Press release by the “National Youth Summit Council”, presented by the President, Amb. Mgbang Rex David, on Tuesday 6th August, 2014

Gentlemen of the Press,

We members of The National Youth Summit Group have painstakingly looked into the political atmosphere in Nigeria and have decided to not only make a statement, but also directly get involved in the politics of the day.

After consultations and deliberations plus vigorous analysis of the current polity we have decided to endorse President Jonathan for a second term as president in 2015. We have also taken keen interest in Rivers State, due to the dynamic nature of politics in the state, vis-à-vis, the quest to avoid youth restiveness, which may occur, if the wrong candidate is projected to run. We have however decided to endorse Prince Tonye Princewill as the next Governor of Rivers State, come 2015.

However, our team of experts are working tirelessly in search of worthy candidates in other states and in due course, we shall be making our position known.

The transformation agenda of the Jonathan’s administration has been felt in critical sectors of our economy, such as power, aviation, oil and gas, education, agriculture, trade and investment, youth empowerment, health and tourism, just to mention a few. The transformation agenda has also led to the development of key infrastructure particularly roads as well as economic empowerment of citizens and the improvement of the well-being of Nigerians. If the Jonathan’s administration could achieve these in this few years, we believe that if given a second term it would achieve more and place Nigeria in a better position among the committee of nations.

Considering that Nigeria still largely depends on oil, it’s only profitable to the country if the state with the highest production of crude oil has a good working relationship with the federal government. This is the reason why the National Youth Summit Council, whose concern is the welfare of Nigerians have decided to add its voice in the politics of Rivers State.

The background, political history and lifestyle of Prince Tonye Princewill makes him stand out. We are aware that many people are interested to run for the position under the PDP and also taking into cognizance the upland/riverine dichotomy of the state, we unanimously decided to endorse Tonye Princewill for the following reasons

1. He is the only candidate that has contested a governorship election before. So he has the experience to mobilize grassroots support across the state. He did it with a less popular party so imagine what he can achieve with the PDP.

2. He is the only candidate that has been a leader of the main opposition party (then AC). So he knows how the opposition thinks, his victory as the flag bearer of PDP will most likely
result to a massive decamping of APC members to the PDP in Rivers State.

3. He is the only candidate that has never held a political office before. So he can’t be said to be a corrupt public officer but a successful business man that has carved a niche for himself in the private sector.

4. He is the most popular and acceptable candidate with followership across every ward in the state. When he came into politics in the 2007 guber election, he was the only opposition candidate that had polling officers in every ward across the state; Winning about 13 wards, a feat that no opposition in Rivers State has achieved.

5. He is the only candidate that can stand against Governor Amaechi's force in the state, considering Gov. Amaechi’s deviation from governance to power at all cost. Tonye is known for his vocal stance on issues in the state; One that can be seen on billboards across the state, from 2007 till date. He is well accepted by the youths, both on social media, down to the grassroots. He has constantly spoken against the wrong doings of the governor when nobody in the party could speak. He is a fighter and a reasonable one at that. No wonder, he can't be referred to as a taut, a named that is common with some governorship aspirants in the state. He is largely respected and is seen as the new face of Rivers politics.

Our support for President Goodluck Jonathan and Prince Tonye Princewill for President and Governor was born out of their achievements and sterling leadership qualities.

We hereby call on the National Youth Wing of the PDP, to join us and all Nigerian youth to appeal to the PDP National Chairman; Alhaji Adamu Mu'azu, the PDP state executive and delegates of the party at all levels to support the candidature of President Goodluck Jonathan and Prince Tonye Princewill as President of Nigeria and Governor of Rivers State, come 2015.

As the youth wing of the National Summit Group we once again congratulate our leaders, Frank Nweke Jr (Former Minister of Information) and Tony Uranta, for the successful hosting of the just concluded World Economic Forum, Abuja. We salute their efforts towards placing Nigeria on the map of great countries. Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Thank you all.

Sign: Amb. Mgbang Rex David
President; National Youth Summit Group (NYSG)

Sign: Hon. Melford T. Georgewill
President; Rivers State Chapter, NYSG

Sign: Engr. Edward Tiku
President; South South, NYSG

Sign: Mrs Ama Aloma
President; North East, NYSG
Sign: Sunday Bako (ACA)
President; North West, NYSG

Sign: Abdulazi Adebayo
President; South West, NYSG

Sign: Dr. Chuma Obiako
President; South East, NYSG

Sign: Inusa Idris
President; North Central, NYSG