

Date: _____

Day: _____

Sub-Heading: IMF's structural adjustment
Prog is a recipe of disaster.

The IMF's stubborn adherence to structural adjustment proves it a recipe for disaster. A structural adjustment is a set of economic reforms that a country must adhere to in order to secure a loan from IMF. Over the last two decades, the result of the structural adjustment programs imposed by the IMF on close to 90 developing countries have been disastrous. For example, according to a World Economic Forum report, in 1980, the total external debt of all developing countries was \$609 billion; in 2001, after 20 years of structural adjustment, it totalled \$2.4 trillion. Moreover, in 2001, Sub-Saharan Africa paid \$3.6 billion more in debt service than it received in new long-term loans and credits. Further, an example of Nigeria's debt was the government borrowing up to around 5 million dollars. Still, the amount was compounded to \$16 billion only in one year because of the IMF's high compound interest charge. Thus, it is evident from the example that the IMF SAPs are recipe for disaster.