PRESS RELEASE

DEBT MANAGEMENT OFFICE
NIGERIA

NIGERIA'S PROPOSED SOVEREIGN BOND ISSUANCE IN THE INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL MARKET: APPOINTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND LEGAL ADVISERS

In 2008, the Federal Government of Nigeria as part of strategic intent of positioning Nigeria as one of the foremost emerging market economies, decided to access the International Capital Market (ICM) for funds through the issuance of a USD 500 million 10-year Sovereign Bond. Actual implementation was stalled due to the global financial crisis which led to instability and credit crunch in the ICM, thus, making it unadvisable to issue the Bond at that time. However, with the improvements witnessed in the ICM since 2009, especially in terms of the financial performance of the global banks and activities in the bond market, the Debt Management Office (after necessary approvals), considered it appropriate at this time to recommence efforts to issue the Bond. The approval to issue the Bond is contained in the Appropriation Act, 2010.

The DMO is pleased to announce that following a very rigorous and highly competitive selection process, in which the DMO worked closely with the Federal Ministry of Finance, the Federal Ministry of Justice, the Central Bank of Nigeria, and the Securities and Exchange Commission, the first set of transaction parties that would work with the DMO towards the successful issuance of the Bond have been appointed. They are: Barclays Capital, London and FBN Capital, Nigeria as Financial Advisers, and White & Case, London and Banwo & Ighodalo, Nigeria, as Legal Advisers.

The signing of the Engagement Letters with these two transaction parties on September 27, 2010, signifies a major positive step towards the actualisation of the ICM Bond Issuance. The DMO is confident that these two transaction parties would bring their vast experience in similar transactions to bear on this assignment in order to ensure the success of the Bond Issuance.

The next stage in the Bond Issuance process is the appointment of Book Runners which is expected to start in October 2010.

Debt Management Office,
The Presidency,
Plot 447/448 Constitution Avenue,
Central Business District,
P.M.B. 532, Garki, Abuja – Nigeria
Tel.: 09-6725629, 09-6791088, 09-6712769
Email: enquiries@dmo.gov.ng
Website: www.dmo.gov.ng

October 4, 2010

The information contained herein is not for publication or distribution, directly or indirectly, in or into the United States of America. The materials do not constitute an offer of securities for sale in the United States, nor may the securities be offered or sold in the United States absent registration or an exemption from registration as provided in the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder. There is no intention to register any portion of the offering in the United States of America or to conduct a public offering of securities in the United States of America.

The information contained herein shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of the securities referred to herein in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration, exemption from registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction.