

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY HIS EXCELLENCY, THE DEPUTY
GOVERNOR OF ONDO STATE, ALHAJI ALI OLANUSI
DURING THE VISIT OF GOVERNOR'S FORUM
SECRETARIAT TEAM FROM ABUJA ON 14TH
SEPTEMBER, 2010**

PROTOCOL:

On behalf of my Governor, Dr. Olusegun Mimiko, I want to welcome you to Ondo State, the Sunshine State of Nigeria. Our State is now a place of pride for the citizens both in Nigeria and across the globe because of the positive impact of visionary leadership, good governance and popular democracy under our Governor, Dr. Olusegun Mimiko.

Let me commend the Peer Review Initiative of the Governor's forum Secretariat, Abuja. I am told that the Peer Review exercise of States started in December, 2009 and so far, 33 States of the Federation have been visited by the Governor's Forum Secretariat. I am also aware that the essence of the Peer Review mechanism is to enhance participatory governance and development among states and that Ondo State is one of the three remaining states that are presently being reviewed. I want to assure you however that, your visit to

Ondo State will not only be rewarding but will provide the opportunity for measuring impact of human and infrastructural development.

As part of our commitment to touch lives and bring development to our people, the present administration has embarked on people oriented programmes in all sectors and this you will have the opportunity to know in details as you visit ministries, departments and government agencies on your peer review exercise.

I feel the urge also to inform you that you will be excited to visit our mother and child hospital project which has become a reference point for best practices in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. The hospital in a short time has recovered over two thousand safe deliveries with an average of fifteen safe delivery daily. You will equally learn from the experience of our several rural community driven projects which connect our government with the grassroots. Our modern neighbourhood markets that interface and enhance the dignity of our market men and women, our beautification project initiative aimed at transforming the environment. Our

massive road construction and rehabilitation going-on in the state and many other projects of human development. among others will be of interest to you when you go round.

I will also like you to take note of our effort in promoting the values of education, culture and tourism, workers welfare, labour and productivity, peace and industrial harmony. We are presently enjoying in the State.

Let me assure you once more, that you have much to learn and gain from the people and government of Ondo State. So, I urge you to feel free to ask questions from the people and make your observations known because the peer review initiative is a valuable exercise for national growth, inter-governmental relations and mutual understanding.

Thank you and God bless.