



AVM
MIKAIL
ABDULRAHEEM

*Air Vice Marshal Mikail Abdulraheem
brings extensive military, technical,
financial and strategic experience to the
Board.*

AVM MIKAIL ABDULRAHEEM AND THE **RENEWED** *Transformation* OF THE **MILITARY** **PENSIONS BOARD**

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**Introduction:
Restoring Dignity,
Strengthening
Efficiency and Building
Responsive Pension
Administration**

The effectiveness of a nation's Armed Forces depends not only on

operational strength but also on how well it cares for those who have served. Every soldier, sailor and airman who dedicates years to defending Nigeria deserves to have that service honoured in retirement. Efficient military pension administration is therefore essential to military morale, institutional stability and national defence.



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M ABDULRAHEEM DSS psc MSc ndc ACICMA FCCSA CNA
 CHAIRMAN MILITARY PENSIONS BOARD



BRIG GEN AM KITCHENER AGPS psc hsc FCM and SCIM MWRM CPM
 DIRECTOR OF ARMY PENSIONS



CAPTAIN OA EYITAYO AGPS psc hsc MWRM CPM
 DIRECTOR NAVY PENSIONS



GP CAPT A SAMAILA AGPS psc hsc MWRM CPM
 DIRECTOR AIR FORCE PENSIONS



SAIDU KABIRU ALIYU
 DIRECTOR FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

LEADERSHIP MILITARY PENSIONS BOARD

The Military Pensions Board (MPB) plays a critical role in this responsibility. It administers pensions, gratuities and related retirement benefits for eligible retired personnel of the Nigerian Army, Navy and Air Force, as well as qualifying widows, dependants and next of kin. Beyond payment, it provides the link between active service and retirement, ensuring that veterans receive their lawful entitlements with dignity.

A dependable pension system strengthens serving personnel's confidence that the nation will honour its obligations after

retirement. For beneficiaries, accurate records, timely processing, accessible verification and responsive complaint resolution can significantly improve their quality of life.

Against this background, the leadership of Air Vice Marshal Mikail Abdulraheem, who assumed office as Chairman of the Board on 1 December 2025, is significant. His administration has emphasised digital transformation, efficient pension processing, records management, verification, staff development, pensioner welfare, financial accountability,

infrastructure and stakeholder engagement.

These priorities reflect a commitment to building an institution that combines administrative efficiency with compassionate service to those who served Nigeria.

The Military Pensions Board: A Critical Institution of National Service

The Board maintains pension records, processes retirement benefits, conducts verification exercises, resolves complaints, updates databases, implements relevant policies and coordinates with institutions involved in military pension administration.

Its effectiveness is measured not merely by payments processed but by the speed, accuracy, transparency and dignity with which beneficiaries are served. By ensuring that retirees receive their lawful entitlements, the Board reinforces the nation's commitment to veterans and strengthens serving personnel's confidence in the Armed Forces.

The Man at the Helm: A Profile in Professional and Administrative Excellence

Air Vice Marshal Mikail Abdulraheem brings extensive military, technical, financial and strategic experience to the Board.

A member of the 42 Regular Course of the Nigerian Defence Academy, Kaduna, he holds a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering, an additional degree in Accounting and a Master's Degree in Security Management Studies. He is also a



AVM M. Abdulraheem on a routine supervision of ongoing projects in the board.

graduate of the National Defence College, Bangladesh, and has participated in executive development programmes at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

His career includes command, administrative and financial management responsibilities. He served as Managing Director of Nigerian Air Force Properties Limited and held senior financial management positions in the Defence Intelligence Agency and the Office of the National Security Adviser.

These appointments equipped him with expertise in institutional management, financial planning, resource administration and strategic leadership. His military experience also gives him an understanding of service personnel's sacrifices and retirement expectations.



COURTESY VISIT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF MILITARY PENSIONS BOARD (MPB), AIR VICE MARSHAL MIKAIL ABDULRAHEEM TO THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE, GENERAL CHRISTOPHER MUSA (RTD.) AT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, ABUJA. THE VISIT WAS PART OF THE CHAIRMAN'S INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENTS AIMED AT STRENGTHENING COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE BOARD AND KEY DEFENCE STAKEHOLDERS



COURTESY VISIT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF MILITARY PENSIONS BOARD (MPB), AIR VICE MARSHAL MIKAIL ABDULRAHEEM TO THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COORDINATING MINISTER OF THE ECONOMY, MR. TAIWO OYEDELE, AT THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE HEADQUARTERS, ABUJA. THE VISIT WAS PART OF THE CHAIRMAN'S EFFORTS TO DEEPEEN INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS THAT SUPPORTS EFFECTIVE MILITARY PENSION ADMINISTRATION



At the Board, he brings these strengths to an agenda centred on **professionalism, accountability, efficiency, transparency, innovation and compassionate service**, with pensioners at the heart of administration.

