

Press Release | March 15, 2021

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Julius Berger Delivers New State-Of-The-Art Nigeria Immigration Service Technology Building in Abuja for Commissioning

The President and Commander-in-Chief, Muhammadu Buhari, *GCFR*, has commissioned the new state-of-the-art Technology Building, Data Command, Communication and Control Centre of the Nigeria Immigration Service in Abuja. This ultra-modern complex is the most technology-driven, digital and automated building the Nigeria Immigration Service has ever had since its establishment in 1958.

The contract for the project was awarded to Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, on 1st November 2018 for the first phase and second phase was awarded on 14th December 2020. Both phases of the contract were successfully executed and delivered for commissioning by the construction giant.

President Muhammadu Buhari, who was virtually present to commission the building, in his speech at the Ceremony enjoined all security agencies to raise their performance in protecting lives and property, with a mandate that the country's global security index must be improved. *"It is imperative that our ranking in the Global Security Index improves and I am using this medium to call on all security agencies to step up their activities towards achieving this goal. I assure you that the Administration will give the much needed support to you in your operations,"* he said.

In his welcome address, the Comptroller General of Nigeria Immigration Service, Muhammad Babandede, *MFR*, welcomed the President to the commissioning of the Project and appreciated him for approving the construction and furnishing of the edifice. The Comptroller General, Muhammad Babandede said: *"For us in NIS, the unveiling of this building today, provides a unique platform for security agencies in the country to truly synergize and harmonize efforts under one roof to frontally address various national security concerns using the instrumentality of information and communication technology. The nature of the building and its robust IT infrastructure makes it a great investment and a huge contribution to global security, particularly with its effective connectivity to special platforms such as the INTERPOL*

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Directors: Mr. M. Sunmonu, CON, Chairman • Mr. G. Marks, Vice Chairman (German) • Engr. Dr. L. Richter, Managing Director (German) • Mr. M. Brack, Financial Director (German)
Alh. Z. I. Bayi, Director Administration • Mr. T. Meletschus, Director Corporate Development (German) • Dr. E. N. Azudialu-Obiejesi • Engr. J. Damulak • Mrs. B. A. Disu
Mr. E. C. Ebi, MFR, FCIB • Mr. K. Hensel (German) • Engr. G. M. Sheikh • Mrs. G. O. Talabi

and ICAO PKD/PKI databases. Babandede added that: *“...with this, both local and transnational criminal activities can be easily monitored and nipped in the bud.”*

The Executive Director Administration, Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, Alhaji Zubairu Ibrahim Bayi, *FNIOB*, represented the Managing Director, Engr. Dr. Lars Richter at the event.

Bayi, in his remarks celebrated Julius Berger’s accomplishment of the project. He said : *“In exhibition of the usual speed, quality assurances and other attributes of excellence, which is a hallmark of this reputable company, Julius Berger Nigeria Plc has lived up to expectations by keeping to our obligations and promise in accordance with the contract, delivering a world class infrastructure despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic”*. Zubairu Bayi added that: *“...this is in line with our usual work ethics, moral obligations and commitments towards completion of projects as a core principle from which not even the slightest deviation is accepted”*.

Bayi noted and expressed the company's appreciation for the efforts of men and women of the Nigeria Immigration Service ably led by the Comptroller-General; the project consultants, Artec Practice Limited led by Architect Popoola; and the Julius Berger Nigeria Plc project implementation team.

The Technology Building, Data Command, Communication and Control Centre has a gross floor area of 3600 square metres. It is a reinforced concrete structure. The distinguishing features include double skin wall, energy saving lighting fittings, air-conditioning equipment, fire strategy consideration and top-notch passive ICT components and electronic passport management system.