

STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF THE NIGERIAN DELEGATION,
AMB. GODKNOWS IGALI, AT THE INTERNATIONAL
COMPACT WITH IRAQ (ICI) ANNUAL REVIEW CONFERENCE,
HELD IN STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN, 29 MAY 2008.

Mr. Chairman,
Mr. Co-Chairman,
Excellencies,

May I on behalf of the Federal Republic of Nigeria congratulate the Prime Minister of Iraq, H. E. Nouri al-Maliki and the Secretary General of the United Nations, H. E. Ban Ki-Moon for the notable success recorded so far after just one year of the launch of the International Compact with Iraq (ICI). Your able team led H. E. Dr. Barham Salih, Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq and H. E. Prof. Ibrahim Gambari, Special Adviser to the Secretary General, have obviously worked with great devotion and deserve our collective commendation and encouragement.

Mr. Chairman and Co-Chairman,

I should also place on record our conviction that the success which we see today could not have been made possible without the support of the international community which has again been amply demonstrated by the attendance at this conference.

Mr. Chairman and Co-Chair

One of the foremost countries that has consistently demonstrated its commitment towards the realization of the goals of the ICI initiative has been our host country, Sweden. But on this occasion, I wish particularly, to also express gratitude to the Government and people of Sweden for the hospitality and for successfully hosting this conference.

Mr. Chairman and Co-chair,

The progress so far made within one year of the launch of the ICI was primarily, due to the fact that the Government of Iraq has demonstrated strong political will behind every effort aimed at promoting peace, development and democracy. In similar vein, Iraq has shown great commitment to be at peace with its neighbours as well as forge a new partnership with the international community.

Mr. Chairman and Co-chair,

Nigeria will continue to be steadfast in its commitment and support to the laudable initiatives of the ICI and any further actions by the international community aimed at genuine reconstruction, building of enduring peace and democracy as well as sustainable development in Iraq.

I thank you.