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High Expectations as Julius Berger Mobilises to Execute Rehabilitation of Cotonou Roads

Leading engineering construction company, Julius Berger Nigeria Plc, has raised the bar as it sets sail for Cotonou - Republic of Benin where it is breaking new grounds with a contract to rehabilitate and improve access roads and crossings in the bustling commercial city. The company's Managing Director, Engr. Dr Lars Richter who broke the news recently, stated in his LinkedIn page that the company is **"...on a historic journey, stepping into Cotonou, Republic of Benin, with a prestigious contract for the rehabilitation and improvement of access roads and crossings"**.

Dr Lars stressed that the deliberate expansion into new territories marks a significant milestone in Julius Berger's strategic growth plan, and that the development reinforces the company's commitment to building a better future through infrastructure beyond Nigeria. He said, **"as we continue to drive our company forward towards our growth aspirations, we take our first steps out of Nigeria, into Cotonou, Republic of Benin, with the award of this contract"**.

According to the Managing Director, the registration of the company's Regional Branch Office marks a milestone achievement in Julius Berger's strategic growth planning, building on its history of partnership and progress through enabling infrastructure and extending its impact. He urged all company stakeholders on, saying, **"together, lets pave the way for progress"**.

Preparations are now underway for the momentous project at Julius Berger offices in Nigeria, and on-site in Cotonou where the first site yard is being set up near Godomey, and another where the project's asphalt plant would be located.

So far, Julius Berger has commenced preparatory works ahead of the actual commencement of the project as an engineer in the company puts it: **"time is of essence... and the government wants to see action. Mobilisation too has reached its peak with the importation of equipment relevant to the**

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project. As we speak, the needed equipment are being loaded in Julius Berger's Ijora site while the company's agents from both Nigeria and Benin Republic are working on relevant Customs clearance."

To underscore its preparation efforts, staff including engineers have been hired by the organisation, just as its HSE plans are already finalised. To crown it all, a statutory notice for the contractors to proceed has been received from the Beninois government.

Julius Berger Nigeria Plc had in 2022 notified its shareholders, the Nigerian Exchange Limited and the investing public that it would be opening a branch office in Benin Republic. A statement signed by Company Secretary, Cecilia Madueke, stated that the company's new office will enable Julius Berger respond to emerging business opportunities along its core line of business in the Republic and its environs.

The company's Board of Directors at a meeting held December 6, 2022, approved the establishment of the branch office to be situated at the *parallèle "d" de la 3eme tranche de la residence des Ambassades les Cocotiers de la réserve no1 – 12ème Arrondissement Commune de Cotonou, Benin Republic*, and the appointment of Mr. Alexander and Mr. Christophe Fierens as Branch Representatives.

Julius Berger Nigeria Plc is a leading Nigerian company offering holistic services covering the planning, design, engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of buildings, infrastructure, and industry projects.