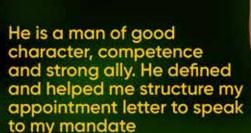


OSGF SERVICE BULLETIN

...the peoples' right to know

A publication of the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation DECEMBER, 2024 | SPECIAL EDITION



SAP, on Policy & Coordination Hadiza Bala Usman

I have known him for 20 years. He's a man of integrity

PS, PEAO, Mohammed Sanusi Danjuma, FCNA

I call him Igwe without knowing he was a prince. He has shown rare leadership in guiding the rest of us.

PS CAO, Dr. Emanso Ekop

EXCELLENCE AND ROYAL RECOGNITION

DR. NNAMDI MAURICE MBAERI

A PRINCE & PROLIFIC PUBLIC SERVANT

DR. MAURICE IS A **DEPENDABLE PUBLIC SERVANT**

SGF, SENATOR GEORGE AKUME, CON





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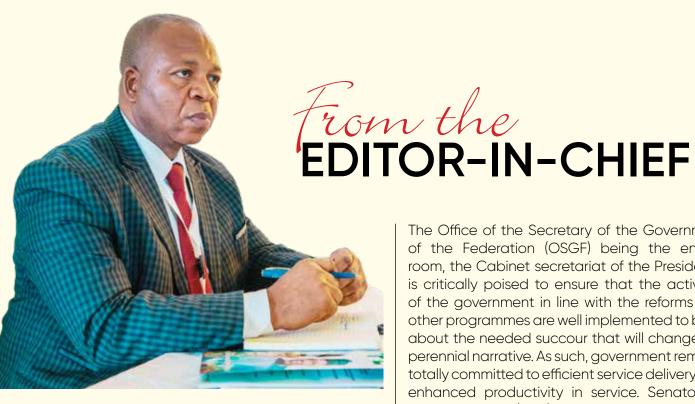












Bola Ahmed Tinubu's resident administration has been marked by bold reforms to transform Nigeria's economy and governance. His decision to remove the fuel subsidy was significant, redirecting funds to critical sectors like healthcare, education, and infrastructure. This has led to a reduction in petrol importation and boosted investor confidence.

Tinubu's tax reforms have modernized Nigeria's tax system, eliminating outdated practices and fostering a fairer tax environment. His administration has also prioritized national security, with significant investments modernizing and equipping security forces. Over 4,600 hostages have been freed, and more than 9,300 hostiles neutralized.

In agriculture, Tinubu declared a state of emergency and launched initiatives to promote year-round farming, ensuring a stable food supply. His focus on renewable energy and enhancing the efficiency of the oil and gas sector has improved the investment climate.

Despite these efforts, the administration has faced criticism for the economic hardships resulting from these reforms. However, Tinubu's commitment to long-term progress and stability remains evident. Overall, his administration's reforms have laid a foundation for a more resilient and prosperous Nigeria.

The Office of the Secretary of the Government of the Federation (OSGF) being the engine room, the Cabinet secretariat of the Presidency is critically poised to ensure that the activities of the government in line with the reforms and other programmes are well implemented to bring about the needed succour that will change the perennial narrative. As such, government remains totally committed to efficient service delivery and enhanced productivity in service. Senator Dr. George Akume (SGF) has doggedly continued to engage different critical stakeholders and interest groups that will further ensure that the different strata of the society commit to the bold strides taking by the government.

In this particular edition of the OSGF Service Bulletin, I am rather humbled by the Editorial Board who chose to dedicate this Special End of the Year Edition to the Royal Recognition accorded me by HRH Eze BC Osuala, the Okwaraezeobi Isunjaba, in conjunction with the members of the Eze's Council of Chiefs of the Gedegwum Royal Palace. I cannot in any way take this invaluable honour for granted. Ordinarily, the bulletin would have highlighted basically all the events, programmes and activities of the last quarter of the year. However, in their resolve to make the occasion a momentous one at that, this edition showcases some of my tour in service. I remain eternally grateful.

I am very confident that the different press releases, news items and goodwill messages highlighted in this edition will serve as a good read and will further be beneficial to our readers.

> Maurice N. Mbaeri, PhD, FCA, OON **EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**



le are in the Christmas season which is a wonderful time of joy, celebration, and togetherness. It brings families and friends together, creating cherished memories through festive activities, gift-giving, and special meals. The air is filled with a sense of warmth and goodwill, as people reflect on the past year and look forward to new beginnings. It's also a time for community and generosity, as many engage in acts of kindness and charity. From sparkling decorations and twinkling lights to the enchanting melodies of Christmas carols, this season truly embodies the spirit of joy and love. Christmas has also become a natural phenomenon that transcends faiths.

And with a sense of nostalgia, in this same season we celebrate the birthday of our Iconic Leader, the Bridge Builder, the man with a Sterling Political Sagacity, the Secretary to the Government of the Federation. His Excellency Senator Dr. George Akume, CON. To us in the OSGF, it is not just a season of celebration of Christmas, but a double one at that, the celebration of the birth of a man of peace who is a blessing not only to the Management and Staff of the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, but to Nigeria as a whole.

As our readers look forward to a rewarding time looking through this edition to catch glimpse of the events, programmes and activities of the OSGF in relation to the Presidency, there is a tilt as it were in this edition. Our focus is on the celebration of another man, one of us, a genteel who towers our world like a colossus, the Permanent Secretary, General Services Office (GSO) in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, OON. A Prince, a Grass-root



man, a First Class Public Servant, an embodiment of grace and passion for fatherland who is being accorded a Royal Recognition by his community, led by HRH Eze BC Osuala, the Okwaraezeobi Isunjaba, in conjuction with the members of the Eze's Council of Chiefs of the Gedegwum Royal Palace. It is indeed a season of celebration for us.

I once read that: "Success doesn't mean sacrificing a full life, and a full life doesn't require sacrificing success". This edition is rife with highlights that presuppose the magic that happens when high achievers become fully present for their families, community and their country at large. It is commonly becoming popular in the public space to emphasise the need to eulogise and speak of the nobility of achievers, and not just to sing an ode, elegy or ballads at their grave side about their prowess and goodwill. What is inherent in this edition by virtue of comments and opinions espoused by different dignitaries and individuals are practical and thought provoking renditions that will serve as lampposts and beacons for those who dare to make a difference. This is a Special Edition not to be compromised. It will serve as a good read any day.

As we reflect on the accomplishments of Dr. Akume and Dr. Mbaeri, we are reminded that true leadership is not just about achieving greatness, but about inspiring others to do the same. Their dedication, expertise, and passion for public service serve as a shining example to us all, and we are honored to celebrate their contributions to Nigeria's growth and development.

Once again, we invite you to join us in celebrating these two remarkable individuals and the critical role that the OSGF plays in Nigeria's governance. We hope that this special edition will provide valuable insights into the OSGF's mandate, structure, and functions, as well as the accomplishments of Dr. Akume and Dr. Mbaeri.

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SGF Congratulates Permanent Secretary GSO, Dr. Mbaeri on **Royal Recognition**



Secretary the Government the Federation, Sen. George Akume, CON, has congratulated the Permanent Secretary, General Services Office in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri on the Royal Recognition accorded to him by the Royal Palace of Eze B.C. Osuala, the Okwaraezeobi Isunjaba in conjunction with the members of the Eze's Council of Chiefs of the Gedegwum Royal Palace.

SGF describes the royal recognition as well-deserved and is also in recognition of his royal background, incredible track records of excellent performance, patriotism, integrity, sense of dedication as well as his immense contributions to the growth and development of public service and the nation at large.

He stated that having worked closely with him for the past one and a half years, he is optimistic that Dr. Mbaeri will uphold and promote the ideals of the traditional institution. He assured that he will deploy his wealth of experience garnered over the years in the public service to good use in his new capacity as a Royally Recognized Prince of the Gedegwum Royal Palace, for the benefit of the entire Kingdom and Nigeria.

Sen. Akume wishes him the best in his new royal status and extend his regards to the Royal Council for finding him worthy to be given the royal recognition.



OSGF on course for digitisation of records

he Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Sen. George Akume, CON, has assured that the Office is on course to digitise its records to promote efficiency in service delivery in line with the Federal Civil Service Strategy and Implementation Plan 2021-2025 (FCSSIP 2021-2025).

He made the disclosure at a five-day Workshop on Records Management and Automated Work Process (Paperless) Office for Directors in OSGF in Abuja.

SGF, who was represented at the workshop by the Permanent Secretary, General Services Office in OSGF, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri stressed the commitment of the Office to fully migrate from analogue to digital processes in monitoring and coordinating the implementation of government's policies and programmes through the deployment of Enterprise Content Management (ECM).

In his words: "As Management

Staff in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation charged with the responsibility of monitoring and coordinating the implementation of Government policies and programs, we cannot afford to be left behind in the use of technology by not migrating from analogue to digital processes in our operations. I am glad to know that our Data Centre is almost fully in place and the deployment of the ECM solution in our various Offices for the commencement of automating our work processes will go live in no distant time".

Sen. Akume assured that the 5-day workshop will acquaint the management staff with the understanding and application of digital means to create, store, manage and share documents, so as to reduce the use of paper and ensure that records and memos are treated in real-time.

In her remarks, the Consultant for the Workshop and the Managing Director of XEM Consultants Ltd, Dr. Eugenia Ndukwe said that the essence of the workshop is to equip and upscale the skills of the management staff on the automation of record processes in line with the policy of the Office of the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation.

Speaking on behalf of the participants at the workshop, the Director of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in OSGF, Wasa Isa Francis said that the workshop on digitisation of records is in line with the directive of the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation for full digitisation of all processes in Ministries, Departments and Agencies by 2025. He added that the training for the management staff of OSGF is important because they are the drivers of change who would ensure the implementation of the ECM in the Office



Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, showing pleasantry to directors during a five-day Workshop on Records Management and Automated Work Process for Directors in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation on Tuesday, 25th June, 2024.

FG sets to implement local government proof of address system

... Advices MDAs to adopt initiative as requirement for official address



he Federal Government has concluded arrangement toward the implementation of the Local Government Proof of Address System (POA) across the 774 Local Government Areas in a bid to boost national security, economic planning and strengthen the nation's national identity management.

The Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Sen. George Akume, CON, made the disclosure at the Stakeholder's Meeting for the Activation and Implementation of the Local Government Proof of Address System which has in attendance some key stakeholders from Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Association of Local Governments of Nigeria (ALGON) and a representative from the German Embassy in Abuja.

SGF, who was represented by the Permanent Secretary, General Services Office in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri said that the POA would provide Nigerians with verifiable and secure address which would form the integral part of all administrative processes in both the public and private sectors.

According to Sen. Akume, when the initiative is fully implemented across the country, the law enforcement agencies will have a robust database of verifiable addresses of Nigerians to enable them track and mitigate criminal activities and social vices. He added that it will also bring development to the LGAs in the allocation of resources and implementation of policies as well as reduce risk in lending, delivery services, and commerce.

He therefore advised all MDAs to adopt the use of the Proof of Address certificate from the LGAs as a requirement to establish reliable and verifiable address, assuring that the Proof of Address

Initiative is an embodiment of hope, a symbol of progress, and a testament to the dedication of this administration to creating a better Nigeria for all.

Speaking earlier the Chairman of Association of Local Governments of Nigeria (ALGON) Bello Lawal, represented by his Special Assistant, Akala Samuel assured that the POA will provide a verifiable address for Nigerians which would lay a foundation for improved governance, planning, service delivery, and will in turn contribute to greater security, economic prosperity, and social development across the nation.

He added that the employment the initiative will equip agencies like the **Nigerian** Police, the Department of State Security Service, and law enforcement agencies in gathering accurate data for intelligence to stem insecurity at the grassroots.

In his goodwill message, the German Ambassador to Nigeria, H.E. Annett Gunther, represented by Police Liaison Officer (CID) German Embassy, Dominik Muller said that Nigeria is on course towards the implementation of the POA initiatives. He added that the Federal Government should take a cue from the Lagos State Traffic Management Agency (LASTMA) of Lagos State to ensure a robust database that will assist the military, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). National Population Commission (NPC), Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), among others.

FG, Huawei trains directorate level officers on ICT

...Presents Awards to outstanding participants

he Federal Government in collaboration with Huawei Technologies Company Nigeria Limited has trained 100 Federal Civil Servants at the directorate level on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) under its ICT for Change Training programme and awarded prizes to outstanding participants.

