

## 2015-J6224

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION welcoming Ooni of Ife, His Imperial Majesty, Oba, Dr. Adeyeye Enitan Ogunwusi, Ojaja II to the Museum of Contemporary African Diasporian Art of Brooklyn, New York

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to welcome Ooni of Ife, His Imperial Majesty, Oba, Dr. Adeyeye Enitan Ogunwusi, Ojaja II to the Museum of Contemporary African Diasporian Art of Brooklyn, New York, on Monday, June 13, 2016; and

WHEREAS, MoCADA, or the Museum of Contemporary African Diasporian Art, is a museum of contemporary art in the New York City borough of Brooklyn with a mission to rediscover valuable African cultural traditions and to foster a dynamic space for the creation of the continuous evolution of culture; and

WHEREAS, Ooni of Ife, His Imperial Majesty, Oba, Dr. Adeyeye Enitan Ogunwusi, Ojaja II is an astute entrepreneur driven by turning impossibilities into possibilities; the power of his imagination has set him aside, hence, revolutionizing his approach to creativity and innovation; he is a distinct achiever with the conscience of youthful excellence; and

WHEREAS, His Imperial Majesty's (HIM) official visit to the United States was designed to bridge the gaps among the Yoruba at home and in diaspora, and also to identify with children of Oduduwa among African-Americans in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The ambitious young Prince, with exceptional business ideas,

delved into Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) locally and abroad for over 12 years; he is also actively involved in the development of more than 2,500 housing units with various consortia of developers within the last eight years; and

WHEREAS, In Nigeria, HIM set up and fostered strong trade relationships through the Association for International Business with presence in over 200 member countries across the globe; one of the laudable achievements of this body includes the trade facilitation between the United Arab Emirates and the Federal Government of Nigeria through the Nigeria Investment Promotion Commission; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, he led the Government delegation to Canada in 2002, which promoted strategic alliances through a partnership with the Ondo State Government on solid mineral potentials of the state; and

WHEREAS, In addition, HIM facilitated the development of Sparkwest Steel Galvanizing Plant, the only steel Galvanizing Plant in Nigeria; and

WHEREAS, HIM was involved in the trading and marketing of commodities as the main facilitator for Dangote Group's break into the 'up-country supply chain consortium' between 1996 and 1999; he also facilitated the biggest Lead and Aluminum recycling plant set up in Nigeria by the National Steel Company of India in Ota, Ogun State; and

WHEREAS, The industrious Prince began his strides in the Real Estate sector with various dredging and land reclamation projects in Lagos State; he is the initiator of Essential Homes, a real estate product launched in January 2014, formed to deliver affordable upscale homes to middle and low income earners; and

WHEREAS, With a dream to develop one of the best resorts in Nigeria, HIM led a team and opened up a remote jungle called Inagbe Island in

Amuwo-Odofin LGA, Lagos; his vision and creativity transformed Inagbe Island into a whole new community offering world class relaxation and recreational facilities; with this feat, he is set to increase the coun-

try's GDP through tourism, and reduce unemployment by providing direct and indirect employment; and

WHEREAS, HIM is a Director on the Board of Imperial Homes Mortgage Bank Limited, which is a leading National Mortgage Bank and former subsidiary of one of the biggest banks in Africa; he is also a Director at Fina Trust Microfinance Bank Limited, one of Nigeria's foremost Microfinance Banks focusing on SMEs and micro credit facilities; and

WHEREAS, HIM is very passionate about people and their pursuit of happiness; alongside his vibrant personality, he is very down to earth and enjoys being in the midst of his workers; on March 7, 2015 he was recipient of the prestigious NIDSA GOLD AWARD; and

WHEREAS, A grassroot fellow to the core, HIM's humility is second to none; he has sponsored numerous less privileged children and youths in his hometown of Ile-Ife and likewise in Lagos where he lives today; and

WHEREAS, HIM has contributed tremendously to the economic growth and development of Nigeria, focusing on the creation of jobs for the unemployed; he is currently an employer of more than 300 indigenous youths at the Inagbe Cocowood Factory-Essential Homes Furniture brand; he has over 450 direct employees and more than 3,000 indirect employees across his various companies; and

WHEREAS, HIM is indeed a highly dignified man, fearless and daring, a self-made man who not only has passion for his home town but for his country as a whole; he has forged respectable alliances with some of the most esteemed Royal fathers, leaders and kings of our time; and

WHEREAS, It is without doubt that the young Prince of Ile-Ife, through his vision to impact the lives of everyone around him and his fervent passion for humanity, has broken grounds as an investor in people and a preservationist of the cultural heritage of his community; he is loved and highly admired by the people of Ile-Ife and remains in tune with his roots and tradition; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our atten-

tion, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to welcome Ooni of Ife, His Imperial Majesty, Oba, Dr. Adeyeye Enitan Ogunwusi, Ojaja II to the Museum of Contemporary African Diasporian Art of

.SO DOC S R6224 RESO TEXT 2015

Brooklyn, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ooni of Ife, His Imperial Majesty, Oba, Dr. Adeyeye Enitan Ogunwusi, Ojaja II.