –NCDC Demands Weekly, Monthly, Quarterly Assessment as Schools Reopen**

As schools resume nationwide, the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control has urged states to conduct a risk assessment to mitigate the exposure level of pupils to COVID-19. The centre advised that the risk assessment should be conducted weekly by schools, monthly by local government areas and quarterly by states. According to the National Coordinator of the PTF, Dr Sani Aliyu, with the reopening of schools, the PTF remains concerned about the long-term impact of COVID-19 on education and eventually our economy.

## **PUNCH TUESDAY OCTOBER 13, 2020 –Don Laments Excessive Use of Improvisation**

Former Head of Department, Computer Science and Engineering, Obafemi Awolowo University, Prof. Rotimi Adagunodo, has lamented the excessive use of improvisation in the tertiary institutions. Improvisation is an educational term which means the use of alternative materials to illustrate a point instead of the actual tool or material if such materials are not readily available. Adagunodo maintained that in other climes, there is little room for improvisation. However, in Nigeria, the dependence on improvisation is alarming as nothing seemed to be functioning and available.

## **PUNCH TUESDAY OCTOBER 13, 2020 –Afe Babalola Advocates Digitalisation of Varsities**

The founder of Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Chief Afe Babalola, has stressed the need for the full digitalisation of universities in Nigeria to enhance the standard of education. Babalola said with digitalisation, people around the world regardless of their location could use video, audio and text to link up online for learning. According to him, If any university hopes to become a world-class university, all their teachers must go digital. We should harness all these to make our education better.

## **DAILY INDEPENDENT WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14, 2020 –IPPIS: FG Considers Alternative Platform for ASUU**

The federal government has said it might consider the adoption of the University Transparency Account System (UTAS) presented by the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU).

UTAS, proposed by ASUU to the federal government, is an alternative emoluments payment platform to the Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System (IPPIS). According to the Minister of Labour, Dr Chris Ngige, the alternative payment platform presented by ASUU was homegrown and worth giving a thorough assessment test. **Also in Punch, Wednesday, October 14, 2020**

## **THISDAY WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14, 2020 –Nigeria Will Develop if Budget Meets UNESCO Recommendation, Says Varsity Dons**

Last week, President Muhammadu Buhari, presented a record N13 trillion-budget for 2021 to a joint session of the National Assembly. Out of the total budget, N545.10 billion would be allocated to the Ministry of Education. As part of the budget for education, the President said the funds provided would be put to upgrade the security and other infrastructural facilities in our unity colleges nationwide. Also, provisions have been made for the establishment of five new federal science and technical colleges in the country. However, these have been received with mixed reactions from various stakeholders in the education industry, with some pointing out that the country has never met the UNESCO minimum benchmark of allocation to the education sector which states 26 per cent for any serious economy to grow.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Management Services, Babcock University, Alishan-Remo, Ogun State, Prof. Sunday Ajao Owolabi described the move as a positive signal to the development of the education sector in Nigeria, commending the efforts of the president to increase the new budget by 65 per cent compared with last year's budget. This, he said, shows that the government is beginning to recognise the importance of education in the growth of the nation.

## **PUNCH FRIDAY OCTOBER 16, 2020 –NYSC Orientation Camps Reopen Nov., Corps, Staff for COVID-19 Test**

The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) is set to resume orientation exercise in camps across the 37 states of the country from the 10<sup>th</sup> of November 2020. The Director Press and Public Relations of the scheme, Mrs Adenike Adeyemi, stated that the management has urged all Prospective Corps Members to adhere strictly to COVID-19 protocols while in camp to have a hitch-free Orientation course. **Also in Daily Trust, Friday, October 17, 2020**

## **DAILY INDEPENDENT FRIDAY OCTOBER 16, 2020 –FG Lifts Ban On Sporting Events, Asks Civil Servants to Resume Work**

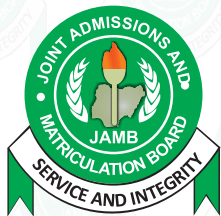
The Federal Government has directed the Presidential Task Force on COVID-19, chaired by Boss Mustapha, who doubles as Secretary to the Government of the Federation, to allow for the resumption of outdoor sporting activities like league matches.

