FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
ABUJA



SUMMARY OF NATIONAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION MAJOR DECISIONS

VOLUME IV (2000 – 2006)

JCCE/NCE Secretariat
Federal Ministry of Education
Abuja

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

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FOREWORD



The National Council on Education, established in 1972 is the highest decision making body vested with the mandate of evolving uniform policies on issues relating to all facets of the Nigerian Education sector.
A number of Sector transforming policies have evolved from past statutory meetings of this body. Some of these policies have been fully implemented while others are at different stages of implementation and therefore require more attention. The importance of these policies cannot be over emphasized, hence the need to document them appropriately.

Accordingly the 1989 meeting in Minna, resolved that summaries of NCE decisions should be compiled and produced every ten years. Volumes 1 – 3 spanning 1989 – 1999 and Volumes 4 and 5 spanning 2000 – 2013 have been compiled and documented into Digital Versatile DISC (DVDs) to guarantee ease of access to information.

This priceless document presents the summaries of decisions of the National Council on Education packaged into Volume 4 spanning 2000 – 2006 and Volume 5, 2007 – 2013. It is also an appraisal of the work done by the NCE in the last four years in line with the Transformation Agenda of the President in the development of Nigeria's Education sector.

I would therefore, recommend this document as a reference material to all decision makers, implementers and other stakeholders in the Nigerian Education sector.

Malam Ibrahim Shekarau, *CON*
(Sardaunan Kano)
Honourable Minister.

47TH NATIONAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION MEETING BAUCHI, 2000

DECISIONS:

- Council **approved** the number of subjects to be offered by a candidate at SSCE to be nine (9), maximum, and seven (7), minimum made up four (4) core subjects and three (3) electives. WAEC and NECO were directed to reflect this in their examination regulation.
- Council **commended** FEC for approval of more funds to Federal Inspectorate Services to make them more effective and productive.
- Council was worried about high failure rates in Mathematics and English and directed States, FME and institutions to resolve the issue in these subjects.
- Council **approved** revolving loan scheme for Science and Technology equipment, chemical and training materials, advised ETF to provide the funds, while states should be allowed to determine their priority areas.
- Council **approved** that all products of remedial programmes should take the requisite matriculation exam.
- Council **approved** pre-NCE candidates for direct entry in order to encourage them; and prevent mass exodus of such students from teaching.
- Council **approved** a separate channel exclusively for educational telecast only, and 15-20% of programmes of privately-owned television stations exclusively for education.
- Council **approved** the introduction of Computer Studies as a Trade in Technical colleges nationwide.
- Council **approved** the introduction of electro-plating as a subject in the curricula of Technical Colleges.
- Council **approved** the inclusion of HIV/AIDS Sexuality education into the teacher training and the school curriculum as a compulsory and examinable subject at all educational level in Nigeria.
- Council **approved** the following Private Universities:
  - lgbinedion University, Benin, Edo State
  - Madonna University, Okija, Anambra State
  - Babcock University, Ilasan Remo, Ogun State
  - Heritage University, Kaduna, was given interim approval and was yet to take-off.
- **Approved** that African Cultural Knowledge be taught in schools from JS1 to SS3 and directed NERDC to develop a suitable curriculum for it.

48TH NATIONAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION MEETING ENUGU, 2001

DECISIONS:

Council:

- **Approved** that the first charge deduction of funds for basic education and skill acquisition programmes be made from the Federation Account.
- **Approved** that Local Government Authorities should desist from rejecting non-indigenes who had nomadic education background and that the two methods evolved by NTI and NCNE should be used for the training of nomadic teachers for UBE.
- **Approved** and **directed** NERDC to:
  - review the curriculum and infuse Sexuality Education into existing subjects such as Social Sciences, Physical and Health Education and Biology;
  - expunge some socio-culturally unacceptable terms from the curriculum and
  - infuse Back to Basic African Cultural Knowledge curriculum into Social Studies and Creative Arts.
- **Approved** the introduction of, and popularization of Lange, Kokowa, Abule and Ayo games in secondary schools and their development to standard competitive level, and the introduction of practical examination for Physical Education such as volley ball and football.
- **Approved** the review of the Distance Education component in the National Policy on Education (NPE) by NERDC and NTI and that the Action Plan should be reflected on Distance Education in Nigeria.
- **Approved** the payment of special allowance to special education teachers by both Federal and State Governments at the rate of 15% of their annual salary.
- **Approved** and **noted** the introduction of Education Sector Analysis (ESA) as a new approach to identify and address the problems of the education sector in Nigeria.
- Council **noted** with satisfaction the efforts by the Nigerian French Language Village for carrying out its mandate and repositioning itself to meet the challenges of trans - national communication in the 21st century, and

Council:

- **Approved** that unemployed graduate teachers and NCE holders should be considered for employment for UBE, before training and employment of secondary school graduates with low entry qualifications.
- **Approved** the teaching of Electroplating as an elective course in all Mechanical Engineering Trades in Technical Colleges.

- **Approved** the establishment of Science Resource Centers in all states of the federation, including Abuja.
- Council **urged** all states to appropriately staff and fund the activities of their Inspectorate Division, and

Council:

- **Approved** the merger of both language and literature components as one subject to be examined as Nigerian languages.
- **Approved** a concessional admission quota and award of scholarships by government in favour of female candidates for science and technology courses.
- **Approved** the Blueprint on Guidance and Counseling and urged states to implement the content of the Blueprint in their schools and colleges.
- **Approved** that the proposal on Open and Distance Education be incorporated into the National Policy on Education.
- **Approved** the implementation of the National Primary School Friends of the Environment and Agriculture Project and urged parents to stimulate the interest of their children in poultry, rabbit farming and food and cash crop production.

49TH NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATION MEETING KADUNA, 2002.

DECISIONS:

- Council **noted** the major achievements of the Federal Inspectorate Service (FIS) of FME which included the formulation of guidelines on minimum standards in schools nationwide, the development of an instrument for monitoring changes in the attitude of teachers, families and the community to promote girl education. It urged all states to carry out similar repositioning of their inspectorate services.
- Council **approved** the award of automatic federal government scholarship to disabled students in tertiary institutions in Nigeria, and approved that, special consideration be given to female candidates studying Science, Technology or Mathematics.
- Council **directed** all professionally-trained teachers to register with Teachers Registration Council (TRC) in order to establish their legal professional status.

Council Approved:

- revised primary school curricula in English Language, Primary Science, Agriculture, Home Economics, Social Studies, Christian and Islamic Religions Knowledge and Mathematics;
- revised national SS curricula for Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba which merged the literature and language components;
- The JSS and SS French curricula/syllabus.
- the infusion of Family Life Education into existing relevant subjects such as Biology, Health Science and Social Studies and advised states to implement this within culturally acceptable socio-cultural peculiarities.
- Council after noting that some tertiary institutions demonstrate discriminatory attitude towards NABTEB certificates for admission, directed all tertiary institutions to accept NABTEB certificates for admission purposes without further delay.
- Council **urged** the three tiers of government to encourage their citizens to patronize all the programmes at the Nigerian French Language Village as the institution had been repositioned and adequately empowered. It further directed all tertiary institutions in Nigeria to henceforth patronize the Language Immersion Programme, specifically packaged by the Village for Nigerian students.

