



AFRICAN PETROLEUM PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION DES PRODUCTEURS DE PETROLE AFRICAINS
APPA



33rd Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of APPA
15th March 2016, Abuja - Federal Republic of Nigeria

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

The Council of Ministers of the African Petroleum Producers' Association (APPA) held its 33rd Ordinary Session on 15th March 2016 in Abuja, Federal Republic of Nigeria, under the High Patronage of **H.E. Muhammadu Buhari**, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Fifteen (15) APPA Member Countries participated at the Sessions of the Council namely: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Libya, Mauritania Niger and Nigeria.

Equatorial Guinea, South Africa and Sudan were not represented.

South Sudan and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) took part as Observers.

The opening ceremony of the Council was presided over by **H.E. Babachir David Lawal**, Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF), Federal Republic of Nigeria.

The Executive Secretary of APPA, **H.E. Mahaman Laouan GAYA** in his remarks expressed the appreciation of the sundry Organs of APPA to the presence of the SGF, Honourable Ministers and Plenipotentiaries of APPA Member Countries to the 33rd Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers.

The Commissioner of Mines and Energy of ECOWAS, **Dr. Morlaye BANGOURA** thanked APPA for the invitation and assured that the various areas of cooperation with the Association would be concretized with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two Organs, which was eventually signed

The Ambassador of South Sudan to Nigeria, gave a goodwill message where he reiterate the interest of his Country in becoming a Member of the APPA family as soon as the political situation stabilizes.

The Welcome Speech by the Honourable. Minister of State for Petroleum/APPA President, **H.E Emmanuel Ibe KACHIKWU**, dwelt on the situation of member countries of APPA, including the need to carefully examine the current volatility in the prices of oil and stressed the need for Member Countries of APPA to diversify their economies, reduce costs of budget, promote local content, stimulate good governance and move toward the creation of an African Market of crude oil, natural gas and oil products.

The Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF) delivered the keynote address, in which he extended a warm welcome to the Ministers and Plenipotentiaries of APPA Member Countries and the invited Dignitaries that attended the meeting. He then recalled the Global instability in the prices of crude oil since June 2014 and its adverse effects on the economies of oil producing countries. He then expressed the solidarity of Nigeria to Libya, going through a socio political crisis and Cote d'Ivoire that recently witnessed a terrorist attack in the city of Grand-Bassam in March 13, 2016. A minute silence was observed in honour of the memory of the victims of the terrorist attack. Finally he wished the Ministers and Plenipotentiaries of APPA Member Countries as well as the invited guests a warm welcome.

The working sessions were held at the Transcorp Hilton Abuja Hotel in a serene atmosphere and were presided over by **H.E. Dr. Emmanuel Ibe KACHIKWU**, State Minister of Petroleum Resources of the Federal Republic of Nigeria assisted by the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy of Côte d'Ivoire, **H.E. Mr. Adama TOUNGARA**.

The 33th Ordinary Session of the Council focused on the review of the status of activities for the year 2015-2016 of the Organs and Bodies of the Association: APPA Secretariat, APPA Fund for Technical Cooperation and the African Institute Petroleum *Dr. Rilwanu LUKMAN*.

The Council of Ministers expressed its gratitude to Nigeria and Côte d'Ivoire for their donation of sixty million (60,000,000) F CFA francs each to finance the start of the study on the reform of APPA. Furthermore, the Council urged the other Member Countries of APPA to max out the Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria for donations on the financing of the Study.

Further to the consideration of the reports presented by the Committee of Experts, held in Abuja from 8 to 11 March 2016, the Council of Ministers took the following principal decisions:

1. Prefunding of the study on the evaluation and reform of the Association by the APPA Fund for Technical Cooperation;
2. Adoption of the 2016-2017 Plans of Actions and the budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year of the APPA Secretariat and the APPA Fund for Technical Cooperation;
3. Organization of the APPA Seminar on Local Content in Luanda in November 2016 ;
4. Renewal of mandates of two Group II Executive Staff of the APPA Secretariat;
5. The non-renewal of mandates of international staff AFPI;
6. The suspension of the African Institute of Petroleum *Dr. Rilwanu LUKMAN* activities pending the outcome of the ongoing reform,
7. The gratitude of APPA to the Arab Republic of Egypt for having hosted AFPI and soliciting the continued support of Egypt in the framework of the future Reform.

Further to the presentations of Cameroon and Nigeria on the international oil market situation and its impact on the economies of African producing countries, as it affect the ability to cope with the current oil crisis and its adverse effects on the economies of Member Countries, the Council of Ministers declared the necessity:

1. the major crude oil producing countries (members and non-OPEC members) to set aside their differences and take steps to slow or stop the fall in prices of crude oil;
2. African producers to diversify their economies, reduce the costs of budgetary, promote good governance and move towards the African market.

Furthermore, the Council of Ministers unanimously elected the Minister of Petroleum and Energy of Côte d'Ivoire, **H.E. Mr. Adama Toungara** and the Minister of Petroleum and Energy of Chad, **H.E. Mr. DJERASEM LE BEMADJEL** as respectively President and Vice-President of APPA for the year 2016-2017.

Finally, the Council expressed its deep gratitude to the Federal Republic of Nigeria and its President **HE Muhammadu Buhari** for the excellent organization of the meetings and the warm hospitality reserved for all delegations present in Abuja and the great interest of Nigeria to the development and influence of APPA on the continental and international scene.

Done in Abuja, 15th March 2016.

The Council of Ministers of APPA



Dr. Emmanuel Ibe KACHIKWU