

**MINUTES OF THE 7TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF NNEWI UNION
USA, INC.(NUSA)
THURSDAY, JULY 4TH TO SUNDAY JULY 7, 2002**

**VENUE: HOLIDAY INN COLLEGE PARK 1000 BALTIMORE
BOULEVARD, COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740**

THEME: OUR CHILDREN, UNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**DAY ONE: THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2002
4-6: p.m.**

Members arrive and are registered. There was informal interaction. At about 8:p.m. the cabinet meeting took place.

DAY TWO: FRIDAY, JULY 5, 2002

MODERATOR: Isaac Emefo (Atlanta)
Scribe: Ossy Okeke(New York/New Jersey)
Provost: Leo Okoli (Mississippi)

Opening session

The meeting commenced at about 11:30 a.m. EST due to late arrival at the meeting hall by members. Opening prayer

By
Lady Mabel Anazodo.

ROLL CALL:

Ossy Okeke conducted a roll call of participating chapters. The following chapters were present:

Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Florida, Houston, Michigan, Mississippi North Carolina, New York/New Jersey Tri-State, Southern California and Washington DC.

Ebube Odunukwe informed the members that lots of activities were planned for the children and urged members who came with their children to take full advantage of those activities. He also welcomed everybody to Washington DC/Maryland Convention. Isaac Emefo thanked the members for attending the convention and the planning committee as well as host chapter for putting the convention together. Isaac Emefo called Engineer Ajulu Uzodike to the high table as well as our guest speaker Dr. & Mrs. Oramasionwu. Introduction by every member followed.

ARRIVAL OF IGWE KENNETH ORIZU, his wife and his protocol officer, Chief Emmanuel Iwuchukwu at 11:45 a.m. EST to a tumultuous applause and ovation.

Igwe Orizu was introduced by Ike Mbelu (Los Angeles/California). Thereafter kolanut was presented to Igwe Orizu by president of Washington Chapter accompanied by

members of the chapter. Igwe Orizu blessed the kolanut and prayed. He expressed gratitude to NUSA for its effort that paid off this time in his coming to the convention as well as to visit America. He enjoined us to respect the law of the land of this country. Kolanut was broken and distributed to the members. Isaac Emefo briefly traced the genesis of NUSA with the first convention in Atlanta and present convention in Washington DC. Ike Moghalu, the president of Washington Chapter expressed appreciation by the host chapter to NUSA members for attending the convention.

OPENING ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Mike Obiora greeted the assembly and thanked everybody for attending the convention. He highlighted the pre-eminent objective for establishing NUSA to wit: (1) Unity of Nnewi people; (2) Helping to further development of Nnewi town; (3) Partner for economic development of Nnewi; (4) Education of our children to enable them understand their root/culture. He reaffirmed the commitment made by NUSA at Houston Convention to rehabilitate the secondary schools at Nnewi. He pointed out that towards this end a Board of Trustee was set up with Ajulu Uzodike as the chairman. He stated that the board of trustee has been doing a wonderful job in the area of school rehab. He stressed the need for us to support the education of our children because they are the future of our town. He informed us that in cooperation with Rotary Club of Romulus, he has procured 120 computers to be installed at secondary schools at Nnewi. He also informed us that Dr. Dozie Ikedife donated a building to be used for computer literacy program at Nnewi. Furthermore, he alluded to the fact that Michigan Chapter with Faith Tabernacle Church is sending some hospital equipments to Nnamdi Azikiwe Teaching Hospital at Nnewi. He urged all members to assist in fundraising effort on behalf of NUSA in view of the fact that we need money to undertake all our objectives at Nnewi. He reiterated the need for NUSA to utilize its 501(c)(3) status so as to raise money for our various projects. He also stated the need to involve other Nnewi people all over the world as well as those back home in order to realize our goals. He suggested that we consider taking our convention to Nnewi and therefore request those people who are sitting on the fence to come on board and contribute to the development of Nnewi. He especially encouraged the formation of Chicago Chapter.

Igwe, his wife and protocol officer departed at 12:55 p.m. With his departure the morning session was adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION The President Mike Obiora called the afternoon session into order at 2:20 p.m. Minutes of last year convention was adopted subject to amendment proposed by Ethel Momah (Arunne) to the effect that Elected officials were sworn in by Ethel Momah rather than by Chike Momah as reflected in the minutes. Motion to adopt the minute subject to above amendment was moved by Ugo Uzodike and supported by Ike Mbelu.

