



Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja

PRESS RELEASE

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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS MOURNS UNTIMELY DEMISE OF AMBASSADOR ABIODUN OLUREMI BASHUA IN ILL-FATED ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES FLIGHT TO NAIROBI, KENYA

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, regrets to announce the untimely demise of Ambassador Abiodun Oluremi Bashua, a retired career Ambassador, who until his death, was on contract with the United Nations Economic Commission of Africa (UNECA). Ambassador Bashua was among 149 Passengers and 8 Crew members that were on board the ill-fated Ethiopian Airlines Flight ET302 to Nairobi, Kenya that crashed shortly after take-off from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on Sunday 10th March, 2019, killing all on board.

The Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, Geoffrey Onyeama and members of Staff of the Ministry received the sad news of his death with great shock and prayed that the Almighty God grant his family and the nation, the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

Late Ambassador Abiodun Oluremi Bashua, who hails from Lagos State, was born in Ibadan in 1951 and joined the Nigerian Foreign Service in 1976. During his career, the late Ambassador served in different capacities both at Headquarters and Foreign Missions such as: Vienna, Austria, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire and Tehran, Iran among others.

As a seasoned UN Expert, he had extensive experience in several United Nations peacekeeping operations in Africa. He joined the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) in 2009 and was appointed Deputy Joint Special Representative for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur in 2014 by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Ambassador Bashua also served as Secretary to the Conference of Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The late Ambassador was also the interim Chairman of the Nigerian Community in Ethiopia.

Signed
George Ehidiamen Edokpa
Spokesperson,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja
Sunday, 10 March, 2019