

MINUTES OF THE STAKEHOLDERS INTERACTIVE MEETING, TRANSITION FROM IMPORT TO INDUSTRIALIZATION FOR EXPORT, HELD ON 1ST SEPTEMBER 2023, HOSTED BY PROF. CHARLES CHUKWUMA SOLUDO (CFR), GOVERNOR, ANAMBRA STATE.

Physical Attendance:

The Executive Governor of Anambra State, Chief of Staff to the Governor, Chief of Protocol, Commissioner for Industry, Commissioner for Budget and Economic Planning, Special Adviser Business Innovation, Commissioner for Agriculture, Commissioner for Lands, Perm Sec Ministry of Industry, Perm Secretary Ministry of Agriculture, MD/CEO ANAMBRA ICT Agency, Departments and Agencies, members of the State Export Promotion Council, the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN), the State Traders Association, Major Importers from the various markets across the state, National Export Promotion Council, Exporters, Industrialists, Logistics and Shipping Companies, Representatives from Ministries, Departments and Agencies among others.

DATE: 1st September, 2023

TIME: 12pm

Venue: International Conference Center (ICC) Awka, Anambra State

OPENING REMARKS

1. The meeting commenced by 1pm on arrival of the Governor of Anambra State, Prof. Charles Chukwuma Soludo (CFR)
2. Opening prayer was said by the Hon. Chinedu Ezekwike (Akwaeke) Caretaker Committee Chairman (PG) Bridge Head Market Onitsha.
3. In the opening remarks, the Commissioner for Industry, Mr Udechukwu Christian welcomed all the participants and briefly highlighted on the theme and purpose of the interactive meeting Transitioning from Import to Industrialization for Export. He said that the project was a mindset reengineering program and very innovative for Anambrians. It was designed to form a lasting partnership between business men and Government and expressed his joy at the level of interest shown by those who participated.
4. The Government of Anambra State, Prof Charles Chukwuma Soludo (CFR) then welcomed all the participants, recounted his past achievements with former president of Nigeria, Mr Olusegun Obasanjo, as Chief Executive of National Planning Commission. He informed the participants that his vision and passion as Governor was to replicate his ideas at a macro scale in the state, and transform Anambra State into one of the greatest economies in the world. This will be driven by the massive and strategic industrialization of the state, building of capacity for existing and prospective industries so that the state will no longer be acclaimed as just a frontline commercial city, but one of the biggest manufacturing and export hubs in the world. According to Mr. Governor, Anambra State Government is ready to support business men and importers with both land, logistics, technical support and funding to harness the huge export potentials of the state and to manufacture here in Anambra a huge quota of the products they currently import from other countries. He said the meeting was to strategize with the stakeholders, formulate export strategies, incentives and policy thrust that would reposition the state.

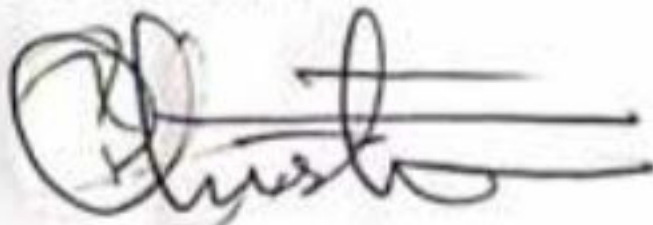
- Chinedum Udeagwuna in his submission asked Mr. Governor to declare state of emergency on rural roads as a booster towards siting industries and markets in our rural communities.

Some participants that asked questions were Ofiafuluagu Jasper, Dr Onyinye Okpah from Denka Services, Okwdill Obiefuna and many others. Their questions were centered on;

1. Infrastructural facilities
2. Insecurity in Anambra state
3. Provision of funds.
4. Easy access of C of O (Certificate of Occupancy)
5. Building of seaport and utilization of Anambra Passengers and Cargo Airport in Aguleri
6. Giving incentives and grants
7. Installation of streetlights and CCTV in many areas
8. Decentralization of offices for easy registration
9. Support on Agricultural produce
10. Stop of abuses on the side of police and military force in Nigeria

Prof Soludo addressed all these issues raised and encouraged everyone on their efforts to move Anambra State forward. He summarized all by saying 'Nje na abo ga-eri' maybe meaning 'coming together like this again will yield result. It was agreed the outcome of the deliberations held today will be used as a working document to develop an Export Strategy, guidelines, incentives and other policies that will help drive exports and ensure that players and intending players in the sector have all the support the need to boost productivity, quality and other export related activities.

Vote of thanks was given by the Commissioner for Industry, Mr. Christian Udechukwu at the end of the event.



Mr. Christian C. Udechukwu
Mr. Commissioner for Industry



Happiness Azali