



Central Bank of Nigeria

CBN UPDATE

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CBN Redesigns Naira Notes

INSIDE THIS EDITION:

- CBN Targets 100% Cashless Economy with eNaira
- Emefiele Bags Euroknowledge Award for Digital Transformation
- CBN, NDIC Collaboration Stablising the Banking System - Emefiele
- DG Ahmad Advocates Quality, Inclusive Education
- CBN, AMCON Conclude SPA on Polaris Bank

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Contents

Editor's Note	1
CBN Redesigns Naira Notes	2
CBN and the Issuance of New Naira Banknotes	3
CBN Targets 100% Cashless Economy with eNaira	4
Naira Redesign Facts and Figures	6
CBN Sensitises Tricycle Riders, Yam Sellers on eNaira	7
eNaira: CBN Targets 7,740 Agents Nationwide	8
DG Ahmad Advocates Quality, Inclusive Education	9
CBN Releases Draft Guideline for Contactless Payments	10
IMF Defends CBN's Position on Interest Rates	11
IMF Recommends More Savings from Oil Money	11
Photo Splash at the First Anniversary of the eNaira Held in Lagos	12
Emefiele Bags Euroknowledge Award for Digital Transformation	14
CBN Releases Guidelines for Representatives of Foreign Banks	15
Poultry Production to Improve IGR - Experts	16
CBN, AMCON Conclude SPA on Polaris Bank	17
CBN Makes Case for SMEs	18
More Nigerians Going Cashless - NIBSS	19
CBN Celebrates Maiden Customer Service Week	20
CBN, NCR to Support MSMEs	20
CBN, NDIC Collaboration Stabilising the Banking System - Emefiele	21
Discount Window Infractions: CBN Issues Circular to Dealers	22
CBN Disburses over N2trn to 437 Industries	23
eNaira - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS	25



Editor's Note

We welcome our esteemed readers to the October edition of CBN UPDATE.

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) in the exercise of a key function of currency management, is set to redesign and begin the circulation of new series of banknotes; N200, N500, and N1,000. The Governor, Mr. Godwin Emefiele while briefing journalists said the exercise is within the mandate of the Bank as enshrined in Section 2 (b) of the CBN Act 2007. The new Naira Notes would be launched on December 15, 2022. The old series of banknotes (N200, N500 and N1000) will cease to be legal tender currencies after 31 January, 2022.

Meanwhile, as the CBN Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) eNaira marked its one year anniversary on October 25th, the Governor, Mr. Godwin Emefiele, stated that the aim is to achieve a 100 per cent cashless economy. The eNaira recorded 700,000 transactions worth N8bn as of October 25, 2022.

We highlighted the news report on the collaboration of the CBN and Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) in mitigating crisis in the banking system. The CBN Governor, Mr. Godwin Emefiele while speaking at the International Association of Deposit Insurers (IADI) Africa Regional Committee (ARC) technical assistance workshop in Abuja, noted that such collaboration during the 2004 banking consolidation and 2009 banking crisis, have contributed to the resolution of the distress and stabilizing the banking sector.

Also, the Deputy Governor, Financial System Stability (FSS), Mrs. Aishah Ahmad has advocated quality and inclusive education as a precursor to economic growth and development of the country. Mrs. Ahmad made the statement at the first Global Reunion and Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Federal Government Girls' College Bida Old Association.

As part of efforts to drive further adoption of eNaira by Nigerians, the CBN has taken the sensitization to Oshodi and Yan Doya markets in Lagos metropolis. The Tricycles Riders in Oshodi market and the Yam Sellers in Yan Doya market as well as other traders, were onboarded the eNaira platform.

Also in this edition, we featured a news story in which the CBN Governor, Mr. Godwin Emefiele bagged the Euroknowledge Africa Most Innovation Digital Transformation Governor of the Year Award for 2022. The award was presented on the sidelines of the Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)/World Bank Group which held in Washington DC, USA.

These and other stories have been put together for your reading pleasure.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Osita Nwanisobi'.

Osita Nwanisobi
Editor-in-Chief

CBN Redesigns Naira Notes

By: Mohammed Haruna



CBN Governor
Mr. Godwin I. Emefiele

In a move aimed at restoring the control of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) over currency in circulation within the country, CBN Governor, Mr. Godwin Emefiele has announced that the Bank's management has sought and obtained presidential approval to redesign, produce and circulate the N200, N500 and N1000 Naira notes.

Speaking at a special press briefing held at the Bank's Head Office in Abuja, Mr. Emefiele announced that the newly redesigned currency notes will be released to the public after an official launch by President Muhammadu Buhari on 15 December, 2022.

The Governor further stated that the current and the new designs will be legal tender until 31st January 2023 after which, only the new design will be recognized even as he reminded that currency management is a key function of the Central Bank of Nigeria.

According to the CBN Governor, "In recent years, the CBN has recorded significantly higher rates of counterfeiting especially at the higher

denominations of N500 and N1,000 banknotes. Although global best practice is for central banks to redesign, produce and circulate new local legal tender every 5–8 years, the Naira has not been redesigned in the last 20 years"

Furthermore, all Deposit Money Banks currently holding the existing denominations of the currency have been advised to start returning these notes back to the CBN effective immediately as the newly designed currency will be released to the banks in the order of first come-first-serve basis.

Customers of banks have also been enjoined to begin paying into their bank accounts the existing currency to enable them to withdraw the new banknotes once circulation begins in mid-December 2022.

All banks were directed to keep open, their currency processing centres from Monday to Saturday to accommodate all cash that will be returned by their customers and bank charges for cash deposits have been also suspended with immediate effect for the purpose of this transition.

CBN and the Issuance of New Naira Banknotes

By: Onyemakonor Ogbe



globalfinancialdigest.com

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) on Wednesday, October 26, 2022, announced its plan to redesign, produce, release, and circulate new series of banknotes at N200, N500, and N1,000 levels. The announcement made by the Governor, Mr. Godwin Emefiele during a special briefing with journalists stoked responses and reactions from different quarters of society.

The CBN plan is buoyed on an objective of its mandate as encapsulated in the CBN Act 2007, Section 2(b) which empowers the Bank to ensure a strong and effective legal tender.

Recently, the Bank of England had announced the introduction of new banknotes and coins with portraits of King Charles. The Bank of England, however, maintained that the new currencies would coexist with banknotes with the images of Queen Elizabeth and mutilated notes would be replaced over an unspecified period.

The CBN's arrangements to begin circulation of the new banknotes from December 15, 2022, is in line with the global best practice. It is customary, for central banks to redesign, produce and circulate

new local legal tender every 5–8 years. Accordingly, the CBN undertaking this exercise now is long in coming as the Naira has not been redesigned in the last two decades.

Currency redesign is necessitated by several factors. Apart from the fact that Naira notes have not been redesigned in the last 20 years, the CBN Governor, Mr. Godwin Emefiele cited the hoarding of banknotes by members of the public; worsening shortage of clean and fit banknotes with attendant negative perception of the CBN and increased risk to financial stability, as well as the increasing ease and risk of counterfeiting of Naira notes, as cogent reasons to execute its plan that will no doubt have far reaching positive impacts on the economy now and in the future.

