



**FEDERATION OF IKUN-EKITI
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Welcome Address by Chief (Mrs.) Yemi Omotunde, Chair,
FIDUO Economic Empowerment Committee delivered at the
Inaugural Meeting of the Committee on January 31, 2016

I am very humbled and privileged by the responsibility given to me as the chair of the Economic Empowerment Committee. While I do not think that I am the most qualified for this job as the chair, I am however obligated to do my duty in contributing my little quota to this cause in the community I love so dearly.

I would want us to think seriously about the enormous task ahead of us. It is a selfless task; it is for the service and glory of God and uplifting individuals and families that would otherwise die in youth violence, poverty or ill health. While I have always thought my area of interest and service is in health where I have worked for 50 years, I now realized my call of service is diverse and intertwined.

About 25 years ago, I was approached by an uncle of mine who was one of the education pillars of the University of Ibadan that there were some children in high school who could not afford to pay their fees; some women who needed some funds to start businesses. My response was “okay sir,

please sir let me know how much is needed so as to remit the money” - no question asked.

Few years ago, one of the students came to introduce herself to me at Ijebu Jesha. She was very grateful to God and to me for the help I rendered to her at a moment of need and for her achievement. Today, she has an excellent job, lives abroad, has a beautiful house and bought a car for her parents.

We need someone of integrity and fairness of heart to administer the proceeds of this fundraising drive to ensure that they are used to support programs that will have direct impact on the needy in our target population. We don't have to be related to them we only need to know what program would be beneficial to each and every one of them to make a positive impact on their lives and the lives of their families.

May this inaugural meeting be an engaging and fruitful one for us.

Thank you and God bless you. Amen!

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

Dr. Gabriel S. Bomide, President; Mrs. Rose Awoyemi, Vice-President; Mr. Kunle Fasanu, Executive Secretary; Mr. Dipo Oyeleye, Assistant Executive Secretary; Mr. Samuel Aborisade, Treasurer; Mr. Aremu Fashanu, Project Coordination Officer; Mrs. Olayemi Yusuf, Membership Development & Welfare Officer; Rev. Femi Olajide, Public Relations Officer; Mr. Ademola Ajiboye, Financial Secretary.