



VOL 10 NO 8 AUGUST 2021

EFCCALERT!



Business
Unusual



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Business Unusual

Business unusual 3 - 10
Illustration 11

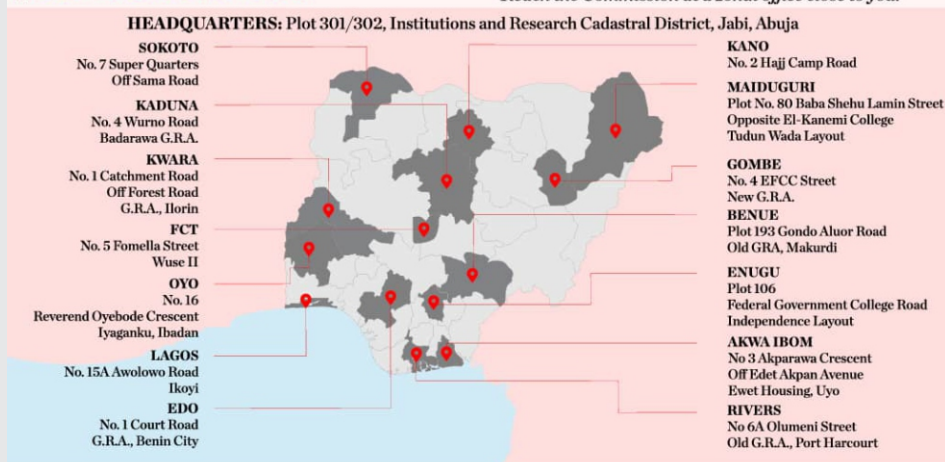
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The Editor, EFCCALERT!,
Plot 301/302, Institutions and Research Cadastral District, Jabi, Abuja.
OR 15A, Awolowo Road, Ikoyi, Lagos
Email: alert@efccnigeria.org
Tel: +234-8093322644

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#EFCCNearYou

*Enquiries, Petitions or Whistleblowing?
Reach the Commission at a zonal office close to you.*





Business Unusual

Anti-corruption campaign under new leadership of the EFCC takes new dimension with strategic reforms, digitalization of investigation processes, yielding quantum recoveries of proceeds of crime and high-profile convictions

"There is a difference between fighting corruption and fighting corrupt people; going forward, we are going to be proactive in our approach in the fight against economic and financial crimes."

Those were the succinct words of the Chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC, Abdulrasheed Bawa, when he took over the helm of affairs at the EFCC on March 5, 2021.

Determination, resolve and focus, aptly captured the mood of the newly minted chairman, as he set the stage for "a new EFCC".

"We know the problems and God willing, we are going to solve these problems," he said.

To further give vent to his vision and plans of transforming the operations of the anti-corruption agency under his watch, Bawa again, gave more insight to the direction he was leading the Commission, when he spoke at the media briefing held at the Presidential Villa, Abuja, on June 17, 2021.

According to him, some of the measures being implemented to prevent corruption included the development of a Property Ownership Database with the ultimate objective of determining the beneficial owners of properties. He also disclosed that the Commission was developing an App which will facilitate the seamless reporting of complaints to the agency by citizens eager to assist the fight against corruption. The App, he said, will

"There is a difference between fighting corruption and fighting corrupt people; going forward, we are going to be proactive in our approach in the fight against economic and financial crimes."

soon be launched.

Walking the Talk

For Bawa, time is of the essence and since assuming office, he has hit the ground running, keeping promises he made to the Nigerian people to give

“With the App, those who hitherto were afraid to report corruption cases to the Commission either for fear of being identified by the culprits or having their identities revealed, can now do so with the assurance of full anonymity,” he said.

new direction to the fight against corruption.

Under his watch, the EFCC set the pace among the league of law enforcement agencies, in the use of technology when on Wednesday, July 14, 2021 in the presence of a modest gathering of anti-corruption partners at the EFCC Headquarters, Abuja, history was made as the EFCC in its characteristic ground-breaking feats, launched its novel Eagle Eye (EFCC) Application for both the Google Play Store and the Apple Store, designed as