- Council **urged** Federal and State Governments to strive to achieve a minimum of 26% of their annual budget allocation to the education sector.
- Council **reaffirmed** its earlier **decision** on the Nigeria Certificate of Education (NCE) being the minimum entry qualification into the teaching profession, and urged stakeholders to offer automatic employment to all NCE graduates to serve the UBE.
- Council **reaffirmed** its earlier **approval** on the re-inclusion of NCE graduates in the NYSC programme to provide the much needed qualified teachers for UBE programme and strongly urged that it is to be implemented without further delay.
- Council strongly **urged** states to continue to improve the accreditation of their Technical Colleges and directed that no unaccredited College would be eligible to offer candidates for NABTEB examinations after 2003.
- **Urged** states and local governments to employ the PTTP graduates of the National Teachers Institute so as to adequately address existing shortages in teacher supply at the primary school level.
- **Directed** State Agencies for Mass Education and Adult Education Centers to provide adequate support for migrant nomads and fishermen.
- **Noted** that ETF had received to date, ₦38.8b and had allocated same to the various levels of education particularly to the National Open University project and also observed that governments had not funded education adequately thereby making ETF's intervention not to have the desired effect on education, Council therefore requested government at all levels to fund education adequately.
- **Directed** the initiation of nationwide awareness campaigns for the promotion of gender parity/equity and all stakeholders in education to imbibe and reflect gender sensitivity in the production of education materials;
- **Approved** the need for general awareness on safety precautions in all its ramifications by pupils and students in the nation's primary and secondary schools and advised all stakeholders to include formation of clubs and societies on their safety awareness drives.
- **Approved** the implementation of the National Primary School Friends of the Environment and Agriculture Project and urged parents to stimulate the interest of their children in poultry, rabbit farming, food and cash crop production.
- **Approved** the implementation of 15% basic annual incentive to teachers of the handicapped at all levels of education and urged federal government to give a waiver of duties on the importation of special education equipment.

50TH NATIONAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION MEETING BAYELSA , 2003.

DECISIONS:

- The 50th (Golden Jubilee) Meeting of the National Council on Education (NCE) was held at the Sports Complex, Yenagoa, Bayelsa State from the 20th to 24th October, 2003, under the chairmanship of Professor Fabian Osuji, the Honourable Minister of Education.
- Present at the meeting were the Bayelsa State Honourable Commissioner for Education, O. O. Osusu, Ph.D; the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education, Ambassador Godfrey B. Preware, mni; the Honourable Chairman, House Committee on Education; Dr. Shehu Matazu; the Deputy Governor of Bayelsa State, Dr Goodluck Jonathan, representing the State Governor; the Secretary to the Bayelsa State Government; State Commissioners for Education and their Permanent Secretaries; Heads of Federal and State Parastatals; Directors of Education at Federal and State levels as well as representatives of Universities and Polytechnics Other participants included Non-Governmental Organisations, International Development Partners and Education Corps of the Police Force.
- A two-day Officials Meeting from 20th - 22nd October, 2003, presided over by the Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Education, preceded the meeting. He thanked the Government of Bayelsa for hosting the Golden Anniversary Meeting and urged the participants to examine the totality of the education sector.
- In his keynote address, the Honourable Minister of Education, welcomed all delegates to the 50th Meeting of the NCE and expressed gratitude to the Government and people of Bayelsa for hosting the Golden Anniversary Meeting. He also thanked the governments and people of Kaduna, Taraba, and Ekiti States for hosting the previous NCE, Reference Committee and JCCE Plenary Meetings respectively.
- In his speech, the Minister applauded the achievements of the past and challenged delegates to develop effective strategies to combat such ills as cultism, examination malpractice, lack of commitment and incessant strike action by teachers, dilapidated infrastructure and the scourge of HIV/AIDS.
- He reaffirmed the policy on the closure of satellite campuses, as a way of improving quality and enjoined Commissioners of Education to enforce compliance in their States. The National Open University of Nigeria will now replace the erstwhile satellite campuses through its distance learning programmes.
- In his vision on the Reform of the Education Sector, the Minister proposed the Strategic National Education Plan (SNEP) whose objective is to ensure the establishment of a sustainable education environment for achieving the goals of the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS). SNEP is aimed at adding quality to the content of education delivery at all levels.

- The Minister informed delegates of the passage of the UBE Bill and the approval for the establishment of the National Commission for Polytechnics (NCP) by the Federal Executive Council.

MAJOR DECISIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION BY STATES

- HIV/AIDS Desk Officers in states should identify all NGOs handling HIV/AIDS programmes in primary schools for collaborative action.
- States that had not established HIV/AIDS Desk Officesto do so without further delay.
- All states should provide functional libraries in their primary schools and train the personnel to man them.
- Ministries of Education, Women & Youths Development & Sports should provide funds for sports development in schools, and note that Council has mandated WAEC/NECO to effect key measurable skills in Physical Education and had set June, 2008 as the time frame for effecting the change from theory to practice and for actual practical examination.
- States should release the list of the books already assessed by NERDC.
- States and FCT should sponsor their teachers for National Institute for Nigerian Language's (NINLANs) training programmes.
- States should organise Teachers' Orientation Workshops and Pupils Enrichment programmes on drug abuse in their areas.
- Council approved the merger of former Reference Committee on Technical and Science Education with Reference Committee on Educational Technology to Technology and Science Education. In the light of this development, the desk officers for Technology Education should attend the next Reference Committee meetings scheduled for Owerri, Imo State under Reference Committee on Technology and Science Education.
- States should equip their Technical Colleges to provide quality training and states that have not established Technical Education Boards as directed by NCE should do so without further delay.
- States and private proprietors of Technical Colleges should facilitate the accreditation of their Colleges before the end of 2003 deadline given by NCE.
- States should convert their Technical Colleges to Science & Technical Colleges and equip them adequately as has been carried out by Federal Ministry of Education.
- States should hire local craftsmen for workshop practical skill demonstrations in the delivery of Vocational and Technical Education.
- States that have not established Educational Resource Centres (ERC) should do so and fund them adequately.

- Beneficiaries of ETF should judiciously use funds allocated for the specified purpose without diverting such funds or reprioritising without approval from the fund provider and should adhere strictly to project implementation.
- States and other stakeholders should seek ETF's assistance in providing adequate educational services for People with Special Needs and to take advantage of the federal government's automatic scholarship scheme
- States should provide Sign Language Interpreting Services on their television network
- States should take advantage of the various training programmes introduced by NTI.
- States with unqualified TC II teachers should make provision for their re-training in the PTTP programme, and should utilise and employ the growing number of unemployed qualified NCE graduates.
- Qualified teachers should register with TRC before 2004 and States should financially assist unqualified teachers already in the system to upgrade themselves.
- Council **approved** the year 2006 as a new deadline for all unqualified teachers in the system to get the Nigerian Certificate in Education (NCE) which is the minimum professional qualifications or Post Graduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) for unqualified graduate teachers.
- States should establish Primary School Staff Pensions Board without further delay through legislation of the State House of Assembly, and to release the backlog of their statutory contributions for the payment of all pension arrears.
- States should provide accurate data for planning purposes.
- States should establish well-equipped computer laboratories in their secondary schools as a matter of policy.
- States should note that Federal Ministry of Education has set up an Advisory Committee on Strategic Planning in Education and requests states to set up their own which will work in collaboration with that of Federal Ministry of Education.
- States should supply required data to facilitate the implementation of National Commission for Nomadic Education programme and NCNE officials in the states to liaise more closely with their State Ministries of Education.
- States that have not returned schools to their original proprietors are urged to emulate states that have done so, without further delay as this policy, have improved the quality of education delivery as far as discipline, religions and moral instructions are concerned.
- States should present written state reports once in a year at the JCCE Plenary Sessions detailing achievements, constraints, innovations etc.

- States should double their efforts towards eradication of examination malpractices/cultism in their educational institutions. In this regard, Council directed that Commissioners, Permanent Secretaries, Directors of Education and Heads of Institutions would be held accountable for cases of examination malpractices reported in their states.

