



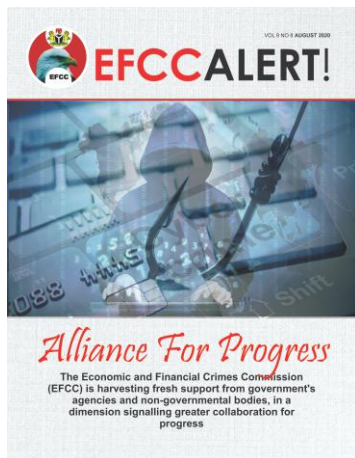
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EFCC ALERT!



Alliance For Progress

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) is harvesting fresh support from government's agencies and non-governmental bodies, in a dimension signalling greater collaboration for progress



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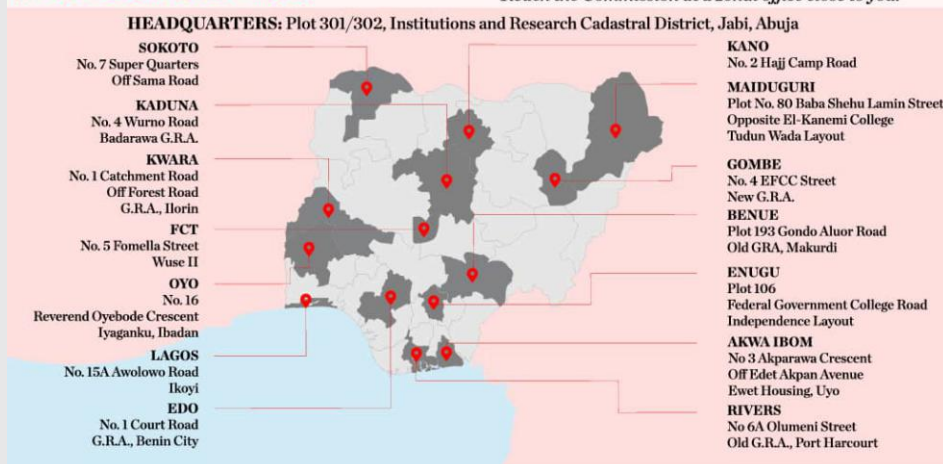
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The Editor, EFCCALERT!,
Plot 301/302, Institutions and Research Cadastral District, Jabi, Abuja.
OR 15A, Awolowo Road, Ikoyi, Lagos
Email: alert@efccnigeria.org
Tel: +234-8093322644

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Reach the Commission at a zonal office close to you.





EFCC acting Chairman, (5th from right) in a group photograph with officials of Revenue Mobilisation Allocation and Fiscal Commission, RMAFC, during a courtesy visit to EFCC Headquarters, Jabi - Abuja

Alliance For Progress

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) is harvesting fresh support from government's agencies and non-governmental bodies, in a dimension signalling greater collaboration for progress

The visit of the Chairman of the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission, RMAFC, Elias Mbam, to the Corporate Headquarters of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC, Abuja, August 27, was in recognition of the important role the anti-corruption agency is playing in boosting revenue generation of the Federal Government. The visit also emphasized the significance of collaboration among agencies in strengthening the war against economic and financial crimes. "The EFCC is working in the overall interest of the nation, and every Nigerian should regard anti-corruption fight as a civic responsibility, because the EFCC cannot do it alone," he said. The visit of Mbam, who was received by Umar Mohammed, the Acting EFCC Chairman, was also to underscore the

benefits of partnership aimed at blocking leakages in the country's revenue generating agencies. While assuring the RMAFC's boss of the Commission's readiness to collaborate with the Agency in blocking revenue leakages, he noted that the EFCC had a Tax Fraud Unit, which handled tax-related offences, through which hundreds of millions had so far been recovered in order to boost the revenue profile of the government. "We are ready to work and achieve success in the fight against corruption", he said. "I assure you that the EFCC will come out stronger and we will continue to fight corruption and any agency of government that is ready to join us is welcomed." Such visits, which are aimed at underpinning the significant role of the EFCC in the fight against corruption,

