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**CHIEF OF THE AIR
STAFF VISITS
TETFUND, SEEKS
STRONGER
COLLABORATION IN
EDUCATION AND
AEROSPACE
DEVELOPMENT**

**TETFUND
COMMISSIONS
ADMINISTRATIVE
BUILDING, 7 OTHER
PROJECTS AT FCE
IWO**

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Editor's Note

The Fund is delighted to present this edition of its publication, which highlights key milestones in the continued transformation of Nigeria's tertiary education sector through strategic interventions and engagements.

Across the stories captured in this publication, one clear message stands out; sustained investment in education remains central to national growth and development.

This edition features the inauguration of Committees on Engineering and Technology Education Reform, as well as the Equipping of Central Multipurpose Laboratories in Selected Institutions across the country. These initiatives underscore the determination to strengthen practical learning, research capacity, innovation, and the global relevance of Nigerian institutions.

Also in this publication is the planned establishment of six new Centres of Excellence in Robotics, Coding, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Cybersecurity across the six geopolitical zones. This bold intervention reflects a deliberate effort to prepare Nigerian youths with the advanced skills required to compete in an increasingly technology-driven world.

Another landmark achievement captured in this edition is the unveiling of 82 TETFund sponsored academic textbooks designed to promote indigenous authorship, enrich teaching and learning, and reduce dependence on foreign academic materials. This intervention further demonstrates the commitment to strengthening Nigeria's intellectual and academic foundation.

Contained in this publication are stories on strategic collaborations between TETFund and critical national institutions such as the Nigerian Defence Academy, the Nigerian Air Force, Air Force Institute of Technology, the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, as well as the Voice of Nigeria. These engagements affirm that education is closely linked with security, technology, public awareness, and national resilience.

Also featured is the commissioning of multiple projects at the Federal College of Education, Iwo, where visible infrastructure delivery and institutional recognition once again demonstrated the impact of sustained funding, accountability, and effective implementation.

These and more, you will find in this rich and engaging edition as we continue to showcase the progress, partnerships, and possibilities shaping the future of tertiary education in Nigeria.

A.B Oniyangi

WE ARE COMMITTED TO STRENGTHENING RESEARCH CAPACITY IN THE COUNTRY

... ECHONO BY AMOKO JOHN KAYODE

The Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) has reiterated commitment towards supporting institutions in the country to strengthen research capacity, technological development and innovations.

Executive Secretary of the Fund, Arc. Sonny S.T. Echono who gave the reassurance during a courtesy visit by the Commandant of Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT), Kaduna, Air Vice Marshal Adeniran Ademuwagun to TETFund, lauded the Institute for its quality training which is adding to the development of the country.

Arc. Echono pointed out the strategic vision and critical role of AFIT in technical manpower development in Nigeria, adding that the focus towards Artificial Intelligence (AI), Robotics and Cybersecurity by the Institute is one that needs the support of all and sundry

He therefore reaffirmed the readiness of TETFund to support and collaborate not only with AFIT but other eligible institutions in strengthening research capacity, technological advancement and innovational development, pledging the Fund's readiness to consider interventions that align with national priorities and the institute's development.

Speaking earlier, Commandant of AFIT, Air Vice Marshal Adeniran Kolade Ademuwagun told the Executive Secretary and management of TETFund that the courtesy visit was to express the institute's profound appreciation for the Fund's sustained support over the years and to seek further interventions in research and technology.

He acknowledged that the consistent intervention from TETFund has significantly improved infrastructural development in the institution and helped strengthen the mandate of AFIT in producing well qualified manpower in aerospace engineering and related disciplines.

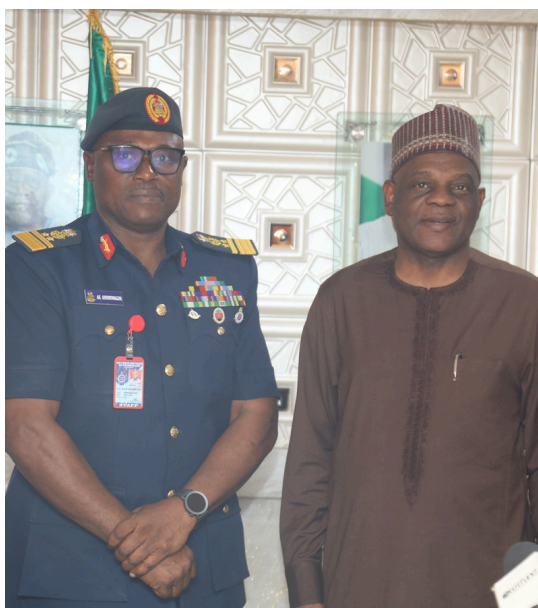
Speaking further, the Commandant disclosed that the institution is poised to expand its manpower training in the areas of Artificial Intelligence, Robotics and Cybersecurity, appealing for special support from TETFund for the establishment and upgrade of specialized laboratories and acquisition of modern equipment.





**COURTESY VISIT BY THE COMMANDANT OF
AIR FORCE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
(AFIT), KADUNA, AIR VICE MARSHAL
ADENIRAN ADEMUWAGUN TO TETFUND,**

PHOTO SPEAK



MASARI EMPHASIZES DEPLOYMENT OF TECHNOLOGY IN UNIVERSITIES FOR GLOBAL RELEVANCE

BY ADEBAYO PHILLIPS

The Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) and former Governor of Katsina State, Rt. Hon. Aminu Bello Masari has advised Nigerian universities on the need to deploy technology that would equip their graduates with relevant skills to compete globally.

He also emphasised the need for moral uprightness and institutional resilience as critical pillars for Nigeria's educational and national development.

Hon. Masari spoke during the 17th convocation ceremony of Al-Qalam University, Katsina, where he was conferred with an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Public Administration in recognition of his contributions to public service, education, human capital development and leadership.

The TETFund BOT Chairman maintained that orientation towards technology has become inevitable for the survival of higher education and the nation in general.

