AKSP-FCT/GA/COUNTRAD/2012/FCTA/01/03 11th  September, 2012

**The Honourable Minister**

**Federal Capital Territory,**

**Federal Capital Territory Administration,**

**Area 11, Garki – Abuja.**

**SUBMISSION OF NAMES OF TRADITIONAL RULERS/CHIEFS OF AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA FOR OFFICIAL RECOGNITION AND APPOINTMENT INTO THE FCT COUNCIL OF CHIEFS, ABUJA.**

At the General Assembly Meetings of **Akwa Ibom State People in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja** held on Saturday, 5th March, 2011, Saturday, 14th April, Saturday, 12th May and Saturday, 9th June, 2012; elections, selections, ratifications and appointments of Traditional Rulers/Chief of Akwa Ibom State People in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja were done in accordance with Akwa Ibom State people traditions, native laws, customs and usages by Akwa Ibom State People in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja;

2. At the above Meetings, the following Traditional Rulers/Chiefs were accordingly elected, selected, appointed and ratified as Akwa Ibom State People Paramount Traditional Ruler in the FCT, Abuja and the Traditional Rulers/Chiefs of Akwa Ibom State People in the FCT Area Councils, Abuja, respectively:

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| **S/No** | **NAME** | **TRADITIONAL OFFICE** | **POSITION/GRADE** | **TRADITIONAL JURISDICTION** |
| 1. | His Royal Majesty, Edidem Etimbuk A. E. Sunday Okpokpo, *PhD, MBA, FCE* | EDIDEM AKWA IBOM OF FCT, ABUJA/ OBONG AKWA IBOM OF BWARI AREA COUNCIL. | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE PARAMOUNT TRADITIONAL RULER OF FCT, ABUJA AND CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL OF AKWA IBOM TRADITIONAL RULERS IN FCT, ABUJA | FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA/IBIBIO PEOPLE IN FCT |
| 2. | His Royal Highness, Obong (Prof.) Effiok Uwatt, Ph.D | OBONG AKWA IBOM OF GWAGWALADA AREA COUNCIL, ABUJA | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE TRADITIONAL RULER OF GWAGWALADA AREA COUNCIL | GWAGWALADA AREA COUNCIL |
| 3. | His Royal Highness, Obong Etim John | OBONG AKWA IBOM OF KAC/OBONG ORON OF FCT | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE TRADITIONAL RULER OF KAC AND OBONG ORON OF FCT | KWALI AREA COUNCIL /ORON PEOPLE IN FCT |
| 4. | His Royal Highness, Obong Essien Essien Nkang (DCG –Rtd) | OBONG AKWA IBOM OF KUJE AREA COUNCIL, FCT. | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE TRADITIONAL RULER OF KUJE AREA COUNCIL, FCT, ABUJA | KUJE AREA COUNCIL |
| 5. | His Royal Highness, Obong Boniface Dickson Usoro, *B.Sc. MBA* | OBONG AKWA IBOM OF ABUJA MUNICIPAL AREA COUNCL, FCT. | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE TRADITIONAL RULER OF ABUJA MUNICIPAL AREA COUNCIL, FCT, ABUJA | ABUJA MUNICIPAL AREA COUNCIL, FCT, ABUJA/ANNANG PEOPLE IN FCT (ABAK ZONE). |
| 6. | His Royal Highness, Obong Douglas Iffut | OBONG AKWA IBOM OF ABAJI AREA COUNCIL | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE TRADITIONAL RULER OF ABAJI AREA COUNCIL, FCT, ABUJA | ABAJI AREA COUNCIL, FCT, ABUJA |

3. The General Assembly also ratified and approved the elections, selections and appointments of other Tribal/District Chiefs of Akwa Ibom People in the FCT Area Councils, Abuja as follows:

