# THE MEDIA and COVID-19



# (Weekly Newsletter of the Institute for Media and Society, Nigeria)

#### Issue 16 - Friday, August 28, 2020

#### Stakeholders Canvass Safety of Journalists During COVID-19 Coverage

he safety of Nigerian journalists in the context of COVID-19 coverage dominated discussions at a webinar jointly organized by the National Broadcasting Organisation, NBC and the Institute for Media and Society, IMS on Tuesday, August 25, 2020.

The online workshop, with the theme, *Engaging Journalists' Safety Issues in the COVID-19 Period*, was moderated by Professor Ayobami Ojebode of the department of Communication and Language Arts at the University of Ibadan, Oyo State and facilitated by three professionals, namely, Dr Geogina Odaibo, a Professor of Virology at the College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Oyo State, Mr Edetean Ojo, Executive Director of Media Rights Agenda, MRA, Lagos and Mrs Stella Bature, Deputy Director, Kaduna State Radio/ TV, Kaduna State. Journalists from radio and television stations and their print and online colleagues participated in the webinar.

In his opening remarks and goodwill message, Dr Akin Akingbulu, Executive Director of IMS, who warmly welcomed all participants to the event, noted that his organization has been collaborating with the NBC in the context of the European Union Support to Democratic Governance, EU-SDGN, project in Nigeria, to strengthen the broadcast media in its coverage of electoral process in the country.

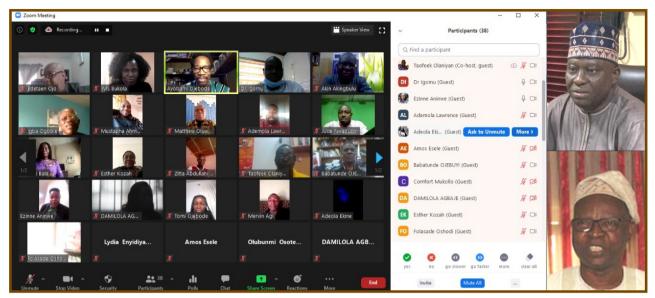
He said; "Regulation is essential in broadcasting in a democracy. In all the workshops we have been doing with the NBC, the Commission has been wonderful, particularly now that we have a new generation of leadership in the place. Today's webinar is one in a series of workshops we have been working on with regard to sensitivity to COVID-19. The packaging emerged from our effort to strengthen the media in its efforts to contribute to development in Nigeria."

According to him; "The duty of the journalists includes proving information and education to the public. For this to be done in a proper manner, the journalists have to be educated, too. As frontline workers on COVID-19, the journalist need fresh information about the virus to be able to inform policy makers and the people; they need to know how to manage the risk posed by the virus to their health and to understand the huddles put in place by interested parties which violates their rights."

He said the carefully assembled panelists for the event would be able to deliver information that would build capacity of participants.

For Professor Armstrong Idachaba, Ag. Director-General of NBC, the webinar was timely.

He said as frontline workers in the coverage of COVID-19, journalists needed to be supported to do their work. "Safety issues are key to the journalists during coverage of COVID-19," he said, adding, "You go to work and interact with all kinds of people and may become infected and come back home to infect your family. Journalists need tools to work. They need insurance coverage so that they can have something to fall back on."



response and asymptomatic infections as well as challenges to prevention and control.

She said that though COVID-19 is related to Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, SARS, the virus is new as "many things are yet to be known, its nature and properties, for us to be able to control it," adding, "we need to be patient and follow what we know to help us deal with transmission, nature, prevention, treatment and control.

According to her; "Through respiration, which infect respiratory tracts and gastrointestinal tract, fomites and contacts with infected persons, the virus can be transmitted. But because of the envelope around it the virus can be destroyed by disinfectant, sanitizers with 70 per cent alcohol, and hypochloride."

