

ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRMAN, PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (PETAN) MR. NICOLAS C. ODINUWE AT 6TH SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE (SAIPEC) HOLDING AT THE EKO HOTEL, LAGOS, NIGERIA

Protocols; Your Excellencies, Senators , Honorable members of the National Assembly.

Our Special Keynote Speakers:

****H.E. Dr. Chief Timipre Sylva**

Hon. Minister of State for Petroleum Resources

****Mr. Mele Kolo Kyari**

Group Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer

Nigerian National Petroleum Company (NNPC) Limited

***Engr. Simbi Wabote**

Executive Secretary

Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB)

***H.E. Dr. Omar Farouk Ibrahim**

Secretary General

African Petroleum Producers' Organization (APPO)

***Mr. Tony Attah**

Former Chief Executive Officer/CEO

Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG)

Distinguished Delegates, Speakers.

Esteemed Members of the Board of Trustees and Executive Board of PETAN.

Icons and Captains of Industry from across Africa here present.

Our Esteemed Partners and Sponsors;

Gentlemen of the Press;

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all participants on behalf of the (Petroleum Technology Association of Nigeria (PETAN) to the year 2022 and the 6th edition of our flagship conference, the Sub-Saharan Africa International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference (SAIPEC). I welcome all eminent speakers, exhibitors, National regulators, IOCs, NOCs sponsors and guests from all over the continent and beyond that has come to share their knowledge in the quest of development.

I wish to welcome the representatives of HMSPR and agencies under the ministry, most especially the Group Managing Director of the NNPC Limited and his team who have worked tirelessly to sustain the industry; the Executive Secretary of NCDMB, Engr. Simbi Wabote, who has supported this conference right from inception and has continued to support PETAN and indigenous service companies. To other sister organizations in Africa be focused in your quest for inclusion.

SAIPEC is the only oil/gas/energy event that is held in partnership with the entire sub-Saharan African petroleum industry stakeholders and as the Chairman of the Host organisation, PETAN, I warmly welcome you all.

We are still in the shadows of the covid-19 pandemic. This wave of the pandemic, spanning over two years, has changed the global economy in unexpected ways. But with it has come innovation, driven by digitization of the global economy. Be assured, **Protocols** are now in place for measured & adopted life & economic continuity.

Stabilized and stabilizing markets have all encouraged innovation in several industries despite supply chains disruptions. Private-market investors are uniquely positioned to benefit from the innovation super cycle that is being driven by digitization of the global economy, a decade-long transformation accelerated by the pandemic.

This presents huge opportunities for regional collaboration and partnerships. Sub-Sahara Africa is said to be the last energy frontier and global hub. A key enabler is to create a collaborative ecosystem between the local industry stakeholders within the Sub-region alongside the Africa continental free trade Area (AfCFTA).

The Value chain in the Oil, gas energy industry is such that if properly harnessed, will transform the economy of the entire continent. The challenge has been an enabling environment to create a private sector-led industry. Government across Africa, especially the Oil and gas producing sub-Saharan countries, should provide necessary incentives to attract private-sector investments across the entire value chain. This will trigger a massive economic revolution, human capital development and deepen local content across Africa.

The theme for this year's event: **Fostering Collaboration to create cross-boarder partnerships across the oil, gas and energy spectrum** is therefore very apt.

Our emphasis is on the future of the oil/gas/energy industry through collaboration, entrepreneurship, and innovation. Through topical discussions, debates and interactions, stakeholders and key players here will have ample opportunities to share ideas and critical insights into the region's hydrocarbon and transition-energies businesses.

Exhibitors, sponsors, and delegates, especially those who are joining us for the first time - we believe after now - will make this a permanent feature of your annual calendars. Our desire is to build this conference to be enviable & innovative with as much regional spread across Sub-Sahara Africa.

This conference is also designed to provide us the rare opportunity - as with previous ones - to renew our friendships, make new ones and strengthen the professional network that binds us together as one family dedicated to the advancement of the oil/ gas and energy industry and the sociopolitical and economic development of Sub Saharan Africa.

For the benefit of those knowing PETAN for the first time; we are an association of leading Nigerian Indigenous Technical Oilfield service companies in the upstream, midstream, and downstream sectors of the Nigerian Oil and gas industry. The Association is the largest and leading advocacy group representing Nigerian Oil and Gas service companies and our members cut across the entire value chain and have been delivering quality services to the industry for over 30 years.

We will continue to appeal to all Governments, representatives, policy makers, legislators, captains of industries and all industry stakeholders to incorporate the fall-outs of this conference into their plans, programmes and policies for a better operating environment that will have the desired positive effect on our respective economies.

**** Let me quickly thank** the steering committee – the PETAN Executive Board and our partners, the GEP for making this rich gathering worth our time year in, year out.

I thank you for listening and once again a very warm welcome to each and every one of you and in behalf of PETAN, wish you all a successful conference. and exhibition.

Nik C. Odinuwe

Chairman, PETAN