REMARKS AT THE COMMISSIONING OF TETFUND-SPONSORED PROJECTS AT THE KWARA STATE UNIVERSITY, MALETE BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, ARC. SONNY S.T. ECHONO, OON, FNIA ON THURSDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2023

Protocols

- His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Kwara State and Visitor to the University, Alh. Abdulrahman Abdulrazak
- Members of the National and State Houses of Assembly here present
- Members of the State Executive Council
- The Pro Chancellor and Chairman of University Governing Council, Dr. Johnson B. Adewumi
- Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Shaykh-Luqman Alade Jimoh
- Our Respected Royal Fathers, Spiritual and Faith-based leaders
- Principal Officers of the University
- Deans, Directors, and Heads of Departments
- Officers and Members of Staff of the University
- Members of Staff Unions
- Members of the Press
- Distinguished Invited Guests
- Ladies and Gentlemen

2. It is indeed an honour and privilege to be invited to the commissioning of three (3) of TETFund-sponsored iconic projects executed by the Kwara State University, Malete.

3. We are always delighted as a Fund to be associated with developmental efforts that promote the growth of the university system. This is particularly gratifying with the increase in the development of requisite infrastructure that aid learning, teaching, and research, as are conspicuously evident on the KWASU landscape. It is remarkable to note that TETFund's interventions to

the university commenced in 2010 and this privilege has been enjoyed till date. From commencement, a total sum of **N12,681,599,496.67** has been allocated for infrastructure-related interventions, cutting across the Annual, Special and Zonal interventions, amongst others. So far, about 76.11% of these funds have already been accessed for the provision of requisite facilities in the university. We believe the projects undertaken with these funds have remarkably impacted on the mandate of the university in facilitating teaching, learning, and research.

4. I therefore wish to commend the Management of the University for not only following the master plan layout, but also ensuring the engagement of competent professionals for the design of the structures and monitoring the delivery of the various intervention projects executed from inception, some of which we are assembled here to commission today. I salute the Visitor, the Executive Governor of Kwara State, the University Council, the Senate, members of Staff and the various project teams for the support given in ensuring that the projects are successfully delivered.

5. The three projects to be commissioned today are those of the Special High Impact and Annual interventions for which funds were allocated between 2015 and 2021, and completions successfully achieved between 2021 and 2023. The total cost of these projects amount to **N1,521,710,506.96**, all delivered successfully in line with the TETFund guidelines.

6. This is surely a testament to the resolve, focus and agility of Management of KWASU in partnering with the Federal Government in its efforts at making our public tertiary institutions centres of excellence and citadels of research and discovery and a drive towards making the institutions globally competitive. I therefore salute the doggedness of the Management and urge you to maintain focus and ensure consistency in realising the mandate of the university.

7. Our resolve as a Fund is to ensure that our interventions are sustained and improved as much as possible to enable our institutions undertake bigger, and more laudable and impactful projects that will make them become globally competitive and situate themselves in enviable positions among their peers both nationally and globally. We shall continually engage with our beneficiary institutions towards ensuring the delivery of iconic and impactful intervention projects in subsequent intervention years.

8. Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, it is not always a smooth ride completing projects generally, especially in our environment where the volatility rate is so high, and projects are being impacted negatively and struggling to be completed. It is therefore commendable that despite the challenges, the projects were delivered, notwithstanding the debilitating extenuating circumstances. We therefore urge the university to please ensure that these facilities are well maintained to avoid early dilapidation.

9. As I conclude these remarks, let me assure you that the Fund will always support the university's drive for creativity through

meaningful research endeavours while we continually provide necessary support for infrastructural facilities. We are pleased to be associated with your successes as we urge you to keep the flag flying. I welcome you all once again to this event and do wish you a great time and safe trip back to your various destinations.

10. Thank you.