

# Olusegun Obasanjo

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Chief Emeka Anyaoku, GCON GCVO CFR;  
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*My dear Chief,*

Let me wish you and the other patriots success in your deliberation on Constitution to which you have invited me. Unfortunately, I have other appointment which prevents my being able to be physically with you.

But as we discussed on telephone, a nation's Constitution as the fundamental law must reflect the history, the constituents and the aspiration of its people. It must be sacrosanct. From my experience in operating our Constitution, I will be the first to point out some areas of our Constitution that need amendment. However, for me, no Constitution can ever be regarded as perfect. But whatever the strength or weakness of a Constitution, the most important issue to my own understanding and experience are the operators of the Constitution.

The best Constitution can be perverted and distorted by the operators and we have experienced that all over Africa, Nigeria not exempted. I am more concerned about the operators of the Constitution to lead in good governance and promotion of welfare and well-being of the citizenry. No matter what you do to Nigerian Constitution, if the operators of the Nigerian Constitution for the past one decade and a half remain unchanged and continue in the same manner, the welfare and well-being of Nigerians will continue to be sacrificed on the altar of selfishness, self-centeredness, corruption, impunity, and total disregard of the Constitution, decency, morality, integrity and honesty. At this crucial time, the operators matter more and the searchlight should be on them. When we get the right operators, they will give us the amended or new Constitution close to what we need to make every Nigerian a proud stakeholder in the Project Nigeria.

Accept, my dear Chief, the assurances of my highest regards.

*Yours sincerely,*  
*Olusegun Obasanjo*  
**OLUSEGUN OBASANJO**