



15 August, 2008

H.E. Dr. Bukola Saraki,
Executive Governor, Kwara State
Chair, Nigeria Governors' Forum
Abuja, NIGERIA

Delivered by Hand

Dear Excellency:

It is my pleasure to present greetings to Your Excellency on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Forum of Federations. I well remember our meeting in Abuja in late October 2007, on the occasion of the meeting of the Governors' Forum. I am now writing to request a meeting with you during my upcoming visit to Abuja August 25th to 27th, 2008.

As you know Nigeria has been a Partner Government of the Forum of Federations since early 2005. I will be in Abuja to deliver the Keynote Address at the opening of the Annual Meeting of the Nigeria Bar Association. I will also be having meetings with H.E. Vice-President Goodluck Jonathan and other senior officials.

You will be aware that members of my staff have been working closely with your office and other senior stakeholders in developing initiatives on fiscal federalism, constitutional review and other possible areas of mutual interest. A draft MOU is currently being reviewed, and my hope is that it can be signed during my August visit.

The Forum of Federations is proud of its longstanding association with Nigeria's Governors' Forum and feels that there are significant benefits to be had from increased collaboration. Indeed, Nigeria's fast-growing interest in working with the Forum of Federations is leading us to explore the quickest possible means to establish a more "permanent" office in Abuja. It would be a great pleasure, and perhaps good timing, to discuss with you—and perhaps other governors or senior state officials and staff of the Governors' Forum Secretariat—the key federal issues facing Nigeria, and the best ways in which the Forum of Federations may assist the Governors' Forum as it works to strengthen the Nigerian federation.

I look forward to the honour of meeting you again in Abuja. If this is possible, I would suggest that your office coordinate the best time with our Nigeria liaison person, Udo Jude Ilo (tel. -806-741-3130), who is coordinating the rest of my schedule along with the Forum's Nigeria Board representative, Professor Julius Ihonvbere.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Yours truly,

George Anderson,
President and CEO
Forum of Federations

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

**Nigeria Governors' Forum
and**

Forum of Federations

WHEREAS Nigeria became a partner government of the Forum of Federations (FOF) under a Framework Agreement signed on 17 February, 2005 under which agreement the Federal Government of Nigeria contributes to the core budget of the FOF, nominates a member of the latter's Board of Directors as well as is represented on its Strategic Council;

WHEREAS under sub-section 5.1 of the above-mentioned Framework Agreement, the Forum may enter into sub-arrangements with constituent units of the Partner Government (i.e., Federal Republic of Nigeria); and

WHEREAS the Nigeria Governors' Forum plays a key role in promoting intergovernmental cooperation and the evolution of democratic federalism in Nigeria and wishes to benefit from the experience and expertise of other federal governments through the Forum of Federations;

NOW THEREFORE the Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF) and the Forum of Federations (FOF) agree as follows:

1. **OBJECTIVE:** The objective of this MOU is to create a framework by which the parties will intensify their level of collaboration, aimed at building the capacity of the NGF and its Secretariat, and ultimately at improving federal governance in Nigeria in terms of benefits to Nigerians ranging from peace and security to good governance and better service delivery.
2. **SCOPE OF COLLABORATION:** There is no limit to the potential scope of collaboration, within the realm of comparative federal governance. However, subject to funding and more detailed documentation of activities and projects (see section 3 below), at time of writing the initial areas of priority for collaboration are:
 - 2.1 Developing and implementing project activities related to fiscal federalism, including re the topics outlined during the Seminar on Fiscal Federalism, co-sponsored by the two parties and the Federal Ministry of Finance in March 2008. These activities are expected to include

collaboration with other key stakeholders at the federal and local level, as well as civil society, academia, etc.

- 2.2 Provision of international and national technical advice, research services, and training and awareness activities in cooperation with and in response to the needs of the NGF, its members and other key stakeholders, on comparative experiences of federal governance generally or on specific topics.
 - 2.3 Developing and implementing project activities related to constitutional review, especially as it relates to the role of states in the current constitutional review process. These activities are expected to include collaboration with other key stakeholders, at the federal and local level, as well as civil society, academia, etc.
 - 2.4 The FOF will communicate on a regular basis with officials of the NGF to ensure the latter's participation in all FOF activities in Nigeria, recognizing the former's key role as a representative of the state level in Nigeria.
3. **ADDITIONAL MODALITIES REQUIRED:** Prior to implementation or any commitment of specific resources by either party, detailed documentation will be mutually developed as appropriate for specific activities/projects, following internationally-accepted good practices for project and financial management, including the internal requirements of both parties and any donor(s). When completed and mutually approved, such documentation will form an integral part of this MOU.
4. **FUNDING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ISSUES:**
- All costs incurred by either party in pursuit of activities undertaken jointly will be managed through their respective financial management systems, rules and procedures, and when relevant through separate signed contractual arrangements between the party and relevant donor(s).
- During the planning and documentation processes (as per section 3 above), the FOF and NGF will make clear their respective contributions of cash or in-kind.
- The parties will support each other in procuring funding for joint activities from external donors. Both parties will keep each other informed about discussions with external donors that potentially include the other's involvement.
5. **CONTACTS:** For implementation of this MOU, the parties designate the

following as their principal contacts:

For the Forum of Federations:

Shawn Houlihan, Director, Africa Region
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Houlihan@forumfed.org
Tel: +251-913-385-644

For the Nigeria Governors' Forum:

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6. DURATION OF THE ARRANGEMENT: This arrangement will take effect on signature and will remain in effect for a period of five years. After that period, the NGF and the FOF may renew it for an agreed number of years.

SIGNED at Abuja, Nigeria this ___ day of August, two thousand and eight in the English language.

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GEORGE ANDERSON, PRESIDENT
FOR THE FORUM OF FEDERATIONS

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NAME AND TITLE
FOR THE NIGERIA GOVERNORS' FORUM