



**MINUTES OF THE 7TH MEETING OF THE NIGERIA
GOVERNORS' FORUM IN 2013**

HELD ON

17TH SEPTEMBER, 2013

AT THE

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

2797.02

ATTENDANCE

| S/N | NAME | STATE | DESIGNATION |
|-----|--------------------------------------|----------|------------------------|
| 1 | Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi | Rivers | Governor/Chairman |
| 2 | Hon. Abdul-Aziz Yari Abubakar | Zamfara | Governor/Vice Chairman |
| 3 | Vice Admiral Murtala H. Nyako (Rtd.) | Adamawa | Governor |
| 4 | Dr. Kayode Fayemi | Ekiti | Governor |
| 5 | Alhaji (Dr.) Sule Lamido | Jigawa | Governor |
| 6 | Engr. Rabiu M. Kwankwaso | Kano | Governor |
| 7 | Alhaji Abdulfattah Ahmed | Kwara | Governor |
| 8 | Mr Babatunde Fashola (SAN) | Lagos | Governor |
| 9 | Dr Muazu Aliyu Babangida | Niger | Governor |
| 10 | Senator Ibikunle Amosun | Ogun | Governor |
| 11 | Engr. Rauf Aregbesola | Osun | Governor |
| 12 | Senator Abiola Ajimobi | Oyo | Governor |
| 13 | Alhaji (Dr.) Aliyu M. Wamakko | Sokoto | Governor |
| 14 | Alhaji Zannah Mustapha | Borno | Deputy Governor |
| 15 | Dr. Pius Egberanmwun Odubu | Edo | Deputy Governor |
| 16 | Hon. Dumeshi B. Luka | Nasarawa | Deputy Governor |

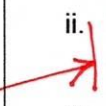
APOLOGIES ABSENT

| S/N | NAME | STATE | DESIGNATION |
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| 1 | Chief T. A. Orji | Abia | Governor |
| 2 | Obong Godswill Akpabio | Akwa-Ibom | Governor |
| 3 | Mr Peter Obi | Anambra | Governor |
| 4 | Mallam Isa Yuguda | Bauchi | Governor |
| 5 | Hon. Seriake Dickson | Bayelsa | Governor |
| 6 | Dr. Gabriel T. Suswam | Benue | Governor |
| 7 | Senator Liyel Imoke | Cross River | Governor |
| 8 | Dr Emmanuel Eweta Uduaghan | Delta | Governor |
| 9 | Chief Martin Elechi | Ebonyi | Governor |
| 10 | Sullivan I. Chime Esq. | Enugu | Governor |
| 11 | Alhaji Ibrahim Hassan Dankwambo | Gombe | Governor |
| 12 | Owelle Rochas Okorocho | Imo | Governor |
| 13 | Alhaji Mukhtar Ramalan Yero | Kaduna | Governor |
| 14 | Dr. Ibrahim Shehu Shema | Katsina | Governor |
| 15 | Alhaji Saidu Usman Dakingari | Kebbi | Governor |
| 16 | Capt. Idris I. Wada | Kogi | Governor |
| 17 | Dr Olusegun Mimiko | Ondo | Governor |
| 18 | Dr Jonah Jang | Plateau | Governor |
| 19 | Danbaba Suntai | Taraba | Governor |
| 20 | Alhaji Ibrahim Geidam | Yobe | Governor |

