

**REPORT ON THE ADVISORY TEAM VISIT FROM THE NATIONAL WATER  
RESOURCES INSTITUTE (NWRI), KADUNA TO UNAAB FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
ESTABLISHING THE NWRCBNet COORDINATING CENTRE FOR SOUTH WEST  
GEO-POLITICAL ZONE IN UNAAB (MARCH 17<sup>TH</sup> & 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2010)**

## **1.0 ARRIVAL**

Members of the advisory group on the National Water Resources Capacity Building Network (NWRCBNet) arrived at the College of Engineering (COLENG) by 8 am as scheduled; they were received on arrival by Prof. B.A. Adewumi on behalf of the Dean, COLENG. After exchanging pleasantries, the group led by Dr. O.A. Bamgboye introduced members of the team as follows:

- Dr. O.A. Bamgboye – Ag. Exec. Director, National Water Resources Institute, Kaduna
- Engr. Halid Yusuf – Ag. Exec. Director, National Integrated Water Resources Management Commission, Abuja.
- Engr. Orkuma Adanyih – General Manager, Benue State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency.
- Engr. S.G. Sara – Desk Officer, NWRCBNet/NWRI, Kaduna

Prof. B.A. Adewumi welcomed them and informed them of the itinerary for the day. At 9 am the group and the UNAAB team proceeded to the Directorate of Linkages and Partnership at the Senate Building from where other activities will continue. On arrival, The Director of Linkages and Partnership, Dr. O.D. Akinyemi welcomed the group and requested that we proceed to the office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Development (DVCD) Prof. S. T.O. Lagoke by 9:15 am.

## **2.0 AT THE DVC, DEVELOPMENT'S OFFICE**

Prof. Lagoke welcomed every one present and informed the Advisory group that the university is very happy to be considered for the hosting of the South West Zonal Coordinating Centre for the NWRCBNet. He said that the management of the university under the present administration has invested heavily on improving training facilities in the university and assured them that they will be thrilled by what they will see.

In response, the Leader of the advisory group, Dr O.A. Bamgboye thanked the DVC and introduced members of the group. He said that the NWRI had been carrying out capacity building in the water sector for years through an outreach programme sponsored by the World Bank; he said that the

programme had focused training activities on the various State Water Boards in the country. He further said that the World Bank had given an advice that the scope of the programme be expanded to include capacity building institutions in the country by way of having a network in partnership with the institutions in the country. He said that the Institute also got the approval of the National Council on Water Resources to establish the partnership with training institutions in Nigeria.

He further said that the presidency has also recently approved that River Basin Management be included in the mandate of the NWRI.

Similarly, the Advisory group leader said that the Federal Government has recently inaugurated the first Governing Board for the institute and that the Board had graciously approved the hosting of sabbatical staff in the institute from other institutions, by this, the research facilities of the institute is now available for researchers from other institutions especially institutions that partner with NWRI.

He said that UNESCO-IHP has also approved that NWRI become a Regional Water Centre for West Africa, consequently, the institute has been able to attract UNESCO funding for research and training activities. UNESCO has shown interest in funding researches on Drought, IWRM, and Water use Efficiency etc. He then said that the research activities of the centre that will be established in the university will be sponsored by UNESCO and NWRI.

He also informed the gathering that UNAAB came 2<sup>nd</sup> after ABU at the assessment of submissions made by institutions in the country, he said this was possible because of the positive attitude that the university has towards the partnership which was reflected in the submission. He said that the World Bank has donated VSATs and computers for the proposed centres to aid information flow and immediately after the MOU has been signed, the institute will start forwarding the equipment needed by the centres to the respective partnering institutions. He also mentioned that UNESCO is also willing to provide state of the art laboratory equipment for water resources research at the centre.

In his own contribution, the acting Executive Director, NIWRMC, Engr Halid Yusuf remarked that his commission is seriously interested in the NWRCBNet and the proposed partnership with UNAAB. He said that after the passage of the NIWRMC bill, the commission will be saddled with the responsibility of regulating all water resources development in the country and hence will need all the data and research findings that the proposed centre will generate.

He informed the gathering that a highly sophisticated water quality laboratory has been established by the Ministry in Akure as a confirmatory centre for water analysis in the country.

The DVC once again thanked the group and all the members of the UNAAB team of scientist who has been behind the proposed partnership.

