

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY MR. BOSS MUSTAPHA, SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATION (SGF) AT THE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP) TRAINING ORGANIZED BY INFRASTRUCTURE CONCESSION REGULATORY COMMISSION ICRC) IN COLLABORATION WITH INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (IP3), WASHINGTON, USA AT THE NIGERIA CAPITAL MARKET INSTITUTE, ABUJA ON MONDAY, 16TH JULY 2018

- Head of Civil Service of the Federation
- Ag. Director General, ICRC
- IP3 Faculty
- Training Participants
- Members of the press
- Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

It gives me great pleasure to present this keynote address at this week-long PPP training session titled: “**Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Fundamentals: Strategies, Methods and Project Structuring Techniques**” organized by the Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC) in collaboration with the Institute for Public-Private Partnership IP3), Washington, DC, USA. The PPP training session is designed to provide appropriate training to ICRC, MDA staff and other participants critical to the success of our national PPP process.

ICRC is the government establishment responsible for developing PPP regulatory guidelines and providing requisite training to Ministries,

Departments and Agencies (MDAs) desirous of partnering with the private sector for the delivery of public infrastructure and services at mutually agreed terms and conditions.

The administration of His Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari has since inception recognized the vital role the private sector should play in the delivery of public infrastructure and services to complement government fiscal spending. For this partnership to be concretized and sustained for the mutual benefits of all stakeholders, it is important we engage globally renowned PPP institutions such as the IP3 to provide fit-for-purpose training.

The Federal Government recognizes that our infrastructure deficit remains the most serious impediment to Nigeria's speedy growth in virtually all sectors of the economy. The era when government had sole responsibility for the provision of infrastructure and other services is no longer sustainable because of dwindling revenues and other competing public needs. There is the urgent need for mutually rewarding partnerships between the public and private sectors to upscale our nation's infrastructure stock.

The tremendous infrastructure transformation and improved service delivery recorded in our nations seaports in the last decade is a clear

manifestation of Government's commitment to engaging private sector technical expertise, financial resources and experience to supplement public sector efforts.

The Federal Government in alliance with development partners such as the World Bank, African Development Bank, Islamic Development Bank and other renowned PPP training institutions, etc. will continue to support ICRC's programmes designed to deepen PPP knowledge, expertise and skills to help Nigeria's public sector continue to tap available private sector technical expertise and financial resources to reduce our nation's dependence on the treasury for infrastructure funding. **I hereby on behalf of HE President Muhammadu Buhari direct all MDAs to adopt PPP procurement as a preferred procurement vehicle to develop public infrastructure and provide improved services in the transportation, agriculture, education, mining, healthcare, and entertainment sectors etc. especially where the PPP procurement option provide best lifecycle value for money to further propel our nation's socio-economic development and prosperity.**

PPP training programmes provided both onshore and offshore by IP3 to Nigerians working in the public and private sectors over the years has undoubtedly laid a solid foundation for the development of the PPP market in Nigeria. I am therefore calling on IP3, as usual, to deploy its

best faculty to facilitate the training based on her extensive stock of knowledge and experiences acquired from other jurisdictions.

For the training participants, I am calling on you to make optimum use of this training opportunity to further advance your understanding, sharpen your skills and expertise to develop comprehensive PPP strategies, methods and options. This would enable both public and private sectors partners to enter beneficial PPP relationships that would narrow our nation's infrastructure deficit.

Once again, I wish to congratulate the ICRC and IP3 for packaging this very important and timely training.

Thank you and God bless Nigeria.