



Press release

[For Immediate Release]

AIG-IMOUKHUEDE FOUNDATION, BLAVATNIK SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD HOLD CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE AIG PUBLIC LEADERS PROGRAMME CLASS OF 2021

The AIG Public Leaders Programme is an executive education programme for public servants currently at the Directorate level, who have the potential to be change-makers in their organisations. This seven-week programme is run by the Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation, in partnership with the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford.

The Closing Ceremony of the AIG Public Leaders Programme Class of 2021 held on Wednesday, 2nd March 2022, at the Conference Hall, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, FCT, Abuja. The 2021 graduating class was made up of 49 exceptional public servants who were selected after a rigorous multistage process from across the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria, working in different government ministries, departments, and agencies. Each participant was awarded a scholarship worth £11,500 each by the Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation, to attend the programme delivered in partnership with the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford.

Aigboje Aig-Imoukhuede, Chairman Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation gave the welcome address, during which he discussed the Foundation's mission of driving public sector transformation, and the role that partnerships such as those with the Blavatnik School of Government and the Office of the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation played in actualising that mission.

The special address was delivered by HRH, Muhammadu Sanusi II who enjoined the programme graduates to use the learnings they received from the programme to drive change in their organisations. He stated that those who have the privilege of receiving world class training like that offered by the University of Oxford had a burden of responsibility to serve the nation and its people with integrity and not to use their office for personal enrichment. He encouraged graduates to be courageous and to constantly strive to do the right thing, always having at the forefront of their minds the impact that their actions could have on the lives of Nigerian citizens they have been called to serve.

The Head of Civil Service of the Federation, Dr Folasade Yemi-Esan expressed her pleasure at the impact that the future public sector leaders being developed through the AIG Public Leaders Programme were already having on their organisations. She applauded them for the projects they have begun to implement that were already driving positive change. She commented on the long-standing relationship between the OHCSF and the Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation and stated that many of the reform initiatives that were yielding fruit at the OHCSF had been executed with the support of the Foundation



Dr Emmanuel Meribole Permanent Secretary, Service Policies and Strategies Office, Office of the Head of the Civil Service (OHCSF) gave the closing remarks, appreciating the Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation for committing its resources to bringing the faculty of the University of Oxford to Nigeria to help build the capacity of the public sector workforce. He commended the graduates for the effort they invested in the programme and their projects and encouraged them to be fully committed to their work as public servants.

The AIG Public Leaders Programme is a seven-week programme, delivered via synchronous and asynchronous methods with two live teaching weeks in Abuja. Participants are taught a range of vital leadership skills, conceptual frameworks and practical tools that will empower them to be more effective as they lead their departments and organisations through the challenges of an increasingly complex and dynamic world. After completion of the taught portion of the programme, participants are required to develop a capstone project applying the learnings they gained from the classroom to the real-world issues they face in their organisations. The top-rated capstone projects for the 2021 class were developed by Hussein Shaibu of the Ministry of Information and Culture, Ngozi Jessinta Akinbodewa of the Servicom Office, Olubusola Olatunji Opeyemi of the Lagos State Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development, Olumayowa Idowu of the Nigerian Television Authority and Ireti Oyefuga of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology.

Applications for the 2022 AIG Public Leaders Programme are open until 7th April 2022

Notes to Editor:

For media inquiries, please contact:

Patience Salami

Patience.salami@aigafrica.org or +234 703 0952 903

ABOUT THE AIG-IMOUKHUEDE FOUNDATION

The Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation is a public sector-focused philanthropic organisation founded by Aigboje and Ofofwe Aig-Imoukhuede to improve the lives of Africans through transformed public-service delivery and improved access to quality primary healthcare.

The Foundation promotes its mission of transforming public-service delivery by strengthening public sector reform initiatives with funding and technical assistance and implementing capacity building programs for public servants. Working with government ministries, departments and agencies, academic institutions, civil society organisations, and private sector entities to scale its impact.

To achieve its healthcare goals, the Foundation provides funding and strategic support to drive the work of affiliate organisations such as ABCHealth, the Private Sector Health Alliance of Nigeria (PSHAN), the Nigeria Solidarity Support Fund (NSSF), who are all focused on driving access to quality and affordable healthcare.



For more information, please visit www.aigimoukhuedefoundation.org.

ABOUT THE BLAVATNIK SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT

The Blavatnik School of Government at the University of Oxford exists to inspire and support better government and public policy around the world.

The Blavatnik School teaches current and future public leaders through innovative programmes, conducts independent research into pressing issues facing policymakers around the world, and convenes leaders and experts to foster better public policy.

With a strong global outlook, the Blavatnik School combines insights from a range of academic disciplines and derives lessons from the public, private and third sectors.

For more information about the Blavatnik School's Public Leaders Programme, please visit: <https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/in-country-public-leaders-programme>