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Special Release

02 June, 2016

**MEETING OF THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF EDUCATION WITH THE VICE CHANCELLOR AND THE AMBASSADOR OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY TO NIGERIA ON THE PROVISION OF INDEPENDENT POWER PROJECT (IPP)**

The Vice Chancellor, Professor A. Idowu Olayinka, FAS and Ambassador Michael Zenner, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Nigeria, honoured an invitation extended to them by the Honourable Minister of Education, Mallam Adamu Adamu to attend a meeting on IPP in his office in Abuja at 3.00 p.m. on Thursday, 12 May, 2016. The Vice Chancellor was accompanied by the Acting Registrar, Mr. V. A. A. Adegoroye, the Bursar, Mr. M. A. Alatise and the Director of Special Duties, Professor K. O. Adebowale.

The Honourable Minister, who had to attend to an urgent call from the Presidential Villa, was represented by the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education, Dr. Folasade Yemi - Esan. Also in attendance were the Director of Tertiary Education and some other Directors in the Ministry of Education.

In his brief remarks, the Vice Chancellor expressed gratitude and appreciation to the Honourable Minister of Education for inviting him and the Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany to the meeting to have further discussion on the Independent Power Project (IPP), concerning which this University had entered into partnership in 2015 with the German government to develop during the tenure of the former Vice Chancellor, Professor I. F. Adewole. He noted that the project, by its design, had provision for the training of students, staff, as well as research for academics.

In his follow-up remarks, Ambassador Michael Zenner stated that the idea was to construct solar power plants for reliable power supply to University of Ibadan and Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, to start with, while other Universities can take cue from them later. He confirmed that the project had provision of training for students, staff as well as researchers and that, in 2015, pro-bono feasibility studies conducted, included: land identification and verification of suitability; technology and engineering specifications, as well as preliminary budget forecasts and estimates.

He added that, in 2016 the itemized steps for concluding the project were:

(A)

**For financing:**

- prenegotiations with Germany's Euler Hermes in Hamburg to obtain export credit assurances and thus de-risk the University of Ibadan and Ahmadu Bello University projects from the viewpoint of international technology providers
- talks with Commerzbank to handle the international side of credit lines

**For implementation:**

1. equipment
  - identification of a German EPC partner willing to implement the project after prenegotiations with two South African EPCs did not bear fruit
  - Identification and prenegotiations with German solar panel manufacturer to supply the panels (a) at short notice and (b) at a favourable price
  - Identification and prenegotiation with possible suppliers of the inverters
2. project manager
  - identification of NGEP member companies as project managers (NovaSolarPower, Dantata)

**B. Next steps – action to be taken by Minister of Education**

1. Give green light for release of TETFund funds budgeted for both solar plants
2. Please accept invitation for the ground breaking ceremony before July ending in Ibadan

Thereafter, the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education, on behalf of the Minister of Education, rounded off the meeting by thanking Ambassador Michael Zenner and the German Government for coming to Nigeria's assistance in one of its greatest area of need. She assured him that the Ministry of Education would ensure that funds were promptly released by TETFund for the project.

Thank you.

**O. I. Olukoya, MNIM, FPA**  
**Registrar**