



Remarks by Dr Adesola Adeduntan, CEO, First Bank of Nigeria Limited, Chairman of the Nigeria Computer Society (NCS) National Information Technology Merit Awards (NITMA), 26 November 2020

Protocol:

- I am pleased to join you on this special occasion, and I am humbled by the rare honour and privilege to chair this awards ceremony.
- It has been an unprecedented year indeed, and I am particularly happy that we are able to gather in this celebratory mood.
- As I ponder the chequered events of this year, which, by the way, are still unfolding significantly, I cannot but imagine a world without information technology as we know it today.
- As Chief Executive Officer of the region's premier financial services group, I can attest that, beyond our invaluable people, we owe our survival and progress as a business largely to the robust information technology systems we have strived to build in recent years.
- I am sure that the same narrative applies to institutions, governments and people globally.
- Information technology pervades every aspect of human endeavour. More importantly, however, the world cannot take advantage of the ubiquitous IT systems without the distinguished professionals, like your good selves who have gathered here today.
- As a body of professionals, you have consistently acquitted yourselves creditably. However, considering your professional contributions to global stability, development and sustainability, especially in this very interesting year, your awards and honours today are certainly more deserved than ever before. Indeed, you deserve a round of applause.

- I therefore congratulate all the award recipients, the leadership of NCS and the organisers of the NCS NITMA 2020.
- Your Excellencies, distinguishing ladies and gentlemen. With the volume, sophistication and reach of our IT infrastructure, at FirstBank we are now a technology company of sorts providing financial services.
- We will continue to collaborate with members of your Society to leverage the best in class IT services and provide the best financial services possible.
- This year we started demonstrating our commitment to leveraging information technology very early in the pandemic, when we initiated the programme to move one million students online in partnership with very reputable educational and IT organisations as well as state governments across the federation.
- In the midst of the pandemic and other far-reaching developments, we are working tirelessly to ensure that your banking transactions continue seamlessly on our regular and alternative channels.
- At FirstBank we are holding up our side; and now more than ever we will uphold our promise to you to be here for you and put You First always.
- I wish you a pleasant year-end celebrations and a prosperous 2021 in advance.
- Thank you and please enjoy this awards ceremony.

Dr Adesola Adeduntan, CFA, FCIB
Chief Executive Officer
First Bank of Nigeria Limited