



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ABUJA

PRESS STATEMENT

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NIGERIA, CHINA ADVANCE BILATERAL COOPERATION, FOCUS ON TRADE, INVESTMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, **Ambassador Dunoma Umar Ahmed, PhD**, received a delegation from the People's Republic of China led by **H.E. Ambassador Liu Jieyi, Vice Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC)** in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja, on 21 September 2026.

The meeting reviewed the cordial relations between Nigeria and China, anchored on shared interests, mutual understanding and common commitment to mutually beneficial cooperation. The longstanding partnership between the two countries encompasses a broad range of areas, including infrastructure, trade and investment, education, culture, defence and mining.

Discussions also identified emerging areas with significant potential for expanded cooperation, including artificial intelligence, green and renewable energy, and digital technology. The discussions recognized the importance of translating opportunities in these sectors into practical initiatives capable of delivering tangible benefits to the peoples of Nigeria and China.

Speaking on economic relations, Ambassador Dunoma stressed the need to further enhance bilateral trade and attract increased Chinese investment into Nigeria's manufacturing and industrial sectors. He highlighted Federal Government's drive to move beyond export of raw material towards greater value addition and domestic manufacturing, with a view to creating employment opportunities, strengthening productive capacity and expanding exports of finished products.

The Permanent Secretary encouraged Chinese companies to take advantage of Nigeria's special economic zones and increase investment

in the manufacturing sector in line with existing understanding between the two countries. He noted that greater investment would strengthen Nigeria's productive capacity and further reinforce the country's position as a gateway to the wider African market.

Ambassador Dunoma welcomed continued Chinese support for Nigeria's development agenda and acknowledged the importance of cooperation in promoting peace and security, social stability and economic development. He reaffirmed Nigeria's commitment to multilateralism, while stressing the importance of continued solidarity and cooperation between Nigeria and China in addressing regional and international issues. He further emphasized that Nigeria values its relations with China and other strategic partners on the basis of shared interest and national priorities, and would continue to engage all constructively in ways that promote development, peace and security.

In his remarks, Ambassador Jeyi underscored the cordial relations between Nigeria and China and the importance of deepening bilateral ties in line with the visions of the two countries, Sustainable Development Goals and the framework of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC). He stressed the importance of institutional mechanisms for strengthening bilateral consultations and coordination, highlighting the role of the China-Nigeria consultative mechanism in facilitating exchanges, policy discussions and cooperation between relevant institutions. He expressed further interest in developing engagements to deepen mutual understanding and advance practical cooperation.

The meeting underscored the shared commitment of Nigeria and China in strengthening their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership through expanded cooperation, enhanced people-to-people exchanges and greater institutional ties. Nigeria reaffirmed its readiness to work with China to identify priority areas within their partnership, and establish clear implementation frameworks for existing engagements, with a view to advancing development and mutual prosperity.

Signed:

Oluwafemi Adeniyi
Spokesperson
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Wednesday, 23 September 2026