



**MINUTES OF THE 11TH MEETING OF NIGERIA
GOVERNORS' FORUM IN 2017**

HELD ON

22nd November 2017

AT THE

BANQUET HALL, ASO VILLA, ABUJA

ATTENDANCE

S/N	NAME	STATE	DESIGNATION
1	Hon. Abdulaziz Yari Abubakar	Zamfara	Governor
2	M.A. Abubakar, Esq	Bauchi	Governor
3	Engr Dave Umahi	Ebonyi	Governor
4	Simon Lalong	Plateau	Governor
5	Dr. A.U. Ganduje	Kano	Governor
6	Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Arakunrin	Ondo	Governor
7	Abubakar Sani Bello	Niger	Governor
8	Mohammed Badaru Abubakar	Jigawa	Governor
9	Aminu Waziri Tambuwal	Sokoto	Governor
10	Nasir El-Rufai	Kaduna	Governor
11	Aminu Bello Masari	Katsina	Governor
12	Ibrahim Gaidam	Yobe	Governor
13	Atiku A. Bagudu	Kebbi	Governor
14	Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi	Enugu	Governor
15	Senator Abiola Ajimobi	Oyo	Governor
16	Samuel Ortom	Benue	Governor
17	Mrs Titilayo Laoye-Tomori	Osun	Deputy Governor
18	Silas Ali Agara	Nasarawa	Deputy Governor
19	Gboribioha John Jonah	Bayelsa	Deputy Governor
20	Professor Ivara Esu	Cross River	Deputy Governor
21	Nkem Okeke, PhD	Anambra	Deputy Governor
22	Idiat Oluranti Adebule	Lagos	Deputy Governor
23	Prince Eze Madumere	Imo	Deputy Governor
24	Philip Shaibu	Edo	Deputy Governor
25	Martins Babale	Adamawa	Deputy Governor
26	Chief (Mrs) Yetunde Onanuga	Ogun	Deputy Governor
27	Professor Kolapo Olusola	Ekiti	Deputy Governor

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S/N	NOTES	ACTION BY
1.0	COMMENCEMENT	
	The meeting commenced at 8:59 P.M with an opening prayer by the Governor of Niger and Deputy Governor Akwa Ibom State.	
2.0	CHAIRMAN'S BRIEF	
	<p>The Chairman welcomed the Governors to the meeting and in his brief reminded the Forum that at the last meeting with Mr President on the budget support, he had requested that the meeting be reconvened because the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Vice President were absent.</p> <p>The Chairman advised that for subsequent meetings with respect to budget support the Governors' should attend collectively and not through Committees.</p> <p>On the Briefing by Committee on Trade and Competitiveness, the Chairman of the committee recalled that the Committee was constituted at the last meeting. At the inaugural meeting of the Committee which had members of the Committee, including the Representatives of the NGF on the Committee (Governors of Abia Adamawa and Kaduna States), the Committee had deliberated on the recommendations to the States.</p> <p>The Minister of State for Industry, Trade and Investment and member of the Committee had at that meeting requested an invitation to brief the Forum on the subject before taking her recommendations to the National Committee on Trade.</p> <p>The Chairman gave the Minister leave to make her presentation to the meeting. She informed the Forum that the sub-committee had met twice at the NEC level and identified key areas where the private sector had challenges as Tax, Access to Land, Security for</p>	

investment and provision of shared facility.

She stressed the importance of state buy-in in accelerating the industrialization process and implored the Forum to consider the recommendations and adopt them for implementation.

Following contributions and input by the Forum, the Chairman of the Committee advised that the recommendations be taken back to the States' investment team for their input.

The Forum requested that a list of the competitive indices be sent to the States to enable the States to evaluate their performance.

While thanking the Minister for her presentation, members were urged to come to the next meetings with their position for adoption.

Finally, the Chairman raised concerns about the state of malnutrition especially in the North West and suggested that a presentation be made at the NEC meeting.

3.0	PRESENTATION BY STAKEHOLDERS	
	<p><u>PRESENTATION ON THE NATIONAL PRESIDENTIAL FERTILIZER INITIATIVE (PFI) BY THE MD / CEO, NIGERIA SOVEREIGN INVESTMENT AUTHORITY</u></p> <p>The MD/CEO National Sovereign Investment Authority (NSIA) thanked the Forum for the opportunity to make the presentation and highlighted the achievements of the National Presidential Fertilizer Initiative and the plans for 2018.</p> <p>He appealed for the support of governors in monitoring adulteration and getting more Blending Plants to create uniform pricing and advised the States to engage more with the Fertilizer Producers Association.</p> <p>In conclusion, he made the following specific prayers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The provision of storage facilities by States. ii. Emphasised the importance of Political will in encouraging early fertiliser purchase by farmers. iii. Irrevocable Standing Payment Orders (ISPO) should be made by the Ministry of Finance to facilitate smooth transactions. iv. States should engage in monitoring to prevent adulteration of the fertilizers. <p>Following the presentation, some members sought working partnerships to develop a fertilizer site.</p> <p>Members commended the Initiative and suggested that the NSIA should explore cost effective methods to get the buy-in of States.</p>	

A member called the attention of the Forum to the production of fertilizers with micro nutrients, the challenge of the ports and the need for the Ministry of Agriculture to conduct an analysis to solve the issue of logistics and cost,

PRESENTATION ON THE UNTAPPED CERAMIC SECTOR: A CATALYST TO DRIVE NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT presented by EPINA TECHNOLOGIES.

