



WELCOME REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT/CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL, THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF BANKERS OF NIGERIA (CIBN), PROFESSOR SEGUN AJIBOLA, Ph.D., FCIB ON THE OCCASION OF THE COMMISSIONING OF CIBN LEARNING CENTRE AND UNVEILING OF ALHAJI A.O.G OTITIT LIBRARY ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2017

Protocol

I welcome you all to this epoch-making event for the commissioning of The Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria Learning Centre and unveiling of the Alhaji A.O.G Otiti Library. It is indeed heartwarming for me to witness this occasion and I believe that the early set of professional bankers in the country here present would have fond memories of this legacy building which served as the “melting pot” for them during their journeys towards becoming professional bankers.

With its present Headquarters at PC 19, Adeola Hopewell Street, Victoria Island, Lagos, the chequered history of CIBN would be incomplete without a special reference to the hallowed land on which we all presently stand. It may interest this distinguished audience that this remodeled building served as the first National Secretariat of CIBN and was opened in 1973 by the then Federal Commissioner for Finance, Alhaji Usman Shehu Shagari, GCFR.

It is therefore not a mere coincidence that a Federal Minister is also present with us to officially commission this remodeled building. I am indeed pleased to specially welcome our own Honourable Minister of Communication, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Alhaji Adebayo Shittu. Permit me to mention that the Honourable Minister is indeed a friend of the Institute as he also prominently featured at the 1st National FinTech Conference in Nigeria organized in April this year at the Oriental Hotel, Lagos by the CIBN Centre for Financial Studies (CIBNCFS) in collaboration with Fintech Associates Limited and Digital Finance Institute, Canada.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the primary objective of establishing this Learning Centre is to cater for the knowledge quest of bank professionals and practitioners in other allied sectors. At the CIBN, we are fully aware of the imperative of leveraging technology to meet the capacity building needs of professionals in a knowledge economy. The structure, on the first floor houses three ultramodern facilities that can be used for various kind of trainings which will be furnished with the latest technology in training that would make training to be rewarding. On the Upper Floor, a Pent Floor, is a multipurpose hall that can be used as a training room, a mini-event hall or cafeteria.

Similarly, the ground floor houses the virtual and physical library which is to be named in honour of Alhaji A.O.G. Otiti, OON, FCIB, a former Deputy Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria, a Founding Father and Past President of the Institute as part of the activities marking his 90th birthday. It is to be equipped with state-of-the-art facilities to ensure a perfect blend of both physical and virtual library experiences.



I wish to inform you that the Institute has commenced discussion with its Corporate Members for partnership towards the branding of the facilities.

As I conclude, I want to seize this golden opportunity to invite the Honourable Minister of Communication to the 4th Economic Outlook of the Institute scheduled to hold on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at Oriental Hotel, Victoria Island, Lagos at 9:00 a.m. This annual programme which has over the years attracted key industry players in the country's banking, finance and indeed the larger economy. I will also like to inform him that the 2nd edition of the National Fintech Conference will take place between January 24 – 26, 2018 at Landmark Events Centre, Victoria Island, Lagos.

Once again, I welcome you all to this auspicious occasion and thank you for your kind attention.

God bless.

Professor Segun Ajibola, Ph.D., FCIB

President/Chairman of Council, CIBN

December 19, 2017