have not ceased. More agencies and government officials are expressing their support and desire to partner with the anti-corruption agency. Indeed, shortly after the visit of Mbam, the Registrar of the National Examinations Council, NECO, Prof. Godswill Obioma, also came calling to the EFCC, stressing that the Commission had always been a strong ally to the Council. "Nigeria needs the services of the EFCC for the nation to overcome the menace of corruption," he said, further commending the anti-corruption agency for its efforts thus far. Responding, Mohammed assured the Registrar of the EFCC's commitment to collaborate with the examination body, stating that, "we will continue to collaborate on all matters of mutual benefit, our relationship with NECO has come a long way, especially in areas of investigation and monitoring of examinations of students".

In a similar vein, the Kwara State governor, Abdulrahman Abdulrasaq, has expressed fresh support for the EFCC, stressing in unequivocal terms that the Commission also needs the support of every stakeholder in order for it to effectively fulfil its mandate.

Speaking during a courtesy call by the EFCC Ilorin Zonal Head, Kazeem Oseni, on the governor on August 26.

He said: "It is a good thing that you are here, and I thank you for the service you rendered for Kwara State, humanity and Nigeria as a whole.

"EFCC is an organisation that must not be allowed to collapse, all the stakeholders must support the Commission in achieving its mandate as regards the fight against corruption.

"Your efforts have helped us to stabilise our Government, and I recall in May 2019 at the eve of the handing and taking over of Government, when about Four Billion Naira came to the account of the State Government, some corrupt government officials attempted to withdraw the money and share it, but the EFCC prevented them, we appreciate your contributions so far."

Oseni used the opportunity to reiterate the commitments of the EFCC to the rule of law, and urged that the support for the Commission should remain unwavering, especially in relation to the whistle-blowing policy of the Federal Government.

"We want the people to come out and give us information that will assist the Commission to know the criminal elements in the society," he said, and used the medium to announce the additional recovery of over N130million from treasury looters for the State Government.

Judicial support

Support from the judiciary has also come the way of the EFCC. The Kwara State Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Ayinla

Salman Jawondo, during a visit to the Commission's Ilorin Zonal Office, August 31, solicited the EFCC's assistance to bring corrupt persons to book.

He said: "We know as a fact that the EFCC is a very delicate institution.

"The Commission needs the support of every agency to survive and the Kwara State Ministry of Justice is on ground to give you maximum support.

"We have seen the number of convictions and recoveries made in this office, and so we are here to

Justice Kazeem Alogba, during a courtesy call on him by a delegation from the Commission's Lagos zonal office, led by its head, Abdurashheed Bawa, August 20, also promised a more robust partnership and collaboration in the fight against economic and financial crimes.

Alogba, during the visit, lauded the EFCC's efforts to rid the country of corruption and further call on staff of the Commission not to be deterred in any way.

He said: "Naturally, we are partners in the course of the administration of justice.

"We have been working seamlessly

together and that will continue.

"The least expected of us is to give you fullest cooperation.

"We need to collaborate more in the area of training and retraining of the judges, because training is how we can get the best out of our personnel.

"We are not taking chances at any opportunity for training, because then we can be assured that judges handling EFCC



EFCC, Ilorin Zonal Head, Kazeem Oseni (2nd from left) in a group photograph with Kwara state governor (3rd from left) during a courtesy visit by the Commission to the government house in Ilorin, Kwara State.

identify with you."

Justice Saitu Kawu, the Kwara State Chief Judge, has also pledged the support of the state judiciary to the EFCC. He made the pledge, September 1, 2020 while receiving a delegation from the Commission's Ilorin zonal office.

Speaking at the occasion, Justice Kawu said: "I want to assure you that the judiciary under my watch will give you the necessary and needed support in order to achieve your mandate.

"Already, we have dedicated three high court judges to handle financial crimes' cases: Justice Sikiru Oyinloye, Justice Mahmood Abdulgafar and Justice Adenike Akinpelu in order to ensure speedy trials of your cases. We'll also give you more if the need arises."

