



Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF) Meeting with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and

Dangote Foundation

Date: 30th June 2015

Time: 3:00 PM

Venue: Conference Room, NGFS

Chaired by: Alhaji L.O.T Shittu

ATTENDEES

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Violaine Mitchell	Deputy Dir. Country Programs & Partnership, Vaccine Delivery Bill & Melinda Gate Foundation
2.	Iya Ahmed	Dangote Foundation
3.	L.O.T Shittu	Executive Director (Strategy & Research)
4.	Barr. Chuku Chijioke	Head Legal
5.	Dr. Giwa Zikrullah Giwa	Polio Consultant
6.	Dr. Jerome Afeikhena	SPRM Coordinator
7.	Ajogbasile Olanrewaju .E	Knowledge Management Officer

S/N	NOTES/RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY
1.0	<p>Opening</p> <p>The meeting was presided over by the ED Strategy and Research (S&R) of the Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF).</p> <p>The main objective of the meeting was to discuss re-engagement with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation alongside the Dangote Foundation.</p> <p>ED's Brief:</p> <p>The ED (S&R) updated the meeting on the readiness of the Secretariat to re-engage the foundations on polio eradication, routine immunization and provision of Primary Health Care (PHC) across States. He explained that Forum was now united and working as one to address issues of common and national interest. Evident to this claim was the strengthened relationship now existing between the Federal Government and the States as against what existed during the previous administration at the centre. Both tiers of government had met twice since the reconciliation and unification at the NGF; first as a forum and secondly on the platform of the National Economic Council.</p> <p>The ED (S&R) reiterated the agenda of the New chairman, His Excellency Abdul'aziz Yari, Governor of Zamfara State to the meeting and highlighted Health, Internally Generated Revenue, Solid Mineral Development, and Agriculture as topical issues for NGF. He reiterated the role NGF had played in growing States' interest in the provision of</p>	

	<p>State Primary Health Care Centers in past time.</p> <p>He also established the need for donor partners to understand the structure of NGF. NGF operated two organs namely: the association, which is the political arm and the Secretariat, which is the technical arm. He explained that the technical arm, which is the Secretariat, will always remain to drive good governance and development across States.</p> <p>In conclusion, he identified the need for assistance as regards capacity to effectively drive the Polio immunization and eradication program at the Secretariat.</p>	
<p>2.0</p>	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>The following issues were deliberated upon with the aim of establishing an agenda for the re-engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Foundations gave an update on the polio eradication programme and the leadership challenge; identifying that the award ceremony for the last winners have not been conducted. Both the Polio Consultant and the Dangote Foundation representative agreed that it would take Nigeria 2 more years (July 2017) to be certified polio free as it has only completed a year (July 2015) out of the 3 years verification window. It was important that States continue to deepen and improve routine immunization as well as its coverage. In a bid to achieve this, it 	

	<p>where they last stopped, which was the award ceremony for the 2014 Polio Immunization Leadership Challenge and sustaining routine immunization along side improving the provision of Primary Health Care (PHC) across States.</p>	
3.0	<p>Key Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting agreed to conduct the 2014 Polio Immunization Leadership Challenge. • The meeting agreed on the need for the new and returning 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governors to re-commit to the Abuja Declaration of sustaining routine immunization and improving the provision of Primary Health Care (PHC) across States on the day of the intended Polio Eradication Leadership Challenge award ceremony. • NGF should make a brief presentation in collaboration with the Foundations on existing data and report on the status of Primary Health Care (PHC) coverage across States to the Governors. This was aimed at stirring the interest of the Governors towards recommitting to the Abuja Declaration. • Alhaji Dangote/Mr. Bill Gate will be available for the award ceremony depending on Mr. Bill Gate's availability at the time. • There was need to define the rules of engagement that will guide the relationship between the Forum and the Foundations going forward in a bid to achieve a better working relationship. • The Foundations identified with the NGF on the issue of 	

was important to engage the new and returning Governors as well as the Federal Government on routine immunization, Primary Health Care (PHC) and getting them to re-commit to the Abuja Declaration.

- Following the Forum's displeasure at the disengagement that ensued from the NGF crisis, the head legal of the NGF expressed the need to revisit modalities that could better define NGF's relationship with the Foundations.
- The State Peer Review Mechanism (SPRM) Coordinator appreciated the initiative given that output from the programmes under the partnership were also used during the peer review exercise in States. He expressed his displeasure at the shabby way the last awards were given. He suggested that the Foundations be included in the induction for Governors due to hold in between late August and early September 2015.

After much deliberation, the Foundations expressed their delight at the milestones achieved by the Forum in a short amount of time since its unification. They were also optimistic at forming a better working relationship with the NGF and identified the political tension that ensued at the time as a challenge they felt needed the action that was taken considering that the political structure and scene in Nigeria was one that was dynamic and complex as against that which they were used to. However, the Foundations sought to resume engagement from

	<p>capacity gap at the Secretariat to effectively drive the programme. They opined that it was an arrangement they had to deliberate on internally as a Foundation and work out a strategy as to going forward.</p>	
4.0	<p>Action Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Foundations are to communicate their intentions formally to the secretariat. • The Foundations and the NGF are to work out modalities to the rules of engagement that will guide their relationship going forward. • The Foundations are to assist the Forum with data on Primary Health Care (PHC) across States. • The NGF Secretariat is to schedule a time and date for the award ceremony and revert back to the Foundations 	
5.0	<p>Closing The meeting closed by 4:25pm</p>	