She said though everybody was at risk of infection considering that the virus can be airborne for some time, but that the aged and those with underlying infections such as diabetes, heart disease were more at risk, while carriers referred to as asymptomatic, with no apparent symptoms, spread the virus unknowingly.

The symptoms indicated by the virus, she added, include common infections like fever, cough, cold, malaria, pneumonia, while coughing, sneezing by an infected person and surface contact by infected persons, were the commonest means of spread. For prevention, she urged the wearing of facemask, keeping social distancing of about 1 metre (3feet), regular use of sanitizers and hand washing.

Poor adherence to public health prevention method, low testing, poverty of knowledge, poor funding research and need for multi-disciplinary approach to handling the virus were some of the challenges listed by her to affect effective control of the virus in the country. compromised so the risk of coming in contact with infected persons are real. We need to arm ourselves with basic knowledge about the virus, remain alert at all times and decontaminate equipment like microphones after use, wear the right protective gear and facemask and bear in mind that COVID-19 is real."

Dr Yemisi Bangbose, former President of Radio, Television, Theatre Arts Workers Union, RATAWU, in a brief remark at the event related a personal experience to underscore the reality of COVID-19 and the danger posed to the health of journalists. He said that after he monitored some broadcast media, he found that interviewees do not often wear facemask, and keep very close while also talking into the microphones and warned journalists to be assertive with their subjects and obey health protocols.

Mr Ojo of MRA, who delivered the topic, Managing the Challenge of Journalist Rights' Breeches In the Context of COVID-19 Coverage, noted that assault on journalists have increased with the coming of the viral pandemic and laid the blame on the doorstep of security agencies enforcing containment measures put out in place by governments.

"Since the onset of the Corona Virus pandemic there has been noticeable increase in the cases of attacks against journalists and the media in Nigeria, including those covering the pandemic and the measures taken by government to contain its spread. Many of these attacks have been perpetrated by members of the law enforcement agencies and security agencies, ' he said and added that since journalists and the media in the country are empowered by the Constitution to hold government accountable to the people through ethical reportage, it behooves on the government to offer protection for the journalists when their rights are violated in accordance with the extant laws and international regulations and instruments to which it is signatory.

Idachaba who was represented by Dr. Igonu Onoja, a Director at the Commission, said, "these are not normal times and there is need to collaborate and we thank the organisers of this webinar."

Professor Georgina Odaibo during her presentation, titled, *Salient Issues in the Prevention and Control of COVID-19*, dwelt on the salient points regarding Corona Virus such as transmission, nature of the virus, immune In her contribution, titled, *How Can Journalists Deal With Exposure/ Infection Risk in COVID-19 Coverage*, Mrs Bature stated that the mindset of the journalists was key to effectively dealing with the viral pandemic and urged journalists to follow the protocols on Corona Virus, beware of crowded events and high risk areas such as isolation centers.

"As journalists, we do not know whose health is

Why protect Journalists Rights in the Context of COVID-19 Coverage? He asked and answered; "At all times, journalists paly a critical role in society. But the role of the media, including journalists have been repeatedly underscored by experts and human rights bodies because of its importance in the context of the global pandemic."

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:** Journalists' Safety on the Frontlines; Inside Media Business; Policy and Regulation

- Page 1 -

#### **Journalists' Safety On The Frontlines**

# IMS

#### NUJ Directs Members to Boycott Ex Minister Fani Kayode's Akwa Ibom Visit.

he Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ) has directed its members across Nigeria, particularly the Akwa-Ibom State chapter to boycott the former Aviation Minister, Femi Fani Kayode's visit to the state after verbally assaulting a *Daily Trust* reporter, Eyo Charles, who asked him a question at a press conference in Calabar, Cross River State.

Fani-Kayode announced his arrival in Uyo, the Akwa Ibom state capital, on Thursday.

Amos Etuk, the state NUJ chairman, in a statement, said the decision to boycott any activity organised by Fani-Kayode was in line with the stance of the NUJ national leadership.