Beyond the partial reopening of the economy, the president approved that members of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) be allowed to commence camping activities from November 10, including allowing civil servants from grade levels 1-12 to resume work full time. **Also in Daily Trust, Friday, October 16, 2020, Punch, Friday, October 16, 2020**

## **DAILY TRUST FRIDAY OCTOBER 16, 2020 –FG Orders Compulsory COVID-19 Tests for Corps Members**

The Federal Government has ordered compulsory COVID-19 tests for all prospective corps members ahead of the November 10, 2020 reopening of orientation camps nationwide which were shutdown since March due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Secretary to the Government of the Federation and Chairman, PTF, Boss Mustapha, said his team had concluded arrangements to test additional 100,000 corps members at the various NYSC orientation camps nationwide on resumption.





# JOINT ADMISSIONS AND MATRICULATION BOARD

## REPORT OF INFLOW AND OUTFLOW FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 10 - OCTOBER 16, 2020

### FINANCIAL INFLOW

S/N	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT(N)
1	E-facilities/Sales	61,644,349.00
2	CBT Centre Service Charge	795,810.00
3	Other Income	1,049,960.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63,490,119.00</b>

### FINANCIAL OUTFLOW

S/N	DESCRIPTION	PURPOSE OF PAYMENT	AMOUNT(N)
1	Staff Claims	Various	8,110,095.22
2	Supervision of Examination	Third Party Examination	965,400.00
3	Publicity and Advertisement	Advertisement	1,830,432.00
4	Quarterly Allocation	4th Zonal/State Offices	17,950,000.00
5	MTN Nigeria Communications	Internet Access Charge	17,986,002.56
6	KOJO AUTO SERVICE CENTRE LTD	MAINTENANCE OF MOTOR VEHICLE	167,462.42
7	Remita	Financial Charges	7,202.50
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>47,016,594.70</b>

## JAMB CELEBRATES STAFF BORN OCTOBER 19<sup>TH</sup> 2020 – OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup> 2020

### 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Shalewa Tawakalitu Olabode-Adetimehin  
Veronica Oluwakemi Faniyi  
Bukola Omowumi Olowu  
Mamman Maigari Dogonyaro  
Chidinma Ogochukwu Olisaemeka  
Ngozi Florence Okoro

### 20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Moses Sabo Ibrahim  
Echefula Felix Ibeku  
Abubakar Sadiq Dikwa  
Saka Ibrahim

### 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER

Eniola Oluwole Oyebanji  
Eunice Obaninuchem Eleokuihia  
Bello Abubakar  
Toyeeb Eytayo Ademoye  
Muhammed Abubakar

### 23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER

Buhari Bolomope Aliyu  
Funmilayo Omoize Ekhesoni  
Ruth Oluwakemi Babatunde  
Comfort Adedoyin Oragbade  
Mary Chiamaka Onyebueke

### 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Evelyn Nkeiruka Akoja  
Ebenezer Olugbenga Owolafe  
Agatha Ogbonna Abani  
Nurudeen Yahaya

### 25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Olushina Abayomi Oyelere  
Shalom Joro Yabilsu  
Sunday Muiyiwa Olakulehin  
Mariam Yusuf Lawal  
Khadijat Temitope Raji  
Abdullahi Nana

Happy Birthday



## ...JAMB Conducts International Examination For WASC



necessary preparations for the examination.

The examination, which was held for four days in the six examination towns, was successfully conducted in accordance with global best testing practices. The

examination was for Part I/Membership; Part II /Fellowship and Post-Fellowship Diploma in Trauma Care.

The candidates were examined in the areas of Dental Surgery; Anaesthesia; Obstetrics & Gynaecology; Ophthalmology; Neurosurgery; Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, etc.

The Registrar of the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board, Prof. Is-haq Oloyede, who monitored the examination remotely said, "The Board's major priority is to continue to live up to the expectations of stakeholders. This is an international examination for doctors who desire to be among the top echelon of medical practice. As such, an exercise

of this nature cannot be given to an agency that has not made integrity its watchword. To whom much is given so much is also expected."

The Board has of late become the first port of call of many reputable agencies that desire to conduct seamless examinations for their promotion exercises, professional qualifications or recruitment.

As a global examination body, the Board has designed a template of service that is comparable to those being offered in any part of the world and that is precisely the reason why it is being patronised by diverse entities at home and abroad.

