

Nigeria: Tinubu@UNGA; New Ministers, CBN Governor; Niger Coup

September 18, 2023

Please read on pages 3-5 about Appointment of new Governor and Deputy Governors of CBN.

Please read on page 6 about the appointment of the new Ministers of Youth.

Please see the Status of Niger Coup on page 7.

November 18, 2023: New York: On Monday, President Bola Tinubu arrived in New York to participate in the 78th **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** on the theme of

“Rebuilding Trust and Reigniting Global Solidarity: Accelerating Action on the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals towards Peace, Prosperity, Progress and Sustainability for All”.



*September 18, 2023: **President Bola Tinubu** leaving for New York*

The President is scheduled to address UNGA on 19th September 2023, the first day of the ‘High-Level General Debate’.

He will also participate in the following:

- High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (UN 2023 Summit on SDGs).
- High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development; High-Level Meeting on Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response.
- UN Secretary General’s Climate Ambition Summit; High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage; High-Level Panel on Reform of the Global Financial Architecture.

President Tinubu said to the correspondents before he went into a meeting with President of South Africa, “You cannot have a stable democracy in the presence of poverty of knowledge and a starvation of people.

“Democracy without food on the table is a breeding ground for what will consume us, if care is not taken. We must join hands and agree that International Finance Institutions require reform as Africa is not to be a ground for economic scavenging any longer, but it is a place with gifted people that is ready for investment and cooperation.”

President again referred to the Marshall Plan, which rebuilt Europe after the end of the Second World War. He said that a similar international effort has to be mounted for Africa and it must be worked out in consultation with Africa so that the real needs, as visualized by Africans themselves, can be satisfied and Africa can be developed.



*September 18, 2023: **President Cyril Ramaphosa** of South Africa and **President Bola Tinubu** of Nigeria meet on the margins of UNGA78*

President Tinubu said to President Ramaphosa, “We have all the human and natural resources required between our nations. We can collaborate in a mutually beneficial way that enriches our populations. South African **Mining industries** have a role to play in the Nigerian solid minerals development sector. We have great **mineral wealth** across our land, and you have good expertise in this area. We expect to deliver jobs and mutually beneficial results in this area as brother and sister countries.” The President also mentioned that the South African business community had done well in **Telecommunications**. He hinted at collaboration between both the countries in this area.

September 15, 2023: Abuja: **President Bola Tinubu** of Nigeria approved the nominations of the Governor and four Deputy Governors on Friday, September 15, 2023. The appointments will be for 5 years at the first instance and are subject to approval of the nominations by the Senate. The nominated Governor and Deputy Governors are as follows: **Dr. Olayemi Michael Cardoso** is the nominee as the Governor of the **Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN)**. Cardoso had previously served as the **Chairman of Citibank Nigeria** and as the **Commissioner for Lagos State Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget**.



Dr. Olayemi Michael Cardoso, Nominee as Governor, Central Bank of Nigeria
Cardoso obtained a B.Sc. degree from the Aston University, Birmingham UK. He has a Master's degree from Kennedy School of Public Administration, Harvard.

Mrs. Emem Nnana Usoro, Mr. Muhammad Sani Abdullahi Dattijo, Mr. Philip Ikeazor, and Dr. Bala M. Bello are the nominees for Deputy Governorship of CBN.



Nominee: Deputy Governor of CBN:
Mrs. Emem Nnana Usoro

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Mrs. Usoro is UBA's Executive Director, Nigerian North Bank. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria (CIBN). She holds a B.Sc. degree in Biochemistry, an MBA degree from the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife. She is also an alumna of Lagos Business School and Harvard Business School.



Nominee: Deputy Governor of CBN:
Muhammad Sani Abdullahi Dattijo

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International Development Expert Adviser at the Executive Office of United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon in New York, Chief of Staff to Kaduna State Governor of APC

He holds a M.Sc. degree from University of Manchester and Ahmadu Belle University. Certificate in Public Finance from London School of Economics.



Nominee: Deputy Governor of CBN:
Philip Ikeazor

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CEO of Keystone Bank Ltd, CEO of ECO Bank, Kenya Ltd, Executive Director at Union Bank Nigeria

Ikeazor holds a BSc. Economics from the University of Buckingham UK. He is an Alumnus of Wharton-CEIBS-IESE Business School Global CEO Program. He has attended executive programs at Harvard Business School and Wharton School of Business.



