

AN ADDRESS

by

Mr. Adedoyin Idowu Owolabi, BSc, MILR, MNIM, FCA
President, ICAN

during a

Courtesy Call

on

Ogbeni (Engr) Rauf Aregbesola
Executive Governor
Osun State

on

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

At the

Government House, Osogbo

The Executive Governor of Osun State, Ogbeni (Engineer) Rauf Aregbesola
Secretary to the State Government
Head of Service
Permanent Secretaries here present
ICAN Council Members and in particular,
Coordinator, Osun & District Society,
Chairman, Osun and District Society of ICAN
The ICAN Deputy Registrar, Administration
My Colleagues of the Noble and Disciplined Profession of Accountancy
Members of the Press
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

1. Your Excellency, let me begin by thanking you most sincerely for finding time within your very tight and busy schedule to receive me and my entourage. We truly appreciate the honour, this demonstration of rare civility and predisposition to professionalism. Let me also seize this auspicious opportunity to join millions of your admirers to warmly congratulate and rejoice with you for winning the 2012 Nigerian Telecoms' Information Communication Technology Governor Award. This award is, no doubt, very symbolic as it is an acknowledgement of your deliberate strategy to give service delivery in Osun State a new meaning. My dear Governor, I salute you and your team for this innovation and accomplishments.
2. Your Excellency, Sir, I am in Osun State as part of my official visit to the Osun and District Society, which is one of 46 District Societies of my Institute created as strategic outputs through which the ICAN governing Council monitors the activities of its members, apprise them of, as well as harness their views on, critical professional, economic and financial issues in the local and international economy. The visit will also enable me assess their welfare and how well they have been performing their public interest mandate of supporting your government and rendering value laden services to other stakeholders in Osun State.

3. From the positive and impressive reports I have received from the Executive and members of this District Society since my arrival in the State, my Institute's long standing impression of your government as one committed to the ideals of honesty, transparency and accountability which are the hallmarks of the Accountancy Profession, is firmly founded. On behalf of our Council, we express our profound appreciation to you for appointing chartered accountants into your cabinet as Commissioners for Finance and Commerce as well as Special Advisers to further reinforce your determination to deliver the dividend of democracy to the people of Osun State efficiently and at minimal cost.

4. Considering the value-laden services that Chartered accountants provide, I am persuaded that they will justify the confidence reposed in them. Without hiding my Oliver Twist tendencies Your Excellency, Sir, I invite you to consider appointing more Chartered Accountants into various Executive and political positions in order to take advantage of their expertise and further positively impact revenue generation and governance processes in Osun State. Given the nation's drive towards the adoption of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSASs) as basis for financial reporting in the public sector with effect from 2014, there is no doubt that the engagement of chartered accountants will give your government a headstart and a leading edge in this direction. My Institute, through the Consultancy Unit of our Osun District Society, is able and willing to assist in building capacity in IPSAS, Budget Implementation and in the training of civil servants in the State in finance and related matters. We are confident that the proposed partnership will help to accelerate the rate of growth of the State's economy. Ultimately, the good people of Osun State will be the better for it.

5. Your Excellency, as a champion of integrity, permit me to bring to your esteemed attention the plan by my Institute to sponsor a Whistleblower's Protection Bill at the National Assembly as part of our contributions not only to promote best practices in corporate governance but also to rid the society of corrupt and sharp practices which have accounted for the unacceptable rising misery index of the citizenry. We therefore

earnestly court your support as we press forward with this initiative which is in tandem with our franchise as a professional accountancy body.

6. Finally, Your Excellency, as part of their membership obligations, Chartered Accountants are required by IFAC, the global body that regulates the Accountancy Profession in 125 countries of the world, to annually attend accredited capacity building programmes. This is both to up-skill their knowledge and re-equip them for the dynamics of the environment. I therefore request your continued support for members of our Institute in your employment to meet this professional obligation by nominating and sponsoring them to attend training programmes which will enable them earn the requisite mandatory continuing professional education credit hours. These programmes include amongst others:

- Annual Accountants' Conference;
- Zonal Accountants' Conference;
- ICAN Faculties Training Seminars and Workshops.
- Members Continuing Education & Training Programmes of the Institute.

7. As part of our efforts to reduce the cost of these initiatives to stakeholders, the Institute, through its District Society, resolved to build a secretariat here in Osogbo, which will provide such facilities as examination halls, library services and offices for the secretariat, students and members in a more conducive environment. However, the development of the site is hampered by a huge land charge that the District is required to pay. It would therefore be appreciated if you could use your good offices to grant payment waiver for the plot of land allocated to Osun & District Society to facilitate its development. I also wish to plead with you to redeem the kind pledge you made to donate a bus to Osun & District Society when ICAN Past President Sebastian Owuama visited you in 2010.

8. In conclusion, Sir, I wish you success in the arduous tasks ahead and pray that God will continue to grant you the courage, wisdom and strength of character to accomplish all the laudable targets you have set for Osun State and its good people.

9. Long live the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria
Long live the Government and people of Osun State.
Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Mr. Adedoyin Idowu Owolabi, BSc, MILR, MNIM, FCA

48th President, ICAN

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