The Chief Judge of Lagos State,

cases are abreast of the work of your jurisdiction."

Similar assurances of the support of the judiciary for the EFCC was expressed by the Chief Judge of Enugu State, Justice Priscilla Emehelu, who pledged unalloyed support and partnership of the Enugu State's Judiciary to support the EFCC's fight against economic and financial crimes.

She gave the assurance while receiving a delegation from the Commission's Enugu zonal office, led by the Zonal Head, Oshodi Johnson.

She said: "When you want to build a sane society, an organisation like the EFCC is not just important, but desirable.

"I want to pledge to you, our continual support and collaboration.

"We have no option, seeing that our mandate with yours is the same - to build a better society."

In realization of the role of members of the bar and bench in achieving the corruption-bursting mandate of the EFCC, a delegation from the Kano branch of the Nigerian Bar Association, NBA, also paid a visit to the Commission's Kano zonal office to seek further ways of partnering with the EFCC in the fight against corruption. Led by its chairman, Aminu Gadanya, he noted that the visit was to seek ways of partnering with the EFCC towards the improvement of the justice delivery system in the country. Gadanya

disclosed that one of his main objectives as NBA chairman was to have partnership with critical stakeholders in the administration of criminal justice, among which was the EFCC.

He said: "When we came on board, we resolved that there was a need for us to pay courtesy calls on some selected stakeholders in the administration of justice.

"In that resolution, we identified the EFCC as one of the biggest stakeholders in the administration of justice."

He, therefore, urged the Commission to extend support to the Commission, especially by organizing joint sensitization seminars and workshops.

Calls for collaboration

On its part, the Nigeria Union of Local Government Employees, NULGE, Edo State chapter, has called for collaboration with the EFCC in the fight against corruption.

This was the highlight of the visit of the officials of NULGE, who paid a courtesy visit to the Commission's Benin zonal office, August 25.

Led by Lazarus Adorolo, President of the Chapter of the Union, the leadership of NULGE expressed the need to partner with the EFCC in tackling all forms of corrupt practices in the country.

While commending the EFCC's efforts in ridding the state of corruption, he said: "We deem it necessary to galvanize support and partner with the EFCC in the



Hamzat Rilwan, during a courtesy visit to the Maiduguri branches of the NOA and the CCB in Borno State.

Rilwan commended the State Director of NOA, Yahaya Imam, for the Agency's enlightenment campaigns in Maiduguri, despite the dire insecurity situation in the city, noting that the NOA was crucial to the works of the EFCC. He used the medium to call on the NOA to extend its

"We are not taking chances at any opportunity for training, because then we can be assured that judges handling EFCC cases are abreast of the work of your jurisdiction."

war against corruption and financial malpractices."

Zonal Head of the EFCC Benin Office, Muktar Bello, commended the Union for its laudable gesture, and noted that the Commission was willing to collaborate in any error to ensure victory over corruption.

Calls for a united front against corruption in the country have also been made by the National Orientation Agency, NOA, and the Code of Conduct Bureau, CCB.

Indeed, the appeal was made by the Head, EFCC Maiduguri zonal office,

hands of friendship and expertise to the Commission, in order to galvanize the grassroots against corruption.

Responding, Imam assured the Commission of continued support, pledging that: "Our relationship with the EFCC will be more robust and we will incorporate your zonal office in some of our activities before the year runs out."

At the CCB, its State Director, Ibrahim Grema assured the EFCC of preparedness to collaborate with it at all times, noting that "the EFCC and the CCB are working harmoniously in order to achieve desired objectives."

Journalists in Kaduna, have also formed a group, Journalists Against Corruption, with the sole aim of combating the scourge of corruption in the state.

The formation of the group, comprising 30 members drawn from the state's chapter of the Nigerian Union of Journalists, NUJ, was disclosed by the NUJ Chairman, Kaduna Chapter, Adamu Yusuf while receiving the Kaduna Zonal Head of the EFCC, Sanusi Abdulahi Sanusi who paid him a courtesy visit.