MAJOR DECISIONS BY NCE FOR IMPLEMENTATION BY PARASTATALS

- Council **commended** ETF for its various interventions in the Education Sector and after noting the relevance of educational broadcasting, appealed to ETF to:
- Intervene in the funding of Educational Broadcasting in Nigeria, in the establishment of modern digital studio for FRCN Educational Services;
- support the mass production of Mathematics teaching modules embarked upon by National Mathematical Centre (NMC);
- continue its financial support to NERDC for various curriculum development programmes;
- urgently intervene in the HIV/AIDS programme of the Federal Ministry of Education;
- assist in the provision of facilities and equipment to institutions running Technical Teachers Training Programme (TTTP);
- fund the 3rd National Exhibition of Instructional Materials scheduled for Enugu in 2003 which was postponed due to dearth of funds;
- continue its present intervention in the establishment of Community Educational Resource Centres (CERC) to extend such intervention to the present ERCS where they exist;
- expand the scope of intervention to accommodate more projects in Technology and Science Education;
- further intervene in the funding of education in the FCT.
- **NERDC:** The SPEB Kano State presented a draft curriculum for Islamiya schools in the following subjects. English Language, Primary Science, Physical & Health Education, Social Studies, Agricultural Science, Mathematics, Hausa, Yoruba, Home Management. NCE referred the curricula to NERDC for harmonization before presentation to next JCCE.
- **NERDC:** to address the plea from CIVITAS Nigeria for re-introduction of Civics and Government in the primary and secondary school curricula.
- **UBE:** to make adequate provision for People with Special Needs, the gifted, talented and the disabled in the programme.

- **EFA** to involve state agencies instead of only NMEC in their programmes.
- **NCNE** to integrate the migrant farmers' children's education into the National Nomadic Education Programme.
- **NCNE** to implement the Migrant Farmers' Children's Education programme in Anambra, Enugu, Ebonyi, Benue, Imo, Abia, Rivers, Akwa Ibom, Delta and Kaduna, if these states supply the required data.
- **NCNE** officials in the states to liaise more closely with their State Ministries of Education.
- **NMEC** to explore the possibility of producing primers in Arabic, Fulfulde and Pigin English.
- **NMEC** to involve NERDC and State Agencies to participate in its activities as appropriate.
- **NSA:** Council directed statistical Association to make a fresh submission on the need to include statistics as a subject in secondary schools curriculum to the Reference Committee for further study.
- **WAEC/NECO:** Council approved the key measurable skills in Physical Education practical for examination at SSCE level, and directed WAEC/NECO to consider it for trial testing:
  (i) **approved** 2008 as the time frame for effecting the change from theory to practice and for actual practical examination;
  (ii) **directed** WAEC to compile the statistics of candidates with 5 credits and above on state basis and submit to the next JCCE for further consideration.
- **ANCOPSS:** The request by ANCOPSS on the need to establish Nigerian Schools Games (NSG) was referred to JCCE Reference Committee for consideration.
- **NUC:** Council appealed to NUC to fund Nigerian French Language Village (NFLV) adequately and at the same time release its grants promptly.
- **NUC:** to release funds for National Incentive Scheme for Students (NISS) to cover scholarship awards and administration of National Competitive Examination in Mathematics.
- **NUC:** Council directed NUC to close remedial programmes in unclassified institutions.
- **NUC:** Council approved the adopted report on harmonization of standards of remedial/pre-degree programmes.
- **NFLV:** Council approved the adoption of the NFLV's Special French Language Diploma for candidates with a minimum of five '0' level credits in relevant subjects in NECO/SSCE.
- **JAMB:** Council directed JAMB to carry out a correlation study between candidates' performances in JAMB and their performances in WAEC, NECO and NABTEB examinations.

- Proprietors of Technical Colleges and relevant tertiary institutions should establish Production Units (PU) for training students and generating income for the Colleges.
- Vice Chancellors: Council directed Vice Chancellors to encourage researchers in Business Education to re-direct their research efforts towards the development of relevant instructional software packages so as to meet the present challenges in the area of Information Technology.
- **NOUN:** Council directed NOUN to liaise with FRCN in its educational programmes on Radio.
- **FME:** Council directed FME to set up an alternative body to take care of the former functions of NETC on primary and secondary education programmes.
- **NUT & ICTON:** Council noted the inability of NUT to comply with its directives on the refund of the money collected from teachers for registration by NUT & ICTON and approved:
  - (i) giving a time frame for ICTON and its collaborators to refund the fees collected illegally from teachers;
  - (ii) disseminating such time frame for refund to the local branches of the NUT & TRC;
  - (iii) the possibility of a legal action against ICTON for the recovery of the illegal registration fees collected by false pretense which is punishable by law.

51ST NATIONAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION MEETING NIGER, 2004

DECISIONS:

The 51st NCE meeting was held in Minna, Niger State from 5th – 10th December, 2004. The Officials Session was chaired by the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education, Mallam I. Talba, while the Honourable Minister of Education, Professor Fabian Osuji presided over the Ministerial Session. The meeting examined the state of education in Nigeria and the policy thrusts of the government. It also deliberated on the challenges facing the sector and how they were being tackled.

At the end of its deliberations, Council came up with major decisions geared towards moving education forward in Nigeria. The Honourable Minister of Education made a passionate plea to all stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of the Decisions. The highlights of the Council Decisions are as follows:

- The need for the respective tiers of government to adopt and implement the 2004 Universal Basic Education Act; Council directed state governments to urgently enact the laws on the State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB).
- The re-engineering of the implementation strategies for the 9-Year free and compulsory Universal Basic Education; Council directed the separation of Junior and Senior Secondary Schools and their administrations.
- The infusion of the philosophy and objectives of NEEDS into the school curricula at all levels of education in Nigeria; Council directed the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC) to implement this approval as well as infuse national values and Capital Market Studies into the school curriculum.
- The introduction of e-Education into the Nigerian education system to meet modern trends in educational delivery.
- Approval of the revised 4th Edition of the National Policy on Education (NPE) as re-presented by NERDC.
- The adoption of the new proposal by the United Nations World Food Programme (UNWFP) on school feeding which encourages use of home grown commodities for improved enrolment and retention in schools.
- The launching of the Girls' Education Project (GEP) aimed at addressing the acceleration of girls' education in Nigeria; Council directed states, parents and all stakeholders to adopt all necessary measures to accelerate the education of the girl child in Nigeria.

THE STATES

Council **noted:**

1. The activities and efforts of Action Health Incorporated (AHI) in promoting adolescent health and development in Nigeria and urged FME and SMoEs to enhance Guidance/Counseling services in schools and colleges.

2. The low enrolment of women in the Science, Technology and Mathematics (STM) subjects in secondary and tertiary institutions and urged all stakeholders at both federal and state levels to take adequate steps to rectify gender disparity in STM.

Council **directed:**

3. Federal, State and Local Governments to give special support and free education to all identified Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) living with HIV/AIDS.
   - States to carry out sensitization and create awareness on the rights of OVC and also facilitate the setting up of OVC Rights Commission in all tiers of government;
   - States to offer holistic sponsorship to all identified Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) in Nigeria. .
4. States and federal educational establishments to send five (5) copies of all their publications to the NERDC for a build - up of an education data bank in Nigeria.
5. States Primary Education Boards (SPEBs) and States Ministries of Education (SMoEs) to develop data banks on children with special needs to facilitate effective planning.
6. Federal and State Agencies involved in the provision of physical infrastructure to take the plight of the disabled into account with a view to providing appropriate facilities for their use.
7. Federal, State and Local Governments to provide adequate funds for Special Education schools for the Disabled and Gifted/Talented Children to enable the Managers of these schools to provide adequate services to persons with special needs.
   - that each State should establish the gifted/talented schools using its existing secondary/model schools to meet the peculiar needs of the state;
   - That Federal Government through the SMoE should revisit the former Aid Programme for procuring, and distributing special education equipment and materials to states;
   - states to establish Psycho-educational Diagnostic Clinics/Centres for professional observations and assessments, placements and counseling services for people with special needs;
   - Federal Ministry of Education to establish Computerized Braille Centres (CBC) in each of the six geo - political zones with a View to assisting in the production of Braille text books for the visually impaired in the country;
   - Stakeholders in Special Education to avail themselves of the use of the Braille press at
   - The three tiers of government to provide adequate funds for Special Education schools for the Disabled and Gifted/Talented children to enable the Managers of these schools provide adequate services to persons with special needs;

- That the policy on the use of the mother tongue in teaching pupils in primaries 1 - 3 should be strictly enforced in mono-lingual communities while major Nigerian languages should be vigorously taught as school subjects;
- The teaching and learning of Nigerian languages, particularly Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba should be pursued vigorously and adequate number of teachers and text books provided.

