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Celebrating Nigeria at 65: A Call for Unity, Peace, and Inclusive Development

On this day, sixty-five years ago, our beloved nation, Nigeria, took its place among the community of sovereign states. Independence Day is not only a commemoration of freedom from colonial rule, but also a reminder of the resilience, diversity, and shared aspirations that bind us together as a people.

As a peacebuilding network committed to promoting nonviolence, social cohesion, and inclusive development across the Niger Delta, Partners for Peace in the Niger Delta joins millions of Nigerians in celebrating this historic milestone.

We recognize that true independence transcends political sovereignty, it lies in ensuring that every Nigerian enjoys peace, justice, and opportunities to thrive. The Niger Delta, with its abundant resources and vibrant people, remains critical to Nigeria's growth and stability. Yet, it also bears the scars of conflict, marginalization, and environmental challenges. These realities remind us that our collective struggle for peace, equity, and sustainable development is ongoing.

On this Independence Day, we call on all Nigerians, leaders, communities, and citizens to recommit to the values of dialogue over violence, collaboration over division, and inclusion over exclusion. We believe that the Nigeria of our dreams is one where differences in ethnicity, religion, or region become sources of strength rather than lines of conflict.

At P4P, we reaffirm our dedication to supporting grassroots initiatives, amplifying community voices, and building partnerships that heal divides and build trust. Independence must mean freedom from fear, freedom from poverty, and freedom from conflict.

As we raise our flags high in celebration today, let us also raise our commitment to building a Nigeria where peace and prosperity flow across every region, including the Niger Delta. Together, we can shape a future worthy of the sacrifices of our past and the promise of generations yet unborn.

Happy Independence Day, Nigeria!



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