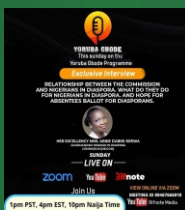




NIDCOM

NIGERIAN DIASPORA COMMISSION

DIASPORA NEWSLETTER



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KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER: A TOOL FOR DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT

Olufunke Oloye

According to OXFORD ADVANCE LEARNERS DICTIONARY OF CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH, Diaspora could broadly be defined as a population that originated in a land other than which it currently resides and whose social, economic and political networks are across the borders of nations.

The African Union also defines Diaspora as people of a particular origin living in another location irrespective of their citizenship and nationality and who are willing to contribute to the development of their host country and country of origin. The Draft National Diaspora Policy also defines a Diaspora Nigerian as a person who has lived abroad for at least a year, has verifiable address, living legally, holds a Nigerian Passport and is contributing to the SOCIO-ECONOMIC development of Nigeria.

Be that as it may, members of diaspora are able to make specific contributions deriving from the absence of language and cultural barriers, and more importantly, their ability to better understand and more effectively adapt foreign approaches and technology to their homeland. They are increasingly seen as resources for countries of origin and opportunity for effective knowledge transfer and capacity building.

It is mind blowing what diaspora members bring to the table: valuable skills, expertise and knowledge to their country of origin thereby making important and positive contributions. Evidence generally focus on economic contributions of remittances and investments, but there is increasing evidence of non-economic contributions to human rights, good governance, and capacity building.

In today's global economy, knowledge is the most important driver of productivity and economic

Knowledge transfer can be defined as a multi-stage process which includes the transmission of information by one individual or group and the absorption of said information by another individual or group. The value of knowledge lies in its impact on behaviors, policies, processes and practices within the recipient party. Knowledge transfer can be divided into two types: explicit and tacit knowledge. Explicit knowledge is that which is written and formally recorded, while tacit knowledge is the informal knowledge transferred through interpersonal methods such as learning by doing, mentoring, problem solving and team work.

Acquiring knowledge is a continuous process. Diaspora members may acquire new knowledge through employment, education and social connections in their host countries. As they remain connected to their countries of origin while abroad, they have the potential to transfer knowledge gained through transnational activities. This transferred knowledge can be commonly referred to as form of social remittances or brain Circulation, which can include norms, practices, identities, and social capital.

Within knowledge transfer it is recognized that trust and culture are critical elements, the difference in belief system, values, and practices between transferors and transferees could create barriers to knowledge transfer. It is therefore important to note that diaspora can play a special role in knowledge transfer and capacity building in their countries of origin where they are knowledgeable about local context and trusted.

Knowledge/ Brain Circulation

Evidence has shown that diaspora organisations contribute to the development of their countries of origin by forming different associations, groups, networks to fill different gaps ranging from health,



women empowerment, children, water and sanitation, good governance and so on. Some diasporas permanently return to their countries of origin after having lived in the host country for a significant period of time to properly follow up on achieving gaps by transferring their knowledge acquired abroad.

Diaspora members do not have to permanently return to countries of origin to transfer knowledge, they can transfer knowledge and skills through short visits. Government can launch programs to encourage temporary return to enable knowledge transfer from highly skilled diaspora members. This will be followed by series of policies and incentives making diaspora engagement important factor for the Nigerian Knowledge Economy. Examples of such international programs includes, UNDP's Transfer of Knowledge Through Expatriate Nationals Program (TOKTEN), International Organisation for Migration (IOM's) Migration and Development in Africa Program (MIDA), Increased global connectivity and major improvements in information technology have enabled diasporas to maintain close contact with family and friends in their countries of origin. Diasporas are therefore able to interact with people in their country of origin and transfer

knowledge without physically returning home. This is referred to as virtual return. They can exchange letters, emails, videos, telephone and video calls and applications such as Facebook, Skype, WhatsApp facilitate cost effective knowledge transfer that come very close to face-to-face interaction.

However, it has been demonstrated that diasporas have the potentials to transfer important expert knowledge and technical and managerial skills and can change behaviors, lifestyles and notions. But we must note that not all diasporas are highly skilled and at the same time, social remittances might discourage family members from investing their time in career development while living in the idealization of life abroad or diasporas transferring unfavorable norms and practices.

Conclusively, for engagement to take place, government must be ready to accept diasporas qualifications in the local labour market, match-make them upon their arrival with relevant businesses, , establish strong labour laws and immigration policies and trade agreements. The diasporas on their part too must be willing to break barriers, put up right attitude, understand the peculiarity of their terrain since its their home country.

DID YOU KNOW?

