



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NIGERIA  
GOVERNORS' FORUM**

**HELD ON**

**9<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2011**

**AT THE**

**RIVERS STATE GOVERNOR'S LODGE, ASOKORO,  
ABUJA**

## ATTENDANCE

S/N	NAME	STATE	DESIGNATION
1	Rt. Hon. Rotimi C. Amaechi	Rivers	Governor/Chairman
2	Mr. Peter Obi	Anambra	Governor/Vice Chairman
3	Obong Godswill Akpabio	Adamawa	Governor
4	Gabriel T. Suswam	Benue	Governor
5	Liyel Imoke	Cross River	Governor
6	Dr. Kayode Fayemi	Ekiti	Governor
7	Sullivan Chime	Enugu	Governor
8	Owelle Rochas Okorochoa	Imo	Governor
9	Abdulfattah Ahmed	Kwara	Governor
10	Senator Ibikunle Amosun	Ogun	Governor
11	Dr. Olusegun Mimiko	Ondo	Governor
12	Danbaba D. Suntai	Taraba	Governor
13	B.J. Ngailari	Adamawa	Deputy Governor
14	Engr. David Umahi	Ebonyi	Deputy Governor
15	Ahmed M. Gumel	Jigawa	Deputy Governor
16	Dr. A.M. Ganduje	Kano	Deputy Governor
17	Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire	Lagos	Deputy Governor
18	Hon. Dameshi, B.L.	Nasarawa	Deputy Governor
19	Hon. A.M. Ibeto	Niger	Deputy Chief Servant
20	Ignatius Longjan	Plateau	Deputy Governor
21	Ibrahim Wakkala	Zamfara	Deputy Governor

## APOLOGIES

1	Chief T.A. Orji	Abia	Governor
2	Mallam Isa Yuguda	Bauchi	Governor
3	Timipre Sylva	Bayelsa	Governor
4	Kashim Shettima	Borno	Governor
5	Dr. Emmanuel E. Uduaghan	Delta	Governor
6	Comrade Adams Oshiomhole	Edo	Governor
7	Alhaji Aliyu M. Wamakko	Sokoto	Governor
8	Ibrahim Dankkwambo	Gombe	Governor
9	Patrick I. Yakowa	Kaduna	Governor
10	Ibrahim S. Shema	Kano	Governor
11	Saidu N. Usman	Kebbi	Governor
12	Ibrahim Idris	Kogi	Governor
13	Rauf Aregbesola	Osun	Governor
14	Senator Abiola Ajimobi	Oyo	Governor
15	Ibrahim Gaidam	Yobe	Governor

S/N	NOTES/RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY
A	<p><b>COMMENCEMENT</b> The meeting started at 9.10 pm with opening prayers by the Governors of Ogun and Benue States.</p>	
B	<p><b>CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS</b> The Chairman welcomed members and announced that the repayment advisory from the Excess Crude Account had been issued and payment would commence from the next FAAC meeting. He informed members that payment would be done in three tranches.</p> <p>Members deliberated over the matter before the Supreme Court in respect of the accrued payments to States from the Excess Crude Account between 2004 and 2007. The Forum resolved that since the reasons for the suit subsisted, the matter should be continued.</p>	
C	<p><b>CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS – REVIEW OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL DRAFT REPORT</b></p> <p>The Forum agreed to defer the continuation of the meeting on the review of the Draft Report of the Constitutional amendment presented by the Body of Attorneys General to an appropriate date when all the Governors would be present, so as to extensively deliberate on all the items in the Report. It was agreed that the Chairman (in liaison with the Secretariat) would fix a date for the meeting and communicate same to members.</p>	
D	<p><b>POLIO CHALLENGE</b></p> <p>The Chairman briefed the meeting on the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Immunisation Leadership Challenge designed to recognize States that have demonstrated the most impact in eradicating polio and improving routine immunization over the next 12 months.</p> <p>Each winning State could potentially benefit from a grant of up to \$1,000, 000 (One Million US Dollars) aimed at primary health care priority of the Governor's choosing as well as global recognition from Mr. Gates and the Foundation. The grant may be won by</p>	

attaining the minimum threshold and exceeding it. This Challenge was open to all the States including the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

A comprehensive package containing information about the Immunisation Leadership Challenge as well as the Application Form was distributed to members at the meeting. The meeting was informed that the completed 1-page application form should be returned to the NGF Secretariat on or before **Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2011**.

