



**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> NIGERIA GOVERNORS' FORUM RETREAT HELD AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE, PORT HARCOURT, RIVERS STATE ON JUNE 5 AND 6, 2014**

We, the Governors of the Federal Republic of Nigeria at the 4<sup>th</sup> Retreat of the Nigeria Governors' Forum at government House Rivers state, held today, June 6, 2014, as a follow-up to the 3rd National Retreat in Lagos, deliberated extensively on the areas of Health, Youth Unemployment and Transitioning out – Life after office: Perspective and challenges, resolve as follows:

- We will focus even more strongly on good governance and service delivery during the remaining period of our terms of office since what happens in the last year of office may make or mar our records of performance;
- Commend the Secretariat for ensuring the preparation of the Transitioning out Guide Book for Governors;
- To examine the establishment of an independent office to make objective recommendations on the retirement benefits of Governors;
- Re-state our perception of our positions as time-limited public service and our determination to leave behind legacy projects which we and our states can be justifiably proud;
- To place emphasis on making the Primary Health Care centres more accessible to patients by putting in place a system which makes them utilize the health facilities closest to them;
- To emphasize preventive health care, as against current focus on curative health care;
- To make it a priority to provide universal primary healthcare to all citizens and ensure the sustainability of this by making it affordable to all;
- On the issue of the lingering youth unemployment, make provisions for and support all the infrastructure necessary for speedy internet connections, including broadband, so that our youths in particular and other Nigerians can participate massively in the wealth to be made from the knowledge-based economy;
- To support all efforts to provide the enabling environments in which jobs can be created with particular emphasis on infrastructure, including uninterrupted power supply and low interest rates;
- To use our position in the National Economic Council (NEC) to press for low interest rates and enforcement of import policies and collection of customs duties;

- To adopt investment for poverty-reducing employment strategies, especially by emphasising policies that would generate employment at the local level

**Rt. Hon Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi**  
**Governor of Rivers State & Chairman**  
**Nigeria Governors' Forum**  
**June 6th, 2014**