

**REMARKS BY ICPC CHAIRMAN EKPO NTA AT THE UNVEILING OF OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES AND TRAINING MANUALS / REBRANDING OF THE NAVC ON 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2015 AT THE ICPC AUDITORIUM.**

**Protocols.**

One of the cardinal functions of the ICPC is to sensitize and mobilize Nigerians against corruption. The National Anti-Corruption Volunteer Corps was established in 2008 to serve as an avenue for citizens to participate actively and directly in the campaign against corruption. Experience all over the world has proved that law enforcement is more successful and effective in countries where citizens supply information willingly and are active partners with the relevant agencies.

In addition to other outreach programmes of the ICPC like the Anti Corruption and Transparency monitoring Units ( ACTUs ) in Ministries, Departments and Agencies; the National Anti Corruption Coalition ( NACC ) which seeks partnership with Civil Society Organisations, the National anti Corruption Volunteer Corps provides an opportunity for collaboration with individuals and organised groups including professional bodies towards eradicating corruption in Nigeria.

The new NAVC will develop a corps of volunteers for community service against corruption, mobilize and educate the citizens on corruption and its ills; and also act as a vanguard for good governance in our society.

In 2014, the ICPC suspended activities of the NAVC nationwide because investigation indicated that the noble Coordinators for selfish reasons and personal gain.

After careful study and analysis, the Commission has identified some of the problems to be the non-adherence to operational guidelines and proper training for volunteers; lack of proper vetting of applicants which made registration for membership of the Corps an all comers affair. In addition, the state formations adopted different types of uniforms, and were in fact gravitating towards turning the NAVC into a para military organisation. Some states even set up detention centres where citizens were arrested, interrogated and detained!

The Operational Guidelines and Training Manuals being unveiled here today mark the beginning of a new NAVC. All interested citizens must register on line on our website for membership. Elections into the various positions as contained in the operational guidelines will be conducted after vetting of prospective candidates.

I hereby call on citizens who share our passion for a corruption free Nigeria to take up this challenge and join the NAVC.

Thank you and May God bless you all.