

ACCEPTANCE REMARKS OF EMERITUS PROFESSOR N. M. GADZAMA, CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, ON THE OCCASION OF THE INAUGURATION OF THE TETFUND STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R & D) ON 24TH SEPTEMBER, 2020.

1. PROTOCOL

2. INTRODUCTION

It is with great thanks and appreciation to the respected Honourable Minister of Education Malam Adamu Adamu who despite his very busy schedule has come to honour us by accepting to inaugurate this important Committee. Sir, your action today will be reverberated in the history of Nigeria and in the annals of future development of this country. We believe that countries that invest heavily in their human resources can advance their economy and enhance their standard of living. This happens when such countries bring to bear the imaginative thinking, skills and innovative ability of their citizens. Nigeria cannot be an exception.

We appreciate Honourable Minister your acceptance of patriotic duty to inaugurate this Committee of over 160 members with its formidable assignment to offer recommendations for fast tracking development in all aspects of human endeavour in our country through increasing the knowledge and innovation and productivity of our people geared towards the posterity and progress of our nation. That is why the constituent membership of the Committee is highly weighted towards notable academics, Professors, important Ministries and other Government Agencies, including the Labour Unions. Indeed, the preliminary work by TETFund under the able leadership of Executive Secretary- Professor S.E. Bogoro with his able team, has

been thorough and most adequate for the immediate take off of the Committee.

3. THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE

A lot of thought had also gone into constituting the Committee to include great Nigerians locally and in the Diaspora to add value to the work of the Committee in accordance with international best practices. Scanning the membership of this great Committee, turns the head around in dizziness. You have great renowned Professors in all aspects of Agriculture; specialists tested in Engineering and Technology along with great researchers in Pharmaceuticals and Mining enterprises; as well as those specialising in Digital Economy and the basic Sciences. In addition, we have great entrepreneurs and business men, industrialists, power providers and material science experts. Others include social engineers, and specialists in defence and military science.

On behalf of these nationalist men and women, I have the special honour to echo their resolve to change the trajectory of our nation by agreeing to serve according to the terms of reference ably outlined by the dynamic and visionary Executive Secretary of TETFund in his address earlier. We promise to carry out our assignment with diligence and seriousness it deserves. Hopefully all the efforts will culminate in the establishment of an R & D culture and the establishment of Research and Development Foundation to drive the industrialization of Nigeria.

Sir, we thank you for giving us this opportunity to serve.