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## PRESS RELEASE | NIDO EUROPE APPLAUDS DIASPORA APPOINTMENTS TO NEW POSITIONS IN NIGERIA

Describing as “encouraging new trend” the Board of Trustees of Nigerians in Diaspora Organisation (NIDO) Europe has praised the appointment of three of its notable members to public sector positions in the Nigerian economy within the past several months. The appointments include those of:

- Stephania Alofuokhai-Ghogomu: Development Officer, Federal University Otuoke. Stephania is the Berlin-based Director of Media and Public Relations of the organisation.
- Lola Visser-Mabogunje: Senior Technical Adviser, Ministry of Trade and Investment. Lola the immediate past Director of European Union Affairs was based in The Netherlands.
- Kayode Ogunsola: General Manager, Investment and Business Development, Ministry of Aviation. London-based Kayode was the immediate past Chapter Chairman of NIDOE UK South.

The appointees shine as another great example of how the Nigerian Diaspora is ever ready to contribute positively to the accelerated development of Nigeria.

Moreover, these and several other appointments, for example, those of Vice-Chancellors of three of the nine new federal universities from the Diaspora, reflect the Federal Government’s strong commitment to tapping into the rich resources of Diaspora Nigerians by actively engaging them “in pursuance of national development.” Strong support of Diaspora Nigerians is crucial to renewing Nigeria’s scientific workforce and ensuring her future advancement in discovery and innovation.

While wishing the new appointees wisdom, knowledge and understanding in carrying out their assignments successfully, the Nigerian Diaspora in Europe thank President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan and his entire administration for their recognition of the endowment inherent in the Nigerian Diaspora “While we continue to welcome high level appointments in the capacity of Ministers, Directorship / Chairmanship of MDAs, we encourage this new trend of middle-cadre appointments from the abundant reservoir of human capital in the Diaspora. There can’t be a better way of reversing the brain-drain which our dear country had suffered in the 1980s and the 1990s to brain-gain, which is very much needed to grow our economy” affirmed Hon. Collins Nweke, Chairman Nigerians in Diaspora Organisation Europe.

For further enquiries or an interview please contact the Media & Public Relations Director.

(signed)

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## WHO WE ARE

Nigerians in Diaspora Organization (NIDO) Europe is the European arm of a global Nigerian Diaspora network. Established in the year 2000 and registered in England and Wales in 2002 under the Companies Act, the organization's Headquarters is in London from where it serves its 19 Regional Chapters in 18 European Countries.

Membership of the organization is open to all Nigerians, 18 years and above and resident in Europe. Corporate membership is open to all Nigerian professional and community organizations in Europe.

NIDOE provides an umbrella to all Nigerians in Europe. In concert with the other continental arms of NIDO in the Americas, Asia and Africa, the organization is the largest assembly of Nigerians worldwide.

The Government of Nigeria recognizes the organization as the official platform through which individual Nigerian Diaspora and corporate bodies can channel their developmental efforts to Nigeria. In this sense, the organization partners with both public and private businesses in focused areas such as Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), professional networking, stakeholder advocacy and skills transfer to Nigeria.

## STRUCTURE

The highest organ of NIDOE is the General Assembly made up of members across Europe. The Organization is governed by its Board of Trustees (BoT), who are fit, proper and accomplished individuals drawn from its membership and representing diverse professions. The 19 Regional Chapters are governed by Chapter Executives headed by a Chapter Chairperson. The BoT and Chapter Representatives meet yearly at a Summit to review policy and chart new directions for the organization. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) holds on yearly basis. The organization has an Advisory Board with a mandate to provide advice and counseling to the organization through the Board of Trustees.