



**AKWA IBOM STATE
ASSOCIATION OF
NIGERIA, (USA) INC.**

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*A Registered 501 (C) 3
Non-Profit Organization
www.AKISAN.org*

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (USA), Inc. to Hold its 23rd Annual National Convention in Baltimore, MD.

Baltimore, Maryland (5-20-10) – The Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (USA), Inc. will hold its popular National Convention on **Thursday, August 5–Sunday, August 8, 2010** at the **Radisson Plaza Lord Baltimore** located at 20 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 (www.radisson.com/lordbaltimore).

Since its inception, the annual National Convention event stages a weekend of cultural celebrations, projects fund raising, networking, and strategic planning for ongoing collaborative relationships. The event attracts over 5000 Akwa Ibom State indigenes and well wishers from the United States and around the world and generates millions of dollars into the local economy. Notable attendees in the past include local government officials, ambassadors, and scholars. This year the Executive Governor of Akwa Ibom State, His Excellency, Barr. Godswill Obot Akpabio, along with key members of his cabinet and corporate citizens are expected to attend.

Themed as **“Securing A Legacy for Akwa Ibom Culture in America,”** this year’s convention will be hosted by the Maryland Chapter. Organizers have embarked upon a **“Million Dollar Campaign”** to raise funds for the Akwa Ibom Cultural Center and as well ensure that all attendees enjoy a fun-filled, culturally-themed weekend. **“The Akwa Ibom House** will showcase Akwa Ibom cultural renaissance in America, serve as an Akwa Ibom **“Embassy”** in America, house our cultural heritage in print media, artifacts, sights and sounds, and serve as a ‘home away from home’ for Akwa Ibom Indigenes in the Diaspora. It will ultimately supplement efforts to preserve our culture in America,” said Emmanuel Ekop, the 2010 Convention Coordinator.

Other highlights will include welcome reception/networking and singles activities, a business partnership expo, a youth leadership conference, a free health fair, a cultural dance competition, a beauty pageant, authentic Akwa Ibom cuisine, Chesapeake Bay boat rides and a spectacular African fashion show.

Founded in 1967, the Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (USA), Inc. is a non-partisan, non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization with 28 chapters in the USA. The Association’s interest is in the affairs and welfare of Akwa Ibom State, which is one of Nigeria’s 36 states located in the Niger-Delta region. Populated by approximately 3.9 million people, Akwa Ibom has a democratically elected government and has emerged as an economic power bloc, rich in crude oil, natural gas, coal, gold, silver nitrate, glass sand and other mineral resources.

Come! Join us to build a dream for our children and generations of Akwa Ibom indigenes in America.

For additional information about the Association, the convention, or Akwa Ibom State, visit www.AKISAN.org.