



Remarks by Dr. Adesola Adeduntan, Managing Director/CEO, First Bank of Nigeria Limited & Subsidiaries at the Celebration of Cross River State at 50 at Transcorp Hotels, Calabar on Thursday, May 25, 2017

Protocols:

Your Excellency, Professor Benedict Ayade, Governor of Cross River State;

Rear Admiral Ibok-Ete Ekwe Ibas, Chief of Naval Staff;

Distinguished Officers of the Cross River State Government;

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

On behalf of the Board and Management of First Bank of Nigeria Limited, Nigeria's Most Valuable Bank Brand, I am happy to felicitate with the Government and hospitable people of Cross River State on this auspicious occasion of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Cross River State, The People's Paradise.

As some of you may be aware, FirstBank has been a citizen of this State since 1912 when the second branch of our bank was opened in Calabar by the revered King Jaja of Opobo. I am delighted to say we have thrived together with the good people of this State.

FirstBank has been in partnership with Cross River State on all spheres of human development this past 100 years, from the economy through agriculture, education, infrastructural development to cultural development. We have not only partnered with the State Government but with major corporates, small and medium enterprises and individual customers. Notably, our bank has been partnering with the globally renowned Calabar Carnival since inception.

We are delighted to be a part of this 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. Cross River State has made tremendous progress with the development of its human and material resources, transforming into a major tourism destination and industrial location. We salute your bold and steady strides; we are proud of our partnership with Cross River State.

We at the FirstBank group are grateful to you for making Cross River State a home for FirstBank, and enabling us provide you with excellent financial services. Consistent with our brand promise, we will always deliver the ultimate gold standard of value and excellence and continue to put You First at the heart of our business.

We congratulate you heartily on this momentous occasion and wish you memorable celebrations.

Thank you.

**Dr. Adesola Adeduntan**

**Managing Director/CEO**

**First Bank of Nigeria Limited & Subsidiaries**