Nominee: Deputy Governor of CBN:
Dr. Bala Mohammed Bello
*Honoured with **Dan Buram-Gashaka** Title for his Leadership and dedication in Taraba State*

Dr. Bala M. Bello

Executive Director of Corporate Services at the Nigerian Export-Import Bank

Bello holds a B.Sc. in Accounting and an MBA from Ahmadu Bello University Zaria. He pursued executive development at Wharton Business School, Pennsylvania. He completed Leadership Program at Harvard Business School, Boston, a diploma in Operational Leadership from Richard Ivey School of Business, Canada.

On Friday, June 9, 2023, President Bola Tinubu had suspended CBN Governor, **Godwin Emefiele** and had asked **Folashodun Shonubi**, the Deputy Governor of CBN to take charge as **the Acting Governor of the Bank**. On July 28, 2023, President

Tinubu had appointed a Committee under a **Jim Obazee**, the Special Investigator to probe the financial transactions of CBN and other **Government Business Entities (GBEs)**.



Jim Osayande Obazee, Former CEO of the Financial Reporting Council Obazee holds a Master's degree in Accounting from the University of Lagos. He is certified in Strategic Financial Analysis for Business Evaluation from Harvard University, United States of America.

*www.DiGiNews360.com notes the reports of September 12, 2023 in the "First News" (Reference: <https://tinyurl.com/39hnyt8j>) about the Obazee Committee probing CBN and other GBEs. It is reported by the "First News" that the Obazee Committee has traced about **N8Trillion** of the funds, looted from the vaults of CBN and the GBEs, to various bank accounts operated by individuals and private business organizations. It is also reported that of this huge amount, about **half of the amount** had already been identified by the Obazee-led team of investigators.*

It is reported by the "First News" that the Obazee Committee has found that the idea of New Nairas was conceived by Shonubi, jointly with Emefiele and **Abdullahi Bawa**, the suspended **Chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (suspended on June 14, 2023)** with the ulterior motive of assisting a particular opposition presidential candidate (name withheld) in winning the 2023 general elections.

However, www.DiGiNews360.com is not able to confirm any of the Reports by the "First News".

As the facts about the alleged loot of N8Trillion become available to us, www.DiGiNews360.com will share with our Readers.

September 17, 2023: **President Bola Tinubu** has nominated the following two new ministers, pending their confirmation by the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:

1. **Dr. Jamila Bio Ibrahim** has been nominated to serve as the Minister of Youth.
2. **Ayodele Olawande** to serve as the Minister of State for Youth.



Dr. Jamila Bio Ibrahim

Ms Ibrahim is a young medical doctor and has served as the President of APC's **Progressive Young Women Forum (PYWF)**. She has also served as the **Senior Special Assistant** to the **Kwara State Governor on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.



Ayodele Olawande

Mr. **Ayodele Olawande** is a community development expert and youth leader in the governing **All Progressives' Congress (APC)**. He has served in the Office of the **Special Adviser to the President on Innovation** from 2019 to 2023.

[www.DiGiNews360.com](https://diginews360.com/nigeria-the-complete-list-of-ministers-with-portfolios/) had published the complete list of Ministers at <https://diginews360.com/nigeria-the-complete-list-of-ministers-with-portfolios/>. In the List, Abubakar Momoh was shown as the Minister for Youth (at item 30). Abubakar was redeployed to the Niger Delta development Ministry by the President. So the Ministry of Youth required a new appointment.

The Niger Coup: Status as of now: The coup of July 26 had removed the democratically elected Mohammed Bazoum and replaced him with a military junta headed by **General Abdourahmane Tchiani**. The Junta claimed that President Bazoum had failed in controlling the Jehadi attacks. But many observers think that President Bazoum, who is a Professor of Philosophy, had invited the French troops and the Americans for help in training Niger's Army so that Jihadis could be eliminated. Secondly, he had tried to involve the tribes in the northern areas in the fight against Jihadis. The observers say that his strategy was beginning to work.

However, after the coup, when the attention of the Army was focused on Niamey, on 25th August, 2023, the Jihadis laid an ambush on 22 soldiers killed in Niger State. The military had last week revealed that 36 personnel were slain during an ambush by the terrorists at Zungeru-Tegina road and the subsequent jet crash that happened in Chukuba area of Shiroro, all in Niger State.

The reports from Niger say that **the French ambassador and the French troops in Niger are facing issues**. The President of France has warned against any action against the French embassy.

The civilian Prime Minister of Niger, appointed by the Military junta has said that negotiations with ECOWAS were continuing.

On the other hand, the Military leadership has said that France is amassing troops at borders of Niger and Niger is taking steps to protect itself.

www.DiGiNews360.com calls on the Military Junta to ensure the safety of the French ambassador, the French troops and the deposed President. The Military junta should avoid raising the tensions and try to ensure that negotiations and diplomatic efforts can continue.