Chapter Reports

Atlanta:

Ugo Okeke pointed out that raffle draw should be explored as a means of raising money by NUSA. He indicated that NUSA might buy a car (e.g. Daewoo) and sell a raffle 2 tickets for about \$10.00 with the winner taking home the car. By doing this NUSA will raise a substantial revenue. He pointed out that NUSA must explore broader means of raising funds for its programs. He also pointed out the need for

NUSA to reinvent its leadership because some of the leaders have been in power since 1996. On issue of transparency in Nnewi political arena, he suggested that NUSA should consider suing the chairman of Nnewi North Local Government in the event the holder of the office embezzles public money. He opined that we must hold accountable all public office holders at Nnewi for their service including any misdeeds.

Dallas:

Sylva Odobulu introduced the members of Dallas Chapter. He informed the assembly that once a member registers in their chapter, the registration fee is forwarded to NUSA without waste of time. He presented check of \$200.00 to NUSA. He strongly supports the idea of holding office holders accountable at Nnewi. He stated that we should be involved in effecting positive political change at Nnewi. He suggested that NUSA should hold a debate for contestants for various offices so that they will inform the Nnewi people what they will do if elected into power. On fundraising, he opined that if the fundraising committee is not functional, then more people should be added to the committee. Finally, on behalf of the chapter, he tendered a bid to host 2003 convention in Dallas. He was supported by Nnaerika Okonkwo. On the issue of \$50.00 per person annual levy that was passed during Boston Convention, he stated that Dallas Chapter rejects the annual levy, and appealed to NUSA to reconsider the annual levy.

New York/New Jersey Tri-State

Nathan Momah informed the assembly that the chapter in 1996 started the library project and that same is still ongoing. He informed the assembly that the library project arose from his experience when he visited Nnewi and observed the problems the children are facing at the library. He stated that in view of the effort of the chapter, the students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University comes to utilize the library. He appealed for unity amongst us because division is counter-productive, and also to members who made pledges to fulfill their pledges.

Los Angeles

Chidi Metu thanked Nnewi people who attended the convention. He implored the assembly that in the event of death of our member we should endeavor to transport the corpse to Nnewi. He informed the assembly that prior to Bakassi coming to Nnewi, the chapter wrote a letter to Chikwendu and Igwe offering some help to alleviate the lack of security that was threatening Nnewi at that time. He also stated that the chapter wanted to buy dialysis machine and install same at Nnewi, but this effort failed. Later the chapter sent twenty (20) boxes of used clothing to motherless babies home at Nnewi. He pledged the continued support of the NUSA by the chapter.

Leo Okoli stated that we should plan ahead for NUSA home coming so as to give members advance notice. He supports the idea that the assembly should re-examine the issue of pledge/donations by members and those that are yet to be collected. He stressed that the assembly should devise means of collecting these pledges in view of the fact that 3 NUSA needs money to function and undertake all its programs. He pointed out that we should enlist the support of all Nnewi people wherever they may be living especially people at Nnewi. He supports the idea of raffle draw as a means of raising money for NUSA, as well as injecting new members into the fundraising committee so as to make the committee active and to achieve its goal. He deplored local chapters engaging in projects at Nnewi without consulting NUSA.

Washington DC. Chapter

Ike Moghalu inquired in an audit of NUSA has been conducted so far. He opined that if the audit of NUSA has been conducted the report ought to have been forwarded to the chapters. He restated the need to decentralize functions and activities of NUSA. He commented about lack of response from NUSA regarding the death and wake-keeping for Emeka Nwagbo. He supports the idea for us to institute strong measures to ensure that donations to NUSA are collected. He opined that persons in leadership positions in NUSA should be God fearing.

On the question whether an audit has been conducted for NUSA, Odobulu responded that an audit has been conducted for NUSA and copies mailed to the chapters. NUSA President Mike Obiora thanked all the chapters for their various reports and pointed out that one remarkable thing about these reports seem to be the fact that nobody asked whether they are from Otolu, Uruagu, Umudim or Nnewichi. That it shows the spirit of oneness amongst the members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

School rehab committee:

Nnaerika Okonkwo thanked the Board of Trustee for the marvelous work they have been doing in connection with effective and transparent utilization of the funds that NUSA sent to the Board.

