

**SPEECH BY THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATION,
BOSS MUSTAPHA, ON THE OCCASION OF THE INAUGURATION OF THE
BOARDS OF PARASTATALS UNDER THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATION ON TUESDAY 27TH FEBRUARY,
2018 AT THE SHEHU SHAGARI COMPLEX**

Protocol

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to this formal inauguration of Governing Boards of Parastatals and Agencies under the supervision of the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (OSGF).

2. It will be recalled that in January 2018, the President approved the composition of Boards of Federal Government Parastatals. That exercise has received a lot of public commentaries and as a listening and responsive government, further work was carried out to ensure that justice and equity guided the composition. All the constructive pieces of advice received have been taken on board.

3. Following the conclusion of the review exercise, Muhammadu Buhari, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria directed all Ministers to immediately inaugurate the Boards of Parastatals under their supervision. Today's inauguration is the third in the series, coming only after the Ministries for the Federal Capital Territory and Water Resources.

4. Governing Boards are creations of statute and their main responsibility is to give policy direction to the management of institutions. I therefore wish to emphasize that government expects no less from these Boards that are to be inaugurated today. Your Agencies are critical to the achievement of the developmental goals of government, being implementing entities. You are all enjoined to commit to achieving these mandates and to live above Board.

5. Except where expressly stated by statute, Board appointments are part time. Management of your Agencies should therefore be allowed to perform the day-to-day running of these Agencies without hindrance. Your allowances and entitlements as Board members are guided by extant circulars that will be distributed to you in due course. Please acquaint your selves with the circulars for proper guidance.

6. The Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation exercises oversight responsibilities for all the agencies that are to be inaugurated today. This requires close working relationship to ensure guidance on the application of public service rules and regulations. The OSGF shall also ensure that your plans and programmes align with the objectives of government so as to deliver the dividends of democracy to Nigerians.

7. I am not unaware of the fact that a very good number of you are experienced public servants and understand the workings of government. Over the years however, new policies, processes and procedures have been introduced in to the art of governance. In order to deepen your understanding of these new issues, a joint retreat for Management, Chairmen and Members will be organized by this office, very soon.

8. As you all aware, the present Administration has zero tolerance for any form of corruption, and this stance must not be compromised in anyway. Government will frown at and punish corrupt practices perpetrated by any board member as well as the management team of these Agencies.

9. Distinguished Ladies and gentlemen, it is now my singular honor and privilege to inaugurate the Governing Boards of the following agencies:

- i. National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI);
- ii. Nigerian Christian Pilgrims Commission (NCPC);
- iii. National Lottery Trust Fund (NLTF);
- iv. National Lottery Regulatory Commission (NLRC);
- v. Nigerian Atomic Energy Commission (NAEC);

- vi. Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC);
- vii. National Agency for the Control of AIDS (NACA); and
- viii. Galaxy Backbone Limited (GB).

The full list of Chairmen and members were read out at the beginning of this ceremony.

10. I heartily congratulate you all on your appointments and wish you Godspeed and a successful tenure in office.

11. Thank you.