Nepad Business Group Nigeria

Business Lunch

Held on

21 September, 2007.

At

Sheraton Hotel And Towers, Ikeja, Lagos.

NBGN Business Luncheon Held On Friday, September 21, 2007 At Sheraton Hotel & Towers, Ikeja-Lagos.

The luncheon started with welcoming participants and introducing those on the high table. They included:

- Chairman of the Luncheon : Chief Emeka Anyaoku
- Special Guest of honor: Dr. Emmanuel Uduaghan, Gov. of Delta State
- Chairman Nepad Business Group Nigeria : Mr. Goodie Ibru
- World Bank Country Director : Dr Hafez Ghanem
- Resident Representative UNDP : Dr Alberic Kacou

After due protocol, the **Chairman Nepad Business Group Nigeria, Mr. Goodie Ibru OON** gave his welcome address.

Welcome Address

In his address, he reiterated Nigeria's Government's goal of being the 20^{th} strongest economy in the World by 2020 just 13 years away. It was therefore incumbent to address the challenges and opportunities facing us as a nation as time is of the essence. This he said informed the choice of the lecture: **"The Prospects for Nigeria Economic Growth in the Next Decade -** Challenges and Opportunities.

Chief Emeka Anyaoku CON: In his remark, the chairman of the occasion Chief Emeka Anyaoku CON, sees Nigeria as a living paradox, a rich country with extremely poor people. He hoped that the private sector will help to reverse his paradox. According to him, if Nigeria's development goal is to be achieved, Corruption must be tackled as Nigeria is one of the most short-changed countries of the World as both moral and material corruption has denied this nation of its full benefits.

He acknowledged that there had been great effort to fight this malaise with the setting up of institutions such as EFCC and ICPC but said that what is urgently required is the strengthening of the capacity of these institutions. Another issue is the burden of creating a conducive environment that will increase investments. These issues he hoped will be adequately addresses in the luncheon. He then called on the Guest speaker, Dr. Hafez Ghanem, to give his presentation.

Dr Hafez Ghanem: Country Director, World Bank.

Dr. Ghanem, who reviewed the World bank's document on Nigeria's Competitiveness and Growth Prospects, a May 2007 document, commenced by enumerating Nigeria's considerable resource potentials. These among others include:

- Abundant mineral resources
- Agricultural potentials
- Human resources – a critical mass of educated people and a large market.
- Geographic locations.

He acknowledged Government's reform efforts at achieving growth and competitiveness since 1999. Some of these policies include:

- Budget transparency & Fiscal responsibility
- Financial sector reform
- Due process on Public Procurement
- Anti-corruption efforts
- Development of the private sector.

Nigeria's Growth & Competitiveness Challenge.

Nigeria faces two fundamental challenges which are:

- Managing the macro economy to build and maintain strong competitiveness of the non-oil sector in the face of considerable external inflows from oil.
- Addressing the culture of rent seeking and corruption created by access to "easy" oil rents, which reduces incentives to create wealth that can be taxed.

Though Nigeria has been trying to tackle these challenges, efforts are still not enough and it is unlikely that Nigeria will achieve the MDG of reducing poverty. Formal job creation is still low. Non oil economy is still largely uncompetitive. There are constraints of infrastructure, notably power and roads.

The business environment is still unconducive and there are human capital and technology constraints. While the domestic market is relatively large, it is still small compared with even small European economies like Belgium. The economy has a dualistic nature with a large informal economy that has little to do with the formal economy. This hides efficient allocation.

Ghanem, reading the report, suggested some key elements for Nigeria's growth strategy. These include:

- Strengthening actions to tackle constraints to infrastructure and the business environment.

- Improving access to long term finance
- Building stronger linkages between oil and non-oil sectors and in the long run strengthening Nigeria's integration into global markets.
- Creating direct access to oil proceeds by all Nigerians.
- Raising agricultural productivity including through enhanced technology
- Encouraging the transformation from informality to the formal sector
- Building the human capital and technological base of the economy over the longer term.

This strategy must be underpinned by efforts to address corruption and rent seeking perpetuated around the oil revenue.

Recent Economic Development

Mr. Ghanen highlighted a glossary of encouraging developments at the macro economic level in Nigeria in recent years. Firstly, oil prices have risen to unprecedented levels and this has increased the development power of government. Reform minded technocrats are now involved in the macro-economic management of the economy. Other macro economic reforms and the ushering of democracy have all provided opportunities for growth and economic progress.

