



**INDEPENDENT CORRUPT PRACTICES AND OTHER
RELATED OFFENCES COMMISSION**

In Collaboration with
THE NATIONAL JUDICIAL INSTITUTE (NJI)

**Capacity Building Workshop for Judicial Officers
on Abolishing Corrupt Practices**

*Held at Andrews Otutu Obaseki Auditorium,
National Judicial Institute, Mohammed Bello Centre, Abuja
Monday, 13th October 2025*

Opening Remarks by
Dr. Musa Adamu Aliyu, SAN
Chairman, ICPC

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Chairman, ICPC During the Capacity Building Workshop for
Judicial Officers on Abolishing Corrupt Practices**

Protocols:

**My Lord, the Chief Justice of Nigeria, Hon.
Justice K.M.O. Kekere-Ekun, GCON, *FNJI*;**

**My Lords, the Justices of the Supreme Court
here present;**

**The President of the Court of Appeal, Hon.
Justice Monica Dongban-Mensem, *CFR*;**

**The Administrator of the National Judicial
Institute, Hon. Justice B.A. Adejumo, *OFR*;**

Other distinguished personalities,

Ladies and Gentlemen...

It is my privilege and honour to deliver the opening remarks at the capacity building programme for judicial officers organised by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) in collaboration with the National Judicial Institute on abolishing corrupt practices. We at ICPC wish to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the Chief Justice of Nigeria, My Lord Justice K.M.O. Kekere-Ekun, GCON, FNJI, for the unprecedented reforms my Lord is bringing to the judiciary. We pray that Almighty God strengthen His Lordship's efforts. We also want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Institute Administrator, My Lord Hon. Justice B.A. Adejumo, OFR, on his well-deserved appointment, and we wish His Lordship a successful tenure.

Building capacity on the abolition of corrupt practices organised for judicial officers is crucial in the fight against corruption in Nigeria. According to the former Chief Justice of Nigeria, Justice M.L. Uwais (of blessed memory), in *A.G. Ondo State v. A.G. of the Federation & Others* (2002) LPELR–623 SC, corruption is a systemic national problem that threatens the common good. Two main approaches to addressing this issue are law enforcement and sanctions, along with the recovery and management of the proceeds of crime. These strategies align with international best practices, the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2022-2026, and the ICPC's Strategic Action Plan 2024-2028. There is no doubt that the judiciary plays a vital role in ensuring that corruption does not pay and that those involved in corrupt practices do not benefit from the proceeds of crime.

There is a clear connection between the objective of this capacity-building programme for judicial officers and the effective discharge of the ICPC's mandate in line with the commission's Strategic Action Plan 2024-2028. The capacity building will assist the judicial officers and the ICPC in working together in the fight against corruption in accordance with the rule of law. It is our considered opinion that the effective administration of justice in corruption cases requires both vigorous law enforcement and scrupulous judicial oversight.

The recent developments in the fight against corruption necessitate this capacity building to enhance judicial officers' ability to handle corruption cases with speed and consistency, as these cases are becoming more complex due to rapid technological advancement and societal challenges.

My CARE for Impact policy prioritizes corruption prevention while maintaining a strong enforcement focus. This strategic shift has already begun to yield positive results in 2024, with the commission blocking over 20 billion Naira from reaching the pockets of ghost workers and pensioners. Additionally, we initiated a programme, Accountability and Corruption Prevention in Local Government Councils in Nigeria, to enforce the Supreme Court's decision on local government autonomy. In this programme, too, from May 2025 to date, across six states, we recovered more than N2.5 billion in outstanding remittances of tax deductions from ministries overseeing local government affairs on joint projects between local and state governments.

The expected outcomes of this capacity building are to enhance judges' skills, knowledge, and professional ethics in handling corruption cases, strengthen institutional performance through practical application of anti-corruption laws and strategies, and foster greater collaboration and innovation between the judiciary and the ICPC—thereby promoting integrity, fairness, and public confidence in the justice system.

At this point, I wish to commend the NJI for organising this programme and its dedication to enhancing the capacity of judicial officers in Nigeria. I also thank the participants and facilitators for their commitment. I encourage participants to engage actively and keep an open mind to learning.

Finally, ICPC under my leadership, wishes to reaffirm its commitment to support NJI in the ongoing capacity building of judicial officers, which aligns with our strategic action plan and the broader vision of the founding Chairman of the Commission, Hon. Justice Mustapha Akanbi, former President of the Court of Appeal (of blessed memory).

Thank you. May Almighty God bless the Nigerian Judiciary and the ICPC.