THE 24TH EDITION OF NUGA GAMES: I THANK YOU ALL

The hosting of the 24th Edition of the NUGA Games by our University (Obafemi Awolowo University) was indeed a glorious outing. It was adjudged to be the best NUGA Games in recent past – and this was testified to by all and sundry. In terms of its organisation, available facilities of international standard and resourcefulness as well as the excellent performances of our athletes and officials, it was indeed a NUGA that cannot be compared to any in the annals of the game. Indeed, for the first time in the history of the games, all sporting events were held at a venue.

Our spectacular and splendid outing was evident in the provision of up-to-date facilities, welfare provision for the athletes and officials, security arrangements for the safety of lives and property, uninterrupted supply of water and electricity to the Sports Complex and Halls of Residence, and the general cleanliness of the campus no doubt were the outcome of sustained team work and collective commitment of all of us to bring glory to our University.

I therefore seize this opportunity to thank the members of the University community both academic and non-academic and our students for the sacrifice and resourcefulness they displayed in carrying out their various assignments and the larger University Community for the unflinching and solid support and the confidence reposed in the ability of University Management to organise a sporting fiesta of that magnitude. Let me also seize this opportunity to thank in particular, the Chairman NUGA (LOC), Chairman, Sports Council, the Acting Director of Sports, the Acting Dean, Student Affairs, Director of P.P.D.U., Co-ordinator, Division of Works and Maintenance Services, the Director of INTECU, Acting Director, Computer Centre, members of the numerous committee and to our athletes, I say congratulations for making our University proud. We are proud of you all. By our usual spirit of never-say-die, you were able to project the image of our University by winning 12 gold, 9 silver, 15 bronze medals and being ranked third in the competition in spite of the little time you had for preparation towards the Games as a result of the long strike. Overall, our University Football Team won the gold medal.
I also thank the various arms of the Security outfit – the Nigerian Police, the Directorate of State Security Service, Nigerian Civil Defence Corp, Federal Road Safety Corp and the OAU Security Unit who ensured that law and order prevailed and there was security of lives and property throughout the period of the Games.

I also wish to express the appreciation of the University to the Federal Government for the release of funds for the construction of the Olympic Size Swimming Pool. My gratitude also to individuals and corporate bodies that donated money and materials for the successful hosting of the NUGA games.

Finally, we give glory to the Almighty God for making it possible to host the Games despite the daunting challenges faced by the University. It is my hope that with renewed determination, and commitment from all of us, the glory of our University in sports that had been rekindled by the hosting of the 24th edition of NUGA will be sustained.

Thank you all and God bless you.

Professor Bamitale Omole
Vice-Chancellor