The CBN Governor's announcement was greeted with mixed feelings. Why redesign and circulate new currency at this time? What economic benefit will accrue to the nation with the introduction of new banknotes? While some pundits were far from being optimistic about the CBN issuance of new banknotes, others were positive that the new notes will herald growth for the economy.

According to the CBN, the total money in circulation in the country is N3.23 trillion. Out of this figure, N2.73 trillion amounting to over 80 percent, accounts for currency in circulation outside the banking system. In addition, a simple comparative analysis of the currency in circulation between 2015 and 2020 shows that currency in circulation has more than doubled from N1.46 trillion in December 2015 to N3.23 trillion as of September 2022.

This humongous amount is apparently in the hands of the public and it is a source of concern to the Bank. Expectedly, the CBN issuance of new currency will rein in excess liquidity and stash of cash gotten through corrupt practices. This decision would ensure that the Naira in circulation outside the banking sector is brought into the banking system. Consequently, the Deposit Money Banks (DMBs) would be provided with enough liquidity to lend. This might also have a resounding effect on reducing the speculative assaults on the Naira.

The worrisome increase in counterfeiting of the higher denominations of N500 and N1,000 banknotes is part of what the CBN decision is intended to curtail. The Bank has reinstated its commitment to ensure a strong and effective legal tender. With the introduction of new currency and mopping up of the excess cash in circulation, there are indications the exercise would further deepen the push to engrain cashless economy and allow more Nigerians to transact on digital platform. This would be greatly complemented by the increased minting of eNaira.

It is also believed that the issuance of new banknotes would help stem the tide of terrorism and kidnapping. The CBN is persuaded that the

introduction of the new currency would minimize access to large volume of money outside the banking system paid as ransom.

There are concerns of how the exercise may impact on the average Nigerian. Inference is drawn from a similar exercise in the past where Nigerians experienced difficulties exchanging the old naira notes for the new currency. While this concern is germane, it would be safe to reassure Nigerians that the introduction of the new banknotes from the middle of December 2022 would be seamless and hassle free. The optimism is reinforced by the improved level of education of the citizens and the sophistication of the Nigerian banking industry. The high educational standard of most Nigerians, sophistication of the banking system and improved infrastructure are engendered environment for the success of the circulation of the new notes.

The CBN Governor himself allayed these fears and misgivings by emphasizing that the Bank would continue to fine tune the process to accommodate concerns and issues in the interest of the public.

In a seven-week period from December 15, 2022, to January 31, 2023, the CBN's plan to phase out old banknotes and circulate new notes would have been concluded. The Nigerian economic landscape would be brimming with new banknotes. The attendant negative perception of the CBN and the country associated with dirty and mutilated notes would have been addressed. It now behooves on the Citizens to refrain from abusing the naira note and ensure its cleanliness. Hopefully, the CBN issuance of the banknotes would remove any negative factors that impinge the optimal performance of the Naira and ensure the integrity of both the CBN and the country. ■

CBN Targets 100% Cashless Economy with eNaira ... records 700,000 transactions worth N8bn in first year

By: Kenechukwu Afolabi

The Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mr. Godwin Emefiele has stated that decisive steps would be taken to achieve a goal of 100 per cent cashless economy in Nigeria.

Mr. Emefiele said this in a speech at the first anniversary of the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), the eNaira. He stated that the destination is to achieve a 100 per cent cashless economy in

Nigeria. The eNaira anniversary event, with the theme "Leveraging Innovation for Inclusive Growth and Development: The eNaira Advantage" was held on October 25, 2022 at the Eko Hotel, Victoria Island, Lagos.

According to the Governor, Nigeria must move from being a predominantly cash economy to a predominantly cashless economy and the Bank

#eNaira365days

Leveraging Innovation for Inclusive Growth and Development: **The eNaira Advantage.**



would, in the coming weeks and months, make pronouncements and take steps that would make cashless transactions go nationwide.

He said that Nigerians should expect additional functionalities in the eNaira in the coming months, including onboarding of revenue collection agencies, to increase and simplify collections. Furthermore, in a bid to lift millions of citizens out of poverty by 2025, the Governor said the Bank would collaborate with the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs through the creation of sector-specific tokens to support the Federal Government's social intervention programmes to distribute targeted welfare schemes.

Speaking on the milestone achieved so far, Mr. Emefiele revealed that the eNaira, which has offered Nigerians endless possibilities in using financial services is living up to the chosen slogan, Same Naira, More Possibilities. He added that in its first year in operation, the eNaira has recorded over 700,000 transactions, amounting to about N8 billion.

Mr Emefiele disclosed that about 1.0 million customers have been onboarded, over 2.5 million daily visits to the eNaira website as well as over 3,305 merchants successfully registered on the eNaira platform across the country including Shoprite, Sahad stores, A.A. Rano fuelling stations, Fraser suites, November Cubes, among others.,

Other milestones achieved since the launch of the eNaira include the fact that 33 banks have fully integrated it on their platform, N3 billion has been

successfully minted by the Bank, and N2.1 billion has been issued to financial institutions.

In a bid to drive further adoption, Mr. Emefiele noted that the eNaira, which started its journey five years ago would continue to be finetuned, refined and upgraded. He added that the team would continue to work fastidiously to enhance the features, improved user experience to the eNaira and the coverage of collaboration would be enlarged.

Earlier in his opening remarks at the anniversary, the Deputy Governor, Economic Policy, Dr. Kingsley Obiora said the introduction of the eNaira and improvements in the digital payments system have brought a lot of benefits into the economy. Among these is reduced cost of currency management, with the printing of physical currency declining by about two per cent per annum since 2016. He said the introduction of the Nigeria's Central Bank Digital Currency has attracted interest from other climes including study visits and knowledge sharing sessions by various countries and central banks around the world.

In her presentation, the Director, Information Technology Department, Mrs. Rakiya Mohammed detailed the Bank's efforts from the birth of the eNaira to the first anniversary, noting that the CBDC has gone through a lot of research, culminating to the present level of its adoption.

The anniversary featured two panel discussions on "Effective Collaboration for National Development (Infrastructure, Interoperability & Regulation) and eNaira Adoption for Economic Growth". It also

featured award presentations to different categories of eNaira operators and merchants, as well as a drama session on eNaira adoption.

Among other dignitaries at the event were the Bank's Deputy Governors: Mrs. Aishah Ahmad (Financial System Stability), Mr. Edward Adamu (Corporate Services), Mr. Folashodun Shonubi (Operations), and Dr. Kingsley Obiora (Economic Policy). Also present were the Director General of

the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), Mr. Lamido Yuguda, and the Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu who was represented by the State Commissioner of Finance, Dr. Rabiun Olowo.

Others present were CBN Directors, CEOs of Deposit Money Banks (DMBs), captains of industry, players in the Nigerian payments system, and CBN executives.

Naira Redesign Facts and Figures

Reasons behind the Currency Redesign

Compiled by: Adaugo C. John-Nwosu

1 Significant hoarding of banknotes

Over 80% of Currency in Circulation (CIC) are outside the banking system.