Furthermore, the economy has improved rapidly since 2000. Non oil GDP has averaged 5-8%, non-oil growth accelerated reaching 7.4 % in 2004 and 8.2% in 2005. Estimates for 2006 indicated non-oil growth to be 8-9% with a short fall for about 5-8% of overall growth and oil sector growth of 0.8% due to disruptions in oil revenue.

Macro economic balances have also improved. Overall fiscal balance moved from a surplus of 6% of GDP in 2000 to 9.3% in 2005. However, non-oil deficit expanded, as a share of non-oil GDP from 30% in 2002 to 34.2% in 2004 and 38.9% in 2005. These increases reflect in part Governments' efforts to settle outstanding claims from years back including Pension, contractor arrears and monetization of public benefits. Provisional estimates for 2006 are an overall fiscal surplus of 12% of GDP and a non-oil deficit of 42% of non-oil GDP.

External current account balance has improved dramatically from a deficit of 8.4% in 1999 to a surplus of 12.1% of GDP in 2005 and an estimated 12.5% in 2006. FDI also doubled from USD 3 billion in 2003 to more than USD 6 billion in 2005. Non-oil FDI increased from USD 0.6 to USD 1.7 billion. Overall balance of payment was in surplus in 2004 and 2005 allowing an accumulation of USD 46.5 billion by December 2006. He noted however that the recent growth pattern notwithstanding, it is still inadequate to achieve the MBG on poverty. Growth will need to be stronger (at least 7% annually) and will need to create more jobs.

The period witnessed an improvement in fiscal management, higher oil income, debt relief agreement with the Paris club which resulted in substantial decline in external debt. Some lesson can be learned from the above. This include the need for greater efficiency in the use of Nigeria's public resources and a more cautious move towards greater exchange rate flexibility coupled with expenditure rate restraint to reduce pressure towards real appreciation to avoid the boom-bust cycles of the past. If a savings mechanism is instituted, only structural up-shifts in oil income would require real exchange rate adjustment.

Nigeria's Non-oil Economy: The report stated that Nigeria's non-oil economy is essentially domestic and meant to supply domestic demand. Productivity and competitiveness in the sector has been declining over the years as Nigeria ranks 88 out of 117 on its global competitive indicators behind countries such as South Africa and Ghana. Some features include:

- Duality between the formal and informal sectors.
- Insufficient job creation and low wages declining yields in both food crops and commercial agriculture with some slight increase in cultivated areas for food crops.
- Decline in manufacturing and service sectors.

In the domestic market, growth potentials exist in the supply of services to the oil & Gas sector by Nigerian with Government setting up targets to raise Nigerian content to 70% by 2010. These growth potentials can be supported initially by increased domestic regional and eventually global demand. Exports represented 55% of GDP in 2005 mainly as a result of oil exports. But non-oil exports have been declining. Nigeria firms have the potentials of increasing competitiveness in the regional markets. This is especially so with its large population which has the capacity for a large market. Finding ways to return some of Nigeria's oil windfall back to Nigerians would also help to stimulate domestic private consumption.

<u>Binding Constraint to Growth</u>

- Low savings and investments. While investments have averaged 19.5% of GDP, savings is about 18% of GDP between 1980 and 2005.
- Savings from external current account surpluses and proceeds of debt forgiveness have not been extensively used for growth purposes.
- Excessive high liquidity of Nigerian banks, low access to finance and interest rate volatility.

- Low return on investment appear to be the root of low investment as large banks made their profit primarily from fx transactions and investments in government securities. Low returns on investments are also a function of both low underlying returns and low ability of the private sector to appropriate/access returns. This is due in part to infrastructure bottlenecks which, reduces productivity and competitiveness by adding to firms cost and reducing competitive pressure on the economy.
- Quality of education has fallen over the last two decades and new recruits require competitive training with the economy skewed towards low technology activities. This suggests that low human capital is still an important constraint in enhancing firms' level efficiency and productivity.
- The volatile economic environment makes it risky for business and this increases the "transaction" cost of doing business. These risks arise from such micro factors as corruption and institutional weakness. Though improving, nevertheless still remains a major area of challenge.
- At the macro level, volatile economic environment stems principally from the poor management of the oil revenue cycle which led to debt build-up, appreciating real exchange rates and extreme volatility in key macro economic variables that inhabited investment and growth. This high level of volatility and risk makes it hard for economic agents to plan and act as a tax on investment.

