XXXIX GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REMARKS FROM
THE HEAD OF DELEGATION OF
THE PERMANENT OBSERVER COUNTRY OF

NIGERIA

JUNE 1, 2009
Intervention by Mr. Onyeabo E. Chuckwukeme, Head of Nigeria’s Permanent Observer Delegation to the XXXIX General Assembly of the Organization of American States

Chairman, 39th General Assembly of OAS, Your Excellencies, Heads of Official Delegations, Heads of Permanent Observer Delegations, Distinguished Ladies & Gentlemen

On behalf of Nigeria, I would like to join previous speakers in expressing sympathy to the government/people of Honduras and families of victims of the earthquake that occurred last week in Honduras. The same sentiments go to governments of France, Brazil and other states whose nationals were affected in the sad air mishap involving Air France flight 447 in the early hours of yesterday, 31 May.

We pay tribute to OAS member states, and the government and people of Honduras for the successful hosting of the 39th Session of OAS General Assembly.

This delegation would further like to thank in particular the government of Honduras for its hospitality and for the excellent facilities placed at our disposal since our arrival in this beautiful and picturesque city of San Pedro Sula. We commend the OAS Secretariat for the efficiency that has characterized its logistic support to this delegation since the early stages of the preparation for this august Assembly.

Permit me Mr. Chairman to also convey the felicitations of the government and people of Nigeria to the government and people of El Salvador following the inauguration of the country’s incumbent President, H.E. Mauricio Funes.

Nigeria has always enjoyed very cordial and friendly relations with respective member states of OAS. As a member of the Africa Union (AU), Nigeria has encouraged, supported and will continue to support the growing inter-organisational collaboration between the AU and the OAS in the political, economic and social fields as well as, perhaps in the foreseeable future: the cultural field.
More recently, there have been consultations between the two regional organizations in areas of mutual interest, including promotion of democracy, promotion and protection of human rights as well as economic and social development. Nigeria fully identifies with these initiatives to address the challenges that face our countries, regions and the global community: the environment, conflict and insurgency, illicit trade in narcotics and drug abuse, hunger, poverty and disease, sharing experiences, perspectives and best practices.

Nigeria will continue to work together with individual OAS member countries and within the umbrella of the AU to support the collaborative endeavours of our two regional organizations, the AU and OAS to address our common challenges and improve the human condition: peace and security, sustainable human development, good governance and prosperity.

As I conclude, Mr. Chairman, may I on behalf of the Nigerian delegation convey to this august Assembly our very best wishes for happy, successful and fruitful deliberations.

I thank you.
Note No.: 056/2009

The Permanent Observer Mission of Nigeria to the C presents its compliments to the Organisation of Ameri States, Department of International Affairs, and with refer to the OAS communication of 12 June, 2009 relating to remarks by the Head of the Nigerian delegation and Alter Permanent Observer of Nigeria to OAS, Mr. Onyeabo Chukwukeme, at the recently concluded 39th Gen Assembly of the OAS in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, has honour to forward herewith the relevant statement.

The Permanent Observer Mission of Nigeria to the C avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the C Department of International Affairs, the assurances of highest consideration.

Washington, DC, 16 June, 20

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