"In today's world, a deliberate tilt towards technology is not optional, it is inevitable. The number of graduates produced annually by our universities demand a robust paradigm shift; one that ensures that our graduates are adequately equipped with relevant skills to compete in an increasingly dynamic inter-connected global environment.

"Our youths must be challenged to embrace modern technology and through its mastery, develop innovative solutions for agriculture, security, service delivery, health care, mineral exploration and other critical drivers of national development," he said.

In his acceptance speech, Hon. Masari expressed appreciation to the university community for the honour, paying tribute to the visionaries behind the establishment of the institution.

Speaking on politics, the former Katsina Governor urged political leaders to display caution and embrace leadership anchored on purpose, patriotism and national development as the country approached another season of political activities and elections.



He cautioned that global events had also shown that advanced democracies could also face political destabilization when competition is unchecked. He, therefore, emphasized that patriotism must take precedence over personal political ambition.

Also speaking at the event, Governor Dikko Radda of Katsina State described education as the most powerful instrument for sustainable development, revealing that his administration has so far invested over N6 billion in scholarship awards to no fewer than 174,451 students in tertiary institutions within and outside the country.

Governor Radda stated that the investment in scholarships, including provision of school infrastructure, skills development among others, were aimed at preparing youths academically, morally, and economically for global competitiveness.

Speaking earlier, the Vice-Chancellor of Al-Qalam University, Prof Nasiru Musa Yawuri, announced that the institution graduated a total of 1,109 students across various disciplines, with 18 students graduating with First Class honours, 280 with Second Class Upper degrees, and 507 with Second Class Lower degrees.

JANUARY - MARCH 2026



17TH CONVOCATION CEREMONY OF AL-QALAM UNIVERSITY, KATSINA, WHERE HE WAS CONFERRED WITH AN HONORARY DOCTORATE DEGREE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN RECOGNITION OF HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO PUBLIC SERVICE, EDUCATION, HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP.

PHOTO SPEAK



Chief of The Air Staff Visits TETFund, Seeks Stronger Collaboration in Education and Aerospace Development

The Chief of the Air Staff, Air-Marshal Sunday Kelvin Aneke has called for deeper collaboration between the Nigerian Air Force and the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) to strengthen education, research, and innovation, particularly in the areas of aerospace development, artificial intelligence, and robotics.

Air-Marshal Aneke spoke during a visit to the TETFund Headquarters in Abuja, where he underscored the importance of strategic partnerships in advancing national development and building critical human capacity.

He noted that sustained support for educational institutions, especially the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) and other specialized centres would go a long way in improving research output and enhancing Nigeria's technological capabilities.

Pointing out that TETFund's continued support would catapult AFIT into becoming one of the most sought-after institutions in the country, the Chief of Air Staff made case for its other institutions.

According to him, "We also seek support for other Nigerian Air Force educational institution, including the Nigerian Air Force College of Nursing, Nigerian Air Force School of Medical Sciences and Aviation Medicine, particularly on infrastructure and academic capacity to boost healthcare in the country. It is very important to note that the services provided by our institutions benefit the general public and host communities".

The Air Chief highlighted the role of TETFund in providing essential infrastructure and resources for tertiary institutions, describing its interventions as pivotal to the growth of education in Nigeria. He also stressed the need for continued collaboration with critical national institutions, including those in healthcare and defence, to improve service delivery and national outcomes.

According to him, investments in education and innovation would help the country develop the skilled workforce required to compete globally, especially in emerging and highly technical fields.

Speaking further, he also sought support for perimeter fencing at AFIT with surveillance systems, artificial intelligence and robotics laboratory to advance research capacities for the aerospace sector, alongside residential accommodation for staff of the institution.

In his response, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono expressed appreciation for the visit and commended the Nigerian Air Force for its contributions to national security and educational development.

The Executive Secretary noted that TETFund holds the Nigerian Air Force and its institutions in high esteem, particularly for their role in advancing education, research, and innovation, and some of the requests made by the Chief of Air Staff were already receiving the attention of the Fund.

He reaffirmed TETFund's commitment to supporting tertiary institutions through the provision of infrastructure, research funding, and capacity development, adding that such interventions have significantly strengthened Nigeria's education sector, and AFIT remains a critical player in the sector.

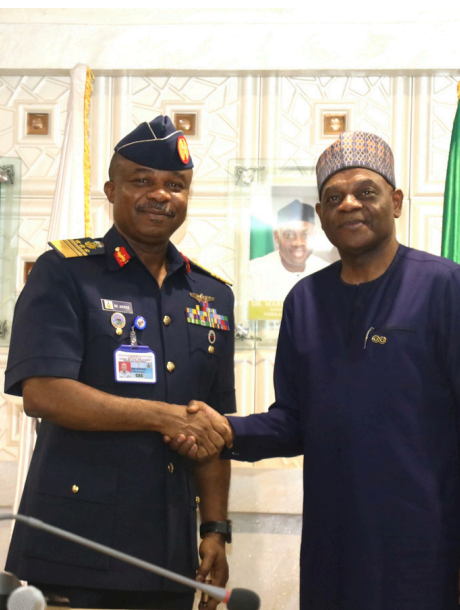
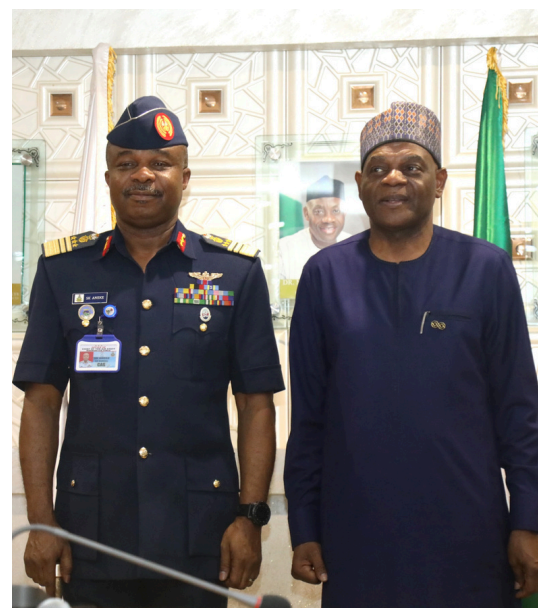
He assured that the Fund would continue to invest in modern facilities and create an enabling environment to attract global talent and enhance competitiveness, in line with its mandate.





