

**WELCOME REMARKS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL
WATER RESOURCES INSTITUTE, KADUNA DURING THE OPENING
CEREMONY OF THE INTER-REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON SOUTH-SOUTH
COOPERATION FOR UPSCALING INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES
MANAGEMENT (IWRM) AND ECOHYDROLOGY AS TOOLS FOR ACHIEVING
WATER SECURITY IN AFRICA HELD ON 24TH – 26TH JANUARY, 2017; AT
ROCKVIEW HOTEL (ROYALE), ABUJA.**

Protocols:

The Honourable Minister of Water Resources and His Entourage
Your Excellency, the High Commissioner of Malaysia in Nigeria
Acting Secretary General, Nigerian National Commission for UNESCO
Chairman, Nigeria National Committee for UNESCO-IHP
Eminent Resource Personalities from in and outside Nigeria
Country Participants
Regional River Basin Organization (RRBO) Participants
Other Participants at this Workshop
Members of the Organizing Committee
Gentlemen and Women of the Press
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

It gives me great pleasure and honour to welcome you all to the Inter-Regional Workshop on South-South Cooperation for Upscaling Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and Ecohydrology as Tools for Achieving Water Security in Africa” especially participants from outside Nigeria who have honoured our invitation to attend this important workshop aimed at strengthening south-south cooperation in providing solutions to current global challenges by upscaling existing local approaches in IWRM for water security in Africa. I am highly impressed by the quality of participants; in particular those from Asia and the Pacific here present and therefore convinced that the objectives of this meeting will be achieved.

I wish to use this opportunity to appreciate the support of the Malaysian Funds-in-Trust and the collaborative effort of the Regional Sciences Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, the UNESCO Category 2 Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management (RC-IRBM), UNESCO Multisectoral Regional Office, Abuja and the National Water Resources Institute (NWRI), host of the Regional Centre to organize this event.

It may interest you to note that this is the 4th of the regional workshops/meetings jointly organized through similar collaboration since the establishment of the UNESCO Regional Office in Abuja and the Regional Centre in Kaduna, the *first three being on transboundary water management in the sub-region in 2014 and 2015 and a regional expert meeting on ambient water quality management* while in March, 2013, a national workshop on the strengthening of the National Committees for International Hydrological Programme (IHP) and Man and the Biosphere (MAB) was held.

I therefore urge UNESCO and its various organizations as well as other Organizations that deal with water-related issues to continue to forge collaborative partnership with RC-IRBM for capacity development and research in critical water-related areas for the sustainable development of the sub-region

I wish you very fruitful dialogue and deliberation and urge you all to apply the outcome of this workshop in your various water resources management programmes to promote water cooperation and security for peaceful coexistence and sustainable development in the region.

Once again, I welcome you to Nigeria for this workshop.

Thank you

Dr. EA Adanu

Executive Director (NWRI, Kaduna)