While presenting prizes to 16 outstanding participants at the closing ceremony of the fourth phase of ICT for Change programme, the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Sen. George Akume, CON thanked the Company for training more than 3,000 civil servants from different Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) on ICT since the commencement of the collaboration.

SGF, who was represented at the event by Permanent Secretary, General Services Office, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri said that the training will boost the capacity

of civil servants in ICT to improve their service delivery in line with the Renewed Hope Agenda of the Tinubu-led administration.

He appealed to Huawei Technologies that the partnership be sustained and extended to other key sectors of the economy. He also used the platform to call on other development partners to join hands with the Federal Government in its quest to improve the socio-economic lives and welfare of its citizens.

Speaking earlier, the Deputy Managing Director. Huawei Technologies, Stephen Zou said its organisation has trained 100 civil servants at the directorate level and has cumulatively trained more than 3,000 civil servants so far. He added that its organisation is not relenting its effort to train more civil servants in ICT as the milestone achieved is just the beginning of more to come.

In his vote of thanks, the Director

of ICT, Mr. Francis Wasa thanked the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation for giving Huawei Technologies the necessary support to train civil servants on ICT and also thanked the Company imparting civil servants with proficiency in ICT to boost their service delivery. He also congratulates the awardees for performing excellently at the just concluded training.

Speaking on behalf of the awardees, the Director ICT in the Federal Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Adebayo Adeyemi expressed aratitude **Federal** to the Government and Huawei Technologies for its collaborative efforts in building the capacity of Civil servants in ICT have helped to broaden their horizons on e-governance and other relevant subjects. He assured that the knowledge they acquired during the training would be harnessed in discharging their duties.





Senator George Akume, FNIM, CON, represented by the Permanent Secretary, General Services Office, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, presides over Stakeholders Meeting on the Activation and Implementation of the National Proof of Address Systems, an Initiative of Assoiciation of Local Governments in Nigeria on Wednesday, 18th December, 2024 in Abuja.

FG re-affirms commitment to improve welfare of persons with disabilities

ederal Government has reaffirmed its commitment to improve the welfare of the persons living with disability through provision of conducive environment and empowerment. Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Sen. George Akume gave the assurance while delivering his remarks at the 2024 International Day for Persons With Disabilities in Abuja.

SGF, who was represented by the Permanent Secretary, General Services Office, Dr. Nnnamdi Maurice Mbaeri said that the Federal Government has made special provisions for persons with disabilities through the creation of the the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD) and the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Special Needs and Equal Opportunities.

He said that his Office has been in touch with the Executive Secretary of the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD) and the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Special Needs and Equal Opportunities on how to improve the welfare of the persons with disabilities.

Sen. Akume added that theme of the 2024 International Day for Persons With Disabilities, ' Amplifying the leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future"

is timely and it is incumbent on us to ensure inclusivity for persons with disabilities in leadership positions and equal access to opportunities. He advocated for special consideration for persons with disabilities in public places and facilities to make it accessible and convenient for them.

In her goodwill message the Permanent Secretary, Cabinet **Affairs** Office, **Emanso** Dr. Umobona Okop charged persons with disabilities to shun inferiority complex and believe in themselves that they can achieve their goals in life notwithstanding their physical limitations saying there is ability is disability.





r. Maurice Nnamdi, Mbaeri, was born to the family of late Mazi Linus and Ezinne Juliana Mbaeri of Isunjaba, Isu Local Government Area of Imo State. He attended Community Primary School, Ekugba Egbema and Comprehensive Secondary School, Isunjaba, where he passed out with distinction in 1982. He proceeded to the then Imo State University from where he obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in Accountancy in 1988.

He went further to obtain a Master of Business Administration degree in Finance from University of Lagos, Akoka in 1998 and a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in Banking & Finance from Nasarawa State University, keffi. He holds a couple of Professional Certificates as follows: Associate, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria , Fellow, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria, Associate, Chartered Institute Taxation, Associate Member, Institute of Corporate Administration, Associate Member, Public Procurement Practitioner of Nigeria, Fellow, Chartered Institute of Certified Secretaries and Reporters of Nigeria among several others. He has over Thirty-five years of professional standing in administrative and finance functions both in public and private sectors. He has also attended many trainings both local and abroad, and has several publications to his credit in local and international journals.

Dr. Mbaeri joined the Federal Civil Service in the year 2000 as Assistant Chief Accountant after several years in the private sector. He rose through the rank to become a Director in 2017, having served in different MDAs at various times which include the Federal Ministry of Works & Housing, Ministry of Power & Steel, Ministry of Defence, Federal Ministry of Transportation, National Defence College (then War College), Office of the Accountant General of the Federation. Police Service Commission; and the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation.

Dr. Mbaeri was appointed Federal Permanent Secretary by His Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR on the 30th November, 2018 after a keenly contested selection process and was deployed to the Police Service Commission. He was later redeployed to the Ministry of Police Affairs in September, 2019 when the Ministry was re-established and charged with dual responsibility of overseeing the Police Service Commission until December, 2019, a role he discharged excellently. It was on this role that Dr Mbaeri set up the structure for the establishment of the Nigeria Police Trust Fund under the supervision of the Ministry of Police Affairs.

Dr. Mbaeri is currently the Permanent Secretary (General Services Office), Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, coordinating the activities of four other Permanent Secretaries in the Office since September, 2020 till date. He works assiduously and harmoniously with the Secretary to the Government of the Federation to engender good governance, national security and economic development through the strategic leadership model anchored on creativity, prudence, transparency, accountability, total dedication, team spirit and humility. He is a passionate and experienced technocrat who has impacted positively on policy formulations and implementation to the success and growth of our dear Nation as the PS, GSO in the OSGF. Due to his outstanding service to his fatherland, he was conferred with two National Honours, of the National Productivity Order of Merit (NPoM) and Officer of the Order of the Niger (OON) respectively by the former President, Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR in 2023.

Dr. Mbaeri was among the 40 eminent Nigerians who received the prestigious Nigerian Excellence Awards in Public Service from His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR in 2024. He has impacted immensely on the lives and communities in and around him over the years, which is why, he has received awards and recognitions from both local and international organisations among which are:

The Pan-African Leadership
Hall of Fame Award by the
Representatives of African
Students Union Parliament;

PROFILE

- ii. Leadership, Integrity and Excellence Award by Michael Okpara Leadership Premier;
- iii. Award of Excellence by TUCWC;
- iv. Award of Recognition as Grand Patron, Nigeria Public Service of Reportorial, Secretarial, Data Processor and Allied Workers;
- v. Award of Excellence by African Meritorious Service Award;
- vi. Recognition Award by Isunjaba Solidarity Union, Lagos branch;
- vii. Award of Excellence by Association of Sign Language Interpreter of Nigeria;
- viii. Award of Excellence by Orlu Senatorial Assembly, Abuja branch
- ix. Excellence Award by Arewa Youth Assembly;
- x. Award of Excellence by Federal Character Commission;
- xi. Servicom Champions Award;
- xii. Award of Recognition by Joint Council of Union, OSGF Chapter;
- xiii. Special Recognition for the immense contributions towards the growth of Isuobishi Community by Isuobishi General Assembly.
- xiv. Award of Honour as Mayor of Nzeneri Chiefdom by Nzeneri Village Assembly,Isunjaba
- xv. National Pre-retirement Summit Excellence Award;
- xvi. Award of Excellence by the Society of Women Accountants of Nigeria;(SWAN)
- xvii. Star Support Award by OSGF Interdenominational Christian Fellowship;
- xviii. Top Notch Award by OSGF Interdenominational Christian Fellowship;
- xix. Appreciation Awards by the NYSC, OSGF;
- xx. Legend Leaders Gold Award by Project News Magazine;
- xxi. Certificate of Award House of Afeni Ventures:
- xxii. Special Recognition by Abia State University Alumni, Abuja branch;
- xxiii. Special Recognition as "Personality Man of the Year" by Personality and Style Magazine;
- xxiv. Recognition Award by Igbo Community, Ministry of Police Affairs;
- xxv. Recognition Award by the Leadership Enhancement and

- Development Program
- xxvi. Award of Excellency by the Orlu Zone Elite Workers Welfare Association, (OZEWWA), Abuja Chapter;
- xxvii. Appreciation Award by Truth and Life of Christ Gospel Ministry;
- xxviii. Recognition Award by Egbema Massive Movement (EMM) Worldwide, among others.

Dr. Maurice Nnamdi, Mbaeri is widely travelled. Some of the countries travelled to include: the United States of America, United Kingdom, Germany, Mexico, Czechs Republic, France, Brazil, China, Russia, Pakistan, India, Venezuela, Indonesia, Korea, Turkey, Israel, Italy, Netherland, Cuba, Ukraine, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Cote-devoir, Ethiopia, Poland, Sudan,

Mali, Chad, Cameroun, Tunisia, Niger Republic, Benin Republic, Rwanda, South Africa, Congo DRC, Congo Brazzaville, Hong Kong, Egypt, Singapore, Jordan, Austria, among so many others.

He has held several positions in various Social Groups to which he belongs .He is also patron to many Progressive Associations.

His hobbies include reading, teaching, farming, listening to music (especially traditional ones) and meeting people. Dr. Mbaeri is happily married to Mrs. Jacinta Ijeoma, Mbaeri and the marriage is blessed with five beautiful children- Chibuzor, Chinonso, Chibugo, Kosisochukwu and Nneoma. He is a devout Christian, who loves doing humanitarian works and helping people.





Emeka **NWANKPA**

lipping through the pages of his life easily reveals a man trained and tutored in the unified family ethos of patience, integrity, and honour which are scarce virtues today. No doubt raised on discipline's diet. That's what first strikes about him. It is writ large, in fact, clearer than his Igbo red cap which unfortunately has lost meaning to many, east of the Niger. But that is a story for another day.

Welcome to the captivating world of Imo State-born Permanent Secretary, General Services Office (GSO) in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (OSGF), Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, a proud recipient of two eminent national honours, namely National Productivity Order of Merit (NPoM) and Officer of the Order of the Niger (OON) Awards.

Maurice, pronounced as Moris in deep Igbo accent back home in Imo, is the man who has sat next to two SGF's, in four years, at public events, donning the Igbo traditional red cap in a manner to assures the entire Igbo nation that Ndigbo lives matter in one united Nigeria.

In his stride he carries himself well-humble, affable and personable, without airs or hubris, but just a masterful marketer of Ndigbo's finest egalitarian virtues of dignity in labour, enterprise, integrity, and team play. At work place, he embodies the togetherness of Nigerians watching the Super Eagles at Moshood Abiola Stadium in Abuja.

Very early in life, he must have learnt the ropes, to navigate life's sharp curves and vagaries. This, to me, is what, stands, in good stead, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, NPoM, OON, to merit this Recognition by the Royal Palace of Eze B.C. Osuala, the Okwaraezeobi Isunjaba alongside members of the Eze's Council of Chiefs of the Gedegwum Royal Palace.

For a man about whom his two bosses, have similar versions of performance report, back to back, it speaks volumes. It also shows that he's at great peace with his chi which Chinua Achebe's main character, Okonkwo, eloquently depicted in epic best seller, Things Fall Apart.

For the uninitiated, the chi is the Igbo man's personal god which determines his good fortune. Evidently, Mbaeri's chi is at peace with him at home and abroad. This explains why he's at home with everybody irrespective of cast of class, region or religion. Above all, he's is very humble and self-effacing about his meteoric rise in life.

Reading former SGF Boss Mustapha's words on marble about Mbaeri, one couldn't agree less because, considering the advantage my 33 years' journalism practice in Abuja has afforded me, I knew a little about his emergence as PS, GSO replacing another fantastic officer, Ogbomosoborn Mr. Olusegun Adekunle whose depth and diligence, and a good regard for the media, remain a reference point in OSGF to date.

That the OSGF often gets good mention in the general mainstream media today, is Segun Adekunle's handiwork. Add that to the unique professional and personal efficiency of its present Director of Press, the ebullient Segun Imohiosen, OSGF's media mileage is on auto pilot. But it can be made better with what I know of that critical office.

COVER

At some time past, Mustapha's wellwritten memo to the villa always returned okayed as he effectively operated like a Prime Minister in Buhari's government. He got so glued to Adekunle that he allegedly secured an extra year for him and six other Federal Perm Secs, a practice criticized in some quarters as an aberration in the service. Though Buhari refused to reverse it, he did not repeat it either. But Adekunle's civil service acumen is unflappable. Available records speak for him.

As Adekunle was ending his oneyear extension, his fine smooth comb fetched Mbaeri whose deployment the Head of Service of the Federation merely effected without much ado. It takes a good man to know a good man. Four years in the saddle, Mbaeri is not Adekunle, but has worked very well to justify the pick, and tremendously too.