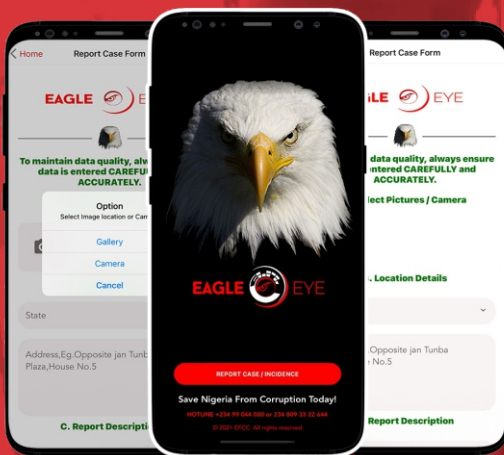
**REPORT FINANCIAL CRIMES
IN 3 EASY STEPS WITH**



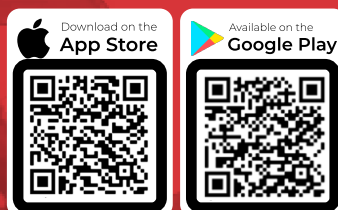
An App specially developed by the EFCC to ease the reporting of economic and financial crimes



- 1 Install the App**
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...EFCC will get you anywhere, anytime.

the "EFCC case reporting tool". The App is aimed at further making the anti-corruption agency easily accessible to whistleblowers, in and outside of Nigeria.

For Bawa, it was a promise made and kept. He had at several fora stressed his preference for integrating technology into the activities of the EFCC. The mobile app, which is a first of its kind, according to him, was born out of his desire to "facilitate the seamless reporting of complaints to the agency by citizens eager to assist the fight against corruption".

According to him, "Apart from complementing the existing channels for reporting economic crimes, the unique advantage of this application is that it eliminates direct person-to-person interface in the reporting process and guarantees anonymity which is an added incentive to effective whistle blowing."

He enjoined members of the public to utilize the fluidity of the App in bringing cases of corruption and economic



Ongoing construction of a new office block at the Port Harcourt Zonal Command



Renovated facade of the Ibadan Zonal Command

crimes to the knowledge of the EFCC.

“With the App, those who hitherto were afraid to report corruption cases to the Commission either for fear of being identified by the culprits or having their identities revealed, can now do so with the assurance of full anonymity,” he said.

The App, according to him, was geared towards further boosting the whistleblower policy of the administration of President Muhammadu Buhari in fighting corruption in Nigeria.

Other innovations

In addition to the App, Bawa has also kept his promise of revamping the Commission's intelligence gathering network, by creating a full-fledged Department of Intelligence, equipped with modern tools and trained personnel, including a Cyber Laboratory.

Staff welfare has also been prioritized, to boost morale of personnel.

Infrastructural development

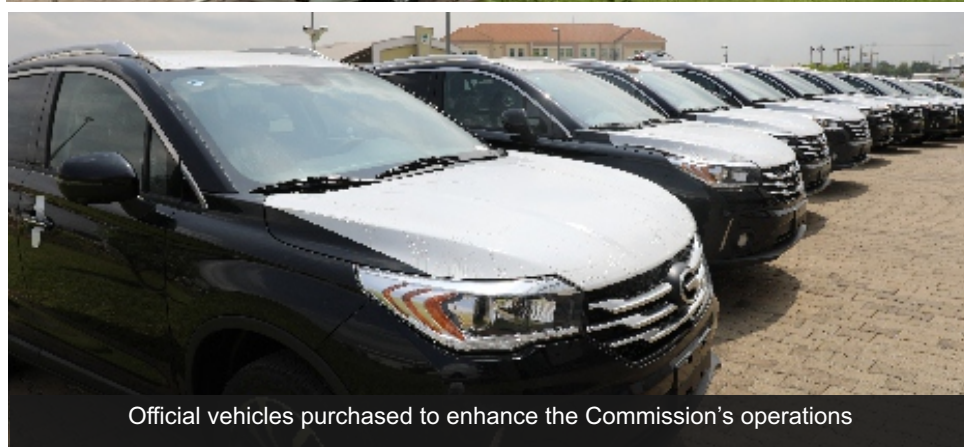
In order to further provide a good working environment for staff, significant infrastructural developments are taking place across offices of the Commission, located in 14 states.

The EFCC Academy located at

For the first time in the history of the Commission, the anti-graft agency has procured official vehicles for senior officers of the agency, in order to further enhance professionalism in discharge of their duties.



Fleet of official vehicles and ambulances purchased to enhance the Commission's operations



Official vehicles purchased to enhance the Commission's operations

Karu, Abuja, is witnessing a significant uplift, aimed at repositioning the Academy to put it at par with international centers of education. The Academy is to be equipped with state-of-the-art electronic and interactive teaching equipment.