CHIEF OF THE AIR STAFF VISITS TETFUND, SEEKS STRONGER COLLABORATION IN EDUCATION AND AEROSPACE DEVELOPMENT

PHOTO
SPEAK



FG INAUGURATES COMMITTEE TO DRIVE ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION REFORM IN TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS

BY ISHOWO OLUWATOSIN



The Federal Government has inaugurated a ministerial monitoring, evaluation and implementation committee to oversee a special high impact intervention aimed at strengthening engineering and technology education in Nigerian universities.

The initiative, implemented through the Tertiary Education Trust Fund, is designed to transform universities into centres of practical training, applied research and innovation.

The inauguration took place at the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) Headquarters in Abuja. and was chaired by the President of the Nigerian Society of Engineers, Ali Rabi, includes scholars and professionals drawn from the engineering and technology sectors.

Speaking at the inauguration in Abuja, the Minister of Education, Dr. Tunji Alausa, described the committee as a tactical step in government's deliberate effort at rebuilding engineering and technology education as a driver of industrialization, innovation and sustainable national development.

He noted that Nigeria has long faced a gap between theoretical knowledge and practical competence among engineering and technology graduates, which has negatively limited the employability of graduates, weakened confidence within industry and impacted negatively, the country's competitiveness in the global technology environment.

The minister explained that the special intervention project supported by TETFund was conceived to address these challenges through the provision of modern workshops, advanced laboratories, specialised equipment and relevant training facilities capable of producing graduates who can design, fabricate, test and develop solutions for industrial applications.

He clarified that the initiative is separate from other allocations already captured under the Fund's 2026 intervention guidelines, which include about 20 billion naira set aside for upgrading engineering workshops in selected universities.

Institutions listed for the first phase of the intervention include federal universities of technology across the geopolitical zones, including those in Akure, Owerri and Minna, alongside selected conventional federal and state universities.

The committee is expected to monitor the rehabilitation and equipping of engineering and technology workshops in the beneficiary institutions and ensure compliance with approved standards.

Its responsibilities also include recommending the construction of new workshops where necessary and overseeing the use of funds in line with procurement laws and transparency requirements.

According to Alausa, other aspects of the committee's mandate include maintaining digital records of projects, submitting periodic progress reports and recommending sanctions where institutions fail to comply with established guidelines.

Also speaking at the event, the Minister of State for Education, Prof. Suwaiba Said Ahmad, described the intervention as important to Nigeria's broader ambition for industrial development, innovation and sustainable economic growth. She emphasised that financial allocation alone would not guarantee success without effective implementation, strict adherence to standards and accountability.



In his remarks, the Executive Secretary of TETund, Arc. Sonny S.T. Echono, welcomed the initiative and acknowledged the support of the President and the National Assembly in promoting deliberate efforts to restore Nigerian universities to global competitiveness.

He expressed confidence that the committee, made up of experienced professionals and technocrats, would help identify institutional needs, set priorities and ensure that the allocated funds are used prudently while projects are properly implemented.





INAUGURATION OF MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE TO DRIVE ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION REFORM IN TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS

PHOTO SPEAK



TETFUND COMMISSIONS ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, 7 OTHER PROJECTS AT FCE IWO

BY MICHAEL AGU

...COLLEGE CONFERS INSTITUTIONAL MERIT AWARD ON TETFUND



The Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) has commissioned eight iconic projects at the Federal College of Education, Iwo, Osun State as part of activities marking the College's maiden convocation ceremony.

The projects, some of which were named after the Registrar of Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB), Prof. Ishaq Oloyede and Executive Secretary of National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE), Prof. Paulinus Okwelle who both attended the event are the College Administrative Building, Academic Building, Early Grade Reading Resource Centre and ICT Centre.

Others are the Multi – Media Micro Teaching Laboratory, School of Sciences Building, Science Laboratory Building and School of Languages building.

Speaking at the event, the member representing the South-West geopolitical zone on the TETFund Board of Trustees, Hon. Sunday Adepoju applauded the College management for delivering on the projects.

Hon. Adepoju also commended the Registrar of JAMB and Executive Secretary of NCCE for the honour accorded them by the College, noting that it was a representation of their contributions to the development of education in Nigeria.

He assured that the Board of Trustees would continue to strive to ensure quality educational delivery in TETFund Beneficiary Institutions.

Similarly, the College also conferred an institutional merit award on TETFund in recognition of its intervention roles in public tertiary educational institutions in Nigeria.

“This award is being conferred on TETFund as an agency in recognition of its outstanding interventions, visionary funding framework, and sustained contributions to the growth, infrastructure development, staff capacity building, and academic advancement of tertiary institutions in Nigeria.

“The impact of TETFund's support has been instrumental to the development and transformation of our College and many others nationwide,” a letter addressed to TETFund and signed by the Provost, Prof. Rafiu Adebayo read in part.



COMMISSIONING OF ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING AND 7 OTHER PROJECTS AT FCE IWO



TETFund, NSCDC To Work Together on safety of Educational Institutions

BY ISHOWO OLUWATOSIN

The Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) is considering a strategic partnership with the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) with a view to strengthening security in the nation's tertiary institutions, in line with the Safe School initiative of the Federal Government.

Executive Secretary of the Fund, Arc. Sonny S.T. Echono stated this when the Commandant-General of the NSCDC, Prof. Ahmed Abubakar Audu paid him a courtesy call in Abuja, recently.

While noting that education and security in the country have become inseparable, he stated that stakeholders must synchronize and collaborate to derive needed success in combating the security challenges facing the sector.