Council **approved** the establishment of more Centres for Supportive Services for the Deaf (CSSD) especially in two Geo-political zones (South East and North Central Zones) of the country:

STATES

Other **decisions** by Council are as follows:

1. States should reactivate their Pensions Boards and source funds internally to clear the backlog of unpaid pension arrears of Primary School Teachers.
2. All States should book for and procure copies of the newly revised/developed Primary Schools

   Curricula from NERDC which now include: The National Values Curriculum; the Capital Market Studies Curriculum and the Computer Education Curriculum.
3. States should establish their Educational Resource Centres (ERC) with responsibilities as recommended in NERDC handbook.
4. In recognition of the Universal Basic Education Commission's (UBEC's)efforts to make provisions for children with special needs, Council urged states to carry out massive and continuous advocacy and sensitisation of the public about Children with Special Needs to ensure their effective schooling.
5. States should put more emphasis on the training of Special Education Teachers that would be able to observe and identify the peculiar problems of people with special needs in order to provide them with necessary support.
6. All States should avail themselves of the facilities and services available for training at National Institute for Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), Ondo.
7. States should provide the necessary infrastructural facilities and instructional materials to make nomadic schools child-friendly; and to comply with NCE's earlier decision on the non-transfer of teachers from nomadic schools to conventional schools.
8. States should establish UBE Boards as stipulated in the 2004 UBE Act.

9. States should avail themselves of the services at National Institute for Nigerian Language (NINLAN) to equip their teachers to use Nigerian Languages as a medium of instruction in Primaries 1 - 3 as stipulated in NPE.
10. State Ministries of Education should appoint a representative each to be a member of a State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) Committee.

Council **urged:**

- States, especially Sokoto and Jigawa to participate fully in the Common Entrance Examination into Technical Colleges;
- Federal, States and private proprietors of Technical Colleges to provide adequate teaching facilities, instructional materials, quantity and quality teachers, adequate funding for these colleges.

11. Council directed NECO and State Ministries of Education to set questions on first language (L1) and second language (L2) based on the approved curricular. In this regard,

Council **approved:**

- Oral examination for JSS L2 language learners of Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba;
- The introduction of the second language (L2) programme at the senior secondary school level for continuity;
- The introduction of oral examination for this category of learners with the allocation of 40% to the oral component of the language examination and 60% for written.

12. Council **urged:**

- States to sponsor their participants to workshops organised by the Monitoring Unit of the National Policy on Education (MUNPE).
- States to revitalize State Monitoring Units of the National Policy on Education (SMUNPE) offices.
- States that had not established State Monitoring Units of the National Policy on Education (SMUNPE) to do so.
- States to actively collaborate with the Federal Ministry of Education in the Annual Celebration of the Global EFA week.
- States to emulate the Federal Government by periodically constituting visitation panels to their tertiary institutions.
- Federal Government to empower NINLAN to develop primary course books materials in Nigerian Languages especially for Primaries (1-3) using the curriculum developed by NERDC;
- States to set up Continuous Assessment (CASS) Committees at school and local government levels and support the committees effectively.

13. Council **approved** the CASS ratings of 30% for JSCE practical oriented subjects and 70% for JSCE examination.
14. Council **reminded** states that the deadline for attaining gender parity in primary and secondary education is 2005.

15. Council **directed** the six pilots States Sokoto, Katsina, Jigawa, Niger, Bauchi and Borno to prepare for the implementation of the Girls' Education Project (GEP) in their States and local governments when it would commence in October, 2004.

Council **urged** States to ensure that:

- funds allocated for running of Primary Education are not diverted to other uses
- financial and material incentives are given to teachers who serve in rural communities;
- retired Primary School Teachers are paid their gratuities and pensions to forestall the negative impact non—payment would have on serving teachers.

Council **urged:**

- State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) to collaborate with Education Authorities in the formation of policies on managing emergencies;
- Each State Ministry of Education to have a representative in the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) Committee;
- Federal and State Ministries of Education and School Boards to establish requisite structures to enable them respond to emergency situations.

Council **urged** Federal and State Governments:

- To give scholarships to Nigerian language students and guarantee automatic employment for teachers of Nigerian languages.
- To expedite action in recruiting Nigerian French Language Teachers for Junior and Senior Secondary Schools and directed that SMoEs and FCT should commence the use of the new French Language Syllabus/Curriculum forthwith;
- to take advantage of the recently approved policy on headship capacity building by sending newly promoted or appointed planners and managers to NIEPA for induction/orientation courses.

Council **urged** States:

- To give incentives to Nigerian Language Teachers to attract their services;
- To desist from re-instating officers dismissed for involvement in examination malpractices;
- To promptly supply the requested educational data on teachers' needs to the National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE);
- To support their Technology teachers to participate in the National Association of Teachers of Technology (NATT);
- To re-skill their Secretarial Studies teachers while trainers of Secretarial Studies teachers/personnel should modernize their curricula to be in tune with the changing trends;
- To appoint their own resource persons to write and support their participation in the forth-coming ESA Unit coordinated writers workshops and to give support to all subsequent activities of ESA;
- To give attention to cross-cutting issues like HIV/AIDS, Gender and Early Child Care Education (ECCE) in their EFA plans.
- to support the collation of success stories of such initiatives as might exist in Benue or any other State that has shown remarkable improvement in learning achievements of pupils.

Council **urged** Benue State to show-case innovative aspects of its best practices by disseminating such appropriately. In this regard, states should link up with Benue and any other state with similar success stories of learning achievements in literacy, numeracy and life skills in Primary IV and VI pupils as observed in Benue State, and learn such experiences;

16. Council **urged** State Ministries of Education and FCT to:

- Ensure the availability of essential record books in the schools in their areas;
- Provide adequate training for teachers in their schools on proper school record keeping;
- take adequate budgetary provisions and ensure prompt release of funds for data collection, processing and dissemination;
- make necessary steps to effectively assume ownership of education data relating to their respective areas of jurisdiction;
- Federal Ministry of Education Data Bank (EDB) to be the central depository of validated national education data;
- henceforth view falsification of education data in the same light as examination malpractice.

Council **directed** states to arrange with NTI or Colleges of Education to upgrade holders of TC II or TC II referred to NCE level. .

Council **approved**

- That examination fraud and examination fraudsters be brought under the hammer of ICPC, EFCC and Code of Conduct Bureau(CCB);
- The scrapping of Pivotal Teachers Training Programme (PTTP) except in states which require that level of teachers and can fund it.

17. States were reminded that each State and FCT must present written report once a year at the JCCE Plenary Session only, using the approved format for presentation of State reports. The report must be comprehensive and also contain:

(a) targets set in the implementation of identified projects and programmes;

(b) achievements with reliable data;

(c) percentage budgetary allocation of each level of education;

(d) problems/constraints and challenges;

(e) innovations in the education delivery for other States to emulate;

(f) Finally, the report must be presented and defended at the JCCE Plenary meeting.

