LAUNCH OF THE *2019 WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE NATIONAL OUTCOME ROUTINE MAPPING (WASH-NORM)* REPORT

OPENING ADDRESS BY

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PROTOCOL

Introduction

I am pleased to join you here today at the launch of the ***2019 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene National Outcome Routine Mapping (WASH-NORM) Report***. The WASH NORM survey, the subject of this 457-page Report, is a survey that we are very proud of mostly because, one: it demonstrates what is possible when agencies work together towards a common cause rather than at cross-purposes and, two: it demonstrates what is possible when agencies leverage each other's area of technical expertise rather than duplicating efforts and spreading resources thinly, as we sadly witness among many MDAs today.

2. The WASH National Outcome Routine Mapping (WASH-NORM) is an annual national assessment of the status of water, sanitation and hygiene services aimed at covering the data gaps in the sector. Its primary objective is to provide data on WASH indicators to meet the needs of policymakers – quite similar to the ***Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)*** and the ***National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS)*** which you may already be familiar with- but at shorter intervals of one year rather than four -, five-years for MICS and NDHS. This will help ensure that real-time, up to date figures are available to support evidence-based policymaking for sectoral interventions. With regular measurement of relevant indicators, which this survey aims to provide, Nigeria is better able to track changes on various dimensions of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene services with a view to achieving Goal 6 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

3. The WASH-NORM survey integrates users' perception of service levels with assessments of WASH facilities to produce a comprehensive and in-depth analysis of national WASH coverage. The exercise collects a vast amount of data that can be used to track progress towards the attainment of national goals as captured in the *National Open Defecation Free Roadmap*, the *Partnership for Expanded Water-Sanitation and Hygiene framework* and the *WASH Sector Revitalization Action Plan*. Furthermore, the survey disaggregates data across different geopolitical zones, area of residence and

demographic groups which can be used to target unserved and under-served people with appropriate policies and adequate resources. Finally, the study contains information on topics such as quality, dependability and adequacy of WASH services, which are relevant to promoting sustainability and equitable access.

4. This study was undertaken under the overall leadership of the Federal Ministry of Water Resources (FMWR), while the National Bureau of Statistics was responsible for the survey with technical and financial support from UNICEF, the World Bank and African Development Bank.

Highlights of survey methodology

5. In terms of processes and methodology, the survey collected data and information using five modules:

i. Households, in terms of access to WASH services and WASH expenditure
ii. Water utilities mapping and consumer satisfaction survey
iii. Mapping of water sources in communities
iv. WASH in schools
v. WASH in health facilities
vi. WASH in markets and motor parks

6. ***With respect to households:***

i. A sample of 15 households per EA were selected systematically using computerized spreadsheets
ii. 600 households were canvassed in each of the 34 states and FCT, giving a total of 21,000 households; while
iii. 1,800 households each were canvassed in Lagos and Kano, giving a grand total of 24,600 households for all 36 states and the FCT.

7. With respect to facilities:

i. 2,050 primary and secondary schools were covered across the country with an average of 50 schools listed and mapped in each state and the FCT.

ii. 1,312 health facilities were sampled and an average of 32 were listed and mapped in each state including the FCT

iii. All markets and motor parks within the 1,640 enumeration areas were listed and mapped

iv. 16 fully and 12 partially functional urban water utilities from 28 states were studied nationwide serving 5,600 household-consumers.

8. The fieldwork was conducted by 533 interviewers, with more than 50% of them involved in face-to-face interviews while others carried out facility assessments and water quality tests. Importantly, the adoption of computer-assisted personal interview (CAPI) devices aided data collection efforts as it saved both time and money. In addition, its GPS functionality will facilitate deeper analysis such as mapping social, economic, demographic and geographic characteristics.

9. The seven sets of questionnaires used in this survey covered core questions and measures adapted from the globally-accepted tracking methodologies developed by WHO / UNICEF, to ensure that all the key indicators and resulting data to be produced are relevant to us in Nigeria, but also remain internationally comparable.

Highlights of survey findings

10. I will not go into details of the findings of the study, but would like to highlight some key observations:

i. Fewer people have access to basic WASH services in 2019 than in 2018. **In 2018, 11% (or 21million people) had access, compared with 9% (or 18million people).**

ii. **About 70 per cent of Nigerians have access to basic drinking water supply services,** slightly up from 68% recorded in 2018, although most of this progress is biased toward urban areas.

iii. By wealth quintiles, **the poorest households are 2 times less likely to have access to basic water supply services than the richest households.**

iv. With respect to facilities, **74 per cent of publicly-owned water facilities are functional**, a 5 percentage point increase from 2018.

v. **About 44 per cent of the population have access to basic sanitation services** (compared to 42% recorded in 2018), while 23 per cent of Nigerians continue to practice open defecation (compared to 24% in 2018); and lastly,

vi. While **Lagos state** recorded the highest population with access to basic water supply services (96%), **Imo state** recorded the highest population with access to basic sanitation services (68%) while **Jigawa state** recorded the highest population with basic hygiene services in 2019 (49%).

10. These findings from the 2019 WASH-NORM survey provide an indication of the rich resource that this study is, and the important role it can play in the design of evidence-based policies that address Nigeria's challenge with water, sanitation and hygiene services. The full report is very elaborate, containing several fascinating insights and I urge us all to take time to explore it. As is our practice, you will be able to access the report as well as the data and tables on our website.

Conclusion/Thanks

11. I would like to conclude here by conveying our appreciation to the ***Honourable Minister of Water Resources***, for the leadership in seeing to the success of this project. Special thanks also go to the Ministry's team, UNICEF and the World Bank in Nigeria for their technical inputs. Last, but not least, I commend the dedication and commitment of NBS staff that worked diligently to ensure we delivered a top quality product that we are very proud of.

12. I am hopeful that this kind of collaboration - between sector MDAs, donor organisations and the national statistical office – represents a viable model for strengthening local capacity for evidence-based policymaking while simultaneously fostering the development of the national statistical system.

13. I look forward to an even more fruitful collaboration in the years ahead. Thank you for your attention.