A Renewed Vision for the Military Pensions Board

Abdulraheem's leadership has renewed emphasis on institutional reform and improved service delivery. His priorities include reducing bureaucratic bottlenecks, improving pension processing, strengthening records and verification, developing staff, enhancing communication and ensuring accountability.

The vision is to build a modern, technology-driven, pensioner-focused institution that responds effectively to retirees, widows, dependants and next of kin. It recognises that every pension record represents a person whose service deserves recognition and aligns with the Federal Government's broader **Renewed Hope Agenda** for institutional efficiency, innovation and improved public service delivery.

Digital Transformation: Modernising Pension Administration

Technology is central to the Board's modernisation. Its continued strengthening of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) supports records management, processing, verification and communication.

Digitisation and computerisation reduce dependence on paper files, improve information retrieval and accuracy, and streamline administrative workflows. Digital

COURTESY VISIT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF MILITARY PENSIONS BOARD (MPB), AIR VICE MARSHAL MIKAIL ABDULRAHEEM TO THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE HEADQUARTERS, ABUJA, WHERE HE MET WITH THE PERMANENT SECRETARY (SPECIAL DUTIES), MR. OKOKON EKANEM UDO, AND THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL, BUDGET OFFICE OF THE FEDERATION, MR. TANIMU YAKUBU.

databases facilitate the updating and verification of pensioners' information, while electronic documentation improves coordination and reduces unnecessary paperwork.

Attention to ICT infrastructure, information security and data protection is equally important because pension records contain sensitive personal and financial information.

These developments provide a foundation for faster, safer and more accessible administration without losing the human element of pensioner service.

Faster Pension Processing and Stronger Verification

Timely pension payment remains a central responsibility of the Board. Efforts to streamline procedures, improve documentation, strengthen interdepartmental coordination and remove unnecessary bottlenecks are intended to accelerate the processing of pensions and retirement benefits while maintaining accuracy and regulatory compliance.

Coordination with Defence Headquarters, the Ministry of Defence, Service Headquarters and other relevant institutions also supports effective processing and payment.

The Board has continued to strengthen physical, biometric and digital verification. Physical checks help confirm records and resolve discrepancies, while biometric authentication and digital verification provide additional safeguards and more convenient ways to confirm beneficiaries.





COURTESY VISIT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF MILITARY PENSIONS BOARD (MPB), AIR VICE MARSHAL MIKAIL ABDULRAHEEM TO THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION (AGF), MR. OGUNJIMI SHAMSELDEEN BABATUNDE, AS PART OF HIS EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATION AND ENHANCE THE EFFICIENCY OF MILITARY PENSION ADMINISTRATION.



These measures improve data integrity, help prevent irregular payments and protect public resources. They also facilitate record updates and reconciliation. For elderly pensioners and beneficiaries in remote locations, digital and mobile verification can reduce travel difficulties while ensuring that genuine beneficiaries are not wrongly excluded.

Records Management, Institutional Reform and Financial Accountability

Accurate records underpin effective pension administration. The Board's emphasis on documentation, database management, record reconciliation and identity verification supports the harmonisation of manual and digital records, resolution of legacy cases and identification of discrepancies, duplicate entries and irregular records.

Institutional reforms also encompass standard operating procedures, compliance, reporting,



performance monitoring, improved coordination and stronger internal controls. Digital systems support these measures by improving information flow and reducing paperwork.

Financial discipline remains essential. Proper documentation, due process, internal monitoring and responsible resource utilisation help ensure that public funds allocated to pension administration and institutional development serve their intended purposes.



COURTESY VISIT OF THE CHAIRMAN, MILITARY PENSIONS BOARD, AIR VICE MARSHAL MIKAIL ABDULRAHEEM, TO THE FORMER MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COORDINATING MINISTER OF THE ECONOMY, MR. WALE EDUN



COURTESY VISIT OF THE CHAIRMAN, MILITARY PENSIONS BOARD, AIR VICE MARSHAL MIKAIL ABDULRAHEEM, TO THE FORMER MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE, DR. DORIS UZOKA-ANITE

Together, these measures strengthen transparency, protect public resources and build institutional capacity that can endure beyond individual office holders.

Pensioner Welfare, Customer Service and Complaint Resolution

At the heart of the Board's responsibilities are the men and women who served Nigeria. Abdulraheem's approach emphasises dignity, accessibility, respect and responsiveness alongside administrative efficiency.

Improved customer-service channels, clearer communication and stronger complaint-resolution mechanisms are intended to help pensioners and their families obtain information and resolve documentation, payment and verification issues more easily.