Brief statement by Ajulu Uzodike

On behalf of all the principals of secondary schools at Nnewi, he thanked NUSA for the effort at rehabilitating their schools. He also thanked NUSA for the school rehab project. Nnaerika Okonkwo continued his report by stating that at Houston Convention it was resolved that NUSA will embark on rehab of all secondary schools at Nnewi. He stated that the school rehab started with the administration of Okey Chidolue. That originally the sum of \$35, 000.00 was pledged for the school rehab project. That it was resolved that every Nnewi person shall pay the sum of \$100.00 towards this project. He informed us that when he called Ajulu Uzodike regarding the sum of \$4,000.00 that was just forwarded to the Board of Trustee toward the school rehab, that Ajulu reminded us of the need to embark on Phase 111 of the school rehab. Furthermore, he reported to us that till date NUSA through the Board of Trustee have expended the sum of Two million, four hundred and forty thousand, two hundred and sixty-six naira in connection with school rehab project at various secondary schools at Nnewi, less the \$4,000.00 that was recently forwarded to the Board of Trustee.

Update on state of affairs at Nnewi by Ajulu Uzodike

Ajulu stated that in view of the absence of Onyeabo Obi who usually updates NUSA on the state of affairs at Nnewi, he will proceed to update us in this regard. He pointed out that Ife Nnewi Group is contemplating suing the Chairman of Nnewi North Local Government. He opined that NUSA should not wait until political office holders leave office before suing them. Rather he suggested that with Nzuko Ora Nnewi that NUSA implement or set up a mechanism to effectively participate in political development of Nnewi. He proposed that NUSA embark upon a project to build a new library for Nnewi. He expressed gratitude to NUSA chapters or member sending stuff to motherless babies home at Nnewi. However, he suggested that said effort should be coordinated through Lady Mabel Anazodo.

He informed us that there will be no autonomy for Nnewi, although a committee recommended creation of three local governments from Nnewi or at least additional one new local government. He informed us that there is currently no division in Nnewi, but that everything has been agreed upon in connection with need to create additional local government/s out of Nnewi town. That the idea of creating additional local government is to attract additional resources to Nnewi. He lamented lack of project by the government in Nnewi, noting that almost all Projects at Nnewi were undertaken by private efforts on the part of Nnewi people. He also informed us that Bakassi security outfit at Nnewi is currently under the control of Anambra state government and that the government is owing the Bakassi Boys several months of salary

BUDGET/FINANCIAL REPORT

Sylva Odobulu highlighted the need for effective fundraising by NUSA. That members should endeavor to honor their pledge. He read out the names of members who fulfilled their pledges. Requested that members who are yet to honor their pledge should endeavor to do so as soon as possible. Nnaerika Okonkwo inquired whether the \$100.00 that was agreed that every member should pay was included in the amount outstanding against those who have not met their pledges. Alutu supported Nnaerika inquiry and Tony Ndum asked why the list of donors who failed to fulfill their pledge at Houston convention as well as other conventions were not included in the list of those who have not fulfilled their pledges. Ododulu promised to update his record to include donors at prior conventions. There was an uproar by some members from Boston Chapter who complained that their names are being announced to the effect that they have failed to fulfill their pledges, when in fact they have made the payment to Boston Chapter. Odobulu explained to the members from Boston chapter that as far as NUSA is concerned those pledges that were collected by Boston Chapter are regarded as unpaid until Boston Chapter turns over the money to NUSA. Leo Okoli pointed a correction that he donated \$300.00 instead of \$500.00 that was announced and outstanding against him. Mike Obiora pointed out that the reason why the list failed to include \$100.00 relates to the fact that NUSA does not have list of all chapter members. The members were informed that cash at bank as at June 30, 2002 was \$6,388.49. Total projected revenue for the year is \$48,388.49 Total projected expenditure for the year is \$23,550.00 Net projected income for the year is \$24,838.49 Motion to pass and/or approve budget was moved by Arunne Momah and supported by David Okonkwo. Approved by majority through show of hands. Motion to adopt financial statement moved by Leo Okoli and supported by Ugo Uzodike. Arunne Momah moved that we extend our thanks to Sylva Odobulu for the financial report. The financial report was adopted by unanimous show of hands.

