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Argonaut Water & Power Systems

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Pictures Attached

Zamfara State in Nigeria Moves to Deliver Pure Water to People in Challenged Rural Areas

Washington, DC: April 13, 2014 — The Government of Zamfara State, Nigeria, has signed a major agreement to introduce revolutionary and life-saving new water purification technology to the State's rural communities.

The Executive Governor of the State, His Excellency the Honorable Abdul'aziz Abubakar Yari, was in Washington, DC, with his key cabinet officials to conclude the agreement after almost two years of discussion and planning. Engr. Abdullahi Abdulkarim Tsafe, the Hon. Commissioner for Water Resources, Zamfara State, signed the Memorandum of Understanding with Argonaut Water, the US-based developer of the unique water filtration technology.

The agreement was witnessed by the Hon. Muhammad Muttaka Rini, the Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs in the presence of the Hon. Speaker of the Zamfara Assembly, Alhaji Sunusi Garba Rikiji, and the Special Advisor to the Executive Governor, the Hon. Alhaji Sani Galadi.

The agreement paves the way for Argonaut Water to work with the Zamfara Government to establish seven pilot rural water programs across the State's three Senatorial districts, delivering pure water to communities which have little or no other infrastructure. The Argonaut technology purifies water to an unprecedented quality level, eliminating all bacteriological and viral contaminants and purifying to 0.01 microns, a level never before attainable. It can also remove mineral contaminants.

The signing of the document followed demonstrations of the Argonaut technology to the delegation alongside the Potomac River, which runs through Washington, DC and neighboring Virginia. Argonaut Chief Executive Tom Waite demonstrated all facets of the system to the visiting delegation, who were also greeted by His Imperial Highness Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Haile-Selassie, who is Patron of

the Water Initiative for Africa (WIA). Mr Waite will lead a delegation to Zamfara in the coming month to undertake site surveys and planning.

“This is a major step forward for the people of Zamfara State,” the Executive Governor said. “We have watched the development of this technology from its inception, and I first saw demonstrations of it more than a year ago. We have done our due diligence, and now we intend to prove that we can deliver the purest water in the world to our people, eliminating the threats of waterborne illness. Moreover, we can do it without systems which are expensive or difficult to maintain. We don’t need diesel-powered generators or the electricity grid to achieve this world-class level of water security.”

Water Commissioner Engr. Abdullahi Abdulkarim Tsafe said that the seven programs were designed to test the new technology under all possible conditions across rural areas of the State, with the hope that the technology could then be brought into service in as many other communities as possible. “We know that pure water provides us with the most important foundation for community health and stability,” he said, “The new Argonaut technology is designed to provide a fail-safe, maintenance-free system with virtually no through-life costs, so today represents a very happy milestone in our work to bring healthy water to Zamfara.”

Argonaut Water chairman Gregory Copley said: “This is a technology which we feel could change the shape of Africa, and the Zamfara Government has shown great foresight in bringing great health benefits to its citizens. Waterborne diseases presently account for 80 percent of African illness; eliminating water-borne disease, then, is the first step to creating the dynamic societies and building economies. We know Africa can achieve this; it is the hope of the world.”

Prince Ermias Selassie praised the initiative by Executive Governor Abdul’aziz Abubakar Yari and his team, saying that “this bold step sets an example not only for the rest of Nigeria, but for all of Africa”. He added: “This technology was created with Africa in mind; it is designed to be maintenance-free, to be durable, to require no filter changes, and to help stop the labor-intensive cycle of environmentally destructive wood-cutting to boil and sanitise water. Not only that, we see African families boiling water to eliminate biological threats, but not being able to address the mineral contaminants. This process, in which the Water Initiative for Africa has been proud to play a part, takes care of that.”

“It is a pleasure to congratulate Governor Yari, Water Commissioner Tsafe and all involved. This is the start of a very optimistic era for Zamfara.”

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Argonaut Demonstration: The Hon. Commissioner for Water for the State of Zamfara, Engr. Abdullahi Abdulkarim Tsafe (third from left) watches Argonaut Water Chief Executive Tom Waite (far right) discuss the details of the new *Argonaut Villager* water system which will be the basis of the State's new rural water purification capability. Other Zamfara senior officials look on: Special Advisor to the Executive Governor, the Hon. Alhaji Sani Galadi (far left); the Hon. Muhammad Muttaka Rini, the Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs (second from left); and the Hon. Speaker of the Zamfara Assembly, Alhaji Sunusi Garba Rikiji (fourth from left). His Imperial Highness Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Haile-Selassie, Patron of the Water Initiative for Africa (WIA) (third from right), looks on, along with Gregory Copley, chairman of Argonaut Water (second from right).



Argonaut Deal Inked: The Hon. Commissioner for Water for the State of Zamfara, Engr. Abdullahi Abdulkarim Tsafe (left) signs the Memorandum of Understanding to bring the new Argonaut water purification systems into Zamfara state, while the Hon. Muhammad Muttaka Rini, the Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs (right) witnesses the MoU. The deal, the first of its kind in Africa, will remove all bacteriological and viral disease threats from the water in the communities, and will also target specific mineral threats from the water.



Zamfara Governor: The Executive Governor of the State of Zamfara, His Excellency the Honorable Abdul'aziz Abubakar Yari (second from right), witnessing the Argonaut technology demonstration in February 2013. With him is Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Haile-Selassie (right), the Patron of the Water Initiative for Africa (WIA), who helped pioneer the Argonaut initiative. Others at the demonstration were (from left): Mr Isah Umar, an advisor to the Governor; Mr Tom Waite, chief executive of Argonaut Water and the inventor of the revolutionary purification technology; Dr Paul Scully-Power, an advisor to Argonaut Water and a former Space Shuttle astronaut and mathematician; and Gregory Copley, chairman of Argonaut Water.