



**FOURTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP OF THE
TRIPARTITE COMMISSION FOR THE VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION OF
NIGERIAN REFUGEES FROM CAMEROON
YOLA, 09 JULY 2019**

Joint Communiqué

1. The Technical Working Group (TWG) of the Tripartite Commission for the Voluntary Repatriation of Nigerian refugees living in Cameroon met in Yola, Adamawa State from 08 to 10 July 2019 to further discuss the modalities for the repatriation of Nigerian refugees in the context of the Tripartite Agreement signed in Yaounde, Cameroon on 2 March 2017.
2. The delegation from the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria was led by Hajiya Sadiya UMAR FAROUQ, Honourable Federal Commissioner for the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and IDPs (NCFRMI) accompanied by high-ranking Federal and State Government officials.
3. The delegation from the Government of Cameroon was led by Mrs. AKAH Judith EWO; Assistant-Director in charge of relations with Nigeria at the Ministry of External Relations, accompanied by high ranking Government officials.
4. The UNHCR delegation was led by Mr. Jose Antonio CANHANDULA, Representative to Nigeria and ECOWAS accompanied by the UNHCR Representative to Cameroon, Mr. Kouassi Lazare ETIEN and other senior UNHCR officials from Cameroon and Nigeria.
5. The TWG meeting was convened to assess the readiness of the Parties for the repatriation of Nigerian refugees from Cameroon, and to review the technicalities and agree on a tentative timeline to start the exercise.
6. While recognizing the work done by the TWG, the Parties stressed the need to conclude concrete operational modalities and support measures, to ensure the safe, dignified, voluntary return and sustainable reintegration of Nigerian returnees. In so doing, they further reaffirmed their commitment to work within the framework of the Tripartite Agreement.
7. Recognizing the efforts done by the Government of Nigeria to restore security and basic social services, the TWG noted that sustainable reintegration requires a holistic and community-based approach that would improve absorption capacity and enhance access to basic services and self-reliance for returnees, internally displaced persons and local communities in Nigeria.

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8. With regards to the readiness of the infrastructure, notably the Transit and Reception centres, the Parties took note of the need to expedite the work in an effort to start with the repatriation process on 21 August 2019.
9. The Parties call on the International Community to continue to support the Government of Cameroon and UNHCR in delivering protection and assistance to Nigerian refugees in Cameroon, as well as support the Government of Nigeria and UNHCR in the reintegration of returnees.
10. The Parties expressed their appreciation to the Government of Nigeria and Adamawa State for their hospitality.

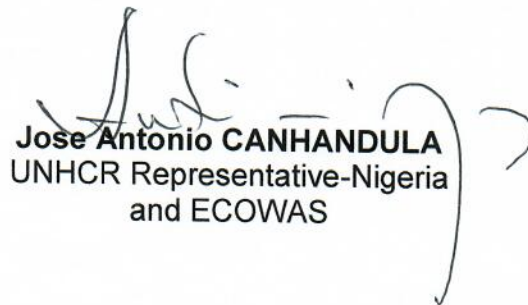
YOLA, 09 JULY 2019



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Honourable Federal Commissioner
National Commission for Refugees
Migrants and IDPs- Nigeria



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Assistant-Director in charge of
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