

Welcome and Opening Remarks by Mrs Mary Uduma, The Chairperson Nigeria Internet Governance Forum (NIGF) Local Multi-Stakeholders Advisory Group (LMAG) of the NIGF & President of Nigeria Internet Registration Association (NiRA) on the occasion of the 2014 Nigeria Internet Governance Forum at the Youth Workshop Programme on the 9th June 2014.

Former Director-General of the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA)

Distinguished Quests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Our Youth

I say to the former Director-General of the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), and Internet Security Consultant, Professor Cleopas Angaye, representatives of NITDA, NCC, all of our guests and our youth welcome. We are delighted to have all in our midst, to participate and share in the Youth Workshop Programme of NIGF 2014 hosted by NIGF. I want to thank you for coming. The Internet has become all pervasive in the lives of young people and this workshop would review and address the risks and opportunities that it affords. Many have travelled long distances to be here; this serves to remind us all of the importance of our youth and this programme.

I welcome you all to this auspicious occasion of the Youth Workshop Programme of the 2014 Nigeria Internet Governance Forum (NIGF). Whilst the overall objective of the NIGF 2014 focuses on engaging multi-stakeholder's nature to harness and aggregate productive ideas, best practices and experiences towards facilitating an all-inclusive framework for Internet governance in Nigeria that will actively stimulate economic growth, the theme of the 2014 Youth Forum is "Internet Governance for Job Creation and Social Enterprise Development."

The sub-themes would focus on “Addressing Inappropriate Behavior on the Internet; Internet Access as an Enabler For Job Opportunity; How to Harness Social Capital through Social Media for Job Creation -Using a Case Study of Co-Hub Creations.”

The objectives of the Youth Workshop include to consistently promoting job creation opportunities for Nigerian youths through appropriate use of the Internet.

In addition, the workshop would promote Internet Security and safety among Nigerian Youths as well as engaging Nigerian youths in the Internet Governance discourse among others.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is estimated that there are over 72million young people in Nigeria. The youth could be Nigeria’s assets in the following decades if properly harnessed. We need to tap into this great potential by guiding their educational, skills and social development. Government at all levels should have concrete strategic implementations in all key areas of the development of the youth.

Hence, the objectives of the Youth Workshop! To guide our youth and provide opportunities. We will address inappropriate behavior on the Internet to ensure our youth are conscious and aware of the consequences of their actions on the Internet and re-orient them on the appropriate use of the Internet for productive and profitable engagement.

We need to bring to the attention of the youth the importance of utilizing the Internet as a productive resource, inform them that the Internet Access is an enabler for job opportunities.

The NIGF 2014 Workshop will help the Nigerian youth to know and understand the benefits of Social Capital through social media for job creation. Having access to the social media is not just for the fun and making friends across the globe. Our youth can use the Internet as business enterprise.

We are honoured to have Our Internet Security Consultant, Professor Cleopas Angaye in our midst, representatives of NITDA, NCC, other distinguished guests,

our sponsors and of course our youth. Professor Cleopas Angaye, all moderators and panelists, being experts and specialist in their own rights, bring their passion and knowledge of how to teach and reach out to our youth on the appropriate Internet behavior and benefits that can be derived.

So prepare yourself to be challenged, excited and inspired.

I want to say once more on behalf of the Local Multi-Stakeholders Advisory Group (LMAG) of the NIGF, welcome. It is my pleasure to see so many of you here.

Thank you for being here and listening.

Mrs. Mary Uduma

The Chairperson, Nigeria Internet Governance Forum (NIGF) Local Multi-Stakeholders Advisory Group (LMAG), NIGF & President, Nigeria Internet Registration Association (NiRA)