### **3.0 COURTESY CALL ON THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**

At the VC's office, the DVC Development briefed the VC on the advisory group visit and introduced members of the group as stated in page 1 above. The leader of the group, Dr. O.A. Bamgboye appreciated the university management for the hospitality that has been accorded them since their arrival the previous day; he said that UNAAB came 2<sup>nd</sup> at the National assessment of institutions which has led to the event of the day. He said that the advisory group had visited two universities earlier (ABU and UNILORIN) and that another group is visiting the Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Orka as at the time of their visitation here. He said UNAAB has a lot of things to gain in the proposed partnership, as the network will be providing a number of facilities for the university which will be sponsored by the World Bank and UNESCO. Other briefings are as contained in page 2 above. He thereafter presented some materials on the activities of NWRI to the VC.

### **3.1 VC's Response**

The Vice Chancellor thanked members of the advisory group for deeming the university fit to host the South West coordinating centre for NWRCBNet amidst bigger institutions in the region.

He appreciated the objectivity that was displayed during the assessment of the submissions made by UNAAB that led to the selection of the university. He said that UNAAB's submission is always finding acceptance and high rating both locally and internationally. He later assured the group that the university will not let the group down, giving an assurance that the activities of the proposed centre will be well monitored to achieve the set objectives.

He further appreciated the efforts of the Executive Director, NWRI for bringing the centre to UNAAB and reiterated that more effort will be needed to strengthen the centre. He also informed the gathering that a World Bank Team will be visiting the university to see our Industrial Park Initiative and to explore how it can be replicated in other Universities.

He said that the approach of the university administration is that of dynamism and proper articulation of issues, hence UNAAB reports are always well accepted everywhere. UNAAB is

leading in the ETF ranking in terms of project implementation; the university is also leading in the utilization of Capital allocation because of the prudence displayed which has led to monetary bonuses for the university.

The VC further showed his happiness for the fact that the centre will be resident in the College of Engineering (COLENG), despite the fact that the college is still a baby in the university.

In conclusion, Engr. Halid Yusuf presented some publications on the activities of the National Integrated Water Resources Management Commission to the Vice Chancellor.

#### **4.0 VISITS TO THE UNIVERSITY FACILITIES**

At the end of the courtesy call on the VC, the group was then taken round the facilities of the university that will be very useful to the centre. The facilities include:

- ICT centre
- Central Computer Laboratory
- JAO 3 Lecture theatre
- Environmental Laboratory
- Analytical Laboratory
- Water Quality Laboratory
- Cartography/Mapping Room

The members of the advisory group were very impressed with what they saw on ground at the university. The entire group then proceeded to the pension house for discussions.

#### **5.0 MEETING AT THE PENSION HOUSE**

##### **5.1 ATTENDANCE**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DEPT.</b>
1. Dr.B.S. Badmus	Physics
2. Prof. O. Martins	WRM&A
3. Dr. G. Oluwasanya	WRM&A
4. Dr. O.A. Idowu	WRM&A
5. Engr. P.O.O. Dada	Agric. Eng'g
6. Engr. A. Adekunle	Civil Eng'g
7. Engr. S.G. Sara	NWRI, Kaduna
8. Dr. G.A Bolaji	Civil Eng'g
9. Dr.Mrs. I.M. Adekunle	EM&T
10. Dr. O.S. Awokola	Civil Eng'g
11. Dr.Mrs. B. Phillip	IFSERAR
12. Prof. B.A. Adewumi	Agric Eng'g

13. Dr. O.D. Akinyemi
14. Engr. O. Adanyih
15. Engr. H. Yusuf
16. Dr. O.A. Bamgboye
17. Dr. J.K. Adewumi
18. Engr. A. Sobowale

Linkages & Partnerships  
Benue RUWASSA  
NIWRMC, Abuja  
NWRI, Kaduna  
Agric Eng'g  
Agric. Eng'g

Dr. J.K. Adewumi who represented the dean of Engineering in coordinating the activities while he was away, welcome every one present and requested the advisory group leader to give a brief on the event of the day to every one present.

Dr O.A. Bamgboye briefed everyone on the purpose of the visit and circulated a publication on the NWRI, Kaduna. He gave an update on the need to establish NWRCBNet which was based on expert advice from the World Bank and UNESCO; he then introduced members of the group. He further explained that the centre to be established should be participatory in approach giving room for all stake holders in the water sector. He suggested that priorities should be identified by the research scientists to be assembled for the centre. He said that NWRI will fund the activities of the centre with the assistance of the World Bank and UNESCO, he also stressed that there will be interventions like provision of facilities, Laboratory equipments etc. He also said that there is no doubt that the partnership will succeed since it is something that was approved by the National Council on Water Resources.

Prof. O. Martins welcome the group and went down memory lane on how efforts were made in the 1980's on this type of initiative. He assured the group that the university will live up to expectations.

Dr. G.A. Bolaji also appreciated the group and explained that the team that was set up is just a selected few in order to midwife the establishment of the partnership. More scientists will be co-opted into the team after the MOU had been signed.