Across the zonal commands of the EFCC, renovation works are going on in Abuja, Benin, Gombe, Lagos, Port Harcourt and Uyo Zonal Offices. The Lagos Command, currently boasts of a standard water treatment machine and a Tactical Operating Centre, TOC, is also under construction at the Command.

Construction of additional blocks of offices is in top gear at the Benin, Enugu, Kaduna, Ibadan, Port Harcourt, Maiduguri, Sokoto and Uyo commands.

In order to ensure adequate care for inmates, additional detention facilities are being constructed at the Ibadan, Port Harcourt and Sokoto commands.

There is also the installation and activation of staff and visitors' Biometric Access Controls Systems at the Headquarters, Abuja.

For the first time in the history of the Commission, it procured official vehicles for senior officers of the agency, in order to further enhance professionalism in discharge of their duties.

A fleet of official vehicles and ambulances were also purchased for the zones to improve service delivery.

In order to boost the health-care delivery capacity of the Commission's Medical Centre across all the Commands in the country, the Commission has purchased state-of-the-art medical equipment for efficient health services.

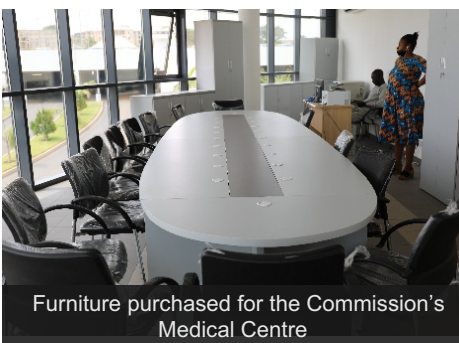
Under the leadership of Bawa, the EFCC has also put in place machineries for the procurement of capital items required to enhance operational capacity of its staff, such as ICT working tools, including



Equipment purchased for the Commission's Medical Centre



Equipment purchased for the Commission's Medical Centre



Furniture purchased for the Commission's Medical Centre

For efficiency, the Information and Computer Technology, ICT Unit of the Commission, has been upgraded to a full-fledged Department tasked with implementing various IT initiatives of the Commission in consonance with current operational realities.

computers, printers, photocopiers, servers, power generating systems, Uninterruptible Power Systems, UPS, and inverters. Forensics tools and software licences are also being procured as part of the continuous upgrade of the Commission's Forensic Laboratory.

Rejigging for Excellence

The EFCC under Bawa is also rejigging staff welfare to achieve excellence as the Cooperative Department has now been rechristened as the Staff Welfare Services Department. The renaming comes with the expansion of the Department to include other welfare services such as: establishment of crèche at the Commission's headquarters; scheduling of all categories of personnel for skill acquisition and enhancement training in line with the imperatives of modern law enforcement; and Insurance Policy for staff.

In addition to the establishment of the Intelligence Department to effectively deal with the increased sophistication of crime, the EFCC has restructured its Legal and Prosecution Department and revised the quality of its services, equipping all legal officers with secure digital tablets pre-loaded with the robust Law Pavilion legal research application and digital library.

The Operations Department of the Commission, has also been restructured to build capacity for operational challenges, and for enhanced efficiency to handle emerging crime trends. New positions were also created including Head of Operations, Headquarters and Deputy Heads of Operations across the Zonal Commands.

ICT

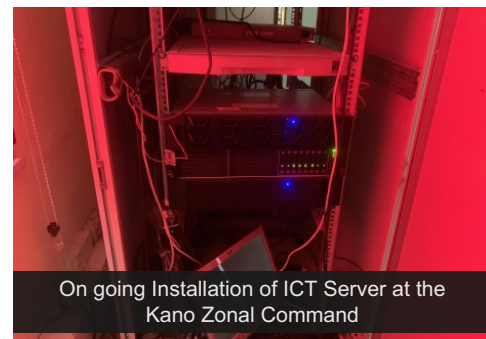
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Renovation of Sports Facility at the EFCC Academy, Karu, Abuja



Fully equipped Medical Unit at the Uyo Zonal Command



On going Installation of ICT Server at the Kano Zonal Command

Like the ICT, the Procurement Unit of the Commission has also been restructured and upgraded to a Department in compliance with relevant Federal Government circulars to improve coordination, efficiency, and quality service delivery. Also upgraded from a unit to a department is the Internal Audit Department, in order to ensure efficiency, accountability, transparency, and prudent utilization of resources by reinforcing internal control processes and risk management standards.

