

**MEETING BETWEEN DR. DALHATU SARKI TAFIDA,
OFR, HIGH COMMISSIONER OF NIGERIA TO THE
UNITED KINGDOM AND MRS. OLUREMI OYO, OON,
MANAGING DIRECTOR, NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA
(NAN) ON FRIDAY, 14TH AUGUST, 2009.**

Dr. Tafida, OFR, High Commissioner of Nigeria to the United Kingdom, on Friday, 14th August, 2009 received in audience Mrs. Oluremi Oyo, OON, Managing Director, News Agency of Nigeria. The arrival of Mrs. Oyo was followed by a rich exchange of pleasantries during which she disclosed that she was on a working visit to United Kingdom.

Thereafter, Mrs. Oyo informed the High Commissioner that she was in the High Commission to pay him a courtesy call, as well as to further intimate him of the decision of the Board of Directors of the Agency Nigeria to re-open its shut London office. She expressed preference for a two room flat, which could be used as office and accommodation, respectively. She also used the occasion to brief Dr. Tafida on the re-positioning of the Agency since she took over as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer. She described the News Agency of Nigeria under her leadership as a unique, credible and non-controversial organisation, as well as always putting Nigeria first. She requested the High Commission, to join some other Nigerian Missions who are formally subscribing to the News Agency of Nigeria. She stated that the monthly subscription fee was two hundred and fifty dollars (US\$250.00).

Responding Dr. Tafida first, welcomed Mrs. Oyo, expressing satisfaction with her work in the News Agency since her appointment as the Managing Director. In demonstration of this, he hinted that his Mission could subscribe to the News Agency for a year, but at a concessionary or reduced rate.

Second, Dr. Tafida pledged his full support for the Agency's decision to re-open the shut down London office. He advised Mrs. Oyo to formally contact the High Commission when her Agency was financially ready. Third, he stated that he looked forward to broader and closer working relationship with the News Agency of Nigeria.

Reacting, Mrs. Oyo again hinted that a two bed room flat in London would be sufficient for the modest needs of the Agency and that she would surely revert to the High Commissioner when the budgetary processes for the new office had been completed. She agreed on behalf of the Agency to accord the Nigeria High Commission, London, a concessionary rate, if it subscribed for a year. She re-iterated the interest of her Agency to forge a new working relationship with the High Commission and urged the Mission to file stories and news to the organisation, using the e-mail accounts she had given out.

Before the meeting came to an end, the Special Assistant to the High Commissioner advised the visiting Chief Executive of the News Agency of Nigeria on the need for whoever was eventually sent to represent the Agency in the United Kingdom to be issued a Working Visa instead of a Visitor's Visa.

On this note the meeting ended with more exchange of pleasantries and group photographs.

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