



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NIGERIA
GOVERNORS' FORUM**

HELD ON

21st AUGUST, 2011

AT THE

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

ATTENDANCE

S/N	NAME	STATE	DESIGNATION
1	Rt. Hon. Rotimi C. Amaechi	Rivers	Governor/Chairman
2	Mr. Peter Obi	Anambra	Governor/Vice Chairman
3	Murtala Nyako	Adamawa	Governor
4	Godswill Akpabio	Akwa Ibom	Governor
5	Dr. Emmanuel E. Uduaghan	Delta	Governor
6	Adams A. Oshiomhole	Edo	Governor
7	Kayode Fayemi	Ekiti	Governor
8	Owelle Rochas Okorochoa	Imo	Governor
9	Patrick I. Yakowa	Kaduna	Governor
10	Dr. Muazu Babngida Aliyu	Niger	Governor
11	Jonah D. Yang	Plateau	Governor
12	Aliyu M. Wamakko	Sokoto	Governor
13	Seibarugu D. Werinipre	Bayelsa	Deputy Governor
14	Zannah Mustapha	Borno	Deputy Governor
15	Efiok Cobham	Cross River	Deputy Governor
16	Nweze David Umahi	Ebonyi	Deputy Governor
17	David Albishi	Gombe	Deputy Governor
18	Ahmed M. Gumel	Jigawa	Deputy Governor
19	Abdullahi G. Faskari	Katsina	Deputy Governor
20	Ibrahim K. Aliyu	Kebbi	Deputy Governor
21	Dr. Phillips O. Salawu, FCA	Kogi	Deputy Governor
22	Peter S. Kisira	Kwara	Deputy Governor
23	Hon. Mrs. Adegoke O. Adefulire	Lagos	Deputy Governor
24	Dameshi B. Luka	Nasarawa	Deputy Governor
25	Ola Olanusi	Ondo	Deputy Governor
26	Engr. Abubakar D. Aliyu, MNSE	Yobe	Deputy Governor
27	Mallam Ibrahim Wakkala	Zamfara	Deputy Governor

APOLOGIES

1	Mallam Isa Yuguda	Bauchi	Governor
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S/N	NOTES/RESOLUTIONS	ACTION BY
A	<p>COMMENCEMENT</p> <p>The meeting started at 8.45 pm with opening prayers said by the Governors of Niger and Delta States.</p>	
B	<p>CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>Following the consideration of the minutes of the last meeting held on 15th July, 2011, the Governor of Kaduna State moved for the adoption of the minutes and was seconded by Ekiti State.</p>	
C	<p>STATUS OF OUTSTANDING COMMITMENTS</p> <p>The Chairman read out all outstanding financial commitments to the Forum and appealed to affected members to pay up.</p>	
D	<p>NGF PERMANENT SECRETARIAT</p> <p>Following an update on the permanent Secretariat project, members reviewed the history of the project and resolved to apply to the FCT for another parcel of land to construct a Secretariat. The Secretariat was directed to stop the process of buying a property and revert to the original plan of sourcing land for the purpose of building an office.</p> <p>The Chairman was mandated to meet with the FCT Minister to allocate a piece of land for the use of the Forum.</p>	
E	<p>EXCESS CRUDE</p> <p>The Chairman informed members that the President was willing to pay the excess crude funds accruing to States and that he planned to meet with him on Monday, 22nd August, 2011 to discuss the delay in releasing the funds.</p> <p>The Governors of Ekiti, Niger and Plateau States were requested to accompany the Chairman to the meeting with Mr. President.</p>	
F	<p>POLIO ERADICATION CAMPAIGN</p> <p>Members were briefed on the polio eradication awareness campaign which kicked off its first quarter activities on Saturday, 13th August, 2011. It was reported that most States took part in the campaign. The States that could not participate in the campaign gave assurances that they would do so soon. Members were implored to participate in the quarterly campaigns as agreed by the Forum.</p>	
G	<p>POWER SECTOR PRESENTATION</p> <p>Dr Sam Amadi, Chairman & CEO, Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) made a presentation on the proposed strategy of the Federal Government (FG) on the generation and distribution of power as a means of</p>	

increasing the supply of electricity and reducing regulatory bottle-necks.

He stated that in the proposed policy, any Agency interested in the generation or distribution of power must procure a license from NERC to ensure predictability, transparency and efficiency. However, the policy was founded on a centralized distribution channel maintained by the FG. The proposed strategy sought to develop a new framework to decentralize power generation, centralize power distribution and utilise subsidy as an incentive for encouraging demand in the short run.

Members questioned the independence of NERC and expressed their displeasure over the FG's underutilization of power generated by States, which has led to the shut-down of generating plants not connected to its distribution lines. They called for de-regulation and de-centralisation of power as a means of ensuring efficiency.

H **Millennium Development Goals Competition**

Members were briefed of a proposal by the United Nations in collaboration with the Canadian High Commission seeking to foster constructive competition in achieving MDGs across the States. To successfully drive the initiative, they sought the support and collaboration of the NGF. The Forum considered and approved the proposal.

I **Sovereign Wealth Fund**

The meeting was informed that revenue generation and the Sovereign Wealth Fund (SWF) would form part of the deliberations at the National Economic Council (NEC) meeting scheduled for August 22, 2011.

On the SWF, members reiterated their opposition to it on the grounds that it was unconstitutional and should be suspended pending the resolution of all concerns and fears raised by Governors.

The Forum resolved that the issue of SWF among others would be looked into in the proposed constitutional amendments. The Forum resolved that a meeting of all the Attorneys General (AGs) of the States would be convened. It was agreed that the Chairman would convey the decision of the Forum to the AGs at the forthcoming annual conference of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA). They would be mandated to make contributions to the proposed constitutional amendments which would be harmonized as the position of the NGF. The AGs would be given two (2) weeks to complete the assignment.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- The Governor of Delta State invited members to the States Climate Change Dialogue coming up in Asaba between 23rd and 25th August, 2011.

- Members noted the letter written by the Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) in respect of the Bridge Banks.
- Members were informed of a proposal to host a seminar in collaboration with Bode Augusto. The seminar would be participated by States Commissioners of Finance, Budget & Planning, Accountants General, Directors of Budget and Planning and relevant permanent Secretaries etc The Secretariat was directed to liaise with the Resource persons and work out the modalities for the training.
- The Forum was also informed of a proposed training for Governors' convoy drivers in conjunction with the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) and the Secretariat was similarly mandated to work out modalities for execution.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 9.15pm with a motion for adjournment moved by the Governor of Imo State and seconded by the Governor of Sokoto State.

Rt. Honourable Rotimi Chibuike Amaechi
 Governor of Rivers State
 Chairman, Nigeria Governors' Forum