

18th August, 2015

The Executive Secretary,
Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC),
UBEC Building,
No 7 Gwani Street,
Abuja.



Dear Sir,

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI) REQUEST FOR THE LIST OF ALL ALMAJIRI SCHOOLS IN NIGERIA

On behalf of Public and Private Development Centre (PPDC), we wish to convey our utmost appreciation to your organization for your cooperation and willingness to respond to our request.

However, after carefully analyzing your letter dated 5th August, 2015, we observed that only a hundred and seventeen (117) Almajiri schools were provided in the list and the one in gwagwalada was omitted.

We wish to draw your attention to a presentation made by the then Honourable Minister of State for Education, Chief (Barr) Ezenwo Nyesom Wike, on Basic Education in Nigeria. In his presentation, he posited that 124 almajiri schools are being constructed all over Nigeria, 85 have already been completed and some are in-use, while 39 are under construction and at 80% to 90% completion rates. This presentation is contained in your website.

The former minister's presentation clearly contradicts the information in your letter and we would appreciate it if you can provide us with more clarifications. Please find below the links to the presentation made by the former minister on the almajiri schools.

<http://ubeconline.com/Pre/ALMAJIRI%20EDUCATION%20PROGRAMME%20jule%202015.pdf>

<http://fmi.gov.ng/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Ministry-of-Education-B.pdf>

Nonetheless, we are aware that some schools are being sponsored by TETFUND, but based on your statutory coordinating role enshrined in **Section 9 (a) & (g) of the Universal Basic Education Act, 2004** which provides that the functions of the commission shall be to (a) "formulate the policy guidelines for the successful operation of the universal basic education programme in the federation; and (g) monitor federal inputs into the implementation of basic education", it is our belief that your agency should be seized of information on the omitted schools.

Furthermore, we have written to the Ministry of Education concerning this and we were advised to channel all our request on Almajiri schools to UBEC.

We therefore apply for a comprehensive list of all the Almajiri schools in Nigeria including those omitted in your previous letter with particular emphasis in the school in Gwagwalada.

By virtue of the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 2011, we further request for the cost of each school and their exact locations.

We would appreciate it if the information can be made available to us promptly and in any event, not later than 7 days of this application as required by the Freedom of Information Act, 2011.

While we look forward to your cooperation in this direction, accept the assurances of our highest esteem.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,


Offia Samuel
Program Officer
Public and Private Development Centre (PPDC)