



**SPEECH BY CHAIRMAN HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, HON. ABIODUN ISIAG AKINLADE AT THE FIRST WEST AFRICAN CONFERENCE ON ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS (EMF) EXPOSURE AND HEALTH, VICTORIA GRAND PLAZA, VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS, JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup> – JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2012.**

As Chairman of the Nigerian House of Representatives Committee on Science and Technology, I was asked to speak briefly on the **Proposed Telecommunications EMF Emission Protection Bill** being sponsored by my committee.

I must first confess that this international conference couldn't have come at a better time than now, when development in the telecommunication sector have reached an impressive stage where more than 50% of our citizens have subscribed to over 100 million telephone lines and other related services.

The growth has also come with commensurate measure of public awareness and concern on the impact of various gadgets and equipment being used by consumers in the industry.

You will also agree with me that apart from the consumers of telephone services, there are also a sizeable population of Nigerian people who are working with the service providing companies and directly interface with facilities / equipment used in the provision of these services.

As representatives of the Nigerian people, the House Committee on Science and Technology rose up to the demands and yearnings of Nigerians on the need to come up with legislation that will protect citizens from possible effects of radiations from telecommunications installations - hence the proposed Telecommunications EMF Emission Protection Bill.

The bill essentially seeks to enact an Act to:-

- 1. Establish limits on human exposure to Electromagnetic fields (EMF) that will provide protection against known adverse effects from any installation or device emitting such fields.***
- 2. Establish minimum requirement for the protection of the public and workers from risks to their health arising or likely to arise from exposure to EMF in the frequency range 0 to 300 GHz.***

This International conference therefore, will be of immense value in providing the much needed awareness on current scientific facts and findings in the field of EMF emissions, which can serve as source of reference to our members in the course of deliberations on the bill.

I therefore want to commend the organisers of this event for bringing those health concerns for discussion at this auspicious time.

Thank you.

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