



KW-IRS
KWARA STATE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

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KWAREVE*News*

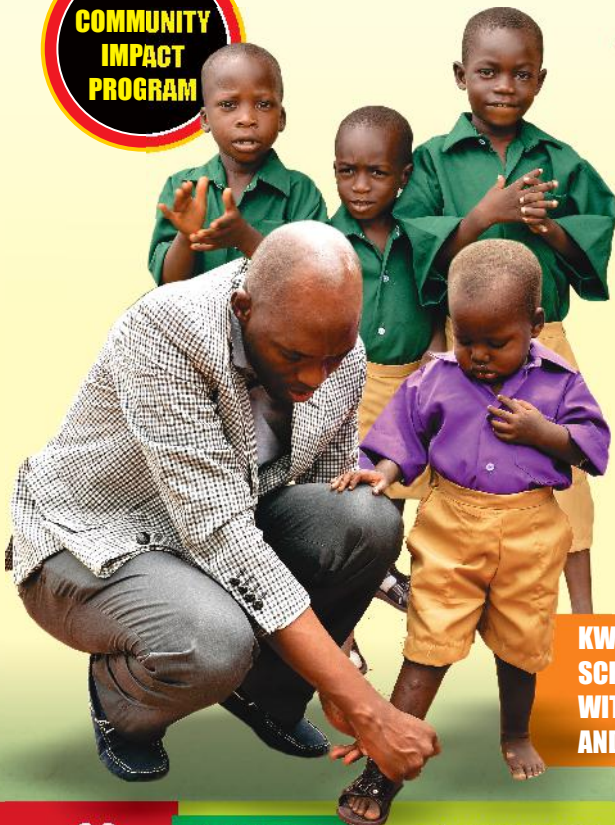
A monthly publication of Kwara State Internal Revenue Service

May 2016, Volume 2 Issue 6

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KW-IRS

KWARA STATE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE



Mobilizing **revenue** for the strategic development of **KWARA STATE**

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**PAY YOUR
TAX**

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editorial

From the Desk of the Executive Chairman

TAX FOR JOBS

You may want to ask what is the relationship between tax and jobs? Just as the *World Development Report* of 2011 asked, how are unemployment and violence linked? We have seen over the years that unemployment leads to many vices in both developing and developed countries, and Nigeria is not an exception. So the creation of jobs in any state is a form that will provide income to the teeming unemployed young population is a major step in the right direction. Tax, which is a civic responsibility, is only compulsory for people who are gainfully employed, as it is chargeable only on earned income. It is thus clear that tax is positively correlated with jobs or employment. So the more jobs created the more tax that will be paid by the people.

The focus of attention of this issue of

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Tax, which is a civic responsibility, is only compulsory for people who are gainfully employed, as it is chargeable only on earned income.”

editorial

KWAREVENEWS is appropriately on the relationship between tax and jobs. Using the specific experience of the creation of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service, we showcased how the Government of Kwara State created jobs for the people of Kwara through the establishment of the Service. The government chose to be sensitive to the needs of the people and adopted a labour intensive technology driven approach to drive the revenue mobilization transformation. In less than six month of the first year of the second

in the revenue drive of the State. We have carefully put this edition together with all our regulars but with the mind that our readers will get more informed about tax matters and tax issues particularly in the State of Harmony.

With this edition the entire staff and management of Kwara State Internal Revenue Service congratulates His Excellency, Dr Abdulfatah Ahmed, the Executive Governor of Kwara State, on the successful completion of yet another year as the Governor of Kwara State

Government of Kwara State created jobs for the people of Kwara through the establishment of the Service. The government chose to be sensitive to the needs of the people and adopted a labour intensive technology driven approach to drive the revenue mobilization transformation.

term in office of His Excellency, Governor Abdulfatah Ahmed, about 2,000 direct and indirect jobs were created through this revenue transformation embarked upon.

In this issue, we also feature the community impact programme of the Service for the month of April with the full kitting of the pupils of four selected primary schools in four local government areas of the State. The Service provided two pairs of uniform per pupil for about 2,000 pupils of these schools with a sandal per pupil and a bag each. This is in furtherance of our efforts to demonstrate to the people of Kwara that this is indeed a new era in revenue mobilization in the State.

We also covered our various stakeholders meetings and events as we continue in our stakeholders' engagement which is our conscious effort to carry along all stakeholders

in the midst of tight and harsh economic and financial conditions in the country. We look forward to the years ahead when the fruit of what you have sown through the creation of KW-IRS will begin to manifest for all to see and eat.

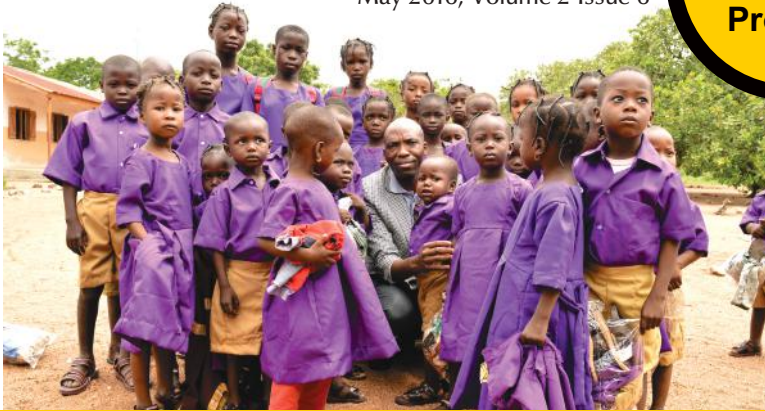


Muritala Awodun, PhD
Executive Chairman
Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS)

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KW-IRS FULFILLS PROMISE -

KITS SCHOOL PUPILS WITH UNIFORMS AND SANDALS

In Fulfilling the promise to impact the community in one of the chosen five areas of our focus (Education, Empowerment, Employment, Enterprise & Environment) the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service completed the kitting of about 1,000 pupils in the first four selected Community Primary Schools in four Local Government Areas of the State. Earlier in the month of March, 2016 the KW-IRS team had visited the schools to distribute school bags to the pupils of these schools and on the visit promised to return to provide the pupils with schools uniforms and sandals.

Led by the Executive Chairman of the Service, each of the pupils of these selected schools receives two pairs of their school uniforms as part of KW-IRS donation to them to encourage them in their studies and send a message to their parents that it pays to pay tax. On

ground to receive the KW-IRS team at Asa LGA was the Chairman of the Local Government Area (LGA) and his team who expressed their joy at the intervention of the KW-IRS on this education project. The Chairman of Irepodun LGA sent a representative to receive the team at the selected schools in his LGA while Ifelodun and Ilorin South LGAs had the Head Teachers of the selected schools as the recipient of the school uniforms on behalf of the schools.

There were great excitement and joy on the faces of these pupils but more significant is the fact that since the visit of the KW-IRS in March 2016 when the school bags were distributed, there have been a significant improvement in attendance by the pupils as more parents have sent their wards to school as reported by the Head Teachers in each of the selected schools.





Pictures of pupils of the various schools visited in the 4 LGAs



Pictures of pupils of the various schools visited in the 4 LGAs

365 1,826

DAYS IN OFFICE

MAY 29TH, 2016



His Excellency,
Alhaji Abdulfatah Ahmed
Executive Governor, Kwara State

The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, the management and the entire staff of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) wish to congratulate His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Kwara State on his 365 days in office after his re-election and his 1,826 days in office as the Executive Governor of Kwara State. We pray Kwara gets to its promise land in your time.

Congratulations!!!

Signed
Muritala Awodun, PhD
Executive Chairman



KW-IRS
KWARA STATE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Play your part, pay your TAX

TAX *for* JOBS

Creating NEW JOBS through the Transformation of Tax Collection in Kwara State

*Muritala Awodun, PhD



Oh, the times are hard and the people are suffering! Why is it that in the midst of all these, the government suddenly realizes that it has to change and be more efficient in revenue mobilization? How can we trust government that these funds will be used in the interest of the people? We trusted them with our resources in the past, why should we continue to trust them? These are just few of the questions people are asking at all levels of government whether Federal, State or Local Governments. The people have suddenly realized that they have a responsibility to ask for accountability and judicious utilization of our common resources just as the government is also been forced to think out of the box, at all these tiers, due to the downward trend in the price of oil which is the main source of revenue of the nation.

Necessity, they say is the mother of invention, so we have all become wiser suddenly as we realize that the days of buoyancy are over. In Kwara State, our attempt to restructure the process of revenue mobilization for efficiency and effectiveness made us take cognizance of the reality of these hard times and thus resolved that our strategy will be people friendly and will be such that will

solve some of the obvious problems raised by some of the above questions, rather than create more problems. In recognition of this fact, we set out to adopt a labour-intensive and stakeholder-friendly technological approach in revenue mobilization. Adopting a blend of the old and the new, we made up our mind to use this opportunity to create JOBS (both directly and indirectly) that will put money in people's pockets. To achieve this objective, we set our standards and threw open the doors of Kwara State Internal Revenue Service for those that can fit into our set standards, and help in accomplishing our vision.

We defined the jobs and set out to recruit those that can assist in carrying them out. We consciously paid particular attention to the youth and fresh school leavers whose job experience is close to zero, and did this with the determination to train and mould them into the fulcrum of the KW-IRS system. We believe that because they are just having the opportunity of their first jobs they will be easily tutored into learning the ethics of work and acceptable global standards of service with integrity.

For us, the establishment of the new Kwara State Internal Revenue Service provides the State the

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For us, the establishment of the new Kwara State Internal Revenue Service provides the State the opportunity to create a new legion of workers with a different orientation of work and a distinct work ethics that is comparable to what obtains in any part of the world.
 ”

opportunity to create a new legion of workers with a different orientation of work and a distinct work ethics that is comparable to what obtains in any part of the world. It provided us with the opportunity of beginning a new era for Kwara State, and the opportunity we have grabbed with both hands to build an enduring institution that will change the face (and ethics) of work in the State.

In the process that started with a Computer Based Test (CBT), from where successful candidates were selected for interview, and a final one-on-one selection meeting with the Executive Chairman, a KW-IRS team was selected, thus creating 528 NEW JOBS with the minimum entry requirement into the Service set at Higher National Diploma (HND) Lower Credit or Bachelor's Degree (Second Class Lower). For a Third Class Division Degree holder to be acceptable into this fold, an additional professional qualification or post graduate diploma which is an evidence of remedy of the weakness in the qualification is required.

The recruitment did not just stop at the interview and selection, but a month long training programme, both for vision sharing and professional and field trainings was organized and success at the trainings was a pre-condition for resumption into the Service. The reason for all these is to ensure that the crop of staff selected through the recruitment process are adequately prepared for the job as the only basis for sustaining the job is purely performance based.

In a State like Kwara, creating direct employment of over 500 graduates is quite significant, but more important are the other jobs created through the engagement of other 171 consultants to carry out or assist the Service in the revenue mobilization process in various other areas such as road taxes, markets, LGAs, forestry, environment, etc. The direct engagement of these consultants created not just 171 additional JOBS but each of the consultants' enterprises also engaged between 2 – 25 other employees each that have generated another 625 indirect jobs.

For the Professional Tax Monitoring and Auditing assignment, we engaged a total of 40 TAMA Consultants from the list of over 120 firms that applied, thus creating another 40 direct jobs, but these consultants also have engaged between 2 – 10 other employees each which also resulted in a total of 225 indirect jobs created.

In addition, there are a total of 21 contractors rendering services from direct supply of items to outsourcing services like cleaning and security at our various outlets. These contractors have also engaged between 1 – 15 other employees each that have resulted in 129 indirect jobs created.

Thus, just by the initiative of the Kwara State Government to establish the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service anew, a total of 760 direct jobs have been created within the State and another 979 indirect jobs through the various consultants and contractors engaged. In all, a total of 1,739 sustainable jobs have been created by the government and this figure can only get better as we strive to achieve the set goals and objectives of Kwara State Internal Revenue Service which is clearly expressed by our vision ; 'to mobilize revenue for the strategic development of Kwara State'.

Kwara State Internal Revenue Service is therefore touching about 2,000 homes in Kwara State (in less than 6 months of operations) as there are other service providers whose businesses and survival have been sustained as a result of the establishment of the Service. Each of these about 2,000 JOBS obviously have at least an average of 3 dependants whose survival depends entirely on the sustainability of these 2,000 JOBS.

It is therefore obvious that it pays to pay your tax. As you play your part by paying your tax, you are not only contributing to the running of the State, but you are equally contributing to the sustainability of the JOBS of these 2,000 people who are direct beneficiary of the activities of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service, as they engage in their job of revenue mobilization for the strategic development of Kwara State for you and I.



