



Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja

Press Release

No: MFA/PR/2026/081

NIGERIA, BANGLADESH REAFFIRM COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHENING BILATERAL TIES; DISCUSS ENERGY, TRADE, AND SECURITY COOPERATION

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Dunoma Umar Ahmed, PhD, received in audience the High Commissioner of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Nigeria, His Excellency, Miah Md. Mainul Kabir, on Wednesday, 3rd June 2026.

The Meeting discussed a wide range of issues, including the recent election of Bangladesh's Foreign Minister, Khalilur Rahman, as President of the 81st United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on June 2, 2026. The President-elect will officially assume office for a one-year term when the 81st session convenes in September in New York, United States of America. The High Commissioner appreciated Nigeria's support and called for continued collaboration in areas of mutual interest to both countries. The Permanent Secretary congratulated the Government and people of Bangladesh on this significant global recognition, affirming Nigeria's commitment to supporting Bangladesh's tenure and collaborating on South-South cooperation and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The importance of the Political Consultation Meeting between both countries, exchange of visits by the Foreign Ministers of Nigeria and Bangladesh and the timely finalization of proposed Agreements, such as the Agreement on the Avoidance of Double Taxation, were all discussed at the Meeting. The Bangladesh High Commissioner during his remarks, highlighted ongoing efforts to finalize a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the importation of petroleum and gas products from Nigeria. He noted that Bangladesh seeks to diversify its energy import basket and views Nigeria as a key strategic partner. The Permanent Secretary assured him that the Ministry is working closely with the Federal Ministry of Petroleum to expedite the conclusion of the MOU.

Furthermore, the Permanent Secretary emphasized the Federal Government's commitment to economic diversification under the administration of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu. He invited Bangladeshi investors to explore opportunities in Nigeria's mining, pharmaceuticals, ICT, and agriculture sectors. Specifically, he expressed Nigeria's keen interest in collaborating with the Bangladeshi business community to resuscitate local textile industries, a move expected to foster industrial growth and address youth unemployment.

On security matters, the Permanent Secretary proposed enhanced military and intelligence cooperation to tackle shared challenges such as terrorism. He also requested the Government of Bangladesh to consider supporting Nigeria's candidature for a non-permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the 2030-2031 term.

Both sides agreed to finalize dates for the inaugural session of the bilateral consultation mechanism to ensure regular high-level engagement to elevate the bilateral relations and cooperation between the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Signed:

**Kimiebi Imomotimi Ebiefa, anipr
Spokesperson
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja
Wednesday, 3 June 2026**