



OPCW

Executive Council

109th Session
8 – 11 July 2025

EC-109/S/11
15 May 2025
Original: ENGLISH

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**NOMINATION BY THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA OF A CANDIDATE
FOR THE APPOINTMENT TO THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

1. At its 108th Session, the Executive Council (the Council) adopted a decision on the “Road Map for the Process of the Appointment of the Next Director-General in 2025” (EC-108/DEC.5, dated 6 March 2025), requesting the Chairperson of the Council to invite, on the Council’s behalf, States Parties to present their nominations of candidates for the position of Director-General of the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) by no later than 16 May 2025, to enable their consideration by the Council.
2. The Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the OPCW has submitted to the Technical Secretariat a note verbale informing it of the nomination of H.E. Ambassador Eniola Ajayi as candidate for the position of Director-General.
3. In accordance with EC-108/DEC.5, the above-mentioned note verbale is herewith conveyed to the members of the Council.

Annex (English only):

Note Verbale No. HI/NV/27/2025 from the Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the OPCW Dated 15 May 2025



Annex

**NOTE VERBALE NO. HI/NV/27/2025 FROM THE PERMANENT
REPRESENTATION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA TO THE OPCW
DATED 15 MAY 2025**



NO. **HI/NV/27/2025**

THE HAGUE,

The Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) presents its compliments to the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW and with reference to the letter of H.E. Ambassador Andrés Terán Parral, Chairman of the Executive Council of the OPCW, dated 10th March 2025 and has the honour to forward the attached Letter of Nomination received from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, nominating Ambassador (Dr.) Eniola Ajayi as Nigeria's candidate for the position of Director General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (DG-OPCW).

The Permanent Mission kindly requests that this communication be circulated amongst State Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC).

The Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the OPCW avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW the assurances of its highest consideration.

The Hague, 15th May, 2025

Technical Secretariat,
Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,
Johan de Wittlaan 32,
2517 JR,
The Hague,
The Kingdom of the Netherlands.



Enclosed

- Letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
- Curriculum Vitae of Ambassador (Dr.) Eniola Olaitan Ajayi

c.c. Chairperson of the Executive Council
Members of the Executive Council



MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FA 4/61/II

5th May, 2025

H.E. Ambassador Andres Teran Parral
Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the OPCW,
Chairman of the Executive Council,
Embassy of the Republic of Ecuador,
Koninginnegracht 84, 2514 AJ,
Den Haag,
The Nederland.

Your Excellency,

NOMINATION OF AMBASSADOR (DR.) ENIOLA AJAYI FOR THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR GENERAL, OPCW

Your Excellency, I bring you warm greetings from the Government and great people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and have the honour to inform that the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria has nominated Ambassador (Dr.) Eniola Ajayi as Nigeria's candidate for the position of the Director General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

2. Ambassador (Dr.) Eniola Ajayi is Nigeria's immediate past Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands. While she functioned in that capacity, she had the honour of chairing the 99th Session of the

Executive Council in March, 2022, prior to departing to Nigeria upon a meritorious completion of tour of duty as Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

3. Your Excellency, Ambassador (Dr.) Eniola Ajayi is eminently qualified and is desirous to promoting beyond enviable height, the mandate of the OPCW with the support and concurrence of States Parties if given the opportunity to serve as the Director General of the Organization.

4. While looking forward to the support of colleagues and other Member States of the OPCW, please accept, Mr. Chairman, the assurances of my highest esteem and best regards.



Ambassador Yusuf Maitama Tuggar, OON
Minister of Foreign Affairs



Ambassador Dr Eniola Olaitan Ajayi

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Eye Clinic and Optical Services,
92, Obafemi Awolowo Road, S/W Ikoyi, Lagos

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www.eniolaajayi.com

PROFILE SUMMARY

I am an accomplished international diplomat and strategic leader with over 38 years of experience post-university graduation. I have had the opportunity to serve as an Optometrist and Ocular Pathologist at the Nigerian Airforce Medical Services, established a private eye care practice, served as a State commissioner of Education, Science and Technology and later in the Ministry of Environment. I was subsequently appointed as the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to Hungary (with concurrent accreditation to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia. My last diplomatic posting as an ambassador was to the Kingdom of the Netherlands and I was also the Permanent Representative to OPCW – Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, ICC – International Criminal Court, ICJ – International Court of Justice, PCA – Permanent Court of Arbitration and CFC – Common Fund for Commodities. I served as the chairperson for the ninety-ninth session of the Executive Council (EC-99) of the OPCW. I have been recognized for fostering multilateral cooperation, advancing global peace and security, and delivering measurable outcomes in complex, high-stakes environments. I am committed to strengthening international frameworks and building inclusive partnerships to address global challenges effectively.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Strategic Visionary Leadership, Effective Administration and Governance
- Multilateral Diplomacy and Negotiation
- Policy Formulation and Implementation
- International Relations and Security
- Stakeholder Engagement and Advocacy
- Organizational Development and Reform
- Risk Management and Crisis Resolution
- Communication and Multilingual Proficiency