E

### **PRESENTATION BY STAKEHOLDERS**

The Forum listened to presentations made by the Honourable Minister of Education, Professor Ruqqayatu Ahmed Rufa'l, OON and the Executive Secretary, Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND), Professor Mahmood Yakubu.

The Honourable Minister in her presentation expressed gratitude to the Forum for the support the Education Sector had continued to receive from the Governors and solicited more cooperation, especially in providing the data for School census surveys.

The Executive Secretary, TETFUND in his presentation explained that the Agency formerly known as Education Trust Fund (ETF) was now referred to as Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND) and it was essentially an intervention agency established by Law. The TETFUND provides intervention funds to all levels of education in the following ratio:

- 50% for Tertiary Institutions
- 20% for Secondary education administered through the State Ministries of Education and the Federal Ministry of Education for Unity Schools
- 30% for basic education disbursed through the State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB)

The 50% meant for tertiary education is further broken down thus:

- Universities – 25%
- Polytechnics – 12.5%
- Colleges of Education – 12.5%

The difference between TETFUND and UBEC was that unlike the UBEC, no counter-part funding was required by TETFUND.

The Executive Secretary briefed the Forum on the guidelines and modes of accessing funds from the TETFUND. Informing the Forum that TETFUND projects were State projects, he urged the Governors to pay more attention to the activities of the Fund in their States.

He identified certain factors responsible for the inability of States to access TETFUND funds:

- i) Improper prioritization and delay in identifying projects;
- ii) Submission of incomplete projects;
- iii) Non-performing contractors;
- iv) Non or partial compliance with due process;
- v) Insufficient or incomplete rendering of accounts;
- vi) Frequent turn-over of top management of tertiary institutions, SUBEB and Ministries of Education.

The Executive Secretary promised to avail the Forum (through the NGF Secretariat) of the Status of Funds made available to States between 1999 and 2010.

Members expressed appreciation at the enlightening presentation which had provided more information on the status of the TETFUND.

**F**

## **FINANCE**

The Chairman commended States that have met their financial commitments to the Secretariat and urged others yet to pay up to do so.

<p><b>G</b></p>	<p><b>A.O.B</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chairman informed members that the State Peer Review Mechanism (SPRM) would hold the Ekiti State Workshop/Sensitisation programme at Ado- Ekiti on 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2011; He also informed the Forum that the Steering Committee of the SPRM under the chairmanship of Retired Justice Muhammad Lawal Uwais, former Chief Justice of Nigeria was inaugurated in Abuja on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November, 2011;</li> <li>• The President requested the presence of all Governors at the opening ceremony of the Economic Summit by 10 am on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 at Transcorp Hilton;</li> <li>• Members were reminded of the meeting of the National Economic Council on 10<sup>th</sup> of November, 2011 at 12 noon.</li> <li>• The NGF 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Polio Sensitisation campaign would hold on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2011. It was agreed that Kano State would host the Honourable Minister of Health and his entourage during the campaign. Governors were urged to participate in the campaigns by kicking off their State events.</li> <li>• Members were reminded of the wedding of the daughter of the Delta State Governor on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 in Warri, Delta State.</li> <li>• Members were informed of the deaths of the wife of the Yobe State Governor and the Deputy Governor of Gombe State.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>H</b></p>	<p><b>ADJOURNMENT</b></p> <p>The meeting ended at 11:00 pm. with a motion for adjournment moved by the Governor of Imo State and seconded by the Governor of Taraba State.</p> <p>The closing prayers were by the Governor of Taraba State and the Deputy Governor of Jigawa State.</p> <p><b>Rt. Honourable Rotimi Chibuike Amaechi</b>  <b>Governor of Rivers State</b>  <b>Chairman, Nigeria Governors' Forum</b></p>	

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