According to the TETFund Boss, the Fund is already in discussion with stakeholders and considering the prospect of a security masterplan for tertiary institutions, noting that the visit opens a window of opportunity to partner with the Corps.

He disclosed further that the Fund and the NSCDC will work towards developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to train security personnels in tertiary institutions nationwide by leveraging on the Security Agency's nationwide deployment capacity to support the institutions. He however emphasized that such move will be within the limit of what is permitted by the mandate and ecosystem of the Fund.

Speaking further, Echono said "On research, we are happy how it is serving as a tool guiding your operations and interventions. As you are aware, we are a major stakeholder in this regard and encourage research on all aspects. Hence, we are open to collaboration."



Earlier in his remarks, the NSCDC Commandant disclosed that the visit to the Fund was the first of its kind since the establishment of the security agency, applauding the indelible mark of TETFund and its leadership, since inception.

"We are here for a courtesy/familiarisation tour to see how we can work together. As you are aware, we came into light in 2003 and became a full-fledged paramilitary service, but we have since transformed into an elite force by leveraging on research to improve and deepen our operations.

"Our job is; protection of critical infrastructure in the country such as your office, as well as tertiary institutions across the federation. According to our research, schools have porous security structures, which led to our integration into the Safe-School-Initiative of Federal Government," the Commandant stated.

Speaking further, the Security Boss disclosed that research by the Corps has revealed that cartels who were previously into oil theft have transitioned to illegal mining, providing another layer to the multifaceted nature of the country's insecurity. In tackling this, he intimated that the NSCDC created the Mining Marshals, which led to the successful closure of over 600 illegal mining sites in the country.



**Courtesy call by the
Commandant-General of the
NSCDC, Prof. Ahmed Abubakar
Audu**

PHOTO
SPEAK



PRESIDENT TINUBU'S RENEWED HOPE AGENDA: TETFUND BOOSTS QUEST FOR KNOWLEDGE-DRIVEN ECONOMY ... INAUGURATES COMMITTEE ON MULTIPURPOSE LABORATORIES

In line with the Renewed Hope Agenda of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu aimed at moving Nigeria to a knowledge driven economy, the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) has concluded plans for the equipping of Central Multipurpose Laboratories in selected Public Tertiary Institutions across the six geopolitical zones of the country.

Inaugurating the committee which will oversee the equipping of the said laboratories, TETFund described it as part of efforts to strengthen research, as well as balancing theory with practical skills towards actualizing knowledge driven economy for Nigeria.

Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc Sonny S.T. Echono, who spoke while inaugurating the committee recently in Abuja, stated that the initiative which is part of the aspiration of President Tinubu's administration towards revolutionizing research culture in Nigeria was long overdue.

Echono who explained that the initiative will strengthen research and infrastructure needed to transform Nigeria from a consumption economy to a productive and competitive economy in the global space, pointed out that innovative research, and its effective commercialization are key drivers of economic growth and prosperity in modern landscape.

According to him, "Sustainable economic development is largely propelled by increased productive systems from purposeful, solution-oriented research that addresses societal and industrial challenges"

He stressed that effective outcomes cannot be achieved without the adequate research facilities and enabling infrastructure, well equipped laboratories, modern tools, and a conducive environment for innovation.



Echono lamented that a National Survey conducted in 2024, on Research Infrastructure in public tertiary institutions in Nigeria to evaluate the availability, functionality and relevance of existing facilities in line with global best practices, revealed significant gaps in the utilization of equipment, duplication of equipment in some cases within the same institutions, limited inter-faculty collaboration for optimal utilization, and the presence of outdated facilities.

He further revealed that feedback from TETFund research interventions such as National Research Fund (NRF), Institution-Based Research (IBR), and mega research grants indicated a systemic gap, where research grants are basically used for procurement of laboratory equipment and consumables to support the research activities, which place more burden on the individual researcher.

Echono stated that all these are indication of the absence of world class requisite research and development infrastructure to conduct top-level research, and that it is affecting the ability of researchers in Nigeria to compete favourably with their counterpart's world over.

Pointing out that the quest to address the gaps necessitated the formation of the committee which is tasked with the responsibility of reviewing and updating the equipment specification to ensure cutting edge performance, the TETFund boss noted that "that to tackle the gap identified in the survey, the Fund has made necessary provision in its 2023, 2024, 2025 interventions to establish six Central Multipurpose laboratory in selected Public Institutions to provide quality laboratory infrastructure and necessary facilities and equipment to strengthen research capacity"

While appreciating the members of the committee for accepting to serve and contribute their quota to the development of the country, Arc. Echono pointed out that the committee is saddled with the responsibility of guiding the Fund to efficiently equip the multipurpose laboratories in line with international best practices.

Echono reiterated that sustainable development depends solely on solution driven research and innovation supported by effective infrastructure, assuring that the laboratories would have alternative uninterrupted power supply to ensure smooth operation.

He stated that the committee has one month to carry out the assignment

In his acceptance speech, Chairman of the committee, Mr. Chris Maiyaki commended the Fund for the bold steps being taken to improve the standard of public institutions in Nigeria.

He added that the centralized laboratories would bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application in higher education and research.

Maiyaki appreciated the TETFund boss for the confidence reposed on members of the committee to contribute their quota to the development of the country.