Closing The Infrastructure Gap; The gap stems from under investment in the rehabilitation and maintenance of the existing infrastructure, significant under spending and poor quality of infrastructure.

- Poor access, quality and cost of infrastructure including roads and power
- Ports services are among the most inefficient and expensive in the world as evidenced by high wanting time, low handling speed and high container "dwell" time.
- About 50% of federal roads are in poor shape. No effective action has yet been possible to control excessive axle loads which result in serious damage to roads

  This infrastructure deficit imposes significant additional costs on business and reduces their competitiveness. However, under the reforms, the government is redefining its role as exclusive provider of infrastructure to the dual role of provider and facilitator.

Further measure could be taken to tackle cross-cutting and specific infrastructure challenges. These include:

- Strengthening medium-term investment strategies for all sectors.
- Adopting a standardized and transparent approach to government in public private partnerships.

- Conducting a detailed electricity demand study to help the government conclude power purchase agreements on independent power projects.
- Strengthening the capacity of the energy regulator (NERC) through long-term funding base, independence and operational framework for unbinding former NEPA.
- Implementing the national policy on rural travel and transport.
- Assessing and rationally apportioning rural road network responsibilities within the three arms of government.
- Establishing a road fund for periodic maintenance of roads to be funded through a surcharge on fuel.
- Carrying out an economic analysis of the merits of government funding of majority of tract rehabilitation and future improvements in the content of on-going railway concessioning.
- Establishing and consolidation of regulators of the transport sector, building and publishing a database of key performance indicators for each concession.
- Avoiding duplication of effort in the transport sector.

Improving The Business Conditions For Growth.

Micro level and Macro level instability are key in explaining low investment and growth in Nigeria. Micro level risks arise from government policies, regulations and laws as this can create a conducive environment in the institutions that guide businesses can increase performance of up to 2.3%. Taxation, trade facilitation, business registration, licensing and contract enforcement are seen as the weakest element in the business climate. At the Macro Risk level, the effort at tackling key macro level instability is worth while. To secure this reform, it is important to:

- Secure the passage of the fiscal responsibility bill
- Design a more formal framework for the management of the oil savings.

Access To Long-term Finance

Self financing posture of most firms is largely as a result of lack of access to long-term funds. Most banks lack investment opportunities to place their funds and perceive the risks in lending to be too great. While the financial sectors is still shallow, the deposit base which can increase the outreach of banks has improved considerably. The future challenge will be to harness the success of the banking consolidation and to develop non-bank finance to improve access to ***fund*** on a small scale and service delivery.

A major policy role also exists for government in providing adequate incentives, building financial sector infrastructure and an enabling environment.

The following measures could help enhance this intermediation role and strengthen access to finance.

- Implementation of risk based supervision of financial institution by the authorities.
- Improving the lending environment through strengthening creditor's rights and insolvency frameworks, making investment in credit infrastructure, technology e.t.c.
- Developing outreach strategies to close the substantial knowledge gap about the size and scope of demand for financial services outside of the corporate sector and urban middle income.
- Addressing structural factors in the capital market.
- Creating a public-private facility for infrastructure that will help address market failures and maximize local financing for infrastructure.

Harnessing Domestic And International Trade For Growth

Though several countries have achieved growth through exports, smaller economies often find it difficult to achieve productivity and efficiency without tapping larger markets through external trade. Nigeria therefore will need to rely on foreign market to deliver sustained growth. Nigeria is not making use of its relatively large domestic market to help improve firm efficiency and productivity. Apart from the poor state of transport infrastructure that segmented the domestic market, other factors need to be addressed.

Some specific actions to be put in place include:

- Addressing property rights over commodity markets by encouraging local governments to give long term leasehold or freehold over market sites to the market associations. These associations should then submit plans for their development including expansion of the market.
- Removing opportunities for predatory behavior by public officials.
- Charging the tenure of formal wholesale and retail markets from local governments to the market associations and giving the latter incentives to manage these markets.
- Improving the approval process for formal wholesale and retail market planning in the local government.

Additional actions that could strengthen Nigeria's participation in regional and International trade include the following:

- Undertaking a systematic review of the existing subsidy to promote non-oil exports to assess their cost effectiveness in achieving their stated aims.
- Outline and implement a strategy for phasing out special tariffs on sensitive products and for eliminating import bans by the end of the ECOWAS common external tariff (CET) transitional period in 2007.
- Ensuring that receipts from Ports Development Levy are administered to the same standards as general budget receipts.
- Ensuring that products specific levies and excise duties are applied in a non-discriminatory way.
- Taking an active role in shaping the outcome of the economic partnership agreement negotiations with the EU and the WTO Doha-Round.

