

Executive Summary of Mr. Governor's speech

Mr Governor Highlighted some of his request to the then President of the country Obasanjo Obansanjo during his tenure as the chief Economic Adviser as follows:

1. Government to deliberately create fifty companies that would be bigger than Dangote's own as there was no private sector lead government business; Also to strategize to create export friendly environment by embracing peace and churn war so as to conserve the scarce resources for developmental purposes.

This led to the establishment Trans National Corporation that was large enough with major shareholders Nigerian.

2. To create empowerment to private businesses which was granted through the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) program.

He equally mentioned his achievements and contributions in the banking sectors in Nigeria. He said moving into banking sector made him realize that the major problem in that sector was;

1. Having no capacity to form / build the private sector, that all of the banks put together in Nigeria were not up to number top four banks in South Africa as at 2004, then he began with consolidation of banks and success was achieved. He mentioned about single Oblique limit in banks, which means Maximum Bank can give to one single borrower, and equally talked about networking/ internet businesses in the world of buying and selling.

Having achieved all these in national level, he assured the participants that he had come down to Anambra State to do same; he promised that the meeting was just the first of many more, because the world of buying and selling is changing and executing those plans requires enough lands in Anambra State, knowing fully well that Anambra State had the smallest landmark after Lagos. Erosion and flooding taking most of our lands.

He maintained that industrialization, leisure and entertainment would become shining light in the state if all plans should be put in place because Anambra state is strategically located with boundaries through Kogi, South-South and even South-West through Delta with three south East State and Riverport in Onitsha.

He informed the meeting that the state government was setting up an Export Processing Zone in Ukpou and Ukwulu, where they have acquired One Hundred and Six hectares of land, that will be central place for export, then having agreement with the EEDC and working with them on constant power supply and access of megawatts of electricity.

Working on modalities to establish Anambra Development Bank that will help facilitate all that would be needed in Anambra state.

Looking into some of unfinished business in Nnewi where people described as Japan of Africa in the late 70's and 80's.

Building of industrial parks in the major cities for investors.

Access to good road network, provision of security and capitals for the investors and manufacturers (Describing Anambra as land of prosperity)

He pledges full support for manufacturers and investors ready to partner with the government of Anambra state with some incentives and grant.

He finally told the participants that the primary concern of his government is wealth creation, bringing in what our people manufactured outside Anambra state to our homeland and finally described the event as the new axis of prosperity in Anambra state. I enjoined the participants to confidently air their views on industrializing the state, standardization of Made in Anambra products and services, and operating a seamless export oriented economy.

OTHER REMARKS

Chief Dozie Chukwudolue of Dozy Oil and Gas Ltd shared his experience on how he made it both national and international. He encourages others to wake up and grab many opportunities facing them.

Kalu Ferdinard thanked Mr. Governor enthusiastically, and informed the meeting that he had long expected such a meeting to be convened in the state. He said he was very supportive of the vision outlined by the Governor and encouraged everyone to key in. He also raised the issue of security in the state and how it was been tackled by the Government. He also opined that the Government should look into the dredging of River Niger to minimize flooding and promote trade.

Chief Victor Ejiofor also contributed to the conversation citing erratic power supply as one of the major challenges of industries in the state. He also enquired from Mr. Governor when the Onitsha Inland Port will be fully operational as it would boost the export activities of the state.

Ada Ikebuilo of Curtix Cable, in her contribution said Curtix Cable intends to integrate into mining and processing of some commodities and minerals that they currently import, and would need Government grant or investment in exchange for equity in the business. She also mentioned access to FX and other infrastructure like provision of power, roads etc to enable proper industrialization and better competitive advantage. She also called for the monitoring and proper implementation of tax laws to mitigate multiple taxation.

Chinwuba Arinze of Kenarch Agro Ventures, his contribution asked for Government support micro business ventures that are already operating and have passion for processing and exportation. He lauded Mr. Governor's vision and expressed his optimism that with the interactive meeting today that businesses of this cadre will be encouraged and supported to scale up. He further decried the non-existence of a cashew processing plant in the state despite having comparative advantage in that product, he implored the government to support his company and its partners to establish one.

Ibe Nzubechukwu said the meeting has been a mind blowing experience for him and many others, and asked for more engagement programs that will help change the orientation of the populace towards business.

Ezenekwe Chikaodili of Kodex Concepts Ltd, raised the issue of how government can assist local business men to form partnership locally or with their foreign partners to establish industries in the state.

Emesiegbu Obumneme of Elevated B Services Ltd, in his submission said that the lack of materials and space has been a constraint for many small scale manufacturers, he urged government to intervene in