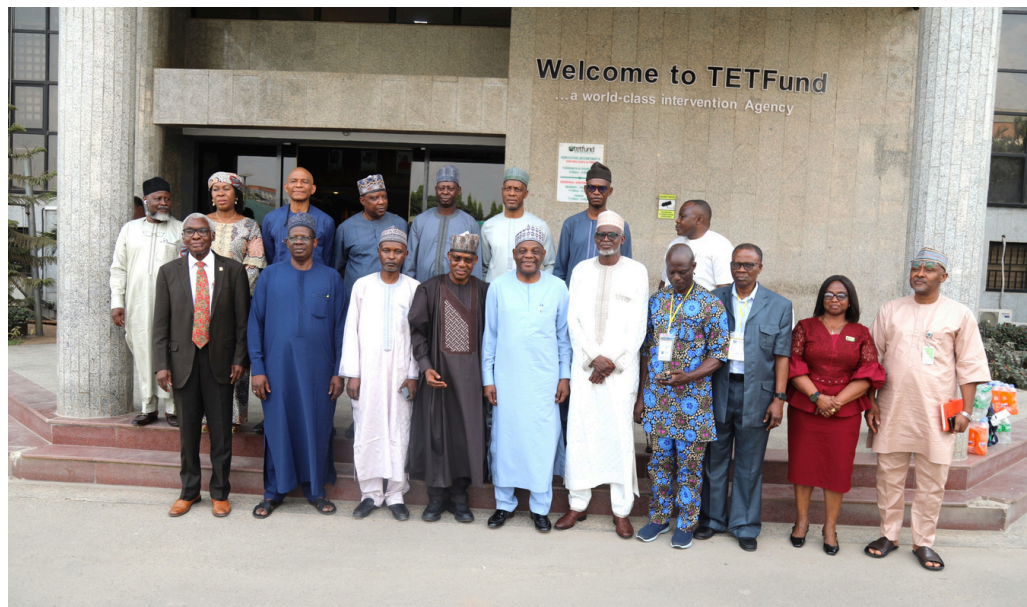
He assured of timely execution and delivery of the assignment.



PHOTO
SPEAK



INAUGURATION OF COMMITTEE ON MULTIPURPOSE LABORATORIES



NUJ SEEKS STRONGER TIES WITH TETFUND TO SPOTLIGHT GROWTH

BY ASMAU MODIBBO RIBADU

The Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ) has sought stronger ties with the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) to further spotlight the Fund's intervention activities across the country.

This was made known when the National President of the union, Alhassan Yahya paid a courtesy visit to the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono at the Fund's headquarters in Abuja recently.

Speaking during the visit, the NUJ President commended the Fund for its contributions to revitalising tertiary institutions in the country and pledged the union's support in enhancing public understanding of projects implemented under the Fund's intervention programmes.

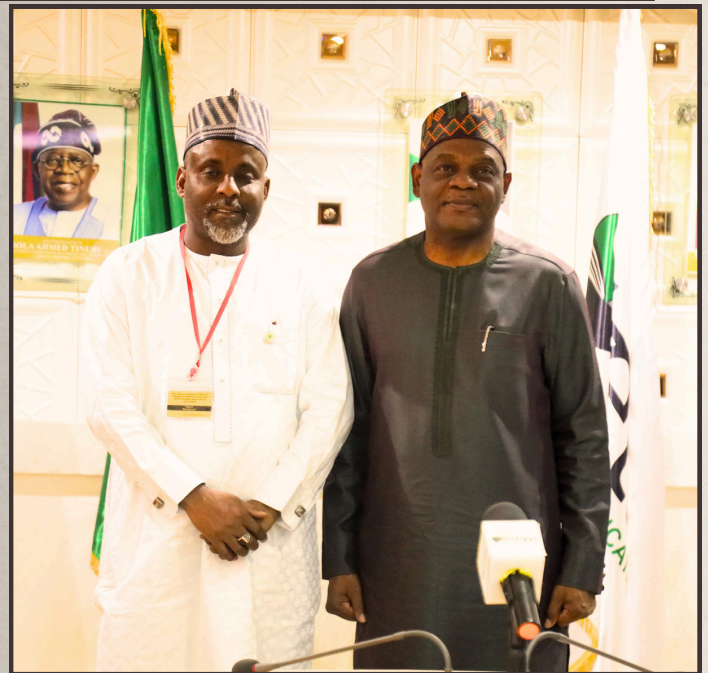
He, therefore, expressed the union's desire for stronger institutional collaboration with TETFund to further promote awareness of the agency's interventions across the country.

Yahya disclosed that the NUJ was proposing a joint inspection tour of selected tertiary institutions across the six geopolitical zones to enable journalists independently assess projects executed by TETFund and communicate their impact to Nigerians. According to him, the proposed collaboration would also involve joint public sensitisation initiatives aimed at highlighting the scale and significance of the Fund's work within tertiary institutions.

The NUJ president further appealed for support for the International Institute of Journalism (IIJ), an NUJ-owned training institution dedicated to strengthening professional standards and improving journalism practice in Nigeria.

He also proposed structured quarterly briefings between the union and TETFund to enable journalists provide feedback from field observations and offer constructive input to support the Fund's operations.

Welcoming the delegation, the Executive Secretary commended the media for its vital role in informing the public and promoting transparency in government programmes and national development initiatives. He noted that Nigeria's tertiary education sector requires sustained investment, public trust and stronger institutional support to address infrastructure and research gaps across institutions.



According to the TETFund Boss, the agency was established to halt the decline in academic standards and restore confidence in universities, polytechnics and colleges of education across the country.

He noted that although considerable progress has been made through sustained government support and structured intervention programmes, some challenges remained. This he identified as deficiencies in physical infrastructure, research facilities and the overall conditions for teaching, learning and research as areas requiring continued investment.

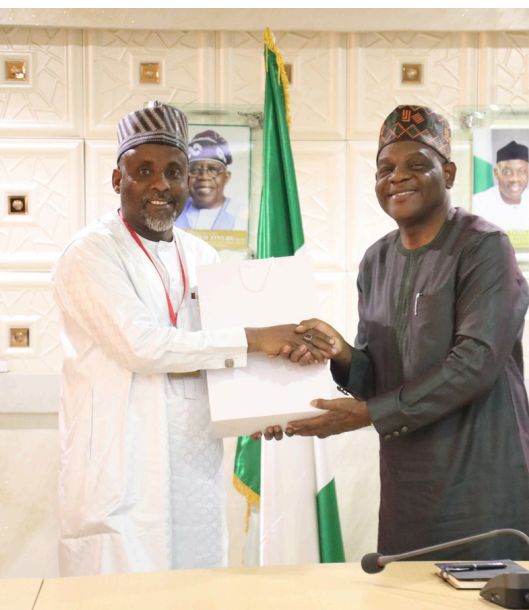
The Executive Secretary noted that extensive intervention projects have been undertaken nationwide, resulting in visible improvements in facilities constructed, upgraded or rehabilitated to enhance academic delivery. He stressed that communicating these achievements to the public is essential to building confidence in the education system and sustaining national support for continued investment in tertiary education.

