



Bayero
University
Kano

OFFICIAL Bulletin

Vol. XXXIX No. 22 Friday, 15th May, 2020

WEEKLY

ISSN 0189-9260



BUK's Pro-Chancellor, Prof. Gambari Appointed Buhari's Chief of Staff

By Nura Garba

President Muhammadu Buhari, has appointed Bayero University Kano's Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of 13th Governing Council, Professor Ibrahim Agboola Gambari as the new Chief of Staff.

The Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Mr. Boss Mustapha announced this at the commencement of Weekly Federal Executive Council (FEC) meeting held on Wednesday, 13th May, 2020.

The appointment of Professor Ibrahim Gambari followed the death of former Chief of Staff, Malam Abba Kyari, who died on 17th April, 2020 as a result of corona-virus.

Prof. Gambari was Nigeria's former permanent representative to the United Nations. He was also Minister for External Affairs between 1984 and 1985.

Prof Ibrahim Gambari has had an illustrious career, in academia, government and international diplomacy, culminating with his appointment as the first United

Nations Under-Secretary-General in 1990 and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Africa (1999-2005). In that capacity, he worked closely with heads of government, key policymakers as well as institutions in the continent to develop the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

During this period, he was concurrently the Resident Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Mission to Angola (2002-2003). He has been a delegate to the Assembly of the OAU/African Union as a national delegate (1984-1985) and as a member of the UN Secretary-General's delegation (2000-2012).

Prof Ibrahim Gambari was the Chairman of the United Nations Special Committee Against Apartheid (1990-1994) during which he worked closely with African governments to coordinate UN policy to eradicate apartheid, thereby building trust and confidence with

governments and policymakers in member countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

Ambassador Gambari was Under-Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Department of Political Affairs (2005-2007). In that period, he also operated as UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Cyprus, Zimbabwe and Myanmar.

On 22 May 2007, the Secretary-General entrusted Prof Ibrahim Gambari with the Good Offices Mandate on Myanmar. He was also appointed in 2007 by the Secretary-General as Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Iraq Compact and Other Issues, positions he held until 2009.

He served his country, in various position including Director-General at the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs; Minister of External Affairs (1984 - 1985) and subsequently Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations.

He also served as a delegate at the 2014 National Conference on the restructuring and promotion of national unity in Nigeria. Prof Ibrahim Gambari was a one time Chairman of the UN Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations.

The new Chief of Staff also served as Joint AU/UN Special Representative in Darfur and Head of UNAMID, which was then the largest international peacekeeping operation in the world and the first hybrid Mission. He had in different capacities, worked with four successive United Nations Secretary-General (Perez de Cuella, Boutros-Ghali, Kofi Annan and Ban Ki-moon).

He currently co-chaired the Commission on Global

Security, Justice and Governance at the Hague Institute for Global Justice and the Stimson Centre at Washington D.C.

In January, 2017, he was appointed a member and is currently Deputy Chairperson of the Panel of Eminent Persons of African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), a Specialized Agency of the African Union for the promotion of good governance at the political, economic and corporate levels.

In the same vein, Prof Ibrahim Gambari was appointed in 2016 by Patricia Scotland, QC, and the Commonwealth Secretary-General as the Special Envoy to Zambia on Elections and reappointed in 2017 as the Special Envoy for Democratic Stability and Elections 2020.

In addition, he is a member of the Senior Working Group (SWG) of the United States Institute for Peace (USIP). Also in May 2017, he was honoured with the Global Leadership Award by the University of South Florida, USA.

Speaking with State House correspondents shortly after his appointment at the Presidential Villa, the new Chief of Staff, Prof. Ibrahim Gambari, said his primary assignment and responsibility were to report directly to the president, not to the public.

He commended President Muhammadu Buhari for finding him worthy to serve in the new capacity under his administration. He said, "I thank the President of the Federal Republic for giving me the opportunity to serve the country."

Prof. Gambari disclosed that he would bring to bear his wealth of experience, loyalty, competence and support to serve the country to the best of his ability.

Covid-19: BUK Test Centre Collects Samples from States in Northern Nigeria – Prof Abubakar

By Nura Garba



Inside BUK Test Centre were health



personnel are testing samples

Bayero University's Test Centre for suspected cases of covid-19 is currently processing samples from many states in the north, the Director of the Centre for

Infectious Diseases Research (CIDR), Prof. Isa Abubakar has said. To this end, he said the centre has sent messages to other states in the north-west geo-

political zone and north-east encouraging them to send their samples to the laboratory. This will ease the work of identifying many carriers of the virus in order to contain its spread.

The Director, while giving an update of the recently commissioned laboratory, further said since the commencement of services in the Covid-19 testing laboratory on Saturday 2nd May, 2020, the number of tests conducted in Kano have remarkably improved, saying that the laboratory has been handling all samples sent to it from the northern states.

“An average of 70 samples is being received daily. However, as from Friday 8/5/2020, the laboratory targets to test 180 samples per day. All arrangements have been made to achieve that target,” Prof Abubakar said.

COVID-19: Fund Raising Committee to Distribute lockdown Palliative ...As 139 truckloads of Grains from FG Arrive Kano

By Lamara Garba

The Kano State COVID-19 Fund Raising Committee has been given the mandate to distribute 139 truckloads of grains given to the state by the Federal Government, the Chairman of the Committee, Professor Muhammad Yahuza Bello, has said.

