



7TH NATIONAL COUNCIL ON HYDROCARBONS

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

**ISSUED AT THE 7TH NATIONAL COUNCIL ON
HYDROCARBONS HELD ON THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER,
2022 AT JUSTICE IDRIS KUTIGI LEGBO INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE CENTRE, MINNA, NIGER STATE**

NOVEMBER 2022



**SEVENTH (7TH) MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON
HYDROCARBONS (NCH)
HELD AT JUSTICE IDRIS LEGBO KUTIGI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
CENTRE, MINNA, NIGER STATE FROM TUESDAY 22ND TO THURSDAY
24TH NOVEMBER 2022**

COMMUNIQUE

The **Seventh (7th) Meeting** of the **National Council on Hydrocarbons (NCH)**, a consultative and advisory body of Governments on Hydrocarbons matters met in Minna, Niger State from Tuesday 22nd to Thursday 24th November, 2022 under the Chairmanship of the **Honourable Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, Timipre Sylva**. The meeting was attended by the Executive Governor of Niger State ably represented by the Secretary to the State Government, State Commissioners for Petroleum Resources/Mines & Natural Resources, Heads of Federal and States Departments/Agencies, Representatives of Security Services and Tertiary Institutions. Also present were officials from the Ministry of Petroleum Resources, officials from International Oil Companies, Representatives of Labour Unions, Members of Youth Groups in the Oil Producing States, Host Community Groups, Professional Bodies and Associations, Media Houses, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and other relevant stakeholders.

2. The theme of the meeting was **“Roadmap and Strategic Policy Option Towards Achieving Energy Transition in Nigeria”**. The Council meeting was preceded by a two-day Technical Session of Officials, Directors, Experts and Stakeholders in charge of Hydrocarbons matters.

3. The welcome address was delivered by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum Resources and the key keynote address by the Honourable Minister of State for Petroleum Resources ably represented by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum Resources, Amb. Gabriel Aduda. The meeting was declared open by His Excellency, Alhaji Abubakar Sani Bello, Executive Governor of Niger State represented by Secretary to the State Government. Goodwill messages were delivered by the Speaker, Niger State House of Assembly, Chief of Naval Staff as Etsu of Nupe and Chairman, Niger State Traditional Council.

4. After the opening formalities, Council in plenary received and adopted the Report of the Meeting of Officials on thirty-four (34) memoranda on the various hydrocarbons matters out of which 7 were stepped down and 4 memos were advised to redirect to relevant agencies. Arising from its deliberations and discussions, Council:

- i. advised Ministry of Petroleum Resources (MPR) to urge the Nigeria Regulatory Nuclear Agency (NNRA) and the National Institute of Radiation Protection Authority and Research to establish zonal offices and also Partner with the Niger state`s Ministry of Mineral Resources in the areas of nuclear and radiological safety, security as well to prohibit the disposal of radioactive waste without authorization;
- ii. urged the Ministry of Petroleum Resources to synergize with States` Ministry of Mineral Resources for establishment of database;
- iii. recommended that the Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited partner with the Federal Ministry of Transportation, Niger State Government, Tankers Association of Nigeria and the African Bank of Industry to finance the establishment of trailer Parks in Tafa, Suleja, Mokwa, Bida, Lambata, Jebba, Teginia, and Minna areas of Niger and other States of the Federation;
- iv. encouraged the Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPC L) to synergize with relevant Private Sector Stakeholders to develop a framework for establishment of gas terminal stations for immediate and long-term supply solutions in Niger State and other parts of the Country;
- v. urged relevant Agencies to formulate policies that will encourage expansion of investment in gas infrastructure for speedy improvement on existing gas infrastructure in Nigeria;
- vi. encouraged MDAs to implement the initiatives that have been developed by the NAC-AfCFTA for the Oil and Gas sector;
- vii. applauded the Federal Government establishing a Gas Infrastructure Development Fund which will foster local capacity for financing of Oil & Gas Infrastructure Projects;
- viii. encouraged Ministry of Petroleum Resources to sensitize the host communities and rural dwellers on gas safety;

- ix. supported the drive of the Ministry of Petroleum Resources in collaboration with the Authority (NMDPRA) to achieve effective and safe haulage of petroleum products;
- x. recommended that reasonable reserves of Natural Gas be secured for the strategic use of the Metallurgical Industry (1.2million SCF per year);
- xi. requested Ministry of Petroleum Resources to collaborate with the Ministry of Mines and Steel Development on research into the usability of Petroleum Coke for Metallurgical Process in place of scarce Metallurgical Coke which is adjudged cleaner;
- xii. advised relevant Government Agencies to note the need for funding the Upstream Gas Exploration & Production as a transition fuel in Nigeria;
- xiii. encouraged concerned institutions to develop and enforce market-driven strategies to ensure gas availability and affordability for domestic and commercial use;
- xiv. advised Ministry of Petroleum Resources to consider the Establishment of Zonal Offices in six Geo-Political Zones to promote industry value chain development;
- xv. advised the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to guarantee a window aimed at easing Foreign Exchange sourcing for importers of LPG and at a rate that would enhance reduction in its price;
- xvi. advised Policy Makers to encourage robust Gas Utilization Growth through combination of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) cost efficiency, Pricing and Promotion in the Nigerian market;
- xvii. encouraged the establishment of modular gas refining facilities which in the long-run would help the Country in saving its limited foreign currency and also create jobs for the youths; and
- xviii. recommended to the Nigerian Midstream & Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA) and other relevant Agencies of Government should endeavor to fast-track license issuance processes to applicants where all relevant conditionality are satisfied;
- xix. Noted the effort of NESREA using regulations and guidelines to achieve transition to cleaner energy; and
- xx. Finally, the Council noted the contribution of the Armed Forces especially the Nigerian Navy to the safety and security of pipelines and oil installations.

5. Council commended the Government and the good people of Niger State for the hospitality extended to the delegates, the excellent arrangements made and the facilities deployed to ensure the success of the 7th Meeting of Council.

**Issued in Minna, Niger State
This Thursday 24th Day of November, 2022.**