1. Africa and Asia are home to nearly 90 percent of the world's rural population.
2. The TV remote is the dirtiest item in a typical Household, Hospital or Hotel room.
3. Hearing is the fastest Human Sense. A person can recognise a sound in as little as 0.05 seconds.
4. Cats purr (make a low continuous vibratory sound expressing contentment).
5. If you love cats, you are an Ailurophile .
6. The Etruscan Shrew is the smallest Mammal in the world by Mass.

MARYAM KEHINDE ABDULAZEEZ
Sourced from Google

NIDCOM TO LAUNCH NEW MOBILE APP

By Rosemary Moribirin.

Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa, Chairman/CEO, Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM) has said the Commission would soon launch her first mobile application in April towards an effective communication.

Dabiri-Erewa made this known during a live US-based radio programme, "Yoruba Gbode", with Nigerians in the Diaspora through a virtual device.

She said the App would help in creating and maintaining relationships with Nigerians living abroad and also contribute to national development.

The NIDCOM boss added that there is also a plan to launch the first- ever online diaspora radio aimed at reaching out to the targeted audience by projecting the activities of Nigerians in the Diaspora.

On diaspora Voting, she advised Nigerians living abroad to lobby National Assembly to expedite action on its passage just as a Diasporan, Prince Ade Omole is using his personal resources through his NGO, Diaspora Voting Council, to campaign for its quick passage.

She added that the passage would enable Nigerians to make their own contributions to the political development in the country as being practised in many countries of the world.

Dabiri-Erewa equally advised Nigerians abroad to be good Ambassadors and law-abiding in their countries of abode, thus giving a positive image for Nigeria.

She reiterated the commitment of the Commission in celebrating deserving Nigerians when necessary as a way of encouraging others to do more.

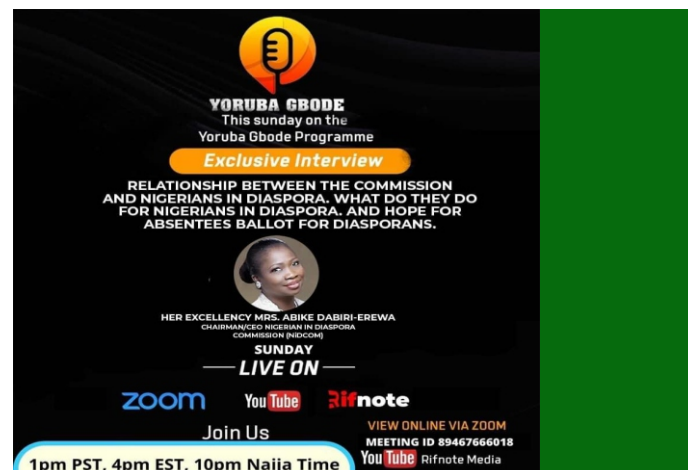
According to her, "three out of many wonderful Nigerians in the Diaspora can not spoil the image of the country", urging all to keep the flag flying as President Muhammadu Buhari is always proud of Nigerians abroad.

On issuance of passports renewal for the Diasporans, she explained that all the complaints from all the stakeholders had been compiled and send to the immigration office in Nigeria for prompt response.


Other issues that dominated the three-hour session with Nigerians in Diaspora include procedure to get NIN, slow response to issues at Embassies and Missions abroad, maltreatment of Nigerians abroad, remittances and security in Nigeria.

Other issues discussed include the covid-19 protocols as it relates to Nigerians travelling home, data of all Diasporans and groups, creating Diaspora offices in missions abroad, issue of Nigerian culture and language, housing and tax holiday for Diasporans among others.

The programme hosted by Mrs Sola Yusuf, a renowned broadcaster, witnessed the participation of Nigerians abroad including Prof .Wande Abímḃólá, former Vice Chancellor of University of Ife amongst other top professionals.



YORUBA GBODE
This Sunday on the
Yoruba Gbode Programme
Exclusive Interview
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE COMMISSION
AND NIGERIANS IN DIASPORA. WHAT DO THEY DO
FOR NIGERIANS IN DIASPORA. AND HOPE FOR
ABSENTEES BALLOT FOR DIASPORANS.