| S/N | NOTES/RESOLUTIONS | ACTION BY |
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| 1.0 | <p>Commencement</p> <p>The meeting started at 20:41PM with a short welcome from the Chairman Rt. Hon. Rotimi Chubuike Amaechi.</p> | |
| 2.0 | <p>Minutes of the Last NGF Meeting</p> | |
| 2.1 | <p>The minutes of the last meeting held on the 13th of May 2013 were reviewed with no amendments. The motion for adoption of the minutes was moved by the Governor of Lagos State, and seconded by the Governor of Kwara State.</p> | |
| 3.0 | <p>Chairman's Brief</p> | |
| 3.1 | <p>a) The Chairman informed the House that following the disagreements over the NGF elections, his Party, the PDP, has held a series of meetings trying to mediate and resolve the dispute. These however have so far not been fruitful as their proposition: that he should step down from the mandate given to him by the Forum, was not an option he could consider.</p> <p>b) Chairman noted that the DG had raised the issue of funding the Secretariat. Since the NGF elections in May 2013, members had not been paying their dues. This has placed a significant constraint on the functionality of the Secretariat. He encouraged all members to pay their dues. He also said additional contributions to fund the Secretariat may be necessary and would be considered in the near future.</p> <p>c) Chairman also raised the issue of FAAC, saying that NNPC had not paid what it was owing which meant that the outstanding augmentation could not be paid to states, therefore the account could not be adopted by the Finance Commissioners</p> <p>d) The Ekiti State Governor in response said he had asked his Commissioner of Finance to prepare a briefing for the Forum and to draft a response to the discrepancy between what was announced at the last FAAC meeting and the previous statement of account. He suggested that a strong line should be taken on the issue by the Forum as all states are being affected by the issues. He emphasised that the situation had become dire as salaries were not being paid much less contractor obligations. He further noted that the oil price had not gone below the bench mark price used in the 2013</p> | <p><i>Handwritten notes:</i></p> <p>Chairman's Brief</p> <p>From</p> <p>Chairman</p> <p>35</p> <p>EXCO</p> <p>allows to</p> <p>Secretariat's</p> <p>Subcommittee</p> <p>have not been met by</p> <p>to the 11st 5 months</p> <p>to app</p> |

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| | <p>budget, thus it seemed implausible that there are no funds for disbursement. He enjoined his colleagues to be present for the next NEC meeting so that a robust discussion can be held on the matter.</p> <p>e) The Governor of Zamfara State in support said all members needed to take FAAC more seriously. NNPC claims that oil theft is so severe that 600,000 barrels was being stolen daily. However it was the view of the House that this is a deliberate act as oil does not disappear. Even with the theft there should be enough left to execute the budget.</p> <p>f) Given that the CBN statement indicated an increase in oil revenue and other collectibles by 10% to 35% for July, it just does not seem reasonable that there should be a shortfall in allocation.</p> <p>g) Furthermore it was noted that more needed to be done to monitor oil production and sale through channels such as OPEC if this could not be done through local monitoring channels. Oil purchase/sale usually happens 90 days in advance, with no complaints from Nigeria's foreign buyers, the evidence just does not stack up, and managers of the federation account should therefore be queried.</p> <p>h) The House resolved to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Issue a strong statement on the mismanagement of the National economy and the crippling effect on governance in Nigeria. ii. These issues should be communicated to each State's representative in the National Assembly to enable robust debate. iii. State Houses of Representatives should also be well informed on this matter. iv. Oyo State Governor to look into getting a consultant who will investigate on behalf of the Forum | <p>All Governors</p> <p>Oyo State Governor</p> |
| 4.0 | Excess Crude Account and Litigation in the Supreme Court | |
| 4.1 | Chairman noted that the Excess Crude Account balance was now \$5.8bn. Given this, there does not appear to be any reason why the excess could not be paid. He informed the House that NGF lawyers have been instructed to expedite the court cases to ensure progress in the case. | |
| 5.0 | Update on State Peer Review Mechanism (SPRM) | |

Refer to NASS including



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| 5.1 | <p>The SPRM Coordinator informed the House that following the NGF elections, the NGFS Management met with the Steering committee to appraise the situation. The Steering Committee instructed that State Peer Review should to carry on as planned. Work has therefore continued with <u>states with various states now at different stages.</u></p> | |
| 5.2 | <p>Forum advised that a letter be sent to all states informing them of their status and what is expected of them. A copy of the agreed work schedule should be attached to the letters.</p> | <p>SPRM Coordinator/Secretariat</p> |
| 6.0 | <p>Inaugural Speeches</p> | |
| 6.1 | <p>The Forum was informed that ^a dummy copies of the publication were <u>not</u> ready for ^{copy} members review and final comments. Members are to send comments to the Secretariat at their earliest convenience.</p> | <p>All Members</p> |
| 7.0 | <p>Capacity Building</p> | |
| 7.1 | <p>a) Members' attention was drawn to an opportunity to train their staff in key Public Sector and Leadership skills to be provided by the Galilee Institute. The NGFS had secured an understanding with the institute and are ready to facilitate the design of programmes for members who may wish to avail themselves of this opportunity.</p> <p>b) The Governor of Lagos endorsed the ^I Institute stating that his staff had undertaken some programmes with the Institute already. He encouraged members to ensure that the learning is such that they develop partnership that enables skills to be domesticated in ^{State Training I} State Training Institute for sustainability.</p> | |
| 8.0 | <p>Polio Update</p> | |
| 8.1 | <p>a) The Forum was informed that there has been a reduction in new reported cases from 111 this time last year to 46 as at August 2013. However, compared to other endemic countries, this number is still high. Much still needs to be done over the next few months, and the Governors' leadership is critical.</p> <p>b) Chairman emphasised that although States have done well, more is needed.</p> <p>c) Members suggested use of advertorials to address outstanding issues such as poor hygiene and open defecation which promote the spread of the disease.</p> | |

