

**A SPEECH BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY PTAD AT THE PTAD NORTH CENTRAL
STAKEHOLDER FORUM M&M EVENT CENTRE GARKI ABUJA April 11TH 2019**

INTRODUCTION

- Observation of Protocols.
- I warmly welcome everyone to 'PTAD's 2019 North Central stakeholders' forum
- As always, I am glad to see a very good turnout of our esteemed pensioners, stakeholders, partners and sister agencies today. To you all I say welcome again and thank you for honoring us with your presence.
- The primary purpose of today's gathering is to brief you on our activities, our plans for the year 2019, and updates relevant to our pensioners and other stakeholders.

OVER VIEW OF 2018

2018 was a busy year at PTAD and we daresay a successful one also. Pension payments have been regular and up to date. We concluded the CSPD verification and commenced the verification of the PAPD pensioners, starting with the Defunct Agencies. We made significant progress on the payment of the long outstanding 33% arrears, which we are hopeful will soon be a thing of the past. We are making payments to Next of Kins (NOKs) of deceased pensioners in the CSPD and the PaPD.

We have brought our services closer to our Pensioners in the North East with an additional state office in Damaturu. Another office in Yola was also commissioned in February 2019. We are also upgrading the services of some of our state offices like Lagos to Regional Offices Status, to enable them offer the same quality of services available in the Head Office, including carrying out biometric verification. Incidents of pension fraud are on the decline as we continue to create awareness and partner with the ICPC and the EFCC to arrest and prosecute fraudsters.

Towards staff motivation and advancement, PTAD held its first promotion examination for staff on GL 5 to14. I am pleased to announce that 82 of our staff were promoted to the next grade level.

DETAILS

Monthly Pensions Payment

Departments	Amount Utilized for Monthly Pension In 2018	Amount Utilized for Monthly Pension In Q1 2019
CIPPD	6,810,835,211.79	1,846,418,027.22
PaPD	45,054,301,272.63	14,924,815,793.35
CSPD	21,217,916,095.74	5,199,118,260.78
PPD	6,124,874,950.61	1,659,178,801.25

CSPD



Pension Transitional Arrangement Directorate

- **30,770** CSPD pensioners who had not been on the payroll had their benefits computed and put back on the payroll with their arrears paid.
- As at March 2019, an additional **1655** have also been computed and put back on the payroll

PaPD

- **14,678** pensioners from various agencies under the PaPD were verified, benefits computed and paid. They include Delta Steel, NITEL/MTEL, FHA, and NDA - Civilian.
- Savannah Sugar retirees were verified for payment

33% Arrears

Departments	No. of Months Paid	No. of Months Outstanding
CIPPD	42 (Fully paid)	Nil
PPD	42 (Fully pad)	Nil
CSPD	42 (Fully paid)	Nil
PaPD (Railway)	Fully Paid	Nil
Other PaPD		12 – 24 Months

**PaPD Agencies have varying months outstanding between 12-24 Months. Payment to commence after verification. This is to enable PTAD ascertain its true liability.

Payment to NOKs

Departments	Number of NoKs Paid	Amount Paid
CSPD	337	N277, 078,353.45
PaPD		
• NITEL	649	N613, 418,598.93
• Health/Edu (PPVE)	1,019	N1, 923,500,441.03
• Delta Steel Company	19	N25, 907,309.75

UPDATES

1. PaPD Verification

Planning has been concluded for the verification of pensioners under the Parastatal Pension Department. Details of this will be provided in the PaPD presentation.

2. Steel Rolling Mills

We are awaiting approved salary charts for the re-computation and payments of death benefits and 3 years arrears to NOKs of deceased pensioners from the National Salaries, Wages and Income Commission.

3. Legacy Funds Recoveries



We are at enforcement stage. The Directorate is in court with a number of defaulters and have received judgment in our favour in two cases. We are working closely with regulatory agencies for the underwriters to comply. We use this platform to call on all Insurance Companies and underwriters to transfer legacy funds and assets in their custody to the designated CBN Asset Recovery Account.

4. PPD In-House Verification

The Police Pensions Department has lifted the ban on in house verification of pensioners. The verification was suspended in 2017 two years after the field verification exercise was concluded. The exercise will focus on due pensioners, pensioners in diaspora and NOKs. The documents required will be thoroughly scrutinized and only original documents are allowed. No affidavit will be entertained.

5. NOK Documentation

Documentation required to enable an NOK make claims on the pension benefit of a deceased pensioner have been made available and will be distributed during this event. It is important that NOKs are statutorily the correct persons and that they present the correct documents to enable them receive the pension benefit of a deceased relative. Particularly important is the Letter of Administration which must be issued by the Probate Division of the State or FCT High Courts.

6. Death Notification

I wish to thank all our partner banks who have regularly written to notify us of deceased pensioners in their books. Until we implement our "I'm Alive" we will continue to rely on the Banks, The Pension Unions and families of Deceased pensioners. NOK of deceased pensioners are advised to immediately notify PTAD in the event of death. No benefits will be lost as any pension benefit due will be paid in full to the NOKs.

7. Check-Off Dues

PTAD has continued to ensure the prompt deduction of 1% check – off dues in favour of the Nigerian Union of Pensioners. The remittance of dues is done only to associations and unions that are registered under the Trade Union Act, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 (as amended) and are duly recognized by the Nigeria Labour Congress. As such. Only the NUP is recognized for payment of check-off dues under the Third Schedule to the Trade Union Act.

8. Harmonization and Downsizing

Harmonization and downsizing are two issues of concern to pensioners which require further clarification. These issues will be discussed in a presentation later at this event

9. Pensioners Satisfaction Survey: The Directorate is carrying out a pensioner satisfaction survey to gauge the pulse of our pensioners, measure their satisfaction with PTAD service delivery and obtain the necessary feedback towards improving on our service commitment. Pensioners are encouraged to be factual in their response.

Preliminary feedback from the survey shows that a large number of pensioners are concerned about the timeliness and increment in their monthly pension. We apologise for any inconvenience you may have experienced due to late payment and assure you that PTAD is working closely with all the relevant agencies of government towards improved turnaround on monthly pension

payment. The issue of increment will apply automatically once the minimum wage bill is passed into law.

FUTURE PLANS

Our 2019 – 2021 future plans are hinged on three strategic priorities:

1. Strengthening PTAD's institutional framework using technology and a dedicated workforce.
2. To ensure prudent and efficient financial resources management.
3. To achieve and sustain optimal pensioner satisfaction, stakeholder buy-in and collaboration.

You will be hearing more about our future plans from the presentation from our Policy and Strategy Unit.

Funding to address our obligations to all our pensioners is a recurring challenge. We will continue to forge ahead as we have done in previous years. We are fortunate to have an administration that identifies with our vision to provide innovative and sustainable pension services to our pensioners. It is on this assurance that we have developed our strategic plans for the coming years.

CONCLUSION

Before I end, I would like to reiterate that PTAD has a zero tolerance for corruption. No staff of PTAD will ever ask for gratification. PTAD does not sell forms, ask for processing fees or gratification, to process your complaints or payments. Please do not fall victim to fraudsters. If you are called by anyone claiming to be from PTAD to help you process your complaint in return for any form of payment, please report such occurrences to us immediately.

We are here to open up dialogue, share ideas and discuss ways of improving the lives of the pensioners under our management. Thank you once again for honoring our invitation.

Sharon O. Ikeazor
ES, PTAD