HER EXCELLENCY MRS. ABIKE DABIRI-EREWA
CHAIRMAN/CEO, NIGERIANS IN DIASPORA
COMMISSION (NIDCOM)

SUNDAY
LIVE ON

zoom YouTube **Rifnote**

Join Us

VIEW ONLINE VIA ZOOM
MEETING ID 89467666018
YouTube Rifnote Media

1pm PST, 4pm EST, 10pm Naija Time

FAVOUR: A TREASURE TO THE NATION

Doosughun Abughidyer

The third, fourth generations Diaspora are our main focus- NIDCOM BossAbuja, Jan. 30, 2021: Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa, Chairman/CEO, Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM) has expressed the willingness of the Commission to work more with the younger generation in the Diaspora as a way of accelerating the pace of national development in the country

Dabiri Erewa stated this during a webinar book launch entitled: "A Teenager in lockdown" of a 14-year old UK born Nigerian citizen, Miss Favour Wilson- Balogun. She said that the Commission is focusing on working with the third and fourth generation of the Nigeria Diaspora of which Favour is a part of. She commended the 14-year-old Favour who did not look at the negative effects of the Covid-19 pandemic during the lockdown period but decided to take the opportunity to her advantage.

Said she: " when life gives you Lemon, you make lemonade", urging other youths in the diaspora to make judicious use of their time and contribute to national development. The excited Dabiri-Erewa eulogised Favour for her brilliancy and creativity, saying that her action will serve as an inspiration to all young children as she has written her name in the book of Fame.

She, however, promised to promote the book in all nooks and crannies and looks forward to working with the young Favour. In his keynote address as the chairman of the occasion, former President Goodluck Jonathan, said Favour took her time to bring her survival tips to writing.

He added that the future of every country is in how well the youth are taken care of, stressing the need for education geared towards promotion of peace of mind. Jonathan also commended Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa on her



SPECIAL INVITATION

DR. & MRS WILSON BALOGUN
cordially invite you to the

VIRTUAL BOOK LAUNCH
of their daughter

FAVOUR B-WILSON

A TEENAGER IN LOCKDOWN
A SURVIVOR'S STORY

30th
January, 2021

17.00pm (UK),
18.00pm (Nig)

MEETING ID: 874 6545 8086
PASSCODE: 287761

relentlessness on issues of the Nigerian Diaspora right from her days as member of the House of Representatives. The father of Favour, Dr Wilson Balogun expressed appreciation of the family to all the participants in the public presentation of the book and hoped that Favour's book would have inspired many more youths in engaging themselves in productive ventures. The virtual meeting had in attendance the former minister of Aviation, Chief Femi Fani-Kayode, H.E Amb Terry Earthwind Nicholas, Prof Remi Duyile, and a host of others. Favour B-Willson is a 14 year old teenager and the Author of "A Teenager In Lockdown, a survival's story".



Afang Soup

FOOD CORNER

By Doosughun Abughidyer

Nigeria is a country filled with many cultural varieties and different delicacies. On today's food Corner, we will be making Afang soup. I am so sure my Diasporans want to eat healthy so they can live long as eating healthy is a sure way to live long. Afang soup is made mainly with

INGREDIENTS

1. Akazi/Afang leaves
2. Water leaf (Spinach)
3. Palm oil
4. Beef, stock fish, dry fish, kpomo, chicken
5. Ground crayfish
6. Pepper, Onions
7. Salt/ stock cubes

METHOD OF PREPARATION

Slice the water leaf and set aside.

Slice Afang leaves, pound or blend it and set aside.

Tip: the dry leaves are tougher than the fresh leaves, so try to grind it as fine as you can.

1. Cook the assorted meat and stock fish with chopped onions, seasoning cubes and salt to taste until tender.

Then clean the dried fish in hot water, remove the bones and add the fish to the pot of cooked meat.

2. Add the palm oil, pepper, ground crayfish and remaining stock cube to the pot. Mix well then Cover the pot and leave to boil for about 10 minutes.

3. After 10 minutes, add the water leaf, allow to simmer for 3 minutes and then add the Afang leaves. Let it simmer for 3 minutes.

4. Add salt to taste, simmer for 2 minutes and your Afang Soup is ready.

Afang soup is usually enjoyed hot with Eba, Pounded Yam, Fufu, Semolina, Amala. The choice is yours to make.

Enjoy....

TOUR NIGERIA

By Khadija Shehu Bamalli

Welcome on board a fascinating tour of Edo State, in southern Nigeria.

