BEROM COMMUNITY NORTH AMERICA

2025 Biennial Convention COMMUNIQUE

JULY 27, 2025

Communiqué Issued at the Conclusion of the Berom Community North America Forth Biennial Convention (BCNA)

Date: July 24-27, 2025
Location: Venue at Memorial, Houston, Texas
Issued by: Executive Leadership, BCNA

1. Preamble

We, the executives, elders and members of the Berom Community North America, held our Forth Biennial Convention from July 24, 2025 to July 27, 2025 in Houston, Texas, USA, with the theme: HARNESSING THE POWER OF TECHNOLOGY FOR THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC GROWTH OF BEROMLAND hereby issue this communiqué to capture the essence of our deliberations, express our collective resolutions, and chart a path forward.

2. Appreciation

We express our profound gratitude to the immediate past executives and elders of BCNA for their steadfast leadership, to all participants, both in-person and virtual, for their presence and active engagement, and to our keynote and guest speakers, facilitators, MC, and panelists for their insightful contributions. We also deeply appreciate the chair and members of the convention central planning committee for their tireless efforts, our host community, the great people of Houston in particular and Texas in general, for their warm hospitality and generous support, and to all our sponsors and advertisers for their invaluable partnership.

3. Highlights of the Convention

The convention featured election, robust discussions, presentations, and networking opportunities focused on:

- Keynote presentation on “Harnessing the Power of Technology for the Socio-Economic Growth of Beromland”
- Mental Health in Berom Land: Managing Trauma, Burnout and Recovery in High Stress Environments
- Effect of Land Grabbing in Berom Land and the Way Forward
- Investment Opportunities for Diaspora Nigerians Abroad
- Immigration and Legal Status Challenges
- Smart Way to Build Silent Generational Wealth
- Land Grabbing and State of Insecurity in Plateau State.
- Politics in Berom Land
- Election of New Executives to lead BCNA for the next 4 years.

And other matters of cultural, social, and economic importance.

4. Resolutions & Calls to Action

a) The convention resolved to prioritize mental health as a critical area of community well-being by promoting proactive interventions beyond material relief, fostering awareness and open dialogue around mental health challenges, and encouraging continuous research into Berom cultural practices and beliefs that support emotional and psychological resilience
b) The convention resolves to embrace technology as a catalyst for socio-economic transformation in Beromland by establishing the Berom Tech Council to connect diaspora and local change agents; launching a Global Berom Digital Fund to support innovation and education; sponsoring Berom youth into tech training programs; creating a Digital Hall of Fame to celebrate Berom technologists and innovators; and developing foundational tech infrastructure, including innovation hubs, bootcamps, and remote work centers across strategic locations
c) The convention resolved to encourage strategic investment in Plateau State. Participants are urged to leverage global capital to drive innovation in key sectors including technology hubs, poultry farming, tourism, and agri-processing. Berom individuals in the diaspora are especially encouraged to mentor, fund, and invest in community-based initiatives across Plateau. To ensure sustainable impact, an investor roadmap should be developed, beginning with opportunity verification, initiating pilot projects, and progressively scaling through reinvestment.
d) The convention encourages the adoption of smart financial strategies that support tax-free growth and flexible access to funds, such as cash value accumulation and life insurance retirement plans for BCNA. Participants are urged to protect their wealth through legally binding, contract-based tools, begin their planning early with the goal of leaving a lasting legacy beyond income, and prioritize educating their families on how to build, safeguard, and seamlessly transfer wealth across generations. More engagement and education to continue among BCNA members.
e) The conventon call on all Berom sons and daughters, both in the diaspora and at home, to actively support and contribute to the continued growth and sustainability of the Kids of Hope Schools. These institutions are playing a vital role in shaping the future of our children through quality education, character development, and community upliftment.
f) The immigration session emphasized strategic planning amid evolving U.S. immigration policies, including increased scrutiny in asylum cases and stricter enforcement of visa compliance. Attendees were encouraged to explore legal options such as family-based petitions, employment sponsorships, and humanitarian relief like VAWA, U visas, among others. Members were urged to stay engaged with the community and maintain regular contact with qualified immigration attorneys for accurate guidance and support.
g) **State of Insecurity in Plateau State**: On the state of security, the convention resolves and affirms that;
    a. The Berom people, and indeed the people of Plateau State, are peace-loving, resilient, and committed to harmonious coexistence.