LANGUAGES

Fluent English and Yoruba
Basic French

EDUCATION

- Doctor of Optometry (OD)
University of Benin, Benin City
Edo State, Nigeria
2002
- Master of Philosophy (M.Phil)
Ocular Pathology
Institute of Ophthalmology
Moorfield's Eye Hospital and St Thomas' Hospital
University of London, London
United Kingdom
1994
- Bachelor of Science (B.Sc)
Optometry
University of Benin, Benin City
Edo State, Nigeria
1986

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Managing Director at Enny Eye Care (Eye Clinic and Optical Services)

Position Title – Consultant Optometrist / Ocular Pathologist, Enny Eye Care (Eye Clinic and Optical Services), Ikeja, Lagos, Nigeria

Dates of Service: 02/1997 – 11/2010, 10/2015 – 10/2017, and 02/2024 – Present

- Lead high-level strategies to address contemporary and high-value ocular care for patients.
- Represent the organization at global conferences and exhibitions, fostering collaboration among stakeholders such as eye care professionals, associations, NGOs and educational establishments.
- Oversee programs/policies and budgeting with the goal of ensuring alignment with international norms and objectives.
- This establishment has been successfully operated over the past 27 years as a leading eye care provider.



Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Permanent Representative to OPCW – Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, ICC – International Criminal Court, ICJ – International Court of Justice, PCA – Permanent Court of Arbitration and CFC – Common Fund for Commodities.

Head of Mission, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, The Hague, Netherlands

Dates of Service: 05/2021 – 12/2023

- Oversaw the effective administration of the mission for adequate representation of Nigeria and Nigerians at the mission, with the host country and the multilateral Institutions where Nigeria is accredited in The Hague.
- Chairperson of a very efficiently conducted 99th Session of the Executive Council at OPCW representing the Africa Group. Subsequently served as Vice Chairperson representing the Africa Group for two consecutive terms.
- Served as Vice Chairperson of the Chemical Industry Cluster and other article VI issues. Under my guidance, we managed to reach a consensus on the efficiency and effectiveness of the industry verification regime. Site selection criteria and equitable geographical distribution of inspection sites, especially Schedule 2B plant sites, were achieved—impacting all the 193 state parties accredited to OPCW from all regions of the world.
- Managed cross-cultural teams, ensuring excellence in policy delivery and operational efficiency as Chairperson of the Governing Council of Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) at the 35th Annual Meeting of the council of 101 member states and 9 Institutional members.
- Successfully organized the election of its Managing Director at the expiration of the first term of the Managing Director without any glitches.
- Presented country statements on human rights at the Assembly of States Parties of the International Criminal Court at the World Forum in 2021, and on rule of law and disarmament issues under the second and sixth committees at the United Nations General Assembly in 2022 and 2023.

Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to Hungary (with Concurrent Accreditation to Bosnia 'n' Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia)

Head of Mission at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in Budapest.

Dates of Service: 10/2017 – 04/2021

- Spearheaded the relocation of the Chancery to a more appropriate building at a strategic location with cost saving benefits.

- Strengthened the embassy and citizens' interaction with the four guiding pillars of **Inclusion, Investments, Image Building and Innovations**. The goal was to ensure that the rights of all, whether male or female, able or vulnerable, Christian or Muslim, from the North, South, East or West, were preserved.
- Facilitated more scholarship offers from Hungary and Serbia—50 more from Stipendium Hungaricum in Hungary and 13 more from Serbia to the World programmes respectively.
- Supported the visit of Ekiti State Performing Arts Company to Budapest for a very successful cultural programme.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

1. Differential Expression of Intermediate Filament Protein in the Retina (October 29 - December 7, 1990, and May 5, 1992 – May 17, 1994) at Moorfield's Eye Hospital and St Thomas' Hospital, University of London, United Kingdom
2. Experimental Studies on the Short-term Effect of Cyanide (CN) Toxicity on the Eye. My thesis for Doctor of Optometry, University of Benin, Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria. January 2000 – January 2002

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Leadership Excellence Award by the Nigerian Optometric Association 2024
- Grand Supporter of Culture in Ekiti State 2024
- Ambassador of Professional Growth by the Nigerian Postgraduate College of Optometrists 2021
- University of Benin, UNIBEN HERO 2021
- Nigeria Export Promotion Council Award for the publication, Food Culture and Cuisine in Nigeria 2021
- Best Ambassador Award from the Africa Forum in 2021
- Distinguished Ambassador of the year Award by Afe Babalola Beneficiaries Worldwide 2019
- Top Elegance Magazine Award for Best Commissioner of the year 2012
- Distinguished Alumnus Award from University of Benin Alumni Worldwide 2012
- Fellow of the Nigerian Optometric Association 2011
- Eye Care Personality of the year 2010
- Optometrist of the Year / Nigerian Optometric Association Chairman of the Year 2009

