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## PRESS RELEASE

The Declaration of Biafra Independence,
Tuesday May 30, 1967:
A Recommittal to the Declaration of Biafra Independence,
Wednesday, May 30, 2007.

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May 30, 2007

#### Fellow Biafrans:

Forty years following the original declaration of Biafra Independence, we Biafrans rise today to re-commit ourselves to this noble declaration, its spirit, substance and implications, our Independence being our right and our destiny, and a manifestation and symbolism of our Freedom and Liberty.

Those forty years have validated the wisdom and propriety of the declaration of Biafra Independence: these forty years do now compel the re-actualization of Independent Biafra. Having witnessed and experienced, all these years, the unrelenting stranglehold of Nigeria on Biafra;

Unwilling to continue to suffer under the pernicious polices of Nigeria against Biafra and Biafrans;

Certain that a future under Nigeria, based on past and present facts and realities, does not exist for us Biafrans, except as exploited and dehumanized slaves rendered worthless as human beings;

Understanding that, in any case, Nigeria is a failed State barely kept going by mocking and unconscionable patronization by outside Stakeholder-Powers and Principalities; and refusing to allow ourselves to be throttled and dragged down with Nigeria;

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE PEOPLE AND NATION OF BIAFRA, DO DECLARE THAT:

- We re-affirm the original declaration of the Independence of Biafra (i)
- (ii) We are taking charge of our own collective Destiny as an Independent Sovereign Nation of Biafra
- We undertake the actualizing of Independent Biafra as a natural task to claim a (iii) Natural right
- We know that the Law and Rules of civil Humanity are on our side: Self (iv) Determination is an inalienable Natural right; it is recognized in the United Nations Charter; we exercise this right to actualize Independent Biafra.

In making and re-affirming this declaration, we make neither war, nor peace, with Nigeria: we merely exercise our right as a people and a nation, which is our prerogative, and of which there is plenty of precedence. It is our desire to enter into negotiations with Nigeria to resolve "negotiables" peacefully.

An Independent Biafra restores stability and security to the region, allowing the people and their environment to heal and finally to thrive, while at the same time, creating a favorable climate for International business and commerce.

An Independent Biafra is a ray of Hope for Africa which we are determined to nurture and turn into a source-torch to share with and brighten the rest of the continent. Long live the Independent Nation of Biafra!

And may God continue to protect her and all those who live in her.

Signed:

Dr. Emmanuel Enekwechi **Chair, Board of Directors Biafra Foundation** 

May 30, 2007

### **Original Declaration**

# The Declaration of Independence Tuesday, May 30, 1967

Fellow countrymen and women, YOU, the people of Eastern Nigeria:

CONSCIOUS of the supreme authority of Almighty God over all mankind, of your duty to yourselves and prosperity;

AWARE that you can no longer be protected in your lives and in your property by any Government based outside eastern Nigeria:

BELIEVING that you are born free and have certain inalienable rights which can best be preserved by yourselves;

UNWILLING to be unfree partners in any association of a political or economic nature;

REJECTING the authority of any person or persons other than the Military Government of eastern Nigeria to make any imposition of whatever kind or nature upon you;

DETERMINED to dissolve all political and other ties between you and the former Federal Republic of Nigeria;

PREPARED to enter into such association, treaty or alliance with any sovereign state within the former Federal Republic of Nigeria and elsewhere on such terms and conditions as best to subserve your common good;

AFFIRMING your trust and confidence in ME;

HAVING mandated ME to proclaim on your behalf, and in your name the Eastern Nigeria be a sovereign independent Republic,

NOW THEREFORE I, Lieutenant-Colonel Chukwuemeka Odumegwu-Ojukwu, Military Governor of Eastern Nigeria, by virtue of the authority, and pursuant to the principles recited above, do hereby solemnly proclaim that the territory and region known as and called Eastern Nigeria together with her continental shelf and territorial waters shall henceforth be an independent sovereign state of the name and title of THE REPUBLIC OF BIAFRA.

#### AND I DO DECLARE THAT:

(i) All political ties between us and the Federal Republic of Nigeria are hereby totally dissolved.

- (ii) All subsisting contractual obligations entered into by the Government of the federal republic of Nigeria or by any person, authority, organization or government acting on its behalf, with any person, authority or organization operating, or relating to any matter or thing, within the Republic of Biafra, shall henceforth be deemed to be entered into with the Military Governor of the Republic of Biafra for and on behalf of the Government and people of of the Republic of Biafra, and the covenants thereof shall, subject to this Declaration, be performed by the parties according to their tenor;
- (iii) All subsisting international treaties and obligations made on behalf of Eastern Nigeria by the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria shall be honored and respected;
- (iv) Eastern Nigeria's due share of all subsisting international debts and obligations entered into by the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria shall be honored and respected;
- (v) Steps will be taken to to open discussions on the question of Eastern Nigeria's due share of the assets of the Federation of Nigeria and personal properties of the citizens of Biafra throughout the Federation of Nigeria.
- (vi) The rights, privileges, pensions, etc., of all personnel of the Public Services, the Armed Forces and the Police now serving in any capacity within the Republic of Biafra are hereby guaranteed;
- (vii) We shall keep the door open for association with, and would welcome, any sovereign unit or units in the former Federation of Nigeria or any other parts of Africa desirous of association with us for the purposes of running a common services organization and for the establishment of economic ties:
- (viii) We shall protect the lives and property of all foreigners residing in Biafra, we shall extend the hand of friendship to those nations who respect our sovereignty, and shall repel any interference in our internal affairs:
- (ix) We shall faithfully adhere to the charter of the Organization of African Unity and of the United Nations Organization;
- (x) It is our intention to remain a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations in our right as a sovereign, independent nation.

Long live the Republic of Biafra!

And may God protect all those who live in her.