Research

To support the Commission's strategic goals, the Department of Planning, Policy and Statistics has been expanded to include Research functions. This step has proven to be in the right direction as the first phase of research into the cost of

investigation and prosecution activities has commenced.

Library Services

In order to make the Commission's library services much sought-after by academics within and outside of the country, the Bawa administration has rejigged the services of the Commission's library services by appointing a Chief Librarian at its Headquarters, while work is in progress to ensure that all the Zonal Commands provide library services.

Security

In view of the fact that security is at the heart of the Commission's operations, Bawa has appointed a Chief Security Officer tasked with coordinating and managing the Commission's security functions at the Headquarters and across the Zonal Commands in response to emerging security concerns.

Forensics

The Commission's Forensics and Crime Laboratory Services Department has received a new lease of life under the current administration with the provision of specialized tools and support required to perform its functions efficiently, thereby contributing significantly to the Commission's investigation and prosecutorial activities. Achievements recorded so far include: Standardization of Suspect Processing procedure, successful procurement and ongoing deployment of suspect processing tools to better comply with the provision of Section 15 of the Administration and Criminal Justice Act 2015.

In this regard, a digital fingerprint capturing centre has been set up at the Abuja Zonal Command. At the moment, plans are underway to establish a Chemical Analysis Laboratory at the Port Harcourt Zonal Command to expedite analysis of cases related to theft and the illegal bunkering of petroleum and its related products.

Efforts are in the pipeline to achieve the ISO 17025 accreditation, which will further validate the laboratories' reports such that they can be relied upon not only in courts in Nigeria, but all around the world, thereby fostering mutual cooperation with international partners.

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SCUML

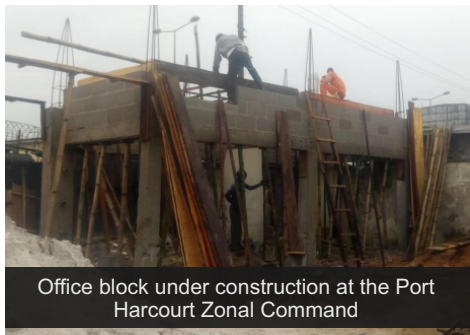
In order to facilitate the ease of doing business in the country, while also tackling the menace of money laundering, the administration of Bawa has rejigged the operations of the Special Control Unit against Money Laundering, SCUML. The EFCC has activated a new registration portal for Designated Non-Financial Institutions, DNFI's. The Commission is currently working with the National Assembly to strengthen the Unit's legal framework, as part of efforts to effectively reposition the SCUML for effectiveness.

Strategic Collaboration

In order to improve its relationship with key stakeholders, the Bawa-led administration has reaffirmed its support of the Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy in resolving challenges associated with multiple SIM registration to a



Office block under construction at the Port Harcourt Zonal Command



Office block under construction at the Port Harcourt Zonal Command



Recently renovated facade of the Uyo Zonal Command



Recently renovated creche at the Lagos Zonal Command



Water Purification Plant at the Lagos Zonal Command



Recently renovated staff canteen at the Ilorin Zonal Command



Recently renovated staff canteen at the Ibadan Zonal Office



Renovated office block at the Kano Zonal Office



One of the renovated office spaces at the Kano Zonal Office

single National Identification Number, NIN, and renewed inter-agency collaboration with the Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, NEITI; Nigerian Navy, and Nigerian Communications Satellite, NIGCOMSAT.

Also, the Commission is partnering with the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons, NAPTIP; the Nigeria Police Force, and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, NSCDC in a High Level Multi-Agency Task Team, HIMAT, on the design and implementation of a National Sexual Offenders' Register and Sex Offender Testing Policy towards providing a framework for effective prosecution of sexual offenders. Partnership has also been extended to the European Union Action against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants in Nigeria, ATIPSOM for capacity development of NAPTIP, Nigeria

The Bawa-led EFCC has received renewed commitment from the United States Federal Bureau of Investigations, FBI, and the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, INL for joint collaboration towards the eradication of various transnational crimes, which threaten the stability of the global economy.

Immigration Service, NIS and NPF officers on Financial and Assets Investigation to be facilitated at the Commission's Academy. Educational institutions like the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, NIPSS, National Defence College, Institute of Security Studies, Bwari, the University of Abuja, the Ahmadu Bello University, and the Nasarawa State University are also partnering with the Commission.