The EFCC Team, which was led by Sanusi, stressed the important roles journalists are playing in the fight against corruption, noting that the NUJ was the first point of call on his assumption of office as the zonal head owing to the great roles the media is playing. He called for the cooperation of Journalists and media organizations as change agents in the fight against graft so as to move the country forward.

Responding, Yusuf promised to continue working closely with the EFCC in the fight against corruption. He appealed to the EFCC to help in tackling corruption in media houses, citing instances where its members were employed for years and their entitlements and salaries denied them by their employers. The important partnership between the Media and the EFCC in the fight against corruption, was also further highlighted during a visit by a delegation of the Commission's Uyo zonal office to the Nigerian Television Authority, NTA, Uyo, Akwa Ibom State.

Ohifeme Aigbochie, the General Manager, NTA Uyo, who received the delegation on August 26, led by Uchenna Edeh, Uyo zonal head of the EFCC, commended the Commission for raising the level of awareness against corruption in Nigeria. "Everyone, especially public servants in the country, are conscious of the eagle eye of the EFCC, and so far, that has helped raise the level of consciousness against corruption especially among the seemingly untouchables," he said.



L-R Daniel, EFCC Zonal Head, Makurdi in a group picture with AVM O.R. Philip, Air Officer, Commanding Tactical Air Command, Nigeria Air Force, when the former played host to the latter



Uchenna Edeh, Uyo Zonal head of the EFCC (standing 2nd from right) in a group picture with management of NTA Uyo, Akwa Ibom State led by the GM Ohifeme Aigbochie during a courtesy visit to the TV state

He further assured the Commission of the station's support in its fight against corrupt practices. "I want to assure you, as partners in progress, that we will assist you and make sure that all your activities are given adequate publicity within and

outside the state so that collectively, we shall win the battle against corruption," he said. A similar visit was made to the Akwa Ibom Broadcasting Corporation, where the Director-General, Anietie Ukpe, also gave assurance of partnering with the Commission.

Military signal

The Nigeria Air Force, NAF, has also reiterated its resolve to harness existing relationships with the EFCC, towards battling corruption and redeeming the economic fortunes of the country. This was the main focus of the discussion between Isei Daniel, EFCC zonal head, Makurdi Office and Air Officer, Commanding Tactical Air Command, Nigeria Air Force, AVM Or Philip, when he played host to Daniel in his office, August 26. While appreciating the support of the Air Force, Daniel used the opportunity to call for a more robust synergy between the NAF and EFCC in tackling the different shades of corruption that have stagnated the country. In his remarks, Philip appreciated the EFCC for the visit and for deeming it fit to seek the collaboration of the NAF, which, according to him was crucial to the success of the EFCC's fight against corruption. "Whatever support that you may require from us, so long as it is within our powers, we'll gladly do," Philip said. ■



Honing Skills

The EFCC engages operators of Designated Non-Financial Institutions as part of initiatives geared towards combating money laundering

It was yet another opportunity for the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC, to further sharpen the skill of its officers, in equipping them with new skills to fight corruption, but in particular combating the menace of money laundering.

Though not the first of its kind, it was yet another necessary step taken by the Commission, to tackle the menace of money laundering, which has hampered growth and development in the country.

It was a four-day training on "Asset Tracing and Investigation", organized by the EFCC at its Academy, Karu, Abuja, August 17, for its officers,

"This training will further equip staff in the areas of combating money laundering,"

drawn from its 14 zonal offices spread across the North-East, North-West, South-West, South-South, South-East and North-Central.

The training, which is aimed at further equipping the Commission's officers with skills on how to trace, identify and recover proceeds of economic



and financial crimes, was held alongside another course on Microsoft Excel.

