



## **NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY**

### **A SPEECH DELIVERED BY THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY HADIZA BALA USMAN ON THE OCCASION OF THE NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY 2012/2013 LONG SERVICE AWARDS**

**Representative of the Federal Ministry of Transport  
Our Awardees  
Distinguished Colleagues  
Ladies and Gentle men**

**It is my singular pleasure to welcome you all to this auspicious occasion of the Nigerian Ports Authority combined 2012 and 2013 Long Service Awards.**

**We have a Long Service Award policy that aims at recognising and demonstrating the appreciation of loyalty and commitment of long serving employees. This policy applies to all employees who have completed 25 years and above continuous paid service.**

**Today we are recognizing our esteemed officers and staff who have dedicated upwards of twenty five years to the service of the Authority. Our annual Long Service Awards gives us a chance to recognise and show gratitude to this category of people who have served the organization meritoriously so that others will be encouraged and motivated to continue putting in their best.**

**We are honouring those who worked late into the evening and early in the morning. I believe there were times of frustration and**

**misunderstanding. You may have worked alone or in groups but you had, I am sure you will agree, the support and encouragement of family and friends. Without that back-up you could not continue to do your best as you have done all these years.**

**Therefore I am pleased to seize this opportunity and send my gratitude to the members of your families who stood by you during this period.**

**We thank you for your role in shaping the NPA of today. The process of port reforms took its toll on the organization but it is a success story today. Your resilience in the face of the prevailing challenges during this period and afterwards is quite commendable and has paid off in greatly improved productivity.**

**It is gratifying to note that in 2005, before the concession, cargo throughput was 45 million metric tons while in 2015, it improved to 78million metric tons. Port infrastructure has also undergone significant improvement, which has resulted in bigger ships with larger cargo capacity calling at our ports and consequently improving our revenue.**

**NPA is also very compliant with the implementation of the International Ship & Port Security (ISPS) Code. As a result, port security has improved and has earned us commendations by the US Coast Guards. Similarly, the organization has advanced in its automation process (though still on-going), which has improved our efficiency. All these can be directly linked to dedication to duty by our highly educated and experienced workforce. Suffice it to say that without your collective efforts in ensuring that these processes succeed, we would not be here to celebrate because there would be nothing to celebrate.**

**Our goal is not to lose sight of our focus on continuous improvement. By continuously challenging ourselves, and striving to deliver quality service, on time and within budget across all levels, we will continue to pave the way towards a prosperous and sustainable future for NPA.**

May I also use the opportunity of this great occasion to reassure the workforce of the resolve of the present Management to improve their welfare. I am expecting in return a change in attitude to work and commitment to the vision and mandate as given to us by the President and Commander in chief of the Armed forces, President Muhammadu Buhari GCFR.

Finally, I would like to state that it wasn't Lady Luck who smiled on you and brought you this far, instead it was your hard work and God's help and so today we clap and cheer because you have contributed in very great measure to bringing the Organization where it is today.

The prestige the Authority enjoys today is as a result of your collective, enthusiastic and relentless commitment because you remained focused. It is said that *"he who chases two rabbits catches none"*. Today's your day in the sun. We're proud of you and what you've done through the years. We believe that you truly deserve to be given these awards!

Compliments of the season and congratulations

Hadiza Bala Usman  
Managing Director

