

## Spirit of Malabo rower congratulates the father and architect of modern Equatorial Guinea

Statement from Victor Mooney marking 75th birthday of H.E. Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, Head of State and Founder of Party Democratic Guinea Ecuatorial (PDGE)

NEW YORK CITY, UNITED STATES, June 4, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Once an isolated and poor country that the world forgotten has evolved into a preeminent voice for peace and security. You have made a concerted effort to embrace the diaspora and bring them into the fold of Equatorial Guinea Horizon 2020 national development program.

When you told the global community that it's a shared <u>responsibility</u> in the fight against AIDS, declared anti-retroviral medicine for all of your citizenry as this is a human right for People Living with HIV (PLWHIV), education and prevention are tools to ending the epidemic, it opened my eyes to Equatorial Guinea.

But, you went further. I wrote to you with a heavy heart. I failed three times in my pursuit to row across the Atlantic Ocean to bring action towards the spread of HIV/AIDS and honor our ancestors that died during the transatlantic slave trade. You heard my cry and gave me the boat – the Spirit of Malabo, that finally carried me from the coast of Africa to New York's <u>Brooklyn</u> Bridge in twenty-one months. You allowed me to fulfill my dream.

After Friday's historic vote at the United Nations, I shed tears again in triumph for the 185 votes that catapulted Equatorial Guinea as a new non-permanent representative in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). This occasion was more meaningful with a private audience given to me by the Prime Minister, H.E. Francisco Pascual Obama Asue in the presence of H.E. Anatolio Ndong Mba, Permanent Ambassador to United Nations.

The international community had taken notice to your wisdom and stewardship of Equatorial Guinea. May God bless you and perpetual blessing to Equatorial Guinea. God-willing, the Spirit of Malabo will be repatriated to Equatorial Guinea in celebration of Freedom Day - the day you ended tyranny and started the country's course that it now enjoys.

Happy <u>Birthday</u> Mr. President – Victor Mooney + family.

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