FOR JOB CREATION

Support the State Government to create a conducive environment and to create Enterprises

PLAY YOUR PART

PAY YOUR

TAX



KW-IRS

KWARA STATE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Mobilizing Revenue for the Strategic Development of Kwara State

www.kw-irs.com



MAS'UD ELELU ANNOUNCES STRATEGY TO GROW IGR IN THE KWARA STATE POLYTECHNIC

The Rector of the Kwara State Polytechnic, Alh Mas'ud Elelu has announced the strategies deployed to grow Internally Generated Revenue in Kwara State Polytechnic. The Rector made this declaration during a courtesy visit by the Management Team of Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) on 5 April 2016.

The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun who led the management of KW-IRS, in his opening remarks acknowledged the efforts of the Rector and his team for rebranding and sustaining the name of the Institution. He commended the Rector on the quality of graduates produced by the institution. He also applauded the great performance of Kwara State Polytechnic graduates during the recruitment exercise conducted by KW-IRS. He added that about 140 graduates of the institution scaled through the various stages of screening and have been employed by the Service.

Dr. Awodun further expounded on the

need for KW-IRS and Kwara State Polytechnic to join forces to grow the IGR of the Institution and the State.

In his response, the Rector expressed his appreciation to the Service for the visit. He lamented the challenges currently facing the school such as epileptic power supply; security hitches as well as financial constraints. Alhaji Mas'ud Elelu admitted that this is a tough time for the institution but that the management is guided by the quote of Robert Schuller which is also echoed by Dr. Abdulfatah Ahmed, the Executive Governor of Kwara State that says *“tough times never last but tough people do”*. The Rector explained that the institution has therefore identified 3 strategies to grow IGR and manage revenue collected; *Maximize Collection, Block Loopholes and identify windows of opportunities*.

Alhaji Mas'ud Elelu also explained

that the institution has survived without any allocation from the state for over a year. He stated that the zero budgeting techniques by the Federal Government also adopted by the Kwara State Government has been a major challenge. He added that the estimated budget for the year 2016 is 2.1 billion and they have been able to generate only 1.6 billion naira, which will not be able to take care of the year's expenditure. He however explained that as an institution, they have continued to look inward to explore other options.

Some of the options enumerated by Alhaji Elelu to generate revenue include; production of paint, cleaning agents, beads, bricks, pure water, bread, local textile (tie & dye), packaged food items and some other campus made products. The Rector further stated that in order to be able to generate revenue for the institution, the school authority has made it compulsory for contractors building within the premises of Kwara State Polytechnic to use the bricks and paints produced by the School. He said only the Polytechnic sachet water, bread and products are allowed to be sold on



A member of Kwara Poly team making a statement



Mrs Babajamu speaking on behalf of KWIRS



Kwara State Polytechnic management team



KWIRS management team



Rector KwaraPoly, Alhaji Mas'ud Elelu addressing KWIRS management team



Alhaji Nuhu, Director Tax Assessment & Audit making a statement during the visit



Presentation of gift to the Executive Chairman, Dr Muritala Awodun



Presentation of gift to the Rector, Alhaji Mas'ud Elelu

campus. The Rector said these are some of the windows of opportunities the institution had identified to generate revenue for its needs.

He explained that the institution had long foreseen the fall in the oil price and the inevitable need to look inward. He said this early discovery had made the institution to prepare ahead. He spoke of the impact of the institution in pre-educating its staff on the importance of BVN and the need for them to register before the state started its sanctions for civil servants without BVN.

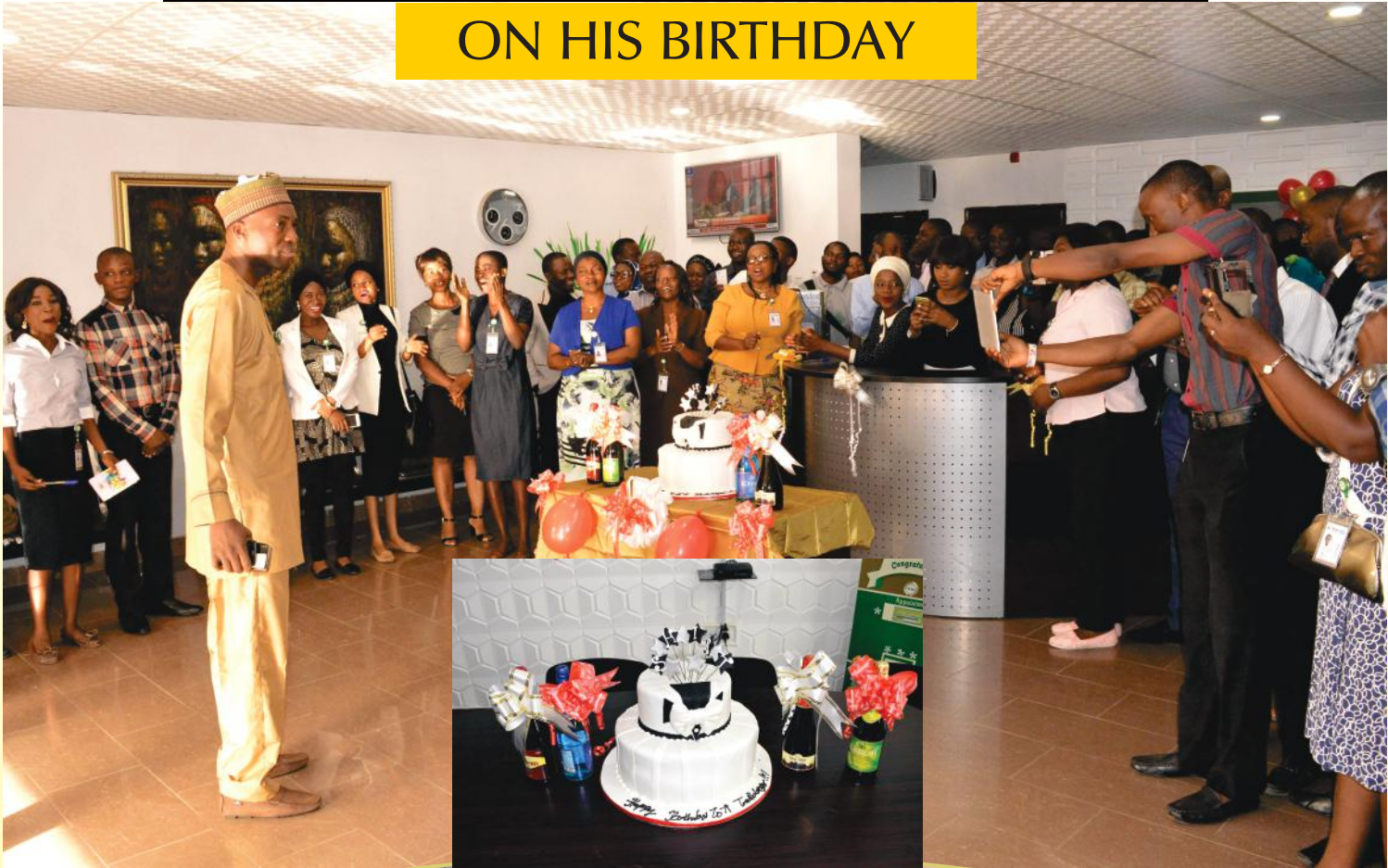
Alhaji. Mas'ud Elelu reiterated the security challenges of the institution. He noted that in order to address the security issues of the School, the management had engaged all the existing security agencies in the country to be operative on campus. Alhaji. Mas'ud Elelu was optimistic that with the establishment of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) by the Executive Governor of the State, Dr. Abdulfatah Ahmed, and the selection of its management team who have been tested and trusted, a positive change was obvious. He therefore pledged his support for KW-IRS saying categorically that the institution will support the Service. He stated that Kwara State Polytechnic is prompt in remitting its PAYE and other revenue due to the State Government. He however promised that the institution would continue in that line of responsibility. He submitted that better days are ahead of the Kwara State if KW-IRS receives the support required from all stakeholders. He admonished for the impact of KW-IRS at maturity to be extended to the Kwara State Polytechnic.

In his closing remarks, the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS Dr. Muritala Awodun appreciated the nuggets given by the Rector, Kwara State Polytechnic. He however announced the incentives package brought by KW-IRS for the institution; automatic employment at KW-IRS for 3 best students in management and management related fields. This package is to be extended to all tertiary Institutions in Kwara State.



Group photograph of KWIRS and Kwara State Polytechnic team

EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, KW-IRS CELEBRATED BY MANAGEMENT & STAFF ON HIS BIRTHDAY



The Executive Chairman with the Directors



Presentation of a portrait to the Executive Chairman



Executive Chairman in group photographs with management and staff



COURTESY VISIT TO ENGINEER LANRE SAGAYA OF YOLAS CONSULTS LIMITED

The Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) team, led by the Executive Chairman on 21 April 2016 paid a courtesy visit to Engr Yusuf Olanrewaju Sagaya, Chairman Yolas Consults. The purpose of the visit was to identify with the veteran entrepreneur and philanthropist who just turned 70 years and seek his words of advice.

The Executive, Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr Awodun in his opening remarks congratulated Engr Sagaya on his new age and wished him long life and prosperity. Dr Awodun expressed his joy that the septuagenarian has been consistent in his payment of tax. He said he has been living up to the tenets of Islam on tax payment and his civic responsibility. He informed the Engr that his contributions and support to the development of Kwara State, both officially and unofficially are not unnoticed.

Engr Lanre Sagaya, as he is popularly referred to welcomed the KW-IRS team. He expressed his appreciation for the

persuasive approach KW-IRS is using. He described the methods used by tax collectors in the olden days to be of force such that people hide at the instance of tax collectors.

Lanre Shagaya said that payment of tax is every adult's civic responsibility. He appealed that it is a must for Government to perform its social duties to the people. He added that even Islamic doctrine teaches tax compliance. He advised organisations, even the service oriented ones such as his consultancy outfit, Yolas Consults Limited, to always balance their books and pay tax on dividends.

Engr Lanre Sagaya affirmed that the establishment of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) was long overdue. He agreed that it was time for Kwara to begin to look inward for means of providing for its citizenry.

Engr Lanre Shagaya requested clarification on where to pay his tax since most of his time is spent out of the state. Dr Muritala Awodun in his response highlighted the existence of other revenue payments besides taxes such as levies, rates and fees. He informed Engr Sagaya that the legislature recognises the possibility of multiple taxation and the State has addressed this through the Joint Revenue Committee which is set up to harmonise collections and eliminate multiple taxation.

Dr Awodun emphatically stated that when a person has paid his taxes (PIT) in one State, he cannot be forced to pay his taxes in another State, as this is in line with the residency clause provided for by law. The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS however clarified that an individual may still have to make other payments in the residency State or others, but for specific services being enjoyed. He clarified that taxes are different from other revenue such as the Road and Property Taxes. He said with these,



there may be services being provided for example, provision of waste management services could be inculcated within property tax. As such, it is because of ownership or use of an asset (e.g. landed property, vehicle, motorcycle) that one becomes liable to charges which are separate from taxes and hence, not multiples taxation. He added that multiple taxation is paying for the same collection item more than once.

Engr Sagaya was relieved on hearing these clarifications. On the questions of how the service arrives at charges for its High Network Individuals (HNI). Dr Awodun responded that people are assessed based on many factors including assets and income. He stated that the Service, by law have access to much information that may be used confidentially. He said these various databases and even bank accounts provide information about individuals, their assets, their income and their capacities.

In his message to residents of Kwara, Engr Sagaya appealed to all adults to be tax responsible. He explained that his love for the State motivates him to want to contribute to taking the Kwara to greater heights. He added that it is his love for Kwara and his desire to put it on the global map that made him decide to have the headquarters of Yolas Consults Ltd in Kwara.

Engr Lanre Sagaya thanked the KW-IRS team for the honour bestowed on him by selecting him as the Tax Personality of the month. Engr Sagaya affirmed his confidence in the KW-IRS team and hope that the Service will make Kwara great. He promised the team that he would double-check just to ensure his taxes are paid up to date. He however enjoined KW-IRS not to resort to the use of force on residents of Kwara.

The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS thanked the Engr for his warm reception and said the Service is proud to be associated with him. He assured Engr Sagaya that the strategy of KW-IRS is that



L-R: Executive Chairman, KWIRS, Director MDAs and Director Operations and Process



Members of the Management Team, KWIRS

of persuasion. He also stated that it is not only about willingness but also capacity; those who are able but unwilling are the ones who will be penalised. He also informed the Engr that people who do not pay taxes would be at a disadvantage by forfeiting some benefits being put in place for those who are compliant.



Presentation of Souvenir to Engr. Shagaya



Yolas Consults Ltd Management tem in a group photograph with Management and staff of KWIRS

TAX PERSONALITY

ENGR. YUSUF OLANREWaju SAGAYA

OFR, FNSE, FAEng

Zannan Ilorin

Engr. Yusuf Olanrewaju SAGAYA, (Lanre Sagaya in short) Engineer, Consultant, Businessman, Educationist, Sports Promoter and Philanthropist, was born on 12 April 1946. He attended Government Secondary School, Ilorin where he passed the Ordinary and Advance Levels examinations in 1964 and 1966 respectively and Ahmadu Bello University, where he had his First Degree with Honours in Civil Engineering in 1970. He had his Master's Degree in Structural Engineering from the University of Ottawa, Canada in 1975.

