



Speech by Dr. Adesola Adeduntan, FCA, Managing Director/CEO, First Bank of Nigeria Limited & Subsidiaries on the Commissioning of FBNBank Ghana New Head Office Building on Friday, 29 September 2017

The Nigerian High Commissioner, His Excellency, Ambassador Olufemi Michael Abikoye

The Finance Minister Representative, Mr. Alex Amankwah-Poku, Head, Budget Coordination, Ministry of Finance

The Bank of Ghana Governor's representative, Mr. Edmond Nelson, Chief Manager of the Banking Supervision Department

Managing Director/CEO of FirstBank of Nigeria Limited, Dr. Adesola Kazeem Adeduntan,

Board Chairman of FBNBank Ghana Limited, Hon. Joseph Yieleh Chireh

Managing Director/CEO of FBNBank Ghana Limited, Mr. Gbenga Odeyemi

Group Executive, International Banking Group, FirstBank of Nigeria Limited, Mrs. Bashirat Odunewu

Group Executive, Technology and Services, FirstBank of Nigeria Limited, Mr. Callistus Obeta

1st Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Republic of Ghana, Hon. Joseph Osei-Owusu

Managing Director, Detela Company Limited, Nana Naakye Dede Amoakwa I

Finance Director, PZ Cussons, Mr. Segun Agbekeye

It is indeed a pleasure to be here in Ghana. As Gbenga already mentioned, Ghana has become a second home to many Nigerians. My fellow Nigerians cannot deny that the calm personality of the average Ghanaian and the relatively relaxed pace of Accra are refreshing and reinvigorating.

I believe that the relationship between Ghana and Nigeria at the political, economic and social level is an excellent example of African unity and points the way to the vast opportunities that lie in a cohesive West Africa.

On behalf of the Board and Management of First Bank of Nigeria Limited and FBNBank Ghana Limited I appreciate greatly the presence of all our dignitaries and distinguished guests at this august event. For our unique purposes this morning, permit me to single out the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Governor of the Bank of Ghana's representatives for taking time of their extremely busy schedules to join us today. For us at the FirstBank Group and particularly FBNBank Ghana, we consider your presence a validation of our brand and a charge to perform even better for the growth of the Ghanaian economy.

The opening of this new head office building is a testament to our long-term commitment and a sign of our pledge to deliver innovative banking powered by superior customer experiences, first to our customers and then to the banking industry as a whole.

One of our strengths at FirstBank is our reputation for world class corporate governance and our conservative approach to risk management. This has buoyed the bank through the turbulent times in Nigeria's banking industry. Against this background, I share the Central Bank of Ghana's resolve to raising the bar in the minimum capital requirement of banks in Ghana, particularly in the wake of the recent events. For us in Nigeria, this is not new. As you may be aware, we have had our fair share of experiences in this regard. At FirstBank, however, we are proud of our sturdy heritage as the first bank to be established in West Africa and for withstanding the tides over the past 124 years.

On this note, I will like to assure our stakeholders and cherished customers and the banking fraternity in Ghana that FBNBank Ghana is in a good position to meet the required increase in the minimum capital requirements for banks set by the Bank of Ghana. Your money and investments in FBNBank Ghana are safe. Indeed, when your parent bank is the largest bank in Africa's second largest economy, you have no fears!

Now to my team here at FBNBank Ghana, we are proud of what you have achieved since we started business in Ghana. But know that this new head office building only

means a call to higher service excellence in the delivery of our services to our teeming customers and other stakeholders. You hold the keys to actualising our pledge to deliver innovative banking services, powered by superior customer experiences.

Once again, I thank you all for joining us to commission our new head office building and airport branch. Rest assured that we will keep you first always.

Thank you.

Dr Adesola Adeduntan

MD/CEO, First Bank of Nigeria Limited & Subsidiaries