**ABOUT PAGE OF THE MINISTRY**

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| 1.0 | Introduction  This Handover Note on the Status of Implementation of Policies, Projects and Programmes by the Ministry covering the period of January to December, 2024 by the out-going Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs, Ambassador Gabriel T. Aduda. | PRS |
| 1.1 | Duties  The Permanent Secretary is the Chief Accounting Officer of the Ministry. He oversees the day-to-day running of the Ministry. He is the Chief Policy Adviser to the Honourable Minister and superintend over policy implementation by the various relevant Departments of the Ministry. The Permanent Secretary coordinates the operations of all the Departments, Divisions, sections, branches and Units ensuring the smooth running of these segments in line with the mandates of the Ministry. He reports to the Honourable Minister and ensures effective execution of directives therefrom. | PRS/PS’ Office |
| 2.0 | Background to the Ministry  The Federal Ministry of Women Affairs (FMWA) formerly known as the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development (FMWASD), was established, ab initio, as the National Commission for Women through Decree 42 of 1989 and was upgraded to a full-fledged Ministry in 1995 by the Federal Government following the sustained campaign for gender equality the world over. The need to recognize the critical role of women in national development agenda and the protection of the rights of women took global stage after the UN Convention that resolved to eliminate discrimination against women. The 1995 Beijing Declaration further emphasized and strengthened the resolution.  The United Nations has worked with women movements globally with the aim of realizing the universal gender equality Agenda. The Commission on the Status of Women was one of the first bodies established by the United Nations from inception and member nations were enjoined to establish international mechanisms for the advancement of women. Consequently,  several International Conferences and Summits in the last two decades gave credence to improving the status of women. It is in this context that the Ministry of Women Affairs was created. However, in 2019, the Federal Government created another Ministry called the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development (FMHADMSD), in order to cater for other needs of the society. As a result, the Social Development component of the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs was moved to the newly created Ministry, giving rise to what is now known as the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs. |  |
| 2.1 | **Functions of the Ministry**   1. Promote the advancement of women in the socio-cultural, political and economic development of Nigeria; 2. Provide an enabling environment that ensures maximum and holistic development as well as nation building; 3. Promote health and reproductive rights of women to enhance responsible motherhood and maternal health; 4. Initiate actions towards elimination of all social and cultural practices that discriminate against the overall development of women and the girl child; 5. Ensure the integration of women in national process and promoting the mainstreaming of gender in all issues of national importance; 6. conduct on awareness creation and formulation of policies and legislation on survival, development, protection and participatory rights of women and children in Nigeria; 7. Advocate for the protection and observance of the rights of the child within the definition of international laws on Human Rights; 8. Promote, formulate and propagate moral values within the family units and the general public and 9. establishing programmes with institutions and organizations to inculcate civic, political, cultural, social, economic and moral education of women, children and youth; 10. Support the work of relevant non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and encouraging the sense and essence of cooperative societies among women and girls both in urban and rural areas to stimulate creativity and entrepreneurship in them; 11. Advocate the passage and enforcement of laws that protect and project the interest of the Ministry’s target groups including the recognition of women’s work in all sectors in National Accounting System; 12. Promote a multi-sectoral programme synergy for the realization and enhancement of the survival, development, protection and participation of children in Nigeria with particular reference to the achievement of set targets enumerated in the Child’s Right Act, 2003 (CRA); the National Gender Policy, the National Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); 13. Formulate and update various policies and implementation of strategies for the development of various categories of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs); 14. Train all categories of PWDs and resettling them after their training; 15. Management of Braille Presses and Braille Library Services;   (xix) Co-ordinate Inter-Governmental and Inter-State Social Welfare activities;   1. Conduct research and surveys in various aspects of gender; 2. Rehabilitation of victims of Boko Haram insurgency, surrendered insurgents and particularly, the re- 3. integration and ensuring that the recovered Chibok Girls are back to school to complete their studies; 4. Training of professional social workers and the organization/coordination of training facilities for government and non-governmental social welfare agencies; 5. Care and support for the vulnerable groups. 6. Formulate policies, programmes and actions within the contexts of National development plans and global agenda for women development in the social, economic and political areas; 7. Serves as central-programme coordination, advisory and harmonization point for the country on women’s total concerns; 8. Provide training, research and dissemination of information on women issues/concerns and development; 9. Networking and liaison with National, Regional and International Institutions/organizations, development partners, private sectors, media and non-governmental organizations on matters affecting women’s empowerment and development; 10. Promote women centred sustainable development through provision of basic and life-long education, literacy and empowerment programmes for self-reliance; 11. Ensure high level advocacy campaign at national and to states to sensitize Policy makers on women’s plights and raise general public awareness on women’s roles in nation building, disseminate information and galvanize support for women advancement/participation; 12. Engage in social orientation and IEC development/dissemination on women matters; 13. Ensure women’s access to education and information including women’s sexual, physical, mental, emotional health and reproductive rights; 14. Undertake supervisory/follow-up activities on the national implementation of all women related frameworks/protocols across all boards; 15. Mobilize and facilitate the provision of palliatives/relief materials for indigent women. |  |
| 2.2 | **Mandate, Vision and Mission of the Ministry**  **Mandate**  The mandate of the Ministry is to empower, protect and advance the social rights of Nigerian women, children, and other vulnerable persons in Nigeria. It is also to formulate policies, coordinate interventions and ensure mainstreaming of their interests in decentralized planning and operations at all levels.  **Vision Statement of the Ministry**  A Nigerian society where social, economic and political empowerment and rights of women, children and other vulnerable groups are guaranteed and strengthened at all levels of governance for sustainable peace and development.  **Mission**  To Coordinate all interventions that promote and Strengthen the Social, Economic and Political Empowerment and Rights of Nigerian Women, Children, and other vulnerable and socially Disadvantaged groups in the society to build a healthier, peaceful and thriving National Development Agenda. |  |
| 2.3 | **Organizational Structure of the Ministry**  The Ministry is structured into six (6) Core Departments, six (6) Service Departments and six (6) Units, as follows:  **Core (Programme) Departments**   * Women Development; * Gender Affairs; * Economic Services; * Child Development; * Community and Social Intervention * Special Duties;   **Service Departments**   * Planning, Research and Statistics; * Finance & Accounts; * Human Resources Management; * General Services; * Reform Coordination and Service Improvement; * Procurement.   **Units**   * Federal Audit; * Legal; * Press & Protocol; * Internal Audit; * Anti-Corruption; * Servicom. |  |
| 2.4 | **Staff Strength**  The Ministry currently has staff strength of 858 made up of 55 in the Directorate level, 417 as Senior Staff and 386 as Junior Staff. The staff mix is made up of the Administrative cadre officers, Planning cadre officers and various other professionals necessary for the Ministry to deliver on its mandate.  **The nominal roll as at December, 2024 is attached as Annex I.** |  |