Dr. O.S. Awokola informed the meeting that other organisations such as Water Corporation and O-ORBDA were invited for the programme.

After all the responses, Dr. J.K. Adewumi asked for the meeting to look at the MOU so that the areas pointed out by the University Legal Adviser could be clarified by the visiting group. The following amendment to the MOU was carried out:

A. Section 2.0 was beefed up to include:

- i. Carry out periodical SWOT analysis and institutional assessment for capacity development of each Water Agencies and Departments in the sector
- ii. Develop effective manning-ratio to carry out core functions of the Agencies and Departments
- iii. Carry out training needs identification exercise to determine immediate , short and long term training required in the water sector
- iv. Ensure Bi-annual meetings of all the partners coordinated by NWRI. NWRI will report activities to the National Technical Committee annually
- v. Carry out participatory development of planned works and implementation
- vi. Carry out joint Research and project proposals to solve identified problems in the water sector

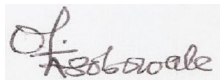
B. Sub section 4.4 and 4.5 were deleted as observed by the University Lawyer

C. The phrase “partnering organisation” in the MOU was replaced with UNAAB

D. The names of the signatories were then determined

All these actions were followed by the printing of the draft MOU, this was then circulated and all necessary corrections were made. Dr. Bamgboye observed the need to insert an appendix to the MOU which will indicate the particulars of the Desk Officers of both NWRI and UNAAB. It was agreed that Engr. S.G. Sara and Dr. J.K. Adewumi should be the Desk Officer for NWRI and UNAAB respectively.

This was immediately followed by the endorsement of the pages of the MOU by Dr. O.A. Bamgboye for NWRI and Dr. O.D. Akinyemi for UNAAB. This was followed by the exchange of pleasantries by all present. The leader of the group, Dr. O.A. Bamgboye announced to all present that UNAAB has taken the lead in the country being the first institution to sign the MOU. The meeting then rose after lunch and proceeded to the Senate Chambers where the final signing of the MOU took place. This was immediately followed by the taking of group pictures with the university management. **To GOD be the Glory.**



**Adeyinka Sobowale**  
**Technical Secretary**

## APENDIX I



Plate 1: Group at the DVC, Development's office



Plate 2: Introduction of scientists present



Plate 3: DVC, Development making a point at the VC's office



Plate 4: The VC receiving the Advisory group members





Plate 5: A relaxed discussion at the VC's office

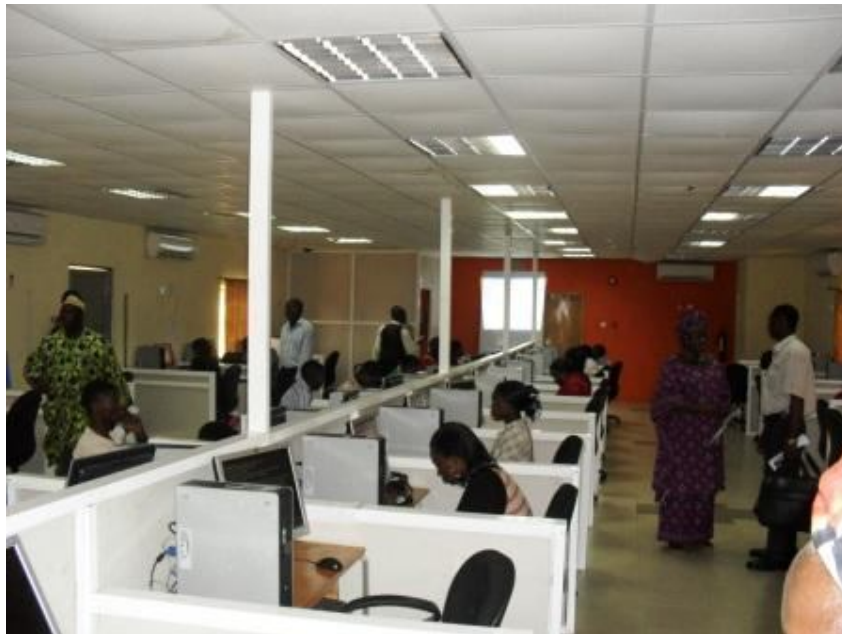


Plate 6: Visit to the ICTREC Training Centre



Plate 7: Advisory Group at the Central Computer Laboratory



Plate 8: Visit to JAO 3



Plate 9: Visit to the Environmental Laboratory



Plate 10: Visit to the Mapping room





Plate 11: Secretarial duties at the MOU fine tuning



Plate 12: Group Picture at the Pension House