



**GOODWILL MESSAGE DELIVERED BY UCHE MESSIAH OLOWU, Ph.D., FCIB, PRESIDENT/ CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL, THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF BANKERS OF NIGERIA AT THE 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND TRAINING ORGANIZED BY RIMAN HELD AT EKO HOTEL & SUITES, VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS ON JUNE 7, 2018**

**Protocol**

Dear esteemed audience, it gives me great pleasure to be part of this noble professionals and deliver a goodwill message at this auspicious event. I bring you good tidings from the Governing Council, Management and Staff of The Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria (CIBN). Undeniably, events of this nature are a delight for me as they portray a concerted effort to further enlighten the general public on topical issues in the financial services industry and the economy as a whole.

I would like to appreciate the organizing team ably led by the President of the Risk Managers Association of Nigeria (RIMAN), Dr. Jude Monye, ACIB, HCIB. Your commitment towards improving the competence of risk management professionals in the Nigerian financial services industry is commendable. Similarly, let me extend my accolades to the various resource persons engaged to facilitate at this event. Indeed, perusing the list of faculty, I nurse no doubt in my mind that participants would greatly benefit from shared insights and pragmatic experiences of these issues to be deliberated upon.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is worthy of note that the CIBN and RIMAN enjoy a fruitful and mutually beneficial relationship which has been strengthened by our joint efforts in building relevant capacity across the country. I am delighted to inform this audience that The Certified Risk Manager (CRM) Certification programme jointly launched in 2017 has been a great success. The programme enunciates the competency requirements of risk management practitioners in the various sectors of the economy on global best practices. Over 20 graduates have successfully completed all three stages of the Certification. It is my desire that in the course of my tenure as President of CIBN and beyond, this relationship would continue to wax stronger.

Dear colleagues, as we all know Nigeria currently faces a plethora of socio-economic challenges such as endemic corruption, infrastructural deficits, high unemployment rates, high poverty levels, insurgency infiltrations and orchestrated communal clashes across Nigeria. These hydra-headed economic and social problems once exacerbated would have dire effects on the smooth functioning of the Nigerian Economy.

Our inability to nib this challenges effectively could potentially affect foreign investors lethargy while high unemployment rates potentially fan the flame of unrest across the country. According to the World Bank report on Nigeria, the current lack of job opportunities is at the core of social and political



unrest in the country. In view of this, risk management professionals are expected to be well informed, not only on typical commercial banking risks but also on social risks which could undermine economic growth and development. Therefore, there is no gainsaying the fact that the theme of this Conference, **“Navigating Socio-Economic Risks in Nigerian Economy”** is a highly germane topic.

I look forward to robust discussions by the distinguished speakers on the depth of socio-economic risks in Nigeria as well as solutions for effective risk management to tackle such risks.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen let me end this goodwill message by extending my invitation to attend the 2018 CIBN Annual Lecture with the theme **“Of Banks and Bankers: Finance and the Challenges of Economic Development in Nigeria”** scheduled to hold on June 28, 2018 at the Banker’s House.

I thank you all for your kind attention and wish you an engaging session.

**Uche Messiah Olowu, Ph.D., FCIB**

President/ Chairman of Council

The Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria

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