He, therefore, reaffirmed the Fund's readiness to strengthen collaboration with the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) to enhance public awareness of educational interventions and support national development.



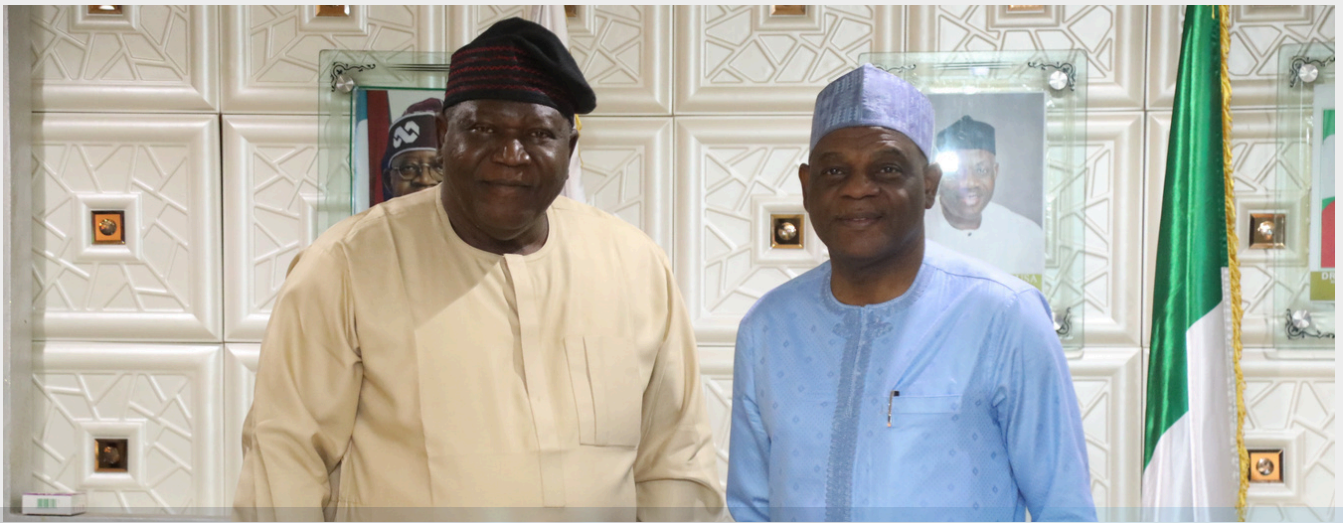
COURTESY VISIT BY THE NUJ TO THE FUND

PHOTO SPEAK



TETFund Set to establish Six AI, Robotics Centres in Nigerian Universities

BY SAADATU SALIHU



The Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) has concluded plans to establish six new Centres of Excellence with specialization in Robotics, Coding, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and Cybersecurity in six universities across the geopolitical zones, thus raising the total number of TETFund-supported Centres of Excellence from 30 to 36.

Speaking while inaugurating an Advisory Committee on the proposed Centres of Excellence at the Fund's Headquarters in Abuja recently, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono stated that committee was tasked with identifying TETFund Beneficiary Institutions that have demonstrable strengths and capacity in Robotics, Coding, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Cybersecurity studies.

Revealing that the Fund had presidential approval for the establishment of at least six additional centres of excellence across the country, Arc. Echono stated that the initiative was of national significance as the intervention went beyond teaching and learning to addressing major development priorities of Nigeria.

The Executive Secretary explained that the centres which would be domiciled specifically in public universities, would be equipped with state-of-the-art facilities to drive innovation and strengthen Nigeria's technology drive.

"We are not only addressing issues around national security; we are also preparing future generations of our youthful population to contribute meaningfully to national development and to fill global knowledge and skills gaps.

"This is deliberate, as we aim to reflect all six geopolitical zones while tapping into the abundant talents that exist in Nigeria," he said.

Arc. Echono revealed that the committee has 30 days to complete the first phase of its assignment, while retaining an advisory role to guide selected institutions in establishment and development of the centres.

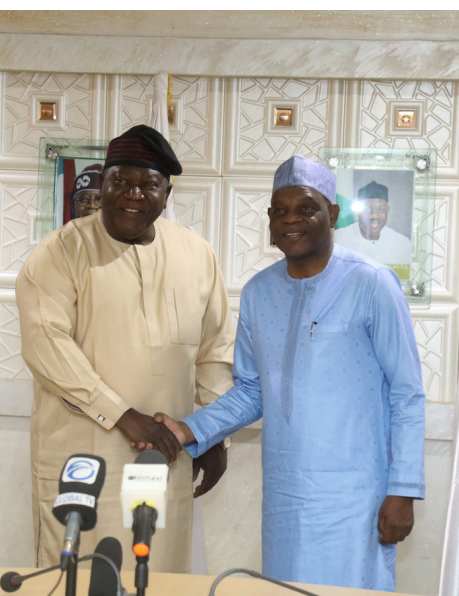
The committee is chaired by Professor Yakubu Ochefu, immediate past Secretary-General of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors of Nigerian Universities.

In his response, the Chairman of the committee expressed appreciation to TETFund for the opportunity to serve and assured that the committee would follow merit-based criteria in identifying qualified institutions.



INAUGURATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE PROPOSED CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

PHOTO SPEAK



TETFund, VON to Engage in Strategic Publicity Partnership

BY MICHAEL AGU



The Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) and the Voice of Nigeria (VON) are set to establish publicity partnership to extend global visibility of the Fund's impact in Nigeria's tertiary education sub-sector.

This was made known when a delegation from VON, led by its Director-General, Jibrin Baba Ndace paid a courtesy visit to the TETFund Headquarters in Abuja recently.

