

# OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE



## ACCOUNT OF STEWARDSHIP

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SECOND YEAR REPORT OF THE EXECUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA  
OF THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE IN THE 9TH SENATE: SENATOR  
OVIE OMO-AGEGE-THE OBARISI OF URHOBOLAND

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By

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## **I. Introduction**

This report is the second-year public account of the leadership, public service, effective representation, and the execution of the legislative agenda of the Deputy President of the Senate (“DSP”) and Senator representing Delta Central senatorial district, Senator Ovie Omo-Agege, the Obarisi of Urhoboland.

On assumption of office, the DSP made a commitment of stewardship and accountability of his public service and leadership at the 9<sup>th</sup> Assembly to the good people of Delta Central, Delta State, and Nigeria in general. In this regard, the commitment of the DSP to carry out his duties as a public servant is evident in the structure and the open-door policy of the office of the DSP. Premised on the notion that, there can be no accountability without access to elected representatives and the opportunity to speak truth to power, the DSP directed that an objective yearly account of his public service and leadership at the Nigerian Senate be made available to the people of Delta Central in particular, and the public.

This report, christened an account of stewardship, marks the second legislative year anniversary of the DSP as the Senator representing Delta Central senatorial district. This account is a continuation of the first-year report -a legacy of public service. Based on the need for brevity and clarity, this second-year anniversary account of the DSP’s stewardship is a public document focused on his core legislative duties, leadership, constructive public engagements, constituency projects, feedbacks, and other matters incidental thereto. Expectedly, the work of the DSP during his second year in office, reflects the All Progressive Congress (“APC”) commitment to the fight against corruption, promotion of economic development, transparency, youth development and empowerment, extended political

participation for women and youths, and public accountability. As has been the case since the DSP assumed office two years ago, and still counting, the DSP is a loyal and dependable deputy to the Senate President and partner of President Muhammadu Buhari in the quest of the APC and the current administration to usher in a better Nigeria in all ramifications.

As the leader of the APC in the South-South, the reader is invited to note that, this second-year report demonstrates that the primary focus of the legislative duties of the DSP is Delta Central and Delta State. Based on the DSP's infectious political appeal, disposition, and the multiplier effects of the incredible achievements of the DSP in Delta Central through his work and leadership at the Senate, upon request the DSP agreed to reach across to other senatorial districts in Delta State to extend the dividends of democracy to these areas. During the period under review, the DSP's open-door policy and political torrent attracted delegations from other senatorial districts of Delta State who sought audience with the DSP to partner with him to champion initiatives and policies that will bring development to their people.

Based upon an office structure made of up of departments and units put together by the DSP and maned by experienced and talented advisers, assistants, technocrats, and a vibrant constituency office, the DSP has his work cut out for him at the Senate. Against the forgoing, the second year of the DSP at the Senate consolidated and extended his achievements detailed in the first-year report. More importantly, during the period under review, despite the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the DSP recorded new and solid achievements in constituency projects, human capital developments, constitutional review, bills and motions, social intervention programs, higher education, extended political engagements, and massive infrastructural developments.

A summary of the achievements and delivery of the DSP during his second year in office at the 9<sup>th</sup> Senate are as follows.

## **II. Constituency Projects**

### **A. Rural Electrification**

The rural electrification projects embarked upon and influenced by the DSP to Delta Central were enormous and very impactful. Rural electrification is a major development issue in Delta Central. It is primarily a process of bringing or connecting electricity to remote and rural areas. Rural electrification has always been a policy and an economic development challenge for obvious reasons. The challenges occasioned by limited electricity supply in towns and rural areas cannot be over emphasized. In many instances, the national grid has fell short of rising electricity demand in these areas.

The DSP understands that rural electrification can improve agriculture, create employments especially for farmers, women, and youths, improve communication, health, education, and facilitate innovations and development in our communities. Thus, the problem of limited electricity supply is a major policy thrust of the legislative agenda of the DSP. The DSP's primary goal is to facilitate the restoration and improvement of supply of electricity to spur innovations and economic activities that will in turn improve the quality of life of the people of Delta Central and Deltans in general.