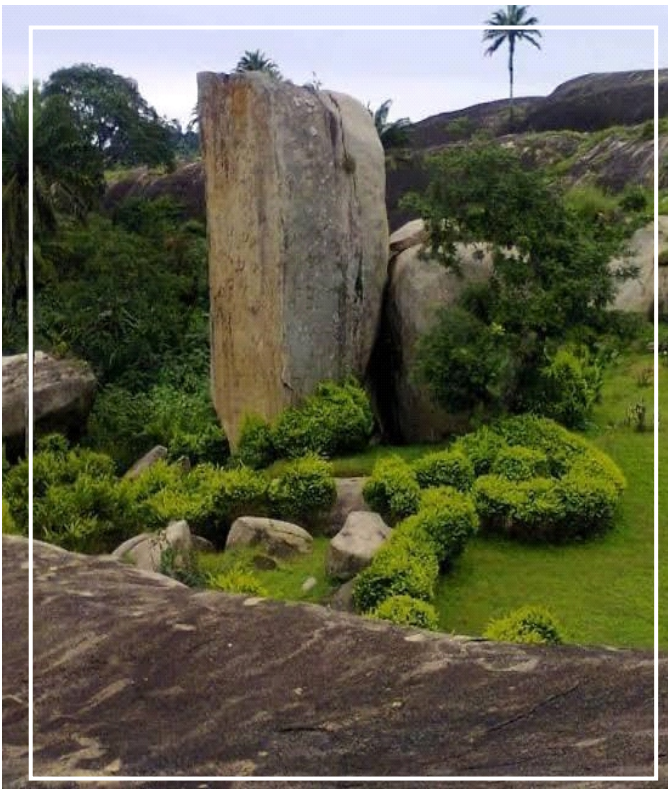
The state with a fascinating history. It's capital, Benin City, which was surrounded by walls that were four times longer than the great wall of China. This wall of Benin City was at its time the largest man-made structure in the world.

It was said to have been around for 400 years and estimated to have taken 150 million hours of digging for construction.

The walls were later destroyed in 1897 by the British.



NATIONAL MUSEUM: photo credit: TripAdvisor



Ososo Tourist Centre. At the top of the rocky area of Ososo lies this beautiful Centre, full of nature in its purest and aesthetic form making it very attractive to rock climbers.

National Museum: This historic yet amazing museum sits beautifully in the City Centre of Benin, in the king's square. It stores a rich number of artifacts and other interesting historic instruments.

Other interesting sites include:

Oba's Palace

Ogba Zoo

Okomu National Park

Okonni Wildlife Sanctuary

Joker club and Lounge

The Emotan Statue.

DIARY OF EVENTS

By Juliannah Erin



The Honourable Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, H.E. Amb. Zubairu Dada, received in audience the new Ambassador of Egypt to Nigeria, RE Ihab Moustafa Awad Moustafa. Discussed both bilateral and multilateral issues.



The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Amb. Gabriel T. Aduda, on Wednesday, 27th January 2021, received in audience, the Head of EU Delegation to Nigeria, RE. Amb. Ketil Karlsen, at the meeting.

Aduda applauded the collaboration between Nigeria and the EU in the areas of curbing the COVID-19 pandemic, election management, poverty alleviation, public financial management, among others.



The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Amb. Gabriel Aduda received in audience the Indian High Commissioner to Nigeria, H. E. Abhay Thaku. The cordial bilateral relations between Nigeria and India was well appreciated at the meeting.



The Honourable Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, H.E. Amb. Zubairu Dada, received in audience the Ambassador Designate of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Nigeria, H.E. Faisal Ebraheem Alajrafi Aighamdi, in a meeting and discussed consular related issues affecting Nigerians in Saudi Arabia. The Chairman, Nigerians in Diaspora Commission, Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa was also in attendance.



DIARY OF EVENTS



The Chairman/CEO of Nigerians in Diaspora Commission, Hon Abike while attending the "THINK NIGERIA" DIASPORA SYMPOSIUM with a theme "Engaging the Nigerian Diaspora for inclusive Development organized by the Directorate of Techniacal Cooperation in Africa (DTCA).



The Chairman/CEO of Nigerians in Diaspora Commission, Hon Abike Dabiri-Erewa paid a courtesy visit to the CG of CG Muhammed Babandede (MFR) in his office, to discuss issues relating to Nigerians in the diaspora, visa on arrival and other diaspora matters.



NiDCOM facilitated the return of Omowumi Rhoda, a victim of trafficking who arrived Abuja from Cairo.



The Chairman/CEO NiDOOM, Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa delivering a lecture on Migration, Diaspora and Africa's Development as a Guest speaker in National Defence College (NDC) during its Course 29 in Abuja.



DIARY OF EVENTS



The Chairman/CEO of Nigerians in Diaspora Commission, Hon. Abike Dabiria Erewa receives the UK Deputy High Commissioner Gill Atkinson and Dominic Williams Political Counsellor, British High Commission to discuss some diaspora related issues



THE UNIFIED HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION OF THE WORLD Anthony Joshua retained WORD HEAVYWEIGHT. TITLES with a NINTH ROUND KNOCKOUT win over Kubrat Pulev.



