

AFRICA CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (ACE)
CENTRE FOR NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES AND FORENSIC BIOTECHNOLOGY
(ACENTDFB)
AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY,
ZARIA – NIGERIA

2ND EXECUTIVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14TH JANUARY, 2014 AT
CONFERENCE ROOM, CBRT/A.B.U. ZARIA.

	ACTION
1.00. ATTENDANCE	
1.01 Prof. A. J. Nok - Centre Leader/Chairman	
1.02 Dr. H. M. Inuwa - Deputy Centre Leader	
1.03 Prof. J.K.P. Kwaga - Member	
1.04 Prof. I. Ndams - Member	
1.05 Dr. (Mrs) H. Makun - Member	
1.06 Mr. S. K. Yashim - Secretary.	
2.00 APOLOGY	
2.01 Prof. Y. K. E. Ibrahim - Member	
3.00 OPENING	
3.01 The meeting started at 12:25. The Chairman welcomed members to the second meeting of ACENTDFB. Having won the ACENTDFB, he expressed the need to begin an action plan. He disclosed that Africa has 15 centres.	
3.02 He informed the Meeting that a financial expert from the World Bank in the person of Adedamola Oyeneyin would visit Ahmadu Bello University on Friday 17 th January, 2014 to check her account books (financial management records) . The intention was to ascertain her capability in managing the World Bank funds. All members were expected to come; in particular, Mr. Ishaya Nuhu, being the Accountant to ACENTDFB/ABU. According to him, he had already contacted the Accountant on that necessity.	
3.03 The Chairman stressed the need to address the areas of Rabies and Filariasis. ACENTDFB needed to draw out what exactly needed to be done and report in March	
4.00 MATTERS ARISING.	
4.01 The Deputy Chairperson, Dr. Inuwa presented an 11-paged curricular programs on PGD Forensic Biotechnology and M.Sc./Ph.D Biotechnology to be mounted by the ACENTDFB through the Department of Biochemistry, Ahmadu Bello University, zaria. According to her, the programs had the capacity to produce manpower, which have skills in various aspects of biotechnology that would solve relevant societal problems. It was expected that these programs would be on the internet through the A.B.U's website. Also, students were expected to be admitted into these programs for this current 2013/2014 academic session.	
4.02 Admission requirements for PGD Forensic Biotechnology and M.Sc/PhD Biotechnology.	
4.02.1 <u>PGD Forensic Biotechnology</u> : Admission entry qualification requirements - (i) 2 nd class minimum for Nigerian students and (ii) 3 rd class minimum for other African countries like Cameroon, Cote'voire, Togo, etc. This was to accommodate other African countries to take an advantage of these programs.	
4.02.2 <u>M.Sc. Biotechnology</u> . Entry qualification requirement - 2 nd Class PGD in Forensic Biotechnology. 5.02.3 <u>PhD Biotechnology</u> . Entry qualification requirement - M.Sc. Biotechnology.	
4.03 She told the House that on 7 th January, 2014 she wrote to the Postgraduate School, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria through the Dean, Faculty of Science for approval, in order to get the programs mounted by ACENTDFB through the Department of Biochemistry in collaboration with the Centre for Biotechnology Research & Training,	

Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. Members expressed appreciation for her remarkable efforts. The House noted that PGD Forensic Biotechnology and MSc./PhD Biotechnology programs would be presented to the Steering Committee meeting coming up in February 2014.

4.04 The Meeting approved to advertise these programs, not only for Nigerians but across the continent.

4.05 It was observed with concern that Ahmadu Bello University authority was yet to publicize to the notice of Ahmadu Bello University community and the general public the Africa Centre for Neglected Tropical Disease Forensic Biotechnology (ACENTDFB), which A.B.U had won and had taken-off. Other universities in Nigeria that had been given similar centres of excellence had since publicized their centres for the public to know.

4.06 The Chairman informed the Meeting that disbursement of funds by the World Bank would be result driven. Mrs. Adili G. is responsible for checking the quality of research being carried out and international journals being published by the African centres of excellence. However, ACENTDFB was cautioned not to collaborate with institutions that had failed the World Bank in the past.

ACENTDFB is collaborating with: (i) Nigerian Institute of Trypanosomiasis & Onchocerciasis Research (NITR), (ii) Nigerian Medical Research (NMR), (iii) Prof. Sorge Kelm, Bremen University, Germany, etc. These are the Steering Committee, which were expected to meet in February, 2014. The International Advisory Committee Board (IACB) members for the African Centres for excellence included:

(i) Prof. Kita (ii) Prof. Addy Gadi (iii) Prof. Alver and (iv) Top 5 scientists from Australia.

5.00 Urgent Need for a Loan

5.01 In order to begin research activities and to avoid delay, while anticipating the release of funds by the World Bank, ACENTDFB needed an urgent loan of N5 million from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria order to fast-track some activities. Members had earlier been told that the disbursement of funds would be result driven. The House unanimously agreed to obtain a N5 million loan from the university by writing to the Vice Chancellor.

6.00 Adjournment

6.01 In the absence of any other business, Prof. Ndams moved for the adjournment of the meeting, and Dr. (Mrs) Makun seconded.

6.02 The meeting was adjourned at 1.53 p.m.

Prof. A. J. Nok (MFR, FAS, NNOM)
Chairman

S. K. Yashim
Secretary