The DSP continue to partner with the Federal Government under the current administration's Economic Growth and Recovery Program ("EGRP") to address the

power challenges and invest more in transmission infrastructure in Delta Central and across the country to improve and increase transmission and distribution of electricity. Against this policy objective and the commitment of the DSP, the DSP distinguished himself by successfully embarking on the following electricity projects in Delta Central during his second year in office, to wit:

1. Installation of 500KVA, 11/0.415KV transformer at Ighwreovie Ogor, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
2. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Uduere Street, Otovwodo, Ughelli in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
3. Installation of solar streetlights at Ebrumede Community, Uvwie Local Government Area of Delta State.
4. Installation of solar streetlights in Egbo-Urhurie Community in Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.
5. Installation of 500KVA transformer in Egbo-Urhurie Community in Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.
6. Installation of 500KVA transformer in Okpare-Olomu Community in Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.
7. Installation of solar streetlights at Agbarha-Otor, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
8. Installation of solar streetlights at Onyobru-Orogun, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
9. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Ekredjabor, Ughelli Town, Ughelli North L.G.A.
10. Installation of 500KVA transformer in Okparabe Community, Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.

11. Installation of 500KVA transformer in Isiokolo, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
12. Installation of solar streetlights at Orhomuru-Orogun, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
13. Installation of solar streetlights at Aragba-Orogun, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
14. Installation of solar streetlights at Jesse, Ethiope West Local Government Area of Delta State.
15. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Ozuaka-Orogun, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
16. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Kokori Inland, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
17. Installation of solar streetlights along Chief Ibori Road, Oghareki-Oghara, Ethiope West Local Government Area of Delta State.
18. Installation of solar streetlights at Omiemiedi Street, Sapele, Sapele Local Government Area of Delta State.
19. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Eku, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
20. Installation of 500KVA transformer in Oria-Abraka in Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
21. Installation of solar streetlights in Ogoni-Olomu, Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.
22. Installation of solar streetlights in Eruemukohwarien, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
23. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Imodje-Orogun in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.

24. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Ogwa Junction, Orogun main town, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
25. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Ovara-Unukpor Orogun, Ughelli North Local Government Area, Delta State.
26. Installation of 300KVA transformer substation at Osia Junction, Ughelli, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
27. Installation of solar streetlights at Eku, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
28. Installation of solar streetlights at Eboh-Orogun, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
29. Installation of solar streetlights at Orhuwhorun, Udu Local Government Area of Delta State.
30. Installation of solar streetlights at Ovwian community, Udu Local Government Area of Delta State.
31. Installation of solar streetlights at Aladja, Udu Local Government Area of Delta State.
32. Installation of solar streetlights at Ubogo town, Udu Local Government Area of Delta State.
33. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Eke Street by Wood Market, Jakpa Road, Effurun, Uvwie Local Government Area of Delta State.
34. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Ugbomoro Town, Uvwie Local Government Area of Delta State.
35. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Ekakpamre Community, Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.
36. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Okparabe Community in Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.

37. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Kokori Inland, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
38. Installation of 500KVA transformer in Irhodo Jesse, Ethiope West Local Government Area of Delta State.
39. Installation of 500KVA transformer opposite Chief Ikewun compound, Jesse, Ethiope West Local Government Area of Delta State.
40. Installation of 500KVA transformer opposite Jima water factory Jesse, Ethiope West Local Government Area of Delta State.
41. Installation of 500KVA transformer at DLA Junction Oghareki Oghara, Ethiope West Local Government Area of Delta State.
42. Installation of 500KVA transformer at old Oghara Junction, Ogharefe Oghara, Ethiope West Local Government Area of Delta State.
43. Installation of 500KVA transformer in LA Quarters at Otor-Ewu, Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.
44. Installation of solar powered streetlights at Otor-Ewu, Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.
45. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Afiesere road by Orubu Junction, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
46. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Afiesere Junction, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
47. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Edjekota-Ogor, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
48. Installation of solar powered streetlights in Edjekota-Ogor, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
49. Installation of solar powered streetlights in Arhavwarien, Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.



