



## NAHCON CHAIRMAN VISITS SICK PILGRIMS

**A**s part of the programmes of the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON), the Chairman/CEO, Barrister Abdullahi Mukhtar Muhammad MON, FCIA visited some Nigerian Pilgrims who suffered injuries in minor accident within their accommodation in Makkah. Accompanied by the National Medical Team Leader Dr. Ibrahim Kana, Deputy Director Administration Dr. Ibrahim Sodangi and Head of Pilgrims Education and Orientation Dr. Aliyu Tanko, the Chairman while commiserating with the injured, conveyed president Buhari's words of encouragement and his gratitude to the entire Nigerian Pilgrims for their prayers for his quick recovery. The Chairman was also at the An-nur General Hospital, Makkah to see a patient who had a broken. At the end of the visits, prayers were offered for their quick recovery ahead of the successful return home.



Barrister Abdullahi Mukhtar commiserate with a patient during his visit

## 2018 Hajj, NAHCON MEETS SERVICE PROVIDERS IN MADINAH

Following the inauguration of a Special Committee on Madi- The committee met major accommoda- nahaccommodation ahead of 2018 Hajj by the Chairman/CEO tion providers like Al-Zuhdi, Andalus and El- National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON) barrister yas Groups as well as other prospective Clients. Abdullahi Mukhtar Muhammad MON, FCIA, the committee Explaining the outcome of the meetings, Team Lead- held meetings with service providers in the city of Madinah. er and Nigeria's Consul General, Ambassador Mu- Headed by Nigeria's Consul General Jeddah Ambassador hammad Sani Yunusa said the main Focus of his com- Muhammad Sani Yunusa, the Committee membership mittee was to ensure they secure and maintain the which was drawn from the two Nigerian Missions in Jeddah accommodation used in 2017 Hajj season against 2018 and and Riyadh, board members of NAHCON and representa- if possible secure reduction in the cost of accommodations. tives of the presidency, Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Trans- Ambassador Yunusa confirmed that they have achieved a lot with all the groups especially the Elyas Group who Boards and Agencies and other Federal establishments. maintained the price of 2017. He

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## NCAA URGES APPOINTMENT OF CARRIERS BY DECEMBER

The Nigerian Civil Aviation Author- The General Manager (Air Trans- ity (NCAA) has advised the National port) of the organization, Alhaji Abu- bakar Saruku, in a chat with our Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAH- correspondence identified the early CON) to ensure the completion of lift as one of the factors that will en- appointment of carriers for Hajj air- process of appointment of air carriers sure the success of the 2018 Hajj. of 2018 Hajj by the end of this year. He stated that

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## NAHCON MAKKAH OFFICE

Muhd Surur Assabban street,  
close to Al-Dress filling station  
- UmmulJud Area.



# NAHCON ACTIVITIES OF THE WEEK | PHOTO SPLASH



Chairman/CEO, Barr Abdullahi Mukthar Muhammad Inaugurating the committee on harmonization and standardisation of feeding committee.



Chairman/CEO, Barr Abdullahi Mukthar Muhammad addressing members of harmonization and standardisation of feeding committee



Comm PPMF and other members of harmonization and standardisation of feeding committee



S.A to the Chairman/CEO Ishaq Jae conducting and interview with Sheik Ahmad Zuhdi of Al-Zuhdi Group.



Members of National Media team at the luncheon hosted for members



Member of 2018 committee on Madina Accommodation in a group photograph



## .....Service providers

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pointed out that all services providers he was the one offering Nigeria the lowest price and that figure was to be maintained against 2018. Meanwhile negotiations are ongoing with other groups with a view to securing rooms much closer to the Haram within the 50 meter radius. In the meantime the Deputy Minister for Hajj and Umrah services, Muahammad Al-Bejawi commended the leadership

role of the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria for ensuring strict compliance with the Saudi rules and regulations. Al-Bejawi specifically lauded the manner pilgrims were received at the port of entry and guided to their accommodations. He also noted the remarkable improvement in pilgrims conduct while assuring of their maximum support to all pilgrims delegations to ensure a hitch free Hajj exercise.



Members of the Committee at a meeting with Chairman Elyas Group.

## ....Carrier appointment

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the early conclusion of appointment process would give the appointed carrier leverage to not only acquire their equipment but would also allow them to approach suppliers to secure modern aircraft to prosecute their operations. "I don't think we must wait till 2018. I will recommend that the process and announcement of successful air carriers should be concluded by December. These would give the carriers ample chance to negotiate and bargain at an advantage to secure good modern aircraft" he said.

