

SPEECH BY DR. OBA OTUDEKO (CFR), GROUP CHAIRMAN, FBN HOLDINGS PLC, AT THE CONGRATULATORY DINNER IN HONOUR OF H.E. AMINA J. MOHAMMED (OFR), HONOURABLE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT ON HER APPOINTMENT AS UNITED NATIONS DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL-DESIGNATE, AT SKYLINE TERRACE, ORIENTAL HOTEL, LAGOS, 19TH JANUARY, 2017

Introduction

H.E. Amina Mohammed (OFR)

Your Excellencies;

Chieftains and Corporate Leaders;

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you on behalf of the Board and Management of FBN Holdings PLC, one of Africa's leading financial services groups. I am indeed delighted to join you in celebrating a quintessential lady, a crusader for global and environmental development, a respected daughter of Nigeria and Africa, and a global citizen, Her Excellency, Amina Mohammed (OFR), Deputy Secretary General-Designate of the United Nations.

Your Excellency, we congratulate you on your well-deserved elevation, a testimony to your distinguished stewardship as the Honourable Minister of Environment and numerous highly demanding portfolios you have shouldered over time. While the Federal Government and the nation will miss your dedicated service as honourable minister it is quite heartwarming that you are stepping onto higher service to the global community. We are certain that you will excel even better on this demanding assignment as well.

I am pleased to note that at the FBN Holdings Group we have identical values exemplified in the passion for partnerships that provide the utmost good for the widest number of people. Consequently, our Group has been at the forefront of developing the polity as a member of the United Nations Global Impact Group. This membership was initiated by our flagship subsidiary, First Bank of Nigeria Limited, Nigeria's most valuable banking brand. Following the adoption of the Holding Group structure, however, FBN Holdings Plc has continued our effective participation starting with the Nigerian local network which provides a platform

for collective action and policy dialogue by bringing together government and private sector representatives with the aim of discussing issues of local and global concern, while creating an enabling environment for corporate sustainability, and encouraging policies that incentivize sustainable corporate actions.

The FBN Holdings Group remains committed to providing opportunities to empower people by supporting them to get involved in the economy while ensuring that we are integrating environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria into businesses, thereby enhancing the livelihoods of all our stakeholders within their families and communities.

As part of our commitment to go beyond meeting the minimal membership requirements and play active role in advancing the global corporate sustainability agenda, we have been represented at the highest levels at various functions organized by the UNGC. For instance, in 2013 the current Group Managing Director joined global political and business leaders in New York for the Africa Private Sector Forum.

In addition, we have been playing our role in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which you have passionately driven from inception to fruition. Ours is an education and awareness approach and it's two-fold: drive education and engagement internally on the one hand as well as create awareness and engage external stakeholders.

Our valued ambassador, Her Excellency, Amina Mohammed (OFR), Your Excellencies, distinguished ladies and gentlemen. I thank you for this opportunity to honour one of own on this auspicious occasion, even as I pray for the best of 2017 for you and the world at large.

Please enjoy the rest of this warm evening.

Dr. Oba Otudeko (CFR)
Group Chairman, FBN Holdings Plc