Embedding And Sustaining Reforms

Nigeria made excellent progress in the last few years on the reform agenda. It is important that Government embeds the reform achievements in a manner that enhances their irreversibility.

Comments On the World Bank Study 'Nigeria Competitiveness And Growth.

Mrs. Sarah Alade, Deputy Governor Central Bank of Nigeria gave the CBN's position on the World Bank study as presented by Mr. Hafez Ghanem. She agreed that Nigeria is endowed with considerable resources and agreed on the credibility of some of the information in the report. Nevertheless there were also a number of mis-representations which needed to be corrected.

According to her, it is true that Nigerian suffers from fundamental development challenges with low rate of economic growth in the last five years and that the economy has a large informal sector. She asserted that a majority of informal activities are linked to the formal sector. The problem is that they were not captured in published statistics. She agreed with the report that the manufacturing sector at the moment is not likely to drive Nigeria to penetrate the international market. There should therefore be concentration on domestic and regional trade to help build international competitiveness. On direct transfer of part of the proceeds of the oil windfall to the citizens, Government has already provided numerous subsidies under its poverty alleviation programs to beneficiaries to set up businesses.

The problems of corruption and rent seeking are acknowledged and are comprehensively addressed in government's reform programs.

Review Of Recent Economic Development

Major weaknesses under this section by Mrs. Alade are the out-dated nature of the statistics and advised that current data should be fully reflected in the report. The World Bank report also addressed the need to ensure fiscal sustainability. It is believed that once the fiscal sustainability bill is passed this problem will be solved.

The report described the deplorable state of the non-oil economy which is essentially focused on the domestic economy producing for domestic demand. Mrs. Alade however commented that the report focused more on the symptoms rather than the problems such as poor state of infrastructure, low access to credit etc. She believed that 70% Nigerian content in the oil and Gas industry by 2010 is an upper calling for developing the sector..

The Building Constraints To Growth

The CBN noted some factors identified as constraints to growth in the CBN report but stated that some of the data were outdated. For instance:

- On interest rate volatility been constraint to growth, this issue has been addressed by the December 2006 New Monetary Policy Framework.
- It is also unlikely that returns on investment have contributed to low investment and low growth in Nigeria.
- Though most banks made much of their profits from foreign exchange before the consolidation exercise, it is not true that such banks were given preferential treatment. The fact was that their customer base overwhelmed those of smaller banks which in turn affected, their demand for foreign exchange on behalf of customer-end users.
- The reasons adduced for the instability of Nigeria's economic environment including corruption appears based on outdated information. The Nigerian Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (NEITI) bill has been signed into law and this will address transparency issues in the extractive industry. The audit for 1999 – 2005 has been carried out and that of 2006 is in progress.

The due process check on government expenditure is aimed at ensuring value for money in government transactions. Also CBN's corporate governance code for bank is aimed at entrenching good governance habits in the banking industry. Other good governance bills such as NEITI bill, The Statistical Act, The Tax bill have been passed while the fiscal Responsibility bill will soon be passed. On corruption, the fight against it has been robust.

Closing The Infrastructure Gap

The CBN agreed that an efficient and competitively priced infrastructure is central to raising productivity and growth and that some infrastructure had not been upgraded since 1970s and 1980s. However, the reform of the power sector has received impetus. NEPA has been unbindled and privatization of the sector is in top gear.

Improving The Business Conditions For Growth

The problem of micro level risk and economic stability is been tackled in various fronts, through the oil price benchmarks. The Fiscal Responsibility bill when signed will define strict fiscal rules. The management of oil savings which are indeed in foreign exchange should continue to be domiciled in CBN. The creation of an independent body will not be beneficiary in the long-run. The issue of tax efficiency and multiple taxation will be addressed comprehensively by the committee on review of tax policy. The consolidation of the insurance companies has been completed and the establishment of micro finance bank would improve access to finance by low income households.

Embedding and Sustaining Reforms.

The CBN agreed on 3 of the 4 points strategies for sustaining current reforms. Namely:

- Building institutions and process for policy making
- Introducing legislation to reinforce the policy charges
- Making public information on government policy and performance available to all stakeholders.

