



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

**Views of the Government of the  
Federal Republic of Nigeria  
on the  
Visitation Report into the Affairs of the  
Federal University of Petroleum Resources,  
Effurun, Delta State**

**(2016 - 2020)**

DECEMBER, 2022

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**WHITE PAPER ON THE REPORT OF THE VISITATION PANEL INTO  
THE AFFAIRS OF THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF PETROLEUM RESOURCES,  
EFFURUN, DELTA STATE (2016-2020)**



**ARRANGEMENT OF PARAGRAPHS**

*Paragraph:*

1. Publication of Federal Government White Paper on the Report of the Visitation Panel into the Affairs of the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun, Delta State (2016 - 2020).

2. Citation.

SCHEDULE

**WHITE PAPER ON THE REPORT OF THE VISITATION PANEL INTO  
THE AFFAIRS OF THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF PETROLEUM  
RESOURCES, EFFURUN, DELTA STATE (2016-2020)**

1. The Federal Government White Paper on the Report of the Visitation Panel into the affairs of the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun, Delta State (2016 - 2020) as provided in the schedule to this Notice is hereby published in the Federal Government Gazette.

Publication  
of Federal  
Government  
White Paper  
on the  
Report of  
the Visitation  
Panel into  
the affairs of  
Federal  
University of  
the  
Petroleum  
Resources,  
Effurun,  
Delta State  
(2016 -  
2020).

2. This Notice may be cited as the "White Paper on the Report of the Visitation Panel into the affairs of the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun, Delta State (2016 - 2020)".

Citation.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, represented by the Honourable Minister of Education, Mallam Adamu Adamu, on Tuesday, 13th April, 2021, inaugurated Presidential Visitation Panels to 38 Federal Universities and 4 Inter-University Centres, among them, the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun (FUPRE), Delta State. The Visitation Panels were mandated to undertake a comprehensive review of the activities of the Universities for two periods: 2011-2015 and 2016-2020. They were given 60 days, from the date of inauguration, to complete and submit their reports.

### 1.1 COMPOSITION OF THE PANEL

Members of the Visitation Panel to the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun were :

- |       |   |                  |
|-------|---|------------------|
| (i)   | Prof. Ikenna Onyido .. .. .             | <i>Chairman</i>  |
| (ii)  | Prof. Suleiman Abdul .. .. .            | <i>Member</i>    |
| (iii) | Sir. Kenekchukwu Udechukwu .. .. .      | <i>Member</i>    |
| (iv)  | Dr. Kazeem Olaniyan .. .. .             | <i>Member</i>    |
| (v)   | Alh. Sani Ibrahim Amin, Ph.D .. .. .    | <i>Member</i>    |
| (vi)  | Prof. Ambily Etekpe .. .. .             | <i>Member</i>    |
| (vii) | Dr. Ifeyinwa F. Nnamchi-Ukaegbu .. .. . | <i>Secretary</i> |

### 1.3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference (TOR) given to the Panel were to :

(i) inquire into the level of implementation of the white paper on the last visitation report ;

(ii) look into the leadership quality of each university in terms of the roles of the Governing Council, the Vice-Chancellors and other Principal Officers;

(iii) look into the financial management of each institution including statutory allocations and internally generated revenue over the recommended period, and determine whether it was in compliance with appropriate regulations ;

(iv) investigate the application of funds, particularly the special grants and loans meant for specific projects in order to determine the status of such projects and their relevance for further funding ;

(v) examine the adequacy of the staff and staff development programs of each university ;

(vi) determine the relationship between the University and the various statutory bodies it interacts with according to its law for the purposes of

supervision, planning, finance, discipline, guidance and any other relationship i.e. (Governing Council, NUC and the Federal Ministry of Education (FME));

(vii) examine the law establishing the University including the relationship between the various internal organs, units and offices, and indicate the ways the law has been observed by the competent authorities, and also suggest any modifications to the law ;

(viii) trace the historical evolution of the University and take stock of its net achievements and problems as well as its style and sense of direction ;

(ix) examine the general security in the University, how the University has dealt with it, and recommend appropriate measure ; and

(x) examine the processes and structures of discipline of students in each university in line with due process of the rule of law.