He worked with various firms, Nigeria and abroad before setting up his own practice. They included Ove Arup and Partners (Nigeria), Osot Associates (Nigeria), De Leuw Cather (Canada), ND Lee and Associates (Canada) and McLaren International (Canada and Nigeria). He was one of the founding Partners of Landscape Consultants, Ibadan, and later set up his own practice, YOLAS CONSULTS LTD with headquarters in Ilorin in 1980.

He is the Chairman/CEO of Yolas Consultants Ltd with offices in Ilorin, Lagos and Abuja and has over 150 employees. The firm has executed many landmark projects in Nigeria and trained various categories of Engineers.

Engr. Sagaya has served Nigeria and Kwara State in various capacities. He was the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the State Family Support Trust Fund, and a member of the Board

of Trustees of Kwara State Industrial Development Fund. He was a member of Kwara State Scholarship Board, a former member of Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute Board and had also served as the Chairman of the Kwara State (Ilorin) Chapter of the Nigerian Society of Engineers for two (2) consecutive terms 1992 – 1994. He has also served as the Chairman of Kwara State Town Planning and Development Authority between 1990 and 1994.

He belongs to various professional

institutions in various capacities including Former President, Association of Consulting Engineers of Nigeria (ACEN) 2002/2003; Fellow, Nigeria Society of Engineers; Fellow, Nigeria Institute of Structural Engineers (FNistrutE); Fellow, Nigeria Institution of Civil Engineers (FNICE); Fellow, Nigerian Academy of Engineering and Member, Council of Registered Engineers of Nigeria (COREN).

Engr. Sagaya was honoured by the Emir of Ilorin in November 2006 with the Traditional Title of Zanna of Ilorin. Kwara State Government as a Prominent Citizen honoured him during the celebration of Nigeria at 50 in year 2010. He received a National Honour of MFR in 2006, and in 2011 he was elevated to Officer of the Order of the Federal Republic (OFR).

Engr. Sagaya has travelled, near and far. He reads a lot, he is a passionate golfer and he has sponsored several golf tournaments. He is not only a National figure; his network reaches all across the globe.

Engr Sagaya is happily married with children.



BE TRANSPARENT, WORK IN UNITY AND ESCHEW EVERY ACT OF INDISCIPLINE AND CORRUPTION

-JUSTICE MUSTAPHA AKANBI

As greatly believed in Africa and most of the religions practiced in this part of the world, the blessings of the elders cannot be detached from success and great performance in life. Consequently at the inception of great assignments the elder's prayers are sought out. Such was the intention of the Executive Chairman of Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS), Dr. Muritala Awodun and the management team of KW-IRS when on 22 April 2016 they embarked on a courtesy visit to the great icon and legal luminary, Justice Mustapha Akanbi, a renowned justice, philanthropist, disciplinarian and the former Chairman of Independent Corrupt Practice Commission (ICPC).

In his opening remarks, Dr. Awodun regretted the late visit of the management team to Justice Akanbi, which was as a result of the ill health of the sage. He stated that Justice Akanbi was on top of the list of those who were lined up for visits at the inception of the Service. He gave a background to the establishment of KW-IRS and a brief on its activities in the past three months.

Dr. Awodun itemized some of the mandates of the KW-IRS which are to collect revenue for the development of the State, block all leakages, eliminate double taxation and advice the government on socio-economic policy by giving recommendations to the government through the feedback gathered from the people. Dr. Awodun further emphasized that, the Service is not just interested in collecting revenue from the people but would also ensure that the revenue collected from the people is used for the development of the people of Kwara State.

Justice Mustapha Akanbi appreciated the team for thinking it wise to stop by his door for some words of wisdom. Justice

Akanbi however lamented the state of Nigeria saying that if the medical sector is well equipped and operated by professionals, he wouldn't have deemed it necessary to embark on a trip abroad to be treated. The icon stated emphatically that such is the feeling and reaction of every other Nigerians and the reason for their constant resistance to issue of taxation because the government have not been able to justify the taxes collected from the people in the past. He noted that the only way out of the entire problem we find ourselves is for the government to start to account for the tax collected from the citizenry. He said with this, people would be forced to voluntarily comply.

The sage drew the attention of the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS and his management team to one of the points made by Dr. Awodun during his opening remarks on the need to gather feedbacks for the government on socio-economic policies. He explained that this was a welcome idea because of the fact that KW-IRS interacts one on one with Kwarans and would be able to understand their needs. He sees this as a laudable effort and said



Justice Mustapha Akanbi, CFR

that it is evidence that the Executive Governor of Kwara State, Alhaji Abdulfatah Ahmed is going to ensure that revenue collected is judiciously utilized for the development of the state. He therefore admonished Kwarans to support the management and staff of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service and their demands for effective and efficient performance.

Citing examples from his past experiences, Justice Akanbi admonished the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS and his management team to be transparent,



KWIRS Management staff with Justice Mustapha Akanbi

work in unity and eschew every act of indiscipline and corruption. Making reference to his days as the Chairman, Independent Corrupt Practice Commission (ICPC), the sage said that he publicly called for anyone who has anything against his character to openly testify. He said he was able to do that because of his transparency and his unquestionable character.

Justice Mustapha Akanbi advised Dr. Awodun to relate positively with the stakeholders of the State and never relent in prayers because it works. He admonished the team to live by good examples, maintain integrity and maintain good works because it pays. He stated that the team could always come to him for any legal advice as related to the dispensation of their duties.

Justice Akanbi further offered the Mustapha Akanbi Foundation, a Non Governmental Organization (NGO) founded by him as an avenue for training for the Service. He promised to give the Service access to the “Knowledge Platform” (a small hall where academic related issues can be discussed or books reviewed) and the Mustapha Akanbi Library, which has helped many students and scholars in acquiring knowledge.

The icon further advised the State government to find a way to meet up with the needs of the people. He said if the needs of the people are covered by the state and basic amenities provided for the people, then, there won't be any reason for them not to comply.

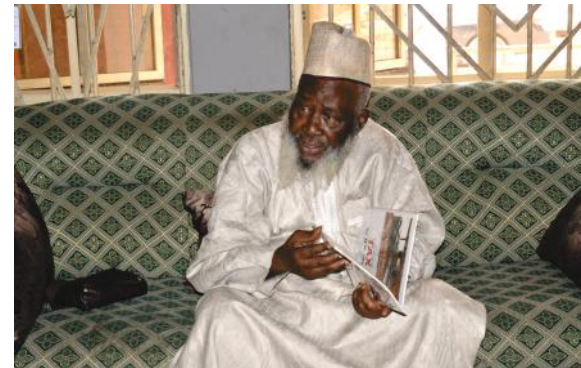
Justice Akanbi admonished Dr. Awodun and his team to advise the state government to learn from the Lagos experience during the regime of Fashola where taxpayer's money was judiciously spent with physical evidence revealed to the people. He said this attitude would encourage voluntary payment of tax. He stated that projects emerging from taxpayers' money should be clearly marked appropriately. He commended the Community Impact Initiative by the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service saying it is a step in the right direction for the development of the State.

Justice Mustapha Akanbi finally poured out his blessings on the team saying they shall succeed. He was optimistic that brighter future is ahead of Dr. Awodun, his management team and KW-IRS as a whole. He reiterated that his doors are open to the team anytime they require a visit to him for advice either on official or individual ground.

Giving his closing remarks, Dr. Awodun appreciated the sage and wished him a better health and long life. He was grateful for the words of wisdom delivered by Justice Akanbi and the blessings and prayers he poured out on him and his management team.



Executive Chairman presenting a souvenir to Justice Akanbi



Justice Mustapha Akanbi



Executive Chairman and members of staff with Justice Akanbi



Justice Mustapha Akanbi with Management and staff of KWIRS

RTEAN FLAGS OFF PERSONAL INCOME TAX PAYMENT

The cooperation received from the Road Transport Workers Association in Kwara State is significant in the positive achievement recorded in the Informal Sector of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) thus far. A replay of this laudable support occurred on 25 April 2016, when the Road Transport Employer Association of Nigeria (RTEAN) flagged off the Personal Income Tax (PIT) payment at its head office in Ilorin.

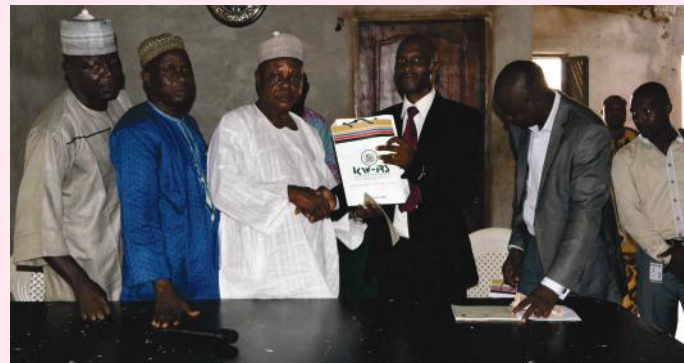
While Speaking at the occasion, the State Chairman, Alhaji Salmon Ayoku admonished members of the RTEAN to support the government of the day by paying their tax as at when due and ensuring that all necessary documentations for their vehicles are collected so as to avoid embarrassment by the enforcement team. Alhaji Ayoku enumerated the need for members of RTEAN to support the government both at the Federal and State level by being patriotic. He said paying tax is one of the attributes of a patriotic citizen because tax payment is a civic responsibility.

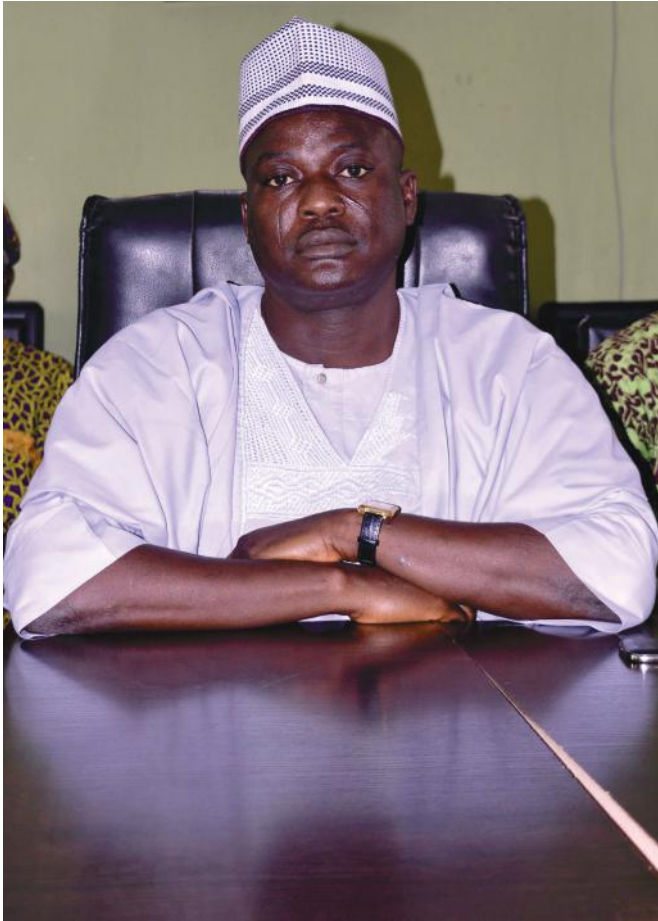
The State Executives led by the Chairman, RTEAN and supported by the Association's secretary openly paid their PIT and obtained appropriate receipts. By way of emulation other members throng out to pay their tax following the order of their State Chairman and the Executives. The State Chairman directed that all members of the RTEAN must ensure compliance before the next meeting of the association.

In an interview conducted with the State Chairman after the occasion, Alhaji. Salmon Ayoku, who was described as the longest serving State Chairman having been elected since 2003, shed light on the background of the RTEAN. He said the association was the first Transport Association established in Nigeria during the first tenure of General Olusegun Obasanjo's Military Regime in 1978. He added that the RTEAN was one of the few existing associations established by Military Decree.

The State Chairman, RTEAN expressed appreciation to the Executive Governor of Kwara State, Alhaji. Abdulfatah Ahmed for his constant support of the Road Transport Employers Association of Nigeria. He expressed admiration at the Governor's maturity in handling issues of the RTEAN. Alhaji Ayoku gave kudos to the Governor for the establishment of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS), adding that he was certain the new Service will help block IGR leakages and ensure that revenue collected gets to the coffers of the government.

