



## **Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja**

### **Press Release**

**No: MFA/PR/2026/15**

#### **VICE PRESIDENT KASHIM SHETTIMA HAS ARRIVED ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA, TO REPRESENT PRESIDENT BOLA AHMED TINUBU AT THE 39TH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AFRICAN UNION ASSEMBLY**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to inform that Vice President Kashim Shettima has arrived in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to represent President Bola Ahmed Tinubu at the 39th Ordinary Session of the African Union Assembly scheduled for February 14–15, 2026. The summit will advance Africa’s shared development priorities under the Agenda 2063 framework.

Vice President Shettima was received on arrival at the Bole International Airport by Ethiopian Minister of Innovation and Technology Dr. Belete Mola and State Minister of Foreign Affairs Amb. Berhanu Tsegaye, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Amb. Yusuf Maitama Tuggar, the Head of the Nigerian Embassy in Addis Ababa and senior government officials.

The Ministry wishes to also inform that during the just concluded 48th Session of the Executive Council of the African Union, the Nigerian delegation which was led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and also attended by the Minister of Finance recorded significant diplomatic and institutional achievements, consolidating its leadership role in advancing Africa’s economic integration, peace, security, and democratic governance.

A major highlight of the session was the Council’s agreement to grant Nigeria a permanent seat on the Board of the African Central Bank, a landmark development that underscores Nigeria’s strategic role in shaping Africa’s financial architecture. This decision also extends Nigeria’s representation to the Board of the Technical Convergence Committee of the African Monetary Institute, which serves as the precursor to the establishment of the African Central Bank. These developments affirm Nigeria’s technical capacity, economic significance, and commitment to advancing Africa’s monetary integration agenda.

**In the area of peace and security, the session witnessed the successful election of the collectively agreed candidates presented by the Economic Community of West African States (including Nigeria) to the Peace and Security Council. This outcome reflects the strong cohesion, cooperation, and unity among ECOWAS Member States, as well as the region's shared commitment to promoting stability and collective security across the continent.**

**Furthermore, Nigeria demonstrated leadership in strengthening democratic governance across Africa by organizing a Ministerial High-Level Panel Discussion on Regional Partnerships for Democracy. The event attracted wide participation from ministers, senior government officials, and delegates, not only from the West African region but from across the continent and international community. The panel facilitated constructive dialogue on strengthening democratic institutions, fostering inclusive governance, and enhancing collaborative regional approaches to sustaining democratic values.**

**Nigeria's engagements and outcomes at the 48th Executive Session of the Executive Council reaffirm the country's commitment to the ideals and objectives of the African Union, particularly in promoting economic integration, institutional development, peace, security, and democratic governance across the continent.**

**The Federal Government of Nigeria remains dedicated to working collaboratively with Member States and regional bodies to advance Africa's shared prosperity and sustainable development**

**Signed:**

**Kimiebi Imomotimi Ebienfa, anipr  
Spokesperson  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja  
Friday, 13 February 2026**