

COMMUNIQUE

ISSUED AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NIGERIA GOVERNORS' FORUM HELD TODAY, JANUARY 11, 2010 AT THE KWARA STATE GOVERNOR'S LODGE

We the Executive Governors of the 36 States of the Federation at our meeting held today, 11th January, 2010 at the Kwara State Governor's Lodge deliberated on a variety of issues of national importance and resolved as follows:

1. Recently, the US Transport Security Administration (TSA), an Agency under the Department of Homeland Security listed Nigeria as a "country of interest" alongside countries as Yemen, Somalia, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan etc effective January 4, 2010 following the December 25, 2009 incident involving a Nigerian national Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab accused of attempting to bomb Northwest Flight 253, a US-bound flight to Detroit, Michigan. A full press release by the Forum will be published immediately.
2. On the matter of excess crude, the Forum resolved that the fund belongs to both the States and Federation Government and therefore the Federal Government alone has discretion of its use.
3. The States have all agreed to facilitate 1 billion to small scale farmers in form of loans and micro-credit schemes.
4. We noted the significant of the Peer Review Exercise which has been conducted 18 states we happy to note the value addition recorded through the Peer Review especially in information exchange of leading best practices.
5. We reaffirm our commitment to the Midwives Services Scheme (MSS) which have taken off by signing of an MoU by 32 States (including FCT) with the deployment of 2200 midwives already sent to various communities. This will impact heavily in reducing child and infant maternity
6. Following a Presentation made by the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Millennium Development Goals (MDG), the Forum agreed to continue to partner with the MDG to bring development to the States.