



THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REMARKS AT THE COMMISSIONING OF TETFUND PROJECTS IN BENUE STATE UNIVERSITY MAKURDI, ON 11TH MAY 2023

Protocols

- His Excellency, the Honourable Minister of Special Duties & Inter-governmental Affairs, Sen. George Akume, representing Mr. President and C-in-C, Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR
- Representative of /His Excellency, the Governor of Benue State, Gov. Samuel Ortom
- Distinguished Sen. Gabriel Torwua Suswam, immediate past Governor of Benue State and Chairman Senate Committee on Power
- His Majesty, Tor Tiv
- The Hon. Commissioner for Education, Hon. Saawuan Tarnongu PhD.
- Chairman, Governing Council of the University, Chief Sebastine Tar Hon
- Vice Chancellor of the University, Professor Tor Iorapuu and Members of the University Management
- Members of Staff of the University
- Directors from TETFund
- The TETFund Zonal Coordinator (North Central), Mal. Abba Hammajoda
- TETFund staff here present
- Members of the Press
- Distinguished Guests
- Ladies and Gentlemen

The Hon. Minister Sir, Vice Chancellor and Management of the University, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to be here at the Benue State University for the commissioning of Six (6) completed TETFund-sponsored projects executed under the years 2014 - 2016 (merged)

and 2017 – 2020 (merged) Annual Intervention. I am equally delighted and pleased to welcome our distinguished project commissioner, the Honourable Minister of Special Duties & Inter-governmental Affairs, Sen. George Akume, who was nominated by Mr. President, Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR to commission the projects on his behalf – you are most welcome Sir.

The Federal Government, through TETFund has made huge investments in the provision of requisite infrastructure to aid teaching, learning and research in the nation's public tertiary institutions spread all over the country. In Benue State, where the Fund has eight (8) beneficiary institutions, we have invested about N18.83 billion in provision of physical infrastructure interventions between 2011 and 2021. This is apart from the content-based interventions through which the Fund sponsors the capacity development of both teaching and non-teaching staff for acquisition of higher degree qualifications, as well as attendance of conferences, locally and internationally. TETFund as an interventionist agency, has ensured equity in the allocation of funds to the three tiers of its beneficiaries in line with the enabling laws governing the activities of the agency.

Considering the large volume of such infrastructure, the Fund thought is best to showcase the achievements of this administration through the commissioning of iconic projects being completed by our beneficiary institutions, as an attestation to the commitment of government to ensuring that our institutions attain higher global rankings in the delivery of academic content within a conducive environment. Although we may not be there yet, it is nonetheless pertinent to remark that the journey towards this envisioned future has been progressive, notwithstanding the various dynamics occurring in the nation's economy. The Board and Management of the Fund is focused on mobilizing all available resources for the achievement of this goal.

The Six (6) projects to be commissioned today by His Excellency, the Honourable Minister of Special Duties & Inter-governmental Affairs, Sen. George Akume, were commenced in May 2019 and completed in April 2023 at a total cost of **N2.18 Billion**. We commend the Institution for ensuring quality delivery of the projects and for sticking substantially to the terms of delivery approved by the Fund. It is for this reason we are here to cut the tapes, to signal the commencement of their use. Let me urge that these buildings should be put to their proper use and well maintained to serve generations coming behind to acquire learning in this citadel of learning.

On behalf of the Honourable Minister Special Duties & Inter-governmental Affairs, Management and Staff of TETFund, I welcome you all to this great event and wish you safe journey back to your respective stations after we are done today.

Honourable Minister Sir, I most respectfully invite you to give your remarks and commence the commissioning.

Thank you.