Alhaji Ayoku however solicited for the assistant of the Service to complete the State Secretariat, which is close to completion but abandoned because of lack of funds. He also requested for empowerment of his members through the purchase of new buses. He said with this, the association will be more comfortable and more people would be gainfully employed. Alhaji Ayoku further admonished Kwarans to pay their tax and support the government of the day by embracing and supporting the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS).





I EXPECT
**100%
 COMPLIANCE**
 KW-IRS MODALITY
 IS CONVENIENT
 - NURTW CHAIRMAN

*An Interview with the
 State Chairman of NURTW,
 Kwara State*

The National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW), Kwara State Chapter flagged off the payments of Personal Income Tax (PIT) by its members in March 2016. The Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) media team interviewed the Chairman of the Union, Alhaji Issa Ore on what to expect after the official flag off.

When asked about his motivation to be compliant in tax payment individually and to drive the members of the Union, Alhaji Ore said that as a Kwaran, he must support Kwara State Government to develop the State. He said the Government's decree that every adult must pay tax for development of the State is enough motivation. He described himself as a partner in progress who understands the importance of joining forces and the contribution of many towards a common goal.

Alhaji Ore added further that anyone

He urged the State Government to learn from the parks designed for their counterparts by the Ondo State Government

who pays tax has the right to demand results from the Government. He added that the best way to motivate his fellow road workers is through direct impacts. In more general terms, adequacy of security, electricity, water, public toilets and other infrastructures are desirable. Specifically for road workers however, he emphasised the direct impacts to include modern motor parks with proper design and tarred roads. He urged the State Government to learn from the

parks designed for their counterparts by the Ondo State Government

Alhaji Ore expressed his trust in his fellow motorists and said he expects up to 70% compliance from his colleagues. He narrated that at the flag-off event, it was clearly stated that the initial collection would be carried out for three (3) months, which give room for enlightenment before enforcement commences. He added that he believes when enforcement commences, beginning in July 2016, compliance will move to 80% and finally, 100%.

Alhaji Ore affirmed that the modality of collection put in place by KW-IRS is convenient and appropriate. In his advice to Kwarans, he enjoined the general public to work with the State Government and work together to contribute to the development of Kwara by paying due taxes. In the same vein, he advised the Kwara State Government to reciprocate by using taxpayers' money judiciously.

ENFORCING ROAD TRAFFIC COMPLIANCE IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY- CHIEF VIO



KWIRS Management Staff



The Executive Chairman KWIRS with the Chief VIO Chief

The Chief Vehicle Inspection Officer, Engineer B. A. Olayinka has declared that his office is committed to its responsibility of enforcing compliance on our roads. He made this statement during a courtesy visit of the Management Team of Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) to the VIO office on 5 April 2016. The Executive Chairman KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun who led the management and staff of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) stated that the essence of the visit was to solidify the existing relationship between the two parties and build better partnership. He appreciated the effort of the VIO in previous enforcement activities but suggested the need to synergise for a better result.

Dr Awodun underscored the fact that enforcement was indispensable to maximize collection. He noted that not everybody would want to freely comply with the demands of the government for motorist to have valid vehicular documentation. Hence there is the need to put in place a strong enforcement team comprising of the VIO and Federal Road Safety Corps. Dr. Awodun also emphasized the need for KW-IRS and the VIO to work hand in hand, since the two entities are all working towards the same goal of revenue collection. The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS commended the Chief VIO and his team of officers for the displayed professionalism in the execution of their job.

In his response, the Chief VIO, Engr. B.A Olayinka reassured the KW-IRS team of the readiness of his office to support in enforcing compliance to road traffic laws and verification of documentation. He reiterated that enforcing compliance was the responsibility of the VIO, a role that they will continue to pursue diligently. He stressed that Roadworthiness is a statutory duty of the VIO. He however appealed to Dr Awodun to assist in ensuring the collections made on roadworthiness and other related collections by their office should be captured appropriately. He pleaded for the review of

the current arrangement where the revenue generated by the VIO is captured by other Parastatals. Engr. Olayinka added that the Vehicle Inspection Office (VIO) have commenced collection of the "VIO Testing Fee" which was introduced late last year and generated an average of N500,000 monthly for the state. He appealed to the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS to allow this collection also to be reflected in the revenue performance record of the VIO.

Engr. Yinka bemoaned the state of their patrol vehicles; he said the office could only boost of 3 vehicles, which are old and no longer efficient for enforcement. He explained that if the monitoring vehicles are increased, it would improve the performance of the Vehicle Inspection Office (VIO).

In his response, the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun informed the Chief VIO, Engr. Olayinka that KW-IRS would see to the reflection of the VIO's performance on the VIO Testing Fee in its revenue performance record. He advised the Vehicle Inspection Office to write a proposal seeking for Roadworthiness to be domiciled under its office and state the terms it wishes to operate with so it can be looked into.

Dr. Awodun promised to use the feedback mechanism of the Service to communicate the needs of VIO to the State Governor. He stated that the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) would look for ways to support the VIO to ensure a smooth process in the performance of their enforcement duties. Dr. Awodun also said that the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) would in his own little way find a way to contribute to making the VIO office more convenient and more conducive for work.

In his closing remarks, the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS appreciated the effort of the VIO to the development of the state. He admonished Engr. Olayinka to keep up the good works.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

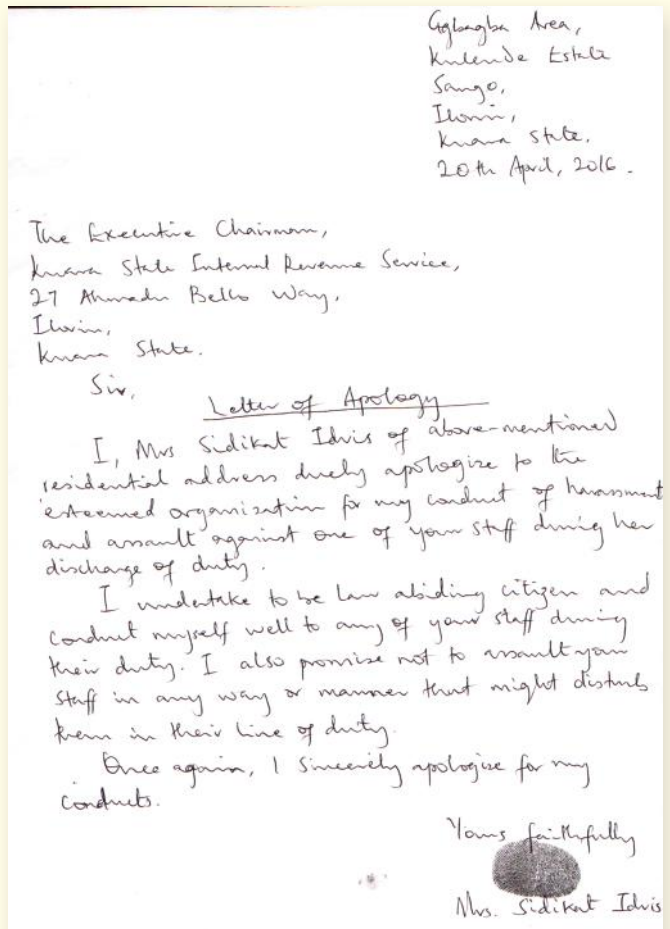
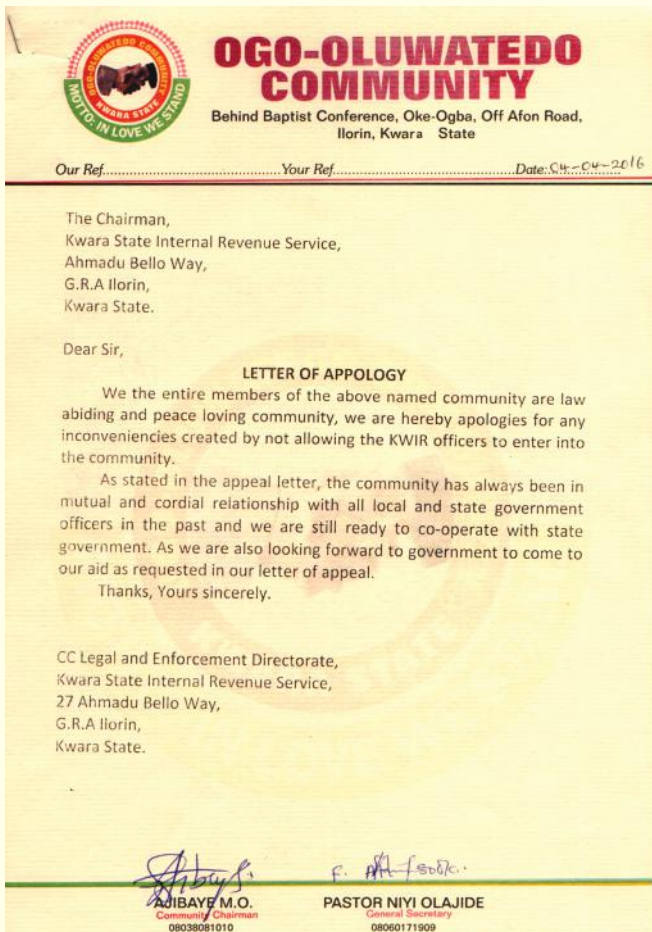
HARRASMENT OF KW-IRS STAFF IS ILLEGAL

The Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) has observed that some of its staff are harassed and assaulted while conducting their official duties. KW-IRS as established by the Kwara State Revenue Administration Law No. 6 is the only agency saddled with the responsibility of collecting revenue on behalf of the Kwara State Government. As such, KW-IRS staff are agents of the Government and KW-IRS activities are provided for by law.

The people of Ogo Oluwatedo Community, Oke-Ogba, off Afon Road and Gaa Akanbi are some of the communities where harassment of KW-IRS staff have occurred. Cases of harassment of staff are taken up by

law enforcement officers such as the Nigerian Police. Ogo Oluwatedo Community wrote a letter to apologise for the gross misbehaviour conducted by one of their community members who harassed a staff of KW-IRS and smashed the device with which he was carrying out his lawful duty. Another letter was written by a Mrs. Sidikat Idris of Kulende, Sango Area after KW-IRS took up the case legally. She apologised to the Service for her attitude and harassing one of its female staff while on duty.

The Service hereby use this medium to appeal to Kwarans to desist from further attacks on its staff as anyone found wanting would be prosecuted as provided for in the law.



CELEBRATING THE ICON OF OUR TIME

A trailblazer
An amiable leader
A courageous, down to heart and outspoken personality
With no air or pretense around him
A man of integrity, sincerity; very straightforward
Humorous and witty even in very challenging times
A sagacious and eloquent arbitrator
A diligent and tireless worker
Indefatigable and resolute, never giving up on any issue
An entrepreneur per excellence
Innovative and pioneer of enterprises
A lover of peace
An eminent forerunner of our time
Kind hearted and passionate about what he believes
Compassionate, benevolent and humane
A philanthropist with a bleeding heart.....

We at KW-IRS celebrate you today
You are a role model to us
As we watch your passion about the vision of the Service
We see the SHIRT that you preach in your
Service, Honesty, Integrity, Responsibility and Trust
These are what you stand for and what you have taught us to
emulate
We believe in your dreams of a better Kwara
And together we shall see it to fruition
We will walk the way with you and we shall excel together
We pray God bless you more and more today and always
May He bless your new age and make your age unto grey years
a story of peace
Your generation is blessed and your children shall inherit glory
We love you sincerely.
Happy Birthday to the icon of our time.
Happy Birthday Dr MURITALA OLAKITAN AWODUN

— Adenike Babajamu



KW-IRS DEPLOY TAX AUDIT MONITORING AGENTS

The Kwara State Internal Revenue (KW-IRS) has deployed Tax Audit Monitoring Team (TAMA) to help gather information on corporate organizations and individuals. This was done after careful selection from the various applicants. An interactive session with successful agents was held on 7 April 2016. The purpose of the session was to enlighten agents as to procedures, expectations and other terms of engagement.

The KW-IRS Executive Chairman, Dr Muritala Awodun in his opening remarks welcomed the successful applicants and congratulated them. He emphasised the need to uphold the values of service and integrity in the course of their operations on behalf of KW-IRS.

The Director, Tax Assessment and Audit, Mr Nuhu Olaide Mohammed who led the technical session took the newly appointed agents through procedures, duties and expectations. He clarified the operational guidelines for their activities and introduced them to the audit tool kit they are expected to work with.

The agents also interacted with the KW-IRS team and expressed their delight for the opportunity presented to them.

HEAR ME OUT

A column just for you! Views to air, concerns to voice, questions to ask? Let's hear you out.

Hello!

I want to commend the KWAREVE News crew; you guys are doing a great job. I also want to commend KW-IRS for their focus on making life better for the people of Kwara State through the kitting of school pupils as reported in your last publications and the news in general. Your team is yet to get to Ekiti LGA which happens to be my own

community. When should you be expected? Thank you.

