CHALLENGES AND APPROACHES TO THE PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION DURING TIME OF CRISIS

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AT THE FIRST INTERCESSIONAL COSP FOR PREPARATION FOR THE UNGASS
COVID-19 AND FALL OUTS

- Health related procurements and distribution
- Palliatives and social security support etc.
- Identification of beneficiaries and managing expectations
LEGAL PROVISIONS ON EMERGENCY PROCUREMENTS

A procuring entity may for the purpose of this Act, carry out an emergency procurement where:

(a) the country is either seriously threatened by or actually confronted with a disaster, catastrophe, war, insurrection or Act of God

S. 43(1) Public Procurement Act 2007

The existence of this provision and the explanatory manual already set the tone for the country response
GOVERNMENT RESPONSES TO THE CRISIS

- Setting up of the Presidential Task Force (PTF) on COVID 19 which coordinated most health -related procurements.
- Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) issues guidelines – (GUIDELINES ON THE CONDUCT OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES BY MINISTRIES, DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC/LOCKDOWN)
- The Office of the Accountant –General of the Federation issues guidelines (Framework for the Management of COVID-19 Funds in Nigeria under the Treasury Single Account)
- Activation of the distribution network under the Social Safety Initiatives by the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development(FMHDSD)
- Robust dissemination of information using diverse media
## ELEMENTS OF THE BPP GUIDELINE

### OVER-ARCHING PRINCIPLES

- Transparency and Accountability
- Probity and Value for Money

### PROCUREMENT ENTITIES TO PREPARE PLANS FOR COVID 19 RELATED PROJECTS AND UPLOAD ON THE NIGERIA OPEN CONTRACTING PORTAL (NOCOPO)

- Projects not uploaded will not be funded
- Warns against reduction of value and contract splitting to evade threshold requirements.

### SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN PROCESSES IN LINE WITH EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT PRINCIPLES

- Advertisement on BPP website alone is sufficient
- Requirements for “No Objection” suspended
- Detailed report of emergency procurements and associated documents to be submitted to BPP subsequently
Funds dedicated for COVID 19, including government stimulus package and donations from the private sector domiciled in a special account at the Central bank (CBN)

Five commercial banks designated to receive donations and remit to CBN

Aim is to provide single consolidated view of aggregate Government cash balances and ensure accountability.

A new line for COVID 19 Donations to be added to the Chart of Accounts to ensure tracking and reporting.

All the requirements of the Financial Transparency Policy of the Government and internal audit procedures to be complied with.
ACAs Commenced Monitoring of Procurement and Distribution channels
- ICPC issued advisory and set up a monitoring framework
- EFCC monitored increase of COVID 19-related cyber crimes and issued advisories.

CSOs Established Monitoring Mechanisms, sometimes in collaboration with ACAs

UNODC Country office in collaboration with ACAs, Regulatory Agencies and CSOs produced a Corruption and Fraud Risk Register relating to COVID 19 response.
Disruption of Supply Chain made Procurement problematic.

Identification of beneficiaries and astronomical increase in numbers created difficulties in the distribution channels.

Restrictions and Social Distancing Rules.
CONCLUSION

- Reports of monitoring exercises are still being collated and analyzed.
- Appropriation of existing legal framework, accountability channels and processes has helped.
THANK YOU FOR LISTENING