b. BCNA is deeply saddened and gravely concerned by the persistent, unprovoked, and brutal attacks on innocent communities across Plateau State, including Barkin Ladi, Riyom, Jos South, and Bokkos. These atrocities, spanning over two decades, continue with devastating consequences while government authorities and security agencies appear indifferent, failing in their constitutional duty to protect lives and property.
c. We condemn in the strongest possible terms these heinous and systematic assaults on our people with the goal of displacing and occupying our ancestral land. The silence, inaction, and seeming complicity of relevant government institutions are unacceptable and must not continue.
d. We call on the Federal Government of Nigeria to demonstrate urgency, impartiality, and accountability by ensuring that security agencies discharge their duties professionally and without bias.
e. Call on well-meaning Nigerians and members of the international community to unequivocally condemn these acts of violence and stand in solidarity with the victims.
f. National and international media to prioritize investigative journalism into these crimes and amplify the voices of the affected communities.
g. BCNA welcomes and supports any credible initiative, whether local or international, aimed at achieving genuine and lasting peace on the Plateau. However, we emphasize that peace efforts must be just and must respect the rights of all communities to remain on their ancestral lands without fear, intimidation, or displacement.

h) State of Politics in Berom Land: During a special meeting comprising select BCNA officials, distinguished guests, and political representatives from Nigeria, deliberations were held regarding the perceived political rift among some Berom politicians. The discussions revealed that the discord was primarily due to misunderstandings and a lack of constructive engagement. The group unanimously agreed on the need for continuous dialogue, particularly with Berom traditional and political stakeholders. Where necessary, adjustments will be considered to existing structures that may currently place Berom political representatives at a disadvantaged position at both state and federal levels. To this end, BECO, in collaboration with local government kingmakers, will take the lead in facilitating ongoing engagement. The goal is to ensure that Berom local governments are strategically positioned to field stronger candidates with greater prospects of electoral success across all levels of governance.

5. BCNA Executive Elections and Leadership Transition

As part of the convention's core activities, elections were successfully conducted under the supervision of the BCNA Election Ad Hoc Committee. Duly registered members of the Berom Community North America (BCNA) participated in electing a new executive team to lead the organization over the next four-year term.

The Election Committee expressed its heartfelt appreciation to the outgoing executives for their visionary leadership and unwavering commitment during their tenure. Special recognition was given to:

a) Chief Mrs. Felicia Sodipe – President
b) Mr. Jack Jadu – Vice President
c) Ms. Deborah Gyang – General Secretary
d) Dr. Esther Jack-Vickers – Treasurer
e) Mr. Pam Davou – Educational, Cultural, and Social Secretary

Their service laid a strong foundation for continued growth and impact within the BCNA community.

Following a transparent and peaceful election process, the following individuals were elected to serve as the new BCNA Executive Team for the 2025–2029 term:

a) Mr. Pam Davou – President
b) Mrs Dorcas Rinkam, Esq. – Vice President
c) Mrs Esther Jock, Esq. – General Secretary
d) Mr. Weng Tong – Assistant General Secretary
e) Mrs. Priscilla Jadu – Treasurer
f) Rev. Dr. Ishaya Lokai – Auditor
g) Mrs. Faith Mishim Dalyop Baget – Educational, Cultural, and Social Secretary

BCNA extends its congratulations to the newly elected officials and looks forward to a new era of engagement, empowerment, and cultural preservation under their leadership.

Signed

Mr. Pam Davou (President)
Chief (Mrs) Felicia Chomo Sodipe (Outgoing President)
On behalf of **Berom Community North America**