Out of N3.23 trillion CIC, N2.7 trillion is outside the commercial banks (held by the public).

2 Worsening shortage of clean and fit banknotes in circulation.



3 Increasing ease and risk of counterfeiting.



Reasons behind the Currency Redesign

4 Redesign of the currencies are long overdue.



N200 notes have been in circulation for over 20 years

N500 notes have been in circulation for over 19 years

N1000 notes have been in circulation for over 15 years

N/B: Global best practice suggests banknotes should be redesigned every 5-8 years to combat counterfeiting.


5 High cost of cash management

Continuous rise in cost of Production, Storage, Distribution, Processing & Disposal of bank notes.



Facts to Note about the Currency Redesign

1 Currency Notes to be Redesigned: N200, N500 and N1000 ONLY



2 Important Dates

i. Launch of Redesigned Notes: *15th December 2022*

ii. Deadline for old notes to cease to be legal tender currency: *31 January 2023*

3 The need to mop up excess money outside the vault of banks into the banking system.

N2.7 trillion Currency outside the vault of commercial banks (held by the public) out of ...

N3.23 trillion (over 80%) Currency in Circulation

Less than 10% of Currency held by the public are in lower denomination Notes as against ...

Over 80% of Currency held by the public that are in higher denomination Notes.

Facts to Note about the Redesign of the Currency



- The General Public is advised to deposit their cash holdings in N200, N500 and N1000 denominations at their commercial banks before the deadline of 31st January 2023. There is no limit on amount of deposit into an existing or new account.**
- All commercial banks will be open to receive deposits from Monday to Saturday till the stipulated deadline, 31st January 2023.**
- It is not a swap of old currencies for new currencies. We advocate the use of other electronic banking channels for economic activities.**
- Bank charges on cash deposits of N200, N500 and N1000 denominations is suspended till the deadline of 31st January 2023.**
- The Public should change their denomination in the media.**
 - 1. No new denominations will be introduced other than values of 200, 500 and 1000.
 - 2. The public are hereby advised to avoid ...

Benefits of the Currency Redesign



- 1. Reduced cost of cash management**
- 2. Enhanced adoption of digital/electronic banking channels**
 - i. Enhanced financial inclusion
 - ii. Reduced cost of financial services
- 3. Reduced volume of cash in circulation**
 - i. Disruption of black and grey economy activities (money laundering, billwashing for criminals, etc.)
 - ii. Improved visibility and control of the money supply
- 4. Disrupt counterfeit activities**
 - i. Enhanced resilience of the financial system
 - ii. Enhanced confidence in the Naira

CBN Sensitises Tricycle Riders, Yam Sellers on eNaira

By: Kenechukwu Afolabi



The representative of the Director, Information Technology Department, Dr. Khalif Nuhu fielding questions from journalists on the eNaira.

As part of efforts aimed at driving further adoption of eNaira through public engagement, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), in collaboration with Bizi Mobile Cashless Consult, sensitised tricycle riders, also known as Keke Napep riders and Yam sellers, as well as other traders on how to onboard the eNaira platform.

The onboarding exercises were held at the popular Oshodi market and Yan Doya Market at Mile 12 on Friday, October 21 and Saturday, October 22, 2022 respectively.

In her speech during the sensitization exercise at

Oshodi market, the Director, Information Technology Department (ITD) and Coordinator Technical Working Committee, eNaira Secretariat, Mrs. Rakiya Mohammed, stated that the eNaira was not a very technical application in terms of how it could be accessed. She noted that the eNaira could be accessed through multiple channels.

According to the Director, who was represented by Dr. Khalif Nuhu from Information Technology Department, "You can access eNaira through multiple channels. You can access it using an Android phone or a smartphone if you are good with that and if you are not good with that type of technology or you don't have that type of phone, you can also access it using USSD, which is *997#".

Speaking further, Mrs. Mohammed added that "to also make it easier, we are engaging agents here today to assist those who have come onboard the application. As you can see, we have different agents, which will onboard you and will guide you step-by-step on how to use eNaira."

Also speaking at the awareness exercise, the representative of the Keke Napep riders, Mr. Yusuf Muhammed, urged Nigerians to accept the CBN digital currency as it was free and a very simple platform to use for passengers, customers and buyers.

"During my registration process, I did not encounter any problem. I used my bank account to send money to my wallet and it was successful without any error. I am also planning to onboard my customers that I will be carrying along because, when you have more customers open the application, the more they will understand fully how simple, reliable, easy and fast it is to use," he said.

He urged his colleagues and Nigerians to onboard

eNaira: CBN Targets 7,740 Agents Nationwide

By: Chioma Udeogu

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) under its Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) is targeting to establish at least 10 agents' offices in each of the 774 local government areas in the country, totaling 7,740.

This was made known by Mrs. Rakiya Mohammed,

the eNaira, noting that with the eNaira, "we will experience a digital transaction with customers and it is very simple and free".

Mr. Muhammed also implore the Bank to carry out regular eNaira awareness to achieve massive adoption.

The eNaira sensitization team also stormed the Yan Doya Market at Mile 12, Lagos, where yam sellers as well as other traders were onboarded on the eNaira.

During the sensitisation exercise, massive eNaira onboarding was experienced, as many traders dealing in different commodities were encouraged to open the eNaira wallet as the easiest way to buy goods and carry out other services.

eNaira is a CBN digital currency issued and regulated by the bank. eNaira is denominated in Naira. It serves as both a medium of exchange and a store of value, and it offers better payment prospects in retail transactions when compared to cash.



The representative of Keke Napep Riders, Mr. Yusuf Muhammed speaking on the benefits of the eNaira

Director, Information Technology Department (ITD), at an awareness campaign that was organised for the association of tricycle drivers in Abuja.

She noted that the Bank was at the park to promote eNaira awareness campaign by intimating commercial drivers of the idea, aim, benefits and

use of the eNaira application for everyday transaction.

Mrs. Mohammed who was represented by Mr. Khalipha Nuhu, spoke on the many advantages of digital currency, especially in currency security and convenience, adding that users do not need an Internet-enabled phone to transact businesses on the platform.

Speaking further, he confirmed that the eNaira application had many unique functions as it allowed users to operate using any of the three major Nigerian languages. And, that users can pay exact amount needed in transactions.

The Consultant to CBN on eNaira grassroots drive, Dr. Aminu Bizi, also spoke, stating that other states like Lagos are major drivers of the awareness to ensure deeper penetration of the digital currency.



DG Ahmad Advocates Quality, Inclusive Education

By: Ogochukwu Ikeagwuonu



*The Deputy Governor, Financial System Stability Directorate (CBN),
Mrs. Aishah Ahmad*

The Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mrs. Aishah Ahmad has called for an inclusive, qualitative and equitable education for Nigerian children devoid of religion, gender and social biases.

Mrs. Ahmad was speaking at the first Global Reunion and Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the

Federal Government Girls' College, Bida Old Girls Association, on Saturday, October 15, 2022 in Abuja. The reunion was also to commemorate the 48th Founder's Day of the FGGC, Bida.

