

PRESS RELEASE

VICE MAYOR IGHODARO OPENS DOORS TO INTERNATIONAL TRADE

For immediate release

2/28/17

In an ongoing effort to foster bilateral trade and business development opportunities between South Florida and the international community, City of Miami Gardens Vice Mayor Erhabor Ighodaro, PhD led a group of 18 business leaders from the South Florida community to Abuja and Benin City, Nigeria (February 15-25, 2017).

The group including seven prominent business owners from Miami Gardens had an opportunity to engage in business-to-business (B2B), government-to-government (G2G) bilateral articulations and participate in an import/export fair hosted by the Edo International Business Forum.

The outbound trade mission dovetails an earlier visit by a group of twenty business leaders from the Edo International Business Forum to the city of Miami Gardens Black Business Expo and Cultural Extravaganza hosted last February.

This was a life-transforming experience and one that has opened doors for our chamber members to do business in a global scale, said Mr. G. Eric Knowles President/CEO of the Miami Dade Chamber of Commerce.

The mission designed to provide bilateral trade, business development, and investment opportunities in aviation, agriculture, energy, technology and telecommunications, construction and tourism included leaders from both public and private sectors of the South Florida community. The outbound team included Broward County Commissioner Dale VC Holness, Ms. Connie Kinnard Vice President for Multicultural Tourism with the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, Vice Mayor Alix Desulme of the City of North Miami, Ms. Sonia Flowers President/CEO Flowers Consulting, Ms. Ernestine Thurston Independent Beauty Consultant.

Technology has made us more remotely connected than ever before and we live in an increasingly competitive environment. Our objective was to connect our local businesses with opportunities in the global marketplace and we have seen that opportunities abound when we open doors to international trade and investment, said Ighodaro.

The trade mission was coordinated by the Africa Trade Development Center (ATDC) in partnership with the Miami Dade Chamber of Commerce, Miami Gardens Chamber of Commerce and the support of the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, Enterprise Florida and the Office of Economic Development and International Trade of Miami Dade County.

For more information about the sister cities, trade and business development mission, please contact Vice Mayor Ighodaro's office at 305-914-9186 or email ssmith2@miamigardens-fl.gov.