

COMMITTEE OF PRO-CHANCELLORS OF STATE-OWNED UNIVERSITIES

Chairman:

Yusuf Ali, SAN, FCI Arb (UK)
FCI Arb (NIG), FDRA, FSPSP, FNMGS.

Vice Chairman:

Hon. Awwal Tukur
Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council
Adamawa State University, Mubi.



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12th September, 2023

COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE 61ST QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE PRO-CHANCELLORS OF STATE-OWNED UNIVERSITIES ON 12TH SEPTEMBER, 2023 AT ABUJA

The Committee of Pro-Chancellors of State-Owned Universities in Nigeria (COPSUN) at the end of its 61st Quarterly meeting held at Abuja, FCT discussed various issues fundamental to the development and growth of State-owned Universities and tertiary education in Nigeria and resolved as follows:

1. **YUSUF ALI, SAN BOWS OUT**

Yusuf Ali, SAN has bowed out of office gracefully as the Chairman of COPSUN and is succeeded by **Ahmed Mustapha Goniri, Esq**, Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council of the Yobe State University. Within the two years of service, Yusuf Ali, SAN transformed the Committee into a bonafide corporate entity. The Pro-Chancellors wished he stayed on to continue the good works but having ceased to be a Pro-Chancellor he has to leave.

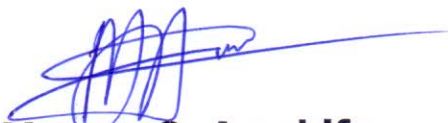
2. Given the fast growing number of State Universities in the country and their closeness to the grassroots, the Pro-Chancellors resolved that State Universities should be more relevant to the social, economic and technological advancement of the people. It, therefore, urged the Vice-Chancellors of State Universities to create niche for themselves as the master of development of tertiary institutions in Nigeria.
3. **COPSUN** believes that the importance and relevance of alumni associations cannot be over-emphasized. It called on Vice-Chancellors of State Universities to encourage and cultivate their alumni associations to support the growth and development of the Universities. It added that students should be treated well to create good memories in them after their graduation from the Universities as to be willing to assist if and when called upon by their alma maters.
4. The Pro-Chancellors congratulate both the Minister of Education and the Minister of State for Education, **Prof. Tahir Mamman** and **Dr. Yusuf Sununu** respectively on their appointments. It urged them to create synergy and good working relationship with COPSUN and see it as partners in progress for the overall advancement of tertiary education in Nigeria.

5. **AUTONOMY OF STATE UNIVERSITIES**

The Committee reiterated the importance of University autonomy and called on the relevant governments and authorities to respect and uphold the principle of autonomy as enshrined in the enabling Laws of the Universities. The Pro-Chancellors appealed to State Governors to emulate the Federal

Government where the appointments of Vice-Chancellors end with the Governing Councils of individual Federal Universities.

6. Furthermore, the State Governors were urged to give the Governing Councils free hands to determine the school fees of their various Universities having regard to the economic realities of the time.
7. **COPSUN** congratulates the Governor of Ondo State, **Arakunrin Rotimi Akeredolu**, on his recovery and safe return to office after his treatment abroad. It prayed that God will grant him good health with fulfilling long life.



Marcus O. Awobifa
Secretary, COPSUN

12th September, 2023