1.3. Details of the Findings/Observations and Recommendations of the Visitation Panel, as well as the Comments indicating recommendations accepted, noted or rejected by the Visitor are contained in a tabular format in sections 2 - 11 of this gazette. The highlights of the Visitor's directives include :

(i) Council to review implementation of the previous White Paper recommendations;

(ii) the Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee should be reconstituted to be in tandem with the statutory requirement, with its Chairman being an external member of Council ;

(iii) Council should ensure the implementation of the directives of the Visitor as conveyed by the White Paper on the 2012 Visitation Panel's Report on the recruitment of qualified and experienced professionals into the Registry, Bursary and the Physical Planning and Development Unit;

(iv) Council should place a moratorium on employment of non-teaching staff, except those identified as critical to the operations of the University ;

(v) Council should reverse its present Conditions of Service in line with government requirements ;

(vi) Council should recover all illegal allowances paid to members and staff ;

(vii) EFCC to investigate the financial operations of the university;

(viii) University should adhere to extant financial regulations and circulars ;

(ix) Council should revisit the issue of wrong placement of staff ;

(x) Council should recruit qualified and competent professionals;

(xi) the University should ensure payment of salary arrears ;

(xii) the Vice-Chancellor should develop and submit the Strategic Plan to Senate and subsequently for Council's approval ;

(xiii) Management should revamp the Physical Planning and Development Unit, Registry and Bursary ;

(xiv) the Vice Chancellor should run an inclusive administration;

(xv) Council should address the excess administrative staff;

(xvi) all the ventures established by the university should improve its IGR and comply with extant financial regulations and circulars ;

(xvii) the University should allow a properly constituted Budget Monitoring Committee (BMC) to carry out its responsibility;

(xviii) the University should liquidate the outstanding amount of ₦72,111,667.47 to WEMA Bank Plc. to avoid accumulation of interest;

(xix) BPP should sanction the Vice-Chancellor for non-compliance with requirements of the law in respect of procedures for procurement of goods and services;

(xx) the Physical Planning and Development (DPP) Unit should be adequately staffed with qualified professionals ;

(xxi) Council should discipline the Director, PP&D Unit for distorting of the University's Master Plan, poor quality of work, inadequate supervision and negligence of due process ;

(xxii) the University should terminate the Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) agreement with Shoreline Development International Ltd. (SDIL) (Developer) and the amount so far paid by the University should be recovered ;

(xxiii) BPP to sanction the Vice Chancellor that awarded contracts to Goldmark Concepts Ltd. and Living Rock Builders Company Ltd. without them meeting registration requirements ;

(xxiv) Tonye Djoko and Associates should deliver the contract for the design of endowment projects of ₦300 million or face recovery process ;

(xxv) decisions of the Tenders Board should always be presented to Council Chairman for ratification ;

(xxvi) Someni Nigeria Ltd. should be blacklisted by the University and compelled by all legitimate means to refund the sum of ₦990,621,753.29 being the amount the company was paid for the construction of the students' hostel that it has abandoned since 2014 ;

(xxvii) FME to investigate issues of irregular promotions of staff;

(xxviii) Council should reverse its guidelines on the promotion of academic staff;

(xxix) Dr. Arnold Ojugo should refund the sum of ₦1,782,392.52 to the University for service overlap and be disciplined for gross misconduct;

(xxx) Council should set up a Committee to review the Universal Health Care (UHC) ; and

(xxxi) Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment should clarify if Petroleum Unions should operate in the University.