DG Ahmad harped on quality and inclusive education as a precursor to economic growth and development of any nation, and submitted that, the nation is far from this ideal." She expressed displeasure over the report of UNICEF that one in every five children in Nigeria was excluded from education. She noted that "the COVID-19 pandemic also worsened the disparities in education, causing more than 1.6 billion children and youth out-of-school in 161 countries."

She decried that the consequences of poor education had a ripple effect on youths' employability, hence quality education must be taken seriously by stakeholders. She, however, commended the alumni association for its role in improving the school and general education standards.

Mrs. Ahmad reiterated the challenges of poor funding and gender gap in the education sector. She noted that "it's not just about educational access, it's also about ensuring that children go to school and are proficient in the skills they need to survive and compete in the 21st century global digital

knowledge economy.”

She also called for the need to invest more in teachers by providing them with the necessary tools and adequate remuneration for a better service delivery.

In her closing remarks, Mrs. Ahmad advocated for

more infrastructure for schools, policy reforms and public-private partnerships to advance the course of education in the country. She also underscored the need for a global technological curriculum to drive knowledge and skills for educational empowerment as well as the sustenance of the various initiatives for an enhanced development. ■

CBN Releases Draft Guideline for Contactless Payments

By: Ruqayyah Mohammed

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) in its continued effort to ensure the safety and stability of the Nigerian financial system and standardize operations in the payments system, has developed a draft guideline for contactless payments in Nigeria.

In a circular released on the October 17 2022, signed by the Director, Payments System Management Department (CBN), the Bank called on deposit money banks, other financial institutions, payments service provider and the general public for comments not later than November 5, 2022.

Contactless payment involves the consummation of financial transactions using an alternate payments method without physical contact between the payer and the acquiring devices. It is therefore considered an innovative payment option for safe and efficient conduct of low-value large-volume payments.

The draft guideline was developed to ensure that participants in contactless payments implement appropriate risk management processes and measures as well as keep to best relevant standards. The stakeholders who are participants in the operations of contactless payments include Acquirers, Issuers, Payment Schemes, Card Schemes, Switching Companies, Payments Terminal Service Providers (PTSPs), Payments Terminal Services Aggregator (PTSA), Merchants, Terminal Owners, and Customers. As stated in the draft guideline, there are minimum standards and requirements for the operations of contactless payments as well as the roles and responsibilities of all industry stakeholders.

The contactless technology in payments provide easy, convenient, and efficient cashless options for users. Some contactless payments instruments include pre-paid, debit and credit cards, stickers, fobs, wearable devices, tokens, and mobile electronic devices. ■



Global Tit Bits

IMF Defends CBN's Position on Interest Rates

By: Mohammed Haruna



www.leadership.ng

International Monetary Fund (IMF) Research Department Director, Mr. Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas, speaking on the sidelines of the recent IMF/World Bank Annual Meetings, has stated that the position of the Fund is that central banks should maintain their policy of conservative monetary policy.

In recent times, central banks around the globe including the CBN, have raised benchmark interest rates to reign in rising inflation occasioned by the slow nature of economic growth post the Covid-19 pandemic in addition to the continuing Russia-Ukraine war that has brought several impediments to global economic activities.

It can be recalled that the CBN Governor, Mr. Godwin Emefiele had declared at the last Monetary Policy Meeting in September that rates have been raised to 15.5 per cent from its previous 14 per cent.

The Governor had acknowledged that the higher rates may cause a sluggish rate of growth but explained that it was a necessary measure to safeguard price stability.

The IMF has endorsed that higher interest rates will subsist as the world continues to deal with slow recovery and growth.

IMF Recommends More Savings from Oil Money

By: Pearl Ogbonna



www.sunnewsonline.com

At the recently held International Monetary Fund/World Bank Annual Meetings in Washington DC, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) called for more savings from crude oil revenue to improve Nigeria's budget deficit and funding.

Speaking at the Fiscal Monitor briefing, the IMF Divisional Chief, Fiscal Affairs Department, Mr. Paulo Medas, noted that Nigeria had benefited from higher oil revenues. However, the fund had not

seen an improvement in the deficits as expected because of the large energy subsidies, oil production and pressures on the budget.

It was also observed that Nigeria had low tax revenues which really undermined the capacity of the government to mark these types of shocks and to provide key services.

He therefore recommended the saving of some of the oil revenues to address the above-mentioned emergency needs. "In the case of Nigeria, where the priority is domestic revenue mobilisation, you need to increase the state capacity to address the needs of the country. And this will also help make fiscal policy work consistently in efforts to ensure economic stability," he continued.

Mr. Medas further urged countries that export oil like Nigeria to take advantage of rising commodity revenues to address some of these needs and to reduce debt.

PHOTO SPLASH AT THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE eNAIRA HELD IN LAGOS



The Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria, Mr. Godwin Emefiele delivering a speech at the first anniversary of the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), the eNaira



The Deputy Governor of Economic Policy addressing the guests at the first anniversary of the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), the eNaira



The Director, Information Technology Department, Hajiya Rakiya Mohammed making presentation at the first anniversary of the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), the eNaira



L-R: Rabiul Olowo, Lagos State Commissioner of Finance; Godwin Emefiele, Governor, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN); Akeem Lawal, Divisional CEO, Interswitch; Ebenezer Onyeagwu, GMD/CEO, Zenith Bank Plc; Yemisi Edun, CEO, FCMB; Miriam Olusanya, Managing Director, Guaranty Trust Bank Ltd; and Irete Samuel-Ogbu, CEO, Citi Bank at the first Anniversary of the Central Bank Digital Currency, eNaira in Lagos



The Deputy Governor, FSS Directorate of the CBN, Mrs Aishah Ahmad with panel discussants at the first anniversary of the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), the eNaira



Cross session of participants at the first anniversary of the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), the eNaira



The Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria, Mr. Godwin Emefiele presenting Most Active Partner Agent Award to the Managing Director, Bizi Mobile Cashless Consultant Ltd, Dr. Aminu Bizi at the first anniversary of the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), the eNaira



The Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria, Mr. Godwin Emefiele presenting 'Top Performer Award' to the Managing Director of Zenith Bank, Mr. Ebenezar Onyeagwu at the first anniversary of the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), the eNaira



The Deputy Governor, Corporate Services Directorate, Mr. Edward Adamu Lametek with panel discussants at the first anniversary of the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), the eNaira

Emefiele Bags Euroknowledge Award for Digital Transformation

... Woos Foreign Investors

By: Olalekan Ajayi



The CBN Governor, Mr. Godwin Emefiele receiving Euroknowledge Award for Digital Transformation in Washington, DC, USA.

The Governor, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mr. Godwin Emefiele has been conferred with the Euroknowledge Africa Most Innovative Digital Transformation Governor of the Year Award for 2022 by the Foreign Investment Network (FIN).

