

WELCOME ADDRESS BY MR. G. A. OGUNLEYE, OFR, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE NIGERIA DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION (NDIC), AND CHAIRMAN, AFRICA REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEPOSIT INSURERS (IADI), AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DEPOSIT INSURANCE IN AFRICA: ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS HELD AT ABUJA, JUNE 21 - 23, 2004

Protocols

- 1.0 On behalf of the Executive Council of the International Association of Deposit Insurers (IADI), it is indeed an honour and privilege to welcome you to Abuja, venue of the First Africa Regional Committee Meeting and Conference of our esteemed Association. For participants coming in contact with our Association for the first time, it is worth noting that the IADI, which is an International Association of Deposit Insurance Practitioners was established in Basle, Switzerland in May 2002 and is domiciled at the Bank for International Settlements(BIS).

- 2.0 The Association has the following objectives:
 - enhance the understanding of common interests and issues related to deposit insurance;
 - provide guidance to enhance the effectiveness of deposit insurance systems; such guidance shall take into account different circumstances, settings and structures;
 - facilitate the sharing and exchange of expertise and information

on deposit insurance issues through training, development and educational programmes and provide advice on the establishment or enhancement of effective deposit insurance systems;

- undertake research on issues relating to deposit insurance; and
- take such other action as may be necessary or useful for its Objects and activities.

3.0 Your presence here today is a testimony of your commitment to further the objects of IADI, which are to contribute to the stability of financial systems by promoting international cooperation and interaction among deposit insurers and other interested parties. As you may be aware, the role of Regional Committees such as ours is to reflect regional interests and common issues through the sharing and exchange of information as well as capacity building. In line with this role, the theme of our conference is: Deposit Insurance in Africa: Issues, Challenges and Prospects.

4.0 During our deliberations and discussions at this conference, we should be reminded of Mr. J. P. Sabourin's (President and Chairman of the Executive Council of IADI) vision for IADI over the next five years which includes:

- developing a team of expert practitioners by stepping - up the

- number and scope of assistance and advisory programmes;
- dealing with the pressure on IADI to issue deposit insurance standards through the issuance of guidance on a variety of issues; and
- the growing influence of the IADI regional committees for Asia, Caribbean, Latin America, Africa and Eurasia which he believes are in an excellent position to understand and deal with cross-border issues and develop targeted training programmes to meet regional needs.

5.0 Distinguished audience, permit me at this juncture, to highlight the governance structure of the IADI. Apart from the Executive Council, which is the apex of the decision-making organ, Standing Committees and Regional Committees were established. The Standing Committees are Governance; Research and Guidance; Membership and Communications; Training and Conference; Finance and Planning; and Audit Committees. The Regional committees are Asia, Africa, The Caribbean, Latin America and Eurasia Regional Committees. The IADI's business model is based on "hands-on" working committees. The membership of the Association fell into four categories, namely: Members 34, Associates 8, Observers 2 and Partners 5. Currently, the Association has 49 members.

6.0 In its short life span of two years, IADI has recorded major achievements, some of which I wish to bring to your attention. An International Survey on Deposit Insurance Schemes was carried out. A Guidance Paper on Differential Premium has been issued and it is available on IADI Website. Currently, Guidance on (a) Inter-relationship among Safety-net Participants and (b) The Resolution of Bank Failures are being developed. The Guidance Papers are aimed at assisting countries considering the adoption of Deposit Insurance or the revision of existing Deposit Insurance Schemes. Indeed, the IADI has emerged as a distinctive voice in the international arena.

7.0 It is re-assuring to observe that the IADI has been very active in the last two years and the Africa Regional Committee is challenged by the achievements of the Executive Council and committed to facilitate and strengthen deposit insurance schemes in Africa through numerous programmes such as this.

8.0 The specific objectives of this regional Conference are to, among others:

- i. create awareness about the benefits of the deposit insurance schemes in Africa;
- ii. strengthen the existing deposit insurance schemes in Africa through experience sharing; and

- iii. assist African countries that are in the process of introducing deposit insurance schemes in the design and implementation of their schemes.

9.0 Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, we are confident that at the end of this Conference, every participant will leave here better informed and more resolute to engender the development of deposit insurance schemes in Africa. We also encourage you to make out time to savour Nigeria's traditional hospitality.

10.0 Once again I welcome you all and wish you fruitful deliberations.

G. A. Ogunleye (OFR)
June 21, 2004.