50. Installation of a 500KVA transformer in Oviorie- Ovu, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
51. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Amukpe, Sapele Local Government Area of Delta State.
52. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Low-Cost Housing Estate, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
53. Installation of solar streetlights in Ekrokpe, Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.
54. Installation of solar streetlights at Omiemiedi STR., Sapele, Sapele Local Government Area of Delta State.
55. Installation of solar streetlights at Usiefurun, Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.
56. Installation of solar streetlights in Kokori Inland, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
57. Installation of solar streetlights in Abraka, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
58. Installation of solar streetlights in Okpara, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
59. Installation of solar streetlights at Alegbo/Umuedafe/Oil Mill Road, Uvwie Local Government Area of Delta State.
60. Installation of solar streetlights in Aka Avenue, Uvwie Local Government Area of Delta State.
61. Installation of solar streetlights in Oha, Okpe Local Government Area of Delta State.
62. Installation of solar streetlights in Orerokpe, Okpe Local Government Area of Delta State.

63. Installation of solar streetlights at Ibadan-Amukpe, Sapele Local Government of Delta State.
64. Installation of solar streetlights at Ejekimoni, Sapele Local Government Area of Delta State.
65. Installation of solar streetlights at Amukpe Community Town Hall Road, Amukpe, Sapele Local Government Area of Delta State.
66. Installation of solar streetlights at Urede, Ehere, Erovie Quarters to Egbo Quarters, Uwherun, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
67. Installation of Solar Powered Street Lights at Ugono, Orogun Clan in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
68. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Eyara, Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.
69. Installation of two 500KVA transformers at Imodje-Orogun, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
70. Installation of two 500KVA transformers at Egbo Urhie, Ughelli South Local Government Area.
71. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Otor-Iwrieko, Ughelli North Local Government Area.
72. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Orherhe Junction, Agbarho, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
73. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Oletukovie Uloho Avenue Ughelli, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
74. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Edjekota-Ogor, Ughelli North Local Government Area.
75. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Ekpan town hall, Uvwie Local Government Area of Delta State.

76. Installation of 500KVA transformer at Jeddo Road, Otokutu, Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.
77. Laying of the foundation for the construction of NDPHC/NIPPS injection substation for the improvement of electricity supply to Orogun town and neighboring communities in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
78. Successfully pursuing Federal Government approval for the establishment of 1.35 megawatts solar hybrid power plant at Federal University of Petroleum Resources (“FUPRE”) Ugbomro in Uvwie Local Government Area of Delta State.

## **B. Water Projects**

A critical aspect of the economic development considerations underlying the core legislative duties of the DSP is a policy that is conceptualized to create and extend access to clean, safe, and reliable water for constituents in Delta Central and to the people of Delta State. The DSP believes that access to clean water is a catalyst for development in agriculture, healthcare, clean environment, and effective sanitary solutions. In communities where there is dire need of access to clean water, provision of the system and infrastructure that will guarantee access to clean and safe water, can be lifesaving in monumental proportions for the good and progress of these communities. This will be the case in communities that rely on unsafe sources for drinking water. Thus, the importance of improving the quality of water supply cannot be overstressed especially from a humanitarian and good governance perspective.

Similarly, under the ERGP referenced in the DSP's first year report, part of the Muhammadu Buhari administration's strategic plan is to reinvigorate the manufacturing sector. A significant aspect of that policy and key activity is the expansion of power and connection of water infrastructure. As a partner of the current administration, the DSP also concurs that, an improved access to water system and mechanism will make Delta Central and Delta State an attractive destination for critical public and private infrastructure and investments. These anticipated investments will no doubt create a solid foundation for Delta Central and the economic development of Delta State in general.

