AN ADDRESS BY:

CHIEF (DR) J. O. SANUSI, (CON),
GOVERNOR,
CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA
ABUJA

PRESENTED AT THE OCCASION OF THE
COMMISSIONING OF THE INTERNET
CONNECTIVITY PROJECT JOINTLY SPONSORED
BY CBN AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA,
NSUKKA UNDER THE CBN CAPACITY BUILDING
PROGRAMME

20TH FEBRUARY, 2003
AN ADDRESS BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA AT THE OFFICIAL COMMISSIONING OF THE INTERNET CONNECTIVITY PROJECT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, NSUKKA

The Pro Chancellor,
The Vice-Chancellor,
Principal Officers of the University,
Directors of Central Bank of Nigeria,
Members of the Academia,
Distinguished, Ladies and Gentlemen

It is with great pleasure and honour that I accepted the invitation to perform the official commissioning of the Internet Connectivity Project of the University. This project is an eloquent testimony to the new spirit of partnership and Nigeria’s educational renaissance. I am truly delighted to see this dream come true.

2. The CBN Capacity Building Programme was initiated in 1998 by the Bank in fulfilment of its social responsibility and developmental function. Under the Programme, the Bank provides counter-part funding to universities across the nation for the execution of selected capital projects. The objective is to support the untiring efforts of our institutions of higher learning in capacity building for the national economy, especially, in the production of qualitative manpower.

3. From the inception of the scheme in 1998 to date, the Bank has provided grants totalling ₦435.0 million to (24) twenty-four federal universities in the country. The grants were directed towards the execution of top priority projects in the universities.
4. In order to ensure judicious utilisation of resources under the scheme, beneficiary institutions are requested to forward to the CBN Monitoring Committee, a list of their priority projects and a detailed profile that spells out the nature, disbursement schedule as well as the time frame for the completion of each project. In addition, the university is expected to appoint a Board of Trustees for the project that will be required to work with the CBN's Monitoring Team, until the project is completed.

5. Today, the result of the joint efforts of the CBN and the University of Nigeria, Nsukka is a Cyber Café that has 40 computers, a training room with 15 computers and another 12 computers installed in the offices of the Principal Officers of the University. I have been reliably informed that all the computers are linked to a network with direct access to the internet via the University's VSAT.

6. With the completion of this project, the University of Nigeria community will now affirm that the world is indeed, a global village. I am happy that the CBN is a part of this noble endeavour. I believe the project will provide the required opportunity for both students and staff to acquire information on new developments in the frontiers of education, science and technology, as well as knowledge in general.

7. Finally, I would want to place on record, that of all the projects funded by the CBN under the scheme, yours is the first to be
commissioned in this grand style. I thank the University authorities for their contribution towards the completion of the project. We hope other institutions would be as proactive as the University of Nigeria, Nsukka in strengthening this partnership.

8. Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the honour and privilege to commission the Internet Connectivity Project. I wish you a safe journey on the information super-highway!!

9. Thank you for your kind attention.

GOVERNOR,
CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA,
ABUJA.