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| **S/No** | **NAME** | **TRADITIONAL OFFICE** | **POSITION/GRADE** | **TRADITIONAL JURISDICTION** |
| 1. | His Royal Highness, Obong Effiong Akrasi | OBONG AKWA IBOM OF MPAPE DISTRICT/ OBONG IBIBIO II (SOUTH), FCT, ABUJA | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE CHIEF OF MPAPE/ TRIBAL TRADITIONAL RULER II OF IBIBIO SOUTH, FCT, ABUJA | MPAPE DISTRICT/ IBIBIO SOUTH PEOPLE IN FCT, ABUJA |
| 2. | His Royal Highness, Obong Essien Akpan Nkang | OBONG AKWA IBOM OF UTAKO DISTRICT/ OBONG IBIBIO NORTH EAST, FCT, ABUJA | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE CHIEF OF UTAKO/ TRIBAL TRADITIONAL RULER FOR IBIBIO NORTH EAST IN FCT, ABUJA. | UTAKO DISTRICT/IBIBIO NORTH EAST IN FCT, ABUJA |
| 3. | His Royal Highness, Obong Friday Umana | OBONG ANNANG I, FCT, ABUJA | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE TRIBAL TRADITIONAL RULER FOR ANNANG (IKOT EKPENE ZONE) | ANNANG (IKOT EKPENE ZONE) IN FCT, ABUJA |
| 4 | His Royal Highness, Obong Michael Akpabio | OBONG AKWA IBOM OF KUBWA DISTRICT/ OBONG IBIBIO II, ABUJA | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE CHIEF OF KUBWA/ TRIBAL TRADITIONAL RULER OF IBIBIO II, FCT, ABUJA | KUBWA DISTRICT/ IBIBIO NORTH-EAST PEOPLE IN FCT, ABUJA |
| 5. | His Royal Highness, Obong Okon Bassey | OBONG IBIBIO NORTH WEST, FCT, ABUJA | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE TRIBAL TRADITIONAL RULER OF IBIBIO NORTH WEST, FCT, ABUJA | IBIBIO NORTH WEST IN FCT, ABUJA |
| 6. | His Highness, Obong (Amb.) Liberty Okon, B.Sc. | OBONG IBIBIO OF AMAC, FCT, ABUJA | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE TRIBAL TRADITIONAL RULER OF IBIBIO OF AMAC, FCT. | IBIBIO PEOPLE IN AMAC, FCT, ABUJA. |

4. The General Assembly ratified and approved the election, selection and appointment of the High Priests and Heads of Religious Leaders of Council of Akwa Ibom State People in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja as follows:

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| **S/No** | **NAME** | **TRADITIONAL OFFICE** | **POSITION/GRADE** | **TRADITIONAL JURISDICTION** |
| 1. | His Lordship, Bishop (Dr.) Morris Usen, | AKWA OKU AKWA IBOM OF FCT, ABUJA. | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE HIGH PRIEST OF FCT, ABUJA | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE IN FCT, ABUJA |
| 2. | His Lordship, Apostle Paul Etim | UDIANA AKWA OKU AKWA IBOM OF FCT, ABUJA | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE DEPUTY HIGH PRIEST OF FCT, ABUJA. | AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE IN FCT, ABUJA |

5. The above Traditional Rulers and Chiefs of Akwa Ibom State People in the FCT, Abuja and others in the Area Councils, Districts and Villages, who had been elected, selected, ratified and appointed according to the native laws, customs, traditions and usages of Akwa Ibom State people were accordingly coronated and installed during the solemn coronation/installation ceremony held on Saturday, 25th August, 2012 by Akwa Ibom State People in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja at Mpape II, Abuja. These Traditional Rulers/Chiefs were accordingly inaugurated into the **Council of Akwa Ibom Traditional Rulers in the Federal Capital Territory** of Akwa Ibom State People in the Federal Capital Territory at the above solemn ceremony.

6. The General Assembly of Akwa Ibom State People in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja noted that, the Federal Government of Nigeria is the owner of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja and that the Federal Capital Territory Administration is part of the Federal Government of Nigeria, which is being administered as a State to which all Nigerians are indigenes.

7. The General Assembly further noted that, the **Federal Capital Territory Council of Chiefs**, created by the **Chiefs (Appointment and Deposition) (Federal Capital Territory) Act No.8 of 1997 (Laws of the FCT – Nigeria)** is part of the FCT Administration which is being funded in the Appropriation Acts of the National Assembly via the **Council of Graded Chiefs in the FCT, Abuja** in the Budget of the FCT Administration. Moreover, the General Assembly noted that the FCT Council of Chiefs being part of the FCT Administration and thus one of the Federal Government Agencies, should be constituted in such a manner as to reflect the federal character of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in consonant with Section 14(3) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended).