He said: "In line with the disposition of the national leadership of our great union, the State Council has directed that no journalist should attend a media parley with Femi Fani-Kayode or any of his activity at any location in Akwa Ibom State. The NUJ is not part of the visit."

The former Minister during the week, described Charles Eyo, *Daily Trust* correspondent in Cross Rivers State as "stupid" and poured other invectives on the hapless journalist for asking him a question he felt was rather offensive.

In the video of the encounter, which has gone viral on social media, Fani-Kayode is seen giving the journalist a dressing down for asking him a "stupid question".

The journalist had asked Fani-Kayode who "bankrolled" his recent tour of several states in the country.

However, the former minister, who was infuriated by the question, said the journalist was stupid.

He said, "I am saying this on live TV. What type of stupid question is that? Bankrolling who? Do you know who you are talking to? I will not take any questions from this man. What type of insulting question is that? Which bankroll? To do what? Who can give me money for anything? Who do you think you are talking to? Go and report yourself to your publisher? Please don't insult me here. I don't want to take any questions from this man.

"I could see from your face before you got here, how stupid you are. Don't ever talk to me like that. Who do you think you're talking to? Bankroll who? You think I am one of those ones you... from who, when, how? You have a small mind, a very small mind. Don't judge me by your own standards."

In a swift reaction, the Nigeria Union of Journalists, NUJ, condemned the action of the former minister.

NUJ President, Chris Isiguzo, in a statement noted that the former minister assaulted the journalist and threatened him for daring to ask such a question.

Isiguzo said the question posed to Fani-Kayode was appropriate because the former minister had been touring several states without revealing his true intention.

He said, "By denigrating the journalist, Fani-Kayode, has exposed himself the more as an intolerant person who will not want his activities closely scrutinised by the media.

"It is instructive to remind the likes of Fani-Kayode that it is the constitutional right of Journalists to monitor and keep a check on people and institutions in power. By delving into politics and holding political office, Fani-Kayode is very conversant with the watchdog role of the media."

The NUJ President said it was ironic that Fani-Kayode who was highly critical of the government could take issue with simple questions.

"We are more shocked that the same Fani-Kayode who had in recent times, used his social media handles to call leaders to account is at the same time attacking a Journalist for a simple demand for him to unmask those behind his nationwide tour. He had already visited six states. This is indeed, terribly disappointing," he said.

Two other media NGOs, the International Press Center, IPC and Center for Media, Policy and Accountability had also reacted, calling on Fani-Kayode to show decorum when engaging the media and journalists.

IPC in a statement by Olutoyin Ayoade, Communications Officer, said it "viewed the development as repulsive and unacceptable since there was nothing wrong with Journalist Eyo Charles wanting to know if the tour was an independent initiative or a sponsored one.

"The former Minister had the option of not answering the question and the abuses were totally out of place in the context of the event", the Executive Director of IPC, Mr. Lanre Arogundade was quoted as saying. For CMPA, in a statement signed by Dr Suleiman A. Suleiman, Executive Director and Ibrahim Uba Yusuf, Director of Media Development, the CMPA has no right to assault any Nigerian citizen, let alone a journalist on constitutional duty on behalf of Nigerians.

"This public assault is a clear violation of the constitutional rights of journalists in line of duty. This is unacceptable. Unfortunately, the *Daily Trust* reporter and other journalists present at the press briefing did not stand up for their rights.

"As an organization, we felt it is incumbent to advise journalists and media houses to give a total black out to such characters, who have no respect for journalists and their profession.

"We also urge the Nigerian Union of Journalists to intervene on this matter. Above all, the Centre for Media Policy and Accountability demands a written apology. IPC demanded that the former Minister should apologise to the Journalist and give an assurance of his safety in view of the alleged further threats.