Group photo of the Chairman and Commandant with some delegates from NDC and N1DCOM after the event(Course 29) in Abuja.



The Chairman/CEO of NiDCOM, Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa received in her office the First Honorary Consul of Colombia to Nigeria, Mrs Maricel Romero Cantillo as they discussed collaboration with the diaspora of both countries to deepen cultural and commercial collaborations.

DIARY OF EVENTS

By Khadija Shehu Bamalli

December/January Events.

For us in Nidcom, it was a December to remember as we witnessed Maryam Abdulazeez walk down the aisle. Indeed, happy is the man who finds a true friend, and far happier is he who finds that true friend in his wife. #Mardeen was a pure moment of joy and happiness. We wish the couple a Blessed union.



Photo caption: Nidcom staff at the wedding Nikkah



Gift presentation



Nidcom media ladies



More from the venue

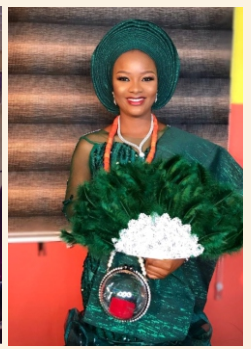




JANUARY DIARY OF EVENTS

#Labkay21

“parte after parte” as we ended last year celebrating so did we step into this year in our dancing shoes as we celebrate Omolabake Omoniyi and her husband Oluwakayode Micheal. Congratulations to the latest couple.

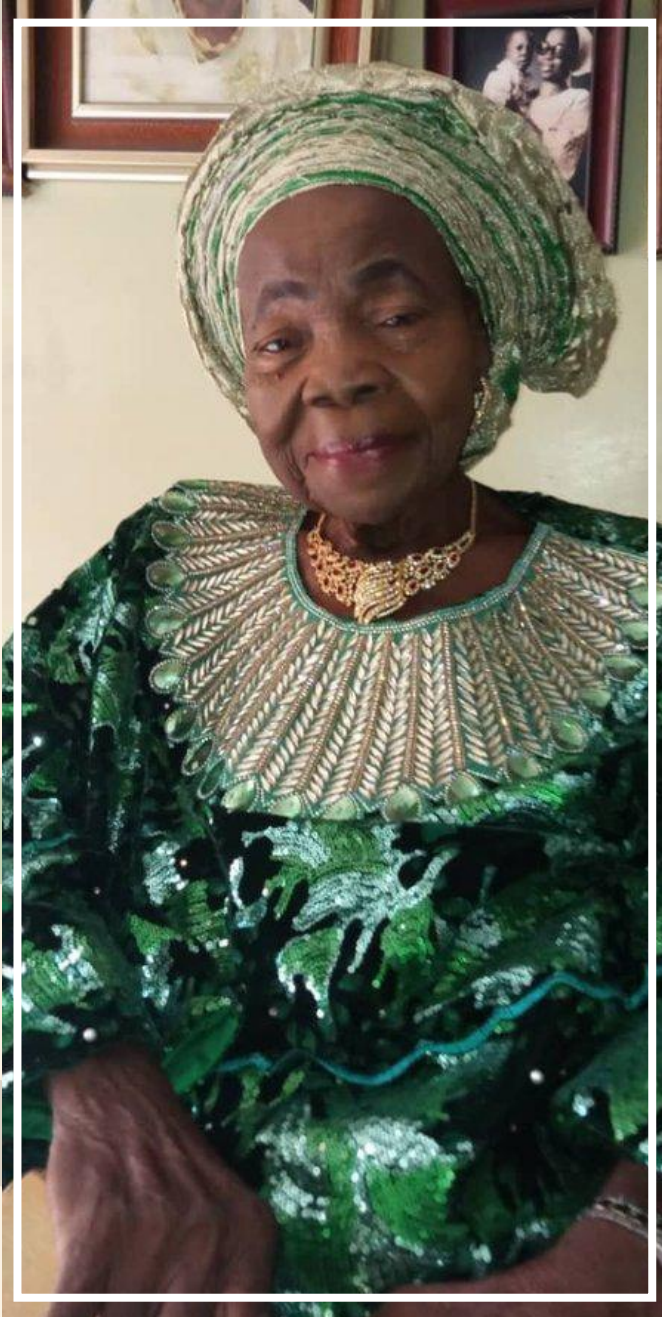


Mr and Mrs Ilori



DIARY OF EVENTS

INNA LILLAHI WA INNA ILLAYHIN RAJI'UN



NIDCOM BOSS LOSES MUM AS PRESIDENT BUHARI, OTHERS MOURNS*

President Muhammadu Buhari has condoled with Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa, the Chairman/CEO, Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM) on the passing on of her mother, Alhaja Sadiat Abeke Erogbogbo. Alhaja Erogbogbo, the matriarch of Erogbogbo dynasty, answered the call of her Creator peacefully on Monday February 1, in her residence in Lagos at the age of 90.