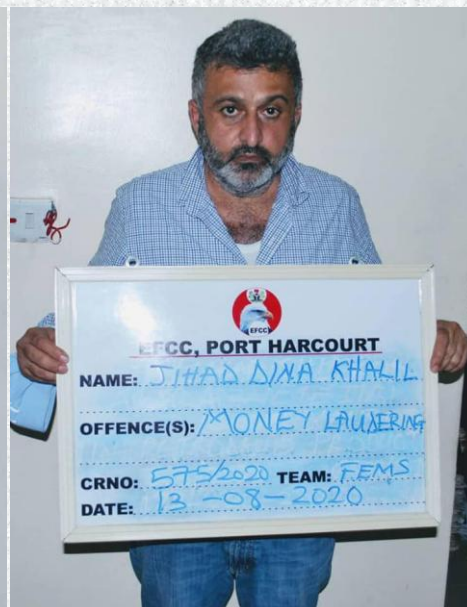
The training, according to the Acting Commandant of the Academy, Itam Nnaghe Obono, was geared towards aiding investigative officers in building database, and skills acquisition on chart linking on recovered assets. "This training will further equip staff in the areas of combating money laundering," he said. ■

Busted

The EFCC beams its searchlight on two Lebanese nationals caught with a staggering cash of \$890,000

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC has commenced investigation of two Lebanese: Dina Jihad Khali and Chamseddine Waell Mohmmmed, who were

arrested by officers of the Customs Area Command, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, for attempting to smuggle a total sum of \$890,000 USD (Eight Hundred and Ninety Thousand United States Dollars) out of Nigeria, through the Port Harcourt International Airport, Omagwa. The suspects were arrested on August 12, 2020 and handed over to the Port Harcourt zonal office of the EFCC for further investigation. Speaking while handing over the two suspects, A.B. Mohammed Olayinka, Customs Area Controller,



\$670,000 (Six Hundred and Seventy Thousand United States Dollars) while Mohammed with Passport Number LR0356598 (Republic of Lebanon) had \$220,000 (Two Hundred and Twenty Thousand United States Dollars).

The suspects were arrested on August 12, 2020 and handed over to the Port Harcourt zonal office of the EFCC for further investigation.

disclosed that Khali with Passport Number LR152975 (Republic of Lebanon) was arrested with

They were both arrested while trying to board a flight to Lebanon.

He further disclosed that the money recovered from the suspects, which they failed to declare to Customs, has been deposited with the Central Bank of Nigeria, Rivers State Branch, for safe keeping. The suspects were handed over to PDS Macaulay Olayinka, who received them on behalf of the Commission. He assured that investigation will commence in earnest, adding that the suspects would be arraigned in court as soon as investigations were concluded. ■

Crooked Young Men

A look at the EFCC's war against internet fraud, fondly referred to as yahoo-yahoo, in the month of August

As part of the efforts of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC, to rid the country of the menace of internet fraudsters, known in local parlance as yahoo-yahoo, and in the international community as the Nigerian Prince scam, the anti-corruption agency has remained unrelenting in fishing out perpetrators of these benign, but heinous crime, which has given the country a bad image among the comity of nations.

Below is a cursory look at the activities of the EFCC to combat cybercrime in the month of August:

Military personnel arrested alongside 26 in Lagos

A military personnel, Lance Corporal Ajayi Kayode, was among 27 suspects arrested by operatives of the Commission's Lagos Zonal Office, on August 15, in Lekki, a highbrow suburb of Lagos State. He was arrested in his military attire during an early morning raid at 6B, Fatai Idowu Arobike, Lekki Phase 1, following intelligence received from concerned members of the public about his alleged involvement in criminal activities. He was arrested alongside Kalu Emmanue, Hassan Sunday, Odinaka David Okem, Victor Ochiabuto, Christopher Prince, Victor Ologhu, Alex Aka, Miracle Onyekwere, Habeeb Ayomide, Olakunle Ajeigbu, Rasheed Olanrewaju and Salam Hakeem. Others are: Adeniran Nurudeen, Opeyemi Ojo Chris, Derrick Moris,