8. The General Assembly also noted the functions of the FCT Council of Chiefs and observed that it is absolutely important that Akwa Ibom State people in FCT, Abuja, be represented in the FCT Council of Chiefs as co-equal indigenes of the FCT along with the other States of the Federation to ensure that the Traditions, Cultures, Customs and other interests of Akwa Ibom State people in FCT are effectively represented and protected in any recommendation and advice to which the FCT Council of Chiefs are statutorily mandated to give to the FCT Administration in consonance with the Act.

9. The General Assembly resolved that, in order to enable the Honourable Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja and the FCT Administration to comply with the provisions of Section 14(3) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Chiefs (Appointment and Deposition) (Federal Capital Territory) Act No.8 of 1997 (Laws of the FCT – Nigeria), that this communication be forwarded to the Honourable Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, for the exercise of the powers and functions conferred on the Minister thereto and compliance with the constitutional provisions accordingly.

10. Pursuant to the above, therefore, Akwa Ibom State People in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, hereto submit the above names of the Traditional Rulers/Chiefs of Akwa Ibom State people in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja who had been elected, selected and appointed in accordance with the native laws, customs, traditions and usages of Akwa Ibom State People and respectfully request the Honourable Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja to direct the appropriate official of the Federal Capital Territory Administration to certify these Traditional Rulers/Chiefs listed above as Traditional Rulers/Chiefs of Akwa Ibom State people in the FCT, Abuja and grade them accordingly in consonance with Section 11 of the **Chiefs (Appointment and Deposition) Federal Capital Territory Act No. 8 of 1997 (Laws of FCT – Nigeria).** The Honourable Minister of FCT is also respectfully, hereto requested to appoint the Paramount Chief of Akwa Ibom State people in FCT viz: **the Edidem Akwa Ibom of FCT, Abuja/Chairman of Council of Akwa Ibom Traditional Rulers in FCT** and the other five Obongs (Chiefs) of Akwa Ibom State People in the FCT Area Councils listed above as Members of the  **FCT Council of Chiefs** in exercise of the powers conferred on the FCT Minister by Section 8(2) of the Act, accordingly.

11. The General Assembly recommends that the traditional office of the **Edidem Akwa Ibom of FCT**, being the Paramount Traditional Ruler of Akwa Ibom State People in FCT, Abuja be graded as First Class, while the office of the five Obongs of Akwa Ibom State People in the other five Area Councils of the FCT, Abuja be graded as Second Class Chiefs in the FCT, Abuja.

12. The General Assembly of Akwa Ibom State People in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, noted with strong displeasure and dissatisfaction that previous communications to the Honourable Minister of the FCT in this regard had not be replied nor given due consideration and approval, which is a clear act of discrimination against Akwa Ibom State People in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja in violation of Section 42(1) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended). The General Assembly therefore, humbly plead for the kind consideration and approval of the request hereto by the Honourable Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, as Akwa Ibom State People in the FCT, Abuja do not wish to be constrained to institute legal actions in the Court of Law for an order of mandamus and for other necessary orders and the enforcement of their constitutional rights thereto, which would become inevitable should this request be not given due consideration and approval accordingly within due period of time.

13. The General Assembly, hereto expresses total support and loyalty to the Federal Government of Nigeria led by His Excellency, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCFR, and the FCT Administration with assurances of their highest regards and esteems.

**For: AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA**

***HIS LORSHIP,***

**BISHOP (DR.) MORRIS USEN**

***(PRIMATE OF THE LATTER HARVEST CHURCH)***

**HEAD OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS/HIGH PRIEST OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY,**

**AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE IN THE FCT, ABUJA**

***HIS ROYAL MAJESTY,***

**EDIDEM (APOSTLE) ETIMBUK A. E. SUNDAY OKPOKPO, *PhD, MBA, FCE, AMNIM***

***EDIDEM AKWA IBOM OF FCT/ PRESIDENT OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY,***

**AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE IN THE FCT, ABUJA.**

***HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS,***

**OBONG (AMB.) LIBERTY OKON**

*(OBONG IBIBIO OF AMAC, FCT – ABUJA)*

**SECRETARY-GENERAL OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY,**

**AKWA IBOM STATE PEOPLE IN THE FCT, ABUJA.**