

**ATTENDANCE FOR THE STATE ACTION ON BUSINESS ENABLING
REFORMS (SABER) PROGRAM**

S/N	NAME	MDAS	PHONE NO	EMAIL ADDRESS
1	Olugbenga Dan Olatubosun	Environment	08036601843	Olat5597@gmail.com
2	OSUNGBA BABE OLUYINKA	ODSM ENV	08060833976	vincasosunshade049@gmail.com
3	ISAAC EMMANUEL OJO	ODSM ENV	08061391805	emmanuel6139@gmail.com
4	FEMI ALADE/KOLA	MOT	08031544620	FFOREST2024@outlook.com
5	FERRAR AJAYI JOSEPH K	MOT	08034475592	enggrgrgrkayode@gmail.com
6	FEMI FETIDE	ODIRS	08034105637	femifeyide@adirs.ng
7	Oyebode Bola	SITA	08060706401	beagjof@gmail.com
8	Judith Hannah O	SITA	08035283116	judithhannah@yghoo.com
9	Adeoye Solomon G.	OSSAA	07036785422	adesolgb@gmail.com
10	OKOH - COMS	ONDIRA	0806259466	Ofsholomis2015@gmail.com
9	Elizabeth Olowopo	ONDIPA	08021083591	Elizabeth.Olowopo@gmail.com
10	Oluwatolosi Obarotimi	ONDIPA	08167099545	Oluwatolosi.obarotimi@ondipa.org
11	Oluwatolosi Adesunji	ONDIPA	07054385131	Tolosi.Adesunji@ondipa.org

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S/N	NAME	MIDAS	PHONE NO	EMAIL ADDRESS
1	Tempr Adeloye DA	TRANSPO	08033807150	kelhelenjis@yahoo.com
2	Tr Alonzo Z. Oloyede	MPPUD	08036572530	alonzozd4@gmail.com
3	Trl Joshua Omorinyi	MPPUD	08036668965	omorinyioj@gmail.com
4	Esv Akinsola Adeduns. N	METH	08060872522	
5	Ebun Oshubaniyi	MLFH	08032433370	NITESUNTRND@yahoo.com
6	Adesio Adewale Emmanuel	MLFH	09065608189	Adesioadewale@gmail.com
7	David David E.	DESA	08066858794	davidedewale@gmail.com
8	Olajide R. C	OSSAA	08767255759	
9	ENGR STEPHEN BOLAWOLE	ME & MR	08039259062	steph2004@gmail.com
10	ENGR. ADEREMI ALABA	✓	08035303778	yetundeadeyemi@yahoo.com
11	ENGR. OSANYINBA OLUKUNLE	ME & MR	0803448-1279	kunle2kol@yahoo.co.uk
12	Dr MILOLA AARDEURE	ONDIPRA	08038633337	christyondipra.org
13	Ayobun Omobela Christinah	Commerce	08035503609	omobelayobun93@gmail.com

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S/N	NAME	MIDAS	PHONE NO	EMAIL ADDRESS
1	Akinda Fumilayo	Min. of Commerce	08036168868	PresidentFumilayo@fep.gov.ng
2	Awobogun F. O	Min. of Commerce	08107099180	awobogunf@commer.gov.ng
3	Dr Ademola Kuwona	SITA	08038471087	niranikuwona@commer.gov.ng
4	Yusuf Ogunwole Oluwalope	Min. of Labour & Training	0803620045	ayemigunwole@fep.gov.ng
5	Femi Akanakin	ONDPDA	08026511893	femi@ondipa.org
6	Segun Emmanuel	OSCCIMPA	09022316635	segunemmanuel@fep.gov.ng
7	Sundaye Akin Oluwalope	Nig. Institute of Surveyors (NISV)		oluwalesegun@fep.gov.ng
8	Tunde Ayegun	Ordnance Survey	0806143238	tundegun@fep.gov.ng
9	Great Shy, Akinfunde	NASSI	080644038024	
10	Mrs Onidun R.	Commerce and Industry	08064770777	onidunr@fep.gov.ng
11	Mrs Francis Sunny Smet	ONDEA	08130785748	francis@ondea.org
12	Sgt. A. Akin	NAAN	08034251083	

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THE 9TH NOVEMBER 2023 AT CONTINENTAL HOTEL IGBATORO ROAD AKURE ONDO STATE ON THE PREPARATION OF YEAR 2024 BUSINESS ENABLING REFORM ACTION PLAN (BERAP 2024) IN RESPECT OF THE STATE ACTION BUSINESS ENABLING REFORM (SABER).