Presenting the award to Mr. Emefiele at a ceremony held at the Willard Intercontinental

Hotel, Washington DC, on Thursday, October 13, 2022, on the sidelines of the Annual Meetings of the IMF/World Bank Group holding in Washington DC, the Advisor, Euroknowledge, Mr. Andreas Deutschmann, commended the CBN Governor for leading innovation among central banks on the continent.

In his brief acceptance remarks, Mr. Emefiele thanked the Euroknowledge and the Foreign Investment Network (FIN) for finding the CBN worthy of the award and dedicated the award to the Management and staff of the Bank for their creative ideas, which had seen the CBN emerge as a pace-setter in payments system with the pioneering efforts in Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC). He also thanked Nigerians for their support to the CBN.

“This award is not just for me, it is meant for all of us who have worked hard in the last eight and half years to keep Nigeria strong. To keep the Nigerian economy strong and going,” he said.

Highlighting the investment potential on the continent, Mr. Emefiele invited foreign investors to consider Nigeria and other countries in Africa as their choice investment destination, noting that business confidence in the continent was on the rise.

Specifically, he listed countries that investors should consider to include: Nigeria; Angola; South Africa; and Egypt.

“Today, we talk about the frontier market and what I keep telling people is that as you continue thinking about growth opportunities in the world and you are looking at Africa, naturally you will

have to think about some of the big economies in Africa.

“Nigeria, Angola, South Africa and Egypt are economies that you would need to think about. And I dare say these economies hold a lot of strong opportunities with opportunities for high yields and profitable projects and I can only seize this opportunity to encourage our friends in the foreign investment community to continue to take a look at Africa. Africa years for growth and development.

“We cannot do this alone; we will continue to need the support of the rest of the world. But I can assure all of us that as you do this, the opportunities are there and you will not regret taking the opportunities.

“The opportunities are there. I can only continue to say let's give the support to Africa let's give the support to Nigeria. We should all continue to work together for the growth, not just for our individual countries but for Africa as a whole,” the CBN governor added.

While admitting that there had been challenges, Mr. Emefiele said the Bank, under his leadership was encouraged to do more to boost the Nigerian economy. ■

CBN Releases Guidelines for Representatives of Foreign Banks

By: Pearl Ogbonna

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) stated it has issued an exposure draft guideline to provide guidance to stakeholders, particularly foreign banks, seeking to operate in Nigeria.

This was contained in a circular issued on October 12, 2022 and signed by the Director, Financial Policy and Regulation Department (FPRD), Mr. Chibuzor Efobi.

The Guidelines stated that it shall apply to a bank licensed under any foreign law, whose registered head office is outside Nigeria. It also stated that it shall apply to any financial institution licensed under foreign law, whose primary business includes the receipt of deposits, granting of loans and/or provision of current and savings account. Additionally, it shall apply to any foreign-owned operating bank/financial holding company that is

foreign-based, that owns controlling interest in one or more banks or institutions whose primary business includes the receipt of deposits, granting of loans and/or provision of current and savings account.

The Circular stated that permissible activities for the approved representative offices include, amongst others: marketing the products and services of its foreign parent or an affiliate of the foreign payment licensed and domiciled outside Nigeria; carrying out research activities in Nigeria on behalf of the foreign parent; connecting banks and other financial institutions to its foreign parent; connecting exporters in Nigeria with potential customers in jurisdictions where the parent company operates; and assisting Nigerian exporters with finding new markets through its international offices.

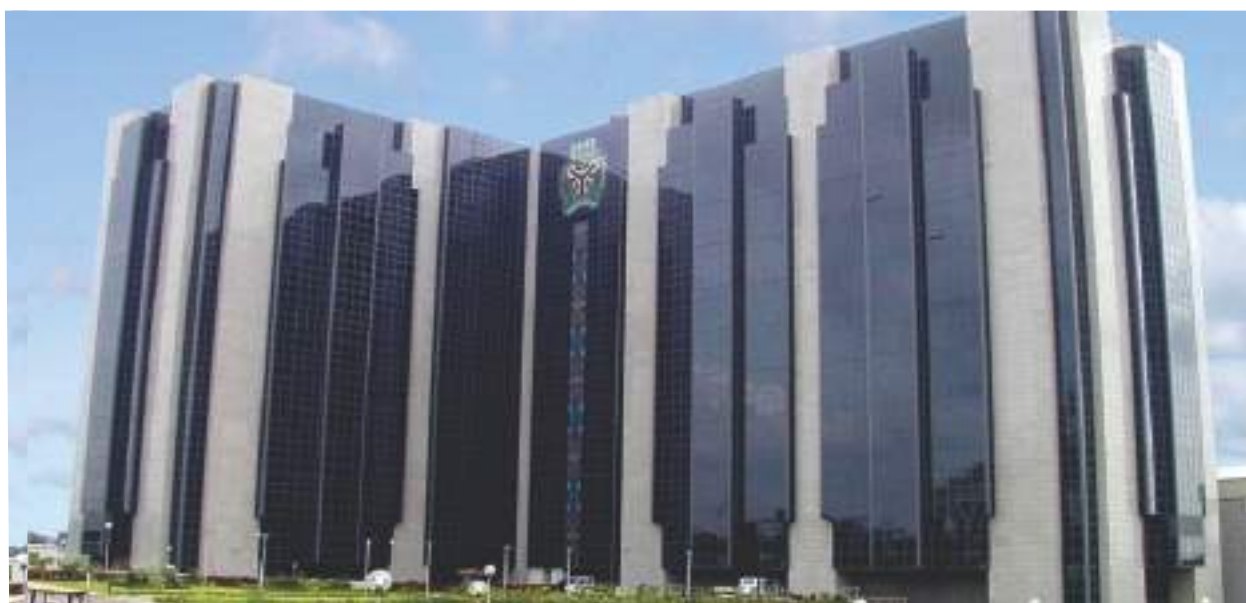
The draft guidelines also highlight non-permissible activities to include: provision of services designated in Nigeria as banking business; provision of any commercial or trading activity that

may lead to the issuance of invoices for services rendered; acceptance of orders on behalf of the foreign parent; and engaging directly in any financial transaction, save for those transactions that are related to the permissible activities.

All the requirements of a Representative Office are underscored which include: Licensing requirements for Approval-in-Principle (AIP) as well as Final Approval; Post-Commencement Requirements; Financial Requirements; Reporting Requirements; and Operational Requirements.

The CBN emphasizes its powers to supervise the Representative Office through periodic and risk-based examinations and ensure compliance with the banking laws and any guidelines or instructions issued by the Bank.

The guidelines can be accessed on the Bank's website, www.cbn.gov.ng. Comments and observations on the guidelines can also be forwarded via email to the Director, FPRD at fprd_cedg@cbn.gov.ng.



Central Bank of Nigeria, Headquarters

Poultry Production to Improve IGR - Experts

By: Daba Olowodun

Experts in the poultry industry have agreed with the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) that poultry production can improve Nigeria's economy and enhance the nation's Internally Generated Revenue (IGR).

Speaking at a seminar organised for farmers in Abeokuta, Ogun State, on Wednesday, October 19, 2022, the Chief Executive Officer of Vanguard Pharmacy, Mr. Odukoya Taofik expressed optimism that the current narrative of unemployment in the

country can be changed drastically if the massive opportunities that abound across the poultry value chain are properly harnessed.

