**WELCOME ADDRESS BY**

**DR. MUSA ADAMU ALIYU SAN; CHAIRMAN, INDEPENDENT CORRUPT PRACTICES AND OTHER RELATED OFFENCES COMMISSION (ICPC), DURING THE LAUNCH OF THE**

**2024-2028 STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN**

**AND ETHICSPOD**

**AT THE NAF CONFERENCE CENTRE, ABUJA, NIGERIA 2ND OCTOBER 2024**

***PROTOCOL…***

1/ We are truly honoured to have you with us today for the launch of the **2024-2028 Strategic Action Plan** (SAP). This occasion represents a crucial milestone in our continuous battle against corruption and underscores the immense responsibility entrusted to the ICPC by the nation. Your presence today highlights your dedication to this vital partnership, and we fully recognise that the fight against corruption cannot be won by any single institution alone.

2/ Over the past year, the ICPC has made significant progress in discharging its mandate; for example, we recovered over **N13 billion** in diverted public funds in September 2024 alone. This is just one of the many ways we have worked tirelessly to fulfil our mandate.

We are also embarking on **ICT reforms** that will digitalise our operations and enable more efficient investigations, case management, and internal processes. This transformation will position the Commission as a leader in leveraging technology to combat corruption, keeping us one step ahead of criminal activities in the digital age.

3/ We are similarly developing a specialised curriculum aimed at enhancing the enforcement capacity of our personnel. This initiative equips our officers with the skills and expertise needed to address the complexities of corruption cases with the highest standards of professionalism and efficiency. Additionally, we are decentralising the anti-corruption effort by empowering state governments through the mobilisation of State Attorneys General. This approach ensures that state governments are equipped with the tools, knowledge, and resources necessary to effectively combat corruption at the local level.

As you may recall, last month (September), we successfully held a conference with State Attorneys General, and over 30 State Chief Law Officers attended.

4/ In response to the findings from the **Third National Corruption Survey**, we have intensified efforts to broaden the reach of the anti-corruption campaign by actively engaging citizens, civil society, and the media. A key part of this initiative is our upcoming **EthicsPod** digital community, designed to foster a culture of transparency and accountability across both public offices and everyday life nationwide. These efforts are part of a comprehensive strategy, forming the backbone of our **Strategic Action Plan 2024-2028**, which builds on our past achievements and charts a clear path for the future.

5/ This SAP, in line with our **‘CARE for Impact’** initiative (Culture, Accountability, Responsibility, and Efficiency), provides a comprehensive roadmap for achieving our goals over the next five years. It aligns with key national policies such as the **Nigeria Agenda 2050**, the **National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2022-2026**, and the **National Ethics and Integrity Policy**, among others. As part of this strategy, we will continue to strengthen our institutional integrity and deepen collaborations with other stakeholders.

6/ Distinguished guests, as we know, **prevention is better than cure**, and the ICPC has intensified efforts to identify institutional and administrative vulnerabilities through **System Studies and Corruption Risk Assessments**. We have also continued to engage with the **Anti-Corruption and Transparency Units (ACTUs)** in Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), reinforcing our grassroots monitoring mechanisms.

7/ As we look ahead, the success of this Strategic Plan will rely heavily on **synergy, collaboration, and strategic partnerships**, and I want to reaffirm the ICPC’s commitment to a **multi-agency approach** in tackling corruption.

This journey requires collective sacrifice, discipline, and integrity from all stakeholders. Together, we can institutionalise integrity in our systems and mobilise our citizenry to embrace the anti-corruption war.

8/ Allow me to express my profound appreciation to **RoLAC** for their robust support in developing this plan. I also extend my sincere gratitude to the **staff of the ICPC and the Commission’s Board** for their tireless efforts in bringing this Strategic Action Plan to fruition and for their daily work in combating corruption.

9/ My colleagues, I thank you and congratulate you on how far we have come and on the journey that lies ahead. I have no doubt in your commitment and capacity to deliver on the promises we make today. Let us move forward with renewed determination, knowing that together, we can build a Nigeria where corruption has no place. **This is our commitment.**

10/ May God bless us all, and may God bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

**Thank you.**