



# A Chat

WITH GM (A & P)  
**HAJIYA A'ISHA USMAN**

*“...project Aquila is all about ensuring transparency in distribution of petroleum products across the country...”*

## **May we meet you ma ?**

My name is Aisha Usman. I started work about fourteen years ago, precisely April, 1997. Since joining the organization, I worked in the Investment Unit (now defunct). I have also worked in Operations Department as a depot representative in Maiduguri, Zonal Manager for North East and South West respectively.

In the year 2008, I was deployed to Administration and Personnel Department as Head of Administration. In April, 2009, I was made the Acting General Manager (Admin & Personnel) and then in November of the same year, I was confirmed as the substantive General Manager (Admin & Personnel) till date.

## **Most staff see you as an addict to strict compliance. What do you say to this ?**

I don't see myself as an addict so to say. I just believe in doing things the way they ought to be done.

There are rules and regulations governing the conduct of every civil and public servant. If every worker should adhere to these rules as spelt out by our laws, then we wouldn't be witnessing some of the frictions in organizations.

As you are aware, the Administration and Personnel Department is saddled with the responsibility for discipline of staff and also to ensure that office procedures are followed, implementing these office policies will definitely portray one to be strict and that idea probably must have informed their perception of me as an addict to strict compliance.

## **What is your basic principle of life ?**

My basic principle in life is diligence and discipline.

## **What are your personal core values ?**

Values for me are right at the heart of who we are, driving what we do and how we do it. Therefore, to answer your question, my personal core values are honesty, respect, friendship and trust.

## **You have been working tirelessly for PEF(M)B, therefore, where do you see PEF(M)B in the next five years ?**

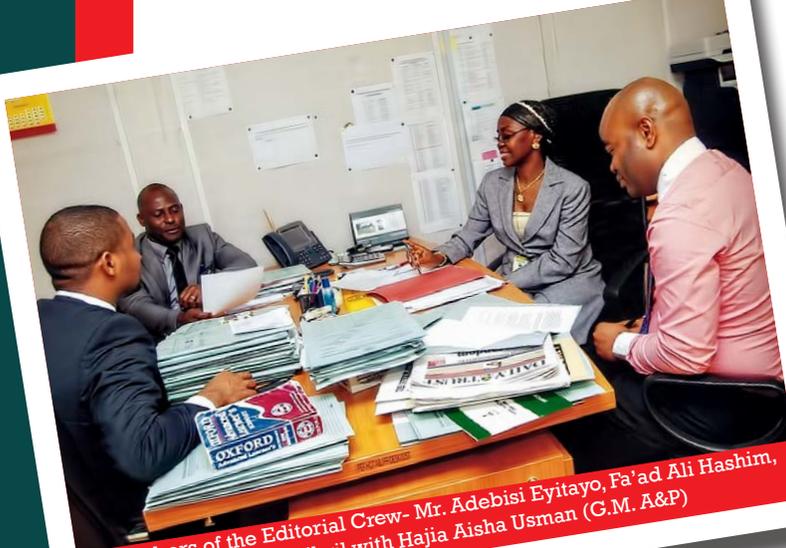
I want to put it this way that we all are working tirelessly for our great

PEF(M)B and by extension Nigeria. PEF(M)B no doubt has undergone series of transformation over the years particularly in the last four years under the leadership of the Executive Secretary, Mrs Adefunke Sharon Kasali.

I see PEF(M)B in the next five years as becoming a household name in Nigeria, reason being the first public organisation to successfully introduce e-payment sys-



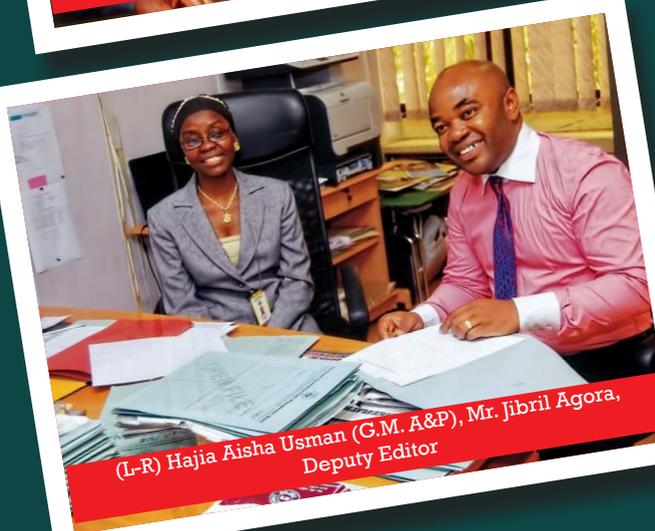
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Members of the Editorial Crew- Mr. Adebisi Eytayo, Fa'ad Ali Hashim, Mr. Agora Jibril with Hajia Aisha Usman (G.M. A&P)



(L-R) Hajia Aisha Usman (G.M. A&P), Mr. Jibril Usman, Deputy Editor, and Fa'ad Hashim, Assistant Editor



(L-R) Hajia Aisha Usman (G.M. A&P), Mr. Jibril Agora, Deputy Editor

tem of claim settlement which had a significant improvement in our payment system and as pacemaker to other government establishments.

We have just recently launched the e-loading of petroleum products termed project Aquila which is all about ensuring transparency in distribution of petroleum products across the country which goes to show that there is light at the end of the tunnel for such an organisation that has gone digital in its operations.

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**“...When somebody walks up to me and tell me at my age that I look like sweet sixteen while in actual case I am not...”**

**You are always simply dressed, with little or no make-up and no jewellery even during big occasions. What is the reason for that ?**

I like being simple, and also it has something to do with my background and upbringing. I happen to come from a very humble family where modesty and simplicity are held in high esteem. My religious obligation also plays a part which demands that I perform ablution before each prayer session and to make-up and un-make up will be too cumbersome for me and again when you dress simple, people have easy access to you since I work in people related department. On the issue of jewellery, I do wear them but not the craziest or flamboyant ones. -----laughter

**What is your hobby ?**

I like gardening. I like seeing green scenery.

**How do you unwind ?**

I am not the party going type but I like visiting friends and attending social functions organized by family members.

**What is that particular thing you expect from the other person ?**

I expect people to be straight forward in their dealings.

**What is the most ridiculous thing anyone has told you ?**

When somebody walks up to me and tell me at my age that I look like sweet sixteen while in actual case I am not. ■