

## DELEGATION CELEBRATION



Angela Guzman of Atlanta; Estelle Heussen of Potomac, Md.; Michele Wright; Osy Aneke of Houston; Chief Temitope Ajayi of Lagos, Nigeria, and Napa Valley, Calif.; Moradeun Ogunlana of Houston and Little Rock; and Gloria Herndon of Washington



Ambassador Bassey E. Archibong of Washington (center), with Chris J. Maiyaki and Gbenga C. Odusanya, both of Abuja, Nigeria

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# Honors, recognition wrap up Arkansas-Nigeria conference

A May 31 state dinner and awards ceremony in the Arkansas Ballroom of the Little Rock Marriott wrapped up a three-day Arkansas-Nigeria Economic Development Forum. The event was organized by the Nigerian American Agricultural Empowerment Program and African Women's Health Project International with the Embassy of Nigeria in Washington.

Estelle Heussen and Lillian Ajayi served as masters of ceremony for an evening kicked off by greetings from Ambassador Bassey E. Archibong, deputy chief of mission, Embassy of

Nigeria in Washington. Sherman Banks, president emeritus of Sister Cities International, offered a welcome, followed by opening remarks by Chief Temitope "Mama Diaspora" Ajayi, chief executive officer of the Nigerian American Agricultural Empowerment Program and one of the evening's award recipients.

Award recipients also included Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso, executive governor of Nigeria's Kano State; Gloria B. Herndon of Washington, president and chief executive officer of GB Group Global; retired Marine Reserve Maj.

Gen. Cornell A. Wilson Jr. of Charlotte, N.C.; and author and social leader professor Tajudeen Gbadosi.

Organizers and contributors were thanked by Moradeun Ogunlana, founder and chief executive officer of African Women's Health Project.

— Story and photos by Helaine R. Williams



Merrill Atwater of Kansas City, Mo., and retired Marine Reserve Maj. Gen. Cornell A. Wilson Jr. of Charlotte, N.C.