Hear Boss Mustapha: "I deliberately head-hunted him (Mbaeri), and my decision was informed by the fact that I had a Permanent Secretary who worked quite diligently, and when he was exiting, I wanted somebody that would fit into his shoes.

"I wanted somebody who

I deliberately headhunted him (Mbaeri), and my decision was informed by the fact that I had a Permanent Secretary who worked quite diligently, and when he was exiting, I wanted somebody that would fit into his shoes.

auite handy for me because of the kind of responsibilities we oversee in the Office of the Secretary to the Government.

He further said: "I found him to be very diligent at his work, very hardworking, committed, and very calm and cool. He's never in a hurry on issues, and because of that nature, that posture, that assisted us in navigating a lot of responsibilities".

Boss Mustapha's successor, former Benue State governor of the Class of 1999, former Senate Minority former Minister. Leader Sen. George Akume, CON,

> George not a strange acquaintance having worked closely with him when he was Minister of Special Duties and Inter-

Governmental Affairs under Buhari. Akume was a reaular face at OSGF and in a way learnt ahead the inner workings of the place before his appointment by President Bola Tinubu in April last year.

But here's the thing: Mbaeri has successfully managed his boss Akume, a politician with his huge retinue and political crowd without ruffling the feathers, an opportunity that may serve him well to take a shot at politics when he's done in OSGF where he has met and related with all manner of people including governors, senators, Reps, diplomats, the military, foreign visitors, etc thereby honing his skills at managing people and their tantrums.

Of his relationship with Mbaeri, Akume said that they started working closely for the past one and a half years, and that he's optimistic that Dr. Mbaeri's royal background, incredible track record of excellent performance, patriotism, integrity, sense dedication would enable him relate well and promote the traditional institution with his years of experience in the public service.

As a publisher with fair insight into the workings of the Presidency, the engine room of the Federal Government, my assessment of Mbaeri as PS, GSO is simple: he cannot be easily pigeonholed. He comes across as one who loves meeting people, and leaves them guessing who he really is. He walks and talks circumspectly, as the Bible teaches. Such a man goes far in

Even where he coordinates the activities of no fewer than Federal Permanent Secretaries, he's careful not to ride roughshod over them knowing he's first among equals. He is sensitive about his place in history as the custodian of the finest values of the Nigerian Civil Service as the center piece of the unity of the Nigerian State.

It was former Head of State, General Yakubu Gowon whose full utilization of the then Permanent Secretaries of the Nigerian Civil Service to weld the nation together during the ill-fated Civil War of 1967-1970 so much that five of them gained the infamous tag of Super Permanent Secretaries.

Meeting Mbaeri for the first time, there appears nothing "Super" about him except perhaps, the security structure





that had been raised for his personal security like in many high profile offices in Abuia.

Whenever he comes out of office where he's ensconced into the waiting hands of columns of visitors without access, he ensures he halts and gives little time to attend to them in the humblest of manner with smiles on his broad fair face. He is indeed at home with the people but exigency of state security would not expose him to harm. That may change now that he's heading home to be in his clan where the people are his wall of defence.

Hear Boss Mustapha again: "Taking cognizance of the fact that the OSGF is the Secretariat of the President, not only the Secretariat of the President, we also oversee the activities of the Federal Executive Council, the Council of States, the Police Council, and several other responsibilities. For that, you need a Permanent Secretary, particularly in the General Services Office, because he's like the superintendent of other Permanent Secretaries that were working along with me.

"So I'm not surprised that his community found him worthy of being elevated to this Office as a prince from that particular community and also a member of the Council of the Eze in his community.

"He has been prepared for that job, not only as a prince being groomed in the traditions of his people, but also, he will bring a lot of experience and knowledge and skill in the management of the affairs of his kingdom, realizing that such an honour comes with a lot of responsibilities. And I'm very confident that Dr. Maurice Mbaeri will distinguish himself even in this particular Office, as he has done in his public service life

"So I wish him the best at this moment as he assumes this exalted Office in his community and trust that God will lead him, will enable him, will give him all the wisdom that is required in dealing with local matters.

"Because when you get into that kind of an office, on a daily basis you are confronted with local matters, which requires a lot of tact and skill in dealing with those kind of matters... I'm confident about one thing: that he would excel in that particular exalted office". None knows him better.

Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, was born on 1st July, 1965 to the family of late Mazi Linus and Ezinne Juliana Mbaeri of Isunjaba, Isu Local Government Area of Imo State. Dr. Mbaeri attended Community Primary School, Ekugba Egbema, Imo State, Comprehensive Secondary School, Isunjaba, where he left with distinction in 1982.

He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Accountancy from the Imo State University, Okigwe (now Abia State University) in 1988. Dr. Mbaeri obtained Masters of Business Administration degree in Finance from University of Lagos, Akoka in 1998 and Ph.D in Banking & Finance from Nasarawa State University, Keffi.

A Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (FCA) in 2018 and Associate, Chartered Institute of Taxation (ACTI) in 2019, Dr. Mbaeri entered the Federal Civil Service

in 2000 as an Assistant Chief Accountant, Salary Grade Level (SGL) 13, rose through the ranks to become a Director in 2017 serving in several Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) National including Defence College (2001 2005); Ministry of Defence (2005 - 2008): Ministry Federal Transportation (2008 -2010); the Office of the Accountant General of the Federation (2010-2015); Police Service Commission (2016 - 2018); and **OSGF** from

December, 2018 as Director (Internal Audit).

He was appointed as Federal Permanent Secretary by ex-President Buhari in December 2018 and deployed to the Police Service Commission. Subsequently, he was redeployed to the Ministry of Police Affairs in September, 2019 and also charged with the responsibility of overseeing the Police Service Commission till December, 2019.

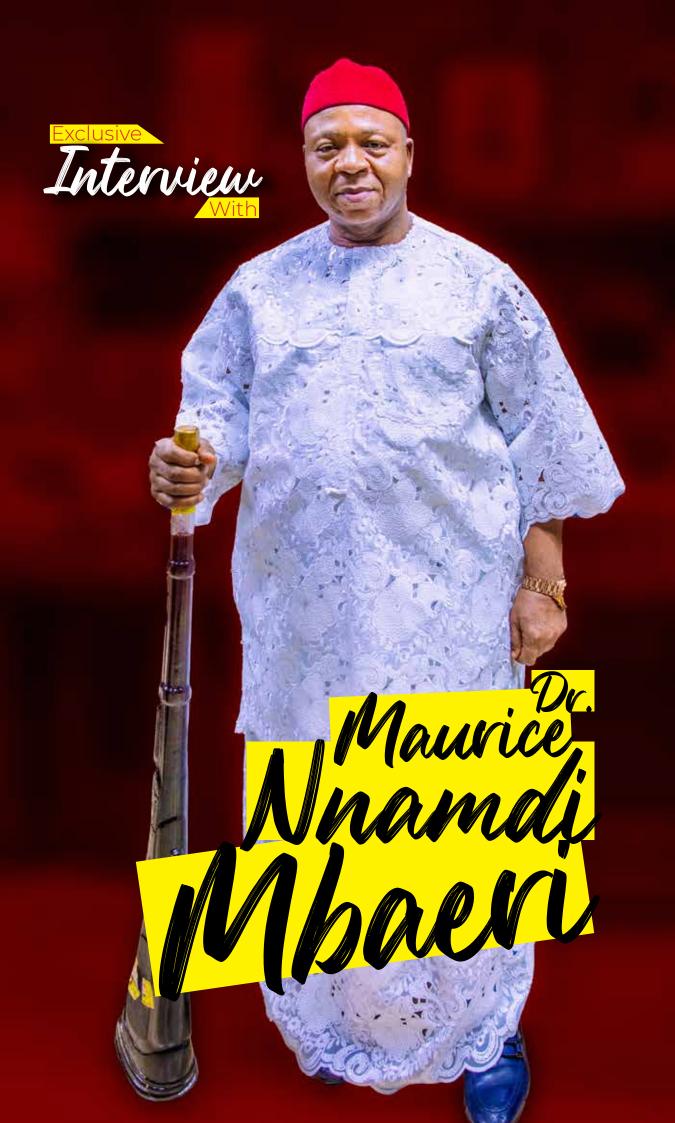
From September 30, 2020 till date, he has been the Permanent Secretary, GSO, OSGF coordinating the activities of four other Permanent Secretaries.

He works assiduously and harmoniously with the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF) to engender good governance, national security and economic development through the strategic leadership model anchored on creativity, prudence, transparency, accountability, total dedication, team spirit and humility in service

delivery.

Dr. Maurice Mbaeri devoted Christian. He happily married and blessed with children. At spare time, he enjoys reading, lecturing, farming, listening to music, viewing wrestling and football, playing tennis table and meeting with people. indeed the man of the





Can you give us a brief of yourself?

kay, thank you so much. My name is Maurice Nnamdi Mbaeri, PhD. I am also a fellow of the Institutes of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria, ICAN, and a holder of three national honours: the National Productivity Order of Merit. NPoM. I also hold the Officer Order of the Niger, OON, the first two were actually given to me by His Excellency, the former president. Muhammad Buhari, GCFR, And then the last one, the Nigeria Excellence Award in Public Service was given to me by His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, also, I'm a Fellow of the Chartered Institutes of Taxation, and a Fellow of the Economic Society of Nigeria.

So, and I hail from the famous town, Isunjaba, in the Isu Local Government Area of Imo State. I'm married, and I have five beautiful children. My wife is Mrs. Ijeoma Jacinta Mbaeri. I have two boys and three girls, Chibuzo, Chinonso, Chibugo, Kosisochukwu, and Nnoma.

Sir, comparing your early life and now, what would you say about it?

Yes, every stage in life comes with its own history. My early days in life, I was a toddler, a homeboy.

But this time around, I'm a civil servant, a very senior one for that matter. I'm a Federal Permanent Secretary, the Permanent Secretary, General Services Office, in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation. And the two scenarios are quite different.

Growing up, I was a very humble young boy, you know, working with my parents, making sure that they survived, making sure that they succeeded, and making sure that they put me through all my school days. You know, I did virtually everything I could to make sure that I assisted my parents, in bringing me up and my siblings.

Then presently, as a Permanent Secretary, I rose through the ranks up to this level. I think I would say that these are the greener days, because in those days, you were suffering, going to school, waking up very early, trying to meet up with the academic challenges. but they were also beautiful, because you were not thinking of any responsibility then. But now, relaxed, taking responsibilities at higher levels, and then trying to meet up

So I told myself, as I just finished my National Youth Service that one day I will also be decorated and recognized in this very venue and I have not forgotten. So, I kept working hard to make sure that I built up a name for myself, my family, my community, my state, and for my nation.

with government responsibilities as the Permanent Secretary, General Services Office, in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation. So, our system is basically, policy implementation, monitoring and enforcement of government policies; ensuring that Ministries, Departments, and Agencies are doing their things in the laid-down procedures, and ensuring, too, that government policies are coordinated. So, they are entirely two different scenarios, but, in any case, you give glory to God for making you excel at that level. So, that's what I can say about the two situations. Thank you very much.

Sir, what were your aspirations and motivations?

Yeah, I have always been motivated by, first and foremost, the destiny God has given to me. From my early days, I told myself that I'm going to be a great man. I told myself that I'll be recognized by this country.

One peculiar situation happened in 1989 when one of my brothers, in fact, two of my relations, the former national goalkeeper of Super Eagles, Angus Ikeji; he is from my village, he's my brother. And then one Rita Ogbonna, she is also our sister.

Angus was being decorated for being the goalkeeper for the national team then, and Rita was being decorated for being a handball player that represented Nigeria in a tournament abroad, these two were being decorated in an event organized by my community. So I told myself, as I just finished my National Youth Service that one day I will also

be decorated and recognized in this very venue and I have not forgotten. So, I kept working hard to make sure that I built up a name for myself, my family, my community, my state, and for my nation.

So, growing up, I was motivated by so many factors and then in the current situation, I'm being motivated when I look at some prominent personalities who have excelled in their respective endeavours in the country. I look up to them and I don't want to mention names, but so many prominent Nigerians have motivated me.

And also the work I do is a motivation, because it is very challenging, so I try as much as possible to live up to the expectation, being the number one Permanent Secretary in the OSGF and of course a ranking Permanent Secretary service-wide. So, I have every cause to say that I am being motivated by what I see, the experiences I encounter, and then the challenges I meet.

