



## **GLOBAL PROGRAMME DIRECTOR, D-8 HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAMME PRESENTS LETTER OF COMMISSION**

On the 28th of May 2020, the newly appointed Global Programme Director of the D-8 Health and Social Protection Programme, Dr. Ado J.G Muhammad, OON was received at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja, Nigeria. In a brief ceremony, Dr. Ado presented his Letter of Commission to the Honourable Minister Foreign Affairs, His Excellency, Geoffrey Onyeama, signifying the formal acceptance and assumption of duty of Dr. Muhammad as the Programme Director by the Government of Nigeria.

The Hon Minister of Foreign Affairs warmly received the Programme Director and his team and assured the D-8 team of the unflinching support of the Federal Government of Nigeria to the aspirations of the Health and Social Protection Programme and reaffirmed Nigeria's commitment to the D-8 Charter. In addition, he also welcomed the proposed D-8 COVID-19 resource mobilization initiative and pledged the support of the Nigerian government. The Hon Minister appreciated the appointment of Dr. Ado, an experienced and resourceful Nigerian and an acclaimed public health expert as the pioneer Programme Director, and thereafter the Letter of commission was presented.

After the presentation of the Letter of Commission to the Foreign Affairs Minister, the Global Programme Director, on behalf of the Secretary General of the D-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation, undertook advocacy visits to the Honorable Minister of State, Foreign Affairs – Ambassador Zubairu Dada; and the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and D-8 Commissioner, Ambassador Mustapha L. Sulaiman. During the visits, Dr. Ado conveyed the goodwill messages of the Secretary General, Ambassador Dato Ku jaafar Ku Shaari and formally presented himself. He also seized the opportunity to inform the Ambassadors of the Health and Social Protection Agenda of the D-8 as well as intimate them of the efforts of the Secretary





General to support member states mitigate against the impact of COVID-19 on livelihoods, lives and economies through the D-8 HSP office.

Dr. Ado J.G Muhammad, OON, a Nigerian born in 1967, with vast experience in global health and public administration was the Executive Director, National Primary Health Care Development Agency and coordinated the historic interruption of wild Polio Virus in Nigeria in 2014, which earned him one of the highest national honors in Nigeria – Order of the Niger (OON). Dr. Ado J.G Muhammad, OON is a medical doctor, a Public Health Expert and holds Masters of Public Health from University of Wales, UK and Masters in Public Administration of the University of Nottingham, United Kingdom. He had previously worked as a Special Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs as well as in Nigerian Presidential Villa.

