

NES #15 Science and Technology Policy Commission

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Observations

- There is a need for demand driven research resulting in:
Innovation to resolve pressing problems identified in society.
developing products and services from prototype to market.
- A funding arrangement is required in the new environment, as well as the political will and backbone to produce the desired results.

Recommendations

- Government should establish a National Science and Technology (Innovation) Fund to support market oriented research; it may be desirable that the fund should be managed by the Nigeria National Merit Award.
- Venture capital base derivable from the private sector to commercialise such innovative products should be established.
- The National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP) should be revitalized and strengthened to act as an effective clearing house to protect patentable ideas and intellectual property and to protect the national interest in matters of technology transfer.
- For trans-sectoral optimization of economic development, there is a need to review quality assurance processes to test newly developed products before they get on the open market.
- We should also use technology to promote the self funding of public facilities.
- Scientists and technologists are to be included in the Economic Management Team of the Presidency so as to strengthen and ensure that programs for economic development of the nation are science and technology (knowledge) driven to enhance innovation.