On this economic development initiative, the DSP employed a broader approach that is of significant benefit to Delta Central, but still advantageous to the rest of Delta State during his second term as DSP and the Senator representing Delta Central in the Senate. The water projects embarked upon and/or influenced by the DSP to Delta Central senatorial district and Delta State, reflects the identification of sustainable water security, environmental challenges, and community assurances for use and maintenance of critical water infrastructure.

Against the forgoing, the DSP facilitated, influenced the installation, and the delivery of the following clean water infrastructure and projects:

1. Provision and installation of solar powered 500 gallons water project in Otor-Ewu, Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.
2. Reticulation of Water Supply Scheme at Agbarha-Otor, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
3. Construction of 20,000 gallons Solar Reticulation Scheme at Mami Market by Army Barracks, Effurun, Uvwie Local Government Area of Delta State.

4. Construction of 30,000 gallons Solar Reticulation Scheme at Orhuwhorun in Udu Local Government Area of Delta State.
5. Rehabilitation of Water Supply Scheme at Okpara Waterside, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
6. Rehabilitation of Water Supply Scheme at Ugono Orogun, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
7. Rehabilitation of Oghara-Agbarha Water Scheme in Oghara-Agbarha, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
8. Construction of 30,000 gallons Solar Reticulation Scheme at Aladja in Udu Local Government Area of Delta State.
9. Construction of 30,000 gallons Braithwaite (PS 4000) solar powered water scheme with pipelines network at Abraka town, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
10. Construction of 30,000 gallons Solar Water Reticulation Scheme at Ewu, Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.
11. Rehabilitation of Water Supply Scheme at Orhomuru-Orogun, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
12. Construction of 10,000 Gallons Barithwaite, Solar Powered Water Supply Scheme at Ughelli Main Market, Ughelli, Delta State.
13. Rehabilitation of water scheme at Egini town, Udu Local Government Area of Delta State.
14. Provision of 500 gallons solar powered water project at Mosogar, Ethiope West Local Government Area of Delta State.
15. Provision of 500 gallons solar powered water project at Oghara, Ethiope West Local Government Area of Delta State.
16. Construction of 20,000 gallons solar Borehole Supply Scheme at Mosogar town, Ethiope West Local Government Area of Delta State.

17. Construction of 10,000 Gallons Barithwaite, solar powered Water Supply Scheme complete with pipe network at Ughelli main market, Ughelli North Local Government Area.
18. Construction of 10,000 gallons Barithwaite, solar powered Water Supply Scheme complete with pipe network at Ugborikoko Market, Ugborikoko, Uvwie Local Government Area of Delta State.

### **C. Education**

#### **(i) Federal Polytechnic, Orogun**

The DPS's legislative agenda has considerable considerations and investment in education. During the DSP's first term as Senator representing Delta Central, this was mostly evident in the widely celebrated bill that addressed sexual harassment in higher institutions in Nigeria. As part of this agenda, the DSP sponsored several initiatives geared towards youth and sports development. Still, during the period under review, the most significant legislative and educational development influenced to Delta Central by the DSP is the approval of the Presidency for the take off and commencement of studies at the Federal Polytechnic, Orogun in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State. At the time of writing this report, the DSP was on ground at the proposed permanent site of the polytechnic to receive the Federal Ministry of Education delegation led by the Permanent Secretary, Architect Sonny Ochono. The delegation was at Orogun to inspect the permanent site of the polytechnic preparatory to the commencement of studies in October 2022.

The social and economic advantages of citing a federal polytechnic in Delta Central senatorial district is better imagined from the perspective of the creation of

employment, youth and women empowerment, community development, real estate development, national integration, expanded access to technical education by Deltans and Nigerians, and the overall educational development of Delta State. The DSP believes that the citing of the federal polytechnic in Delta State is an opportunity to design academic programs that will primarily educate Deltans and Nigerians to be equipped with the right tools that will spur innovations that can meet the challenges of economic development in Delta State and Nigeria. Recall that the Bill for the establishment of the polytechnic was sponsored by the DSP and passed into law by the Senate during the first year of the DSP as Senator representing Delta Central senatorial district at the 9<sup>th</sup> Senate.

