

**THE NIGERIA GOVERNORS'
FORUM**

MINUTES OF MEETING

ON

18TH APRIL, 2007

AT

CHIEF G. IGBINEDION HOUSE

ASOKORO, ABUJA.

IN ATTENDANCE, Their Excellencies:

S/No	Name	State	Designation
1	Lucky Igbinedion (Chairman)	Edo	Governor
2	Umaru Yar'Adua	Katsina	Governor
3	Goodluck E. Jonathan	Bayelsa	Governor
4	Ahmed Sani Yarima	Zamfara	Governor
5	George Akume	Benue	Governor
6	James Ibori	Delta	Governor
7	A. Udenwa	Imo	Governor
8	Bukola Saraki	Kwara	Governor
9	Ahmadu Muazu	Bauchi	Governor

The meeting commenced at exactly 11:40 with the Chairman calling on the Executive Governor of Kwara State, His Excellency, Dr. Bukola Saraki to offer the opening prayer.

The Chairman welcomed members and briefed them on the agenda of the meeting, which was to essentially deliberate on the then forthcoming Presidential as well as National Assembly elections.

1) **ENDORSEMENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATURE OF HIS EXCELLENCY, ALHAJI UMARU MUSA YAR'A DUA**

Following a marathon deliberations, the Forum resolved to endorse the candidature of Alhaji Umaru Musa Yar' Adua as the next President and Commander in chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and pledged to work concertedly and committedly toward his victory at the polls.

b) The meeting also resolved that a Communique reflecting the position of the Forum on this vital issue be issued out to the press.

c) The Chairman informed members that, the Lagos State Executive Governor, His Excellency, Chief Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, though absent, had sent a message of solidarity to the Forum and in the same vein, endorsed the candidature of Yar'Adua on account of being both a member colleague as well as a democrat.

d) In the same token, the Chairman conveyed the solidarity messages of Governors of Kano, Plateau and Yobe to the Forum as well as their apologies for being unable to honour invitation for the meeting owing to pressing state matters.

2) EXCESS CRUDE

The Chairman briefed members on the position of the excess crude account, and specifically, said that the Honourable Minister of Finance had secured the permission of Mr. President to disburse excess crude fund to the tune of Three Hundred and Fifty Billion Naira (N350b) Only, though in two tranches.

3) PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN LEVY

The Chairman pointed out that in view of the impending Presidential election and the exigencies imposed by the circumstance, members should accept to make financial contributions for the Forum to appropriately respond to the occasion.

b) Consequent upon deliberations, members obliged to contribute Fifteen Million Naira (N15m) Only, each to the coffers of the Forum.

c) It was also agreed that members' contributions in cheques/drafts should reach the Secretary of the Forum latest by Friday, 20th April, 2007.

4) REQUEST BY THE CHAIRMAN TO INCUR EXPENDITURE FROM AVAILABLE RESOURCES.

The Chairman of the Forum, His Excellency Dr. Lucky Nosakhare Igbinedion requested permission from the Forum, in view of the exigencies imposed by the Presidential election, coupled with the pledges made by members to contribute to the same cause, to resort, as an interim measure, to the use of resources available in the Forum's accounts pending when members would redeem their pledges.

b) Against this backdrop, the Forum proceeded to grant the permission accordingly.

5) Having exhausted the items on the agenda and in the absence of any other pressing issue for discussion, a motion to end the meeting was moved and seconded and the meeting ended at 1:15pm.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Forum should hold on the 23rd of April, 2007, at 7pm at the same venue.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized initials 'LI' followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Lucky Mosakhare Igbinedion
Chairman, Nigeria Governors' Forum.