



**REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS SENIOR STAFF ASSOCIATION OF
NIGERIA (PENGASSAN), COMRADE FRANCIS O.
JOHNSON, DURING A COURTESY VISIT TO THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE PETROLEUM
TRAINING DEVELOPMENT FUND (PTDF) ON TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 6, 2018**

It is a special pleasure and privilege for the leadership of Our Association, the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria (PENGASSAN), to be here today on this courtesy visit to the Petroleum Training Development Fund (PTDF) headquarters. The Executive Secretary and the Management of PTDF also deserve every commendation for attending to us despite their busy schedule.

The PTDF has continued to relentlessly discharge its mandate of building capacities and capabilities in the nation's Oil and Gas Industry through the development of human capital resources, institutional capacity development as well as the promotion of



research and acquisition of relevant technologies. Our Association also recognises the importance of the agency, which serves as a vessel for the development of indigenous manpower and technology transfer acquisition in the petroleum industry as well as make Nigeria a human resource centre for the West African sub-region. The focus of the agency has greatly benefitted the industry, the country and the world at large.

Training, research and development must remain on the front burner and are fundamental to the realization of sustainable growth of the Oil and Gas Industry, as well as the nation's economy.

One of the common excuses being given by the oil companies is lack of qualified and adequate manpower for activities and operations in the industry, which caused influx of expatriates into the country. The PTDF has successfully bridge manpower gaps through training



and development of Nigerians in technology transfer to meet the needs of employers in the industry.

We commend the Executive Secretary for his drive in ensuring the immediate take-off the National College of Petroleum Studies in Kaduna, acceding to the training request of both the BEC and Zonal Executive Council of PENGASSAN for overseas capacity building,

prompt payment of palliative and commencement of the CBA for the Branch for the first time in the history of the organisation.

We are appealing to the Agency not to rest on its oars in delivering its mandate, *just as it is extending the operations and activities to the industry, let me express our interest in collaboration with Agency in training of the leadership and members of PENGASSAN towards attaining industrial harmony in the Oil and Gas Industry.*

There is no way we will conclude this remarks without mentioning some of the industrial relations issues with our Branch in PTDF. We



will like the management to resolve the delay in promotion of staff as at when due, prompt holding of JCC meeting, and prompt implementation of welfare packages and provision of office space for our executives in the building for meetings.

The Executive Secretary Sir, this CWC administration's aspiration is to explore alternative source of revenue for the Association and wishes to solicit your support in actualising our foremost projects in Abuja, Port Harcourt, Warri and Lagos. The quest for this drive is borne out of concern in addressing the effects of redundancy and job loss in the industry, thereby assisting government in job creation.

Let me express our solidarity with your Management, especially at this time when there is need to enhance the Nigerian Content in the industry. We assure your Management of our continuous support, as we call on the Management to partner with the association in its decision making and implementation to create synergy for greater productivity.

Thank you and God bless.

Long Live PTDF Branch!

Long Live PTDF Management!!

Long Live PENGASSAN!!!

Comrade Francis Olabode Johnson

6th February, 2018.