Eyo's employers, *Daily Trust* stood by him. "That Fani-Kayode attacks a reporter doing his job, is an indication of the chilling disregard he has towards the media and its work in investigating and reporting on issues. As always, we stand in solidarity with our reporters...", the management of the newspaper said.

The Minister in a later tweet, apologized for his bad behaviour.

#### Court Discharges Two Calabar- Based Journalists

Magistrate's Court sitting in Calabar and presided over by Chief Magistrate Rita Marshall, on Tuesday, discharged and acquitted two journalists for alleged misconduct in the #RevolutionNow protest of August 5, 2019.

The journalists, Jonathan Ugbal and Jeremiah Archibong, News Editor and Managing Editor of CrossRiverWatch, an online news portal, were charged with conspiracy, unlawful assembly, and conduct likely to cause a breach of public peace after their arrest.

They were arraigned last August, and after a long trial, the defence counsel, Kehole Enya, filed a no-case-to-answer application adopted on July 15, 2020, which the court upheld.



"Well, there are no stupid questions and such questions are in line with good journalism: 'digging the unknown facts'. The Centre said it, "strongly believes that the question is in the public interest and is part of journalists' role in holding power to account, a role enshrined in the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, adding, that, "the former Minister Marshall held that the prosecution had "woefully and helplessly" failed to establish a prima facie case against the defendants to warrant them to enter a defence and subsequently discharged and acquitted the two journalists.

In his reaction to the ruling of the court, Enya said, "Today's ruling is a victory for justice and for our democracy. If our democracy must thrive, then we must fight tyranny till the end. This victory today supports the course of justice."

- Page 2 -

#### COVID-19: FG Plans incentives for Media Industry, Says Lagos NUJ Chairman

or the media, which had been literally begging government for some form of stimulus package following the devastating impact of COVID-19 on their businesses, help may be on the way. The Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), has hinted that the Federal Government has promised to provide incentives for the media industry to cushions the effect of COVID-19.

Chairman of NUJ in Lagos State, Dr Qasim Akinreti, made the disclosure in Lagos, while briefing journalists on the state of the Nigerian media during these turbulent times.

He said that the Minister of Information and Culture, Alh. Lai Mohammed, had promised that the plight of the media industry was already being looked into.

According to Akinreti; "The Nigerian media is gasping for breath and the government will have to do something urgent to assist the print media.

"The Federal Government has agreed to assist the print media industry after concessions have been given to the broadcast media in terms of 60 per cent relief of the debts owed the NBC.

"The minister said that federal government have worked it out; there have been discussions with the Newspaper Proprietors Association of Nigeria (NPAN).

"They are waiting for NPAN to give them the guide so that government can announce the incentives for the print media," the chairman said.

According to him, the media houses have been in serious crisis, which has been compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic. serious crisis, while COVID-19 is also still on, we have very serious challenge on our hands. Unfortunately last week, 200 of our colleagues lost their jobs at the Nation newspapers.

To underscore the seriousness of the situation, he said; "Before now, *The Punch* newspaper was the first to send our members packing to the labour market and *Daily Trust* did the same thing.

"And we know before we have had some challenges with some media organisations such as *DAAR Communications*, *Vanguard* newspapers, *Thisday* and *Champion* newspapers. These are media organisations that have not been paying salaries.

"Now those that are paying salaries and managing to survive decided to also shed the load. So it is a serious challenge," he said.

He explained that the organization was doing its best to halt some media outfit from sending journalists into the labour market at the slightest opportunity; "We are going to engage the management of *The Nation* newspapers to ensure that once the economy picks up, they are going to recall some of our members on forced leave. We are also talking to *Vanguard* newspapers.

"We are appealing to them that if they want to shed the load, they should also give our members their cheques, so that as they are leaving, they can be able to plan their lives," he said.

#### COVID-19 Takes Its Toll On DAAR Communications

#### **Inside Media Business**

The Chairman of the Group, Chief Raymond Dokpesi Jnr., at the Annual General Meeting in Abuja said the 2019 performance was significantly better than that of the previous year.