Were there any challenges along the line?

Yes, challenges are synonymous with the living. Once you are living, you definitely meet challenges but what makes you different is your ability to overcome those challenges and move forward. There are other forms of challenges in life, in the natural life, once in a while one will fall sick, that is a challenge; once in a while one will lack resources, that's also a challenge.

Then professionally too, it is so demanding that sometimes you'll be required to do certain things you never imagined and then because of your professional calling you have to do them. You wake up very early in the morning and close very late, even to the early hours of the morning, most time 2:00-3:00am. There was a day we shut down from Office around 5.00 a.m. under the former administration of President Muhammadu Buhari when I was working under, Boss Mustapha, the former SGF. Closing at 5 a.m, then there was FEC meeting the next morning at 10 a.m. You had to get up very early dress up, get to the Villa (State House), do your COVID-19 test because you must have to do that before you have any encounter with Mr. President in the Council. Here, I coordinate the affairs of the 774 Local Governments in the country,

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36 States of the country plus FCT, how many ministers, how many presidential Aides.

As Permanent Secretary of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, What are your achievements in the Public Service? Highlight some of your achievements. I see a lot of decorations, awards, plaques, shields, trophies, everywhere.

To be honest, I wouldn't praise myself. But I know well that I have done very well for the system and that is why I have over 120 decorations, over 120 awards to my credit coming from different organizations, different individuals, different societies and things like that.

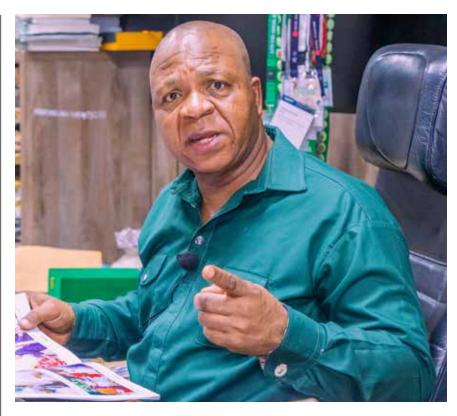
But I will limit my achievements for now, as you rightly asked, to my period as a Federal Permanent Secretary.

I don't want to go backwards to what I have done in the past, especially when I was in the Office of the Accountant General of the Federation, where I was in the inspectorate.

I came up with so many policies. I was involved in setting up some of these Public Financial Management policies, like GIFMIS, IPPIS, you know, name it.

But then, particularly as a Federal Permanent Secretary and presently working in a very strategic Office like the Office of the SGF, we have been able to put government in the right perspective. Mind you that I participated actively in the transition programmes of 2023, when the former administration was leaving. Some of us who are in the system are like the bridge between the old and the new, and the link between the past and the present.

So, we have to put some of our principals through, guide the Ministers, guide the presidential aides to make sure they work in line with the Renewed Hope Agenda of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu administration, and to make sure that government is moving, because there is no vacuum in government. Government is a continuum. So, we don't inherit, rather the administration inherited us, and then we began to put them through, and I believe that we have done guite much. As a matter of fact, when I was appointed the Permanent



Secretary, my first posting was in the Police Service Commission, where I helped in recruiting quite a lot of Nigerians into the Police Force, both Cadets, ASPs, Cadet Inspectors, and then of course the Constables and then I came up with some revolutions in the Police Service Commission, especially with respect to the promotion procedure. Because before then, you would just batch a group of people and then promote them.

So many of the Police Officers were complaining. Some of them had two, three promotions ahead of their contemporaries, who were stagnated. So, we put a policy that, look, we have to develop a constructive, nominal role, and then promotion should be based on the availability of vacancies picked from the nominal role, based on seniority. And that has been working. Then, after a year, I was posted as the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Police Affairs, with the dual responsibility of overseeing Police Service Commission, and then being the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Police Affairs. And I did exceedingly well there, because one of the projects I set up and made sure that it was instituted was the establishment of the Police Trust Fund, which is aimed at ensuring that police infrastructure is given prominence. And that Police Trust Fund is working very well now, and helping the police, and of course, making impact in so many states of the Federation.

Then, from there, I was posted to the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation in 2020, ever since then I have been working assiduously with both the former SGF, my former boss, Boss Mustapha and the present SGF, HE, Sen. Dr. George Akume, CON, who is also a very pragmatic Nigerian, a technocrat who has held several positions as a former Governor, former Minister, and presently, SGF. So, we have done quite a lot and then trying to ensure that government policies and procedures are, observed, you know, as prescribed by the extant laws.

And relating positively well with all the Presidential Aides, the Ministers, the Special Advisers, Senior Special Assistants, Senior Special Assistants to Mr. President and the rest of them. In fact, including the Chief Executive Officers. And basically this office is responsible for issuing out appointment letters to all Presidential appointees.

So, I give every letter of appointment to every presidential appointee, you know, conveyed to the SGF from the Villa. Then we look at the establishment Acts, the relevant Acts establishing them, advice on the content of the appointment letters.

And then SGF, I do the letters, then SGF signs, then they come here to collect their letters from my table. And we have records.

We keep a list of these appointments. And then we also interact basically with the other Chief Executive Officers of Agencies.

And my colleagues, we have five Permanent Secretaries in the Office of the SGF. I am the overall coordinator by that because I'm the Permanent Secretary, General Services Office.

We have the Permanent Secretary, Special Services Office. We have the Permanent Secretary, Cabinet Affairs Office, the Permanent Secretary, Political and Economic Affairs Office, and Permanent Secretary, Ecological Project Office.



Sir, working with the SGF, how can you score his contributions in the development of the country at this time?

The job is enormous. The SGF, as you know, the Office itself is responsible coordinating Government policies and programmes. But apart from that, the Office is the Secretariat of the Council. The SGF is the Secretary of the Council, any Council where Mr. President is in attendance. The SGF is the Secretary. And then the Cabinet Affairs Office which is one of the Offices under the SGF responsible for processing cabinet memos and then going to the Council and then holding regular meetings of the Federal Executive Council and other Council meetings where Mr. President is in attendance. The work is actually challenging because he is also superintending over five Permanent Secretaries. It's just like five Ministries put together. In fact, more than that, because these five offices handle the affairs of the responsibility, he still has time to pick up little, little, you know, errors and omissions here and there. So, I think, by and large, the SGF is doing very well.

And he's doing extremely well in trying to calm down the tempo of the restive youths. When this administration came in, they came up with so many policies that were not there before, that people felt were anti-human. But they were not anti-human.

They are policies that will sustain this country in the next several generations to come. They will help to revamp the economy, stabilize the economy, stabilize the nation, bring up hope for the citizens.

For instance, the issue of subsidy removal is for the good of the country.

Is it tax reforms? Is it the exchange rate reforms? It is the abolition of the multiple exchange rate regime? Multiple taxation, all these things have been dropped.

And the, these are policies driven by this administration anchored through the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation. so it's quite enormous.

So what advice do you have for Nigerians, seeing that everyone is complaining about the hardship?

I am not supposed to say that because I'm not a politician. I'm a civil servant. But if you may still listen to this, hardship is synonymous with every developing society or economy. Even the developed ones, it's not all of them that have the gold mines and of that, people still suffer hardship. So, hardship in this country is relative. These policies when fully implemented will completely eliminate the hardship. People should be patient with the administration with less than two years now. Hardship is not permanent. It's temporary, when we get certain things right, the hardship will disappear automatically.

As a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria, What is the role of your Institute?

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) to which I am a fellow is one of the pioneer professional institutes in Nigeria, you know, regulating the

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practice of Accounting both in the private and the public sector.

If you look at some of the policies, some of the advisories of the Institute of the year, you find out that they are tailored towards nation building, tailored towards economic stability, tailored towards value addition. And what this simply means is that, the Institute has a body, an organ, you know that Interacts with the government in power, interact with Government Agencies in trying to advice on the Professional way of conducting accounting practices in the System, both in the public and the private sectors. And some of the advisories over the years, have been adopted as a working documents the Government in the implementation of certain economic policies. Most of our members are in government organizations.

But I think government has just realized the benefits of bringing in members of the Institute into the system because if you look at the he performance of the private sector compared with that of the public sector, you will find out that the private sector is more or less organized in terms of structuring their way, structuring their working systems, because SO many professionals were employed in the private sector. But over the last two decades, that's over the last 20 years plus, the members of the Institute were massively recruited into the public sector, and of course you can see that the difference is very clear.

In terms of regulating Economy, in terms of making policies that will enhance the value of our currency, in terms of policies on exchange rates in terms of policies on Taxation and then and then of course, in Investment. ICAN has Done extremely well working with some Government Agencies.

Being a prince and a public servant, how do you balance these responsibilities?

Yes, first and foremost as a bona-fide son of the royal family of Gedegwum Palace of Isunjaba, as a son of the soil. My role is to make sure that there is peace and harmony among our people in terms of dispute resolution, peer relationship, preservation of the culture of the people. It is my own role, my own responsibility to

These policies when fully implemented will completely eliminate the hardship. People should be patient with the administration with less than two years now. Hardship is not permanent. It's temporary, when we get certain things right, the hardship will disappear automatically.

also bring in my own input into the administration of the community by the Eze Isujaba who is the first class Paramount ruler of the community. In liaison with other communities that make up the old Isujaba community. Right now, we have about 4 of them. So to ensure that peace and harmony exist in the community and to make sure that our youths are place in such places where they will be useful to themselves. Also, to ensure that disagreements and disputes are reduced to the barest minimum.

Then as a public servant, our works are guided by regulations, and it is expected that as a Permanent Secretary and as a technocrat, we are to abide by those Provisions in the Public Service Rules, the provisions in the Financial Regulations, the provisions in the Public Procurement Act. And then of course, some of the extant rules and regulations the Finance Acts and the rest of them.

I don't think there is any conflict between my role as a traditional Chief and as a Prince of the palace and as a Cabinet Member of the Palace and with my role as public servant. I think the two are entirely different.

I will like to round up by thanking His Excellency President Bola Ahmed Tinuu, GCFR, for giving me the opportunity to serve under his administration. I also thank the former President, Muhammadu Buhari GCFR for giving me the opportunity of becoming a Federal Permanent Secretary. So I want to thank them because it is at the

prerogative of the president to appoint a Permanent Secretary despite their performance in the exam. Then His Excellency President Bola Ahmed Tinuu GCFR for giving me the opportunity to serve under his administration as Permanent Secretary, General Services Office. My principal the Secretary to the Government of the Federation in ensuring that the system continues to work perfectly well. I also want to thank my colleagues, the other Permanent Secretaries here, the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation, Mrs. Didi Walson-Jack, and my former Head of Service Dr. Folashade Yemi-Eson, as well as the one that appointed me.

I want to appreciate my former boss, Boss Mustafa and my present boss, Senator George Akume for giving me the opportunity to work with him and playing the fatherly role which he has been playing. I also want to appreciate the former Head of the Civil Service of the Federation, under whom I was appointed as a Permanent Secretay in 2018, Mrs. Oto-Ita, and the immediate past Head of Service, Dr. Mrs Folashade Yemi-Eson for working closely with her as well as the present Head of Service. My sister, Mrs. Didi Walson-Jackhe for giving me the opportunity to work closely with them.

I will not also forget to express my appreciation to my entire family, the traditional ruler of my community, HRH, Eze BC Osuala, the entire Cabinet members of Gedegwum Palace as well as the entire Council of Chiefs, the traditional rulers in Imo State and particularly the ones from the four Local Governments of Wangele Isu and Ijaba Local Governments, HRH of Eze Imo and all the traditional rulers around my Federal constituency for doing me this very proud honor.

I will not forget my mentor, My Governor, his Excellency, Sen. Hope Uzodima, who is my friend, my Governor and my boss, who has actually been encouraging me to work hard in the Service.

I thank you and I pray that you continue to support me to do more. As we March into the new year 2025, I pray that the God Almighty will lead us safely through the year and Beyond in Jesus mighty name.

FG charges communication managers on protection of government's documents

ederal Government has charged communication managers across Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to safeguard government's documents by ensuring that correct and truthful information is conveyed in a manner that will not jeopardise the security of the country.

The Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Sen. George Akume, CON gave the charge at the One Day Capacity Building on the Role of the Official Secrets Acts in Maintaining Confidentiality and National Security organised by the Bureau of Public Service Reforms in collaboration with the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation in Abuja.