Beyond borders

Buoyed by the confidence reposed by the administration of President Buhari in the Bawa-led EFCC, he was given the unique privilege of delivering Nigeria's statement at the first-ever United Nations General Assembly Special Session, UNGASS on Corruption in New York, United States, June 2, 2021, where he called for the simplification of evidentiary requirements and other mutual legal assistance procedures to enhance



Bawa with NEITI's Executive Secretary, Dr. Ogbonnaya Orji, during a visit to the Commission's Headquarters on 23rd April, 2021



Bawa and Judicial Officers



Bawa with Dr Abimbola Alale, MD, NIGCOMSAT, during a courtesy visit on 22nd April, 2021



Bawa with Rear Admiral O.B Daji, Commandant National Defence College, during a courtesy visit on 20th April, 2021

international cooperation and facilitate timely recovery and return of stolen assets. The EFCC Chair also participated at the High-Level multilateral and bilateral meetings on the margins of the UNGASS from June 2 - 4, 2021.

As a law enforcement agency with international focus, the Commission is strengthening its foreign partnerships to improve avenues of cooperation, curb illicit financial flows in the Diaspora and develop capacity of all stakeholders in the fight against corruption.

The Bawa-led EFCC has received renewed commitment from the United States Federal Bureau of Investigations, FBI, and the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, INL for joint collaboration towards the eradication of various transnational crimes, which threaten the stability of the global economy.

Agreement has also been entered with the European Fraud Office of the

The EFCC under Bawa has also engaged in a roundtable engagement with Civil Society Organizations on the State of Anti-Corruption in Nigeria - Assessing 2020 and 2021 Agenda Setting.

EU, OLAF to sign a Memorandum of Understanding, MoU for improved cooperation. With renewed efforts in securing the full repatriation of Nigeria's stolen wealth stashed in the US, the EFCC is also receiving the warm cooperation of the US Authorities, the National Crimes Agency, NCA, and the Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office, FCDO.

The renewed faith in the EFCC, has

seen the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, UNODC and the United Nations Development Programme, UNDP, reaffirm their collaboration with the EFCC, aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs.

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Judiciary Support

More than ever before, the Nigerian Judiciary has extended its unalloyed support to the operations of the Commission, with assurance of swift adjudication of corruption cases brought before the court by the EFCC, and resolution of challenges experienced in securing warrants. In achieving this, Bawa engaged with the Chief Justice of Nigeria, the President, Court of Appeal, as well the Chief Judges of the Federal High Court and the Federal Capital Territory High Court.



Abdulrasheed Bawa, Executive Chairman, EFCC, delivering Nigeria's statement at the UN General Assembly Special Session on 3rd June, 2021

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Amina Mohammed, UN Deputy Secretary-General and Abdulrasheed Bawa

As part of catching them young, the EFCC has held sensitization exercises to Primary and Secondary Schools as well as orientation camps of the National Youth Service Corps, NYSC in order to sensitize their fertile minds against corrupt practices.

The Commission has also effectively keyed into the use of both traditional and new media to engage with the public, sensitizing them on the ills of corruption, and at the same time using the approach of "naming and shaming" as a deterrence tool. Efforts are in top gear, to operationalise the broadcast licence of the Commission, for the establishment of an anti-corruption Radio and TV station, which will be the first of its kind in Africa.



Amb. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, Nigeria's Permanent representative to the UN and Abdulrasheed Bawa

Public Enlightenment

The EFCC has revived the Interfaith Anti-corruption Advisory Committee and the adoption of the Anti-corruption Preaching/Teaching Manual as a guide for implementing anti-corruption programmes, in order to tap into Nigeria's densely religious population, in the fight against corruption.

Recoveries and Convictions

In the execution of its mandate, the EFCC has continued to position itself as an anti-corruption agency of repute and distinct achievements. Bawa has ensured that the Commission has not slagged in this regard, as he has embarked on reforms to strengthen and refocus the Operations Department's core functions of identifying, tracing and

seizing proceeds of criminal activities, while ensuring that justice is served on perpetrators of crime.

In this regard, significant achievements have been made resulting in record recoveries. More than 680 convictions have also been secured including that conviction of Francis Atuche, a former Managing Director of the defunct BankPHB Plc (now Keystone Bank) on June 16, 2021 for a N25.7billion fraud. ■





Big or small, rich or poor; Nobody is above the law.
Say **NO** to corruption.

