

**Minutes Of The Visit Of**  
**His Excellency RT Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi,**  
**The Executive Governor Of Rivers State, Federal Republic of Nigeria**  
**To France 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2009**

S/N	ITEM	SUBJECT	NOTES/OBSERVATIONS
1	<p><b>Monday</b>  <b>28/9/09</b>  13:00hrs</p> <p><b>Venue:</b>  Restaurant  Laurent  41 Ave Gabriel  75008 - Paris</p>	<p><b>Lunch with Executives of Total</b></p> <p><b>Jacques Marraud des Grottes</b>  President Africa  - (Exploration &amp; Production)</p> <p><b>Thierry Bourgeois</b>  V.P. Nigeria</p> <p><b>Roger Poirier</b>  Deputy Managing Director, Technical</p>	<p><b>The Executive Governor of Rivers State</b> His Excellency's aim was to sensitize the Total Executives about a new Tax or Levy for Corporate Citizens that he plans to introduce in Rivers State. This Levy is intended for the use of providing Free Healthcare and Education for the residents of Rivers State. The management of the funds collected will be directly under the supervision of the private sector, that is, the very Corporate Citizens that will be paying said Levy; in the hope of creating a sense of ownership to further engage these Corporate Citizens in increasing the quality of life of the People of Rivers State.</p> <p>It is His Excellency's belief that educating and providing basic healthcare for these militants will act as a direct solution to the violence impeding further business growth in the region.</p> <p>The levy will be used to purchase books, uniforms, shoes, boarding, structural maintenance, and feeding of the students. The State will in turn underwrite the cost of constructing the necessary facilities and payment of Teachers' wages. It is projected that the collection of this Levy will amount to N10 to N20 billion.</p>
2	<p><b>Monday</b>  <b>28/9/09</b>  15:00hrs</p> <p><b>Venue:</b>  9 rue de  Teheran 75008  - Paris</p>	<p><b>Meeting at Foundation Concorde</b></p> <p><b>Michel Rousseau</b>  President</p> <p><b>Christian Gambotti</b>  - Conseiller en charge des affaires culturelles  Cabinet du President</p> <p>(Head Adviser for Cultural Affairs – Cabinet of the President)</p>	<p><b>Michel Rousseau</b> - Monsieur Rousseau and his colleagues gave a presentation about the Skills Acquisition Center they patronised in Senegal, "Universitie des Metiers de Saint-Louis" as an example of their collaborative expertise and what they envisioned as possible and appropriate for the Rivers State climate and needs. The programme of skills that will be made available at the prospective center will be customised according to the needs of the people.</p> <p><b>The Executive Governor of Rivers State</b> His Excellency informed the group of an existing structure in Bony (Rivers State) that he felt would be suitable for the prospective Skills Acquisition Center. The structure is currently under Federal jurisdiction, however the Federal Government has</p>

