

## NGA board meets, pledges support for management

By Oji Onoko

The boardroom of the National Gallery of Art (NGA) was a beehive of activities Tuesday, March 27, 2018 as members of the governing board gathered for the first time after their inauguration to chart the way forward for the organization.

The Director General, Abdullahi Muku, apprised them of the programmes and activities of NGA. Among these are the **Saturday Art Club, National Visual Art Competition, Artfair, Art of Friendship, National Visual Art World Tour (NIVATOUR)**, which has taken place in Egypt and South Korea among others. Muku stated that one of the programmes NGA is desirous on hosting is the **Abuja biennale**, an art market that will bring together artists, art administrators, art collectors, tourists, political and business leaders to Abuja. He said the programme will provide job opportunity for the youth, soliciting their co-operation to ensure that the biennale holds as envisaged.

The DG also stressed the on-going effort by the National Assembly to review the enabling Act of NGA to make it revenue generating adding that he would need their help to fast track the action. He equally brought to the notice of board members the urgent need of having a befitting edifice for the National Gallery.

Responding, the Chairman of the governing board, Ambassador Umaru Azores Suleiman noted that NGA has done its best in actualizing its mandate. He pledged the support of the board for improved efficiency. He maintained that having a befitting building for NGA is a task members would work strenuously to achieve as well as working together for the review of the enabling Act because of the multiplier effect not just for the artists but the economy at large. Other members equally vowed to support NGA programmes in their own capacities.

Present at the inaugural meeting are:

1. Ambassador Umaru Azores Suleiman (Chairman)
2. Dr Adeyemi Olayemi Bishop (Koko)
3. Mrs Finney David
4. Hon. Ruth Jummai Ango
5. Hon. Inumudu Idehen
6. Oliver Enwonwu
7. Hon. Chinenye Virginia Okegbe (JP)
8. Makan R. Sallau
9. Otunba Segun Runsewe
10. Emeka Onuegbu
11. Titus Akusu (Secretary)