Yinka Oke.

Dear Mr. Oke,

We appreciate your comment and also value your following up with KWAREVE News. KW-IRS intends to impact on pupils in the 16 LGA of Kwara State. This implies that KW-IRS team is coming to your local government shortly.

Good day,

Why is KW-IRS collecting revenue meant to be collected by the local government?

Adebola Yusuf

Dear Mr. Yusuf,

KW-IRS has the mandate to collect revenue on behalf the local government. This is to check the problem of multiple taxation and monitor local government collections. It is also imperative to note that KW-IRS only collect revenues on behalf of local government but remits it back to them after collection. Thank you.

tax

taxes income taxation

TAXING AUTHORITY

Dr TEJU SOMORIN, FCTI

A revenue service, revenue agency or taxation authority are synonymous terms. Any government agency responsible for the intake of government revenue, such as taxes and sometimes non-tax revenue such as fees is a Taxing Authority. Generally revenue services are charged with tax assessment, tax collection, investigation of tax evasion, or carrying out tax audits. The term is defined in Section 4 of Taxes and Levies Approved List for Collection Act CAP T 2 LFN 2004 (as amended) as the ministry, government department or any other government body charged with the responsibility for assessing or collecting the particular tax.

It is generally an approved body that has administrative power to control the collection of taxes; the person or body of persons responsible under a law of a territory, imposing tax on the income of individuals for the administration of the income tax. OECD defines the term as the body responsible for administering the tax laws of a particular country or regional or local authority.

Headship of a Tax Authority

The chief executive of the Taxing Authority or Revenue Agency is usually styled as Commissioner, Minister, Secretary or Director, Director –General or Executive Chairman.

Many tax offices, though they are taxing authorities in their own right do not have the word “authority” as part of their names.

Nigeria is a classical example which adopts Revenue Service namely Federal Inland Revenue Service or State Internal Revenue Service.

US adopts Internal Revenue Service. (IRS).

Her Majesty Revenue and Customs (HMRC), a non-ministerial department, is the UK's tax authority responsible for making sure that the money is available



to fund the UK's public services and for helping families and individuals with targeted financial support.

Uganda adopts Uganda Revenue Authority. Examples of Tax Offices that have adopted the use of Authority in their names.

Barbados Revenue Authority BRA
(The BRA was established on April 1, 2014, subsequent to the merger of Barbados' various tax collecting agencies, including the Inland Revenue and Land Tax Departments, as well as the Value Added Tax Office and the Licensing Authority)

South African Revenue Authority SARS

Zambian Revenue Authority ZRA

Central Revenue Authority

Ghana Revenue Authority Ghana

(established in 2009 as a merger of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Customs, Excise and Preventive Service (CEPS), Value Added Tax Service (VATS), and the Revenue Agencies Governing Board (RAGB) Secretariat.

Tanzania Revenue Authority	TRA
Kenya Revenue Authority	KRA
Mauritius Revenue Authority	MRA

Singapore is unique as it combines Inland Revenue with Authority and the Singapore tax Office is known as Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore. (IRAS).

Italian Tax Authority is also known as Italian Agency of Revenue. In Italian language it is Agenzia delle Entrate, the Italian governmental agency that enforces the financial code of Italy and collects taxes and revenue.

With effect from 2011, Hungary adopts National Tax and Customs Administration of Hungary (NTCA).

NIGERIA

There are three levels of tax authorities in Nigeria which are creations of laws passed by the Federal Government. The tax authorities are:

(a) The Federal Taxing Authority –Designated as the Federal Inland Revenue Service Board (FIRSB) by virtue of Sections 1, FIRS Act CAP F 36;

(b) The State Taxing Authority-- Designated as the State Board of Internal Revenue (SBIR) by virtue of Section 87 of PITA CAP P.18 and

(c) The Local Government Tax Authority - Designated as the Local Government Revenue Committee (LGRC) by virtue of Section 90 of PITA, Jointly, the authorities are responsible for the administration of tax laws and are also entrusted with the responsibility for advising government on all tax related matters.

Tax authorities have a responsibility for ensuring that tax administration at all levels of Government is carried out in transparent manner and in accordance with statutory provisions, in order to safe guard the integrity of the tax system. In the discharge of their functions, tax authorities should obtain necessary approvals from the Ministry of Finance in respect of policy and relevant operational matters and this should be done in a manner, which would not prejudice the independence and autonomy of the tax authorities.

National Tax Policy

The National Tax Policy enumerated the roles of taxing authorities.

With respect to the Legislature, tax authorities are required to provide assistance and necessary insight in respect of new tax legislation or the review of existing legislation being considered by the Legislature. Tax authorities shall publicise proposed changes to tax laws and new legislation to taxpayers. They should provide

The tax authorities should create a conducive tax atmosphere and environment which will engender tax payer confidence at all levels of tax administration; tax payers, shall be provided adequate time and space to review, challenge and appeal every tax assessment or demand made by the tax authorities and every claim, objection, appeal, representation or the like made by any taxpayer must be sufficiently considered.

technical input and know-how to aid the Legislature in the discharge of its functions.

Tax authorities are to ensure a cordial relationship and provide necessary information to the Legislature in the discharge of its oversight functions on tax authorities.

Tax authorities should also partner with the Judiciary in relation to training and provision of technical assistance to the Judiciary on tax matters.

Tax authorities are expected to maintain a cordial relationship with all other stakeholders in the tax system and be responsible for the provision of timely and up to date information on developments in the tax system. They shall also, along with the Ministry of Finance and other relevant Government organs, provide information to tax payers on the allocation, disbursement, expenditure and utilisation of tax revenue.

It shall be the responsibility of tax authorities to carry out proper tax payer education and public enlightenment along with other Government agencies such as the Ministry of Education and Information. They shall also provide guidance to the public on all aspects of tax compliance and other issues relating to the tax system in the form of information circulars, bulletins, handbills, media adverts or newsletter.

In creating a sustainable tax culture in Nigeria, tax authorities shall partner with educational institutions and the Ministry of Education to create a workable framework for the introduction of taxation in the curricula of all levels of educational institutions in Nigeria.

Generally, tax authorities shall ensure that core tax functions namely assessment and collection of taxes are only carried out by career tax administrators, who are Public Servants, and not by ad-hoc consultants or agents. Thus only self assessments or assessments duly issued by tax officials shall be recognized by tax authorities in Nigeria.

In addition, the tax authorities should create a conducive tax atmosphere and environment which will engender tax payer confidence at all levels of tax administration; tax payers, shall be provided adequate time and space to review, challenge and appeal every tax assessment or demand made by the tax authorities and every claim, objection, appeal, representation or the like made by any taxpayer must be sufficiently considered.

Some of the Tax Authorities are semi-autonomous revenue authorities (ARAs), organisationally distinct from Ministries of Finance, with some real operational autonomy, and with staff paid at rates substantially higher than those in comparable public sector jobs.

Quite a number of countries have established semi-autonomous revenue authorities, moving tax collection out of the Ministry of Finance into a separate entity.

In Nigeria, the Federal Inland Revenue Service, the Lagos State Internal Revenue Service, Edo State Internal Revenue Service, Rivers State Internal Revenue Service, Taraba State Internal Revenue Service, Ekiti State Internal Revenue Service, Osun State Internal Revenue Service, Kwara State Internal Revenue Service and a few others are fully autonomous in their operations. Some others are in different stages of getting the status.

Relevant Tax Authority

A related term most commonly used in Nigeria is Relevant Tax Authority (RTA)

The relevant tax authority in relation to the following class of tax payers is defined in Section 108 (a) to (d) of PITA to be:

(a) Individual

In the case of an individual, the relevant tax authority for a year of assessment is the tax authority of the territory or State in which the individual is deemed to be resident in that year.

(b) Executor

The relevant tax authority in relation to an executor, "is the tax authority of the territory in which the deceased individual was last deemed to be resident or would have been deemed to be resident if the provisions of this Act had been in force prior to the date of his death."

(c) Trustee

For a trustee of a trust or settlement, the relevant tax authority is:

- (i) where all the income of the settlement or trust for a year of assessment arises in one territory, the tax authority of that territory; or
- (ii) where the income of the settlement or trust for a year of assessment arises in more than one territory, or in any other case (where the relevant tax authority cannot be determined under any of the foregoing provisions), the Federal Board of Inland Revenue.

(d) Partnership

For a partnership, the relevant tax authority is the territory in which the principal office or place of business of the partnership in Nigeria is situated on the first day of that year, or is first established during that year.

(e) Village or Community

A village or other indigenous community, the tax authority of the territory in which that community is to be found.

(f) Defined in Regulation 35 (f) of the Self-Assessment Regulation 2011 as 'the Federal Inland Revenue Service or the State Internal Revenue Service as specified in the provisions of the relevant tax laws.'

Dr. Teju Somorin FCTI, BA (Hons) English, MPA, MTAX, CNA, MNIM, FCIPA, FIMC, DLitt, PhD (hc) TAXATION, ACIarb(UK), FIoE, Doctoral Fellow, President and Chairman of Council, Chartered Institute of Taxation of Nigeria (CITN), President and Chairman of Council of West African Union of Tax Institutes (WAUTI), retired Coordinating Director, FIRS, Pioneer Chairman, Abuja District and Society, Pioneer Dean, Tax Administration Faculty, CITN



ESSENTIALS OF GARLIC

*Fareedah Abdulwahab

Garlic is a legendary plant for natural health remedy that has extensively been used time immemorial to treat various ailments. Botanically known as **allium sativum**, garlic is rich in compounds like Sulphur, Zinc, and Calcium and has both health and beauty benefit.

It is recommended that adults should take not more than one clove twice or thrice daily while children between ages 7-12 can take between one quarter or half a clove once or twice a day. Mineral known as Selenium makes 80% of garlic clove and it's strong in fighting against cancer. Garlic is also a rich source of vitamin E. Whether you take your garlic powdered, salted, or minced or in supplement form, you will enjoy the surprising benefits of this multipurpose herb for optimal health. If garlic can cure numerous diseases and illness, what then should stop us from consuming it despite its smell, before you trash Garlic away, here are some of the helpful benefits:

- **Acne, pimples and Spot Treatment:** Garlic has antifungal properties, which can be used to get rid of stubborn and annoying spots that could be a source of concern. Slice fresh raw garlic and apply a little pressure on it to release some juice and then rub onto the affected area. Leave it for 5 minutes and wash afterwards with warm water. You will see a decline in redness and growth within a day.
- **Hair Treatment:** Hair loss is a problem of both male and female. To help fight hair loss, you can make a garlic hair ointment. Start off with six to eight cloves of garlic. Peel the garlic cloves to squeeze the juice from these cloves. Once you've juiced the garlic, set it aside, measure out 1 tablespoon, Mix the honey into the small bowl of garlic juice. Gently massage the mixture combined into your scalp, not on your hair please. Since hair grows from the scalp, after it is all on your scalp, wrap a clean, cotton towel around your head. Leave it on for 20 minutes or more before rinsing out. This can be done two to three times per week.
- **Treatment of Cold and Sore Throat:** Garlic is naturally an anti-bacterial and antiviral prescription. It fights the germs that cause the



common cold while providing your body with anti-oxidants it needs to function appropriately. Eat about 1 raw garlic clove every 3 to 4 hours. Just peel and eat. If you are not a fan of the taste, wash the garlic down by mixing it with water or juice. You can also add it to lemon water.

- **Controls weight and improves cholesterol level:** Garlic happens to be a miracle food for weight loss, and naturally suppresses your appetites, it contains the compound allicin which has anti-bacterial effects and helps reduce harmful fats and cholesterol. It can also be added daily to food either in a raw or powdered form. Make it a routine by eating at least one decent clove size of garlic daily and drink water or any preferred juice due to its long lasting scent.
- **Reduce Anti ageing:** Garlic is beneficial to keep various signs of ageing skin away. The presence of sulphur in garlic aids collagen production that basically fights against wrinkles and fine lines. Daily consumption of garlic ensures the skin stays firm and youthful.



