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New York City, New York – With the beautiful ambiance overlooking the East River, the United Nations played host for the Republic of Equatorial Guinea forty-fourth Anniversary marking their Independence from Spain. Diplomats from United Nations member states, Observer Status Missions and Representatives of Non-Governmental Agencies were on hand to mark this occasion.

In an unprecedented accolade bestowed to The Republic of Equatorial Guinea, The City of New York's, Borough President of Brooklyn, The Honorable Marty Markowitz and Bronx Borough President, The Honorable Ruben Diaz, Jr. proclaimed "Equatorial Guinea 44th Anniversary Day" in their respective Boroughs. The proclamations were presented to H.E. Anatolio Ndong Mba, Permanent Ambassador to the United Nations for Equatorial Guinea.

Borough President's Markowitz and Diaz took pride in recognizing Equatorial Guineans that call Brooklyn and the Bronx home. His Excellency, President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo was praised for leading the fight against AIDS through preventive education, condom distribution and financing of anti retrovirals for afflicted populations.

The Borough Presidents conveyed deep admiration for New York based South African Arts International, Executive Director, Victor Mooney on his current effort to row 5,000 miles in a 24' ocean rowboat, christened "the Spirit of Malabo" from Las Palmas Canary Islands to New York's Brooklyn Bridge for an AIDS-free generation.

As President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo has extended nationality to African-Americans, Mooney called for a consulate office in New York. "With a consulate in New York, it will help accelerate the Horizon 2020 Plan", said Mooney to the Legal Attaché of the Equatorial Guinea Mission. "The train for development in Equatorial Guinea has made a stop in America and I encourage other African-Americans to get on board", Mooney added.

African-American-Equaguinean's celebrate their nationality at 44th Anniversary of Equatorial Guinea

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The Horizon 2020 Plan, set in motion by President Obiang in 2007, has five major goals: Invest in strengthening economic growth; Strengthen the development of structured investments; Promote and strengthen the development of social policy actions; Ensure a transparent social climate; Develop the prospects for better monitoring and evaluation of poverty and living conditions of households.