



National Steering Committee Members

Dafe Akpedeye (SAN)
1st Co-Chair

Mashood Erubami
2nd Co-Chair

Dr. Aisha Akanbi

Rev. Fr. Zacharia Samjumi

Priscilla Achakpa

Rev. Fr. Bernard Asogo

Reuben James

Farida Sada Yusuf

Honourary Members

Olisa Agbakoba (SAN)

Prof. Bolanle Awe

Hajia Bilkisu (mni)

Ex Officio

Victor Agbogun
Project Manager

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
April 18, 2011

Project 2011 Swift Count Confirms Official Presidential Results and Urges Nigerians to Reject Violence

Project 2011 Swift Count, a nonpartisan effort by four groups representing the rich diversity of Nigerian society, reported today that its sample of 1,441 polling units in Saturday's presidential voting confirms the results announced today by INEC, the Independent National Election Commission.

In a statement released today, the project's National Steering Committee said, "Given the absence of widespread deficiencies in the process and the independent verification of the official results by our non-partisan citizen observers, political contestants, their supporters as well as the general public should have confidence in the presidential results as declared by INEC as an accurate reflection of how Nigerians voted on April 16th. This clearly demonstrates the results as announced by INEC reflect the votes cast by Nigerians at polling units."

"Project 2011 Swift Count congratulates INEC, the National Youth Service Corp (NYSC), political parties, security agencies, civic organizations and, most important, the people of Nigeria on the success of the presidential elections. This is truly an historic event not only for Nigeria, but all of Africa," said Dafe Akpedeye (SAN) 1st Co-Chair.

Project 2011 Swift Count is jointly carried out by the Federation of Muslim Women's Associations in Nigeria (FOMWAN), Justice Development and Peace/Caritas (JDPC), the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) and Transition Monitoring Group (TMG).

Swift Count is an advanced election observer methodology. It employs information and communication technology (ICT) and statistical principles to enable observers to provide more representative and accurate information about the electoral process in real time to voters, political contestants and INEC. It also permits verification of the official results as announced by INEC.

For the presidential election, Project 2011 Swift Count deployed observers to a representative random sample of 1,497 polling units located in every state and LGA of the country. Using text messages, these observers transmitted results from sample polling units to a data centre in Abuja..

Below is a chart that compares the Swift Count estimates with official results announced today by INEC.

Table 1: Comparison of Swift Count Estimates with Official Results					
Political Party	Swift Count Estimate	Margin of Error	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Official INEC Result
PDP	58.7%	+/- 1.2	57.5%	59.9%	58.9%
CPC	30.8%	+/- 1.2	29.6%	32.0%	32.0%
ACN	5.3%	+/- 0.3	5.0%	5.6%	5.4%
ANPP	2.7%	+/- 0.3	2.4%	3.0%	2.4%

Note: Swift Count variance based on a 95% confidence level

The Steering Committee statement said, "Project 2011 Swift Count therefore calls upon all political contestants and their supporters to respect the will of the Nigerian people and to accept the results in good faith. Also, the partners again call upon all Nigerians to remain calm and refrain from any acts of violence. All political leaders should immediately and clearly make statements denouncing all acts of post-election violence regardless of perpetrators."

Mashood Erubami, 2nd Co-Chair, said, "We encourage those candidates who lost to concede defeat gracefully and to be mindful that one of the strengths of any democratic system is that there will always be another election. To the victorious candidate, we call upon him and his supporters to be magnanimous and remember that the President must represent all Nigerians –those who supported him as well as those who voted for other candidates."



Dafe Akpedeye
1st Co-Chair



Mashood Erubami
2nd Co-Chair

###

For media inquiries please contact:

Muritala Abdul-Rasheed: Tel. +234 8033231849 Email media@pscnigeria.org

Chibuikwe Mgbearuikwe: Tel +234 7036024736

Learn more about Project 2011 Swift Count at www.pscnigeria.org