



<https://www.hfnigeria.com/>

COMMUNIQUÉ

**Released following the Healthcare
Federation of Nigeria (HFN) interactive
breakfast meeting tagged
“FORGING A NEW PARADIGM”
held at Four Points by Sheraton, Victoria Island, Lagos State
on 11 February 2022**



<https://www.hfnigeria.com/>

A. PREAMBLE

The private sector in Nigeria is a key contributor to healthcare provision in the country, supplying most healthcare facilities, manpower and equipment. Despite this, the private sector faces a myriad of challenges including limited access to financing for health, (supply-side and demand-side), shortage of skilled personnel, infrastructural deficits, relatively loose regulatory environment, and a lack of economic incentives to encourage private sector investment and operations in healthcare.

It is against this backdrop that The Healthcare Federation of Nigeria (HFN) organized an interactive breakfast meeting with the Chairman, Senate Committee on Health, Senator (Dr.) Ibrahim Yahaya Oloriegbe, and key representatives of private stakeholder groups in healthcare

The objectives of the breakfast meeting included:

- providing an interactive platform for the representatives of key private stakeholder groups within the healthcare sector
- bringing specific and general concerns to the notice of the Senator, and
- charting potential courses of action to address those concerns

The event was attended by distinguished guests and representatives of key private sector stakeholders. The event kicked off with welcome notes by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Asue Ighodalo, represented by Dr. Richardson Ajayi, highlighting the ongoing challenges within the sector and the importance of greater focus and collaboration between the public and private sector stakeholders to foster development in healthcare in Nigeria.

After robust discussions on issues relating to the challenges facing private sector healthcare stakeholders in Nigeria, recommendations were made:

B. RECOMMENDATIONS

Following the discussion on the needs and observation of private sector healthcare stakeholders, participants recommended the following:

1. Implementation of the National Health Insurance bill to make health insurance mandatory for all Nigerians
2. Implementation of an integrated regulatory framework at the federal level is limited by the provisions of the Nigerian constitution. Focus should be on optimizing and harmonizing sub-national health facility regulators and monitoring agencies
3. Advocacy for Fertility and Reproductive Health to enhance focus on provisions for Reproductive Health within existing and future policies. Need for a NASS bill to regulate the Fertility and Reproductive Health Specialty in Nigeria
4. Urgently approve the Mental Health Bill as well as articulate a National Strategic Plan for addressing Mental Health in Nigeria
5. Stakeholders should advocate for the harmonization and adoption of uniform standards and criteria for establishing and operating health facilities across the country. This is necessary and would require coordination from the Ministry of Health, state agencies and private sector players
6. Emphasis must be placed on the development and incentivization of local talent / human capital
7. Task sharing and shifting are already covered by existing policies; there is need for advocacy with the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria to develop and implement a structured training program for the relevant healthcare workers
8. The establishment of a directorate of biomedical engineering at the Ministry of Health would be beneficial to promoting international best practices in the biomedical engineering sub-sector in Nigeria



<https://www.hfnigeria.com/>

9. Advocacy for greater integration across various collaborating regulators of biomedical devices e.g., NAFDAC, SON, NNRA, etc. to implement regulation and guidelines pertaining to the importation and distribution of biomedical devices within Nigeria.
10. The establishment of a contract manufacturing policy would require input and extensive engagement of all the relevant stakeholders from various MDAs including: The Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Investments
11. A portion of the CBN intervention fund should be earmarked for contract manufacturing partnerships to encourage technology transfer and to support green field contract manufacturers, with manufacturing incentives extended to both the principal and the contractor
12. The elimination of customs duties and other levies on active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) should be implemented by the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health, Nigerian Customs Services, etc. This would require extensive advocacy with stakeholders – Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health.
13. Advocacy for the review of the HS Codes (pertaining to the importation of key pharmaceutical ingredients and biomedical devices into Nigeria) to the Ministry of Finance, via the Ministry of Health, and Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission for the necessary changes to be encoded into the Finance Act
14. Advocate for greater collaboration between the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria (PCN) and the government to ensure stricter enforcement of existing regulation on drug distribution and PPMVs
15. Engage relevant stakeholders to facilitate disbursement of funds following the review of outstanding payments of the backlog of finished pharmaceutical supplies to tertiary institutions.
16. Development and articulation of incentives to encourage the assimilation of skilled returnee Nigerians and expatriates







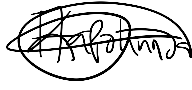
<https://www.hfnigeria.com/>

17. Stakeholder roundtable be facilitated to review the challenges and explore the potential of the telehealth in Nigeria
18. Review of the high cost of NAFDAC registration fees in the agricultural subsector of drugs, vaccines, and biologicals to improve livestock farming, animal health and prevent zoonotic infections
19. Provision of financial support from the government for pharmaceutical / medical interns would be beneficial
20. Ensure inclusion of dental and fertility products clauses in the proposed Healthcare Incentivization policy and speedy implementation of same



<https://www.hfnigeria.com/>

C. SIGNED BY:

Name	Name	Name	Name	Name
Dr. Pamela Ajayi	Njide Ndili	Adeyemi Adewole	Dr. Kunle Adeyemi Doro	Kolapo Fapohunda
Position	Position	Position	Position	Position
President, HFN	Vice President, HFN	Financial Secretary, HFN	Treasurer, HFN	Publicity Secretary, HFN
Signature	Signature	Signature	Signature	Signature
				
Date	Date	Date	Date	Date
11.04.2022	11.04.2022	11.04.2022	11.04.2022	11.04.2022

D. ABOUT HFN:

Healthcare Federation of Nigeria (HFN) is an apolitical, non-partisan, non-profit organization, the umbrella body for the private health sector. It is mainly funded by its membership and volitional donations from well-meaning Nigerians. The aim of HFN is improving the Nigerian Health Sector through advocacy for private sector involvement in the Nigeria Healthcare sector.

E. GET IN TOUCH:



<https://www.hfnigeria.com/>

Email address: info@hfnigeria.com

Phone number: 07030567554

LinkedIn: Healthcare Federation of Nigeria

Facebook: Healthcare Federation of Nigeria

Instagram: HFNigeria

Twitter: @hfn_hfnigeria
