

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2013

# NNPC operates IOCs' divested oil fields

Stories by CHARLES OKONJI

**T**he Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) has expressed its readiness to professionally and efficiently run some of the assets and oil mining leases, which International Oil Companies (IOCs), particularly Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC), have divested their interest.

The Group Managing Director of the NNPC, Engr. Andrew Yakubu, stated this over the weekend after the board meeting of its subsidiary, Nigerian Petroleum Development Company (NPDC), in Warri, Delta State.

Yakubu said the corporation along with its flagship company, NPDC, was repositioning to ensure that its acquired assets remain productive to ultimately boast the revenue inflow to the Nigerian economy.

He stated: "With the divestment of Shell, NPDC is the top and the only option for indigenous participation that will replace companies like SPDC and other companies that wanted to

"So NPDC therefore, has taken over this obligation of value addition as the flagship operator of the upstream business of NNPC. NPDC is the gateway of capacity development and capability development of the

upstream activities in Nigeria," he added.

He said the activities of the NPDC in Warri had made the company the highest local producer of gas to the domestic gas requirement of Nigeria

and this had gone a long way in meeting the Federal Government aspiration in the area of power generation, stressing that with the new status, NPDC remained the biggest indigenous gas supplier in Af-

rica.

The NNPC helmsman noted that as a socially responsible corporation, the NNPC would step up its activities in the area of providing social amenities such as class room blocks, educational scholarship, providing health facilities roads and water to communities where its operations are domiciled.

He added that by partnering with the various tiers of government in providing basic amenities to oil bearing communities, a conducive environment that would guarantee smooth operations of the acquired assets would be provided, stressing that the NNPC would continue to touch the lives of Nigerians in many positive ways.

According to him, the assurances from the Warri communities indicated that the coming of NPDC to Warri would help in sustaining community development efforts in line with international best practices.

It would be recalled that through the support and vision of the Minister of Petroleum Resources, Mrs. Diezani Alison-Maduke, NPDC took



L-R: External Communication Lead, SPE Nigeria Council, Mr Francis Nwaochei, Chairman, SPE Nigeria Council, Mr. Osayande Iqejhon, and Vice Chairman/Chairman, Elert SPE Nigeria Council, Mr. Osayande Iqejhon.