A SPEECH PRESENTED BY MFORMI NDZEREM STEPHEN NJODEKA, NSODA PRESIDENT GENERAL, ON THE OCCASION OF THE NSODA ENLARGED EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD IN BERTOUA ON FEBRUARY 27 2016.

The Divisional Officer

The President NSODA Bertoua

Dear Wirfon,

Ladies and Gentlemen

It has always been a great pleasure for me to stand before you all and talk about our land and her development. Today, Bertoua gives me another opportunity to share with you our ongoing vision about our land. I wish to welcome all of you who have braved it all to this distanced land of the Forest of the East. This is a great mark of love for your land. It is a sign that we are all committed to the fate of our land and are determined to make it a place to be. Vesen wiy Kijung! God bless us and our land!

Dear Wirfon, our being here today is a follow up of the resolution arrived at on July 25 2015 during the enlarged exco meeting held in Ndop under Bongbati.It is the continuation of a journey we started well back in 2013 and which we are pursuing. The intention is to take every Nso son and daughter on Board the train of development in our Nsoland. Even if Bertoua is two days away from Nso, Nso needs them so much for her development in all areas.Our being here today is to make all of us and particularly you of Bertoua to know that you are part of Nso development.We thank you for accepting to host us in your town.

Today we shall have much to talk about! I plead that we make positive contributions towards the different issues that shall be raised here today. When we parted from Ndop, we resolved on many issues which shall be got from the minutes of that meeting. When we left Ndop we adopted the day of the AGM which took place on October 30 2015 in the Kumbo Cathedral Hall with Delegates coming from the different Branches of NSODA all over the Country.We shall equally get the resolutions and then debate on as we progress in this meeting of today.

Ladies and Gentlemen, while we get to the reading of the two resolutions, I seize this opportunity to brief all of us on what transpired with us between these times. When we left Ndop and AGM there was the burning problem of the Water crisis in Kumbo. NSODA as the main stakeholder, played an important and pacific role in the crisis making sure that the crisis should not degenerate into social disorder.NSODA took part in all crisis meetings organized in either Kumbo or Bamenda. We continue to pledge our support to the Nso throne while calling on all Nso sons and daughters not to place their personal interest above the Nso interest. If we destroy our Fonship, what then shall we be proud of as Nso people. Politicians should avoid turning social issues into political issues, for politics does not unite but tears communities apart. As of now peace is reigning while we await the final stage of the process of solving the crisis.You can rely on NSODA exco for a peaceful resolution of this crisis.

During the AGM, we equally announced the launch of the BFU-USA Scholarship Award for Excellence. We called on all to ensure that our children wherever they were should apply.The selection of laureates was done and on January 23 2016 the Ceremony to Award the scholarships was organized in Kumbo by NSODA. The laureates were four in number with the amounts ranging between 1.200.000million francs and 500.000 thousand francs. We remind ourselves that it has become an annual event which therefore calls on all of us to spread the information to all.

In pursuit of our five year plan of action, and specifically in the domain of Culture, we visited the Fondoms with Cultural events. The little envelops we could afford came from all of us. I therefore call on all of us to always endeavor to support the National Exco so that we improve on the envelops.

Our Women of Kongadzem Fako celebrated 30 years of glorious existence. NSODA could not be indifferent to such an event and with such wonderful women like they are. We were there to represent all of us and we bet you it was hectic and with a brighter future.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I continue to hammer on the Kibam ke Wong.It is a project that if realized, we will never go begging to develop our Fondoms.It just needs but the will and commitment of all of us.Let us take it as a duty to sensitize all on this project.

Our partnership with our brothers and sisters in the diaspora is really yielding fruits. The Bui-Family Union in the USA and the Nso Family Union in Europe are ready to work with us for the development of our land. This comes as a result of the confidence we have built in them through our transparent management of whatever resources they place at our disposal.It just suffices for us to add more commitment back here at home so as to give them more reasons to come in. Nso needs all her sons and daughters.

Dear Wirfon, one thing that NSODA succeeded in doing which may look minor but which means a lot, is that they caused the court case between our people of Nseh and Kuvlu, to be withdrawn from court for an amicable solution. I bring this up to let all of us know that we can always settle our matters in our Palaces and traditional councils and not necessarily in the courts of law. We have been wasting a lot of financial and material resources as well as time in the law courts.Let us continue to educate our brothers and sisters against this.

Ladies and Gentlemen, 2016 is here with us. Gone is 2015. Shall we continue to stand on the same position we were in 2015? Are we ready to catch up with the times and make our land a place that gives us pride? Let those who do not feel proud to be Nso know that they will never be accepted fully elsewhere! Let us all learn to be proud of our land.