ATTENDANCE

A total number of thirty-three (33) participants attended the meeting. The details of the participants is herewith attached to this minutes.

OPENING REMARKS

The meeting commenced at exactly 11:22am and was declared opened by the Hon. Commissioner for Finance represented by his Senior Special Assistant (SSA) Mr. Ebenezer Adekusibe. The SSA reiterate the importance of the SABER program to Ondo State and the need for the State to participate fully in the program. He said Mr. Governor has given his words, directive and support for the program. He therefore charged all persons present at the meeting particularly the private sector participants to take the assignment serious and act in good conscience in ensuring that the State is qualified to participate in the SABER program for year 2024.

FOCUS OF THE MEETING

The SABER focal officer for Ondo State in the person of Dr. Adeola Richard Alonge gave a general overview of the SABER program, the Disbursement Linked Indicators, the Disbursement Linked Results and most importantly he emphasized on the need for the fulfillment of the Eligibility criteria for the program in year 2024.

He said that part of the Eligibility Criteria for the State to participate in the SABER Program for year 2024, the State must develop the Business Enabling Reform Action Plan (BERAP) which must be approved by the State Executive Council and published on the State Official Website on or before December 31st, 2023.

He emphasized that for the BERAP to be acceptable, it must be developed with the Private Sector participation; hence the need for the invitation and involvement of the Organized Private Sector (OPS) such as Ondo State Chambers of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (OSCCIMA), Ondo State Association of Export Clusters, National Association of Small-Scale

Industrialist, Nigeria Institution of Estate Surveyors and Valuers, Nigeria Institute of Town Planners, Manufacturers Association of Nigeria.

PREPARATION OF BERAP 2024

After the general overview, the meeting broke into eight thematic groups in relation to the Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLI's) to draft the action plan for each of the DLIs as follows:

DLI 1: Improved Efficiency in Property Registration and Sustainability of Land-Based Investment

DLI2: Improved Regulatory Framework for Private Investment in Fiber Optic Infrastructure

DLI3: Development of an Effective PPP Framework.

DLI4: Improved Investment Promotion Environment.

DLI5: Increased Transparency of Official Fees Procedure.

DLI6: Increased Transparency of Fees and Levies for Inter-State Trade and Increased Exporters Certification.

DLI 7: Simplified State and Local Business Tax Regime.

DLI 8:

At the end of the meeting, each of the thematic group came up with the relevant activities/action plan that would be required to be carried out in fulfillment of their DLI's. The officials of the Ministry of Justice and the representative of the Ondo State Judiciary stated that it would be difficult for them to achieve the desired result in respect of DLI 8, therefore they did not presented any action plan. The implication of this is that the State would not participate in DLI 8 in year 2024.

The action plan as prepared by the thematic groups are as presented in the attached table:

CLOSING REMARK

The Administrative Secretary of the Ondo State Development and Investment Promotion Agency gave the vote of thanks and the meeting came to a close at 5:55pm.


Dr Adeola Richard Alonge

Rep. Ondo State Government.


Mr. Segun Emmanuel

Rep. Organized Private Sector (OPS)

DLI 1: Improved Efficiency in Property Registration and Sustainability of Land-Based Investment