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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

TAXES & LEVIES COLLECTED BY STATE GOVERNMENT

N	T	M	S	L	U	D	J	N	O	F	S	N	J	K
V	N	J	X	V	Q	W	T	I	F	C	I	K	U	A
P	E	P	C	G	I	G	E	N	M	B	G	W	E	C
Z	M	C	W	I	T	H	O	L	D	I	N	G	Y	O
Z	N	U	X	T	L	S	T	M	M	T	A	W	A	C
R	I	A	O	I	M	E	A	I	N	W	G	E	P	U
Z	A	C	W	S	P	R	T	E	K	D	E	P	N	U
M	T	V	Q	G	K	R	M	O	A	Z	X	Y	R	V
F	R	O	O	E	C	N	O	O	H	C	H	L	O	I
A	E	G	T	G	O	F	R	P	O	O	L	W	Q	S
I	T	Z	U	R	U	O	B	P	E	P	Z	V	S	O
K	N	U	I	F	B	B	N	H	D	R	H	P	W	H
F	E	V	Y	M	Z	O	O	T	D	R	T	C	I	V
B	N	L	A	M	I	N	A	V	W	W	Y	Y	H	T
E	P	W	W	G	V	D	K	M	O	T	M	Z	E	N

Instruction: Find 12 hidden words on taxes collected by State Government

- | | | |
|--------|---------------|-------------|
| ANIMAL | ENTERTAINMENT | ENVIRONMENT |
| HOTEL | MARKET | PAYE |
| PIT | POOL | PROPERTY |
| ROAD | SIGNAGE | WITHOLDING |

Send your solutions, your name and phone number via email to: press@kw-irs.com

Solution to Kwareve News Issue 5

Crossword Puzzle

X	F	T	B	V	H	X	Q	H	U	D	V	C	K	M
O	D	T	E	P	Q	P	V	F	K	T	F	V		
S	T	R	A	C	D	D	V	P	D	W	S	N	F	
B	B	G	X	A	L	V	O	M	M	P	T	R	C	E
Z	C	T	A	X	D	O	D	G	E	A	U	R	S	N
R	C	N	V	E	O	L	K	P	X	T	A	Z	L	
Y	S	E	O	X	M	A	I	E	A	B	L	A	B	
N	L	V	I	U	W	N	R	X	A	I	G	M		
K	S	A	D	L	S	S	X	B	A	F	O	I	W	L
J	C	H	A	E	P	A	R	T	T	R	B	U	Y	B
P	E	X	N	E	T	E	V	W	Z	E	T	E	T	C
K	L	A	E	N	A	J	G	E	H	E	A	D	F	U
G	B	E	E	K	C	A	R	B	X	A	T	W	Z	I
T	O	C	L	U	L	P	A	W	S	A	B	X	O	Y
R	Y	Z	G	I	L	P	K	Z	N	O	T	H	G	D

- TAX-AVOIDANCE
- TAX-BASE
- TAX-BRACKET
- TAX-BREAK
- TAX-DODGE
- TAX-EVASION
- TAX-EXEMPT
- TAX-EXILE
- TAX-FREE
- TAX-HAVEN
- TAX-INSPECTOR
- TAX-RETURN

Congratulations to the first correct entries:

1. Godfrey Ojerheghan
2. Kafilat Adeola
3. Lukman Saliu



OMONIYI ADEBAYO AWOPEGBA



This month, the Service, Management and Staff celebrate Omoniyi Adebayo Awopegba. Awopegba, as he is popularly called is the Employee of the Month for April 2016. Awopegba has shown consistency in excellent performance since the pilot Property Enumeration undertaken during his orientation training programme. During this exercise, he had the best performance among over 100 staff with whom he was being trained. Awopegba has continued to show outstanding performance even at his primary assignment where he is a team leader. He has been of admirable performance in his work and in his relationship with his colleagues and superiors.

Taxpedia

STAMP DUTIES TAX

Stamp duty is one of the oldest taxes and is levied on documents and not on transactions or individuals. It was introduced in England in 1694. Stamp duties are fees paid to the government for the conferment of legal recognition. Legal documents such as cheques, receipts, military commissions, marriage license and land transaction are examples of stamp duties.

Corporate organization pay stamp duties to Federal Inland Revenue Service while the state government collects stamp duties on instrument executed by individual. It also means duties levied upon the issue of official documents such as passport, deeds, contract for the transfer ownership. Usually, stamp duties are levied by a way of stamp being fixed on the document in question.

Reference

Somorin, T (2015) *A Concise Review of Different Tax Types*, Chartered Institute of Taxation Nigeria (CITN), CITN- TEJUTAX No2.

KW-IRS UNITES WITH MARKET EXECUTIVES IN FOUNDATION LAYING OF ULTRA MODERN SECRETARIAT AT THE MANDATE MARKET



History was made on the 7 April 2016 as the Kwara State Association of Marketers (KWAM) conducted the official blocks and foundation laying of the Kwara State Association of Marketers Ultra Modern State Secretariat. This initiative is the first of its kind in the State. Present to grace the occasion were the representative of the Executive Governor of Kwara State, Hon. Commissioner for Commerce, Alhaji Muhammed Ahmed, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Cooperative, the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun, the Deputy Director, Informal Sector, Mr. Lekan Rotimi, Director of Admin & Corporate Affairs Mrs. Adenike Babajamu, the Executive Director, Ray Field Construction Company Mr. U.I Sidi, M.D, Ray Field Construction Company, Alh. Aminu Megashi, Market Executives, KW-IRS Staff and members of the general public.

Giving his welcome address, the Babaloja and Iyaloja commended the Governor of Kwara State, Governor Abdulfatah Ahmed for establishing the Modern Marketers Association of Kwara State, thereby giving them the opportunity to meet up with their counterparts in other States. They were grateful for the constant support received from the Governor and hope to receive more. The Babaloja General, Alh.



KWIRS Executive Chairman and Iyaloja General



(L-R:) Director, Admin and Corporate Affairs, KWIRS with dignitaries at the event



The Executive Chairman with Alh Muhammed Ahmed, and other dignitaries



The foundation laying demonstration by Alh Muhammed Ahmed, Hon Commissioner for Commerce



Guests at the events

Tunde Jimoh expressed appreciation to the Hon. Commissioner of Commerce and Cooperation and the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS. He was grateful to the Market Executives for supporting their administration and prays the Almighty rewards them bountifully. The Iyaloja General, Mrs Adenike Abdulkareem Lambe solicited for more support from the State government because according to her without the State, there won't be the Marketers Association and without the Marketers Association, there won't be State.



Guests at the events

In the speech presented by Alh. Tunde Jimoh, the Babaloja General of Kwara State, gave a brief history of the association, which had been in existence long before the inauguration of the Kwara State Ultramodern Marketers Association on the 22nd December 2014 by His Excellency Alhaji Abdulfatah Ahmed, the Executive Governor of Kwara State. He expressed appreciation to the Executive Director, Ray Field Construction Company for the proper management of the Mandate Market. He appreciated the Executive Chairman KW-IRS for always supporting the Marketers Association.



Iyaloja of Kwara State with guests

After the speech delivery by the Babaloja General, the Executive Director, Ray Field Construction Company led the Hon. Commissioner for Commerce and Cooperative and other dignitaries present to the foundation side where blocks were laid for the Marketers Secretariat.

The presence of KW-IRS at the occasion is a signal of the cooperation, which is necessary in the collection of revenue at the market.



Guests at the events

PHOTO NEWS



A courtesy visit to the Bishop of Ilorin by KWIRS Management Team



Future Leaders School on excursion visit to KWIRS Corporate Head Office



Women in Taxation courtesy visit to the Director, Admin and Corporate Affairs, KWIRS



Ace Islamic Musician Labaika paid a courtesy visit to KW-IRS

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CorelDraw format or Pdf and sent to
press@kw-irs.com



KW-IRS

KWARA STATE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Hereby advise the general public to pay their taxes, levies and rates to the following **Kwara State IGR Accounts** only at any branch of the respective banks listed below

LIST OF IGR COLLECTION ACCOUNTS		
S/N	BANK NAME	ACCOUNT NUMBER
1	DIAMOND BANK	0072365510
2	ACCESS BANK	0004063946
3	ECOBANK	4822068065
4	FCMB	0897529151
5	FIDELITY BANK	5030063684
6	FIRST BANK	2029378380
7	GTB	0034886758
8	HERITAGE BANK	6003071503
9	SKYE BANK	1790106140
10	STANBIC IBTC BANK	9201637207
11	STERLING BANK	0049380670
12	UBA	1019295290
13	UNION BANK	0018799797
14	UNITY BANK	0025014446
15	WEMA BANK	0122584028
16	ZENITH BANK	1010522867
17	KEYSTONE BANK	6010010789

	BANK	ACCOUNT NAME	ACCOUNT NO
TSA ACCOUNT	GTB	KWARA STATE CENTRAL REVENUE COLLECTION ACCOUNT	0199648356

Signed:

Muritala Awodun, PhD

Executive Chairman

KWARA STATE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Corporate Head Office: 27 Ahmadu Bello Way, Ilorin Kwara State

Email: info@kw-irs.com

Website: www.kw-irs.com

Telephone: 0700MYKWIRS (07006959477)

Mobilizing Revenue for the Strategic Development of Kwara State

KW-IRS INAUGURATES TAX CLUBS IN KWARA CENTRAL SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The Kwara State Internal Revenue Service in recognition of the need for a strong advocacy plan and the need to educate young students who are the future leaders of tomorrow, on 26 April, 2016 inaugurated the establishment of Tax Clubs in Senior Secondary Schools across the Kwara Central Senatorial District. The establishment of Tax Clubs in all Senior Secondary Schools in Kwara State is an initiative of the KW-IRS through a collaboration with the Ministry of Education & Human Capital Development. The inauguration which commenced with all Senior Secondary Schools in the Kwara Central Senatorial District took place at the Queen Elizabeth Secondary School Ilorin.

In the speech of the Chairman of the occasion, the Honourable Commissioner, Ministry of Education & Human Capital development, Alhaji Musa Ayinla Yeketi, which was delivered by Mrs Adeoti, he enjoined all stakeholders; teachers, parents, students and government agencies to support this initiative which he stated was in line with the nation-wide move to strengthen our financial base.

Alhaji Yeketi encouraged students to use this opportunity to show case their creativity and talents when representing their schools at quizzes and debates. He added that the students will not only benefit from awards but that membership and participation in the Tax Club will give them opportunity and exposure into an eligible future career.

Speaking at the occasion, the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr Muritala Awodun expressed his gratitude to all present. He explained that Tax Club would create an interactive atmosphere for students to share ideas and contribute positively to the economic development of the State. It will also enable the students compete positively in Schools debate, quiz competitions



and build careers in taxation and other related areas of study. Above all, Dr Awodun assured the students that there will be reward for active and excellent performance for participants, the coordinating teachers and the best schools.

Dr Awodun explained that the tax club will meet weekly and materials will be downloaded from the KW-IRS websites in preparation for debates, quizzes and essay competitions. Each School is expected to nominate a Coordinator who will work with the District Coordinator in

organising these competitions within the district where the first three schools will be shortlisted to compete with winners from other senatorial districts. He added that each school is expected to register a minimum of 10 students as members of the Tax Club. All of these students will be issued with identity cards.

The Chairman of the occasion, the Honourable Commissioner then announced the inauguration of the club and declare the commencement of the activities of the club.

A branding section followed the declaration by the Honourable Commissioner of Education. KW-IRS



Cross session of students at the inauguration ceremony of the Tax Club



branded school bags were presented to 500 pioneer members of the Tax Clubs. The chairman KW-IRS led the students in the tax club slogan which ultimately is the KW-IRS slogan. He explained that the greeting in the club will be a shout of “Tax Club” followed by a response of “Play your part, Pay your tax”.

The inauguration at the other senatorial districts is scheduled for May 2016. However preparations for all the competitions are expected to start immediately. After the event, there was a briefing session with the coordinating teachers from the various schools. It was an interactive session which gave the opportunity to meet with the KW-IRS team and ask questions where necessary. Each school was also presented with the Tax Club Handbook.



Alh. Ibrahim Oniye (1st Makama, Ilorin)



Mrs. C. T. Adeobi



Executive Chairman KWIRS making a speech



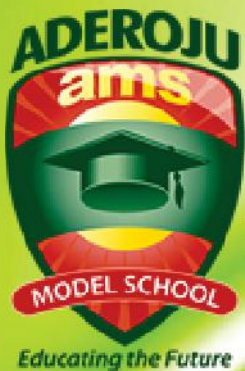
Mr. Kayode Alabi



Director, Admin and Corporate Affairs making a speech



Presentation of the branded School Bags to all 500 selected Tax Club members of the Senior Secondary Schools in Kwara Central Senatorial District



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Nursery & Primary

Educating the future



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P.O.BOX 1672, Ilorin, Kwara State
admin@aderojumodelschool.com
07098733735, 08081392885

KW-IRS REWARD STAFF AT ITS APRIL FIELD FEEDBACK/TRAINING SESSION



Consistent training and retraining is a scheme KW-IRS uses to educate its staff, prepare staff for the task ahead of them, broaden their knowledge on tax laws and tax administration. This is to ensure that the management of KW-IRS are on the same page with their staff and also hear out their challenges and opinions with a view to resolve all challenges. The April edition of the Field Feed Back, which held on the last Saturday of the month, was well attended. It was indeed another reward session for the staff that distinguished themselves in the month and sanctions for poor performance.

