



**REMARKS BY DR EUGENE JUWAH, EXECUTIVE VICE CHAIRMAN
OF THE NIGERIAN COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (NCC) AT A
BREAKFAST MEETING WITH PROF TIM UNWIN, CTO SECRETARY
GENERAL AND INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS**

Ladies and Gentlemen, let me thank you for responding to our call for breakfast. Please join me in welcoming Professor Tim Unwin, Secretary General of the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (CTO) to Nigeria. Prof Unwin is in Nigeria to sound out the much acclaimed hospitality of the Nigerian people and benchmark them with international standard practices and also with the high demands of CTO from countries hosting its events. I hope he will have a good story about us when he returns home.

Let me use this opportunity to make two major announcements. The first one is that Nigeria will be hosting the 11th Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation's Annual Forum 2013 and the 53rd Council Meeting from the October 7 -11, 2013. The two events in one will be holding at the Transcorp Hilton in Abuja.

The last time the country hosted this event was five years ago. I am particularly excited that the Annual Forum will be holding in Nigeria at this particular point in time because the theme: ***Beyond Broadband*** speaks directly to our situation. This theme is expected to examine regional and international solutions for Broadband rollout and innovation through sharing of knowledge, experience and key information as well as offer critical updates and insight into infrastructure, security and application challenges.

Sectary General, when I came into office over two years ago I made Broadband Deployment one of my cardinal programmes. For me the effective deployment of Broadband in Nigeria will unleash a new phase of competition in the telecommunications sector and put new economic powers in the hands of the Nigerian people wherever they may reside.

I am happy to inform our august guest that as I speak, the country now has a Broadband plan tagged: ***The Nigerian National Broadband Plan 2013 -2018*** which was recently released. Part of the broad objectives of ***The Nigerian National Broadband Plan*** are to promote pervasive broadband deployment; increase broadband adoption and usage; and ensure availability of broadband services at affordable prices. All these are aimed at maximising the political and socioeconomic benefits of broadband.

As the industry regulator, we are prepared to play our role in ***The Broadband Plan*** and ensure that through our regulatory responsibilities and interventions, the plan is speedily and adequately delivered for use in the country.

So, immediately I can see a nexus between the CTO Forum and the future of the telecommunications industry in Nigeria, and there is no doubt that discussions and submissions there will enrich our industry. **I will therefore want to appeal to the industry stakeholders gathered here to partner with us in order for the country to successfully host the Forum.** Prof Unwin, I am sure, will speak more on this.

The other announcement I have to make here has to do with the ITU Telecom World 2013, coming up in Bangkok, Thailand, from November 18 -23, 2013. You may recall that in the past two years, Nigeria has played a more elaborate role at the annual ITU World by staging major events through which we inform the world of telecoms development in Nigeria while also serving notice of what the next phase of growth is going to be. Our participation has always received the commitment and support of the industry and other relevant stakeholders. With a ***National Broadband Plan***, this year the country has more attractive offers to put on the table for the international community and we are inviting you to take advantage of the opportunity and provide more visibility and strategic positioning for your business.

Ladies and Gentlemen, let me allow you to have your breakfast and thank you for your kind attention.

Dr Eugene Juwah,

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