Mr. Odukoya stressed the need for both the government and private sector to support the poultry industry through trainings and investment in order to profit maximally from the industry.

He said, "poultry production in Nigeria today is an area that needs massive support not just from the government, but also from private sector and if we can take our poultry production from what it is today by eliminating some challenges facing the sector, improvement on the part of farmers and production of enough eggs for consumption, can also create massive employment."

Recall that poultry had been of great importance to the CBN for which the Bank had provided over N13

billion through various intervention programmes such as Agri-Business/Small and Medium Enterprises Investment Scheme (AGSMEIS) Out-growers Model; Autonomous Poultry AGSMEIS; Targeted Credit Facility (TCF); Tertiary Institutions Poultry Revival Scheme (TIPRES); and Commercial Agriculture Credit Scheme/Real Sector Support Facility – Differentiated Cash Reserves Requirement Model.

As a result of the Bank's interventions in the sector, thousands of jobs had been created and an increased poultry population by over 6 million layers and broilers. With continued collaboration between the CBN, the fiscal authorities and the private sector, the expected gains of sustainable domestic supply of eggs and poultry meat across the country will result in increased job creation and elimination of the importation of poultry products. ■



www.businesslive.ng

CBN, AMCON Conclude SPA on Polaris Bank

By: Daba Olowodun

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and the Asset Management Company of Nigeria (AMCON), have announced the completion of a Share Purchase Agreement (SPA) with a new core investor in Polaris Bank

In a statement signed by the CBN's Director, Corporate Communications Department, Mr. Osita Nwanisobi, the Bank confirmed the acquisition of 100% equity on Polaris Bank by Strategic Capital Investment Limited (SCIL).

The statement further clarified that Polaris Bank had been operating as a bridge bank since 2018,

assuming the assets and certain liabilities of the defunct Skye Bank Plc. The CBN through AMCON had injected consideration bonds with a face value of N898 billion (N1.305 trillion future value) into the bridge bank to be repaid over a 25-year period.

According to Mr. Nwanisobi, "these actions were taken to prevent the imminent collapse of the bank, enable its stabilisation and recovery, protect depositors' fund, prevent job losses and preserve systemic financial stability."

The SPA was therefore concluded upon an upfront payment of 50 billion to acquire 100% of the equity

of Polaris Bank and an acceptance of the terms of agreement which included the full repayment of the sum of 1.305 trillion, being the consideration bonds injected.

The CBN had by this sale, received an immediate return for the value it had created in Polaris Bank during the stabilisation period, as well as ensured that all funds originally provided to support the intervention were recovered.

Strategic Capital Investment Limited (SCIL) emerged the preferred bidder amidst 25 pre-

qualified interested companies who underwent a rigorous evaluation process coordinated by a Divestment Committee.

The Divestment Committee comprised of representatives from the CBN and AMCON, advised by legal and financial consultants.

Commenting on the transaction Mr. Godwin I. Emefiele, Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria said: "This sale marks the completion of a landmark intervention in a strategic institution in the Nigerian banking sector by the CBN and AMCON."

CBN Makes Case for SMEs

By: Titilayo Oluwasina



The Deputy Director, Corporate Communications Department, CBN, Mr. Samuel Okogbue addressing participants at the Fair.

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has reiterated its call to stakeholders to restore the Nigerian economy to the path of greatness through the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

The Director, Corporate Communications Department, Mr. Osita Nwanisobi, made the call on Thursday, October 6, 2022, at the "CBN Special Day" during the 17th Abuja International Trade Fair with the theme: Creating an Export Ready Market through SME Digitalization.

Mr. Nwanisobi, who was represented by a Deputy Director in the Corporate Communications Department, Mr. Samuel Okogbue, said the theme of this year's fair aligned with the Bank's push for diversification of Nigeria's productive base, with particular focus on boosting the export of non-oil commodities.

Speaking on the efforts of the Bank towards creating a sustainable export market, particularly for non-oil commodities driven by SMEs, Mr. Nwanisobi said the Bank, in collaboration with the Bankers' Committee in February 2022, initiated the Race to \$200 Foreign Exchange Programme otherwise known as RT200 FX Programme aimed at boosting earnings of stable and sustainable inflows of foreign exchange as well as insulating the Nigerian economy from shocks and other challenges arising from foreign exchange shortages.

He restated the Bank's continued support to the creation of an export-ready market, highlighting the various interventions of the Bank in the SMEs, healthcare, and manufacturing sectors, aimed at Nigeria's economic growth and development.

He therefore called on Nigerians to contribute their quota to the development of a thriving SMEs sector, being the engine for economic growth, by supporting the production of commodities fit for export, thereby growing the economy, creating jobs, and conserving the country's foreign exchange.

Speaking on the eNaira, he said it was designed as an efficient payment instrument, to support the delivery of targeted government's social investment scheme, promote regional trade and international remittances thereby enhancing foreign exchange stability. He therefore urged

Nigerians to onboard and transact in the eNaira, just as he enjoined them to respect the physical naira.

In his remarks at the event, the President of the Abuja Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI), Dr. Al-Mujtaba Abubakar, commended the CBN for its initiatives which he said had been of great benefit to the SMEs sector, providing developmental financing tools to assist businesses.

Dr. Abubakar, who was represented by the Vice President Finance, Alh. Usman Balarabe, noted that the CBN had played a critical role in the sustenance of the Nigerian economy, in a time he referred to as a "national economic emergency".

He assured that the relationship between the Bank and the Abuja Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI), which had stood the test of time, would continue to wax stronger.

Highpoints of the CBN Special Day were a tour of the CBN pavilion, during which the Director, Corporate Communications fielded questions from members of the public, and a session of testimonials from Adebayo Laura of GLD2 Better Resources Limited, and Comfort Anikwe of Bimkaf Palace Nigeria Limited, who were beneficiaries of the CBN intervention schemes.

More Nigerians Going Cashless - NIBSS

By: Blessing Uzoagbado



The Nigeria Inter-Bank Settlement System (NIBSS) has disclosed that the volume of Point of Sales (PoS) transactions has improved by over four per cent, within a period of nine months (January – September), an indication that most Nigerians are going cash-less.

Despite several challenges confronting PoS businesses in Nigeria, transactions on the various terminals scaled to N735.6 billion in September 2022.

According to the data from NIBSS, banking agents across the country had risen to about 1.4 million. NIBSS also revealed that the number of registered PoS Terminals as at October, 2022 was about 2.3 million while that of connected PoS Terminals was

about 1.5 million. The number of active Terminals was a little over 1 million.

Reasons stated by some experts the growth of PoS transactions was bridging the gap created by the shortage of Automated teller machines (ATMs) deployed by banks, as many Nigerians now withdraw through PoS agents.

It is also an enabler for creating employment opportunities for Nigerian youths who were facing a high unemployment rate of 42 per cent.