18. Council **commended** the following States:

(i) Zamfara and Enugu States for sustaining the School Feeding Programme in their primary schools;

(ii) Sokoto, Kebbi, Bomo, Cross-River, Enugu and Abia States for establishing State Primary Schools Teachers' Pension Boards and for the payment of pensions to Primary School Teachers in their respective States;

(iii) Kwara and Cross River States for their bold initiatives in curbing examination malpractice;

(iv) Jigawa State for the initiative and efforts in the integration of ICT in the state educational system;

(V) Adamawa; Anambra, Delta, Oyo, Sokoto and FCT Abuja for coming tops in the Examination Ethics rating in their various zones.

19. Council **commended:**

- States for their commitment to education services delivery and urged them to immediately commence the implementation of its decisions emanating from the 51st NCE meeting dubbed "Minna 2004". It also enjoined States to present reports and data that reflect reality;
- States and Teachers for the excellent celebration of 2004 World Teachers Day and directed states to submit the list of their teachers for the 2005 merit award.

20. Council **urged** states and other stakeholders to note the NCE approved Roster for hosting JCCE/NCE meetings for the year 2005 as follows:

- Reference Committee meeting, March/April 2005 to be hosted by Adamawa State.
- 67th JCCE Plenary meeting, July/August 2005 to be hosted by Zamfara State.
- 52nd National Council on Education meeting, October/November 2005 to be hosted by Oyo State.

PARASTATALS

EDUCATION TAX FUND (ETF)

Council **noted:**

- The adoption of Education Trust Fund (ETF)as the new name for Education Tax Fund;
- That ETF had provided the necessary funds to NERDC for the printing of the Draft Curricula for Primary Schools and that States had not placed order for the previous curricula produced by NERDC. States were therefore urged to book for their copies without further delay.

Council **urged:**

- ETF to play intervention role to Nigerian French Language Project in the implementation of its projects;
- ETF to ensure that money released to Police Education Corps is properly utilised;
- ETF to assist in the provision of text books for the teaching and learning of Nigerian languages particularly Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba.

Council **commended** ETF for its intervention at various levels of education.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION (NUC)

Council **directed:**

- NUC to write to States and give them the list of approved institutions in their state;
- NUC to use its task force to investigate reported illegal campuses still in existence and to take appropriate action;
- States to collaborate with NUC to ensure permanent closure of illegal campuses/study centres in their respective states;
- NUC to approve Joint Higher Degree Programme (JHDP) and release substantial funds for those special programmes;
- NUC to grant the National Mathematical Centre (NMC) full-fledged autonomy to run the programme after 2 years of affiliation with the base universities.

Council **commended** NUC for its innovative activities in various areas of its mandate.

JOINT ADMISSIONS AND MATRICULATION BOARD (JAMB)

Council:

- **noted** the activities of JAMB and its renewed vigour in stamping out various forms of examination malpractice;
- **directed** JAMB to include the Diploma of Nigeria French Language Village (NFLV) in the JAMB Brochure as approved at the 50th NCE meeting in Yenagoa;
- **approved** March 2005 as deadline for JAMB to submit the outcome of the correlation study between JAMB performances and WAEC/NECO and NABTEB examinations.

NIGERIA FRENCH LANGUAGE VILLAGE (NFLV)

Council **noted:**

- The review of the French Language Curriculum for secondary schools and the various activities for the promotion of French Language in Nigeria;
- That the Nigerian government had recruited about 94 French teachers from Benin Republic to back up French teaching in Nigerian schools and colleges;
- That the French government had established 3 Centres For French Teaching and Documentation (CFTDS) at Enugu, Jos and Ibadan and had commenced retraining workshops for French teachers, inspectors and lecturers;
- That the Nigeria French Language Village (NFLV) in collaboration with the French Embassy had initiated the review process of the examination syllabuses of the new French language teaching syllabus with WAEC, NECO. NABTEB and JAMB.

Council **urged:**

- NFLV to produce teachers for Nigerian Languages.

Council **directed:**

- The NFLV to liaise with the universities on the acceptability of its Diploma programme for admission purposes;
- The NFLV to inform State Ministries of Education (SMoEs) of the extension of immersion programme for undergraduates from 6 to 8 months and the period regarded as Industrial Research or Students Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES).

UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION (UBE)

Council **noted:**

- The update on the activities of the UBE and the processes of implementing UBE projects;
- That UBE Bill had been assented to by Mr. President; and
- The provisions of the Act, as it affects Governments at all levels, parents and the child.

Council **urged:**

UBE to liaise with SMoEs to ensure effective distribution of instructional materials and to set in motion the machinery for proper implementation of the JSS component of the UBE.

Council **approved:**

- That the policy on the use of mother tongue in teaching pupils in primaries 1-3 should be strictly enforced in mono-lingual communities while major Nigerian languages should be vigorously taught as school subjects;
- That the teaching and learning of Nigerian languages, particularly Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba, should be encouraged through automatic employment of teachers of Nigerian languages by Government and other stakeholders and the provision of text books by UBE.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR NIGERIAN LANGUAGES (NINLAN)

Council **noted:**

- The various activities of NINLAN aimed at repositioning itself as a centre of excellence in the study of Nigerian languages and the need to encourage teaching in the mother tongue;
- The non-availability of course books in the Nigerian languages and the need to develop course materials in the Nigerian languages for primary and junior secondary school levels;
- The unwillingness of teachers of Nigerian languages to teach outside their states of origin.

Council **urged:**

- stakeholders to avail themselves of the services offered by NINLAN through sponsoring prospective teachers for training in Nigerian Languages;
- NINLAN to mount a nation-wide awareness campaign to explain its activities, objectives and benefits;
- NINLAN to emulate the National Mathematical Centre (NMC) which had in recent times spread out and affiliated with other institutions for awareness.

Council **approved** that the teaching and learning of Nigerian languages, particularly Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba, should be encouraged through the employment of teachers of Nigerian languages by Government and stakeholders and the provision of text books.

NIGERIAN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (NERDC)

Council **noted:**

- The Development of National Integrated Early Childhood Development Programme;
- The development of Nigeria education "abstracts" meant to draw researchers attention to thesis in education at university level;

- That UBE had provided funds for the printing of five thousand copies of the approved Computer Education curriculum for primary schools;
- That Civic Education and Government were adequately addressed in existing school curricula;
- that Applied Electricity and Electronics could not be made alternatives to Physics;
- the development of National Values Curriculum and the National Capital Market Curriculum;
- the contributions of ETF, UBEC, ICPC and SEC in curriculum development.

Council **urged** the NERDC to infuse Orphans Vulnerable Children (OVC) issues into the relevant school curricula at all levels.

Council **approved:**

- the 4th Edition of the new National Policy on Education (NPE) as re-presented by the NERDC (Chairman) of the Review Committee and agreed that subsequent reviews should reflect the dynamic nature of the society;
- that National Values and Capital Market Studies Curricula be infused into existing relevant subjects;
- the two newly reviewed non-formal education curricula for Girl-Child and Quranic School Children and Youths

NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL (NECO)

Council **urged:**

- NECO to adopt a National Consultative Forum similar to the Nigerian National Committee of WAEC;
- NECO and State Ministries of Education to set questions on first language (L1) and second language (L2) based on the approved curricula;
- NECO to liaise with SMoE in the appointment of Examination Supervisors/Invigilators.

Council **directed:**

- NECO to stop allowing Primary 4 and 5 and under—aged pupils to register and sit for the National Common Entrance Examination (NCEE) as reported by Kano State, thereby distorting the NPE provisions which prohibits such category of candidates from sitting for NCEE;
- NECO to stop dealing with any school that does not go through the SMOE.

