

Statement By The Honourable Minister Of Environment, Nigeria

Nigeria is again joining the Global Community to celebrate the World Environment Day (WED) on Saturday, 5th June, 2010

Towards the realization of Nigeria's commitment to sustainable environment management, the Federal Ministry of Environment has adopted participatory and community based approaches involving stakeholders across all sectors in order to:

- Create awareness and enhance environmental friendly habits and life styles
- Domesticating environmental issues and empower the people.

Also, the Federal Government is giving due attention to the rehabilitation of eroded sites, controlling the spread of further erosion and ameliorating the effect of flood.

Further to the implementation of the Environmental impact Assessment (EIA) Law, special emphasis is placed on Biodiversity Conservation within the context of attaining Sustainable Development.

My Ministry has also embarked on the following programmes to conserve the nation's biodiversity:

- Afforestation
- Remediation
- Erosion
- Desertification
- Solid Waste Project

Nigeria is also committed to upholding the goal of the National Biodiversity and Action Plan by developing appropriate framework and programme instruments for the conservation of the nation's resources and their sustainable use.

We have developed keen interest in relating with the global community on environmental issues through multilateral and bilateral activities.

One of our latest efforts in this direction is our involvement in the recently held 18th Session of the United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development. There was opportunity for us to review our efforts in various sectors of our developmental endeavours. The session in addition allowed us to learn of new opportunities existing in the areas of:

- Chemicals Management
- Sustainable Mining Practice
- Waste Management
- Transportation in the 21st Century
- Sustainable Consumption and Production.

Nigeria, therefore congratulates the global community on this year's celebration. "Together we shall secure our future and children.

(Signed)
John Odey
Honourable Minister
Federal Ministry of Environment
Federal Republic of Nigeria
May, 2010