Reports from the Shared Agent Network Expansion Facilities (SANEF), also confirmed the increase of the banking agents to over 1.4 million. Also, there were a total of 107,774 active merchants.

CBN Celebrates Maiden Customer Service Week

By: Aisha Sadiq-Musa & Louisa Okaria



The Director, Branch Operations Department (CBN), Mrs. Elizabeth Omolara Fasoranti flanked by the CBN executives and other stakeholders during cake cutting at the event.

In a bid to maintain good customer relationship, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) joined the rest of the world to celebrate her maiden edition of the Customer Service Week. The event was held at the CBN, International Training Institute, Maitama, Abuja on Thursday, October 6, 2022 with the theme "Celebrate Service."

Addressing participants at the event, the Director, Branch Operations Department (BOD), Mrs. Elizabeth Omolara Fasoranti, charged staff of the Bank to ensure excellent customer service delivery while imbibing the Bank's mandate and values in its day-to-day interactions with customers and stakeholders.

According to her, the customer service week is celebrated annually around the world to recognise the importance of customer service excellence to

organisations and provides an opportunity for the Bank to highlight its roles as a people-focused central bank. The Director urged all customers and stakeholders, to always ask questions, request further clarifications on the Bank's processes and give constructive feedback on identified processes.

Branch Controller, CBN Abuja Branch, Mr. Onyeka Michael Ogbu, said the Branch epitomises service as its mantra, bearing in mind the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to service delivery, and how organisations adopted the use of technology to meet the expectations of customers.

He added that the CBN was ready to consider elements such as vision, collaboration, commitment, patience in relating with its stakeholders as these elements align with the mandate, vision and mission of the Bank.

Also speaking, the Head Banking, Mr. Williams Kareem, in his brief on the theme of the event "Celebrate Service" shed more light on the core goals of the event, saying it was to celebrate frontline staff; thank customers for their loyalty; remind the CBN team of the need to be customer centric; share customer service success stories; and renew the Bank's dedication to service delivery. Highlights of the event were stakeholder interactive sessions led by the Consumer Protection Department; Banking Services Department; Currency Operations Department; Trade and exchange Department as well as Cash Office, Forex Office, Information and Clients Service Office.

CBN, NCR to Support MSMEs

By: Ogochukwu Ikeagwuonu

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has reiterated its commitment to sustaining growth and development for micro, small and medium sized entrepreneurs (MSMEs) on its borrowing scheme.

A Deputy Director in the Development Finance Department of the CBN, who is also, the Registrar, National Collateral Registry (NCR), Mr. Bulus Musa, made the call during a sensitisation programme

organised by the NCR in collaboration with the Pro-Poor Growth and Promotion of Employment in Nigeria Programme – SEDIN of Deutsche Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) for financial service providers and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), in the Cassava, E-Commerce and ICT value chains at a townhall meeting on Wednesday, October 12, 2022 in Benin, Edo State.

Speaking on the theme; MSMEs Safe Haven: Improving Financing Access to the Nation's Main

Economic Drive, the Registrar represented by an Assistant Director in the CBN, Dr. Xavier-Itam Okon, stated that the scheme was to enable MSMEs have access to finances and reduce the challenges of collateral as a requirement for loans. Also, it was aimed at assisting farmers obtain loans from financial institutions to boost their business, using movable assets as collateral.

He explained that the National Collateral Registry is a noticed-based registry for collaterals. According to him, the Registry is an online centralized database, which allows financial service providers to register security interests in movable assets after accepting such assets as collateral for loans, thereby easing lending to individuals, farmers and MSMEs.

Mr. Musa further informed participants that their movable assets such as farm machineries, jewelry

and cars could be used as collateral to access loans to boost their businesses. He, however, advised that loans were to be repaid and should only be taken when needed.

In his remarks, Mr. Olawale Afolabi, Advisor - Local Economic Development and Access to Finance GIZ - SEDIN stated that SEDIN helps by supporting implementation partners in improving the employment and income situation of MSMEs. He urged participants at the event, especially those from the informal sector to plan for their retirement by saving gradually.

The National Collateral Registry (NCR), created in 2015, is an initiative of the Central Bank of Nigeria with support from International Finance Corporation (IFC) to improve access to finance particularly for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)■

CBN, NDIC Collaboration Stabilising the Banking System - Emefiele

By: Kerma Mshelia



CBN Governor
Mr. Godwin I. Emefiele

The Governor, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mr. Godwin Emefiele has said that the CBN and Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) have been dealing with emerging crisis in Nigerian banking system.

Mr. Emefiele mentioned this while making a presentation on Normality in Turbulent Periods: The Stabilising Role of Deposit Insurers, at a three-day International Association of Deposit Insurers (IADI) Africa Regional Committee (ARC) technical assistance workshop hosted by the NDIC in Abuja.

He noted that CBN and NDIC had collaborated in the 2009 banking crisis, 2004 banking consolidation exercise and their subsequent resolutions among other reference points.

The CBN Governor charged participants to find ways through which policy can be delivered without stifling innovations in the new normal and how stability can be reinforced against the backdrop of the current and emerging national as well as global uncertainties and risks.

In her address, the Minister of Finance, Budget and National Planning Mrs. Zainab Ahmed said that the resilience of the Nigeria's financial system, led by the CBN and NDIC made the economy to stay afloat in the light of recent socio-economic challenges. She noted that the social economic challenges were accentuated by the lingering effects of COVID-19 pandemic, Russian-Ukraine war, global supply disruptions and climate change challenges.

Mrs. Ahmed said that despite the economic challenges, no depositors' fund was lost given the effectiveness of the regulatory bodies, especially

the CBN and the NDIC.

She said NDIC's collaboration with the CBN in the efficient supervision of insured institutions helped to promote sound risk management which reduces likelihood of failure and effective resolution of failing banks, noting that it helped to improve public confidence, protect depositors and promote

the stability of the Nigerian financial system.

At the event, the Managing Director/CEO of the NDIC, Mr. Bello Hassan said they had liquidated 467 insured banks since inception. He also said the Corporation adopted different resolution mechanisms in resolving the failure of distressed deposit-taking financial institutions in the country.

Discount Window Infractions: CBN Issues Circular to Dealers

By: Onyemakonor Ogbe



Central Bank of Nigeria

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has issued a circular on non-adherence to the provisions of the Bank's discount window.

The Bank insisted that it is tightening access to the discount window following infractions by certain categories of its authorised dealers.

This was contained in a circular signed by the Director, Financial Markets Department, Dr. Angela Sere-Ejembi on October 7, 2022 and referenced circulars dated August 1, 2012, and August 8, 2016 on same matter of observed authorised dealers' non-adherence to the provisions.

The circular restated the Bank's position on the use of discount window which includes: the Standing Lending Facility (SLF); the Automated Repo Conversion (AREPO); the Funding for

Liquidity Facility (FfLF); and the Tenored Repurchase Transactions (REPO).

The statement urged all authorised dealers to note that participants with successful bids at the Open Market Operations (OMO) auctions are to refrain from accessing the discount window on the auction date henceforth. It added that failure to comply shall result in the reversal of allotment.