The presenter spoke about the ceramic industry and how ceramics can drive economic development.

In his presentation, he proposed:

- i. The submission of a full Technical and Commercial Proposal to any State Government for the Characterization and Processing of available solid mineral resources in the state.
- ii. Signing a Memorandum of Understanding with any State Government for Clusters, Entrepreneurship Training and Enterprise Development in Ceramics Manufacturing and Solid Minerals Processing.
- iii. Collaboration with any State Government Ceramics Promotion Committee (SCPC) in the sensitization of citizens for participatory democracy in her ceramics vision.

The meeting wondered how the professor intended to pass down knowledge to the next generation and advised that he came up with a proposal for the States to study. The presenter revealed that they had already done a characterization of raw materials in Lagos State and suggested technical colleges as a good avenue for transferring skills.

The Forum resolved that Epina Technologies Ltd should liaise with

	<p>the NGF Secretariat to work with interested States.</p> <p><u>PRESENTATION ON REFORMING NIGERIA AT THE SUB-NATIONAL LEVEL: BRINGING ENABLING BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT REFORMS TO ALL NIGERIANS BY DR. JUMOKE ODUWOLE</u></p> <p>In her Presentation, Dr Jumoke Oduwole, the SSA to the President on Industry said that Sub-national rankings were important because MSMEs made up to 90% of businesses in Nigeria. She stressed the importance of the States support in implementing reforms to improve the Ease of Doing Business (EoDB)</p> <p>She enlisted the support of the States in providing reform champions, prioritizing Ease of Doing Business (EoDB), private sector participation and hosting workshops at the various States.</p> <p>The Forum congratulated the Committee for the significant achievement and for its effort in reaching out to the Forum.</p> <p>The Committee was also advised to work with the MDA's to facilitate implementation.</p>	<p>Secretariat</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>REPORT OF NGF LEGAL COMMITTEE</p>	
	<p>The Governor of Sokoto presented the recommendations of the Legal Committee as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Forum should take steps in settling with GSCL-BIZPLUS because they have a valid contractual relationship with the Forum. 2. The Committee resolved that 60% of the balance of 1% of the Consortium's fees be paid to BIZPLUS, while the balance of 40% of same should be used to settle the consultants/stakeholders with valid claims. 3. That the consultants engaged by States should go to the individual states that contracted their services for 	

	<p>resolution and payment.</p> <p>4. The Management of the NGF Secretariat would work out specific details regarding what is due to deserving consultants.</p> <p>The Forum expressed thanks to the Committee for its work. Members however recalled that the initial agreement was that 2% would be set aside to settle all the Consultants that worked on the brief, including the Consultants engaged by the States.</p> <p>The Chairman explained that although the above constituted the initial agreement, it could not be implemented because most of the consultants were making exorbitant demands and had legal documents to support their claims. Also, the Consortium insisted that they were the only consultant engaged by the Forum to carry out the exercise and had refused to recognize the others.</p>	
<p>5.0</p>	<p>UPDATE ON HEALTH</p>	
	<p>The NGF Senior Health Adviser, Dr Ahmad gave an update on the health sector as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nigeria has been polio free for 15 months and has 21 more months to go. • The measles campaign had concluded in all 7 States in the Northwest and commended the States for their outstanding commitment. • The next cycle of the campaign is in the North East but only Borno and Yobe States had paid their counterpart funding. • The other States that were yet to pay were encouraged do so to enable the campaign to take place in their states. • That the Monkey pox epidemic was on the decline • A successful meeting of the Honourable Commissioners of Health and Executive Secretaries of State PHCDA was held on the 15th of November 2017, under the auspices of 	

	<p>the NGF and NPHCDA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He concluded his presentation with the collaboration of NGF with Chatham House to promote Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and the score card for Saving One Million lives. 	
6.0	ADJOURNMENT/ CONCLUSION	
	<p>The meeting closed at 11:54 PM with the Governor of Jigawa moving a motion for adjournment seconded by the Governor of Kano State.</p>	

Honourable Abdulaziz Yari Abubakar
Chairman, Nigeria Governors' Forum
Governor, Zamfara State