

**FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, OWERRI  
UNIVERSITY AUDIT COMMITTEE (UAC)**

**MINUTES OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF FUTO UNIVERSITY  
AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5,  
2025 AT ACE -FUELS FACILITY**

**31:00 MEMBERSHIP**

Prof. J. S. Orebiyi	AEC	Chairman
Engr. Prof. M. S. Nwakaudu	CHE	Member
Prof. (Mrs.) G. N. Okeudo	LTT	Member
Mr. Kenneth Ejike	Deputy Bursar	Member
Mrs. B. C. Okechukwu	Prin. Int. Auditor	Member
Mr. Justin Uwaoma	SAR, CMU	Secretary
C. I. Ehumadu	AR, SEN	Asst. Secretary

**31:01 In Attendance**

Mr. Lucky N. Onuoha	Project Auditor, ACE-FUELS
Ifeoma E. Mgbenu	Project Accountant, ACE-FUELS

**32:00 OPENING**

The meeting commenced at 12:15 pm with an opening prayer by Prof. (Mrs.) G. N. Okeudo. The Chairman welcomed members to the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Committee. He on behalf of the Committee commiserated with Mr. Kenneth Ejike over the untimely demise of his beloved mother and prayed for the eternal repose of the soul of the deceased as well as granting him the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss for Mr. Ejike and his beloved ones.

**33:00 ADOPTION OF AGENDA FOR THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF UNIVERSITY  
AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The agenda for the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the University Audit Committee was adopted on a motion by Prof. M. S. Nwakaudu, seconded by Mrs. B. C. Okechukwu.

**34:00 MINUTES OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the University Audit Committee held on Wednesday, February 5, 2025 were read and adopted on a motion by Prof. (Mrs.) G. N. Okeudo, seconded by Mr. Kenneth Ejike.

**35:00: MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2024**

**Min 29.00: Committee Decision**

The Committee noted that it's directive to the Secretary to produce and submit three draft report of the 2023 Audited Financial Statement of ACE-FUELS was complied with. It also noted that members had received copies of the report.

**36:00 REMARKS BY CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman once again welcomed members to the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the University Audit Committee. He appreciated members efforts towards task delivery and urged that it be sustained.

**37:00 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT FROM ACE-FUELS**

The secretariat distributed copies of the 2024 financial report from ACE-FUELS to members. The Chairman consequently invited members to study the report and make input as appropriate.

**38:00 Observations and Comments**

Members having perused the report observed as follows:

- That the Internal Audit report covered only a period of six months (July 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024).
- That the Internal Audit report should cover a period of one year, January 1 to December 31, 2024. The Committee requested for the outstanding Internal Audit Report which would cover the period of January to June, 2024 from the Project Auditor of the Centre and he obliged and later submitted the report to the Committee.

- That a lot of variance exists in the financial report of the Centre.
- That the Centre may begin to witness reduced budgetary allocation from their donor if they continue to under utilize their allocated funds.
- That Ignorance of the availability of funds by staff members of the Centre may be the major cause of the variance.
- That the Project Accountant of the Centre should be invited to explain why the Centre underutilized funds allocated to them.
- That some staff members of the Centre find it difficult to retire funds advanced to them.
- That the Project Accountant of the Centre should devise means to persuade such persons to retire funds advanced to them.

### **39:00 COMMITTEE DECISIONS**

After exhaustive deliberations, the Committee decided as follows:

1. That the Project Accountant and Project Auditor of the Centre would be invited for interaction.
2. That the secretariat should once again remind other Centers of Excellence in the University to furnish the Committee with their financial report and the Vice-Chancellor should be copied.
3. That the Deputy Bursar should work with the Principal Internal Auditor to produce a draft Committee report on the 2024 Audited Financial Statement of ACE-FUELS.

### **40:00 INTERACTION WITH ACE-FUELS PROJECT ACCOUNTANT AND PROJECT AUDITOR**

The Chairman welcomed the Project Accountant and Project Auditor of the Centre to the meeting. He further informed them that the Committee had gone through the Centre's 2024 Audited Financial Statement and needed clarifications on some grey areas.

- The Chairman demanded for explanation why the huge variance exists in the budgetary performance of the Center with Non-Consulting

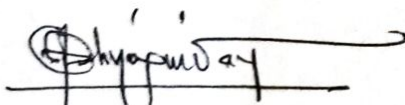
Service, Consulting Service, and Goods recording the highest percentage of variance respectively in the second semester report which covers July 1 to December 31, 2024. In her response, the Project Accountant of the Centre stated that the procurement processes of the proposed goods had been concluded, and it awaits final approval from other supervisory bodies like the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and the National Universities Commission (NUC) for the goods to be procured. The Project Internal Auditor stated that the bureaucracy of the supervisory bodies most times causes the delay in procurement. He further stated that most of the goods used at the Centre are imported. He apologized for the earlier omission of the First Semester Internal Audit Report of the Centre which covers January to June, 2024, stating that it was an oversight.

- The Committee sought to know whether the unutilized funds would be returned to the Centre donor. The Project Accountant in her response stated that the unutilized funds are rolled over and would be utilized by the Centre.
- The Committee requested to know why the Centre recorded high amount of unretired cash advances and what measures are put in place to forestall it. The Project Accountant informed the Committee that she had written affected staff members of the Centre and informed them that their stipends would be withheld and no more advances to them until they completely retire the previous one.


The Chairman thanked the Project Accountant and Project Auditor of the Centre for honouring the Committee's invitation and the clarifications they made on those areas of concern.

#### **41.00 CLOSING**

The meeting adjourned at 1:58pm on a motion by Engr. Prof. M. S. Nwakaudu, seconded by Mrs. B. C. Okechukwu. The closing prayer was said by Mr. Kenneth Ejike.



**Prof. J. S. Orebiyi**  
*Chairman, UAC*



**Justin Uwaoma**  
*Secretary, UAC*