

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NATIONAL JUDICIAL INSTITUTE, ABUJA, HON. JUSTICE R.P.I BOZIMO, OFR, AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 2016 REFRESHER COURSE FOR CHIEF REGISTRARS, DEPUTY CHIEF REGISTRARS, DIRECTORS AND SECRETARIES OF JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEE HELD AT THE ANDREWS OTUTU OBASEKI AUDITORIUM, NJI, ABUJA ON 5TH SEPTEMBER, 2016

PROTOCOL

I am indeed delighted to welcome you all to the Opening Ceremony of the 2016 Refresher Course for Chief Registrars, Deputy Chief Registrars, Directors and Secretaries of the Judicial Service Commissions/Committee. This Course is significant because it is designed to enhance the capacity of the participants.

Before I proceed, let me on your behalf thank my Lord, the Honourable, the Chief Justice of Nigeria and Chairman, Board of Governors of the National Judicial Institute, Hon. Justice Mahmud Mohammed, *GCON, FNJI*, who in spite of the fact that the Supreme Court of Nigeria is on annual vacation, is physically present to deliver

the Keynote Address and declare this Workshop open. My Lord, this is an eloquent testimony of your love for the Judiciary and your continued support for all the programmes of the National Judicial Institute. We are very much obliged.

As Judicial Administrators, your services are indispensable to the administration of Justice. This is more so as no judicial officer can perform his judicial functions effectively without your contributions.

In view of your pivotal role as key players in the administration of justice, it is imperative to provide continuing education opportunities for you to discharge your duties effectively and efficiently. The theme of this Refresher Course – *Ensuring Efficiency and Transparency in Judicial Administration* is undoubtedly very appropriate.

As image makers of the judiciary, your functions demand that you should at all times be fair, transparent and diligent in carrying out your duties and remain committed to the course of justice. Though you do not perform adjudicatory duties, your actions can in one or

many ways affect the course of justice. Since you more often come in contact with those who seek the services of the judiciary, you should always shun all forms of misconduct and corrupt practices. Your official and private lives should be worthy of emulation. You must discharge your duties creditably in order to promote public confidence in the judiciary.

Similarly, as the lubricants of the engine of justice administration, you must imbibe good working relationship with your Heads of Court, other judicial officers as well as other members of the judiciary. You must exhibit a high sense of courteousness, responsibility and exemplary conduct in the discharge of your duties.

I need to also add that the need for effective team work and communication between you and other Court staff cannot be over emphasized as failure to work as a team ultimately leads to delay and invariably affect the whole system of justice delivery by the Courts.

Let me assure you that the various sessions outlined for this Refresher Course are engaging and inspiring. Experienced Chairmen of Sessions, seasoned Resource Persons and topics have been carefully selected to deepen your knowledge and competence as judicial administrators, I urge you to pay rapt attention in order to tap from this rich faculty. I also encourage you to engage in lively discussions and interact freely with one another.

At this point, on behalf of the Institute, I would like to express my profound gratitude to the Honourable Chief Justice of Nigeria and Chairman of the Board of Governors of the National Judicial Institute, **Hon. Justice Mahmud Mohammed, GCON, FNJI**, all the members of the Board of Governors of the Institute and the Education Committee for giving their approval and support for the programmes of the Institute. I also extend my warm appreciation to the Chairmen of Sessions and Resource Persons for accepting to enrich this Course with their refreshing knowledge and wealth of experience.

My Lords, distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen, it is now my honour and privilege to invite His Lordship the Honourable the Chief Justice of Nigeria and Chairman of the Board of Governors of the National Judicial Institute, Hon. Justice Mahmud Mohammed, *GCON, FNJI*, to deliver the Keynote Address and to formally declare the 2016 Refresher Course for Chief Registrars, Deputy Chief Registrars, Directors and Secretaries of Judicial Service Commissions/Committee Open.

Thank you and God bless you all.

Hon. Justice R.P.I. Bozimo, *OFR*
Administrator