**(ii) Educational & ICT Infrastructure**

In addition to the outstanding achievement in the citing of the Federal Polytechnic at Orogun, Delta State, during the period covered by this report, the DSP's leadership at the Senate and legislative agenda influenced and facilitated the following noteworthy educational projects:

1. Construction of an ultra-modern ICT Centre and provision of solar powered ICT equipment, at Ewu Grammar School Otor Ewu, Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State.
2. Provision of school benches to Oviorie Secondary School, Oviorie-Ovu, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
3. Rehabilitation of six blocks of classrooms at Oviorie Secondary School, Oviorie Ovu, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta.
4. Donation of ICT equipment to Ovwian Secondary School, Udu Local Government Area of Delta State.

5. Design and construction of two blocks of three classrooms with toilet facilities at Ugono Primary School, Orogun in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
6. Rehabilitation of six blocks of classrooms at Oviorie Secondary School, Oviorie-Ovu in Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
7. Construction of block of six classrooms at Uwheru Secondary School, Agadama in Ughelli North Local Area of Delta State.
8. Renovation of block 6 of classrooms at Edjekota-Ogor Secondary School, Ogor in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
9. Renovation of block of 6 classrooms at Adagwe Grammar School, Eruemukoharien, in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
10. Renovation of block of 6 classrooms at Unity Model Secondary School, Agbarho in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
11. Construction of a new block of 6 classrooms at Ekrupia Secondary School, Obodete-Orogun in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
12. Construction of new block of 6 classrooms at Emonu Comprehensive High School, Emonu-Orogun in Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State.
13. Renovation of a block of 6 classrooms at Uriapele Grammar School, Sapele in Sapele Local Government Area of Delta State.
14. Renovation of block of 6 classrooms at Orodje Grammar School, Orerokpe, Okpe Local Government Area of Delta State.
15. Construction of a new block of 6 classrooms at Okotie-Eboh Grammar School, Sapele in Sapele Local Government Area of Delta State.
16. Construction of a block of 6 classrooms at Orhoakpor Secondary School in Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.



17. Construction of a block of 6 classrooms at Mosogar Secondary School, Mosogar in Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State.
18. Construction of an ultramodern ICT center with equipment at Ovwian Secondary School in Udu Local Government Area of Delta State.

#### **D. Primary Healthcare:**

Primary healthcare is made up of infrastructure and healthcare mechanism designed to provide basic and general healthcare services. Generally, it is the first point of contact with the healthcare system in any given place or community. In most instances, it functions and operates as the most common means of preventive medicine. Anecdotal evidence in Delta Central and Delta State strongly indicate that primary healthcare facilities are limited. This limitation has been daunting to communities in portentous need of primary healthcare services and infrastructure. Primary healthcare is an issue that is very important to the DSP and his legislative agenda for obvious reasons.

Consequently, during the period covered by this report, the legislative agenda of the DSP was invested in pursuing policies and facilitating infrastructure that supports the delivery of primary health care to the people of Delta Central. The DSP's initiative in this respect, is in line with the strategic direction of the office of the DSP. The point must be made that part of the strategic direction of the office is primarily premised in the DSP's vision and commitment to provide leadership and effective representation to Delta Central senatorial district through the making of laws and carrying out oversight functions designed to promote, peace, security, and economic growth. Within this framework, the provision of primary health is embedded in the underpinnings of peace and security. A healthy population is a

productive population that is a throttle for economic growth and development. In line with the policy of the office of the DSP on primary healthcare, the DSP influenced and facilitated the following:

1. Provision and installation of Dental and Ophthalmological equipment to Mariere Memorial Central Hospital, Ughelli in Ughelli Local Government Area of Delta State.
2. Construction of a primary healthcare center at Omavovwe-Agbarha in Ughelli North Area of Delta State.