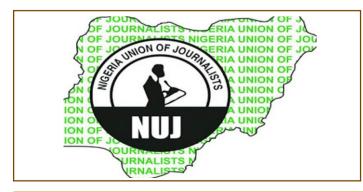
The group's 12th AGM held virtually, in line with the COVID 19 protocols at organization's corporate headquarters at Kpaduma Hills, Asokoro, Abuja.

Chief Dokpesi who however apologized to shareholders for the inability to return the company to profitability as promised them last year, blamed the cause on the impact of the harsh economic condition that attended the Nigerian Economy last year and the impact of the global COVID 19 Pandemic which ravaged the world from the last quarter of 2019 till date with its negative impact on businesses.

He said; "The Company recorded a loss after taxation of N1.37 billion during the year under review, compared to N2.17 billion recorded in 2018, representing a decrease of 36 percent. Gross earnings rose to N5.15 billion in 2019, up from 2018's earnings of N4.63 billion, representing 11 per cent increase.

Appealing to shareholders for understanding, he said "Our most valued shareholder's, I want to reassure you that the Board of your Company will not be deterred by the harsh economic reality in the country. During the year, the Board of your Company reviewed the earlier approved restructuring plan of the Company in line with the current realities in the global broadcast system environment and a new strategy of blueprint was fashioned out of it for

"Before COVID-19, we have been in



or evidence of the harsh business climate inflicted on the media by COVID-19 pandemic, DAAR Communications Plc, owners of African Independent Television, AIT and Ray Power radio, has said though it has reduced its loss in 2019 by 36% compared to 2018, the viral pandemic has negatively impacted its business.

#### implementation.

"The implementation of the strategy which is in progress has been tailored towards repositioning the Company to operate as autonomous business segment taking into consideration the current development in the new media and with new income streams so as to operate and profitably, "Dokpesi further reassured.

- Page 3 -



#### Nigerian Senate Calls for Probe of NTA/StarTimes Account

embers of a joint Committee of the Nigerian Senate during the week sat in disbelief as they listened to the Director-General of Nigeria Television Authority, Yakubu Ibn Mohammed and Mr Maxwell Loko, Managing Director StarTimes confess that the NTA and StarTimes Joint Venture has yielded no profit for the country since its inception about 12 years ago.

Over N200 billion had allegedly been taken out of the country since 2008 through the said venture.

The NTA D-G, Mohammed, had appeared before the committee and disclosed that the joint-venture had yielded no profit.

Also, Loko, told the committee that he agreed that the business is not thriving because Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT), being operated through the venture, is capital intensive as against the Satellite model.

The senate Joint Committee on Finance and National Planning, at the public hearing on the revenue generation for the 2021-2023 MTEF/FSP document during the week, also directed the management of the joint venture to step aside for failing to convince the committee of the transparency of the business agreement.

Senator Olamilekan Adeola-led the committee and asked for a forensic audit of the account of the venture to NTA so as to unravel the alleged 200 billion naira taken out of the country.

He said; "With what we are seeing, you people as management of the venture are collaborating with StarTimes in siphoning money abroad.

"You need to be put under oath along with the other management team, collecting monthly salaries from NTA and working for StarTimes and in the process, indulging in capital flight in collaboration with foreign staff of the company

"By rough estimations, all the revenues made through the joint venture and recorded in dollar amounted to about N200 billion between 2010 and 2018."

It was alleged that Loko, and Mr Tunde Aina, Chief Operating Officer (COO), work for revenue is missing as gross earnings have been repeatedly ploughed back into cost of production to cover cost of components, namely transmitters, equipment, generating sets and satellite; content acquisition; as well as operating costs, which include salaries and other running costs, incurred within our ten years of operation.

"Pay-TV business is capital intensive and has a long gestation period. More than 80 per cent of inputs into our operations are dollar-denominated. The naira fluctuations haven't been favourable to the business, making it more and more difficult to meet dollar-denominated obligations."