SGF, who was represented by the Permanent Secretary, General Services Office, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation said that it is incumbent on communication managers to disseminate information that is correct and truthful and to also ensure official secrets are protected as doing otherwise will be tantamount to felony. In his words:

"As you are aware, leaking of official secret act is a felony and there is no defence for such act either in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria or the Freedom of Information Act. This training underlies the importance Government places on the dissemination of correct and truthful information".

According to the SGF, the purpose of the training is to also improve strategic communication skills in the public service to ensure employees work towards a common goal through clear direction and vision. He added that government has made great strides in communicating

its approved policies and programmes implementation with the public, with the conscious effort to complement with improved internal communication to inform and mobilise public servants.

In his opening remarks, the Director-General of Bureau of Public Service Reforms (BPSR), Dasuki Arabi stated that the workshop is aimed at empowering communication managers on the critical roles they play in maintaining confidentiality and national security under the Official Secrets Act. He added that it will also strengthen national unity through effective communication in public services and to leverage social media for effective governance in line with the Renewed Hope Agenda of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

In his goodwill Message, the National President of Nigeria Institute of Public Relations (NIPR), Dr. Ike Neliaku stated that communication is very sensitive and as such must churned out responsibly. While the National President of Nigeria Union of Journalists, Dr Christopher Isiguzo, said the training programme will offer a valuable opportunity to deepen understanding of the Official Secrets Acts and their application in daily work. He further said that It will also provide a platform for learning best practices, sharing experiences, and discussing effectively strateaies for managing information within the bounds of confidentiality and security.



PS GSO reps the SGF, One Day Capacity Building on the Role of the Official Secrets Acts in Maintaining Confidentiality and National Security organised by the Bureau of Public Service Reforms in collaboration with OSGF Tuesday, 2nd July, 2024.

Showers of Encomiums on High Chief, As He Receives Royal Recognition



he conferment of chieftaincy title on Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, FCA, NPoM, OON, the Permanent Secretary, General Services Office in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation is not a surprise to those who have acquaintance of his personality, dedication and service to God and humanity and his selfless service to the nation at large. The conferment of the royal title on the High Chief is an attestation to the numerous feats and achievements he has wrought in his community and the nation at large.

It is on this note that his colleagues, and other top government functionaries have taken turns to shower glowing encomiums on Dr. Mbaeri to felicitate with him on the royal recognition accorded him by HRH Eze B.C. Osuala, the Okwaraezeobi Isunjaba, in conjunction with the members of the Eze's Council of Chiefs of the Gedegwum Royal Palace.



Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, CON, being conferred with the Nigeria Excellence Award in Public Service (NEAPS) by the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Kashim Shettima, GCON, at the Internatio



Secretary to the **Government of the Federation**

SEN. GEORGE AKUME, fnim, CON

WORDS ON MARBLE:

This is cognizance of your Royal background, incredible track record of excellent performance in all the positions of responsibility you have found yourself, patriotic zeal, integrity, sense of dedication, immense contributions to the growth and development of public service, as well as selfless service towards the actualization of a better Nigeria



received with delight, your letter informing me that the Royal Palace of Eze B. C. Osuala, the Okwaraezeobi Isunjaba in conjunction with the members of the Eze's Council of Chiefs of the Gedegwum Royal Palace, wishes to accord you a Royal Recognition in your capacity as a bona fide Son and Prince of the Royal Family and in fulfilment of the traditional and cultural demands of the Kingdom.

This auspicious occasion truly calls for celebrations and hence, I wish to convey my hearty congratulations this special recognition. Indeed, this Recognition I must say, is akin to giving to Ceasar what belongs to Ceasar and in truth, well deserved. This is cognizance of your Royal background, incredible track record of excellent performance in all the positions of responsibility you have found yourself, patriotic zeal, integrity, sense of dedication, immense contributions to the growth and development of public service, as well as selfless service towards the actualization of a better Nigeria.

Having worked closely with you for the past one and a half year, I am without doubt, optimistic that you will uphold and promote the

ideals of our traditional institutions by deploying your wealth of experience garnered over the years in the public service where you rose to the pinnacle of your career to become a Federal Permanent Secretary to good use in your new capacity as a Royally Recognized Prince of the Gedegwum Royal Palace, for the benefit of the entire Kingdom and Niaeria.

Whilst looking forward to the Recognition Ceremony and wishing you all the best in your endeavours, please, accept as always, the assurances of my warm regards.





Immediate past Secretary to the Government of the Federation

BOSS MUSTAPHA

WORDS ON MARBLE:

I found him to be very diligent at his work, hardworking, committed, very calm and cool. He's never in a hurry on issues, and because of that nature, that posture, that assisted us in navigating a lot of responsibilities



first met Dr. Maurice Mbaeri, OON, when he was Director of Audit in 2018. He got elevated, after he successfully went through the selection process and became a Permanent Secretary, and he was posted out to the Police Service Commission and thereafter to the Ministry of Police Affairs. But he later returned in 2020 to the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (OSGF) as Permanent Secretary, General Services Office. His coming back was not a surprise because I deliberately headhunted him, and my decision was informed by the fact that I had a Permanent Secretary who worked quite diligently, and when he was exiting, I wanted somebody that would fit into his shoes.

I wanted somebody who is familiar with the environment of the Office of the Secretary to the Government, and also somebody who is reasonably equipped as an administrator. And the advantage that Dr. Maurice Mbaeri had is that he also is a chartered accountant. So, that came quite handy for me because of the kind of responsibilities we oversee in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation.

I found him to be very diligent at his work, hardworking, committed, and very calm and cool. He's never in a hurry on issues, and because of that nature, that posture, that assisted us in navigating a lot of responsibilities.

He brought to bear his experience as an administrator with the fact that he is equally very talented and equipped with a doctorate degree in Accountancy that helped us in managing the affairs of government.

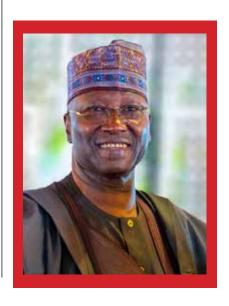
Taking cognizance of the fact that the OSGF is the Secretariat of the President, not only the Secretariat of the President, we also oversee the activities of the Federal Executive Council, the Council of States, the Police Council, and several other responsibilities. For that, you need a Permanent Secretary, particularly in the General Services Office, because he's like the superintendent of other Permanent Secretaries that were working along with me.

So I'm not surprised that his community found him worthy of being elevated to this Office as a prince from that particular community and also a member of the Council of the Eze in his community.

He's been prepared for that job, not only as a prince being groomed in the traditions of his people, but also, he will bring a lot of experience and knowledge and skill in the management of the affairs of his kingdom, realizing that such an honour comes with a lot of responsibilities. And I'm very confident that Dr. Maurice Mbaeri will distinguish himself even in this particular Office, as he has done in his public service life.

So I wish him the best at this moment as he assumes this exalted Office in his community and trust that God will lead him, will enable him, will give him all the wisdom that is required in dealing with local matters. Because when you get into that kind of an office, on a daily basis you are confronted with local matters, which requires a lot of tact and skill in dealing with those kind of matters.

So,I wish him the best, like I said, with his family and God's protection. And also, I'm confident about one thing, that he would excel in that particular exalted office.





Sen. George Akume, Secretary to the Government of the Federation, His wife, Hon. Regina Akume with Dr. Nnamdi Mbaeri during the Inter-Denominational Church Service for the 64th Independence Anniversary at the National Christian Centre, Abuja on Sunday, 29th September, 2024.



Dr. Nnamdi Mbaeri appreciating participants during the Inter-Denominational Church Service for the 64th Independence Anniversary at the National Christian Centre, Abuja on Sunday, 29th September, 2024.





Dr. Nnamdi Mbaeri and wife during the conferment of Nigeria Excellence Award in Public Service (NEAPS) at the International Conference Centre, Abuja on Saturday, 6th July, 2024.



Dr. Nnamdi Mbaeri (middle) with family and friends during the conferment of Nigeria Excellence Award in Public Service (NEAPS) at the International Conference Centre, Abuja on Saturday, 6th July, 2024.



SGF, Sen. George Akume receives in audience the Turkish Ambassador to Nigeria, H.E Hidayat Bayraktar in company of his Deputy, Mr. Burak Hamarat and PS GSO, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, on Tuesday, 20th February, 2024.



Mbaeri during a visit of the Turkish Amb. to the SGF

Mr. Burak Hamarat and PS GSO, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Turkish Amb. to Nigeria, H.E Hidayat Bayraktar and PS GSO, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri during a visit the SGF



Former SGF, Boss Mustapha, CFR, congratulating Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, CON, on his appointment as a Federal Permanent Secretary.



GSO, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri with other participants at the 2023 Cabinet Retreat at the State House Conference Centre Abuja.



PS GSO, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri with other participants at the 2023 Cabinet Retreat at the State House Conference Centre Abuja.

Dr, Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, with other dignitaries during the unveiling of 2021 NEITI Solid Minerals Industry Report on Monday, 4th Sept, 2023.



Boss Mustapha (L), Former Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Dr. Nnamdi Mbaeri, (3rd Lef) with other Permanent Secretaries during the inauguration of the Presidential Transition Council on Tuesday, !4th February, 2023 in Abuja



Permanent Secretary, General Services Office, Dr, Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri (L) SGF, Sen. George Akume with other distinguish guests during the inauguration of Inter-Ministerial Committee on 2024 Democracy Day Anniversary Celebration on Wednesday, 17th April, 2024 in Abuja.

Permanent Secretary, General Services Office, Dr, Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri (M) representing the SGF to unveil 2021 National Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) Solid Minerals Industry Report at Fraser Suites on Monday, 4th Sept, 2023.



Permanent Secretary, General Services Office, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, Exchanging pleasantry during the World Teachers Day Anniversary at the Eagle Square, Abuja on Tuesday, 5th October, 2021.

Permanent Secretary, General Services Office, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, discussing with a dignitary during the World Teachers Day Anniversary at the Eagle Square, Abuja on Tuesday, 5th October, 2021.



Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri receives a presidential handshake from the former President of Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, on his appointment as a Federal Permanent Secretary at the Presidential Villa.



PS GSO in a pose with the former First Lady of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, H.E Aisha Buhari.



Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri in a handshake with the First Lady of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, H.E. Sen. Oluremi Tinubu, during the 63rd Independence Anniversary Inter-Denominational Church Service at the National Christian Centre, Abuja



PS GSO, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, CON and Hon. Minister of Information and National Orientation, Mohamed Idris Malagi, FNIPR, during Presidential Transition Council Forum in Abuja.



PS GSO exchanging pleasantries with Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, former Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, at the NLC 13th Quadrennial National Delegates Conference on Tuesday, 7th Feb, 2023 in Abuja



PS GSO greeting H.E Dr. Yakubu Gowon, GCFR, during a forum at the State House Conference Centre.

Executive Secretary and Chief Executive Officer, Nigeria Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (NEITI)

DR. ORJI OGBONNAYA ORJI



EITI as an agency, reports to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria through the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, His Excellency the SGF, Senator George Akume, CON; but we do that through the Permanent Secretary General Services Office, who is our direct boss in this context. And that person is my dear brother, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, a wonderful Nigerian.

Let me congratulate and sincerely thank His Royal Highness, Eze BC Osuala, the Okwara Eze Obi of Isu Ancient kingdom of Imo State for giving Nigeria such an outstanding public servant. The community has done Nigeria a lot of value, brought a lot of value to the Nigerian public service by producing somebody like Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, who is an exemplary civil servant: experienced, talented, humble, knowledgeable and professional.

Dr. Nnamdi Mbaeri is an uncommon leader who is able to bring public service nearer to his people, and be able to connect between his job at the Federal and his root where he came from in the village. Each time I engage with him, I find a lot of support, lot of wisdom and I find him a complete community service oriented personality in spite of his very high profile at the national level.

I'm definitely not surprised that his people will be giving him this honour.

And I think he's most deserving. He's now a contrast to people who assume national positions and the national service and they tend to put the people, the village and the grass root where they come from at the back seat. They may not know what is going on at home. They may become national figures and then nobody knows them at home.

By this recognition, what we have seen is that Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri is not only known nationally by his exemplary national service,

but he's also well known, regarded, acknowledged, and respected at home

On behalf of the Board, the Management and Staff of the Nigeria Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative, we join his millions of friends around the world, to thank his community, thank his royal highness, his traditional rulers, his family for all the support that they gave him.

To rise to national limelight and be able to be worthy of this honour. Our interaction with him is long. And long in storytelling, but so short and comprehensive in terms of impact.

