



**MINUTES OF THE 4<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE NIGERIA GOVERNORS'  
FORUM IN 2017**

**HELD ON**

**24<sup>th</sup> May, 2017**

**AT THE**

**BANQUET HALL, ASO VILLA, ABUJA**

## ATTENDANCE

S/N	NAME	STATE	DESIGNATION
1	Hon Abdulaziz Yari Abubakar	Zamfara	Governor
2	Mohammed A. Abubakar	Bauchi	Governor
3	Samuel Ortom	Benue	Governor
4	Arthur Ifeanyi Okowa	Delta	Governor
5	Godwin Obaseki	Edo	Governor
6	Rochas Okorochoa	Imo	Governor
7	Mohammed Badaru Abubakar	Jigawa	Governor
8	Nasir Ahmad El-Rufai	Kaduna	Governor
9	Aminu Bello Masari	Katsina	Governor
10	Senator Abubakar A. Bagudu	Kebbi	Governor
11	Simon Lalong	Plateau	Governor
12	Aminu Waziri Tambuwal	Sokoto	Governor
13	Martins Babale	Adamawa	Deputy Governor
14	Kelechi Eric Igwe	Ebonyi	Deputy Governor
15	Olusola Kolapo	Ekiti	Deputy Governor
16	Cecilia O. Ezeilo	Enugu	Deputy Governor
17	Achuba Simon	Kogi	Deputy Governor
18	Peter S. Kisira	Kwara	Deputy Governor
19	Idiat Oluranti Adebule	Lagos	Deputy Governor
20	Silas Agara	Nasarawa	Deputy Governor

21	Yetunde Onanuga	Ogun	Deputy Governor
22	Ajayi A. Agboola	Ondo	Deputy Governor
23	Ipalibo Harry Banigo	Rivers	Deputy Governor

**APOLOGIES**

1. Kashim Shettima Governor, Borno

S/N	NOTES/RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY
1.0	<p><b>COMMENCEMENT</b></p> <p>The meeting commenced at 9.47pm with opening prayers by the Deputy Governor of Lagos State and the Governor of Sokoto State.</p>	
2.0	<p><b>CONSIDERATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES</b></p>	
2.1	<p>The meeting reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2017. The Jigawa State Governor proposed a motion for adoption of the minutes and was seconded by the Governor of Bauchi State.</p>	
3.0	<p><b>UPDATE ON POLIO</b></p>	
	<p>The chairman encouraged members to identify and fully participate in the fight against polio. He reminded the meeting of the success achieved in the past because governors championed the polio eradication efforts and urged the Forum to re-dedicate themselves to the complete eradication of polio.</p>	<p><b>NGF &amp; NGFS</b></p>
4.0	<p><b>PRESENTATION BY THE ASSISTANT COMPTROLLER-GENERAL OF CUSTOMS ON RICE IMPORTATION FROM LAND BORDERS</b></p>	
	<p>The Assistant Comptroller General of Customs [ACG] (representing the Comptroller General), who was unavoidably absent made a presentation on the prohibition of importation of rice through land borders, the ills of smuggling rice through the land borders and the merits of this particular policy. He prayed members to encourage local production by discouraging the consumption of foreign or imported rice.</p> <p>The Forum thanked the ACG for his presentation and assured him of its readiness to partner with the Customs Service in ensuring the success of the anti-smuggling initiatives along the borders.</p>	
	<p><b>PRESENTATION BY THE WORLD BANK COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE</b></p>	
	<p>The World Bank Country Director, Rachid Benmessaoud, briefed the Forum on the progress of the implementation of the Bank's portfolio</p>	



	<p>partnerships with States, members pledged to strengthen coordination mechanism and consensus on replicating and exchanging reviews across the States, to resolve implementation challenges and achieve project development objectives. The Forum also resolved to hold portfolio reviews with the Bank to streamline project development objectives with the needs of States. This will assist the resolution of challenges affecting the disbursement of funds and implementation targets.</p>	
	<p><b>PRESENTATION BY THE CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL HAJJ COMMISSION</b></p>	
	<p>The Forum also received a presentation from Abdullahi Mukhtar Muhammad, Executive Chairman of the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON), on the Challenges and Prospects of the Hajj pilgrimage. Members pledged to collaborate with the Commission and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to ensure that existing agreements of air carriers are renegotiated with the involvement of States as key stakeholders.</p> <p>The Forum resolved that a committee comprising of the lawyers in its midst would review the Hajj Agreement. The Committee included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Governor, Bauchi State</li> <li>ii. Governor, Sokoto State</li> <li>iii. Governor, Ondo State</li> <li>iv. Governor, Kaduna State (Chairman)</li> </ul> <p>The Committee was mandated to present its report at the next meeting of the Forum.</p>	

	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> TRANCHE OF THE LONDON PARIS CLUB FUND</b>	
	<p>The Forum was informed that the Acting President had approved the payment of the second tranche of the London Paris Club refunds. The chairman assured the meeting that the Forum would work with the Honourable Minister of Finance to ensure speedy disbursement of the funds by end of June 2017.</p> <p>Members agreed that they would visit the acting President after the National Economic Council (NEC) meeting scheduled for the following day, May 25<sup>th</sup> 2017.</p>	
	<b>AOB</b>	
	The Governor of Bauchi State informed the meeting of the successful completion of the assignment given to a committee of governors under his leadership on Land Use Reform. The Report of his Committee would be presented at the NEC meeting the following day	
9.0	<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	
9.1	The meeting rose at 12.06 midnight.	

**Honourable Abdulaziz Yari Abubakar**  
**Governor of Zamfara State and Chairman,**  
**Nigeria Governors' Forum**