### **E. Human Capital Development & Empowerment**

Human capital development and youth and women empowerment is a major policy focus of the legislative agenda of the DSP. For the DSP, this issue is a means of accountability and service delivery to the people of Delta Central and beyond. During the period under review, the DSP took a broader and nationalistic approach on the question of human capital development and empowerment. His initiatives and work on these matters cut across Delta Central during his second year in office as DSP. Under this heading, the emphasis of the DSP's work in the last two years as the Senator representing Delta Central, was focused more on women and youth development. Human capital development and empowerment enhances human capacities, performance, and resources. The prevailing idea in the office of the DSP and the overwhelming feedbacks from constituents and stakeholders, is that the indexes and results of human capital development and empowerment are necessary ingredients for nation building and outcome of good governance.

Against the forgoing and the commitment of the DSP on effective and impactful representation, during his second year in office, the DSP successfully achieved the following for Delta Central, Delta State, and Nigeria:

1. Employment of Deltans from all three Delta State senatorial districts and across the country as political aides at the National Assembly with several working from the field in Delta State.
2. Employment of Deltans into boards of federal parastatals, governing councils of federal educational institutions, ambassadorial, and key political positions.
3. Initiating and sponsoring the establishment of several small and medium scale enterprises (“SME”) for Deltans and other Nigerians.
4. Provisions of hundreds of motorbikes, tricycles, sewing machines, grinding machines to women, men, and youths.
5. Recommending and sponsoring Deltans in their hundreds for federal intervention programs including loans, grants, and skills acquisition training.
6. Provision of letters of recommendation for employment for hundreds of deserving youths, men, and women in federal agencies, parastatals, including the military, and paramilitary.

### **III. Bills and Motions**

#### **Constitutional Review**

Law making and oversight functions are the core legislative duties of the DSP. In the account of his one year in office, records kept at the Senate and by aides revealed that the DSP was top five in motions, and the sponsoring and passage of Bills. This feat makes the DSP the most productive Senator elected by the good people of Delta Central since the founding of Delta State in August 1991. Most of

the Bills initiated and sponsored by the DSP detailed in our first-year report are still going through the legislative process. However, the DSP's appointment by his peers as the Chairman of the Senate ad hoc Committee on the Review of the 1999 Constitution ("CRC") presented a unique kind of legislative responsibilities to the DSP during his second year in office and still counting. As a trained lawyer, the DSP's approach to this assignment lies in his belief that constitutional amendment is a fundamental principle of constitutional theory and practice in the context of a participatory democracy like Nigeria.

The DSP's determination for a successful outcome of the exercise lies in the notion that the National Assembly has no pre-conceived position on any of the thematic areas of the exercise. This underscores the objective of using the opportunity to open the political and public space to give every Nigerian a fair shot to participate in the process that will produce a document that will, hopefully, be acceptable to the generality of Nigerians. Despite the work of the CRC, the DSP informed Nigerians that the exercise will not kill any of the constitution alteration Bills that are currently pending before the Senate particularly with respect to electoral reforms, judiciary reforms, indigene provisions, immunity clause, to mention just a few.

The CRC mandate of the Senate covered the following 16 specific thematic areas- gender equality for women and girls; federal structure and power devolution; local government and its autonomy; public revenue, fiscal federation, and revenue allocation; Nigerian Police and Nigerian security architecture as well as comprehensive judicial reforms. Others are electoral reforms; socio-economic and cultural rights as contained in Chapter 2 of the extant Constitution; strengthening the

independence of oversight institutions and agencies created by the constitution or pursuant to an act of the National Assembly; residency and indigene provisions; immunity; National Assembly and state creation.

