

**COMMUNIQUE AT THE END OF JOINT MEETING OF  
NIGERIA 2010 WORLD CUP BID WITH DELEGATION  
FROM GHANA, BENIN REPUBLIC AND NIGERIA,  
15<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2003**

The three countries present at the first joint meeting of the Nigeria World Cup 2010 Bid Committee met at Lagos and Abuja. They have unanimously agreed on the following communiqué at the end of the two meeting.

That:

1. The countries; Ghana, Benin and Nigeria have all agreed in principle to back the project of Bidding for the world Cup 2010 which has been ceded to Africa by FIFA. A solidarity message in support of the project by Togo was brought by the Representative Hon. Minister of youth, Sport and recreation of Benin Republic.
2. It was unanimously agreed that the memorandum of understanding on the proposed joint bid will be executed on the February 25 and 26, 2003 Joint Meeting holding in Abuja, Nigeria by the participating countries.
3. It was also agreed that each country sets up an effective secretariat to facilitate pre-bid process.
4. A delegation of the Joint Meeting was mandated to visit Cameroon and Togo ahead of the February 25, 2003 meeting in spite of solidarity message delivered by the Representative of Benin Republic's Honourable Minister on behalf of Togo.
5. The Joint Meeting re-affirmed the economic, political and social benefit that will accrue to our people on winning the bid to host the World Cup in 2010 and to facilitate total integration in the sub-region.
6. The Joint Meeting observed the historical steps being taken by the five countries as a right one for the West African sub-region in the bid to host the world Cup 2010 and concluded that no effort should be spared in the realization of this vision.

Signed on this day 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2003.

**Hon. Edward Osei Kwaku**  
Hon. Minister for Sports, Ghana

**Hon. Steven Ibn Akiga**  
Hon. Minister for Sports, Nigeria

**Hon. Houde Aditi Valentin**  
Hon. Minister for Sports, Benin Republic