The April Field Feedback/Training commenced with watching a motivational speech by Morieux, a Frenchman and the author of *Co-ompetition*. The emphasis was on *co-ompetition*, coined from the two words co-operation and competition. The Executive Chairman admonished staff to ensure that competition is used positively through collaborations with one another as only then can the objectives of the Service be attained. He charged the management and staff of KW-IRS on the importance of cooperation among the management of KW-IRS, staff and all the directorates

of KW-IRS for a productive performance.

Four staff from the Department of Property and Tenement were recognised for their outstanding performance in the pilot enumeration of properties in the State. They are Afolayan Rachael who enumerated 404 houses in 14 days, Adejumo enumerated 432 buildings in 14 days, Abdulhakeem Abdulraman enumerated 432 in 14 days. The staff of the month also emerged from the Property Enumeration department and he is Awopegba Awobiyi who enumerated 470 properties during the Pilot Enumeration exercise. He was rewarded with an upgrade to Executive Assistant. The Directorate of Tax Assessment headed by Alhaji. Nuhu Olaide Muhammed emerged the best Directorate of the month. This is in recognition of their efforts in identifying the existing back duty; raising and serving the assessment that had a positive impact on our bottom line to the tune of 200m.

Dr. Awodun reiterated that the Service would continuously reward excellent performance. He also used the opportunity to advice staff to eschew any act that is not in line with the core value of the Service and any act that will stain their SHIRT *Service, Honesty, Integrity, Responsibility and Trust*.



Executive Chairman, KWIRS, Dr Muritala Awodun



Director, Operations and Process, KWIRS Dr Isaac Gbenle



Director, Admin and Corporate Affairs, Mrs Adenike Babajamu



Deputy Director, Informal Sector, KWIRS Mr Lekan Rotimi



Director, MDAs Mr Segun Olaniyi



Director, HNI Mrs Iyabo Abubakar



Director, Tax Assessment and Audit, Alhaji Nuhu Muhammed



Staff at the Field Feedback/Training session



Cross section of staff at the April Field Feedback/Training session





The Executive Chairman appreciating staff with exceptional performance



The Executive Chairman and one of the staff recognised



Awopegba, staff of the month of April with the Executive Chairman



Staff of the Directorate of Tax Assessment and Audit jubilating after the announcement of their Directorate as winner of April



KW-IRS HOLDS WORKSHOP FOR EMPLOYERS OF LABOUR

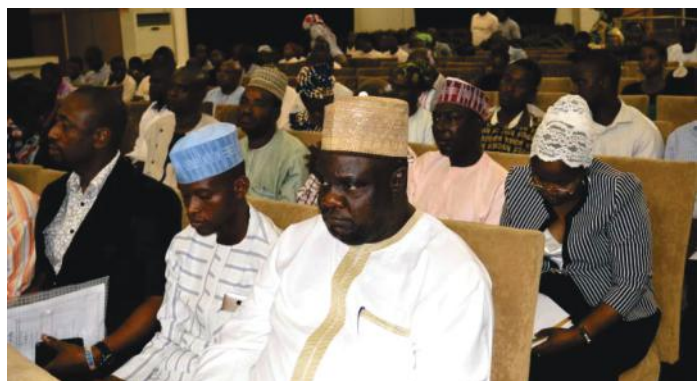
The Kwara State Internal Revenue Service on 27 April 2016 held a one-day Workshop at the Ilorin Banquet Hall titled “PAYE Operations and Other Statutory Deductions Due to the State Government”. At least two (2) representatives of employers of labour were invited to the Workshop. The Workshop was widely attended by employers of labour, both public and private across Kwara State.

In the keynote address delivered by the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr Muritala Awodun explained that the purpose of the Workshop was to ensure there is no disconnect between the Service and employers of labour in Kwara State. He said aside enlightenment; the Workshop was an opportunity to answer some of the questions raised by employers and resolve challenges.

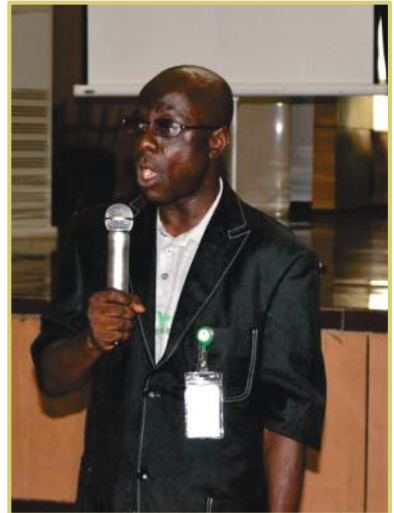
He emphasised that even though organisations are by law saddled with the responsibility of deducting Pay-As-You-Earn (PAYE) of employees from source, to remit to the appropriate authorities on a monthly basis, many of such organisations do not remit at all or in some cases under remit. This, he explained, is evident in the liabilities accrued by various organisations. Dr Awodun described this situation as an injustice to employees from whom these moneys were deducted.

It is also evident that there are also organisations that do not deduct from employees appropriately. Most of such organisations deduct less than is due by law. In this case also, as provided for in the law it is the responsibility of organisations to deduct appropriately. The danger of such acts is the liability, which will be accrued by the organisation as well as the individual. Thus when such an employee requires a Tax Clearance Certificate (e-TCC) he/she is made to pay the difference.

Dr Awodun said it is in the light of the above inaccuracies that KW-IRS deemed it pertinent and urgent that employers of labour are enlightened as to proper PAYE operations and other statutory requirements. The Workshop also included other presentations on Rendition of Returns and Remittance Procedures.



Facilitators at the Workshop Session



Pictures at the Stakeholders Forum on PAYEE & WHT Taxes

FEDERAL INLAND REVENUE SERVICE AND STATES INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE COLLABORATION FRAMEWORK

**Excerpt from Joint Tax Board Publication*



Introduction

The political structure of Nigeria which provides and allows distinct existence of Federal, State and Local Governments also forms the platform upon which the affairs of the three tiers of Government are run. It is upon this platform that various tax authorities at the three (3) levels are structured as separate bodies statutorily assigned with responsibility for collecting revenue for and on behalf of the respective Governments. This arrangement is so upheld that the 1999 constitution of the Federal republic of Nigeria (as amended) categorises revenue collectible by the three tiers of Government under the Exclusive, Concurrent and Residual Lists.

Under this provision, the Federal Government has legislative powers to exclusively administer taxes outlined as exclusive List, the Federal and State Governments have powers to administer taxes under the Concurrent List and those under the Residual List are to be administered at the State level.

The situation has, over the years, influenced the level of efficiency at the various tax authorities. Arguably, it has been so overstressed in many instances to the extent that the respective tax authorities neglected the window of interfacing with one another in tax administration in the country.

Aim

The main aim of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) and State Internal Revenue Service (SIRS) Collaboration framework is to outline the essential operational areas of taxation requiring strong interface and well-structured working relationship among the various tax authorities and to guide them in such areas.

The main aim of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) and State Internal Revenue Service (SIRS) Collaboration framework is to outline the essential operational areas of taxation requiring strong interface and well-structured working relationship among the various tax authorities and to guide them in such areas.

This Framework is also designed as a roadmap to implement the major areas recently identified and highlighted by the Executive Chairman, FIRS and the Chairman, Joint Tax Board to strengthen collaboration between the FIRS and the SIRS in order to enhance and improve tax revenue collection machineries at the three (3) tiers of Government.

Scope

The collaborative efforts will not in any way undermine the distinctiveness of tax authorities in terms of their statutory powers and functions. Therefore, there is a conscious understanding that while implementing this framework, tax authorities shall maintain their powers as revenue generating agencies for their respective Governments.

Areas of Collaboration are:

1. Identifying and locating taxpayers through sharing and exchange of information on taxpayers and exchange of taxpayer databases.
2. Conducting joint audit exercise by FIRS and SIRSs.
3. Carrying joint tax enlightenment exercises.
4. Sharing of information concerning unremitted taxes discovered by either side.
5. Strengthening collaboration on areas of review and amendments of tax laws and legislation as may be required.

Procedure for Implementation

The Joint Tax Board Secretary under the supervision of the Executive Chairman, FIRS and Chairman, JTB is to coordinate and execute the content of this collaboration framework.

Adoption

This collaboration framework takes effect from 14 September 2015 during the 132nd meeting of the Joint tax Board.

17 YEAR OLD WRITER RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP AWARD FROM KW-IRS



Wednesday 27 April 2016 was a memorable day for Sekinat Motunrayo Abdulkabir, a 17 year old student whose book, *The Lazy Man & His Family and other stories* was presented at the Model College Ilorin. Her prowess and tenacity earned her a scholarship from the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS).

Sekinat who started her educational journey at Irshaa'd Nursery and Primary School after which she proceeded to Model Junior and Senior Secondary School Ilorin is currently studying Web Design at the Technology College of the Ministry of Education. She dreams of becoming a pharmacist while being able to share her experiences with the world as a writer.

The choice of the Model Secondary School for the book presentation was to encourage other students to develop their skills. The ceremony was graced by the KW-IRS team led by its Executive Chairman, Dr Muritala Awodun, the Principal of Model Secondary School

represented by the Vice Principal, Academic, Alhaja Aluko, the Vice Principal, Admin, Mr AbdulGaniyu Laaro, the Chairman, Parents Teachers Association, Mallam Aminu Jato, the parent of the young author, Mr and Mrs A. S. Abdulkabir, well-wishers and students of Model secondary School.

At the event, Dr Muritala Awodun who is credited for the publication of the story book, officially presented the book to the author and the general public. He narrated the journey engaged by Sekinat to see the book to completion. Dr Awodun explained that Sekinat who he described as an achiever, represented Model Senior

Secondary School about three (3) years ago at a competition hosted by the Kwara State University's Centre for Entrepreneurship under the Directorship of Dr Muritala Awodun. At the competition, Sekinat witnessed the presentation of a book written by a secondary school student and became inspired to do the same.

Dr Awodun disclosed that she had written the book the following year and reminded him constantly of his promise to assist in its publication. He described her as a fighter who is patience, persevering, determined, confident and has belief in the system. He acknowledge the support of Sekinat's parent; it is the qualities in Sekinat and the support of her mother, Mrs A. S. Abdulkabir that saw the book through to publication. He described this success story as possible on two levels, the first being the hard work put in to write the



book and the commitment to its publication. He reminded the students present that 'quitters never win, and winners never quit.'

The Reviewer of the book, Alhaji Abdulraheem posited that the reading culture is slowly going into oblivion with many moving towards movies. He advised the students present to always read saying that 'if you do not read, you cannot lead.' He identified the lessons in the story *The Lazy Man & His Family and other stories* to be hard work and perseverance. He also highlighted the importance of confidence in ones abilities, reminding the audience that Sekinat was a science student in Senior Secondary School but who still believed in her writing ability.



Dr Awodun expressed his confidence in Sekinat stating his belief that this is just the beginning and only her first book. He congratulated the young author and rewarded her achievement with a university scholarship, the first of its kind to be awarded by KW-IRS.



EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN & STAFF OF KW-IRS RECEIVES NAPPSS AWARD

The Executive Chairman, Dr Muritala Awodun was on the 4 May 2016 presented with the National Association of Peace Studies Students (NAPSS) Patriotic Peace Ambassador Award. The award, which was delivered by NAPSS President, Honourable Oyewole is in recognition of his contributions to securing peace among Nigeria Youths. Also present at the award presentation were the executives of NAPSS and the Management Team of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS)

The President, NAPSS in his speech explained the objectives of the Association to include deliberating challenges to peace, promoting awareness of human injustice, environmental degradation, while also encouraging non-violent conflict resolution.

NAPSS in its quest to propagate peace identifies and recognises role models and mentors. It is in this light of this that Dr Muritala Awodun was awarded the NAPSS' PATRIOTIC PEACE AMBASSADOR. He added that Dr Awodun is being honoured for his outstanding patriotism, contribution to national building, true democracy, service delivery, selflessness and dedicated service to God, humanity and Nigeria.

Dr Awodun is described by NAPSS as “an erudite peace builder, experienced administrator of invaluable intellectual prowess, a proven public and private sector leader per excellence, a father

to all, relentless apostle of an ideal democratic institution, an architect of modern Kwara, an ardent stickler for success, a remarkable team player, a philanthropist numero uno, a critical thinker, renown youth emancipator, a prudent public servant, community leader, patriotic Nigerian personality, a peace advocate, hardworking, a politician with a difference, detester of oligarchy in governance, moral icon worthy of emulation, and a man with magnificent experience of an outstanding nation builder!”

Dr Awodun, with this award joins the league of NAPSS Peace Ambassadors, which include Aare Afe Babalola (Founder, Afe Babalola University), Prof. Abdu Ganiyu Ambali (Vice Chancellor, Unilorin), Prof. Dibu Ojerinde (Registrar, JAMB) and Alh Abdulfatah Ahmed (Executive Governor of Kwara State) among others.

NAPSS also in recognition of outstanding performance presented a corporate delivery merit award to the KW-IRS Management and Staff NAPPS DEVELOPMENT MANDATE/SERVICE AWARD.