Council **commended** NECO for initiating ON-LINE Registration and advised it to put appropriate security measures to safeguard the on-line services.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF TECHNOLOGY (NATT)

Council **noted** the following requests from NATT:

- FME to resume its financial support to National Association of Teachers of Technology (NATT);
- FME to assist NATT to secure Head Quarters office accommodation at Lagos or Abuja;
- NUC, NCCE and NABTEB to involve NATT in their relevant activities.

Council **directed** NATT to make the necessary contacts with the target organisations to achieve its purpose.

NATIONAL BOARD FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION (NBTE) AND NATIONAL BUSINESS AND TECHNICAL EXAMINATION BOARD (NABTEB).

Council **noted** the efforts of NBTE at upgrading the skills level of the technicians' programmes and enhancing Polytechnic programmes through new policy thrusts for the restructuring of the National Diploma (ND) programme and the harmonization of entry requirements into Polytechnics with those of the Universities.

Council **urged** trainers of secretarial teachers/personnel to modernize their curricula to be in tune with changing trends.

Council **directed:**

- NBTE to intensify effort on the accreditation of Technical College programmes in order to enforce compliance with standards;
- NBTE and NABTEB to meet and harmonise their positions as regards Accreditation of Academic programmes in Technical Colleges and the New Policy Trust at National Board for Technical Education.

NATIONAL MATHEMATICAL CENTRE (NMC)

Council **noted:**

- That the current Mathematics syllabus for primary and secondary schools had been enriched with statistical concepts;
- The efforts of the Centre to improve the teaching and learning of Mathematical Science at all levels.

NATIONAL TEACHERS INSTITUTE (NTI)/NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR COLLEGES OF EDUCATION (NCCE)

Council **urged** NTI, NCCE and TRC to carry out a comprehensive study of the performance of teachers produced by training institutions in Nigeria.

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR MASS LITERACY (NMEC)

Council **noted** the on-going innovations by NMEC in the area of interactive radio broadcasting for community education and literacy.

Council **directed** NMEC to support the education of Adult Migrant Fishermen in Kogi State.

Council **approved** the two newly reviewed non-formal education curricula for the Girl-Child and Quranic School Children and Youths.

TEACHERS REGISTRATION COUNCIL (TRC)

Council noted that FME had presented a memo on TRC to the Federal Executive Council (FEC) for consideration and that FEC was well disposed to the memo and subsequently referred it to the Salaries, Income and Wages Commission for necessary input before final action by FEC.

Council **directed:**

- states where Conference of Secondary School Tutors (COSST) exist to check the excesses of the body and ensure that its teachers register with TRC;
- TRC and NUC to re-examine the issue of introduction of a new Teacher Education Programme and Professional Diploma in Education (PDE), as there were divergent views on the matter. It was referred to JCCE for in—depth study;
- FME to take the lead in the recovery of registration fees illegally collected from Teachers by Institute of Certified Teachers of Nigeria (ICTON).

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR NOMADIC EDUCATION (NCNE)

Council noted the progress made by NCNE in its attempt to integrate the migrant farmers into Nomadic Education Programme.

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (FME)

Council noted the need for the urgent restoration of educational broadcasting in Nigeria and the efforts made by the NTA in this regard and directed FME to follow it up to ensure early restoration of educational broadcasting.

Council **urged:**

- The Federal Government to give special support and free education to all identified Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC);
- FME and SMoEs to strengthen Guidance/Counseling services in schools and colleges;

- ESA to ensure the completion of its project cycle in order to have sustainable education development in Nigeria;
- ESA to. urgently carry out a study of educational delivery in Benue State so that the findings can usefully inform other states and stakeholders;
- FME to release funds for the development of the two new curricula - Geography for primary schools and Geography for JSS;
- States and Federal educational establishments to send five (5) copies of all their publications to the NERDC for the purposes of building an education data bank in Nigeria;
- FME to empower the National Mathematical Centre to award Certificates, Diplomas and Degrees instead of "Certificate of Attendance".

Council **directed** FME to initiate action for the recovery of registration fees illegally collected from teachers by Institute of Certified Teachers of Nigeria (ICTON) by referring the matter to EFCC/ICPC.

Council **approved:**

- that the Federal Ministry of Education's Data Bank (EDB) should be the depository of validated national education data;
- that falsification of education data should be viewed henceforth in the same light as examination malpractice and to be treated as a crime;
- That Federal Ministry of Education should establish Computerized Braille Centres (CBC) in each of the six geo-political zones with a View to assisting in the production of Braille text books for the visually impaired in the country;
- That FME should direct NTI to stop the moderation and issuance of TC II Certificates after 2006 so as to discourage States agitating for the re-introduction of TC II Colleges;
- The separation of Junior and Senior Secondary Schools as well as their administrations to ensure a more efficient supervision of teaching and learning in schools;
- The introduction of e - Education for the Nigerian Education System.

INDEPENDENT CORRUPT PRACTICES COMMISSION (ICPC) AND SECURITY EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC)

Council **commended** the ICPC and SEC for sponsoring the development of National Values Curriculum and Capital Market Studies Curriculum and **urged** the agencies to empower teachers by organising workshops, seminars and lectures to enable them teach the subjects effectively.

POLICE:

Council **urged** the Police to ensure that the money released to the Police Education Corps by ETF is utilised for the purpose for which it is meant. ETF has already released the sum of two hundred million Naira for Police Education Corps activities.

52ND NATIONAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION MEETING OYO, 2005

DECISIONS:

The 52nd NCE Meeting was held in Ibadan, Oyo State, from 5th - 10th December, 2005. The Officials' Session was under the chairmanship of the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education, Nu'uman Barau Dambatta, OON, mni, while the Honourable Minister of Education, Mrs Chinwe Nora Obaji, presided over the Ministerial session.

The meeting examined the state of education in Nigeria vis-a-vis the policy thrusts of government. The challenges confronting the education sector were deliberated on as well as how best such challenges could be tackled. A clarion call was made with a view to charting a new course and injecting new life, focus and purpose into the education sector.

At the end of its deliberations and taking due cognizance of the theme of the 2005 NCE meeting, which was 'Quality Education for All', Council came up with some major decisions directed towards moving education forward and ensuring access to high quality education in Nigeria.

The Honourable Minister of Education expressed confidence that the stakeholders' collective commitment to the spirit of the reform agenda of the Federal Government in general, and the Federal Ministry of Education in particular, should propel them to commence immediate implementation of the decisions emanating from the 52nd NCE Meeting. The highlights of the Council's decisions are as follows:

- Abolition of Federal and State Common Entrance Examinations for placement into JS1;
- Standardization of the Universal Basic Education Certificate issued at the end of the 9-Year UBE programme to ensure quality;
- States to carry on with the UBE Certification at the JSS level while the West African Examination Council (WAEC) and National Examination Council (NECO) will continue the exercise at the Senior Secondary level;
- Gradual phasing out of the Junior Secondary segment of Federal Unity Colleges;
- Introduction of National Common Entrance Examination for placement into Senior Secondary (SS) component of the Federal Unity Colleges for JSS 3 graduates;
- Expansion and strengthening of the Senior Secondary (SS) component of the Federal Unity Colleges to avert waste of resources and teaching manpower in view of the gradual phasing out of the JSS component of the Federal Unity Colleges;
- Reintroduction of the Higher School Certificate (HSC) programme into the Nigerian Educational system using selected Federal Government Colleges for the pilot scheme;
- Establishment of the Federal Teachers' Scheme (FTS) - a 2-year internship programme for Nigerians who possess the Nigerian Certificate in Education (NCE) and have strong interest in teaching in the UBE scheme. The scheme is scheduled to take off in 2006;
- Training and re-training of teachers, particularly the NCE teachers in the Federal and State Colleges, to acquire a minimum of first degree to teach at the Senior Secondary School level;