And what he has brought to bear on our job, I will not have space to say. But this is a man that is so straightforward, very humble, approachable, and accessible. And when you meet him, you cannot leave his Office without

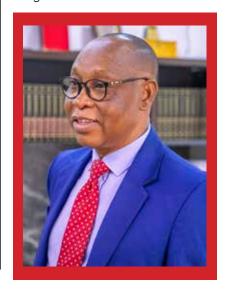
your problem solved, either by phone call, by advice, correction, mentor-ship, and assistance of any kind.

He is available, he is supportive, he is knowledgeable, and he brings all this with epitome of humility. I am very privileged to call him my brother in public service.

I am very privileged to also call him my boss and my friend. And Nnamdi has brought so much value to the work we do here in NEITI.

I think public servants of our standing should learn a lot from Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri PhD that in the course of his national service he has never allowed his people to be alienated. He has made indelible impact to his community. Some of the achievements I know is supporting his people's aspiration in self-help development, supporting the younger ones with opportunities for employment, supporting those in service already, especially most of all with guardians in terms of experience. He is an epitome of honesty and integrity and a role model for most of us that are in the Federal Public Service, and especially those of us that come from the South Eastern part of Nigeria. We see him as a beacon of hope and once you have interaction with him, he will guide you properly, provided you are ready to listen, as I do.

Once again, on behalf of the board, the management, and staff of Nigeria Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative, we share with him in this joy and we offer him our hearty congratulations.



Retired Permanent Secretary, General Services Office, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation

BARRISTER OLUSEGUN ADEKUNLE

WORDS ON MARBLE:

...and I found him
very dependable,
very reliable, very
hardworking, very kind,
and very honest. He's a
person you can entrust
everything to, and you
will find the same thing,
even in a better position,
by the time you ask for
what you have entrusted
to his care



y friend, my brother, my colleague, Dr. Maurice Mbaeri has been close to me for several years, and I found him very dependable, very reliable, very hardworking, very kind, and very honest. He's a person you can entrust everything to, and you will find the same thing, even in a better position, by the time you ask for what you

have entrusted to his care.

And that is why I consider it a great step that the Isu Ancient Kingdom is honouring him with a title which places a huge responsibility on his shoulder. But he's not somebody that runs away from responsibility. The community can be rest assured that he will help them to mobilize effectively. He will help them to

develop areas of infrastructure and human capacity, especially the youth, so as to secure the future of the community.

I congratulate the community. His Highness, the traditional ruler. And I rejoice with my friend Dr. Maurice Nnamdi Mberi for this honour done to him by the community.





Special Adviser to the President on Policy and Coordination & Head of Central Delivery Coordination Unit (CDCU).

HADIZA BALA USMAN



've known Permanent Secretary in the last one and a half years. He's been a great support, he's been a strong ally. Indeed, when I resumed work, not only did he guide me in the details of my work, but even at the point of my appointment letter. He was clear on the fact that this is the way the title of my office should be to enable me function effectively.

So, I would like to say that from the get-go, he defined and helped me structure my appointment letter to speak to my mandate and I'm deeply appreciative of him.

He is a man of good character, a man of capacity and competence. He's always on the job. And I think he plays a role as an anchor, his Office as Permanent Secretary (GSO) has that role. But beyond that, his personality as a person gives that office the impetus that it needs to perform.

The royal recognition that has been given to our Permanent Secretary, is very due. It's a testament to who he is.

I, on behalf of the members of the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation and indeed the Presidency, would like to appreciate the recognition and know that it is well deserving. We believe that, any community that has such a person as part of the community should indeed give them this royal recognition.

So, we express our appreciation

and we celebrate with one of our own as he ascends to the arena of royalty. He has exemplified himself within the technical space. He has risen to the role of a Permanent Secretary and in the same way in the traditional area, he has now been bestowed a royal title. So, we really need to celebrate and appreciate him for who he is.



The Permanent Secretary, Ecological Project Office, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation

DR. AISHETU NDAYAKO

WORDS ON MARBLE:

He is also a detribalised Nigerian because I also call him my Nupe brother, ... and it is not just the Nupe kingdom, he is like that for many other communities and kingdoms across Nigeria



he Permanent Secretary GSO, our own brother, we call him High Chief and Double Chief, Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri is a gentleman to the core. We've had the course to serve in different forum and in different meetings, and it's always a pleasure to work with him. He listens and he uses his wealth of experience to guide and to ensure that things are followed meticulously to the end.

Double Chief is somebody that the minute you meet him, his aura and personality draw you into him and he's always willing to help and guide anybody, especially anything that has to do with the civil and public service.

As a prince, he has paid his dues, and we all know him to be a philanthropic person, and we know that he's a big community builder. And he ensures that whatever is available at the federal level trickles down to his community.

He is also a de-tribalised Nigerian because I also call him my Nupe

brother. I am a princess from the kingdom of Nupe in Niger State and I know that double chief is also somebody very close to Nupe kingdom because he is a very close friend of our current Etsu Nupe and it is not just the Nupe kingdom, he is like that for many other communities and kingdoms across Nigeria. This is a very well-deserved recognition because he has paid his dues.

He has reached the highest any civil servant aims to be as a Permanent Secretary. And he is, I think to date, about the longest serving Permanent Secretary from the Eastern part of Nigeria. And I know that for you recognizing him - because you are recognized first from where you come from, your roots, and it will help him blossom more as a tree that will provide a lot of shade for many more. He is what youths, should imbibe to become in the future because he is a de-tribalised Nigeria.

He has represented Nigeria at the federal level and very well at international forums. Dr. Mbaeri, our double chief, our brother, this is a big congratulations from me and my family. My husband and your friend, Governor Bago of Niger State, the Farmer Governor. We are happy with this recognition.

I want to appreciate the Eze of your community and the good people of the Isu Ancient Community, that this recognition is something that is well-timed and well-deserved.

So we are happy with this, and we know that this honour means that he will bring greater things to the community. You know, as we say, to whom much is given, much is expected. He will bring a lot of prosperity and peace to the community, and he will inspire the youth to follow in his legacy.

My goodwill message is that this is going to push you to serve more, to dedicate more to your community and to Nigeria at large. It is a call to give more of yourself, and we pray that the Almighty will bless and guide you as you go about your duties.



Permanent Secretary, Special Services Office, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation

MOHAMMED SANUSI DANJUMA, FCNA



e's a man of integrity and impeccable character and everybody knows him in the Service. I know him for over 20 years in the service and we worked in so many places. We worked in the Ministry of Police Affairs, we worked in the State House, and we also work together now as Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation.

High Chief, as we call him in the group of the Permanent Secretaries, deserves this recognition because he's a man of high character and he is a man of himself. He's always there to see that things are done as at when due in accordance with the rules and regulations. He's always there to see that the service has improved. Also he's always there to ensure that members of his community are not left behind in whatever he does in his activities, and paramountly also, he's handy for the service of the Federation.

My goodwill message number one goes to His Royal Highness and the members of his Council, the Chiefs for this recognition of their son who is also a Prince in the kingdom. My goodwill message also goes to Dr Maurice Mbaeri OON, Fellow Chartered Account, is that he is always there to ensure that the right things have been done and to the service of his community and Nigeria in general. I pray that, High Chief as he goes along in his career and the service of the community, may Almighty Allah grant him the wisdom and the honour to serve the community.





Permanent Secretary, Cabinet Affairs Office, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation

DR. EMANSO UMOBONG OKOP



will say that Dr. Mbaeri is a brother to me. I call him "Double Chief" just like all the other Permanent Secretaries without even knowing that he was a prince. He has been of immense help to me since I got to this Office. He has an opendoor policy, he's very accessible and I've had long interactions with him.

We have talked a lot, especially on how to better the lot of people which has been his passion.

Recently he travelled to his town, he could have stopped in the town; but he went to the village. He showed me pictures of his people and I actually saw him sitting with his kinsmen and taking a drink.

This shows a man that is passionate about his kinsmen and a man without any shadow, without any fear. Despite the insecurities in the areas, he braved it just to be with them. He could have sent for them

from his office but he did not and he could have sent for them to come to the town to see him but he went to see them.

He showed me some of the things that he has done for his village people. So this is who he is. He is a man of the people, very accessible, always ready to help which is what he has been to me.

He has actually really helped me to adjust to my position.

I would say the honour is testament to his exceptional leadership, his unwavering commitment to the betterment of the society and I would also say it is also an impactful legacy that he is leaving with his people.

His contribution to fostering unity for peaceful coexistence and then community services, community development has not gone unnoticed and this recognition is both timely and fitting. As they would say, he who the cap fits, let him wear

it. I think this cap fits him very well and I am sure he is going to wear it regally with honour and with success.

I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri for this recognition on the conferment of this royal title by His Royal Highness and the Council of Chiefs from the Gedegwum Royal Palace in recognition of his contributions to his people, and to his landsmen.

And I also want to thank His Royal Highness for finding him worthy to confer this title on him. This is the next phase in his life. And I wish him my best wishes for an impactful, successful and peaceful reign.



Permanent Secretary, Ministry Of Defence

DR. IBRAHIM ABUBAKAR KANA mni

WORDS ON MARBLE:

You know, you have been, as always, a community man. Even within the body of Permanent Secretary, you are a community man. You know, so I'm not surprised, really, that your community honoured you and will continue to honour you.



t is my pleasure, really, to say one or two things about my OGA, my boss, and my senior colleague in this business of Permanent Secretary, my Oga, Triple Chief, Maurice.

Now, he's no longer Triple Chief, he is High Chief and Multiple Chief. You have been a chief "no be today, e start". We are so proud of you. You know, I'm your junior and I'm your younger brother, always proud to come after you.

The reality is that meeting you and our paths crossing each other has been a great one for me personally because you have shown us leadership. You know, as a very senior Permanent Secretary, you've always led the way.

And at all times, the contributions you make during our service-wide meetings are always legendary.

What else can I say, other than to say, God, we thank you, and I thank God for bringing us together within this period. You know, OGA, you have been, as always, a community man. Even within the body of Permanent Secretary, you are a community man.

You know, so I'm not surprised, really that your community honoured you and will continue to honour you. I have spoken and I've told you, I have prophesied that after your retirement, that will be the beginning. So, this title that is given to you in your community is just the beginning, the political one is coming. We have not seen the end of you, OGA, that is for sure, sir. You know, so I want to thank your community members, and the entire people of Imo State, for finding you worthy. And truly, you are a true ambassador of your people, a true ambassador of Nigeria in general. We know we're going to miss you, too, very soon.

But we'll continue to be with you. We want you to go back to your community, not to only serve your community, but to continue to serve the country and the world at large.

You are indeed a great legend, sir.



Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Regional Development

DR. SHUAIB BELGORE

WORDS ON MARBLE:

...He really deserves it.
The wisdom which he approaches things, the way he carries people along, the way he is able to mediate and solve difficulties between people. His contributions are very, very apt for any societal situation



am a very good friend of my big brother, Maurice Mbaeri, OON, an outstanding Permanent Secretary. As a Permanent Secretary, he is senior to me, being that he was appointed before I was, but we became very good friends.

He has been a fantastic gentleman. I have historically had good ties with him, both professionally and personally. Among us Permanent Secretaries, we usually have people we interact with and we discuss certain issues that may come up in order for guidance and for assistance as it comes up. I found him very, very helpful for me, so I have maintained our relationship.

In my opinion, he has been an outstanding Permanent Secretary of the General Services Office in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of Federation. It is remarkable that as a Permanent Secretary, when we meet at service-wide meetings, you will not be able to miss the wisdom that he brings through the comments he always make. His input is extremely packed with good suggestions

and wisdom. Sometimes difficult or dicey situations are navigated in a way that he presents it and makes it much easier to address.

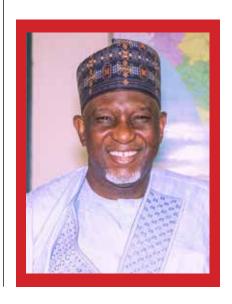
Well, personally, we have been very good friends. We spend time together. I have met his children. He has met mine. When my daughter was getting married he was very helpful to me. I see that being much senior than me, that means his retirement is looming closer, much faster than mine. He is someone that I will really miss. Really, really miss. I understand that when he is getting a royal recognition, and it's no less than he deserves. He really deserves it. The wisdom which he approaches things, the way he carries people along, the way he is able to mediate and solve difficulties between people. His contributions are very, very apt for any societal situation.

I used to call him, wherever I see him, Umuzeribe One! And he calls me Umuzeribe Junior One! because there cannot be two.

