

## WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRMAN INAUGURATION COMMITTEE OF THE SECTOR SKILLS COUNCIL (CONSTRUCTION) DR SAMSON AMEH OPALUWAH FNIOB, FNSE, FNIM.

### Protocols

It is a great privilege for me to stand before the Hon Minister of State, works & housing and the distinguished personalities here present to deliver this welcome Address as Chairman of the Inauguration and implementation Committee of the Sector Skills Council for Construction in Nigeria.

The National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) had obtained an approval of Government through the Federal Ministry of Education to implement and regulate the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) in Nigeria in 2014.

Consequently, the NBTE started this assignment by understudying the NSQF deliveries in some advanced Countries such as Britain, Germany etc in order to build capacity for a successful accomplishment of the assignment.

The Council of Registered Builders of Nigeria (CORBON) as a major Stakeholder in conjunction with others in the construction industry, underwent NBTE sensitization and training programmes to sensitize them on the requirements of the new scheme.; thereafter CORBON was appointed as the Secretariat for the Construction Sector Skills Council (SSC) by the NBTE.

The Honourable Minister may wish to note that the NBTE appoints three categories of Stakeholders for holistic training namely; TRAINING PROVIDERS, AWARDING BODIES & SECTOR SKILLS COUNCIL. These three Bodies play strategic roles in training, certification and licensing of trainees, artisans and craftsmen in line with international best practices.

Please permit me sir, to mention among others a few of the functions of the SSC as below:

1. To determine the Construction Skills gap across the Country. and to evolve mechanism to address the provision of quality artisans & craftsmen to the public
2. To constantly develop & review National Occupational Standards (NOS), in consultation with the relevant stakeholders, for the training of the artisans considering the emerging technologies and specialisations in the industry internationally.
3. To develop competency standards to ensure that the respective tradesmen are certified by the Awarding Body and licensed by the Regulatory body.
4. To provide Labour Market Information System (LMIS) to which the public can always access and hire qualified artisans for construction activities.

In constituting the Council, deliberate efforts were made to ensure the representation of a broad spectrum of the stakeholders in the Construction industry in Nigeria. The Sector Skills Council on Construction is designed to be a stakeholder and private sector led council.

In fact, two-thirds of the nominees are representatives of the private sector construction/consulting/production companies of all sizes while one third is made up of relevant government regulatory bodies and actors in the construction & housing sector.

The Chairman of the Council is carefully nominated from the Federation of Construction Industry (FOCI) whose membership consists of the largest construction companies in Nigeria.

Honourable Minister, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it is my honour and privilege to, on behalf of the inauguration and implementation committee of Sector skill Council for construction in Nigeria

put in place by the Council of Registered Builders of Nigeria(CORBON )welcome you all to this historic event which signifies a major milestone in the systemic drive to address the skills shortage in the construction industry of our country.

I thank you for coming and May God bless Nigeria. .

Dr. Samson A. Opaluwah fniob,fnse,fnim

Vice Chairman

Council of Registered Builders of Nigeria(CORBON)

28<sup>th</sup> January, 2021