Speaking during the visit, the Director-General commended the leadership qualities and achievement of the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono, even as he pledged VON's support in the broadcast of TETFund's activities globally.

He explained that VON operates in eight languages: English, Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo, Fulfulde, French, Arabic, and Swahili, and is expanding collaborations to further project Nigeria's image worldwide.

He further stated that his agency was realigning its operations by strengthening zonal offices across the country and diversifying content to include culture, tourism, and developmental storytelling alongside government policies.

Ndace proposed a structured partnership that would enable VON's nationwide reporters cover and report TETFund activities, translate content into multiple languages, as well as support capacity building for communication teams within tertiary institutions.

In his response, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono stated that TETFund would bask on the visiting organization's wide broadcast reach to better showcase the Fund's projects and contributions to tertiary education across Nigeria.

He noted that the awareness and appreciation of TETFund's work have increased due to visible interventions across Beneficiary Institutions nationwide, adding that wider media engagement would ensure transparency and public awareness.

Arc. Echono further stated that TETFund was embarking on project commissioning nationwide and required effective media coverage to ensure Nigerians, especially those in rural communities who rely heavily on radio, are adequately informed.

He emphasized the importance of content co-creation and sustained collaboration, and commended VON's multilingual broadcasting capacity, describing it as a strategic advantage in reaching diverse audiences within and outside Nigeria.





COURTESY VISIT BY VON ON STRATEGIC PUBLICITY PARTNERSHIP

PHOTO SPEAK



Education Minister Unveils 82 TETFund Sponsored Academic Textbooks

BY MARIA JOSEPH



Nigeria's tertiary education received a major boost recently as the Minister of Education, Dr. Maruf Tunji Alausa unveiled 82 academic textbooks fully sponsored by the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) at a landmark event held in Abuja.

The highly elated minister expressed confidence that the 82 publications would enhance learning, promote indigenous authorship, provide relevant academic materials in tertiary institutions, and reduce continuous reliance on foreign academic resources.

The books were published under the TETFund Higher Education Book Development Intervention Project initiated to support academic textbook publication, professional association journals, establishment and sustainability of TETFund Academic Publishing Centres.

While unveiling the books, Dr. Alausa stated that "the milestone is a testament of the Federal Government's commitment to quality education and the pursuit of academic excellence".

He lamented the paucity of indigenous authored tertiary-level textbooks and over reliance of Nigerian Tertiary institutions on foreign academic materials, resulting in significant pressure on foreign exchange and absence of encouragement on local authors over the years.

He affirmed that supporting indigenous authors would safeguard national pride, encourage local scholars to showcase their intellects and authorship in various academic disciplines.

The Minister assured that the President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's administration remained committed to educational development as the national driver for sustainable development, adding that that TETFund would continue to intensify efforts to enhance content development and capacity building in public tertiary institutions.

Dr Alausa commended the authors for their tireless contribution to enriching our tertiary Institutions and strengthening Nigeria's global academic reputation.

He also applauded TETFund for increasing the number of books and maintaining high standards in the quality of the scholarly publications and continuous restocking of the libraries of beneficiary institutions, even as he requested that the Fund expands access to the books beyond its Tertiary Education Research, Application and Services (TERAS) platform to promote wider reach globally.

The Minister expressed profound gratitude to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu for his commitment to the growth of education through sustained funding and strategic policy reprioritization toward content and tangible development.

He expressed optimism that the textbook development intervention by TETFund will achieve the desired objective of bridging the gap of indigenous academic publishing and improve access to relevant learning materials in tertiary institutions.

In his address, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc Sonny S.T. Echono revealed that the persistent shortage of high-quality tertiary level textbook in Nigeria has long posed a major challenge on teaching, learning and research, hence the establishment of TETFund Book Development Intervention programme to bridge the gap and promote the development of credible, locally authored academic resources to enhance teaching, learning and research in tertiary institutions

He disclosed that 72 titled books were authored by Nigeria scholars and published under the TETFund Book development project while 10 other titled academic books by reputable Nigerian authors were secured by the Fund for tertiary institutions, bringing the total number to 82.

He confirmed that the Fund would commence the distribution of over 400,000 copies of the books to beneficiary institutions across the country with digital versions on TERAS platform, in various disciplines including Medicine, law, Engineering, and Education.

The Executive Secretary revealed that moving forward, the authors will receive monetary honoraria based on the number of pages of their books, along with twenty complimentary copies as against the one thousand copies of their publication, as part of the Fund's commitment to ensuring prudent management of resources and value for money.

He appreciated the Minister for his exemplary leadership and continuous support for policies and programmes that promote academic excellence, knowledge, and institutional advancement.



The TETFund Boss also expressed his gratitude to the TETFund Board of Trustees for its commitment to strengthening the intellectual and academic foundation of Nigeria's tertiary education system.

The Chairman of TETFund's Board of Trustees, Rt. Hon. Aminu Bello Masari, in his remarks, reiterated President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's commitment to prioritizing education. He commended TETFund's dedication to transparency and devotion to government regulations in fulfilling its mandate.