We therefore need to sprint the process of the successful carriers, so that they can start their own preparation early. "One of the lessons, we need to learn from our previous experiences is that there is need to start early"

Alh. Saruku who praised the commission for setting the process of accommodation procurement in Madinah, therefore urged the management of the commission to employ similar approach in the process of appointment of air carriers in order to avoid turbulent crisis for the airlines in the acquisition of aircraft at the start of 2018 Hajj. "It is an encouraging sign that the commission has started preparation with regards to Madinah accommodation, I want to advise that similar process on appointment of air carriers should be commenced and concluded by December, as the success or otherwise of any Hajj operation is so much dependent on the airlift operations which the airline represents.

## AIRLINE CHIEF PROFFERS SOLUTION TO ENDING FARE CONTROVERSY

The Managing Director of Medview Airline, Alhaji Munir Alade Bankole has advised the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON) to adopt the BBA policy of airlines in fixing the annual Hajj fare to avert controversy in the future. The airline chief expressed this view during an interactive session with newsmen in Jeddah, he stated that the approach would spare the commission some of the blushes and criticism directed at it during the announcement of Hajj fare. According to him, if the commission follow the footsteps of air carries by fixing the fare based on the existing interbank exchange rate of the previous year to compute its fare, it would not only save it from the unwarranted criticism, but also enabled and give it ample time to start preparation very early. "as we have seen, it is more dangerous to wait till few months to the commencement of Hajj to announce Hajj fare. I want to recommend that the commission take a cue from us (airliners). We fix our fare on the existing interbank exchange rate as ticket rate. Alh. Bankole who expressed optimism on the ability of NAHCON to take Hajj management in Nigeria to a high pedestal, however harped on the need for stakeholders to uphold principle of fairness, discipline and commitment at all times. "I'm hopeful that we will soon get there. But I believe the leadership of the commission must be more firm and be able to discipline or sanction any erring service providers who did not meet up to its obligations and contractual agreement." he declared.

## The Editorial Team

Adamu Hassan Abdullahi-Head National Media Team  
Mousa Ubawdawaki - Editor  
Muhammad Ahmad - Production Assistant  
Ahmad Muazu - Production Editor  
Taofeek Lawal - Contributor

The prayers of Nigerian pilgrims to have their local cuisine or culinary served would soon be answered as one of the major caterer in Madinah – the Andalus Group has promised to begin to serve Nigerian food as from next year. The chief executive officer of the group, Abdulaziz Saleh Ufy dropped the comforting news, when member of the special committee on hajj 2018 led by Nigerian Consul-General

in Jeddah, Ambassador Muhammad Sani Yunusa visited him in Madinah. Abdulaziz said that the group has discovered Nigerians yearned to have their local delicacies served whenever they are in Madinah and therefore promised that it would serve as the most important goal would be achieved next year. “This year, we tried to serve a little bit of Nigerian food, but Insha Allah, next year, we will put more Nigerian food on the menu table”.

He disclosed that a lot of Nigerians have been recruited and would be integrated into their kitchen as chefs to cook local Nigerian foods from next year. Abdulaziz praised the Nigerian contingents to this year’s Hajj for their sense of patriotism and display of good character and attitude during their stay in Madinah accommodation. He assured the committee that his company would relish the continuing cooperation and patronage of Nigerian pilgrims.



R. The Andalus Group Chairman Abdulaziz Saleh Ufy explaining a point to members of 2018 accomodation committtee in Madinah.

## Pilgrim’s lost wallet : A Study in Prayers

“A close mouth catches no flies” says an African proverb. And this altruism sum up the situation of a Nigerian Pilgrim whose experience would be valuable for all Muslims.



Isa Adam Aliyu a pilgrim from Plateau State had forgotten his knicker with a wallet containing \$700 (Seven Hundred Dollars) and about N15,000 (Fifteen Thousand Naira) inside his room in Madinah. It was after reaching Makkah after about five days that he duly remembered. He then confided in his friend who he warned not to make it public. But providence has a way of playing tricks. The confidant could not bear the fortress of silence and began to tell it to people. Even though, he had lost hope, he continued to pray for a miracle and that miracle indeed happened. Two weeks after the incident, information got

round that a baggage had been found, but he was not sure it would be his. According to him he had taken solace in the fact that Allah had destined that he would perform his religious obligations under that circumstance. It was a surprise therefore when he was summoned by the plateau Board to come and identify his lost items at NAHCON office in Makkah. And behold the good news. The lesson from this episode is that “Never give up hope on anything and man must be prayerful. “Every day I prayed to almighty Allah that if really the money is deservedly mine and made from Halal, Allah should make it return to me”.

**STOP PRESS !:** 2018 Hajj: NAHCON inagurates 15 member harmonization and standardisation of feeding committee (details in subsequent edition)



*Wishing entire UMMAH in 1439AH more of Allah’s Mercies, Blessings, Favours, Forgiveness of sins and Refuge from hell-fire. Ameen*  
*Happy Hijra, Happy New Islamic Calendar 1439AH*

NAHCON HELPDESK LINE

**920008251**

For Complaint, enquiry  
&Emergency.