## JAMB GIANT STRIDES IN AUTOMATION OF OPERATIONS

The Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB) has for years been upping its game to bring about a systematic overhaul of the general procedures for the smooth discharge of its operations. The accelerated adoption of technology which engendered the change in the mode of deploying its examination (from PPT to CBT) is commendable.

In the past few decades, Information and Communication Technology has provided the society with a vast array of new capabilities. The Board has leveraged on these tools to achieve a steady and sustainable improvement in its service delivery to the public.

However, this was not to be without challenges. Given the increase for tertiary education in Nigeria, much pressure is brought to bear on the Board thus compelling it to come up with new innovations to thwart the machinations of some selfish interests. The Board has continued to search for new ways of doing things, especially those ways that would address perceived challenges, reduce cost and place the Board on a global map. With these laudable goals in mind, the Board is never deterred by the activities

of third columnist. Through aggressive training, drawing important lessons from the University of Ilorin pioneering CBT experience and benchmarking with foreign testing agencies such as Cito, the Netherlands, ETS, USA among others, the Board acquired the relevant technical knowledge necessary to sustain the deployment of e-examinations. In the course of time, other technologies were developed in-house or acquired by the Board which changed its entire operational procedures culminating in a renewed and rebranded examination agency.

Undoubtedly, the establishment of the Board and other such Agencies has contributed in no small measure to the standardization of public examinations nationally. The growing demand for tertiary education in Nigeria has placed a heavy burden on the Board and to the admiration of all, particularly the international community, it has been discharging this responsibility satisfactorily. The large number of candidates being examined by the Board using the CBT mode is a world-first leading to determined and sustained efforts by other public examination

agencies to benchmark with it.

The Board has continued to churn out innovations from candidates' registration, to the conduct of examination and admissions. Recent Innovations by the Board in the area of assessment have to, a large extent, improved public confidence in its operations. Some of these innovations are the institutionalising of biometric verification of candidates in all its examinations to check impersonation and other security breaches. The introduction of close circuit cameras and the revolution in the admissions sector which engender inclusiveness, transparency and strict adherence to admissions guidelines both for institutions and candidates through the introduction of the Central Admissions Processing System (CAPS) in 2017 to automate the entire admission process. This breakthrough provides candidates with the opportunity to confirm provisional admissions in real time against the conventional method where admissions were conducted in a conference fashion by admissions officers from the tertiary institutions and staff of the Board.

## ...“We Cannot Afford To Play Politics With Drugs And Corruption” -Former NDLEA Boss

If it centres around an individual, then the sacrifice of the last five years could be fretted away in less than 5 months.

He said, "the Registrar is doing well on General Staff Welfare. This must be sustained and must go beyond his tenure.

The reforms must be owned by all to be sustainable.

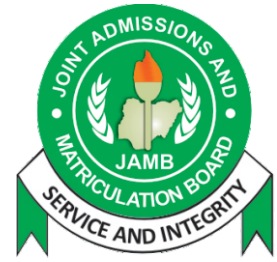
The former DG spoke on his midwifing experience in the involvement of members of the National Youth Service Corps in the Board examination.

He said, "The decision to involve corps members was noble and patriotic! I am proud of being the coordinator. Some of the corps members we tried to mentor are still with us till date, we are happy to be used to mentor them.





# JAMB



## ZONAL AND STATE OFFICES OF THE BOARD

S/N	ZONAL OFFICE	STATES IN THE ZONE
1.	Abuja	Federal Capital Territory, Kwara, Niger and Kogi
2.	Bauchi	Bauchi, Gombe and Taraba
3.	Benin	Edo and Delta
4.	Enugu	Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu and Imo
5.	Ibadan	Ekiti, Ondo, Osun and Oyo
6.	Kaduna	Kebbi, Sokoto, Kaduna and Zamfara
7.	Kano	Jigawa, Kano and Katsina
8.	Lafia	Benue, Nasarawa and Plateau
9.	Lagos	Lagos and Ogun
10.	Maiduguri	Adamawa, Borno and Yobe
11.	Port-Harcourt	Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River and Rivers

Zonal Offices bear the names of the towns in which they are located.



*...Decades of Enhancing Academic Excellence*