#### FG: New Broadcast Code In Best Interest of Nigeria



Lai Mohammed Minister of Information and Culture

espite unabated criticism of the new Nigeria Broadcasting Code, the Federal Government has insisted on going ahead with its implementation.

The Minister of Information, Lai Mohammed said the recent amendment to the sixth edition of the Code by the National Broadcasting Commission, NBC, as part of ongoing reforms in the sector, was in the best interest of the country.

He stated this at the NBC's 28th anniversary and sixth annual lecture in Abuja.

#### **Policy and Regulation**

the NBC.

The minister explained, "The approval necessitated some amendments in the Code and the Act (of NBC). The amendments are mostly in the areas of political broadcasting, local content, coverage of emergencies, advertising and anti-competitive behaviour.

"There are obviously lots of positive and desirable outcomes from the new Broadcasting Code; the provisions on exclusivity and monopoly. "This antitrust provision will boost local content and local industry due to laws prohibiting exclusive use of rights by broadcasters whose intent is to create monopolies."

#### Federal Government Stops Subsidy on Digital Switchover

here will be no more subsidies, either for set-top boxes or Signal carriage", Said the Federal Government of Nigeria as it plans to resume the rollout of Digital Switchover, a transition from analogue to digital television broadcasting.

Alhaji Lai Mohammed, The Minister of Information and Culture, disclosed this in Abuja at a "Digiteam" meeting to foster dialogue among the various stakeholders in the DSO architecture.

Mohammed noted that while the government is looking for money to pay outstanding debts and restart the DSO roll out, the process would be wholly private sector driven and self-sustaining.

"On our part, we have made tremendous progress in our efforts to get the muchneeded funds for the DSO process, in particular, to pay outstanding debts that will ginger stakeholders to resume the rollout and bring the massive benefits of the DSO to Nigerians.

"As I speak, we are putting finishing touches to a memo we plan to send to the Federal Executive Council as part of our relentless efforts to secure the funds to restart the process, and we are very optimistic that our efforts will pay off soon.

StarTimes both receive salaries from NTA.

But the PR Manager, StarTimes Nigeria, Lazarus Ibeabuchi, later explained how the loss was incurred.

In a statement, Ibeabuchi, who said the company is open to forensic audit of its financials, as requested by the Senate's Joint Committee on Finance and National Planning, added that the company's accounts are audited by one of the big four audit firms in the world including the Federal Inland Revenue Service, FIRS over the years.

He said: "We also want to clarify that no

The amendment, which has generated criticism from industry stakeholders, especially on the contentious prohibition of exclusivity of sporting rights and raising the fine for hate speech to N5m from N500,000.

According to Mohammed, the Federal Executive Council, led by the President, Major General Muhammadu Buhari (retd.), supported the amendments after a review of the 2019 general elections.

He said Buhari decided to approve the recommendations in order to reposition

"The Analogue to Digital Switch Over must not be delayed any longer than absolutely necessary," he said.

Following the successful launch of the DSO in April 2016 in Jos, Plateau State, the federal government announced the reduction of price of set-top boxes from the official N10,000 to N1,500 in order to get it across to all Nigerians. About 200,000 boxes were also given out for the pilot phase free of charge.





Editor's Note

onsidering the frontline role of journalists and the media in the coverage of COVID-19 pandemic, issues bordering on their safety at these trying times would always take center stage.

During the week, the Institute for Media and Society, IMS and the broadcast regulator, the National Broadcasting Commission, NBC, put safety issues affecting journalists and the media in the context of COVID-19 coverage on the front burner. They organized a webinar for the journalists. Experts drawn from the relevant fields facilitated the webinar and provided enough information to update participating journalists Corona Virus pandemic, issues of safety and methods to adopt during reportage. The submissions are as educative as they are intellectually stimulating. It is our opening story.