The 4th – The facilitation of the creation of new and well-informed coalition of interest groups in support of the reforms is in contradiction with the need to publicly release all information to all stakeholders. We should not attempt to impose our will on the populace. Our programs should be marketed and we should try and influence the people to accept the program. We should follow the rule of law and due process.

Concluding Remarks

The World Bank report outlined the development problem of the Nigerian economy and proffered useful measure. There were however some instances the CBN had reservations.

Prospect For Nigeria's Economic Growth In The Next Decade: Challenges And Opportunities.

In his presentation **Dr. Alberic Kacou Resident Representative of UNDP in Nigeria** started by giving an overview of Nigeria's economic landscape. In his introductory remarks he acknowledged the fact that the past 7 years had witnessed a marked departure from the historical trend of growth inertia and macro economic instability to growth with real rate averaging 6% far beyond the rate of population of 3.2%. There was macro-economic stability, favorable balance of payment, declining inflation, some fiscal discipline and a consolidated financial system free from external debt burden. In spite of all these, the quality of life of average Nigerian still remains lower than expected. There is still economic growth with high level of inequality and social exclusion. This presents a major development challenge to Nigeria.

Nigeria's Economic Development in Retrospect

According to Alberic Kacou, before 2000, Nigeria's economic development was volatile. There was serious economic recession in the 80s with reclining growth, hyperinflation, high unemployment rate, excessive fiscal indiscipline, serious balance of payment disequilibrium and serious external debt burden. This was the situation when the civilian administration came in 1999. Since then, GDP has risen astronomically from USD 64.1 billion in 2004 to USD 145 billion in 2006. Average annual GDP has also increased from 3% to 6.8% in 2006. However due to its high population it rants among the poorest in Africa. As against Africa's GDP per capital (Purchasing Power Parity) of $2724 in 2005, Nigeria's value stood at $1776.

Unlike the past"

- Non-oil sector is now on the growth path. Agriculture contributed 35.5% to the economy between 2000 and 2003 but rose to 41.2% in 2005.
- Wholesale and retail trade also rose from 13% to 13.64% during the same period.
- Between 2000 – 2003 manufacturing accounted for 4.4% but declined to 3.75% in 2005.
- Economy grew faster in the last 5 years and gained stability.
- Non-oil sector has grown at 5.9% annually, accelerating to 7.4% in 2004 and 8.2 in 2005.
- Industrial and manufacturing sector remained stagnant due to poor basic infrastructure. Sectors that record high capacity utilization are those relying on imported inputs.
- Growth in the service industry was mainly driven by telecommunications and financial services with some operational inefficiencies experienced.
- Real GDP has been supported by continued high price of crude oil and improving macro economic environment dampened however by population growth rate of 3.2% per

annum and non-oil productivity. Productivity of agriculture and the informal sector continues to be poor. This account for why the aggregate growth has not translated into improved living condition of the people.

The Challenges Of Economic Growth

The economy faces challenges requiring urgent attention: As indicated in NEED 2, an average growth rate 0f 10-11% is required between 2008 and 2011. To meet these goals the following challenges grouped into 2 (two) namely over arching and specific challenges are highlighted below.

Over Arching Challenges

- **Weak governance:** Accountability, transparency and governance and integrity still low especially at state and local government levels.
- **Corruption:** It is so entrenched that the fight against it needs to be improved upon and taken to the lower tiers of government.
- **In-appropriate Institutions:** It takes the form of weak governance at the three tiers of government. It is also said that genuine private sector does not exit as they tend to be parasitic by depending on government most times. Others are incomplete market and weak property rights, weak regulatory arrangement, weak contract enforcement and weak policy system.
- **Capacity Constraint at the Federal, State Local Levels.** This relates to capacity to formulate, analyze, implement and monitor economic development programs.

Specific Challenges

- ♦ Current level of per capita income of about $1000 cannot leap jump the development process. The key challenge would be how to foster the linkage between economic growth and employment generation.
- ♦ Success achieved in the macro economic front has not been translated into equitable distribution of materials.
- ♦ The economy remains highly undiversified depending solely on oil constituting about 95% of foreign exchange and 70%of total revenue.
- ♦ Low productivity across sectors especially agriculture and SME. There is weak incapacity across various sectors of the economy_ weak synergy between agriculture and industry, weak linkage between financial sector and the real sector and limited interaction between formal and internal economies.
- ♦ Current cost of doing bummers is too high making the economy uncompetitive.