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| | <p>d) Also nutrition needs to be addressed as without good nutrition converting vaccine into antibodies does not occur efficiently in children's bodies.</p> <p>e) It was also noted that there is still resistance in Kano due to association the vaccine with reduction of Muslim population. People are more concerned with malaria; it was therefore advised that both should be treated together.</p> | ? |
| 9.0 | Moving the NGF Forward | |
| 9.1 | <p>State Police</p> <p>a) The Chairman noted that all states currently attending meetings have reached agreement on the issue of State Police. The NASS has been engaged and the following proposals are being put forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. States should be allowed to have their own police force ii. 5% set aside from the federation account for funding the police. This will be under the purview of the NASS, iii. In the new arrangement, the State commissioner of police should be to the Governor and redeployment will only be possible with consent of the Governor. <p>b) A Committee led by the Governor of Sokoto State is to be set up to follow up on this.</p> <p>c) Engaging the others not present is crucial as 6 more votes are needed to push the proposals through.</p> | ? |
| 9.2 | <p>NGF and its Partners</p> <p>The DG briefed the Forum that development partners are worried about the issues following the NGF elections. National institutions also appear worried as some have stopped dealing with the Secretariat. For example, the Secretariat is no longer invited to NEC meetings.</p> | <p>Fed Govt, MBAs, one also.</p> |
| 10.0 | AOB | |
| 10.1 | <p>a) Subsisting Cases – The Forum was briefed on a number of subsisting litigation cases. The DG noted that some of these were serious and speaks to the very existence of the Forum and should not be taken lightly.</p> <p>b) Strategic Plan –The plan was adopted in principle. Any comments are to be sent to the secretariat as soon as</p> | |

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| <p><i>[Handwritten scribbles]</i></p> | <p>possible.</p> <p>c) NGF Retreat – After considering a number of venues, it was agreed that the Retreat would hold in the first week of November 2013 in Sokoto State.</p> <p>d) Funds – Having collected about N250m Chairman said he would like two volunteers to accompany him to Kaduna state to deliver the money to the wife and family of late Governor Patrick Yakowa. The Ekiti, Niger and Ogun State Governors volunteered.</p> <p>e) Secretariat Building Fund – It was also suggested that given the current state of affairs, it would be expedient for the Forum to proceed to appoint contractor for the secretariat building. However as the issue of land for siting the building is yet unresolved this would have to wait.</p> <p>f) Tablet of Knowledge – The Osun Governor thanked his colleagues for their unflagging commitment to the Forum. He briefed them on the launch of the new tablet of knowledge and encouraged his colleagues to look into getting some for education in their states. The Governor then presented a tablet to each Governor present.</p> <p>g) INEC Computer Scheme – Members noted that the computers received under this scheme were not of good quality. The Forum resolved that this should be raised at the next NEC meeting and INEC should be asked to return State funds that had already been deducted.</p> | <p><i>to the family of late Gov. Talawa</i></p> <p><i>of late Gov</i></p> <p><i>?</i></p> |
| | <p>Adjournment/Conclusion The Motion for Adjournment was moved by the Governor of Oyo State and seconded by the Governor of Kwara State.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 22:17pm.</p> | |

Rt. Hon. Rotimi Chibuike Amaechi
Chairman, Nigeria Governors' Forum
17th September, 2013