

December 24, 2014

Major General (ret.) Muhammadu Buhari
Presidential Candidate, All Progressives Congress (APC)

Dear Major General Buhari:

On behalf of the Africa Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), it is my pleasure to invite you to our headquarters in Washington, DC, to give a major public address on Nigeria's future as it stands on the edge of pivotal national elections. We propose to hold this event on a day of your choosing on either the week of January 5th or the week of January 26th, 2015 but will of course do our best to accommodate your schedule should you have other preferences.

The event would be on-the-record and given the importance of Nigeria's elections would be certain to attract a large audience of U.S. policymakers, academics, business leaders, and members of the diaspora. In addition, we invite you to take part in a private, off-the-record briefing with a small group of senior officials from the U.S. government and U.S. Congress. This will be an excellent opportunity to develop contacts and articulate your key messages to an influential audience of foreign policy decision-makers.

The CSIS Africa Program has long been engaged in research and analysis on the African continent, and Nigeria specifically. For the past year, we have hosted a conference series analyzing various dimensions of Nigeria's forthcoming elections and their implications for peace, security, and prosperity in Africa's most important country. These conferences have provided a platform for Nigerian statesmen to interact directly with Washington policymakers and we wanted to extend this opportunity to you. We hope that your schedule permits your participation and look forward to receiving a positive reply. Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions. You can reach me at +1- 202-775-3135 or via e-mail at jcooke@csis.org.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Cooke,
Director, Africa Program.