

**A welcome address by Engr Emmanuel Idoniboye, *MNSE*
Chairman Nigerian Society of Engineers, Port Harcourt Branch
to the 2016 Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 29th September
2016 at Engr. Ishmael A. Banigo secretariat.**

Protocol

I welcome us to the year 2016 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the leading and golden branch of our great Society, the Nigerian Society of Engineers. First I must give thanks to God Almighty for His grace upon the Executive Committee (EXCO) you elected exactly one year now, and indeed on the entire membership of the Branch.

I will not fail to acknowledge the enormous role played by the Elders of the Branch, especially the Past Chairmen, particularly my immediate boss, as I usually call him, Engr Kombo Theophilus-Johnson, *FNSE* and the ever-reliable group of Fellows who have always lent their voice in directing the best path to chart as a branch.

I would like to inform AGM that I have had the singular honour and privilege of working with some fine gentlemen and ladies you elected on the floor of AGM last year. These individuals have excelled in their different offices and I must mention particularly my good friend and brother, the vice chairman, Engr. Precious Bob-Manuel, *MNSE*. Worthy of mention too is the General Secretary Engr. Otuneh J. Otunte, *MNSE* and his assistant Engr. Michael Bob-Manuel, *MNSE* who have been very helpful in the administration of my duties. Time would fail me to mention the Technical Secretary, Engr Promise Jumbo, *MNSE* and his assistant Engr Belema Ekine, *MNSE* the Financial Secretary, Engr Mrs Harriet Ateke, *MNSE*, the Internal Auditor, Engr Mrs Chinwe Okoronkwo, *MNSE* and the Treasurer, Engr Chief Uncle Iganibo, *MNSE* amongst others. May I crave the indulgence of AGM to join me applaud the 2016 EXCO.

We have tried to delivery on our mandate to sustain the progress made under the immediate past executive committee and truth be told, the support we have received from you has been immense. We have sustained the paperless meetings and have also ensured that all our meeting times, be they general meetings, EXCO meetings and hopefully this AGM are no longer unnecessarily delayed.

We promised in our inaugural address to present on a yearly basis the infrastructural report card of the State to Government. A committee was set up and they are working assiduously to ensure we deliver on our promise.

We wish to thank you for the opportunity to serve in the past nine months or so and the support we have received from you. We can only wish that we would have met your lofty expectations and do look forward to having your continuous support and that of

the executive committee to be elected in today as we move towards the second year of our tenure.

Today as always, reminds us of the sacrifices and efforts put in by the founding Fathers of this Branch, especially those that have left this mortal world, in establishing a branch that has continued to be the leading branch in the Country. They indeed set the standard and I am particularly grateful to God that we still have in our midst some of these highly esteemed founding fathers like Engr. Prof Youpele O. Beredugo, *FNSE*, *FAEng*, Engr. Enoch George, *FNSE*, and Engr. Laud A. C. Dangana, *FNSE*.

Permit me distinguished colleagues to most heartily thank the Elders, Past Chairmen and Fellows of this golden branch that have always been there for us. Let me again crave your indulgence to mention but a few; Engr Prof Howells I. Hart, *FNSE*, Engr Chief Odiaeri O. Oruye, *FNSE*, Engr Fyne C. Ogolo, *FNSE*, Engr. Alabo Prof K. D. H. Bob-Manuel, *FNSE*, Engr Basoene J. Benibo, *FNSE* and Engr. Bentley T. D. George, *FNSE*. We have also had the opportunity of working with illustrious engineers such as Engr. Chukwudi Ezugu, *MNSE* of *NICE*, Engr Dr. Awajiwak Ujile, *FNSE* of *NSChE*, Engr. Nwadike Jones of *NIHTE*, Engr Chief Aloysius Uchinne, *MNSE* of *NIMechE*, Engr Mrs Anthonia Ohagwa, *MNSE* of *APWEN* and Engr Richard Ogonu of Cost Appraisal Division.

Let me finally thank you immensely for your massive support and encouragement. May God, bless you all in Jesus name, Amen.

Thank you.