## TERMOFREFERENCEONE

*"Inquire into the level of implementation of the White Paper on the last visitation."*

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings</i>	<i>Recommendations</i>	<i>Comments</i>
2.1.			Governing Council to review the implementation of the White Paper on the 2012 Visitation Panel's Report in order to identify implementation gaps and matters requiring sustained action so that the University reaps the cumulative benefit of the visitation exercise.	<i>Visitor accepts this recommendation.</i>

## TERM OF REFERENCE TWO

*"Look into the leadership quality of the University in terms of the roles of the Governing Council, the Vice Chancellor and other Principal Officers."*

S/No.	Item	Observations/Findings	Recommendations	Comments
3.1.	QUALITY OF COUNCIL AND PRINCIPAL OFFICERS	<p>(a) Council reviewed the Appointment and Promotions Guidelines for both academic and non-academic staff.</p> <p>(b) A new condition of service was also developed during the period under review, The Condition of Service is full of legal flaws. A good example is the composition of the Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee.</p> <p>(c) Council was however accused of irregularities in haphazard implementation of the Visitor's directive in the White Paper of the 2012 Visitation Panel's Report on review of placements at entry points of staff and undue limitation of the mandate of the Budget Monitoring Committee on monitoring of projects funded by the Needs Assessment Intervention Fund, resulting in multiplicity of poorly executed projects and delayed completion.</p>	<p>(f) The Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee should be reconstituted in tandem with the statutory requirement.</p> <p>(ii) Implementation of the 2012 White Paper directive on recruitment of qualified and experienced professionals in the Registry, Bursary and Physical Planning department and Unit.</p> <p>(iii) Moratorium by Council on the employment of non-teaching staff, except those identified as critical to the operations of the University.</p> <p>(iv) Recruitment of senior academic staff, especially of professorial cadre.</p> <p>(v) Review of the Conditions of Service on for members of Council and Principal Officers.</p> <p>(vi) All illegally paid allowances should be recovered from the recipients.</p> <p>(vii) People of integrity and accomplishments should be appointed as members of Council.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendations (i), (iv) and (vii).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor accepts recommendations (ii), (iii), (v), (vi), (viii) and (ix).</p>

S/No.	Item	Observations/Findings	Recommendations	Comments
			<p>(viii) Forensic Auditing of the financial management of the University.</p> <p>(ix) Officers found culpable should be sanctioned.</p>	
32.	THE REGISTRAR	<p>Although the Registry needs to be strengthened in specific areas that require experience and professionalism, the overloading of the University with several administrative staff of the same qualification in numbers that are, at best, irrational has resulted in staff redundancy.</p>	<p>Staff recruitment should be guided by extant rules and regulations.</p>	<p><i>Visitor accepts this recommendation.</i></p>
33.	THE BURSAR	<p>(a) The University, through the Bursary Department, kept the books of accounts for the period under review better than in the past. There is however much room for improvement.</p> <p>(b) There is still the need for more professionals with adequate cognate experience to be employed in order to strengthen the Bursary.</p>	<p>Management should strengthen the Bursary with more professionals with adequate cognate experience.</p>	<p><i>Visitor notes this recommendation.</i></p>
34.	THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN	<p>(a) The University Librarian for the period under review (2016-2020) was Prof. Esharenana E Adomi. He had his tenure extended by one year by Council when it ended in 2020 to enable the appointment of a suit-</p>	<p>(i) Council should take immediate steps to fill the existing vacant position of the University Librarian.</p> <p>(ii) Construction of the Main Library Building funded un-</p>	<p>(i) <i>Visitor accepts recommendations (i), (ii) and (vi).</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>Visitor notes recommendations (iii), (iv) and (v).</i></p>

