



(L-R) Alhaji Bashir Iliyasu (Manager, Admin)
Mr. Harold Okey Ubabukoh, (G.M. Operations),
Alh. Muniru Baba (G.M. Finance & Account)



(L-R) Alhaji Bashir Iliyasu (Manager, Admin),
Mr. Harold Okey Ubabukoh, (G.M. Operations)
and other PEF(M)B staffs

OPERATIONS CONFERENCE

The 2011 Operations Conference took place on the 8th – 9th of July. The two days affair started on a sound footing with invited operations staff arriving at the venue quite expectant. Accreditation started at 8:00 am and closed at 9:00 am. The business of the day started when everybody was seated including the Depot Staff, Depot Representatives, Unit Heads, Zonal Managers and General Managers.

The opening prayer was done by Alhaji Muniru Baba (GM, F &A) which was followed by the opening address by the Chairman and the Chief Host of the occasion; Mr Okey Harold Ubabukoh (GM, OPs). He admonished all the Operations Staff to keep doing the good work they are known for and to braise up for the Project Aquila which is the latest baby in the organization and the industry. Different suggestions, contributions, questions were made by a number of operations staff.

NORTH ZONE

Most of the observations bordered on the Project Aquila sensitization. Mr Bobbi, the Kano depot representative commended the ongoing sensitization being done by the top Management, but he however explained the need for more. He said that, about 99% of marketers truck registration forms

have not yet been returned because the marketers are not yet convinced of Project Aquila.

Mr Jibril Agora of the Corporate Communications Unit shared his experience during a sensitisation tour of the Kaduna depot where the PTD chairman advised that the traveller drivers should be assured of their salaries being paid on time due to the speedy nature and the transparency of the Aquila project to the marketers. They welcomed the project to their depot by Mr Victor Ajise, the Kaduna State depot representative. He complained of insufficient truck registration forms. The Zonal Manager of the Northwest region Alhaji Y.D Musa laid further emphasis on the sensitization issue.

LAGOS OFFICE

Operations staff in Lagos were praised by the Lagos Office Manager Mr. Tex Allison. He emphasized on how happy he was with their improving per-

formance in the face of various difficulties confronting them. He reminded them to be steadfast and innovative in order to achieve and surpass their desired targets.

Other officers in the Lagos Zone like Afuye of NIPCO observed that the difficulties they face with tagging the trucks, include insufficient tagging staff assigned to do the job (only two people do it) and unbearable weather conditions. He also mentioned the need for more sensitization to be done among other issues.

Mrs Remi Talabi of NIPCO facility said that the ATC staff complained of transport fare which affects their movement in coming to work.

Mr. Ben Akpa wanted to know how products transported to N.T.A designated receiving points, would be affected by Aquila. He was told by the GMO that it is being looked into, Aquila does not affect N.T.A liftings yet.

Mr. Olawore of Conoil facility complained about the problem of RFID but however encouraged depot and operation staff to be more innovative in their job in order to generate successful results as is happening in Conoil particularly regarding tagging and registration of trucks.

Mr. Kelechi Nwaozuzu said his depot faces the challenges of poor and unstable network on

Continued on Page 32 ➤

Continued from Page 31 ➔

the radio equipment. ASCON depot also experiences similar problems according to the depot representative there.

SOUTH EAST & SOUTH –SOUTH

In Enugu, the depot representative Mrs Njideka Ehile is not sure whether her depot is ready for Aquila because of lack internet services for most part of the year even attempts to fix the challenge was unfruitful. There is also no tagging exercise at the depot yet.

However, the GMO explained that the consultants handling the truck tagging and the fixing of radio and internet facilities are on their way to Enugu as he speaks.

Honeywell and Northwest depots in Calabar are been coordinated by Mr. Awanaka. He said his major challenge is the unavailability of computer system in the entire office. The VSAT equipment sent to his office is in his house, therefore not yet fixed. Work has become very difficult because of the computer issues.

LOGISTICS CONSULT PRESENTATION

Presenter; Mr Toyin Abbas.

WINNING STRATEGY

Mr. Toyin Abbas of logistics consult gave a presentation outlining tips on winning strategy;

1. Winning key compliant i.e you must initiate a winning mentality in spite of the challenges before you.
2. Roles and responsibilities of staff to create a winning team.
3. Aquila operation i.e. the concept and what is all about.
4. Key success factor i.e.

you must always think outside the box.

5. Questions and answers.

KEY COMPETENCES

1. Cost effectiveness.
2. Initiative and innovative.
3. Self confidence.
4. Enthusiasm.
5. Analytical skills
6. Flexibility.
7. Technical.

The above key factors according to Mr. Abass are some of the benefits PEF(M)B staff stand to gain as individual and professionals as soon as project Aquila takes off.

DAY 2

Day two of the Operations conference started with Staff accreditation and opening prayers by Oladele Adeyemi (Mrs).

The business of the day took off in the presence of the GMO, GM (A&P), Zonal Managers, Manager Admin, Deputy Manager Ops and I.T.

The day was kicked off with experience sharing by staff from receiving depots. They explained their challenges in the office particularly concerning radio transmitters, computers and printers e.t.c and of course their prospects and successes particularly in areas of N.T.A collections and prompt dispatch of claimed files. After the tea break, experience sharing by staff of I.T unit, accounts and CSU was done by topical discussions particularly on project Aquila final take off and operations issues were thoroughly discussed. A final communiqué was agreed after the lunch break. The session finally came to an end with the closing prayer by Kamil Bello. ■

By Adebisi Eyitayo



EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S ADDRESS

The Executive Secretary Mrs. Adefunke Sharon Kasali arrived at exactly 2:20pm to a standing welcome. Her much anticipated address was brief but very impactful.

In her address to the participants of the operations conference, she started by congratulating all staff for their efforts and contribution in doing everything possible to make Aquila a success.

She made it clear that Aquila is use of the key role PEF(M)B can contribute to the Nigeria in post deregulation era. Therefore its total success is not negotiable.

A pertinent question Mrs. Kasali asked the conference participants and conveyers was whether PEF(M)B has the credibility and ability for the appropriate authorities in a deregulated downstream economy.

Naturally, the response was a resounding 'yes' as long as Project Aquila comes into life and becomes a success because it will no more be business as usual.

She said that the board has engaged the services of reputable consultants to come in with their knowledge, skills and expertise in order to train all staff and to ensure the success of the project. In this regard, a media consultant outfit has also been engaged to give the Aquila the much needed publicity through the print and electronic means.

She said Aquila would give PEF(M)B more credence in the downstream sector and have target of 6,000 trucks to be tagged by the end of July. ■