



NIGERIA WEEK 2025

The AfrikaFora proudly presents our programme for **Nigeria Week 2025**, bringing Nigerians, Africans, Afro-descendants and their friends together. This year's event, on the topic of **Nigeria: The African Dream Waiting to Happen**, will gather an international crowd for our online conference on Sunday, November 9th. **Nigeria: The African Dream Waiting to Happen** is a hopeful and provocative theme, inviting speakers to explore Nigeria's potential as Africa's moral, economic, and cultural powerhouse; and what must be done to make that dream real.

The topic will be **The Governance Question: Why Good Leadership Is Nigeria's Greatest Missing Link**. As always, the conference will aim to bring expertise to the floor and help translate it into actionable points that all participants can support or enact, making African policy more than just a nebulous concept, but instead something that concerns us all.

Check out our programme to learn more about the various activities, expert panels and high-level conversations, as well as a reminiscing video about who we are / was. [You can register now for the FREE online conference.](#) To partner, sponsor or participate at this epic event, contact admin@afrikafora.com. Please also feel free visit our social media, follow, like and share to support our work.

Online Discussion

Sunday, Nov 9th

16.00 CET/WAT

A conference chaire by **Chief Ben C. Etiaba FCA**

Speakers

Collins Nweke – Patron of The AfrikaFora

Collins Nweke is a senior Consultant on International Trade and Researcher on Economic Diplomacy. Nweke was the first naturalised Belgian to be elected to political office in West Flanders. He retired from active politics in December 2024 after serving three consecutive terms as Councillor at Ostend City Council. A former chief executive and chairman of Nigerians in Diaspora in Europe, Nweke has been active in consultancy and advocacy in the field of socio-economic development for Nigeria and for Africa in general. He is a Fellow of both the Chartered Institute of Public Management of Nigeria and Institute of Management Consultants. A 2014 awardee of a Doctorate in Governance (Honoris Causa) Nweke is also a Distinguished Fellow of the International Association of Research Scholars and Administrators, where he serves in its Governing Council.



Chief Ben C. Etiaba FCA – Chairman of the conference

Chief Ben C. Etiaba is the Principal Partner of Ben Etiaba & Co, Chartered Certified Accountants and Management Consultants. He was also the Director of Admin and Finance at Thames Valley Services Ltd and at Delbau & Co Chartered, Certified Accountants, Management Consultants and Registered Auditors.

Etiaba was the Chairman of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria, United Kingdom District, as well as the London Group (Nigeria's Professional Leaders in UK). Chief Etiaba is a member of the Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria. He has won several local and international awards, including the Natwest Bank sponsored 'African Business Partners' award in London for *Business Innovation*, and Award for Excellence at *The Gathering of Africa's Best in London*. Chief Etiaba is a Knight of Saint Christopher (KSC) of the Anglican Communion and holds the traditional titles of *Ifennia Nnewi*, and the *Ezechikwadolu 1 N'Ukpo Ancient Kingdom*. Ifennia Nnewi is the Patron, Centre for Memories, Enugu. Finally, Etiaba chaired the *2025 Things Fall Apart Festival*.



Dame Elizabeth Oyibo Agu – Honourable Speaker

Dame Elizabeth Oyibo Agu, mni, FCIOD, HCIBN is a woman and youth advocate and the former Director of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), and Pioneer Branch Controller (CBN Asaba, Delta State).

Beyond her banking career, Mrs. Agu is active in civic and women's initiatives. She is presently the Vice President (Women & Youth) of the 9th Mile Chamber of Commerce. She is Board Member of the FIT Microfinance Bank. Alumna of the Executive Education at Harvard and Stanford Universities, Oyibo Agu's leadership, expertise in finance, and public service make her a respected figure in both institutional and community circles in Nigeria.



Hector Igbikiowubo – Speaker

Hector Igbikiowubo is the Editor-in-Chief of Sweetcrude Reports publications, with a prolific career spanning various renowned newspapers such as Concord Newspapers, BusinessDay Newspapers, and Vanguard Newspapers. With over 8000 energy-related news, features, articles, and analyses to his credit, as well as published interviews in both local and international newspapers. An accomplished author, Mr. Igbikiowubo has co-authored *Nigeria Sweet Crude* (2006), *Make we talk* (1998), *Scarlati Affair* (1995), and *NigeriAnomie* (2023), showcasing his diverse writing talents and deep industry knowledge. Igbikiowubo is the convener of the Nigerian Content Investment Forum (NCIF) in Houston, Texas. He has also been honoured – along with NCIF – with a Proclamation from the Mayor of the City of Houston and a Certificate of U.S. Congressional Recognition, in appreciation of their efforts to promote investment and foster collaboration between the Nigerian and U.S. oil and gas industries.

Igbikiowubo is also the Chief Executive of Mount Spiral Nigeria Limited, an energy consulting and supply chain management company with years of experience in the management of the image of high-profile corporate clients in Nigeria.



Prof. Oluwafunmilayo Para-Mallam – Honourable Speaker

Oluwafunmilayo Para-Mallam, mni, is gender justice activist and policy specialist. She is the former Director of Studies at the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, of which she is also a member. She is a Professor of Gender and Development, Development Consultant. She is Chairperson of African Women's Leadership Network, Nigeria and member, Presidential High-Level Advisory Committee on Women's Economic Empowerment and Gender Equality in Nigeria. She is National Coordinator of Christian Women for Excellence and Empowerment in Nigerian Society. In 2024, she was named among 100 Leading Women on the Nigeria Women Annual List. She is an alumna of Harvard University JFK School of Government, has produced 85 publications and conference papers, and is a Fellow/member of professional bodies and organisational boards.



Olanrewaju Suraju – Honourable Speaker

Olanrewaju Suraju is a human rights and pro-democracy activist in Nigeria and Africa. A former student union leader, he is now a public speaker and commentator with several local and international media appearances, whose areas of expertise include environmental justices, human empowerment, youth development, the rule of law and human rights and transparency and accountability. With a wealth of experience and exposure cutting across continental divides, Suraju is the Chair of Council with Human and Environmental Development Agenda and Chair of the National Civil Society Network Against Corruption in Nigeria. He has pioneered, serves on the Board and supported the creation of several Civil Society Organisations, Networks and Coalitions in Nigeria and across Africa. Suraju has worked as consultant and board member to several development agencies, international NGOs, law enforcement agencies and inter-governmental agencies.



This event is held in partnership with:



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