S/ N	BUSINESS ENABLING REFORM AREAS	REFORM OBJECTIVES	REFORM OBJECTIVES	DESCRIPTION AND KEY TARGETS	BENEFICIARIES	RESPONSIBLE MDA	CONTRIBUTING MDAS	LIST OF PRIVATE SECTOR CONTRIBUTOR	PLAN NEEDED START DATE	PLAN NEEDED END DATE
1	DLI 1 Improved efficiency in property registration and sustainability of the land-based investment process	To achieve a fast and transparent open process in land titling and registration	(i) Utilize block chain technology to ensure the security and transparency of property records. (ii) Establish a centralized and standardized database for property information accessible to all relevant government agencies (iii) Launch public awareness campaigns to educate citizens on the benefits of digital property registration	Our target is to reduce the time taken to complete property registration processes from the present 60 days to 40 days and implement mechanisms for expedited processing of documents, especially for time-sensitive transactions.	Citizensry Landowners Property-owners Investors	Ministry of Land, Housing and infrastructure	Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban. Development Office of the surveyor General Ondo State Internal Revenue Services	Nigerian Institute of Surveyors (NIS) Nigerian Institute of Estate Surveyors & Valuers (NIESV) Nigerian Institute of Town Planners (NITP)	10 th Feb. 2024 15 th March 2024	10 th Feb. 2024 15 th March 2024
										2 nd May 2024

DLI2: Improved Regulatory Framework for Private Investment in Fiber Optic Infrastructure

2	<p>DLI2 Improved regulatory framework for private investment in Fiber Optic infrastructure</p>	<p>To increase internet broadband penetration and explore the potential internet usage.</p>	<p>(i) Conduct a comprehensive review of existing regulations related to fiber optic infrastructure investment. (ii) Implement Open access policies to encourage competition and allow multiple service providers to share the same fiber optic infrastructure. (iii) Develop model agreements that streamline the process of forming partnerships and address risk-sharing mechanisms.</p>	<p>(i) Ensure that the state's infrastructure growth is sustained and inclusive (ii) Protection of prospective local and foreign investors (iii) To maintain the N145 per linear meter fee charged for broadband deployment</p>	<p>Government institutions and parastatals The organized private sectors Technology Hubs and investors</p>	<p>Ondo State Information Technology Agency (SITA)</p>	<p>* Ministry of Infrastructure, Lands and Housing * Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development * Performance and Project Implementation Monitoring Unit (PPIMU) *Ondo State Ministry of Justice</p>	<p>ODUA Infraeco Technology operators in the State</p>	<p>8th Feb. 2024 16th April, 2024 25th July, 2024</p>	<p>30th Nov, 2024 20th Oct. 2024 10th Dec. 2024</p>
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DLI3: Development of an Effective PPP Framework.

3	DLI 3 Development of an Effective PPP Framework	(i) To attract investment into Ondo State and Promote after care services for the sustainability of existing investment / industries in the State. (ii) To have a transparent and effective Public Private Partnership engagement process and procedures for efficient private sector collaboration	(i) Assess and update existing laws and regulations related to PPPs to ensure they are clear, comprehensive, and conducive to private investment. (ii) Develop a project pipeline and establish a transparent process for identifying and prioritizing projects suitable for PPPs. (iii) Develop standardized templates for PPP contracts to streamline the negotiation process	The key target is to foster a transparent and robust regulatory environment. This includes clear legal frameworks, risk sharing mechanisms, and efficient dispute resolution mechanisms to attract private sector investment and ensure sustainable collaboration between public and private entities	The State government The Organized Private Sector	Ondo State Development and Investment Promotion Agency (ONDIPA)	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives * Performance and Project Implementation Monitoring Units (PPIMU) * Ministry of Finance * Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget. * Ministry of Justice	Chambers of Commerce MAN NASME NASSI	10 th Feb 2024 5 th March 2024	30 th Sept, 2024 4 th June, 2024
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DL14: Improved Investment Promotion Environment.

4	Improved Investment Promotion Environment	To create conditions that attract and retain investments in Ondo State	<p>(i) Conduct a comprehensive review of existing regulations and streamline bureaucratic processes to reduce red tape</p> <p>(ii) Develop strategy to enhance transparency in regulatory procedures and decision-making to build trust with investors.</p> <p>(iii) Strengthen legal frameworks to protect the rights of investors and ensure fair dispute resolution mechanisms.</p>	To attracts domestic and foreign investment which would lead to increased capital inflows. This, in turn would stimulates economic growth by fostering business expansion, job creation, and increased productivity.	The State government	Ondo State Development and Investment Promotion Agency (ONDIPA)	<p>Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives</p> <p>Performance and Project Implementation Monitoring Units (PPIMU)</p> <p>Ministry of Finance</p> <p>Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget.</p> <p>Ministry of Justice</p>	DAWN Commission of Commerce	<p>10th April 2024</p> <p>15th Jun 2024</p> <p>20th Sept 2024</p> <p>30th July, 2024</p> <p>1st Mar, 2024</p> <p>30th July, 2024</p>
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DL15: Increased Transparency of Official Fees Procedure.