TRAINING & CERTIFICATIONS

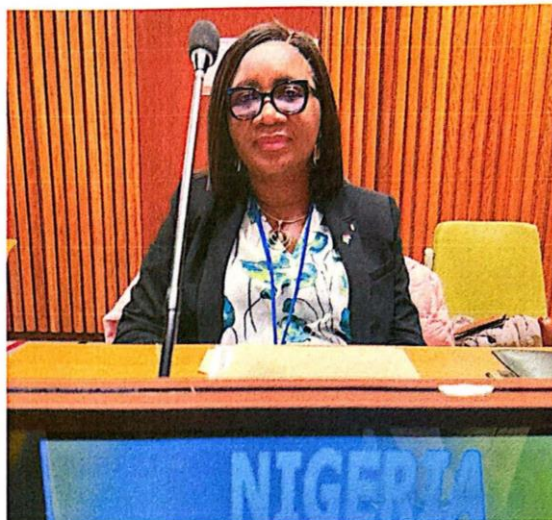
- Clingendael Academy, Netherlands Institute of International Relation: Programme on International Negotiations for Women Ambassadors and Directors at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands, September 2021 and September 2023
- Leadership Masterclass for Female Diplomats by Afroprotocol in Cape Town, South Africa, July 2023



- Best Graduating Student of the Special Optometry Class of 2000
- A.H. Bygott Postgraduate Studentship Award Of 1993
- European Commission Scholarship for a two-year research program 1992

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

1. Chairperson, FGN Women Ambassadors Network. January 2023 – Till Date
2. Chairperson of the Governing Council of Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) December 2022 – November 2023
3. Chairperson for the Ninety Ninth session of the Executive Council (EC-99) of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)
4. Ambassador of the Federal republic of Nigeria to the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Permanent Representative to OPCW, ICC, ICJ, PCA and CFC. May 2021 – December 2023
5. Ambassador of the Federal republic of Nigeria to Hungary (with concurrent accreditation to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia) October 2017 – April 2021
6. Member, Board of Trustees, Nigerian Optometric Association, 2019-2024
7. Honourable Commissioner for Environment, Ekiti State, Nigeria, February 2013 – October 2015
8. Honourable Commissioner for Education, Science and Technology, Ekiti State, Nigeria November 2010 – January 2013
9. Secretary, Save a Sight and Vision Foundation, an NGO of the Nigerian Optometric Association, Lagos Branch. January 2009 – Till date



10. Member, Board of Governors, Olashore International School, 2006-2023
11. Chairperson, Nigerian Optometric Association, Lagos Branch. March 2005 – March 2013
12. Chairperson, Chrisland School, Ladipo Oluwale, Ikeja, Lagos, Parents Teachers Association 2005 - 2008
13. President, Christ's School, Ado – Ekiti Alumni Association 75/80 set, October 2005 – April 2013
14. Sole Proprietor, Enny Eye Care, Eye Clinic and Optical Services, Lagos. February 1997- Till date

PUBLICATIONS

Magazine Style Publications

- Nigeria Land of Opportunities (Embassy of Nigeria, Budapest, Hungary), 2018
- Arts Culture and Tourism in Nigeria (Embassy of Nigeria, Budapest, Hungary), 2019
- Food Culture and Cuisine in Nigeria (Embassy of Nigeria, Budapest, Hungary), 2020

- Nigeria at a Glance (Embassy of Nigeria, The Hague, Netherlands), 2023

Book Publication

- Mastering Diplomacy: The Essential Guide to International Relations. Amazon 2024

KEYNOTE SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

1. World Peace and Understanding Day by Rotary Club District 9110 Lagos February 23, 2023. Title: Benefits of Credible, Free and Fair Elections to a Developing Economy.
2. Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Members' Day July 28, 2023. Title: The Impact of International trade in the Economic Growth of Nigeria.
3. Inspired to Inspire: Why She Leads Conference, March 19, 2024. Title: Personal Development in Leadership for Women
4. The Platform Public Service Bootcamp, by Covenant Nation, Abuja, March 23, 2024. Title: The Role of Diplomacy in Nigeria's Development: How foreign service contributes to achieving goals like poverty reduction and economic growth.
5. Daystar Leadership Academy. September 11, 2024. Title: Leading with Vision

PRESENTING COUNTRY STATEMENTS AT THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE ASSEMBLY OF STATE PARTIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

1. Human Rights and Rule of Law at the 20th Session of the Assembly of State Parties of the International Criminal Court on December 7, 2021
2. Crimes Against Humanity at the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on October 12, 2023
3. Scope and Application of the Principle of Universal Jurisdiction at the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on October 16, 2023
4. The Thematic Debate of the First Committee: Nuclear Weapons at the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on October 16, 2023
5. Strengthening and Promoting International Treaty Framework at the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly on October 18, 2023
6. The Rule of Law at the National and International Levels at the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on October 18, 2023



REFERENCES

Available upon request.