The President in his condolence message sent words of comfort to the Erogbogbo family, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of the departed, who had a sobriquet of a 'Kind Teacher' as a retired teacher and businesswoman in the early part of her life.

Since then, countless condolence messages have been pouring in to the entire family.

On behalf of the entire staff of the Commission as well as the Media Unit, we share in the pains of our beloved Chairman as she and other family members continue to mourn the departed, we pray that Almighty Allah forgives the soul of Mama Erogbogbo and grant her Jannatul Firdaus. May He also comfort all those she left behind.

It is our believe that Mama has died as a martyr, hence our consolation in the words of Allah that : " *And say not to those who have been slain in the Path of Allah that they are dead. Nay, they are alive and receive sustenance by their Master' (Sura 3:169)

NIDCOM'S 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

By Khadija Shehu Bamalli

Visualising the small milestones we are set to achieve this year, in delivering our mandate.

First quarter:

- 3rd Summit of State Diaspora Focal Point Officers
- Passage of National Diaspora Policy by Federal Executive Council

2nd quarter:

- Nigerian Diaspora Investment Trust Fund
- National Diaspora Day Commemoration

3rd quarter:

- Diaspora Housing Fair
- Diaspora Medical Missions

4th quarter:

- Badagary Door of return
- 4th Nigeria Diaspora Investment Summit
- 2nd Nigeria-Saudi Arabi Investment Summit

(Some of the major events of each quarter highlighted)

QUOTABLE QUOTE

"Migration is a natural phenomenon that cannot be stopped . However, managed migration must be encouraged ,for positive impact on the migrant , the country of origin and the host country."

-Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa

FG EVACUATES OVER 1000 STRANDED NIGERIANS IN SAUDI ARABIA BACK HOME

By Khadija Shehu Bamalli

No fewer than 1000 stranded Nigerians were evacuated from Saudi Arabia by the Federal Government. The first batch of the returnees consisted of a total number of 384 persons including Males, Females and an infant. They arrived Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja via Saudi Air flight B773. The second batch which arrived a day after, consisted of 424 Nigerians. They were also at Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja and landed via Saudi Air Flight.

The third batch consisted of a total 420 stranded Nigerians, of which 27 were children and 393 adults. All returnees were received accordingly by a combined team of Senior Government officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Presidential Task Force on COVID-19, NCDC and other relevant agencies.

Speaking to the evacuees while receiving them, Amb. Bolaji Akinremi, Director, Consular and Legal Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, urged them to cooperate with the Government as provisions have been made for their basic needs during the mandatory 14 days isolation in line with COVID-19 protocol.

All returnees were quarantined at the Federal Capital Territory Hajj camp for 14 days in line with the reversed COVID-19 protocols by the Presidential Task Force on Covid-19.



DIASPORA ICONS OF THE MONTH

By Khadija Shehu Bamalli



Jessica O. Matthews is a Nigerian-American inventor, CEO and venture capitalist. She is the co-founder of Uncharted Power, known for its invention of Soccket, a soccer ball that can be used as a power generator. Matthews is an alumna of the Harvard College and Harvard Business School.

Born on February 13, 1988 to a family of six, Matthews grew up in Poughkeepsie, New York. She is a dual citizen of the United States and Nigeria. In 2008 while in Junior college, Jessica and her classmate Julia Silvermann, invented the Soccket for an engineering class assignment. Matthew's inspiration was drawn from a trip to her Aunt's wedding to Nigeria. According to her, electricity was out and diesel generators were utilised through out.

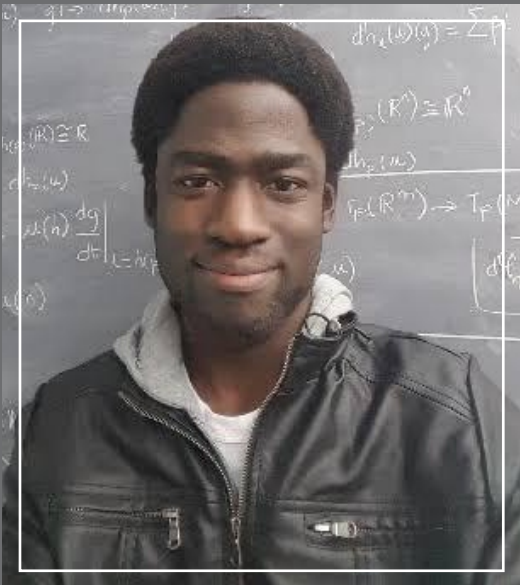
She realised the health implications the fumes will cause and was inspired her to create Soccket. Matthews and Silver mann founded Uncharted Power to develop Soccket, with Matthews as CEO. The device works on a 30-min play of the soccer ball-like gadget, which stores kinetic energy that could power small attachable LED light for three hours.

