



ACADEMIC STAFF UNION OF POLYTECHNICS (ASUP)

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE 117TH NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (NEC) MEETING HELD AT KINI COUNTRY HOME, AKWANGA, NASARAWA STATE, ON THURSDAY 2ND JULY, 2026

PREAMBLE

The National Executive Council (NEC) of the Academic Staff Union of Polytechnics (ASUP) was held on the 2nd of July, 2026 with Chapter Chairmen of the Union from various public Polytechnics, and Colleges of Technology across the country in attendance during the meeting which held in Nasarawa.

ISSUES

A. National Issues

1. **Insecurity:** NEC expresses serious concern over the persistent insecurity across the country, particularly the activities of terrorists, bandits, kidnappers, and other criminal elements whose actions continue to threaten national unity, food security, and economic development. NEC notes with sadness the increasing loss of lives among innocent citizens, members of the Armed Forces, and other security personnel in the line of duty, while paying glowing tribute to the courage, patriotism, and sacrifices of these gallant officers.
2. **Rising Cost of Living:** NEC expresses grave concern over the worsening cost of living in the country, driven by the persistent rise in the prices of food items, transportation, goods and services, which has further eroded the purchasing power of Nigerians. NEC observes with dismay that the prevailing harsh economic environment has forced many businesses to shut down, resulting in increasing unemployment, deepening poverty, and heightened

socio-economic hardship for millions of citizens.

3. **2027 General Elections:** NEC notes the increasing tempo of political activities across the country as preparations for the 2027 General Elections gather momentum. While affirming the constitutional rights of citizens and political parties to participate freely in the democratic process, NEC urges all political actors to conduct their activities with civility, restraint, and respect for the rule of law. NEC cautions against inflammatory rhetoric, hate speech, political violence, electoral manipulation, and all actions capable of undermining national unity and democratic stability.

B. State of Tertiary Level TVET Education Sub Sector

1. **Delay in the Implementation of the FGN/ASUP 2010 Renegotiation Agreement:** NEC expressed grave disappointment over the continued delay in the implementation of the FGN/ASUP 2010 Renegotiation Agreement signed on 8th April 2026. While acknowledging the release of some implementation memoranda by the Federal Government, NEC condemned the persistent foot-dragging in providing the necessary cash backing for the financial components of the Agreement, particularly the Consolidated Academic Tools Allowance (CATA). NEC observed that the unwarranted delay has heightened frustration, eroded confidence, and increased restiveness among members of the Union.
2. **NEEDS Assessment Intervention:** NEC commended the Federal Government for the release of fund allocation letters to beneficiary institutions under the NEEDS Assessment Intervention and noted with satisfaction the prompt conduct of budget defence exercises by the affected institutions. However, NEC strongly condemned the increasing abuse of the Budget Monitoring Committee process by some managements through arbitrary constitution of the committees, disregard for established procedures, questionable inflation of project costs, and poor prioritization of critical institutional needs.
3. **Bill for the Dual Mandate Structure for Polytechnics:** NEC commended the National

Assembly for the remarkable progress made on the Bill for the Dual Mandate Structure for Polytechnics, describing it as a landmark legislative initiative capable of addressing the long-standing challenges confronting Polytechnic education, particularly the HND/B.Sc. dichotomy and the limitations imposed on the sector's academic mandate. NEC noted with satisfaction that the Bill has progressed to the Senate for the final legislative process and urged the Senate to expedite its consideration and passage.

- 4. Continued Delay in the Release of the New Schemes of Service:** NEC expressed profound displeasure over the continued delay in the release of the reviewed Schemes of Service and Conditions of Service for the Polytechnic system despite assurances that all contentious issues had been resolved by the relevant stakeholders. NEC observed that the absence of an updated and legally recognized Scheme of Service has continued to impede career progression, create administrative uncertainties, and adversely affect staff morale and productivity across the sector.
- 5. Industrial Disharmony in Some Polytechnics:** NEC expressed appreciation to the Ondo State Government and the Management of Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo for demonstrating maturity, responsibility, and commitment to constructive engagement, which culminated in the amicable resolution of the industrial crisis in the institution. However, NEC expressed grave concern over the persistent industrial unrest in several institutions, particularly the reported management interference in Union affairs, intimidation and victimisation of members at Federal Polytechnic, Nekede; the prolonged industrial dispute at Federal Polytechnic Offa, Kwara State; and the continued neglect of staff welfare issues in State-owned Polytechnics in Plateau and Borno States, which have heightened the possibility of trade disputes.
- 6. Non-Remittance of Third-Party Deductions:** NEC strongly condemned the persistent non-remittance of third-party deductions, particularly Pension Contributions and National Housing Fund deductions, by several Polytechnic administrations despite consistent deductions from workers' salaries. NEC noted that this unacceptable practice has subjected

many retiring members to untold hardship, delayed access to retirement benefits, and undermined confidence in the contributory pension system. NEC further expressed concern over the poor implementation of the Contributory Pension Scheme in institutions owned by the Benue State Government and the apparent absence of any pension scheme for staff of Enugu State Polytechnic.

RESOLUTIONS:

- A. NEC urges the Federal Government to strengthen intelligence gathering, enhance inter-agency collaboration, equip security agencies adequately, and adopt more proactive measures to decisively address the nation's security challenges and restore public confidence.
- B. NEC calls on the Federal Government to urgently implement practical short term economic measures and policies, aimed at reducing inflation, stimulating production, supporting businesses, creating sustainable jobs, and improving the welfare of Nigerians to avert further deterioration of the nation's socio-economic conditions.
- C. NEC further calls on relevant institutions to ensure a transparent, credible, free, and fair electoral process that reflects the genuine will of the Nigerian people.
- D. NEC called on the Federal Government to immediately provide full financial backing and ensure the complete implementation of the Agreement without further delay in order to sustain industrial harmony in the Polytechnic sector.
- E. NEC insisted that the integrity of the intervention programme must not be compromised and therefore called on the Federal Ministry of Education and the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) to enforce strict compliance with the approved implementation guidelines, sanction erring institutions, and ensure transparency, accountability, and value for money in the execution of intervention projects.
- F. NEC further called on the President to promptly assent to the Bill upon its transmission, as its enactment will reposition Nigerian Polytechnics in line with global best practices,

strengthen technical and vocational education, and enhance national technological development.

- G. NEC urged the Federal Government and all relevant agencies to immediately conclude the approval process and release the new Schemes of Service without further bureaucratic delay in the overall interest of the Polytechnic system.
- H. NEC warned that the continued disregard for established industrial relations principles by the affected authorities poses a serious threat to peace and stability in the Polytechnic sector and therefore called on all governments and institutional managements concerned to embrace genuine dialogue, respect workers' rights, and address all outstanding issues without delay.
- I. NEC demanded the immediate remittance of all outstanding deductions, strict compliance with extant pension laws by all proprietors of Polytechnics, and decisive intervention by the relevant regulatory authorities to protect the welfare and retirement security of Polytechnic staff.

CONCLUSION:

The resolutions reached at the 117th NEC are geared toward ensuring a better nation and a crisis free Polytechnic sector. As such, affected stakeholders are expected to treat the resolutions contained in this communique as necessary antidotes to the plethora of challenges presently bedevilling the polytechnic sector, hindering the growth of our members, and the nation at large.



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(National Publicity Secretary)