

17TH NATIONAL SPORTS FESTIVAL (GARDEN CITY GAMES)

2ND JOINT MAIN ORGANISING COMMITTEE AND LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2011 AT THE CONFERENCE HALL OF NICON HOTEL, PORT HARCOURT

COMMUNIQUE

The 2nd Joint Meeting of the Main Organising Committee (MOC) and the Local Organising Committee (LOC) of the 17th National Sports Festival (Garden City Games) was held on Wednesday, 10th March, 2011 at the Conference Hall of the Nicon Hotel, Port Harcourt. This was preceded by a tour of the Venues and Facilities earmarked for the Games on Wednesday, March 9th, 2011.

The meeting deliberated on a wide range of issues in respect of the Garden City Games and:

- i. Re-affirmed the commitment of the Rivers State Government, the Main Organising Committee and the Local Organising Committee to hold the 17th National Sports Festival from June 27 – July 10, 2011 as approved in its last meeting.
- ii. Emphasised the importance of the hoisting of flags by States' Chief Executives in Port Harcourt on June 16, 2011 to boost publicity, sensitise and mobilise Nigeria towards the Festival.
- iii. Noted that arrangements have been concluded by the LOC for the wearing of mobilisation T-shirts on designated dates to sensitise residents in Rivers State. However, the MOC urged that the exercise be extended to other States of the Federation including the Federal Capital Territory.
- iv. Assured that the Local Organising Committee will complete the renovation work in the Games Village and all other venues well ahead of time.
- v. Observed that the Local Organising Committee has put modalities in place to ensure hitch-free catering services for Accredited Athletes and Officials at the Games Village during the Festival.
- vi. Noted that Mobile Clinics have been acquired and reputable hospitals designated for Referral cases during the Games.
- vii. Appreciated the improvement in the security of lives and property in and around Port Harcourt and commended the Rivers State Government and security agencies the State for this achievement.

- viii. Assured that all athletes, officials and spectators will be provided adequate security before, during and after the Games.
- ix. Advised the LOC to designate Pool vehicles to convey accredited Athletes and Officials at specified times to the various venues during the Games.
- x. Noted the arrangements made by the Secretariat to reproduce and distribute relevant World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) education/information documents to Athletes and Officials participating in the Festival.
- xi. Noted that the Secretariat has commenced the process of flagging off the Mass Mobilisation/Awareness Campaign as approved by the MOC at its meeting of May 17, 2010.
- xii. Noted that modalities for the movement of the Torch of Unity, which is expected to be flagged off in Abuja by Mr President on May 10, 2011, has commenced.
- xiii. Approved that the 17th National Sports Festival be tagged "Garden City Games 2011". This is without prejudice to the 2012 National Sports Festival to be hosted by Lagos State.
- xiv. Approved the revised Timeline for the Games.

ALH. ABBA A. YOLA
Secretary
Main Organising Committee

SIR (HON) D. H. HARRY (JP)
For: Secretary
Local Organising Committee