Staff are encouraged to treat beneficiaries with courtesy, professionalism and empathy, particularly elderly pensioners, widows, dependants and next of kin

who may require additional guidance.

Complaints also provide feedback on administrative weaknesses, including missing documents, record discrepancies and communication gaps. Their prompt and transparent resolution can strengthen confidence in the institution.

This approach recognises that pension administration must go beyond files and payment schedules to consider the individuals and families behind every record.

Investing in People: Staff Training and Professional Development

Institutional transformation depends on a capable workforce. Abdulraheem has therefore prioritised staff training, professional development and leadership capacity.

Training programmes, workshops and seminars covering pension administration, records

management, ICT, customer service and public-sector administration help prepare personnel for their responsibilities.

ICT training equips staff to operate digital systems effectively, while leadership development and continuous learning prepare them for greater responsibilities. Customer-service training reinforces the importance of treating pensioners with courtesy, professionalism and empathy.

These investments strengthen the human capacity needed to sustain reforms and improve service delivery.



Construction of Staff Quarters at MPB Headquarters

The construction of staff quarters at the Military Pensions Board Headquarters represents a practical investment in staff welfare. Suitable accommodation can improve working conditions, staff stability and availability, particularly for personnel whose duties require proximity to the workplace.

The project therefore supports both employee welfare and the workforce responsible for administering pensions and serving beneficiaries.

Provision of Buses for Staff and Personnel Transportation

The provision of buses for staff and personnel transportation is another practical intervention to improve welfare and operational efficiency. Reliable transport can improve punctuality, reduce employees' daily

CHAIRMAN OF MILITARY PENSIONS BOARD (MPB), AIR VICE MARSHAL MIKAIL ABDULRAHEEM, WHEN HE RECEIVED THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE, NIGERIA (AANDEC) ON A COURTESY VISIT AT THE BOARD'S HEADQUARTERS. THE DELEGATION WAS LED BY THE ACTING NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF AANDEC, COMMODORE A. KPOU (RTD.), ALONGSIDE OTHER DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.



commuting burden and facilitate official assignments and institutional activities.

Together, the staff quarters and buses demonstrate that institutional transformation includes practical improvements to the working environment, complementing investments in technology, professional development and service delivery.

Strategic Partnerships and Institutional Collaboration

Effective pension administration requires coordination across government and the financial system. The Board works with Defence Headquarters, the Ministry of Defence, the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federation, the Pension Transitional

Arrangement Directorate (PTAD), the National Pension Commission (PenCom), the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC), financial institutions, military formations and veterans' associations.

These partnerships support policy coordination, payment administration, identity verification, retirement documentation and information exchange.

Engagement with military formations helps personnel prepare the documentation required for retirement, while veterans' associations provide feedback on beneficiaries' concerns. Such collaboration strengthens coordination and supports improved service delivery.



COURTESY VISIT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF MILITARY PENSIONS BOARD (MPB), AIR VICE MARSHAL MIKAIL ABDULRAHEEM TO MASTER WARRANT OFFICER, MICHAEL ETUWE, ORDERLY TO THE LATE HEAD OF STATE AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES, GENERAL MURTALA RAMAT MUHAMMED, IN MASAKA, NASARAWA STATE. THE VISIT WAS SERVED AS A SYMBOLIC RECOGNITION OF DISTINGUISHED MILITARY SERVICE AND A TRIBUTE TO VETERANS WHOSE DEDICATION AND SACRIFICES CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE DEFENCE AND STABILITY OF THE NATION.



CHAIRMAN, MILITARY PENSIONS BOARD, AIR VICE MARSHAL MIKAIL ABDULRAHEEM, HONORED WITH SILENT HEROES AWARD



Technology, Innovation and the Future of Pension Administration

The Board's digital transformation creates opportunities for further improvements through electronic records, automated workflows, biometric verification and digital databases. Data analytics can strengthen planning, monitoring and decision-making, while cybersecurity remains essential to protecting personal and financial information.

Artificial Intelligence, advanced biometric systems and more sophisticated digital verification tools could offer additional opportunities for modernisation. Their value, however, depends on their ability to make pension administration faster, safer, more accurate and accessible.

Ultimately, technology must serve people by making services easier for beneficiaries to access.

Addressing Challenges Through Reform

Military pension administration involves challenges such as legacy cases, incomplete historical records, record reconciliation, verification logistics, resource requirements and digital transition.

The Board's approach has emphasised improved documentation, record verification, digital systems, stronger coordination and staff training. Reviewing and reconciling records helps address legacy cases, while digital, biometric and mobile verification can ease difficulties for elderly pensioners and those in remote locations.

The transition to digital administration also requires sustained investment in ICT infrastructure, cybersecurity and staff capacity.