S/No.	Item	Observations/Findings	Recommendations	Comments
		<p>able successor. His extended tenure ended while the Panel was on campus for its assignment.</p> <p>(b) The main Library building has not yet been constructed.</p> <p>(c) Although the machine for the Library identity cards has been purchased, it is not being put to use. A significant amount of money was deployed in establishing a Bindery Unit in the Library, along with needed equipment, which is not in use.</p> <p>(d) Acquisition of requisite equipment in the Library has been carried out with considerable opaqueness.</p> <p>(e) Staff motivation is very low despite the fact that the staff/student ratio is low.</p> <p>(f) The Librarian has not shown any interest in the professional career development of his junior colleagues, especially the academic librarians. This has contributed substantially to the low morale observed amongst staff in the Library. The promotion letters for academic librarians were withheld after the papers for the staff involved had been processed</p>	<p>der the Needs Assessment Intervention Fund should commence without further delay.</p> <p>(iii) Machinery for issuing Library identity cards and the equipment purchased for the Bindery Unit should be put into use.</p> <p>(iv) The transactions for acquisition of the ID Card machineries should be scrutinized to ensure value for money.</p> <p>(v) The genuineness of the machineries at the time of purchase should be verified.</p> <p>(vi) Immediate release of promotion letters to the successful Academic Librarians.</p>	

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings</i>	<i>Recommendations</i>	<i>Comments</i>
		<p>through the appraisal and promotion processes using the extant conditions of service. Their promotion has been made to await the working out, and subsequent approval by Council, of the conditions of service for this cadre of workers in the Library.</p>		

## TERM OF REFERENCE THREE

*"Look into the financial management of the Institution including statutory allocation and internally generated revenue over the recommended period, and determine whether it was in compliance with appropriate regulations."*

S/No.	Item	Observations/Findings	Recommendations	Comments
4.1.	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, RULES AND REGULATIONS	<p>(a) The University had a Budget Estimates Committee that received, and considered submissions, and prioritizes projects and expenses from College/ Departments/Units that are defended before it is presented before the Governing Council for consideration and approval.</p> <p>(b) The University had audited Financial Statements and Management letters for the period 2016 to 2019 (that of 2020 was still under preparation) that provided details of the financial transactions as captured by documents from the Bursary (See Annexures 9 and 10).</p> <p>(c) The University had Financial Rules and Regulations, Accounting Manual that governed its operations, National Charts of Accounts (NCOA) that were used to appropriately classify income and expenditure, as well as an Assets Register for the period 2016 to 2020.</p> <p>(d) The external auditor's notes and queries for the period 2016 to 2020 included:</p>	<p>(i) Publish University's audited accounts, in line with the practice of university autonomy.</p> <p>(ii) The Directorate of Academic Planning in the University should be strengthened and made to work efficiently.</p> <p>(iii) The University should address all the external auditors' queries.</p> <p>(iv) The 2020 accounts of the University should be audited and approved by the Council before the end of June 2021.</p> <p>(v) The University should recover in full the sums of N25,955,866.00 used to sponsor Okon Evans Onojasum for studies in Australia and the loan of N2,572,185.68 given to him by the University.</p> <p>(vi) The University should prepare a five (5)-year Strategic Plan to guide its activities.</p> <p>(vii) Council should recover in full all the allowances paid to the Chairman,</p>	<p>(i) Visitor accepts recommendations (i), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii) - (xxvii), and directs EFCC to investigate the fiduciary operations of the university.</p> <p>(ii) Visitor notes recommendation (ii)</p> <p>(iii) Visitor rejects recommendation (iii) as it is the duty of the Bursary Department.</p>

S/No.	Item	Observations/Findings	Recommendations	Comments
		<p>the University's failure to redress several previous audit queries ; the lack of a Strategic Plan ; Council's 2016 approval of allowances for the Principal Officers of the University that were not in consonance with the position of the National Salaries Incomes and Wages Commission (NSIWC); and financial and accounting operations in Bursary Department were carried out by junior staff with inadequate supervision by senior staff.</p>	<p>members of Council and Principal Officers of the University that were in violation of the position of the National Salaries Incomes Wages Commission (NSIWC) of 26th February, 2016.</p> <p>(viii) All unretired cash advances should be retired forthwith, failing which the cash should be recovered in full from beneficiaries.</p> <p>(ix) The discrepancy between ledger balance and schedule balance of imprests, loans and advances should be investigated.</p> <p>(x) All University stock's movement should be appropriately posted, especially, supply of textbooks and other similar items.</p> <p>(xi) The University should strictly comply with the Pension Reform Act.</p> <p>(xii) The Vice Chancellor should be reprimanded for borrowing money from a contractor to pay for the illegal allowances.</p> <p>(xiii) Receipts should be issued for all payments to the University.</p>	