- Streamlining of the operations of private school proprietors in education delivery to ensure compliance with the requirements of the UBE Act, which stipulates 9 years of continuous compulsory basic education and within the cultural and social context of each state;
- Full participation of all stakeholders including the three tiers of government in the Home-Grown School Feeding and Health Programme (HGSFHP), with the cost of the programme being borne by all to ensure sustainability;
- The need to adopt necessary measures to accelerate the Girls' Education Project (GEP);
- The adoption of the EFA National Action Plan as approved by the National EFA Forum;
- Repositioning the Federal and State Inspectorate Services to monitor and maintain minimum standard of education below the tertiary level;
- The establishment of a Reference Committee on Quality Assurance comprising Federal and State Inspectorate Services, all Examining Bodies (WAEC, NECO, JAMB, NTI, NABTEB), relevant Parastatals (NERDC, NCCE, NUC, NBTE, TRC), and other quality assurance providers in education, with a view to harmonizing standards and ensuring quality education delivery at all levels;
- Development of New Benchmark Minimum Academic Standards for all disciplines offered in Nigerian Universities towards quality assurance;
- Acceptance of the Post-UME screening as a panacea to sanitize the admission process into our Universities;
- The need for NUC to foster more active collaboration between the industries and the private sectors to take the research processes and products from our Universities beyond the development stage;
- Acknowledgement of the tremendous contributions of International Development Partners: UNICEF, JICA, USAID, The World Bank, UNESCO, DFID, WHO and the U.S. Embassy among others in the growth and development of education in Nigeria;
- Establishment of SERVICOM Units in all segments of the education sector to improve quality of service delivery at all levels;
- The need to revise the 2004 National Policy on Education (NPE) to reflect the goals of EFA and the reform agenda of government in relation to NEEDS and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and to remove the encumbrances in the NPE that contradict the UBE Act.

Other major decisions taken by Council are as follows:

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (FME)

Council **urged** FME to:

- Solicit the co-operation and support of State Governments and Development Partners in the implementation of the Girls' Education Project (GEP);
- Expedite action on the review of the Acts establishing its parastatals;
- Empower the National Commission for Nomadic Education (NCNE) to extend its basic education activities to cover 9 years of Basic Education;
- Monitor the progress of the implementation of the Drug Abuse School Curriculum in the States;

- Resuscitate educational broadcasting in collaboration with appropriate agencies using facilities left behind by the defunct NETC.

Council also **urged:**

- FME and States to enforce the language provisions in the National Policy on Education (NPE) in relation to mother tongue education;
- FME and State Ministries of Education and the LGEAs to establish Emergency Rapid Response Teams that would act as focal points on education issues for National Emergency Management Agencies (NEMA) during emergencies;
- Federal, State and the Private Sector to support quality teaching of Science and Technology in schools through training as well as retraining and provision of incentives to teachers;
- Federal Government and States to encourage girls who opt for Science, Technology and Mathematics by awarding special scholarships;
- FME (ESA/FIS) to undertake streamlining of guidelines for the composition and operations of School Based Management Committees (SBMCs) with the active collaboration of UBEC and other relevant stakeholders in quality assurance.

Council **approved:**

- The Draft National Minimum Standards for Early Child Care Centers in Nigeria and the Draft National Early Childhood Education Curriculum from ages 0 - 5;
- That Federal Government should give a special grant to the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) for the development of education in the Territory in recognition of its fast expanding population problem;
- That the "Curriculum" on Guidance and Counseling developed by the Counseling Association of Nigeria (CASSON) be referred to NERDC for critique;
- the reviewed Guidelines on Minimum Standards for the Establishment of Schools nationwide;
- Institutionalization of Monitoring of Learning Achievements in ESA Unit;
- Review of the organizational structure of the Federal Inspectorate Service (FIS);
- Involvement of the (FIS) in the training and retraining of Inspectors at the state and local government levels;
- Regulation of activities and licenses of Inspectors to avoid infiltration of quacks;
- Collaboration with State Inspectors in carrying out full and general school inspection;
- The use of Road Safety Children's Awareness Cartoon Books in primary and secondary schools;
- That Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) should start the Road Safety Awareness programme implementation in schools in January 2006 because of its importance;
- The ten (10) NERDC revised JSS Curricula and the Voter Education Handbook;
- The National Policy on HIV/AIDS for the Education Sector in Nigeria;

- The application of more stringent measures against examination fraudsters, cultism and certificate forgery by the various Law Enforcement Agencies;
- The amended Introductory Technology curriculum;
- The ban on recruitment of unqualified teachers into the school system;
- The establishment of Educational Management Information Service (EMIS) Centres in the PRS Department of State Ministries of Education;
- The establishment of School Based Management Committee (SBMC) nationwide by States, LGEAs and Private School Proprietors where they do not exist;
- The harmonized Islamiyya Curricula;
- A new subject structure for the 9-Year Basic Education.

Council **directed:**
The FME to monitor the level of implementation of Councils decisions in the various States.

PARASTATALS
Council **urged:**

- All the examining bodies **(NECO, WAEC, NTI, JAMB, NABTEB)** to continue to work with State Ministries of Education and other stakeholders in the supervision of their examinations in order to eliminate incidence of examination malpractice;
- **WAEC, NECO** and **JAMB** to realign their examination syllabuses with the new National French Language Syllabus;
- The Exam Ethics Project, for moral and ethical reasons, to desist from making pecuniary demands from recipients of Exam Ethics' Compliance Awards;
- **NBTE** and **NABTEB** to sensitize State Governments by means of public enlightenment and advocacy on the implementation of policy decisions relating to Technology and Science Education;
- **NABTEB** to produce National Curricula in all the Trades that are examined by **NABTEB** and not to examine any subject for which there is no National Minimum Education Standard;
- **NUC** to enrich course content and ensure effective teaching and learning instead of extending the duration of education degree programme to 5 years;
- **NUC** to intensify efforts on its project named, 'Nigeria Experts and Academics in the Diaspora Scheme' (NEADS);
- **NUC** to apply stringent measures to stop the operation of illegal Satellite Campuses where they are still existing;

Council **approved:**

- **FRSC** to procure, and give free copies of the Cartoon Books to teachers as tools to teach Road Safety Awareness effectively;
- the conduct of practical examinations for pre - vocational subjects at JSS level;
- the amended Introductory Technology Curriculum to be used by **NECO, UBEC** and **WAEC;**

Council **directed:**

- **NERDC** to conduct a predictive validity study on the performance of candidates in **WAEC**, **NECO** and **JAMB** examinations in relation to their performance in the Universities;
- **NERDC** to develop curricula for the 9-Year Basic Education;

STATES

Council **directed** States that have not:

- Accessed the Federal intervention grant for the UBE programme to do so, by complying with the approved criteria;
- Remitted their teachers registration fee to TRC to do so without further delay;
- Established their Science and Technical School Boards and Education Resource Centers to do so without further delay;

Council **urged** States to:

- Provide conducive learning conditions in primary and secondary schools by upgrading existing facilities as a necessary step towards attaining improved pupil learning achievement;
- Procure the National Mathematical Centre (NMC) Mathematical Kits for their schools in order to promote the learning of Mathematics;
- Constitute periodic Visitation Panels to their tertiary institutions to ensure transparency and accountability;
- Emulate the Federal Ministry of Education by establishing Guidance and Counselling and School Health Units in their schools.
- Strengthen and equip their Inspectorate Services for effective monitoring and supervision of their schools;
- Encourage computer education in their schools and insist on the use of domesticated computer systems taking into cognizance the cultural environment;
- Cooperate with and support FME and the Development Partners in the implementation of the Girls' Education Project;
- Examine pupils in first language (L1) and second language (L2) in the JSS, based on the approved curricula;
- Show more interest and commitment to non-formal education in order to achieve Education for All by 2015;
- Implement the Home Grown School Feeding and Health Programme (HGSFHP) and commended the States that have launched the programme;
- Put in place necessary machinery in terms of policies, partnerships and projects towards achieving gender parity and equality in education;
- Make provision for training and retraining of French teachers to meet the shortfall in the country, and where necessary, recruit French teachers from neighboring states with surplus teachers;
- Establish functional Special Education Schools and make efforts to train and retrain their Special Education teachers;
- Conduct school census of People with Special Needs including nomadic pastoralists; migrant communities (fishermen and farmers);
- Remove cultural barriers that tend to hinder girl-child interest in Technology and Science subjects by sensitizing parents and society on the importance of Science and Technology at PTA meetings;

- Revise their policy on Vocational Training Centers (VTC) to be in harmony with the National Policy on Education;
- liaise with the National Teachers' Institute (NTI) for prompt issuance of TC II Certificates pending the final phasing out of the programme;
- purchase copies of the Drug Abuse infused curriculum from NERDC.