Jessica Matthews has showcased her creation at the 2010 Clinton Global Initiative University and on President Barack Obama's 2013 trip to Tanzania.

The Soccket CEO has received many recognitions such as:

- ✦ 2011 Fortune list of "10 Most Powerful Women Entrepreneurs"
- ✦ 2012 Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations "Scientist of the Year."
- ✦ Innovator of the Year by Black Enterprise in 2013
- ✦ Forbes' list, 30 under 30 in 2014
- ✦ 2015 list of "Most Promising Women Entrepreneurs".
- ✦ Inc.'s 30 under 30 in 2016
- ✦ One Young World Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2020

PROUDLY NIGERIAN.



An amazing young Nigerian, Ekiti state indigene, is making waves as WEST AFRICA'S YOUNGEST PHD HOLDER. Wonderful! He is no other than Dr. Olaoluwa Hallowed Oluwadara who had his Ph.D., at the age of 24, in Mathematics, making him the youngest West African with a doctorate degree. He graduated from the University of Lagos, Akoka, as the Best Graduating Ph.D. holder in 2013, has two first (First Class) degrees and Master's degrees, in Mathematics and Physics which were run simultaneously, at the University of Bangui, Central African Republic.

Olaoluwa Hallowed Oluwadara won the University of Bangui's All-Time Best Student Award from the Department of Mathematics (B.Sc), Best B.Sc Student Award in Physics, 2007, an Best M.Sc Awards in Physics and Mathematics respectively in 2008. He is currently a

postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University and his research has shifted to the more theoretical study of quantum ergodicity in mathematical physics which ultimately applies to optimisation of various systems in computer science, thermodynamics, optics, etc. **PROUDLY NIGERIAN**



Dr Kolawole Samuel Adeyemo is a researcher in the field of International and comparative studies, in higher education. He is a senior lecturer in the Department of Education Management and Policy Studies at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. He has a Ph.D. in Educational Management from Cavite State University, the Philippines in 2011 and completed his Vice-Chancellor's year Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Pretoria from 2012-2014.

In 2020, He developed an education technology innovation idea called "Kadagg". This technology aims to restore the integrity of academic records in the Nigerian education system. Kadagg is an acronym for "Kola Adeyemo Education Goals For Nigeria". Kadagg platform and App will ensure accessibility, traceability, and

authenticity of student academic records in Nigeria. This education innovation will be launched at the beginning of the year 2022. As a scholar, the objective of his research in Southeast Asia and Africa is to highlight nations' capacity to address issues of social justice and to generate ideas that can help translate the increasing strengths of the regions into sustainable development in higher education. He has received an international grant award from Coimbra Group Universities Belgium in the category: "Scholarship for Young African Researcher in 2013. Likewise, he received the Best Researcher Award in 2017 at the University of Pretoria's Faculty of Education as the researcher with the highest number of research outputs in the Faculty during the period of 2015-2017. **PROUDLY NIGERIAN**



A former Lieutenant Colonel and commander in the US Air Force, Uchenna L. Umeh (Dr. Lulu aka The Momatrician) is a Nigerian-born board-certified pediatrician, global speaker on youth suicide prevention, 3-time bestselling author, life coach and mother of three. She is the CEO of Teen Alive, and Dr. Lulu's Youth Health Center, both dedicated to at-risk youth and youth suicide prevention.

She started speaking publicly in 2018 following suicides of colleagues, and a patient. Herself, a survivor of various personal traumas, a depressive crisis and suicidality, she is now dedicating her life and her work to suicide prevention both in her young patients and in her fellow physicians.

As a life coach, she focuses on suicide prevention particularly amongst the LGBTQ+ youth, and partners with their parents and caregivers, helping them accept, protect, nurture and support their children, so they can thrive, flourish and live their lives without judgement or limitations.

A regular on media outlets, she is a 2020 TEDxAlief speaker, has her own shows on YouTube and Facebook, and freelance-writes for magazines. Her podcast, Suicide Pages with Dr. Lulu focuses on suicide prevention through the eyes of attempt survivors, loss survivors, experts, and her guests' personal experiences. She blogs at Words by Black Butterfly.