			<p>already expressed a desire for His Excellency, <b>The Executive Governor of Rivers State</b>, to take over ownership of said structure, a request that (in light of the prospective Skills Acquisition Center) His Excellency will pursue further.</p> <p>The funding of this Center will be derived from the various Corporate Citizens in Rivers State. His Excellency will further deliberate with the CEOs of the concerned corporations and finalise their contributions.</p> <p><b>TOTAL</b> – Total Executives informed the group of their existing expenditures on Capacity Building in Rivers State and agreed that such a Center would provide a streamlined outlet to focus such expenditures as well as guarantee better value and certifiable end results for their efforts.</p> <p><b>Ambassador G.H. BRISTOL, Head Of Mission, Paris, FRANCE</b> – The Ambassador, who made the meeting of these stakeholders possible, will continue to liaise with His Excellency, <b>The Executive Governor of Rivers State</b> and the Foundation Concorde to arrange a visit to Rivers State for a technical inspection to determine the suitability of the existing Bony Structure and to execute the necessary due diligence needed to put together a customised programme for Rivers State.</p> <p>The visit is proposed for the week of 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2009. To be confirmed by <b>His Excellency, Ambassador G.H. Bristol</b>.</p>
3	<p><b>Tuesday</b> <b>29/9/09</b> 13:00hrs</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Senate – Palais de Luxemburg 15 rue de Vaugirard 75008 - Paris</p>	<p><b>Courtesy Call &amp; Lunch with French Senate</b></p> <p><b>Jacque Legendre</b> President - Groupe Interpalementaire d’Amitie entre la France et l’Afrique d’Ouest</p> <p><b>Charles Revet</b> Deputy Chairman Nigeria - Groupe Interpalementaire d’Amitie entre la France et l’Afrique d’Ouest</p>	<p><b>Jacque Legendre – French Senate</b> The Senator expressed his delight and appreciation to <b>The Executive Governor of Rivers State</b> for according them with a visit and the opportunity to discuss mutually beneficial prospects to advance the Franco-Nigerian relationship. The Senator also shared the positive feedback he received from the French Friendship Delegation that visited Rivers State from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2009, as well as a desire to return to Rivers State and further strengthen the relationship.</p> <p><b>The Executive Governor of Rivers State</b> His Excellency expressed his appreciation for the warm reception and his equal desire to develop relationships for Rivers State. The main areas of</p>

		<p><b>Julien Fradel</b> Adminstrator - Commission de la Culture, de l'Education et de la Communication</p>	<p>interest to His Excellency included the following: Commercial Farming, Aqua Farming, Agro Business (including the full added-value chain), Cultural Exchange, Education and Capacity Building. The models under which His Excellency foresaw future collaborations would be in form of Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV), Private-Public Partnerships (PPP), Build Operate and Ownership (B.O.O), or Build Operate and Transfer (B.O.T), where the State's main contribution would be in the form of certified land ownership under the SPV.</p> <p><b>Ambassador G.H. BRISTOL, Head Of Mission, Paris, FRANCE</b> His Excellency, Ambassador Bristol will continue to liaise with the French Senate and organise a return trip to Paris in November for <b>The Executive Governor of Rivers State</b> to meet again with the Senate, who in turn will ensure meetings with potential French banks, developmental agencies, corporations and investment funds to advance in the areas of interest mentions by His Excellency, <b>The Executive Governor of Rivers State</b>.</p> <p>The proposed return trip to Paris is scheduled for mid to end November. To be confirmed by His Excellency, <b>Ambassador G.H. BRISTOL</b>.</p>
4	<p><b>Tuesday</b> <b>29/9/09</b> 16:00</p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Embassy of Nigeria 173 Ave Victor Hugo 75016 - Paris</p>	<p><b>Meeting with NIDOE-France Executives</b></p> <p><b>Chief Sam G. Obiejesi (Engr)</b> President - NIDOE-France</p> <p><b>Heather-Ronke Akanni</b> Secretary General - NIDOE-France</p> <p><b>Comfort Idienumah</b> CEO - Komlewa Global ventures</p>	<p><b>NIDOE-France Chapter</b> – Inaugurated in 2001 and is the oldest chapter in Europe. Its main activities include a recent International Conference on ICT, Health Actions, Missions to States (need based service delivery) and a Nasarawa Delegation coming up for health projects en-route. They also have a Paris Forum coming up for international vocational training targeted at practical skills for workers. Their hope to convert the Brain Drain in Nigeria to a Brain Gain. To return capital, capacity, best practices and vital contacts to Nigeria.</p> <p><b>Ambassador G.H. BRISTOL, Head Of Mission, Paris, FRANCE</b> – The Ambassador noted that the full potential of NIDOE-F has yet to be optimized, and expressed his belief that further collaboration with Rivers State would assist them in reaching this potential. His Excellency, the Ambassador, pointed out that we are all Ambassadors of Nigeria and that we should always conduct ourselves with pride and respect in order to better and advance the image of Nigeria in the Diaspora. He also specified that any</p>

			activities and efforts made by NIDOE-F should always follow proper and appropriate government channels as to maximize and ensure desired positive outcomes and sustainability of their efforts.
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Document prepared by the:

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