Council also **urged:**

- State Ministries of Education and all the examining bodies (NECO, WAEC, NTI, JAMB, NABTEB) to continue working with other stakeholders in the supervision of their examinations in order to eliminate the incidence of examination malpractice
- States and Examining Bodies to avail themselves of the facilities available at the NERDC Braille Centre in Sheda;
- States, Local Governments and Language Groups to sponsor the development of orthographies of their languages under the guidance and supervision of NERDC;
- State Universal Basic Education Boards (SUBEBs) to purchase the NMC Teaching Modules, Workbooks and Mathematical kits;
- States and LGEAs to establish School Based Management Committees (SBMCs), where they do not exist; and all States and FCT to adopt and institute the model consisting of monitors, prefects and various germane committees headed by teachers for more effective school based administration for in-school administration;
- State Ministries of Education to implement the new French Language Syllabus so as to prepare their students for the new French examination taking effect from June, 2006;
- State Ministries of Education to emulate the FCT and Delta State by conducting verification exercise on the qualifications of their staff;
- State Ministries of Education to seek the support and cooperation of the Ministries of Information and Private Radio Stations in their States for the use of radio for broadcasting the community Education Literacy Programme being undertaken with the support of UNESCO in Nigeria;
- State Agencies of Mass Education to hasten their PRA/REFLECT training and make their report and retirement of advances to NMEC;

Council **commended:**

- FME (Education Data Bank) for its efforts in getting accurate national data for educational planning;
- The efforts of the Delta State Government in curbing examination malpractices in the State and encouraged other states to emulate them;
- FCT for carrying out a verification exercise on the qualifications of its staff;
- Oyo State Government for effectively completing the disarticulation of Junior from Senior Secondary Schools with autonomous administration as directed by Council and for the timely sourcing of the 2nd quarter Federal Government Intervention Fund for UBE;
- ETF for effective intervention in Primary Schools Library Development and for capacity building.

APPENDIX

AIDS	-	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ANCOPSS	-	All Nigeria Conference of Principals of Secondary Schools
AHI	-	Action Health Incorporated
CASS	-	Continuous Assessment
CASSON	-	Counselling Association of Nigeria
CCB	-	Code of Conduct Bureau
CERC	-	Community Educational Resource Centres
CBC	-	Computerized Braille Centres
COSST	-	Conference of Secondary School Tutors
CSSD	-	Centres for Supportive Services for the Deaf
CFTDS	-	Centres For French Teaching and Documentation
DFID	-	Department for International Development
EFA	-	Education For All
EFCC	-	Economic and Financial Crimes Commission
ECCE	-	Early Child Care Education
EDB	-	Education Data Bank
ERC	-	Educational Resource Centres
EMIS	-	Educational Management Information Service
ESA	-	Education Sector Analysis
ETF	-	Education Trust Fund
e-Education	-	Electronic Education
FCT	-	Federal Capital Territory
FEC	-	Federal Executive Council
FTS	-	Federal Teachers' Scheme
FME	-	Federal Ministry of Education
FIS	-	Federal Inspectorate Service
FRCN	-	Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria
FRSC	-	Federal Road Safety Commission
GEP	-	Girls' Education Project
HGSFHP	-	Home-Grown School Feeding and Health Programme
HSC	-	Higher School Certificate
HIV	-	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICTON	-	Institute of Certified Teachers of Nigeria
ICPC	-	Independent Corrupt Practices Commission
JAMB	-	Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board
JCCE	-	Joint Consultative Committee on Education
JHDP	-	Joint Higher Degree Programme
JICA	-	Japan International Cooperation Agency

JSS	-	Junior Secondary School
L1	-	First language
L2	-	Second language
LGEAs	-	Local Government Education Authorities
MDGs	-	Millennium Development Goals
MUNPE	-	Monitoring Unit of the National Policy on Education
NECO	-	National Examination Council
NCE	-	National Council on Education
NCE	-	National Certificate on Education
NERDC	-	Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council
NTI	-	National Teachers' Institute
NCNE	-	National Commission for Nomadic Education
NPE	-	National Policy on Education
NFLV	-	Nigerian French Language Village
NOUN	-	National Open University of Nigeria
NEADS	-	Nigeria Experts and Academics in the Diaspora Scheme'
NABTEB	-	National Business and Technical Examinations Board
NEEDS	-	National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy
NETC	-	National Educational Technology Centre
NEMA	-	National Emergency Management Agencies
NCP	-	National Commission for Polytechnics
NCEE	-	National Common Entrance Examination
ND	-	National Diploma
NGOs	-	Non Governmental Organizations
NMC	-	National Mathematical Centre
NMEC	-	National Commission for Mass Literacy Adult and Non-Formal Education
NIEPA	-	National Institute for Educational Planning and Administration
NSA	-	National Statistical Association
NINLANs	-	National Institute for Nigerian Language's
NSG	-	Nigerian Schools Games
NTA	-	Nigeria Television Authority
NUC	-	National Universities Commission
NUT	-	Nigeria Union of Teachers
NISS	-	National Incentive Scheme for Students
NATT	-	National Association of Teachers of Technology
NCNE	-	National Commission for Nomadic Education
NYSC	-	National Youths Service Corps
OVC	-	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
PGDE	-	Post Graduate Diploma in Education
PTTP	-	Pivotal Teachers Training Programme
PRS	-	Policy Research and Statistics
PTA	-	Parents Teachers Association

PRA	-	Participatory Rural Appraisal
REFLECT	-	Regenerated Freirean Literacy through Empowering Community Techniques
SS	-	Senior Secondary
SBMCs	-	School Based Management Committees
SNEP	-	Strategic National Education Plan
SMoE	-	State Ministries of Education
SPEB	-	State Primary Education Board
SIWES	-	Students Industrial Work Experience Scheme
SEC	-	Security Exchange Commission
SSCE	-	Senior School Certificate Examination
SUBEB	-	State Universal Basic Education Board
STM	-	Science, Technology and Mathematics
SEMA	-	State Emergency Management Agency
SMUNPE	-	State Monitoring Units of the National Policy on Education
TC II	-	Teachers Grade II Certificate
TRC	-	Teachers Registration Council
TTTP	-	Technical Teachers Training Programme
TRC	-	Teachers Registration Council
UNICEF	-	United Nation International Children Education Fund
USAID	-	United States Agency for International Development
UBE	-	Universal Basic Education
UBEC	-	Universal Basic Education Commission
UNESCO	-	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNWFP	-	United Nations World Food Programme
VTC	-	Vocational Training Centers
WAEC	-	West African Examinations Council
WB	-	World Bank.
WHO	-	World Health Organisation