NUSA FOCUS

Mike Obiora pointed out that we should endeavor to deal with issues that hamper our effectiveness and smooth operation. That we need to amend or change our method of operation in connection with future conventions in view of problems that we experience at almost all the conventions. The main issue he pointed out is the role of NUSA in future conventions. He asked the question whether it is right to continue to allow local chapters to run or organize conventions with the attendant allegations that NUSA just come in and takes all the proceed away from the chapters. He stressed the need for better operation of our convention. He informed the assembly that a committee was set up to review modalities that NUSA may assist the local chapters in future conventions. The committee he informed the assembly was made up of himself, Chika Oraka and Sylvanus Odobulu. He also informed the assembly

that the committee made some recommendations including but not limited to:

(a) that NUSA should give local chapter hosting the convention some money in the overall cost of the convention as well as production of souvenirs, increased role of women in future planning as well as active participation in NUSA affairs. He also stressed the need for NUSA to play prominent role in future conventions. However, in order to accomplish this goal, NUSA must be financially involved in future conventions. He further informed the assembly that the above referenced committee recommended:

(b) NUSA should be responsible for feeding at the convention;

(c) children should participate effectively in future conventions;

(d) women should be effectively involved in future conventions and planning;

(e) NUSA should provide a back up MC at the gala night.

Robert Azubuike inquired why all the women who contested for election in Boston convention failed. Mike continued his speech by stating that NUSA's increased role in future conventions should involve expenditure on the part of NUSA. Leo Enendu suggested that NUSA should refer this issue to a committee that should be charged with drawing up modality for commitment of funds to conventions by NUSA. Chike Odunukwe sought to know why the same report that was presented to delegates and executive at an earlier meeting and the committee was requested to provide more detail in terms of dollar amount and other details, was being presented without the requested detail and dollar amount. Mike answered that the reason why the same report is being presented is borne out of the fact that no other recommendation was forthcoming from the members of that committee.

Mike framed the question as follows

"That NUSA should provide seed money to local chapter hosting the convention" However, he urged that we determine how much should NUSA give to local chapter. Mike stated that his committee recommended \$3,000.00 as seed money to local chapter hosting the convention. Ike Mbelu suggested that \$3,000 is not sufficient. Joseph Aralu stated that future conventions ought to be profit oriented and that NUSA should insist on percentage sharing formula. Nnaerika Okonkwo sought to know what the seed money will be used for by the local chapter. He opined that the assembly should determine the use for the seed money and percentage of profit sharing. Ugo Uzodike pointed out that the reason why the recommendation of the committee was not approved and/or adopted was the based on a recommendation that all chapters should host the convention under the current arrangement prior to adopting a different formula. Mike Anazodo suggested that we should determine the amount that NUSA should contribute to local chapters and percentage of loss/profit sharing. Ebube Odunukwe suggested that the assembly limit next convention to one day, else NUSA should provide financial assistance to the chapter hosting the convention. Isaac Emefo pointed out that it is wrong for some chapters to insist that NUSA comes in after the convention and takes all the sums of money realized. He highlight that there are areas that NUSA never requested local chapters to turn over funds to NUSA at the conclusions of the conventions.

He supports the need to set a dollar amount as seed money to be given to local chapter to assist in hosting future conventions. He also stated that NUSA is financially incapable at this time to undertake the entire financial burden of hosting the convention without the local chapter. David Okonkwo lent his support to NUSA's financial involvement in future conventions. Alhaji inquired the seed money will be

fixed considering the fact that some cities have high cost of living than others. Tony Ndum opined that NUSA should establish proper procedure towards future convention, objecting to the idea that we should wait until all the chapters have hosted conventions before we institute changes including NUSA's financial input in conventions. Dennis Egwuatu also opposed the idea of waiting till all the chapters have hosted the conventions prior to NUSA's financial involvement in conventions.

Chike Momah informed the assembly that the progress of NUSA is progress for all. He proposed that seed money be a percentage of cost of convention by the hosting chapter. He also stressed the need for NUSA to embark on raising funds for its activities. He expressed regret at effort by some local chapters to undermine NUSA. Ifedigbo agreed that seed money should be given to local chapters but the chapter shall refund the money at the end of the convention. He proposed \$8,000.00 as the seed money, and that local chapter takes out their expenses and the profit shared 55% to local chapter and 45% to NUSA.

