

REMARKS BY HON. JUSTICE M.L. UWAIS, GCON, CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE STATE PEER REVIEW MECHANISM AT THE INITIATION / SENSITISATION WORKSHOP OF THE STATE PEER REVIEW MECHANISM IN RIVERS STATE HELD AT CHIEF ALFRED DIETE-SPIFF CIVIC CENTRE MAIN BOWL, PORT HARCOURT ON FRIDAY 13TH JULY, 2012

His Excellency Rt. Hon. Rotimi Chibuike Amaechi, Chairman of Nigeria Governors' Forum and Governor of Rivers State
His Excellency Peter Obi, Vice Chairman of Nigeria Governors' Forum and Governor of Anambra State Members of the Steering Committee Present
The Representative of the World Bank, UNDP and DFID
The Press
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege and honour to address you on behalf of the Steering Committee of the State Peer Review Mechanism (SPRM) at this Initiation/ Sensitization Workshop of the State Peer Review Mechanism in Rivers State. The workshop formally heralds the commencement of the implementation of the process in Rivers State. It is geared towards sensitizing all stakeholders on the methodology, objectives and indicators of the assessment process, with a view to assisting Rivers State in the preparation of a credible and all–inclusive State Self-Assessment Report at the next phase of the exercise.

The Governors' Forum is a coalition of the elected Governors of our 36 States with the mission to provide a platform for collaboration among all the Governors, irrespective of party affiliations, to share experiences; promote cooperation among states; and serve as a mechanism for conflict resolution between the States, and between States and the Federal Government respectively.

The State Peer Review Mechanism is a unique innovation by the State Governors. It is geared towards assisting the States to accelerate the pace of their development through periodic reviews of progress in the implementation of their development policies, plans and programmes. Being the first of its kind at the sub-national level in the world, it is, no doubt, a welcome development which will lead to a credible and robust change in the development of Nigeria.

In conclusion, Your Excellencies, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, We look forward to working with the Government and good people of Rivers State in the coming months, to realize the lofty ideas of the State Peer Review Mechanism to enhance the advancement of good governance and socio-economic development.

I thank you all for your kind attention.

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