The CBN also stated that it will not permit participants with successful bids at the government securities auctions including the Nigerian Treasury Bills (NTBs), Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) Bonds and Sukuk to access the discount window on the settlement date. The circular indicated that AREPO and conversion of Intraday Liquidity Facility (IDF) to FfLF on the settlement date, as well as running REPO shall attract a penal charge of five per cent (5%) flat on the allotment value.

The CBN further said participants with successful foreign exchange (FX) bids and transactions are not to access the discount window on both auction and transaction settlement dates.

The statement warned authorised dealers that failure to comply shall result in the cancellation of their bids or transactions, saying the circular takes immediate effect.

CBN Disburses over N2trn to 437 Industries

By: Ademola Bakare

In its continued commitment to the growth of the economy, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has released N2.15trn in support of the real sector. The support for 437 projects across the country was from the Bank's Real Sector Support Facility (RSSF) intervention window.

Giving the statistics of its support to the economy, Mr. Samuel Okogbue, representing the Director, Corporate Communications Department at CBN Special Day during the 2022 Abuja International Trade Fair on October 6, 2022, said under the '100 for 100 Policy' on Production and Productivity (PPP) and services sector, it had disbursed up to N108.9bn for 66 projects.

Continuing, the Bank said under the Healthcare Sector Intervention Facility (HSIF), it has a total disbursement of N133.06bn for 134 projects that

comprised 33 pharmaceuticals, 60 hospitals and 41 other services. There was also a N50bn disbursement it made through the Nigeria Export Import Bank (NEXIM).

In the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector, the CBN has supported entrepreneurship development through its Tertiary Institutions Entrepreneurship Scheme (TIES), with a total disbursement under this intervention at N332.43m as of October 2022.

The Bank also stated that through its Intervention Facility for the National Gas Expansion Programme (IFNGEP), cumulatively it has disbursed N50.2bn in support of the adoption of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) as the preferred fuel for transportation, and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) as the preferred cooking fuel.



Central Bank of Nigeria, Headquarters



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eNaira - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is eNaira?

eNaira is a central bank digital currency (CBDC) issued by the Central Bank of Nigeria as a legal tender. It is the digital form of the Naira and will be used just like cash.

What is an eNaira wallet?

The eNaira wallet is a digital storage that holds the eNaira. It is held and managed on a distributed ledger. The eNaira wallet is required to access, hold and use eNaira.

What makes eNaira different from the money in my bank account?

eNaira is the digital form of the cash and is a direct liability on the Central Bank of Nigeria while the customer deposits are direct liabilities on the financial institutions.

In a typical transaction, what is the difference between an online bank transaction and eNaira wallet?

There are intermediaries for the typical online bank transactions, whereas for eNaira transactions, there are no intermediaries.

What are the benefits of eNaira?

The benefits of the eNaira are:

- = Fast, cheap, reliable and available payment channel.
- = Support digital economy.
- = Improved economic activities.
- = Simplified and easy cross border payments and trade.
- = Inclusion of excluded people in the financial system.
- = Improved effectiveness of monetary policies.
- = Ease in tax remittance and collection to support the Country's growth.
- = Ease in targeted social interventions to support Nigerians.

What is the primary role of the CBN with respect to eNaira?

In line with Section 2 of the CBN Act 2007, the CBN is the issuing authority of all forms of Naira. The Central bank will also be responsible for determining the technical, regulatory and operational standards for eNaira.

Will eNaira replace cash?

No, it will circulate alongside cash. The eNaira will

complement cash as a less costly, more efficient, generally accepted, safe, and trusted means of payment.

Is eNaira safe?

eNaira is safe and secured with cryptographic techniques against counterfeiting, cloning, and other forms of attack.

As an eNaira holder, am I assured of data privacy?

Yes. Similar to the privacy enjoyed by current online banking patrons, the eNaira system has been designed to ensure data and user privacy. There are also operational policies and procedures in place to protect users' identity and privacy.

Who can access eNaira?

Similar to cash, any person or business can have access to eNaira as long as they have the requirements for on boarding.

What is the exchange rate between eNaira and physical naira?

The eNaira will have the same value as the physical naira. As such, it will be exchanged one to one.

Why should an individual download and fund the eNaira wallet?

- = 99.9% service availability.
- = Low charges.
- = Nationwide acceptance.
- = No dispensing errors.
- = Advanced data privacy and security.

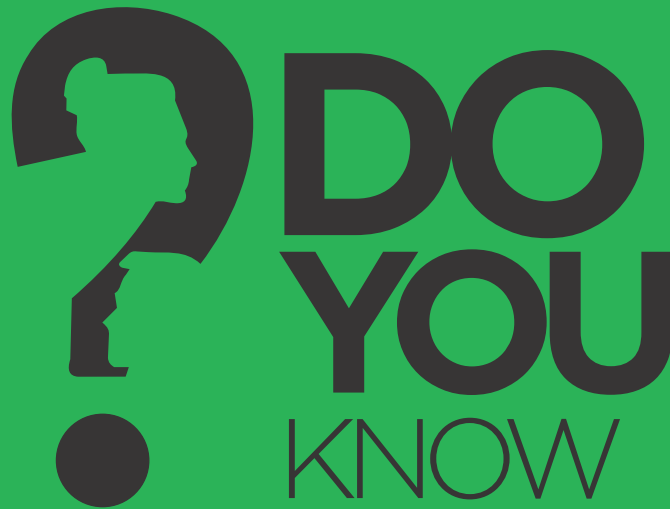
Why should a business/corporate operate the eNaira wallet?

- = Instant settlement
- = 99.9% service availability and reliability
- = Low charges
- = No dispensing errors
- = No reconciliation issues

How do I access eNaira?

Customers will be able to access eNaira via the eNaira wallet in app stores such as Google Play store and the Apple App store. Users can also dial a USSD short code and follow the required steps to perform transactions.

Culled from: <https://www.enaira.com/>



Inflation is a situation where there is a general rise in the prices of goods and services, continuously. Inflation is frequently described as a state where **“too much money is chasing too few goods”**.

Creeping Inflation: This occurs when the rise in price is very slow. A sustained annual rise in prices of less than 3 per cent per annum falls under this category. Such an increase in prices is regarded safe and essential for economic growth.

Walking Inflation: Walking inflation occurs when prices rise moderately.

Running/Rising Inflation: This inflation means you have to pay more for the same goods and services.

Hyperinflation: Hyperinflation occurs when prices rise very fast.

The two fundamental causes of inflation are an **increase in demand or a decrease in supply**. There are numerous economic factors that can move either of these indicators. However, inflation can be a result of a mix of market and policy forces.

The Central Bank fights inflation to ensure price stability. Sometimes inflation is good for the economy because it has a healthy side effect. People tend to spend now rather than later because they know prices will be higher in the future. As such, there will be money in circulation, as hoarded cash will be spent. By this, consumer spending pushes economic growth.

Inflation does not affect everything the same way because inflation raises prices, lowering purchasing power. Assets such as real estate and collectibles usually keep up with inflation. Also, variable interest rates on loans increase during inflation.