S/No.	Item	Observations/Findings	Recommendations	Comments
			<p>(xiv) All Store Receipt Vouchers should comply with laid down rules and regulations.</p> <p>(xv) Digitization of the operations of the Directorate of Academic Planning.</p> <p>(xvi) Release of the TETFUND funds for sponsorship should be done in installments for effective monitoring and accountability.</p> <p>(xvii) A forensic auditor be engaged to properly audit all the records in the University's account records.</p> <p>(xviii) A periodic progress report on beneficiaries of TETFUND training sponsorship should commence by the University henceforth.</p> <p>(xix) Terminate and recover the amount paid for the Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) agreement it entered into with Shoreline Development International Ltd (SDIL) (Developer) for the construction of 1,000 bed-space capacity hostel apartment with (3-storey 250 bedrooms) at the to-</p>	

S/No.	Item	Observations/Findings	Recommendations	Comments
			<p>tal cost of N2,081,219,019.00 on 30th October, 2014.</p> <p>(xx) All those involved in the unwholesome contract agreement should be prosecuted by the ICPC.</p> <p>(xxi) All non-current and moveable assets of the University should be appropriately labeled.</p> <p>(xxii) A register of donations to the University should be opened forthwith.</p> <p>(xxiii) All deductions on behalf of statutory bodies/institutions should be remitted to the beneficiaries without delay.</p> <p>(xxiv) Staff with prerequisite accounting skills be assigned to undertake financial and accounting operations in the Bursary Department.</p> <p>(xxv) Tonye Ojoko and Associates should be invited to deliver on the contract for the design of endowment projects which the sum of N365 million has been paid for.</p> <p>(xxvi) All ventures established by the University to improve IGR should</p>	

S/No.	Item	Observations/Findings	Recommendations	Comments
			<p>operate within the legal requirement.</p> <p>(xxvi) A qualified and substantive Bursar should always be in place.</p>	
42.	CAPITAL BUDGET, RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE	<p>(a) The capital budget of the University was clearly not well-thought-out resulting in serious budget deficit of 56.5 per cent (N332,812,202.54).</p> <p>(b) The absence of proper planning in the budget proposal was further characterized by the wide fluctuations in the capital budget estimate from year to year. This, in turn, resulted in the wide disparity between capital budget and receipts in 2017, 2018 and 2020.</p> <p>(c) There was an over-expenditure on capital receipt as high as N1,295,069.34 in 2017 with the source of the extra-budgetary spending not identified.</p>	<p>(i) A competent Budget planning committee should be constituted.</p> <p>(ii) Membership of the Committee should comprise all units in the budgeting department.</p> <p>(iii) The source of funding the over-expenditure of N11,295,069.34 in 2017 should be identified and the amount refunded.</p> <p>(iv) The officers responsible for the unapproved virement should be disciplined.</p>	<p><i>Visitor accepts these recommendations.</i></p>
43.	PERSONNEL BUDGET, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE	<p>The high cumulative surplus budget receipts for personnel costs in 2016, 2017 and 2018 were cancelled out by the high deficit personnel receipt in 2020, giving a personnel budget under-performance of 0.6 per cent for the period 2016 to 2020.</p>	<p>(i) A properly constituted Budget Monitoring Committee (BMC) in collaboration with the Directorate of Academic Planning to coordinate budget planning.</p> <p>(ii) The surplus budget receipts for</p>	<p>(i) <i>Visitor notes recommendation (i).</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>Visitor accepts recommendations (ii) (iii) (iv) and (v)</i></p>