There's only one. So he's One, and I'm Junior One. Well, now that he's become the royal father, then my red cap is assured. Perhaps he will relinquish the Umuzeribe One to me now, since I have served as junior for long enough. Dr. Maurice, you are very much appreciated. You are a fantastic gentleman. I'm so happy to have met you. You have been my mentor. You have given me sufficient quidance at times when I've had difficulties. You have given me sufficient guidance at times when I've had difficulties. And other times, just to clarify certain situations, you are always very well appreciated. Thank you for being my friend, and I wish you the best in everything you do. Thank you for being my friend.

And I wish you the best in everything you do. Going forward, I know that your life will even be better.

People will find more reasons to appreciate you, I will find more reasons to appreciate you, to understand how fortunate it is to have you as a friend and a leader.



Director, Affairs of Former Heads of State & State Protocol, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation

ILIYASU AGAKA

WORDS ON MARBLE:

...and I found him
very dependable,
very reliable, very
hardworking, very kind,
and very honest. He's a
person you can entrust
everything to, and you
will find the same thing,
even in a better position,
by the time you ask for
what you have entrusted
to his care



'm so pleased to hear that our amiable Permanent Secretary, Dr. Maurice Mbaeri, has been recognized by his community with a very, very well-deserving Chieftaincy title. Dr. Maurice Mbaeri is a very amiable, hardworking person. I've known him for quite some time now.

Actually, when he came to this office at first as a Director for Internal Audit Department, that was when our path crossed for the first time. He came across to me as somebody who is humble, amiable, and also easy to approach. But then, we had a very excellent relationship with him as a Director.

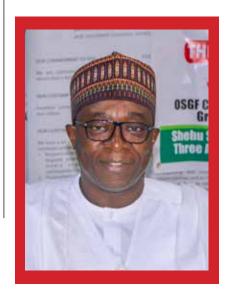
At that time, little did I know that he was going to come back as a Permanent Secretary, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation. So, when he was made a Permanent Secretary and eventually posted to the General Services Office in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, I was very, very happy because at least now we are going to have somebody who has had a flair of what the office is and that is so easy for the working relationship to remain smooth.

Taking cognizance of a very, very important role and strategic position of this office, I didn't have any doubts in my mind that he was going to make a difference, and indeed, he made a difference. Everybody can testify to that. You can see how the Office has been transformed, both physically and in terms of welfare for the staff. Indeed, for the community to recognize him, with this chieftaincy title, honestly, I think it's just the right thing to do

because he's well-fitted for the job.

And I don't have any doubt in my mind that he's going to make them prouder. He's a man with a very, very cosmopolitan outlook. He's a Nigerian to the core.

And I think he's a well-deserved appointment. And I would like to congratulate him for this. It's a well-deserved chieftaincy title.



Director, Finance & Accounts, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation

EMMANUEL OANDOAKAA

WORDS ON MARBLE:

...the recognition is long overdue because he's a community person, who does not discriminate whether you are Yoruba, or you are Hausa, or you are Igbo". Whenever we enter his office you'll see the level of accessibility to all and sundry. Unlike other people, once they get to that level, nobody can easily access them.



r. Maurice Mbaeri, PhD, FCA, OON, is my boss, he's my friend, he's my confidant and he's my mentor. We joined the Federal Civil Service in the year 2000. He came on level 13 and I came on level 12. And since then, we became friends, a jolly good fellow. He is somebody that is highly knowledgeable.

He became a director, and one thing that will interest you about this person is that I give my success at first attempt to the rank of Director to this wonderful person. When I saw his materials that he prepared to write Director exam, I said, "Agh!, my Oga, once you are done with these materials, hand it over to me". And that is exactly what he did. I used those materials.

And when I attempted the directorship exam to level 17 for the first time, behold, everything that was tested were from the materials I collected and read from Dr. Mbaeri. So, we have been friends, he has been my boss. Until last year as fate will have it, I was posted to the OSGF to come and work under him as the Director of Finance in this Office. Our relationship has

been more of brotherhood and friendship than that of superior and subordinate relationship. By and large, he is a wonderful person. I will say that the recognition is long overdue because he's a community person, who does not discriminate whether you are Yoruba, or you are Hausa, or you are Igbo. Whenever we enter his office you'll see the level of accessibility of all and sundry.

Unlike other people, once they get to that level, nobody can easily access them. And I know that he has done so much for his community and I think this recognition is rather coming late but it is better late than never. So it is long overdue and it is apt and I think he has over merited it.

It is to rejoice with him because the Bible tells us to rejoice with those that are rejoicing and to weep with those that are weeping. Like I said I rejoice with him and by his grace I will personally be there to share in the recognition.

I want to say that the reward for hard work is more work, now that he is being officially recognized, I want

to believe that that will prompt him to do much more than what he has been doing for the community. I wish him well and I wish all of us that are preparing to be part of this recognition, that God Almighty will protect us and make the coast very clear that there won't be any problem. The skies will be fine for all of us to fly and the weather will be calm and everything will be fine so that we'll have a very good celebration. And like I said, with this recognition my wish for him is for God to continue to enlarge his coast and give him more wisdom and ability to do more for the community so that there will be more recognition.

And above all, for God to give him good health and long life to impact positively on the society. We have seen that in the office, he is one Perm Sec that once you enter his office the first thing he will do is to stretch out his hand and say to you "welcome my brother". Every opportunity he had to introduce himself as my boss, he will say: "he is a brother". He's a very humble and down-to-earth person. So God will continue to enlarge his coast he will live long to have more meaningful contribution to the society thank you.



Former Director, Finance & Accounts Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation

BISI AYOOLA

WORDS ON MARBLE:

He must be a good leader who means good for people around him to do that. He makes sure that staff entitlements are paid. Every time he asks me when I submit the list of outstanding approvals, "I hope all staff entitlements have been paid". It takes a leader that has the interest of the staff at heart to do that



e's my boss because a boss is always a boss. I worked with him in the Office of Secretary to the Government of the Federation as his Director Finance and Accounts Department but before then, I have known him because we both belong to the same treasury family.

My personal experience with my boss is that he means well for people around him. When I was to go for interview to become a director, he personally tutored me on how to go about the oral interview. He practically taught me how to knock on the door, how to walk into the interview room and how to comport myself. What a wonderful boss and a great leader. He contributed to the success of my promotion.

Before I went for the oral, I was number 14 on the pass list. By the time the final result came out, I moved to the fifth position, being the first lady on that list. I was able to achieve this because of the training my boss gave me. I will be eternally grateful for that.

He must be a good leader who means good for people around him to do that. He makes sure that staff entitlements are paid. Every time he will ask me when I submit the list of outstanding approvals, "I hope all staff entitlements have been paid". It takes a leader who has the interest of the staff at heart to do that. I commend my boss for this.

My boss the Permanent Secretary Maurice Mbaeri is a de-tribalized civil servant who identifies competence and appreciate it irrespective of tribe or religion. He gives all the supports professionally. He allows you to carry out your duty without interference. It is a well deserved recognition by his community. It is a testament to the numerous awards that he has been given: the National Productivity Order of Merit (NPoM), Officer of the Order

of Niger (OON), and too many for us to mention.

Soitisawell-deserved recognition by his community. And I pray that many of such will still come from his Local Government and from his State Government. But to add to what federal government has already done, more are coming to him. There will be more feathers to his cap in the mighty name of Jesus.



Director, Planning, Research & Statistics, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation

EMMANUEL ABIODUN OGUNMEFUN

WORDS ON MARBLE:

I know him to be a giver and must have extended such pleasures to people not only to those around him but also to his community; even though he spends most of his time in Abuja due to his work. I think this recognition is well deserved for the personality of his nature."



t is a great delight I want to say a few words about my boss, a father figure and a friend, Dr. Maurice Mbaeri on the much deserved recognition that he is to receive from his community as bestowed by His Royal Highness, Eze BC Osuala of Isu ancient kingdom.

Dr. Mbaeri since his days as a Director Audit, when he was deployed to this Office, and in our interaction has shown humility, deep intelligence and most importantly, a team player.

To the glory of God, he transited to become a Permanent Secretary as approved by Mr. President. And having served in two other Ministries, he came back home to the OSGF and he is here with us.

Since he's been here, things have

changed and one most important was his welfare policies. Even though as a superior officer and a boss, he doesn't act with his Management in that way, he relates with us as peers and as brothers. He is a fantastic team player and does not take decisions alone. I am very sure that most of these attributes, with his humility must have endeared him to his people. I've been to Isu Jabba before for his late mother's funeral rites and wasn't the only one, but we were amazed at the kind of reception and the outpouring of love for Maurice Mbaeri.

I know him to be a giver and must have extended such pleasures to people not only to those around him but also to his community; even though he spends most of his time in Abuja due to his work. I think this recognition is well deserved for the personality of his nature he is indeed a friend, a friend in need and a boss with a listening ear.

So I want to first felicitate with my dear boss on this recognition, it is not a recognition taken lightly by his people and we congratulate him on this remarkable journey in service to his fatherland. And to his community, thank you.



Director, Information and Communications Technology, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation

WASA ISA FRANCIS



relationship with the Permanent Secretary, General Services Office, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation Dr. Maurice Nnamdi Mbaeri, Ph.D, FCA, FCTI, NPoM, OON, is respectful and cordial. As my Permanent Secretary, we always have open discussion on official matters and he guides me accordingly. Dr. Mbaeri's leadership quality is awesome. He attends to official matters expeditiously and operates an open-door policy. He is a good listener, humble and kind. There is no such dull moment with Dr. Mbaeri at meetings. He is brilliant and has a good sense of humor. I consider it a great privilege working under his leadership.

When I first heard the news of the Royal Recognition accorded him by HRH Eze BC Osuala, the Okwaraezeobi of Isu Ancient Kingdom, in conjunction with the members of Eze's Council of Chiefs of the Gedegwum Royal Palace and the good people of the community as the IKUKU OMA N'ISU, it did not come to me as a surprise, rather as a recognition well-deserved. His dedication to duty, professionalism, and kindness to all, and sundry are noticeable and are now being rewarded. No greater recognition could come from anywhere than from one's community.

To HRH Eze B.C. Osuala, the Okwara Eze Obi of Isu Ancient Kingdom and the members of the Eze's Council of Chiefs of the Gedegum Royal Palace, I thank you for the royal recognition accorded to our amiable Permanent Secretary, Dr. Maurice Nnamdi Mbaeri.

Sir, for this well-deserved honour conferred on you as IKUKU OMA N'ISU by your good people, I extend my sincere congratulations. This is a testament of your good leadership qualities and the kindness and care you have for mankind. I wish you good health, wisdom and continued success. May your reign usher in great development to your community.

Congratulations once more, Your Royal Highness.



Corps Marshal, Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC)

SHEHU MOHAMMED

WORDS ON MARBLE:

He is someone who is open, who is transparent, who is also accountable to whatever he does, whatever he wants to say. He became my number one adviser



r. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri. FCA, FCTI, MPoM is household name in Federal Road Safety Corps. Not because he is a distinguished Federal Permanent Secretary, OSGF, but because of his interaction with FRSC. When I was the Zonal Commander Officer, there was this strategic session that we normally hold every quarter. He used to come to represent the then Secretary to the Government of the Federation. Since that time, even though I wasn't too close to him, but I was opportune to hear his speech. his advice to FRSC whenever he comes for such programmes. Luckily enough, when I came to collect my appointment letter, he received me as a brother, as a friend, as a colleague, and being also a chartered accountant, I was so honoured.

And I saw the humility in the person of Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri from when I met him. When we started work, he's my immediate and direct boss whom I report to, and then he reports my work to the SGF.

He is someone who is open, who is transparent, who is also accountable to whatever he does, whatever he wants to say. I became so impressed and attracted to him, in the sense that he became my number one adviser. Whatever I want to do, I consult him. Whatever

action I want to take or decision I want to take concerning FRSC, I normally relate with him to know whether I'm going the right way or not

In fact, he's a pillar to me as a Corps Marshal. I wasn't surprised for what he has been doing and the decision he's been taken and the advice he's been given me right from the time I read his profile. He is a first class material. During the qualification to ICAN, he was a prize winner. And when he wrote the Permanent Secretary exam, he was also a winner. So virtually, he's someone that is a revered scholar. He has taught in so many places, especially accounting profession. So having him as my immediate boss is an honour. It's a privilege not to be taken for granted.

One of the recent things Dr. Maurice did to me was when I invited him to represent the SGF for the Strategic Session just about a couple of weeks ago. The same day, I equally invited him to come and chair the party we held on behalf of the staff. He equally came and was there live. Twice in a day, he came for FRSC function. Honestly, I have no words to say than to appreciate him.