Leo Okoli proposed that we put this matter to a vote whether NUSA should be financially responsible for future conventions. Sylva Odobulu moved that new members be added to the committee and that members of the executives in the committee be removed. It was unanimously agreed that former committee be and is hereby dissolved forthwith.

A new committee was set up as follows:

(1) David Okonkwo, (2) Ethel Momah, (3) Chika Oraka, (4) Ike Mbelu, (5) Tony Ndum, (6) Chike Odunukwe and (7) Sylva Odobulu. The committee was charged with determining modalities for NUSA becoming financially involved in future conventions. The report of the committee is due on or before October 30, 2002 and the committee will elect its chairperson.

BOSTON CONVENTION RECAP

The president Mike Obiora highlighted the problems encountered by Boston chapter during the convention that took place at Boston in July 2001. He explained that Boston Chapter lost money from hosting the convention. He informed the assembly that there is an ongoing stalemate between Boston chapter and NUSA regarding the outcome of the last convention and the request by Boston chapter that NUSA reimburse the chapter \$7,500.00 that it claimed was the balance of its loss from the convention. He informed the assembly that the executive was recommending the formation of a committee to deal with the issue between NUSA and Boston chapter. He informed the assembly that the committee be named Resolution Committee.

The members of the committee are as follows: (1) Leo Enendu, (2) Chike Momah, (3) Ugo Okeke, (4) Nonso Mojekwu, (5) Chika Oraka and (6) Nnaerika Okonkwo. Chike Momah was recommended as the chairman of the committee.

Ebube Odunukwe suggests that the committee inquire from Boston chapter the way that NUSA can help them. Sylva Odobulu stated that there are other issues connected to this matter in view of the fact that Boston chapter is currently withholding some pledges made at Boston convention as a result of this matter. He stated that all pledges made at the convention belong to NUSA and that Boston chapter has no right to collect pledges and retain same for the chapter. He pointed out that this committee should determine and address these issues. Nonso Mojekwu inquired whether the committee is acceptable to Boston chapter and whether the

report of the committee will be acceptable to it. Chike Momah stated that he has prejudice but promised that he can rise above his prejudice to discharge his responsibility in an impartial manner. Isaac Emefo reiterated that the issue with Boston chapter has been discussed at delegates/executive meeting and vote taken thereof. However, he urged all the members of the committee to discharge their responsibilities in connection with this issue in an impartial manner devoid of any prejudice. Dr. Ngozi Obi sought God's help and wisdom to enable the committee to discharge their responsibility without fear or favor. Chike Odunukwe stated that Boston chapter will accept the report and/or recommendation of the committee. The assembly approved the appointment of the committee and charged it to deliver its report on or before October 30, 2002. Mike Obiora asked Chike Odunukwe whether the committee as constituted was acceptable to Boston chapter or if the chapter objects to any member/s of the committee. Chike Odunukwe answered that though the Boston chapter thinks that the committee should have been set up with the consultation with Boston chapter in view of the fact that the dispute was between the chapter and NUSA's executive and that it was wrong for the same executive that was a party to the dispute to set up a committee without consulting the chapter, the chapter will nevertheless approve of the committee and the members.

SYLVANUS ODOBULU informed the assembly that Dallas Chapter is requesting to be allowed to host 2003 NUSA convention. Nnaerika Okonkwo lends support to said request by Odobulu to allow Dallas chapter to host 2003 convention. The requested by Dallas chapter to host 2003 convention was unanimously approved by acclamation by the assembly.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Chike Odunukwe informed the assembly that since NUSA was formed, the only source of funding continues to be the donation from members and that at every convention members have generally been called upon to donate money to the association for its various projects. He informed the assembly that a fundraising committee was set up by NUSA to determine and/or identify outside sources of funding for the association. He stated that the members of the committee are: Pamela Mojekwu, Ogoegbunam Orizu, Ofili Uba, Ossy Okeke, Benji Anosike and himself as the chairman of the committee. He informed the assembly that the committee looked at the Rules and Byelaws of NUSA to see area/s that it may be impeding our ability to raise money for NUSA. He also stated that the committee looked at areas or sources of raising money, means to raise money as well as rules and procedure to raise money. He stated that the committee looked into ways to ensure that delegates and executives are independent. He informed the assembly that regarding areas or means to raise funds for NUSA that there are few Aid agencies that fund projects overseas especially in Nigeria. He advocated transparency by NUSA so that potential audit will not create problem for NUSA. He stated that NUSA should maintain proper record keeping. Mike Obiora thanked Chike and the committee members.