The significance of these efforts lies in addressing operational difficulties through structured reforms and continuous improvement, protecting

genuine beneficiaries while strengthening the integrity of the pension system.

The Human Impact and National Security Significance

The ultimate measure of pension administration is its effect on beneficiaries.

For retired personnel, accurate records, efficient processing, improved communication and responsive complaint resolution can reduce administrative hardship and strengthen confidence in the system. More accessible verification can benefit elderly pensioners and those outside major cities, while responsive administration helps widows, dependants and next of kin understand and access eligible benefits.

For serving personnel, a dependable pension system provides reassurance that their service will be honoured beyond active duty.

Military pension administration also has a wider national security dimension. The Armed Forces depend not only on equipment and operational capacity but also on personnel's confidence that the nation will fulfil its obligations. Reliable pensions support morale, professionalism, institutional trust and the dignity of veterans.

Through its collaboration with defence institutions, financial organisations and other stakeholders, the Board contributes to the wider framework supporting military welfare and public confidence in national institutions.

A Leadership Model Built Around Service

Abdulraheem's leadership combines military experience, technical knowledge, financial expertise and strategic management. Its emphasis on systems, procedures and institutional capacity reflects an understanding that sustainable transformation requires more than individual leadership.

Digital innovation, efficient processing, verification, financial accountability, staff training, welfare infrastructure and pensioner-focused service are complementary elements of this approach. The staff quarters and transportation buses, in particular, show how practical welfare interventions can reinforce the workforce's capacity to deliver institutional responsibilities.

The Renewed Transformation: From Administration to Service Excellence

Under Air Vice Marshal Mikail Abdulraheem, the Board has pursued institutional development focused on efficiency, transparency, accountability, technology and responsive service.

The reform agenda covers digital transformation, pension processing, verification, records management, financial controls, staff development, customer service, complaint resolution, infrastructure and stakeholder collaboration.

Its purpose is to create an institution that is both administratively efficient and responsive to beneficiaries. Retired personnel deserve a Board that recognises their sacrifices, communicates clearly, addresses their concerns and administers



CHAIRMAN,
MILITARY
PENSIONS
BOARD, AIR
VICE MARSHAL
MIKAIL
ABDULRAHEEM
, AT THE
NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY FOR
BUDGET
DEFENSE



their lawful benefits professionally.

Investment in staff welfare and capacity is equally important because sustainable improvements depend on a skilled workforce with the resources and working environment required to deliver them.

Honouring Those Who Served

The Military Pensions Board represents Nigeria's continuing obligation to those who dedicated their lives to national defence. Every pension payment fulfils a commitment to a retiree; every accurate record protects a beneficiary's entitlement; every verification exercise safeguards

public resources; and every improvement in customer service demonstrates respect for those who served.

Under Abdulraheem's leadership, the Board's renewed transformation encompasses modernised systems, improved administration, stronger verification, staff development, pensioner welfare, financial accountability and institutional infrastructure.

The staff quarters and transportation buses complement these reforms by improving the working environment of the personnel responsible for delivering pension services. Together, the



NEWLY BUILT ACCOMODATION FOR OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS OF MILITARY PENSIONS BOARD BY THE LEADERSHIP OF AIR VICE MARSHAL MIKAIL ABDULRAHEEM

initiatives reflect an effort to combine administrative efficiency with human dignity and strengthen the institution's capacity to serve current and future beneficiaries.

Conclusion: A Board in Transformation

The Military Pensions Board is more than an agency that processes retirement benefits; it represents Nigeria's continuing responsibility to those who served in its Armed Forces.

Under Air Vice Marshal Mikail Abdulraheem, its renewed transformation has focused on administrative efficiency, digital innovation, accurate records, stronger verification, improved pension processing, financial



accountability, staff development, infrastructure, stakeholder engagement and pensioner welfare.



NEWLY ACQUIRED BUSES FOR PERSONNEL TO EASE TRANSPORTATION



These efforts, alongside practical achievements such as staff quarters at the Headquarters and buses for staff and personnel transportation, demonstrate that institutional transformation extends beyond policies and systems to the everyday needs of the workforce and beneficiaries.

For retired personnel, the objective is more responsive service, clearer communication, reduced administrative hardship and greater confidence in the management of their lawful entitlements. For serving personnel, a dependable pension system reinforces the assurance that their service will be honoured after retirement. For the Board, these reforms provide a foundation for stronger professionalism, efficiency and institutional sustainability.

The central principle remains clear: **those who have served the nation deserve an institution that serves them well in retirement.**

As the Board continues to modernise its systems, strengthen its workforce and improve engagement with beneficiaries, its enduring responsibility remains to administer military pensions with efficiency, transparency, accountability and dignity.

That is the essence of the renewed transformation of the Military Pensions Board under Air Vice Marshal Mikail Abdulraheem.