So, coming to this traditional title to be awarded to him in the couple of days to come, he's a prince already.

It's like probably adding value to value already. Being a prince, being a community person, a community leader, someone that has direct interaction with his community, It is something that I think came at the right time. Some few weeks ago, he directed me that there is a Unit command in his community, and he wants that unit command to be functional. He said I should probably give them an ambulance, give them a patrol vehicle, to make that command lively. That is to show the passion he has for his community. He wants to bring development and safety to his own community.

I was highly impressed. So, giving him a title as a prince in his own community is something that is long overdue. And we appreciate the paramount ruler for deeming him fit to be awarded this Royal Recognition. Giving him this is like, adding more work to him and bringing him closer to the people. We will continue to pray for him that God will continue to grant him the wisdom, the knowledge, to continue to steer the affairs of his Office and the title he is going to hold in his community, and to continue to improve on what he does best.

You know humanity work, bringing people, uplifting people, and serving his country as a citizen. A honourable and good citizen. I congratulate him; I congratulate the family; I congratulate the OSGF; and I congratulate the entire nation for having such a wonderful son that is going to be given a title in his community.



Deputy Corps Marshal, Training, Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC)

NKWONTA CHIDIEBERE BENJAMIN

WORDS ON MARBLE:

He's been a champion of the cause of that community for a very, very long time. I recall even the last time that he wanted a Unit Command in his community, just as part of the governmental projects to open up the place so that the youth of the area could be employed



t's my pleasure to felicitate with my big brother, my boss, my supervisor, Permanent Secretary, Dr. Maurice Nnamdi Mbaeri. He's a gentleman. I'm so proud to be associated with him. I've known him for about four years now. I first met him when I was the Commandant of the Command and Staff College in Udi. Then we were graduating our first set of graduands from the Command and Staff College. And then he came to represent the SGF. I recall then that Dr. Boboye Oyeyemi was the Corps Marshal. And he brought this nice looking gentleman who was all smiles and unassuming. After the ceremony, unlike other big men, everybody will be running around them to try to get their numbers, he was the one who came to me and said, "Commandant, I'm impressed with what happened here. You know, I'd like to give you my number in case whenever you're in Abuja, just come, let's be in touch, let's talk, we are brothers". Oh, that really got me.

His humility was exemplary. And then we sat down, we had lunch, we discussed a lot of other things together. And then, unlike most big men that I know, since after that time, once I call him on the telephone, I am sure he will pick. And if for any reason he was not available to pick the call, you could be sure that within 24 hours he was going to return the call. And with a lot of humility he will say, "my brother, how are you? How is your family?" That really touched me.

So when eventually I came to Abuja when the new Corps Marshal was

appointed, I had the privilege of being there at his inauguration. And here again, I ran into the Permanent Secretary, GSO. It was a glorious day for us. It was a glorious reunion. We laughed together, we took pictures and since then, he's been a mentor to me. It baffles me how he manages to combine his activities with the enormous work he has on his table, yet he still finds time to socialise and also find time to attend to all FRSC problems. He's been a big moral booster to the present management of FRSC.

You know, we admire him a lot and we look up to him. So for me, today is a glorious day. You know, he's a man of the people. So I'm not surprised that the Eze Council decided to honour him. It's a very deserving honour. You know, judging from his background as a prince, automatically, of course, royalty is in his blood. And I guess that is why he has exhibited that character. He's a blue blood. And then, this recognition is the icing on the cake. He deserves it. He's been a champion of the cause of that community for a very, very long time.

I recall even the last time that he wanted a Unit Command in his community, just as part of the governmental projects to open up the place so that the youth of the area could be employed. Even when the Sector Commander was moved, he said, no, no, no, no, this is a man that is helping to set up that Unit Command in my place. He provided

accommodation, provided vehicle, provided all that was required to set up that union command. You know, and that is part of opening up the community.

There are many other things he has done that I'm aware. Employment of youth, empowerment in so many respects, scholarships here and there. So I think it's a really, really well-deserved honour. You know, I mean, there's nobody that the Caps fits better than him.

I congratulate the Eze Council and the people of his community.

So, for the community, I want to urge you that you have a worthy son. My message to you is to continually thank God, and then work with him. He's a visionary leader. And he's a great philanthropist. He has a large heart. He still has a lot more he's going to do for you. So please, if they said a prophet is not without honour, except in his own land, but this one he is with honour in his own land. And in Igbo land, they say when a man starts selling from the house, he does not get lost.

Please, you should celebrate your own. It's not easy to have a man like him. All the footsteps he has set for the young ones, you must learn to follow. He has exhibited dignity in hard work. He has shown that you can get to the peak by integrity, by perseverance, and by being honest. His life is an example that you can get to the top without cutting corners. So young men, please emulate him. The people of that community, you are fortunate that you have him. He's a godsend for you, and he's a worthy example of what a young man should be like. So I congratulate you all.



Managing Director, N-HYPPADEC

ABUBAKAR SADIQ YELWA, FCNA FNIM FNIIS

WORDS ON MARBLE:

You have exhibited over the years, the true spirit of purposeful leadership laced with wisdom, selflessness, transparency and accountability, the traits, we have all benefitted from in discharging our responsibilities.



behalf of the Management Committee, Staff and entire N-HYPPADEC communities I felicitate with you on the wel deserved conferment of Royal recognition

the Isunjaba Royal Palace.

This conferment is a testament to your unrelenting efforts in serving humanity, your immediate community, Imo State and the Nation. You have exhibited over the years, the true spirit of purposeful leadership laced with wisdom, selflessness, transparency and accountability, the traits, we have all benefitted from in discharging our responsibilities.

As we celebrate with you on this, we ask Almighty God to bless you with good health, long life and prosperity as you continue to serve the nation and the humanity.

Congratulations Sir! **Signed**





Managing Director/CEO, Galaxy Backbone

PROF. IBRAHIM ADEYANJU



n behalf of the Management and Staff of Galaxy Backbone (GBB) Limited, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Nnamdi Maurice Mbaeri, OON, Permanent Secretary, General Services Office, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, on this remarkable occasion of your royal recognition by His Royal Highness, Eze B.C Osuala, the Okwaraezeobi of Isunjaba.

This distinguished recognition reflects not only the pride of your community but also your extraordinary contributions to national development, humanity, and the advancement of digital transformation in Nigeria. Your

unwavering support and visionary leadership have been instrumental in Galaxy Backbone's success as a trusted partner in building and enhancing a resilient digital infrastructure for the nation.

As a great stakeholder of Galaxy Backbone, your commitment to excellence, integrity, service and your commitment and support in seeing us become better, has continuously inspired us to deliver on our mission to enable a digitally inclusive Nigeria. Beyond your professional accomplishments, your dedication to uplifting your community and fostering unity and progress embodies the values of leadership and selflessness that our

nation so deeply admires.

We celebrate this royal honor as a testament to your enduring legacy and your impactful contributions to Nigeria's growth and humanity at large. May this recognition propel you to greater heights, as you continue to shine as a beacon of excellence and service.

Congratulations once again, Dr. Mbaeri, on this well-deserved honour. We at GBB, remain proud to be associated with you and look forward to further collaborative achievements.

Warm regards,





Director, Budget, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation

SOLOMON OLUGBENGA AFOLABI

WORDS ON MARBLE:

He will listen to you. Whatever your problem is, he will try to solve it. We cannot quantify his human relationship, very humane and he is somebody with a listening ear



he Permanent Secretary, Dr. Nnamdi Mbaeri, OON, FCA is a nice and unassuming person. He's a very good person Permanent Secretary. He will listen to you. Whatever your problem is, he will try to solve it. We cannot quantify his human relationship, very humane and he is somebody with a listening ear. A very patient man at that.

Among all the Permanent Secretaries I've ever worked with in the Public Service, I think he's number 23. And he's one of the few ones that I admire, and enjoyed working with. I have a good working relationship with him. So, this recognition that is accorded him is not a surprise to me. He deserves it. He always tries to be nice to everybody that comes his way. As he is given this Chieftaincy title today, I know sky is the limit for

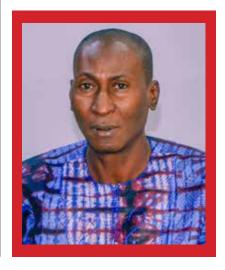
him. I wish him all the best.

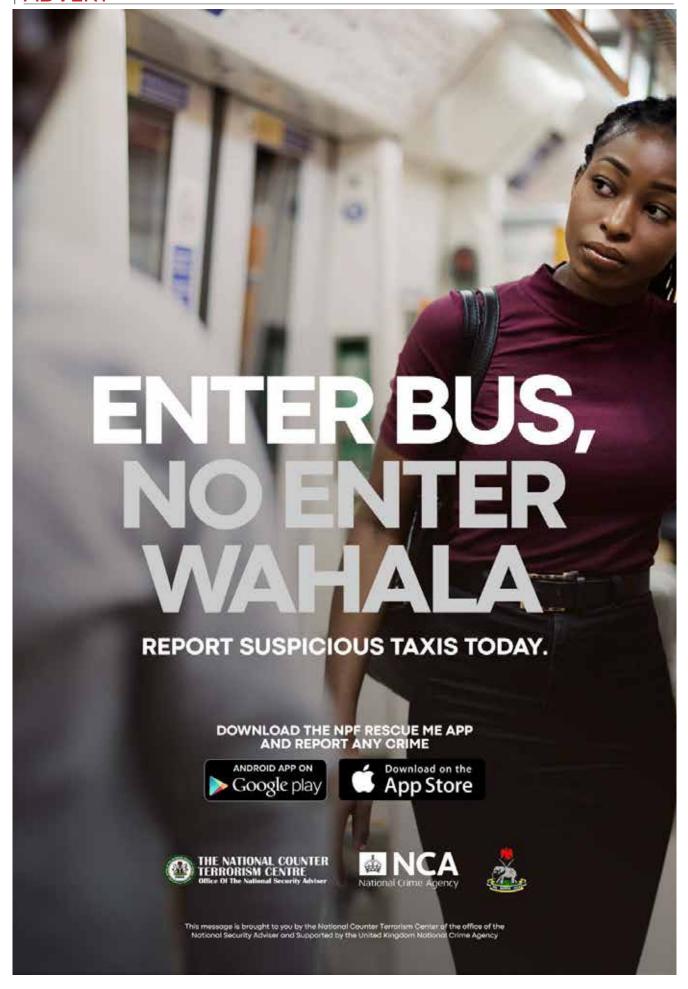
Working with him does not feel like you are working with a Permanent Secretary. That air of a superior is far from his person. I'm very free and I believe that goes for all other Directors, and by extension all other members of staff. The workers are generally very close to him. His doors are open any day, any time. Like I said earlier, of all the Parliamentary Secretaries I've worked with, I think Dr. Mbeari and one other Permanent Secretary have so much impacted my life.

Whenever I am coming to the office, I feel happy always. If he calls me, I feel happy. Unlike other Permanent Secretaries, you cannot access freely. Some will tell you that their Directors cannot see

them until after 4 o'clock. But he is a totally different person. Here is a Permanent Secretary I will just call on the phone and ask if he is in the office, that I would like to see him. Or at times, he will say, "okay, see me at 2 o'clock".

And at 2 o'clock, when I get there, he will be waiting to receive me. And I will discuss whatever I went to his office for or whatever he called me to his office to do. As for personal issues, he will attend to you. He is indeed a selfless man. So, he deserves this Chieftaincy title. I wish him all the best in all his endeavours.











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ANAMBRA	07039194332
BAUCHI	08151849417, 09053872273
BAYELSA	07034578208, 09167322691
BENUE	08066006475,07067374913
BORNO	08068075581, 08023473293
CROSS RIVER	07041777060
DELTA	07042360121, 08036684974
EDO	08077773721, 08037646272 08150999335
EKITI	08062335577
ENUGU	08032003702, 08098880172 08086671202
GOMBE	08150567771,09036435359
IMO	08034773600, 08108645754
JIGAWA	08075391069, 09053872263
KADUNA	08075391105, 07039675856
KANO	08032419754, 09029292926 08123821575

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KEBBI	08038797644,09062925404
KOGI	07038329084
KWARA	07032069501, 08125275046
LAGOS	08065154338, 08039344870
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NIGER	07031964389, 08075391601
OGUN	08081770416
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OSUN	08039537995
OYO	08081768614, 09054133071, 09061299291
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