Sylva Odobulu opined that it appears that the committee does not understand its role and what its terms of reference are. He pointed out that the committee should have come up with a foundation or plan of action to raise money by NUSA. He stated that if the committee cannot do what it was set up to do, then we should disband the committee and set up a new committee in view of the fact that fundraising through outside sources should be paramount consideration to NUSA instead of members being called upon at every convention to make a donation. Aralu concurred that the

committee appeared to have gone outside its terms of reference and supports Odobulu point of view regarding this matter. Leo Enendu supports the idea to reconstitute the committee replacing non-effective members with new people who are ready to serve. Ugo Uzodike also supports the foregoing consensus that the committee be reconstituted. Nnaerika Okonkwo, Ike Mbelu, Dennis Egwuatu, Grace Odunukwe and Ebube Odunukwe in their individual opinions objects to the criticisms leveled against the committee, stating instead that the report of the committee be accepted and then request that the committee present NUSA with a blue print regarding their work. Leo Okoli stated that this committee is the most important committee in NUSA and if the committee cannot present an acceptable report on modality to raise funds from outside sources, then we should dissolve the committee and reconstitute it immediately. Chike Odunukwe stated that only two members of the committee contributed to the report.

Mike Obiora thanked the committee again and urged that the assembly accept the report of the committee. The motion to accept the report of the committee was moved by David Okonkwo and Mike Anazodo. The report was accepted by acclamation.

Ike Mbelu urged that the assembly form another committee to immediately embark on fundraising. Ugo Okeke was opposed to idea of dissolving the committee, instead suggesting that we add some new members to the existing members or remove inactive 9 members and replace them with new members. Mike Obiora urged that we defer action on the formation or dissolution of the fundraising committee for today and conclude it during the fundraising tomorrow. Motion for adjournment was moved by David Okonkwo and supported by Leo Okoli. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. with a closing prayer by Dr. Ngozi Obi.

DAY II

The assembly opened with a prayer by Chief Joseph Odunukwe at 9:58 a.m.

The secretary enumerated the resolutions at Day 1 assembly.

Dignitaries from Nnewi were recognized namely: Chief Joseph Odunukwe, Chief Ezulike Uba, Engineer Ajulu Uzodike, Ms Onwughalu, Lady Mabel Anazodo, Mrs. Florence Mbelu.

A letter from Nzuko Ora Nnewi urging NUSA to assist in establishing a Technical College/Vocational Training Centre at Nnewi was read at the assembly. In the letter Nzuko Ora Nnewi informed the assembly that in view of the low level of production/manufacturing that exist in Nnewi and Nigeria as a whole, it is necessary to establish the Technical College/Vocational Training Centre to take advantage of existing industries in Nnewi as well as the workforce. The Technical College will offer courses in the areas of Mechanical Crafts, Electrical and Electronics as well as Civil Engineering.

Nnaerika Okonkwo inquired if there is a way that NUSA and Nzuko Ora Nnewi will join effort and/or resources to sponsor political debate amongst political contestants for Nnewi North Local Government Chairman. Chris Ulasi, Mrs. Onwughalu, Joseph Aralu, Dr. Oramasionwu all support the idea of NUSA's involvement in sponsoring a political debate amongst contestants for Nnewi North Local Government chairman.

ARRIVAL OF IGWE KENNETH ORIZU III

Igwe Kenneth Orizu III, his wife and protocol officer arrived at the convention hall at 10:40 a.m. to a tumultuous ovation from the assembly. Introduction of Igwe by Okey Chidolue followed after the Igwe's arrival.

Presentation of Kolanut by Ike Moghalu (president of Washington DC chapter). Kolanut was presented to Igwe and after a brief prayer broke the kolanut and same was distributed to the assembly. Thereafter Okey Chidolue introduced Igwe for his speech.