Shehu Oluoti, Fuad Akinbayo, Babatunde Idowu, Uzo Igwe



Nathaniel, Debowale Adedoyin, Shegun Emmanuel, Godswill Maduchem, Samson Kazeem, Oluwatobi Oluwatoba, Olaitan Ajao and Oyindamola Kareem. In his statement to the EFCC, Kayode said the "big shot yahoo yahoo boys" in whose company he was arrested, were his friends and that they had been teaching him how to make money through cybercrime. They will soon be arraigned in court. ■

Fourteen Arrested in Enugu

Operatives of the EFCC's Enugu zonal office arrested 14 suspected internet fraudsters from different parts of Awka, Anambra State. They were arrested on August 31, based on intelligence available to the Commission. Specifically, the suspects, whose age range was between 21 and 28 were arrested at Okpuno Awka, Agu Awka and Ngozika estate, Anambra State.

Items recovered from them are: different exotic vehicles which include three Mercedes Benz 4matic, three Mercedes Benz AMG, two Lexus Rx salon cars. Interim analyses of some of the suspects' phones indicated they were involved in some suspected internet fraud which include online bitcoin

scam, love scam and identity theft. The suspects will soon be arraigned in court as soon as investigations are concluded. ■



Nine Arrested in Port Harcourt

Operatives of the Port Harcourt zonal office of the EFCC, on August 26, arrested nine suspected internet fraudsters.

The suspects are: Sotonye Orugbane; David Egbunugwu; Emmanuel Chinemerem; Providence Oliver Samuel and Emmanuel Fidelis Nwambu. Others are: Promise Nkwachi, Micah Nimi, Precious Ogadinma and Ebi Micah.

They were apprehended in an early morning raid on their hideout in Ozuoba by Obirikwere Road, Choba; NTA Road and Ada George Road in Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

Investigations indicate that the



suspects specialize in love scam, online Bitcoin scam, identity theft, trading scam, among others. Items recovered from them include 16 Mobile phones of different brands; one HP laptop; two Apple watches and two vehicles; one



Lexus ES 350 with registration number Abuja KUJ 412 AT and one Toyota Camry 2.4 with registration number Abuja KWL 35 AT.

The suspects will be arraigned in court as soon investigations are concluded. ■

Another Fifteen Arrested in Lagos

Operatives of the Lagos Zonal Office arrested 15 suspected internet fraudsters in the Lekki area of Lagos State.

The suspects are: Sunday Okpe, Taiwo Adelagun, Obarakyo Tega, Fasuyi Oladapo, Mark Adedeji Kuju, Adelakun Kehinde Adewunmi, Temitope Gabriel Onore, Christopher Blessed and Aniche Ezenwa Francis.

Others are: Abiodun Godspower Odion, Abiodun ThankGod Omoh, Raji Ayo Sheriff, Adeogun Babatunde, Olusesi Razaq Demola



and Kole Adetoyinbo.

The suspected internet fraudsters were arrested on August 15, at Ayo Babatunde Crescent and James Adejumo areas of Lekki, Lagos State, following intelligence received from concerned members

of the public on their criminal activities.

During the arrest, the suspects, who are alleged to be members of Organized Cyber Criminal Syndicate Network, OCCSN, tried to destroy evidence by flushing their mobile devices into the toilet, burning some and also throwing their laptops into the nearby bush and lagoon.

Items recovered from them include nine exotic vehicles, mobile devices and laptops.

The suspects will soon be arraigned in court. ■

Another Seven Arrested in Enugu

Following a tip-off, operatives of the Commission's Enugu zonal office arrested Ebere Tochukwu, Onuh Harrison, Christian Ogbonna, Ojobo Kingsley, Eze Charles, Princewill Nwalu and

Ekene Ibekaku.

They were arrested at Loma Linda Extension Enugu, Enugu State. Items recovered from them include, a Lexus ES 350, Benz C300 and a Toyota Camry, as well

as mobile phones and laptops. They gave useful information in the course of interrogation and will soon be arraigned in court. ■



ARE YOU INTO YAHOO YAHOO?
EFCC WILL CATCH YOU.