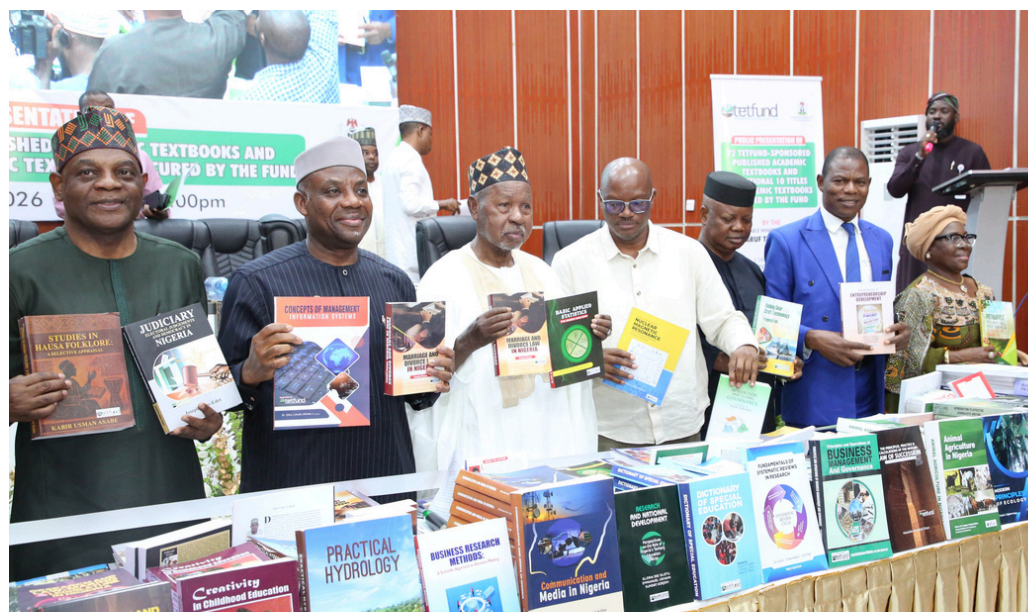
He also applauded the authors for their contribution to the development of tertiary education in Nigeria.

Also speaking at the event, the Chairman of TETFund's Technical Advisory Group on Book Development (TAG), Prof. Albert Abegunde revealed that the books presented were written by individual scholars and cover various disciplines ranging from Medicine and Pharmacy; Arts and Literature; Law; Engineering and Agriculture and many others designed to enrich teaching, deepen research, strengthen policy engagement, and enhance learning in tertiary institutions.

Prof Abegunde noted that another batch of over 40 manuscripts have been cleared by TAG for publication, and over 61 are undergoing peer review, while about 65 new submissions would be considered by TAG in its next meeting.



PHOTO SPEAK





COURTESY VISIT BY HUAWEI TEAM TO TETFund

PHOTO SPEAK

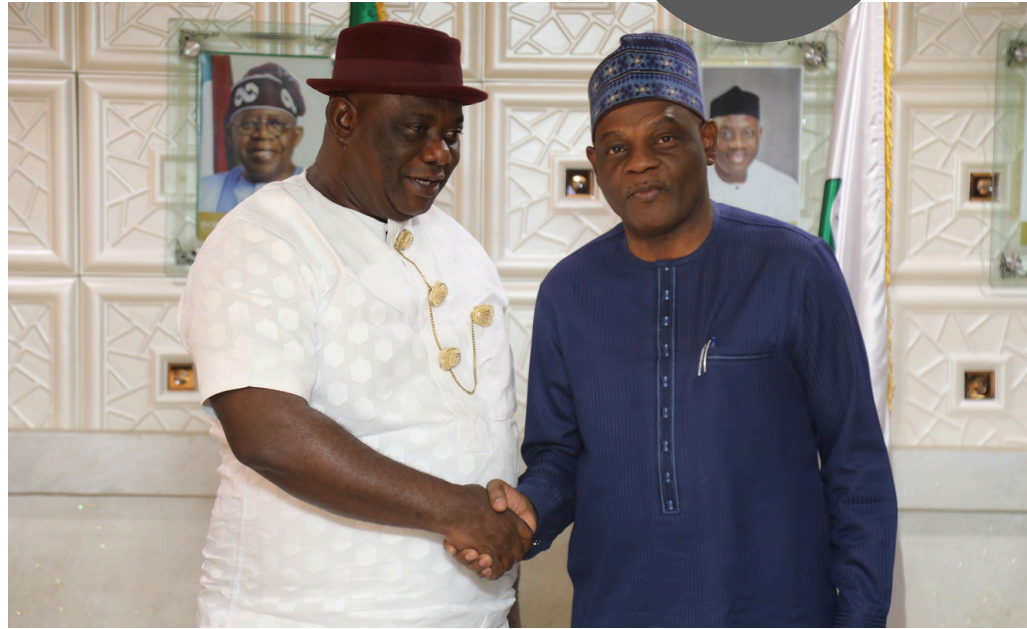




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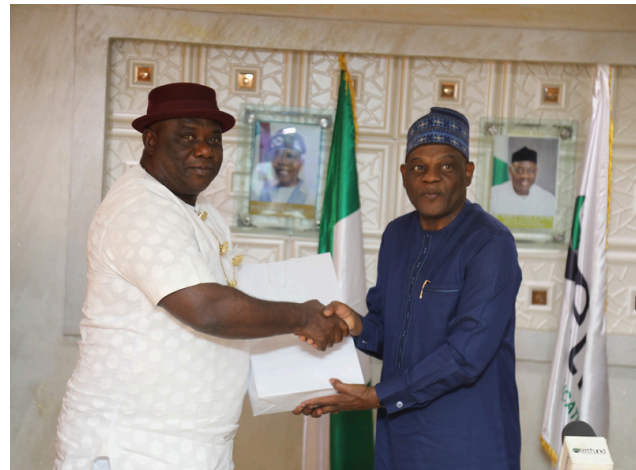
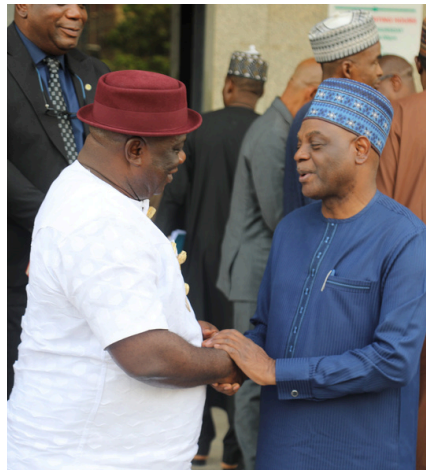
PHOTO SPEAK





COURTESY VISIT BY NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY TO TETFund

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SERVICOM SENSITIZATION PROGRAMME FOR SECURITIES AND CLEANERS OF THE FUND

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STAFF OF THE MONTH



PANORAMA

JANUARY - MARCH 2026



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