5	Increase Transparency of official fees and procedures	(i) To be transparent and make public all fees, service delivery timeline and cost of all key business enabling environment state level MDAs. (ii). To create a one stop for Information sharing, grievances and redress mechanism within ODIRS on fees related issues.	(i) Review the Ondo State Revenue Administration Law of 2018 to accommodate new fees and rates where and if necessary (ii) Ensure that the Revenue Administration Law which contains all approved rates and fees is published and maintained on the Ondo State Government website as well as the website of the Ondo State Internal Revenue Services and key business enabling MDAs. (iii) Publish the procedures and timeline for service delivery	(i) To ensure that the citizenry and public are aware of all government taxes and rate. (ii) To ensure that all complaints are resolved within 72 hours; and where the complaint cannot be resolved within the 72 hours, the complainant must be notified of the efforts made to resolve the complaints. (iii) To blocked loopholes for diversion of government revenue.	The State Government The citizenry Business owners	Ondo State Internal Revenue Services	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Cooperative Services Ministry of Environment Ministry of Transport Ondo State Signage and Advertisement Agency * Ministry of Lands * Ministry of Finance * Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget	Trade Association MAN Financial Institution	1 st April, 2024 20 th July, 2024 1 st Feb, 2024 20 th Nov, 2024 25 th Nov 2024	20 th July, 2024 10 th Dec, 2024
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			<p>for 5 key business enabling MDAs (Business Premises Permit by Ministry of Commerce and Industry, EIA by Ministry of Environment, Signage permit by Ondo State Signage Agency, Vehicle Inspection Certificate by Ministry of Transport and Survey Plan by Ministry of Lands.</p> <p>(iv) Continue with public awareness program on TV, Radio and other new media on the available electronic platform for payment of all government revenue.</p>						
								5 th Jan. 2024	30 th Dec, 2024

DL16: Increased Transparency of Fees and Levies for Inter-State Trade and Increased Exporters Certification.

6	Increase Transparency of fees and levies for inter State trade and increased exporters certification.	(i) To regulate and promote interstate trades between Ondo State and other neighboring State (ii) To boost trade efficiency and promote economic growth.	(i) Develop a dedicated, user-friendly, accessible, and regularly updated online portal providing detailed information on fees and levies applicable to inter-state trade. (ii) Establish a centralized certification system for exporters that streamlines the application and approval process. (iii) Develop programs to assist exporters with the certification process, including guidance on documentation and compliance	(i) To remove illegal levies collectors on the borderlines of the State. (ii) Harmonize certification standards making it easier for exporters to comply with multiple requirements	The State Government Exporters Business owner	Ministry of Commerce, industry and cooperative services	ODIRS State Security Network (Amotekun) Office of the Surveyor General Ministry of Finance Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget	Chamber of Commerce Ondo State Exporters Cluster MAN NASSI NGOs	1 st Mar, 2024 1 st Mar 2024	30 th Dec. 2024 30 th June 2024
									15 th Mar 2024	16 th July. 2024

DLI 7: Simplified State and Local Business Tax Regime.

7	Simplified State and Local Tax regime	To reduce compliance burdens and attracting Investment	(i) Conduct a comprehensive review of existing state and local business tax laws and regulations. (ii) Consolidate various tax codes and regulations into a single, comprehensive tax code (iii) Commence the process of passing a new law to adopt Presumptive Turnover Tax Regime for MSME.	(i) To subsumed business-related local government charges/fees into a consolidated demand notice. (ii) To ensure quick settlement of dispute and judgement delivered within 60 days	The State Government Citizenry Business owner/MSME	Ondo State Internal Revenue Services Ondo State Judiciary	Ministry of Finance Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget Ministry of Local Government and Chiefraincy Affairs. NASSI	MAN Chamber of Commerce	20 th April 2024 5 th Feb 2024	19 th Nov 2024 30 th Aug 2024 15 th Aug 2024 8 th Feb 2024
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