On the anniversary of the DSP's second year in office, the CRC has received more than 250 memoranda based largely on the thematic areas. The CRC also has an assembly of consultants and constitutional law experts working with the CRC to assist in reviewing the issues raised by Nigerians for review and presenting the best possible Bills to the National Assembly for consideration. During this exercise, the DSP has been consistent in arguing that the National Assembly has no constitutional backing to write a new constitution for Nigeria except to amend same in accordance with the provisions of the extant provisions of the 1999 constitution.

At the time of writing this report, under the leadership of the DSP, the CRC has successfully convened and hosted national and zonal public hearings across the six geo-political zones on proposed amendments to the 1999 Constitution. The DSP reports that, the CRC is on schedule to have a vote on each of the proposed Bills for the amendment of the constitution before the Senate proceeds on its long recess in July 2021.

#### **IV. Political Leadership, Consultations, and Strategic Engagements**

Through a robust constituency office and versatile political aides, the DSP continued to provide leadership for the APC in the South-South. The DSP's open-door policy has facilitated and encouraged political leaders, youths, women, and others from within and outside Delta Central to consult and seek the assistance of the DSP on issues of mutual interests in the context of good governance and

development in Delta State and Nigeria. During the period under review, the DSP honored several invitations from the three senatorial districts to directly engage and get feedbacks from Deltans from all works of life on the performance and delivery of his legislative agenda. Whenever there is a scheduling conflict, the DSP has a practice of sending a representative to hold forth for him out of respect and courtesy to anyone or organization who deemed it necessary to take the time to invite him.

During his second year in office, the DSP recorded more strides in strategic political engagements. This significant buildout emanated from his strong political torrent, rising popularity, public accountability, strong commitment to public service and the impeccable delivery of his legislative agenda at the Senate for the benefit of Delta Central and Delta State. It is important to note that, the DSP's achievements during his second year in office attracted tremendous political patronage and goodwill. This development may not be unconnected with the challenges and limitations of the current political leadership that has negatively impacted development in Delta State in recent years.

The state of development in Delta State is begging for better ideas, innovations, policies, and economic freedom that can take Delta State to the next level to make it comparable to the most developed amongst States in the Federal Republic of Nigeria. In terms of development, Delta State currently, has little or nothing to show for its enormous fiscal allocations from the federation account and natural resources. It is apparent that there is a clamor for change built on a powerful yearning for a productive and strategic political direction that is necessary to free Delta State from the shackles of underdevelopment that has plagued the state for many years.

Based on the accomplishments and record of the DSP at the Senate during the period under review, many concerned citizens begun to espouse the view, and very strongly too, that the DSP has a sound theory on how change will happen in Delta State and the outcomes to expect. It is noteworthy to report that the following groups and organizations had audience and met with the DSP to discuss matters that will be of interest to the development of Delta State and execution of the APC agenda: -

1. Aniocha People's Voice Association.
2. Delta State Coalition of Political Vanguard for Senator Omo-Agege.
3. Okpalas and Onotus in Council of Utakwa-Ogbe in Ndokwa West Local Government Area of Delta State.
4. Agege United Leaders Elders Forum.
5. APC leaders in Burutu, Bomadi, and Patani.
6. Itsekiri Leaders in APC led by Comrade Tunde Okorodudu.
7. Illah Community of Delta State.

## **V. Conclusion**

The DSP's commissioning of this report to commemorate the end of his second year in office as DSP and Senator representing Delta Central report is in line with his unwavering commitment to effective representation, public service, and accountability. As can be gleaned from this report, the DSP's execution of his legislative agenda recorded accomplishments that transcends Delta Central. Beyond Delta Central, the DSP believes that Delta State deserves better. There is still more work to be done and more grounds to cover to extend and consolidate his achievements. The DSP is committed to work harder and partner with anyone or organization that will join him to do what is required to promote good and accountable government, peace,

economic development, and prosperity for the interest of Delta Central, Delta State, and Nigeria.

Long live Delta Central, long live Delta State and long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a thin black rectangular border. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Felix O. Okpe'.

Felix O. Okpe, PhD  
Senior Special Assistant to the Deputy President of the Senate.

Abuja, June 11, 2021