S/No.	Item	Observations/Findings	Recommendations	Comments
			<p>personnel costs in years 2016, 2017 and 2018 be explained by the Bursar at the time.</p> <p>(iii) The savings reported in the personnel cost in 2017 to the tune of ₦15,039,831.00 should be properly accounted for by the Bursar.</p> <p>(iv) The source(s) and application of the extra-budgetary expenditure for personnel costs in the years 2016, 2018, 2019 and 2020 to the tune of ₦774,975,488.63, should be provided.</p> <p>(v) Otherwise, the money should be recovered and paid into the University coffers by the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC).</p>	
4.4.	OVERHEAD BUDGET, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE	<p>(a) The budgetary expectations from overhead were hardly realized in the period 2016 to 2020. This could be due to lack of clear-cut policy on funding overhead budget by the Budget Office of the Federation resulting in cumulative budget deficit of 31 per cent amounting to ₦142,437,106.27.</p> <p>(b) The cumulative savings of ₦238,907.55</p>	<p>(i) Government to increase overhead budget release.</p> <p>(ii) The cumulative savings of ₦238,907.55 for the years 2016, 2012 and 2020 should be accounted for.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor accepts recommendation (ii).</p>

S/No.	Item	Observations/Findings	Recommendations	Comments
		<p>from the overhead cost could be due to efficient management of funds.</p>		
<p>4.5.</p>	<p><b>INTERNALLY GENERATED REVENUE(IGR)</b></p>	<p>(a) The wide fluctuations in IGR across years in the period under review, in spite of the fact that a large proportion of the revenue came from student charges is an indication of leakages in the administration of IGR within the University.</p> <p>(b) All the funds realized from IGR were spent without any savings for future application as the need arose.</p>	<p>(i) Council should explore avenues for increased IGR.</p> <p>(ii) Improve on the management of Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) by blocking all sources of leakages and ensuring prudent and efficient utilization.</p> <p>(iii) All identified sources of leakages should be investigated and any missing revenue recovered.</p> <p>(iv) The performance of FUPRE Enterprise in terms of revenue generation should be investigated.</p> <p>(v) The company should be re-organized.</p> <p>(vi) All financial infractions in the company to be investigated and culprit(s) sanctioned.</p> <p>(vii) The University should utilise its IGR for investment and execution of capital projects.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendations (i), (ii), (v) and (vii).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor accepts recommendations (iii) and (iv) and (vi).</p>

## TERMOFREFERENCEFOUR

*"Investigate the application of funds, particularly the special grants and loans meant for specific projects, in order to determine the status of such projects and their relevance for further funding."*

S/No.	Item	Observations/Findings	Recommendations	Comments
5.1.	INTERVENTION FUNDS	<p>(a) Despite the relative regularity in the allocation and disbursement of known amounts for the various types of TETFUND intervention annually, FUPRE had no budget for projecting the utilization of the funds as they came in.</p> <p>(b) A substantial proportion (59 per cent) of TETFund interventions was used for the construction of academic buildings, while 14 per cent each was used for academic staff training and development as well as laboratory equipment. Books/ Journals and E-library attracted 7.5 per cent while 3.3 per cent was spent on conference and seminars.</p>	<p>(i) Budget Monitoring Committee (BMC) to be effective and efficient in budget planning, preparation and monitoring of all funds accruing to the University.</p> <p>(ii) The increase in the amount of TETFUND intervention should be used judiciously.</p> <p>(iii) The exceptionally high expenditure incurred in 2018, 2019 and 2020; should be investigated to ensure value for money.</p> <p>(iv) The sum of ₦94,723,675.00 transferred from TETFUND account for unspecified use should be returned immediately.</p> <p>(v) Council should ensure that those responsible for this misconduct are disciplined accordingly.</p> <p>(vi) Part of TETFund intervention be deployed for training, equipping of laboratories, workshops, and digitization of the learning environment.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendations (i) and (ii).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor accepts recommendations (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi), and directs EFCC to investigate the financial operations of the University.</p>
5.2.	TERTIARY EDUCATION TRUST FUND (TETFUND)			



















































