We, members of the Nigeria Governors’ Forum (NGF), at our meeting held today, March 23 2022 deliberated on several issues of national importance, and resolved as follows:

1. The Governor of Ekiti State and Chairman of the Forum, His Excellency Kayode Fayemi briefed members on the Resolutions of the two-day Multi-stakeholder Summit of the NGF Peace and Inclusive Security Initiative which held on the 10th of March 2022. The Forum remains concerned about the impact of the state of insecurity on citizens’ safety, means of livelihood and the exercise of the rights of Nigerians, particularly the right to life, right to movement, and ultimately the country’s socio-economic development. The Forum will consequently see that all States design and operationalize an action plan to strengthen inter-ministerial coordination on peace and security, including the establishment of peace building agencies and a multi-level policing framework to combat the threat of insecurity in the country.

2. The Forum received an update on the implementation of the World Bank Nigeria COVID-19 Action Recovery and Economic Stimulus (NG-CARES) programme – an emergency programme to support state-level response to and recovery from the COVID-induced socioeconomic crisis – from the Task Team Leader for the World Bank programme, Prof. Foluso Okunmadewa, in the company of the World Bank Country Director for Nigeria, Shubham Chaudhuri. Governors in response conveyed their commitment to secure and increase budget provisions that target the economic and social shocks in their states including social transfers, basic services, and livelihood support to poor and vulnerable households; food security and safe functioning of food supply chains; and the recovery of micro and small business enterprises.

3. Following a briefing by Hon. Dr Osagie Emmanuel Ehanire, Minister of Health, on the federal government’s plan to develop 100 oxygen generation plants and rehabilitate general hospitals in order to guarantee access to oxygen in all primary healthcare centres (PHCs) in the country, members of the Forum resolved to interface with the Federal Ministry of Health to ensure oxygen sufficiency for all PHCs in the country.

4. On the implementation of the States’ Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability (SFTAS) programme a presentation by Mr. Olanrewaju Ajogbasile, Senior Programme Manager of the NGF HelpDesk, dwelt specifically on the progress made by State governments on the
deployment of e-procurement and contract award publication using the Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS) format, the Forum resolved to deepen its current collaboration with Ernst & Young (EY) and the World Bank to strengthen the procurement plans and transaction implementation strategies of State governments. 32 States are already transitioning or implementing e-procurement systems in at least four (4) ministries (including the State ministries of health, education, and public works).

5. Members received a briefing on the Nigerian Economy: New Perspectives, from Dr. Doyin Salami, Chief Economic Adviser to Mr. President, after which a consensus was reached to intensify economic diversification and food security initiatives including support for large scale all-season commercial farming; strengthening fiscal sustainability by crowding in private investment; promoting the development of regional corridors and infrastructure plans; as well as curtailing the uncertainty associated with the oil and gas industry.

6. Following a briefing by the Group Managing Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Mr. Mele Kyari, which highlighted the impact of the heightened spate of crude oil theft and losses in the Niger Delta, State Governors commended the role played by one of their own, the Governor of Rivers State, His Excellency Nyesom Wike in tackling the spate of oil bunkering in the Niger Delta and pledged to the NNPC in the region as well as security agencies in the country to protect the country’s oil infrastructure and investments as well as the ecosystem of the Niger Delta.

7. Finally, the Forum resolved to take part in the two-day Primary Health Care Summit 2022 holding from the 24th – 25th of March 2022 in Abuja. The event which is organised by the Federal Ministry of Health in collaboration with the National Primary Health Care Development Agency, is expected to launch a new programme to transform primary health care delivery in Nigeria.

Governor Kayode Fayemi  
Chairman, Nigeria Governors’ Forum  
3rd March 2022