



ACADEMIC STAFF UNION OF POLYTECHNICS (ASUP)

TEXT OF A PRESS CONFERENCE DELIVERED AT THE END OF THE 111TH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC STAFF UNION OF POLYTECHNICS (ASUP) ON THE 3RD OF OCTOBER, 2024 IN ABUJA

Gentlemen of the Press,

Our Union's National Executive Council met at its 111th session to review the current status of our engagements with proprietors of public polytechnics, colleges of technology and monotechnics in the country.

Specifically, our Union extensively reviewed the following disturbing issues:

1. Sustained reports of impunity and disrespect of clear provisions of the Federal Polytechnics Act, different edicts establishing state owned institutions, and other instruments of governance in the sector particularly as it affects appointment of principal officers in Federal and State Owned Polytechnics as well as other items of governance in polytechnics.
2. Non review of the contentious and suspended document titled schemes of service for polytechnics and the non release of conditions of service.
3. Non release of the second tranche of the NEEDS Assessment intervention funds.
4. Intrusion of the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) into the regular functions of the Academic Boards of Polytechnics in the admission of Higher National Diploma students in the Nigerian Polytechnic System.
5. Non capturing of the peculiar academic allowance of members in the budget for sustained payment in the planned post IPPIS era.
6. Refusal of state owned polytechnics to implement the 35/25% salary review for members and non release of the arrears of same in Federal Polytechnics.
7. Non release/resolution of the owed CONTISS 15 Migration arrears to members in the lower cadre.
8. Non conclusion of the ASUP/FGN 2010 agreement renegotiation process.
9. Non payment of promotion arrears in federal institutions and non implementation of promotion in state owned institutions.

RESOLUTIONS

Following a review of the disposition of the government through the supervising ministry of education, the regulatory body and other agencies of government as well as the governing councils of some of the polytechnics to the issues outlined, the 111th NEC meeting of the Union rose with the following demands:

A. Review and reversal of all decisions/ acts of impunity inconsistent with the provisions of the Federal Polytechnics Act and other instruments of governance in the sector

B. Immediate commencement of the review process of the suspended document titled schemes of service for polytechnics 2023 as agreed in the tripartite meeting of July 2024.

C. Release of the second tranche of the NEEDS Assessment intervention for public polytechnics and Colleges of Technology.

D. Cessation of all acts purposely to undermine, duplicate or surrender the responsibilities of Academic Boards of Polytechnics in students' admission processes to the NBTE as demonstrated by the recent launch of a students' admission portal by the NBTE.

E. Inclusion of the negotiated peculiar academic allowance in the budget against post IPPIS payment scheme/template for members.

F. Immediate implementation of the approved 25/35% salary review across all public polytechnics and the payment of the accrued arrears.

G. Release and final resolution of the age long CONTISS 15 migration arrears for the lower cadre.

H. Recommencement and completion of the ASUP/FGN 2010 agreement renegotiation process.

I. Immediate release of the reviewed conditions of service.

J. Immediate implementation of promotion in state owned institutions.

K. Release of outstanding promotion arrears in federal institutions and colleges of technology.

Following the above listed demands and pursuant to our resolve to continue to advocate for a functional polytechnic education system in the country, our union hereby issues a 15 day ultimatum as required by law commencing from 7th October, 2024 to proprietors of public polytechnics for these items to be addressed or face different forms of trade dispute

declaration including a possible withdrawal of service of members of our Union across the country.

At the expiration of the 15 days ultimatum, the union's NEC will reconvene to decide a specific and legitimate course and design of action to address the issues listed.

Zones and chapters of the Union are to prepare members for necessary action within the 15 days ultimatum through congresses, peaceful protests, and media campaigns on the issues.

It is our hope that the 15 days period shall be explored by the government to address the issues and save the sector from an imminent shut down.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SK' followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Shammah S. Kpanja
(President)