- Low quality of education despite commensurate improvement in the quality of education. The skill content is low.
- Comatose level of physical infrastructure.
- Endemic level of poverty prevailing in the country where more than 76million Nigerians are poor.
- Absence of effective monitoring and evaluation system.

Prospects for Economic Transformation

The prospects of Nigeria accelerated growth and development higher on some fundamental uses. These are highlighted below:

- Nigeria must take its peculiarities into considerable as done by the South East Asia countries by taking agriculture seriously. The idea of focusing on oil at the expense of agriculture should be reversed. Appropriate forward and backward linkages between agriculture and other sectors should take priority in government agenda.
- Improving governance and full commitment to the fight against corruption.
- Need for epochal innovation that directly links science to the problems of production with appropriate policies that will foster the linkage between economic rewards and induce technological change.
- Breaking the perennial quality in production.
- Nigeria demographic changes could be concomitant faster in the growth process especially if appropriate investment is made on the high youth population and solving the problems of youth unemployment.
- The massive investment in physical infrastructure is required especially transportation.
- Heavy investment in institutional infrastructure. The fight against corruption is an important aspect of this institutional building. The EFCC, ICPC, Code of conduct Bureau and the Nigeria Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative should all be encouraged. Other institutional issues include developing private property right, security of life and property and
- Creating economic institutions:
    - Creation of limited liability companies should be encouraged rather than one man business to insulate owners from rules and to raise needed capital for large scale investment.
    - There should be established and transparent processes of capital venturing and creation of big organizations that work to take advantage of global markets.

- Creation of strong financial institutions that will be close to the real sector and meets the needs of the small and medium scale enterprises that constitute the core of the Nigerian economy.

- Investments should focus on key elements of human development such as education, health care, and social services.
- Since trade is a major driver to economic growth, Nigerian's trade strategy should be linked to growth and structural change through improved productivity and investments with emphasis on market access.

Conclusion: Mr. Kacou then concluded that the key drivers to economic growth are the strong will of governments to open markets, maintain macroeconomic stability, adopt new technologies and invest in the well being of their citizens. According to him, it is a combination of market induced growth with strong commitment from key stakeholders with government on the driver's seat.

<u>Malaria In Pregnant Women In Nigeria</u>

This presentation which concluded the series was delivered by **Dr. Yemi Sofola, National co-ordinator, National Malaria Control Programme Federal Ministry Of Health, Abuja.**

She started by giving a global picture of the pandemic. According to her, it affects 5 times as many people as AIDS, leprosy, measles and tuberculosis combined and is endemic in 107 countries with about 90% of malaria deaths occurring in Africa claiming mostly pregnant women and under 5 years children. She continued that malaria kills a child every 30 seconds.

Pregnant women are at great risk as it causes up to 15% of anemia and if maternal death due to malaria induced anemia is up to 10,000 per year in Africa. Statistics have it that 70% of pregnant women in Nigeria suffer from malaria and 11% of these die of malaria every year. Malaria also contributes to maternal anemia, low birth weight and other complications due to abortion, still birth e t c.

<u>Effects on Unborn Babies</u>

The parasites hide in the placenta and interface with the transfer of oxygen and nutrients to the baby. This leads to spontaneous abortion, preterm birth, still birth and low birth weight.

<u>Factor Promoting The Spread of Malaria</u>

These include:

- Spreading drug resistance
- Wealth health systems
- Socio cultural practices
- Climatic changes
- Rapid and controlled urban activities

<u>The Role Back Malaria Partnership</u>

This involves partners from different parts of society work in harmony and develops plans to roll back malaria. Communities are partners in deciding the best way.

In Nigeria, the Strategy entails:

- Improving treatment
- Promoting the use of ITNs
- Promoting IPT during pregnancy
- Ensuring environmental control of vectors

For pregnancy, the new policy focused on health education about malaria during antenatal care, constant use of **Insecticide-Treated Nets (ITNs) Intermittent Preventive Treatment (IPT)** with sulphadoxine – Pyrimethamine and early detection and prompt appropriate case management of women with symptoms and signs of malaria.

<u>Way Forward:</u> This Include:

- Promoting universal access
- Motivating and retaining human resource
- Mitigating drug and insecticide resistance
- Increasing financial support at Federal, State and Local Government Area
- Facilitating community involvement and ownership
- Developing new effective tools e.g. malaria vaccines and managing the massive scaling up process.

For NEPAD, there could be a partnering with the RBM initiative. This can be done by organizing malaria workshop at the community level, provision of ITN and distribution to the vulnerable and supply of medicines.