## Extend Change To Pharmaceutical Sector, PMGMAN Tells Buhari

Nigerian pharmaceutical manufacturers have asked President Muhammadu Buhari to extend the wind of change to the pharmaceutical sector by implementing the domestic preference policy of the public procurement Act 2007 as well as the implementation of the presidential directive on patronage of Nigerian manufacturers.



DG, NAFDAC – Dr. Paul Orhii , Perm Sec. Lagos State Primary Healthcare Board – Dr. Oguntimehin Olukayode, Chairman PMGMAN and MD/CEO SKG Pharma Limited – Mr. Okey Akpa and PSN President – Pharm. Olumide Akintayo during 2015 Nigeria Pharma Manufacturers Expo in Ikeja Lagos

Okey Akpa, chairman of PMGMAN, who stated this also added that the current administration must adopt "an Import Adjustment Tax of 20% on imported Finished Pharmaceutical Products of HS Codes 3003 & 3004 should be imposed immediately as applied to other sectors where Nigeria has capacity as allowed by the CET.

"Input into pharmaceutical Manufacturing (Raw materials, Excipients and packaging) should be allowed to be imported at 0% by bonafide Pharmaceutical Manufacturers."

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He also stressed on the need for the pharmaceutical industry in Nigeria to sustain the commitment to quality and the process of international certification schemes such as ISO 9001-2008, the WHO Prequalification of Medicines, the USFDA standards and others while also appealing for incentives such as tax holidays from government to support the extra investments for quality upgrades and new factories.

The association head revealed that the industry will also continue to collaborate with international partners in the areas of research into natural products, backward integration for inputs, technology transfer and training contract manufacture as well as joint ventures/equity participation.

"Nigerian Pharmaceutical Manufacturers have also developed manufactured and registered products for The UN Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women's and Children's Health (UNCoLs)- such as Zinc Sulphate/Oral Rehydration Solutions to manage Diarrhoea."

The <u>association recently asked the Economic Community of West African</u>
<u>States</u>(ECOWAS)) and the Nigerian government to jettison the recently adopted Common External Tariff (CET).