Assault on Nigerian journalists continues unabated despite public exposure of the culprits. It took a bizarre turn during the week when former Minister of Aviation, Mr Femi Fani-Kayode threw caution to the wind and verbally insulted a reporter who used his open invitation to ask any question.

He called him unprintable names and threatened him with his police escort. Reactions are still trailing that unruly behavior by a former Minister. See the full gist in our page on journalists' safety on the frontlines.

Also, there is some cheering new for the media, particularly the print, which has been struggling to remain in business severely impacted by COVID-19 pandemic.

The Federal Government is said to be working on a stimulus package that would make it possible for print media to reduce cost of some inputs in order to remain in business.

The lingering controversy surrounding Pay TV and increase in tariff, which Nigerians have been protesting against, took another dimension during the week, when a joint Senate Committee at a public hearing was told that StarTimes, in a joint venture with the Nigeria Television Authority, NTA, has yielded no profit for the country since its inception about 12 years ago, leading to the loss of over N200 billion.

### NCDC Confirmed COVID-19 Cases by State, August 28, 2020

States Affected	No. of Cases (Lab Confirmed)	No. of Cases (on admission)	No. Discharged	No. of Deaths
Lagos	18,056	2,627	15,227	202
FCT	5,094	3,572	1,472	50
Оуо	3,091	1,136	1,918	37
Edo	2,555	186	2,269	100
Plateau	2,330	1,065	1,236	29
Rivers	2,128	136	1,935	57
Kaduna	2,098	207	1,879	12
Delta	1,730	143	1,540	47
Kano	1,722	161	1,507	54
Ogun	1,637	142	1,469	26
Ondo	1,524	148	1,345	31
Enugu	1,142	214	907	21
Ebonyi	971	13	931	27
Kwara	950	152	773	25
Osun	775	48	711	16
Katsina	771	290	457	24
Abia	759	83	669	7
Borno	740	41	663	36
Gombe	722	90	609	23
Bauchi	657	95	548	14
Imo	526	323	192	11
Benue	451	301	141	9
Nasarawa	427	117	298	12
Bayelsa	378	26	331	21
Jigawa	322	3	308	11
Akwa Ibom	278	41	229	8
Ekiti	249	112	133	4
Niger	241	15	214	12
Adamawa	217	43	159	15
Anambra	207	30	159	18
Sokoto	158	4	138	16
Kebbi	92	2	82	8
Taraba	87	9	73	5
Cross River	82	4	70	8
Zamfara	78	1	72	5
Yobe	67	0	59	8
Kogi	5	0	3	2

It sounds unbelievable. Check out our story and read about the confessions of the NTA, D-G, Yakubu, Ibn Mohammed and Managing Director of StarTimes, Mr Maxwell Loko, before the Senate Joint Committee.

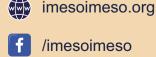
The Editor Institute for Media and Society, Nigeria

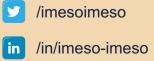
#### Highlights

- On the 27th of August 2020, 296 new confirmed cases and 1 deaths were recorded in Nigeria.
- Till date, **53,317** cases have been confirmed, **40,726** cases have been discharged and **1,011** deaths have been recorded in 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory.
- The **340** new cases are reported from 17 states Plateau (85), Enugu (46), Oyo (31), Lagos (21), Rivers (20), FCT (15), Kaduna (13), Bauchi (12), Delta (11), Ekiti (11), Akwa Ibom (7), Ebonyi (6), Kwara (5), Ogun (4), Osun (4), Gombe (3), Niger (2)
- A multi-sectoral national emergency operations centre (EOC), activated at Level 3, continues to coordinate the national response activities

## **IMS CONTACT DETAILS**

No. 3 Emina Crescent, off Toyin Street, Ikeja Lagos +234 (0) 903 294 3342 info@imesoimeso.org imesoimeso@hotmail.com





- Page 5 -