Speaking to journalists on Wednesday, 13th May, 2020 at the Government House, Professor Bello equally disclosed that the state Governor has released N285 million out of the money generated from the fund raising for distribution as palliatives to 300,000 households identified.

Already, he said the Committee had expended N100 million under the phase one of the programme while N170 million is expected to be spent in the subsequent phases of the distribution exercise.

The Chairman, who described the distribution exercise as a huge success, however, attributed it to the commitment and patriotic discharge of mandate by the members of the Committee. He commended the government for the laudable project which he said would go a long way in alleviating the suffering of the people.

He disclosed that the members of the committee have exhibited utmost care and integrity by being up and doing towards ensuring that the commodity reached the targeted persons in the state.

He said it was in appreciation of the transparent conduct of the committee under the phase one of the distribution of state palliatives that made the Governor to further add another responsibility of distributing the 139 truckloads

of grains given to the state by the Federal Government as part of the efforts to cushion the hardship of the lockdown.

He explained that from Kano State, the most recent set of samples sent to are follow-up samples taken from patients on admission at isolation centres, who have shown clinical improvement and are likely going to be discharged should their results turn out negative.

The Director said: “We accord high priority to quality assurance as we continue to provide quality services. We are satisfied with the quality of the output of our machines and the proficiency of our staff and have also concluded arrangement to link the services with research.”

The Director called on well-meaning Nigerians (individuals and organizations) to support the Centre with resources through the office of the Vice Chancellor of Bayero University Kano.

It could be recalled that the Federal Government had allocated 6000 bags of 50kg of rice, 42,600 bags of maize, 17,400 bags of sorghum, 17,400 bags of millet and 2000 jerry cans of 20litre vegetable oil.

In addition, Professor Bello said the state government has saddled his committee with the responsibility of supervising the distribution of Ramadhan feeding

programme of the state government. He assured equity and transparency in the exercise.

Some of the places identified to benefit from the distribution of the palliatives include the correctional centers, remand home and motherless babies home among others.



Kano State Governor, Dr. Abdullahi Ganduje (left) and Professor M. Y. Bello (right)

RUFORUM Global Research Alliance Graduate Research Grants Call for Proposals April 2020

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM; www.ruforum.org) and the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases (GRA; <https://globalresearchalliance.org/>) invite applications from RUFORUM Member Universities for the first Global Research Alliance Graduate Research Grants (GRA-GRG) call. The Global Research Alliance Graduate Research Grants (GRA-GRG) are aimed at building the capability of graduate and post-graduate level students in Africa to conduct applied research on agricultural greenhouse gases.

The GRA-GRG will be offered in line with the RUFORUM Competitive Grants System, with the common goal of supporting the development of capability in RUFORUM member universities to support Africa to respond to the goals established by the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as national and regional priorities of African States. The first round of the GRA-GRG will support participatory action research and training on topics related to the measurement and management of greenhouse gas emissions and removals in pastoral and agro-pastoral ruminant livestock farming systems in Sub-Saharan Africa.

This specific Call seeks to extend university activities to work more closely with rural communities through multi-disciplinary and multi-institutional partnerships involving key stakeholders such as research, extension and development agencies, policy-makers and the private sector. This call will support proposals focusing on any of the following areas:

- i) Animal-scale observations to better characterise feeding systems and practices, to assess animal behaviour and responses to feed variation in terms of quantity and quality.
- ii) Spatio-temporal modelling and mapping of livestock herds' distribution and mobility in relation to inter-annual climatic variability to improve livestock population and distribution data throughout the year.
- iii) Improving national estimates of available fodder, integrating all feed resources available for livestock, including crop residues (e.g. straw and leaves) and agro-food industry by-products (bran, oil cake, molasses, etc.), their spatio-temporal variability, protein and energy requirements of livestock, taking mobility into account.
- iv) Assessing the distributions and temporal dynamics of different types of vegetation communities (e.g. scattered woody perennials and herbaceous annuals) to improve estimates of the carbon balance in different ecosystems.
- v) Monitoring vegetation to assess the impacts of management practices (e.g. avoiding, annually or seasonally, mows, monitoring pastures, over-seeding and organic fertilisation) on production, carbon sequestration, and woody regeneration. Testing management strategies for crop residues and livestock effluents (e.g. harvesting and storage, sale, common pasture, composting, manure conservation, etc.) in order to assess the potential impacts on production and animal feeding, as well as the impact on greenhouse gas emissions and removals.
- vi) Direct measurement of greenhouse gas emissions from soils (CO_2 , CH_4 and N_2O) and ponds to improve understanding of spatial and temporal (intra- and inter-annual) variability of emissions, taking into account spatial heterogeneity by distinguishing the zones of high concentration of faeces on the ground (rest areas, enclosures, parking area, campsite, water points) and the grazing areas (pathways, plots, fields, plantations).
- vii) Soil organic carbon stock measurements to determine soil organic carbon stocks and their spatial variability, under and outside tree canopy, as well as in areas with high concentration of faeces on the ground and in different grazing areas

Eight GRA-GRG projects will be funded under this call, each with a maximum budget of **US\$70,000** for a period of two years.

Potential applicants are invited to review the [detailed guidelines](#), [Application template](#), [CV template](#) and [Budget template](#) for the Call

For more information please email Runyararo Jolyn Rukarwa at r_rukarwa@ruforum.org