Her work has been recognized by the "Nigerians in the Diaspora Commission" of Nigeria, and the Texas State House of Representatives. She has been featured multiple times on prime time television in San Antonio, The Washington Post, Parents Magazine, and has been interviewed by The History Channel, to name a few. **PROUDLY NIGERIAN**

Social Media Platforms: [Facebook and Instagram](#)

Twitter: [@uchennaumeh9](#)

LinkedIn: [drlulu](#)

DABIRI-EREWA: MIGRATION IS A NATURAL PHENOMENON

Deborah Anaelechi

It was a day packed with mind-stimulating takeaways as the National Defence College (NDC) organised its Course 29 in Abuja. Speaking to participants, as the guest lecturer, on “Migration, Diaspora and Africa’s Development”,

Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa, Chairman/CEO Nigerians in Diaspora Commission, (NiDCOM), described migration as a natural phenomenon that cannot be stopped. However, she asserted that managed migration must be encouraged, for positive impact on the migrants, the country of origin and the host country.

The NiDCOM Boss maintained that the Diaspora phenomena is the outcome of legitimate migration, hence the push for a regular (legal) migration as opposed to irregular (illegal) migration. Dabiri-Erewa stated, in her address that, Nigeria is now experiencing the ‘feminisation of migration’, a situation where more women are getting involved than men in labour migration. She said that the Nigerians in Diaspora Commission is in high level talks with countries, especially in Europe, to mainstream migration issues thereby resulting to a win-win position for both destination and departure countries.

The Chairman of the Commission stated that key drivers of migration include: security, economic, environmental, socio-political and other pull and push factors.

On Nigeria Diaspora population, Dabiri-Erewa said that an estimated 17 million Nigerians are scattered all over the world accomplishing excellent feats in medicine, health, technology and innovation, education, economy and many others both to their host countries and country of origin. In 2019 alone, Nigerians in Diaspora remitted about \$25 billion dollars to shore up the economy.

She added that the Commission is ever ready to act as a bridge between Nigeria and its Diasporas to harness the abundant human capital, skills and



talents to build a formidable nation. The NiDCOM Boss also gave assurances that the Commission has its contact desks in International and Governmental agencies to liaise and speed up intervention processes.

Meanwhile, the Commandant of the National Defence College, Rear Admiral Makanju Mackson Kadiri, Gss, commended President Muhammadu Buhari for the wisdom in establishing NiDCOM, to cater for the needs of millions of Nigerians in the Diaspora.

The Commandant and participants also commended the NiDCOM CEO for her passion, dedication and commitment to duty and promised that the National Defence College will always be one of the frontier supporters of the Commission and its objectives.



Group photo of the Chairman and Commandant with some delegates from NDC and NiDCOM after the event (Course 29) in Abuja.

ADVERT RATES FOR DIASPORA NEWSLETTER

The Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM) has repackaged its Monthly Diaspora Newsletter with juicy and far reaching news for and from our Nigerians in the Diaspora. The Newsletter when produced is distributed far and wide to all our stakeholders both within and outside the country through the E-Copy and in colour printed version.

We are therefore pleased to invite you to be one of our sponsors by showcasing your adverts or products at the minimal subsidised amount by the Commission.

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Yours Sincerely,



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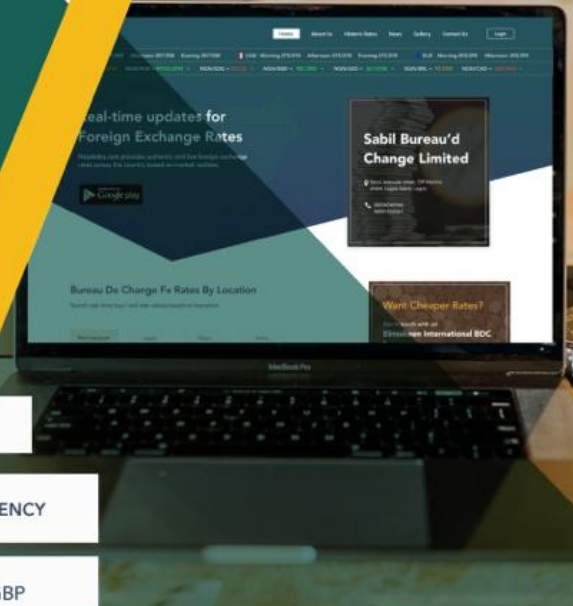
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DATE	MORNING	MIDDAY	EVENING	CURRENCY
17 June 2020	774/400	774/400	774/400	🇬🇧 GBP
17 June 2020	465 /468	466 /468.5	467 /469	🇺🇸 USD
17 June 2020	465 /468	466 /468.5	467 /469	🇪🇺 EURO



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