Dr Awodun in his response acknowledged NAPSS for the honour bestowed on him and KW-IRS. He apprised that as we go about our duties officially and unofficially, it is important to always be on the best behaviour and act with a pure heart as it is evident there may be people watching. He said he this as an encouragement charging us all to do more.





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“

I am as excited as KW-IRS. I always want to ensure you do better. If KW-IRS achieves its N5billion monthly mark, it means social services, critical sectors will be easier to fund. The issue of reliance on Federal Allocation will be of the past.

”

*Habibah K.K Aiyelabegan

A CHAT WITH AJEIGBE

HONOURABLE COMMISSIONER FOR INFORMATION

Having completed the first 100 days in office, the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) is looking back, recognising supporters and gathering feedback to learn from past experience. For this purpose, one of the key supporters of the Service, the Honourable Commissioner, Ministry of Information & Communication, Alh Mahmud Babatunde Ajeigbe was sought out for an interview.

The Honourable Commissioner has been identified as one of the first Kwarans who not only identified with the Service but also took practical steps to support its vision. In a chat with Alhaji Ajeigbe, Mrs Adenike Babajamu, the Director of Admin and Corporate Affairs of KW-IRS expressed her appreciation to the Honourable Commissioner. She said while many have offered, the Commissioner is one with which promises have yielded tangible results.

KW-IRS: Can you please tell us about yourself?

AJEIGBE: I am a young man, born about 48 years ago in Minna. I grew up in Zaria and went to the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria Staff School, Federal Government College, Kaduna. I obtained my B.Sc. in Zoology and M.Sc. in Animal Science both from the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, and a Masters in Business Administration from the Federal University of Technology, Akure.

My work experience has been varied and multi-sectorial, starting with the Nigerian Agric and Cooperative Bank, First Union Building Society, the then National Providence Fund which transformed to Nigerian Social Insurance Trust Fund. I then ventured into International Consulting through training and worked with multinational donor agencies such as USAID, DFID, Unicef and Actionaid. I did that on a part-time basis and later

started a company, which specializes in facility management, landscape and grounds maintenance, etc. We were able to grow this business to be operational in Nigeria, Ghana, Cameroon, and Benin Republic.

In 2011, I started my foray into politics. I have been Special Assistant (SA) on Maintenance and Protection, SA on New Partnerships for Africa's Development (NEPAD), Senior Special Assistant (SSA) on Agricultural Matters, SSA on Parastatals, Monitoring and Compliance and now the Honourable Commissioner for the Ministry of Information and Communication.

KW-IRS: We have done a number of activities on advocacy, media appearances, publications, and so on. Do you think we are doing enough in terms of advocacy and media representation? If no, what are your suggestions?

AJEIGBE: The challenge is that there is never enough in advocacy and sensitisation. We need to understand the fact that the orientation of our people has been largely skewed towards

Government providing free social service across all sectors. With such orientation, it becomes difficult to convince people that some services need to be paid for, or partially subsidised by Government. The KW-IRS has started well but there's always room for improvement.

Areas where the Service can improve include firstly, the frequency of the information dissemination system needs to be increased. Secondly, public awareness on critical aspects of revenue collection and tax regime. Thirdly, we need to expand our horizons to have town hall interactions. The fourth is other avenues to increase advocacy, improve awareness and ensure that the sensitisation of people in this key aspect of collection of taxes and increase in revenue and is achieved.

I am as excited as KW-IRS. I always want to ensure you do better. If KW-IRS achieves its N5billion monthly mark, it means social services, critical sectors will be easier to fund. The issue of reliance on Federal Allocation will be of the past. If the State has N2.4b as overheads and KW-IRS makes N5b, N2.6b will even give us leverage at the capital market to carry out key developmental projects, thereby increase the macro-economic indices of the State.

KW-IRS: What do you have to say to other media practitioners?

They should report the truth, clearly and concisely, they should ask questions and make clarifications where necessary, rather than be sensational in their news reporting. Information dissemination is critical to security, to governance and to economic development. If you project information in the right manner, you pass on the right message; if you are mischievous, you pass the wrong message. The challenge with this as we see with social media, what is obtainable is falsehood, half-truth and then the truth, all in one bundle. The task is how do we sieve this? So my appeal is to all media related organisations to ensure whatever they public is correct, clear, concise and have made necessary clarifications.

KW-IRS: What can KW-IRS expect from you as the Honourable Commissioner of Information?

AJEIGBE: 110% support. We will continue to scan the environment to give you information that is required to improve your operations, and give you advise in information related areas and others. The information we get is multisectoral. For example, when I am on radio, which is about 3 times a week, people ask me questions on issues from the cost of sachet water to unavailability of fuel. So I am a reservoir of all sorts of information. The KW-IRS can be rest assured that the Ministry of Information and Communication will continue to provide support within our capacity to ensure that you achieve that core mandate.

KW-IRS: What advice do you have for the Service?

For everything that is new, there will be challenges. We are all coming from varied backgrounds so there will be need to exercise a lot of patience and understanding as people begin to exhibit individual skills and characters. KWIRS has become a melting pot where we are hoping that people are able to strengthen the aggregate to strengthen their operations to the benefit of Kwara State. It is

also important to be fair and just, as best as possible. It is also important to be able to articulate views, show compassion and negotiate on a case-by-case basis.

For the staff, there is need to shun all acts of indiscipline and corruption. The staff need to know they are the image of the organisation. It is what they exhibit that people will assume is obtainable in the organisation. There are people who would like to say we got it wrong so it is important that we are not found wanting. Usually, what tarnishes the image of a place is less than 1%. I advice KW-IRS to launch their indiscipline campaign. The State Government will also launch its own campaign, Kick Indiscipline and Corruption out of Kwara (KICK), this is public orientation programme that will run within the state this year. KW-IRS needs to key into this campaign.

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THE JOURNEY OF A 100 DAYS



*Yetunde Elegboja

An elephant notwithstanding its size can be consumed if it is broken down into parts. So also it is often said that a journey of a thousand years starts in a day. The Kwara State Internal Revenue Service on 12 April 2016 recorded her 100 days of commencement of business. A very short journey but nevertheless very impactful and full of events.

To mark this remarkable event the Kwareve News sought the opinion of some of the pioneer members of the service on the success story. What are the take up challenges, how have they resolved it and what is the way forward.

In an interview conducted with Alhaji Nuhu Olaide Muhammed, the Director Tax Audit and Assessment (TAA) and a former acting chairman of the defunct Board of Internal Revenue (BIR) confirmed that the take off of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service was challenging for the new management of KW-IRS however he expressed that the mandate and target given to KW-IRS is achievable and that KW-IRS will achieve it and surpass it in a very short while.

The Director Tax Assessment and Audit noted that the KW-IRS came up from a position of dwindling revenue from both the state IGR and the federal allocation. He stated that the new task of KW-IRS is to make the state government to be less dependent on the federal allocation but on the state Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) he reiterated that this is a herculean task but achievable.

Alhaji. Nuhu Olaide defined Assessment as the determination of tax due payable by residents of Kwara State. He stated that this has to do with Personal Income Tax (PIT). The Director TAA emphasized the need for necessary information to be obtained for fair assessment to be raised. He sees the issue of information gathering as a big challenge KW-IRS is faced with. He stated that the few ones inherited from the old BIR is not detailed and are also in the analogue form. He sees this as a very challenging task in today's e-driven world. Alhaji. Olaide held that the Service is gradually building its database via the conversion of the data inherited from the old board



Mr. Nuhu Mohammed
Director, Tax Assessment and Audit

and creation of new data.

The Director, TAA also leverage on his position as the former AG Chairman, BIR to retrieve some information and citizen's data from some of his former staff and colleague of the defunct BIR and also unwritten historical information at his disposal, assistance from former colleagues and fresh information gathering. He nevertheless suggested a complete switch to IT by KW-IRS for better information gathering and collection processes.

The Director HNI & Corporate, Alhaja Iyabo Abubakar in her response to the challenges of pioneering an organisation such as the KW-IRS identified the lack of data, manual operations, poor tax awareness and logistic challenges. She however said her directorate was able to weather the storm by building on the existing information inherited from the old BIR. She noted that the breakthrough of the HNI directorate was the employment of seasoned professionals who are experienced in revenue



Mrs. Iyabo Abubakar
Director, High Net Worth Individuals (HNI)

collection.

She gave out the nuggets employed by KW-IRS under her directorate to surmount its take up challenges. She stressed the importance of stakeholders visits conducted by the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS and his management team. She said the high level of advocacy conducted by KW-IRS has added vehemently to the success of KW-IRS. This is a process whereby traditional rulers, High Net worth Individuals, Industries and Corporate organisations were paid visit to source for support.

Alhaja Abubakar adduced the high performance of the HNI directorate, to the commitment and dedication of the staff of the directorate. She explained that the segmentation of the activities of the directorate into geographical boundaries has been of immense help.

The director HNI & Corporate Organization is optimistic about meeting the set target by KW-IRS. She therefore advised the Service to be consistent in adhering to its policy and Core values and always remember that revenue administration is anchored on Integrity and Trust.

As the man in charge of the engine room of KW-IRS, which is the Operations Directorate, Dr. Isaac Gbenle, the Director, Operations and Process, identified the major challenge of KW-IRS at take off as the pseudo I.T department inherited from the defunct Board of Internal Revenue (BIR). He elucidated the negative impact of this as it relates to information and data gathering, which are meant to be the principal tool of the revenue generating directorates. He further enumerated the measures taken by his directorate to

build data for KW-IRS which is through the Kwara Resident Identification Number (KRIN), a strategy designed to identify residents of the state, identify taxable adults in the state as well as help the government to give back to Kwarans through the identification of the total number of citizens available in the state as well as making the KW-IRS to be e-driven.

Dr. Isaac Gbenle emphasized the use of Information Technology (IT) to achieve one of the mandates given to KW-IRS, which is to block all leakages. He stated that in order to achieve this, we have to capture all process of revenue collections in all of the Ministries. He said once processes are reviewed, they would be able to use to fill the gaps in collection. He said if all Ministries and parastatals are able to pass through the ERMS, then, KW-IRS will be able to have real time reporting of all transactions made by these Ministries and Parastatals. Revenue codes will be used for easy capturing of revenue on the Electronic Revenue Management System (ERMS) platform, which gives real time reporting, payment details.

Dr. Gbenle held that Directorate of Operations is an integral part of the KW-IRS operation and must work with every other directorate. He emphasized the need for KW-IRS to have cooperative alliance with stakeholders.

The Head, Internal Audit and Monitoring, Mr. Audu Mohammed who is also a foundational staff of KW-IRS



Dr. Isaac Gbenle
Director, Operations and Process



Mr. Audu Mohammed
Head, Internal Audit and Monitoring

in an interview with our correspondent stated that his first challenge was coming up with an appropriate Accounting Manual and Policy handbook to enable him perform his job function of monitoring.

Mr. Audu explained the operational details of his directorate, which is broken down into four sections. The Revenue, Expenditure, Post-Audit and Store. He therefore solicits for cooperation among staff and advise that staff should see the Audit department as a solution based department. He advised the Service to increase the level of media awareness through Advocacy.

The Directorate of Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Mr. Segun Olaniyi stated that the take up challenges in his directorate is not in any way different from that of other directorates that is mainly the issue of no information, lack of data and logistic problems. He stated that to resolve this, they had to rely on unregistered historical information, haphazard data retrieved from the defunct BIR as well as leverage on the presence of the Director TAA, Alhaji. Nuhu Olaide who was the former Ag Chairman of the old board.

Mr. Segun Olaniyi stated that his directorate at take off experienced some issues with the posting of the defunct BIR staff back to the ministries but for the timely intervention of His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Kwara State, Alhaji Abdulfatah Ahmed, the Head of Service and the Executive Chairman,

KW-IRS. He further enumerated the challenges his directorate faced with staff of the Ministry at the initial state but confirmed that all these are sorted out because of the better understanding of the management and staff of the ministry.

The Director, MDAs. He said the Service will continue to look inward on how to block leakages especially at the MDAs. He explained the great achievement recorded at the Motor Licensing Authority (MLA) and the new Platform the directorate is using for motor licensing and documentations, which is now on just one platform. This insinuates that, vehicular documentations are now one-stop point affairs. This is a great achievement for KW-IRS. He identified the support received from the Police, FRSC, VIO and KWARTMA whose contributions have helped increase compliance.

With the following interactions with some of the pioneers and foundational staff of KW-IRS, you would agree with me that truly, a 100 days journey is truly not a joke because it comes with various challenges but the ability to proffer long lasting solutions to these challenges is what determines a hero. Obviously, KW-IRS has done so well in its 100 days. Congratulations to the Executive Chairman, Dr Muritala Awodun and staff of KW-IRS.



Mr. Segun Olaniyi
Director, Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs)

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