



**MINISTERIAL PLATFORM  
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE MINISTRY OF  
JUSTICE 2011-2012**

**BY**

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Courtesies....

I am delighted at the opportunity to share with this gathering the progress we have made in the Federal Ministry of Justice in contributing to the transformation agenda of His Excellency President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan GCFR and the enhancement of the administration of justice

2. Permit me to also express my appreciation to the Honourable Minister of Information for organizing this unique forum which is a platform for interaction and healthy exchange of information between Federal Government Ministries and the general public in furtherance of this administration's commitment to the principles of transparency and accountability.

3. During the period under review, the Ministry of Justice has remained an assiduous stakeholder in the collective strive to realize the Transformation Agenda of the present administration. The period also cannot be said to be devoid of challenges which are peculiar to the Ministry with regards to its core functions bordering on legal and constitutional issues.

## **PART I -THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**

### **Core Activities of the Ministry**

4. In line with the Ministry's resolve to provide a sound legal framework to support the attainment of Government's objectives,

we have embarked on a number of initiatives designed to ensure the smooth functioning of government through the more efficient discharge of our core functions which include:

- asserting and maintaining the dignity of the legal profession;
- ensuring access to justice for all persons;
- promoting a culture of service with integrity;
- advising government on its treaty obligations;
- recognising and adapting to the challenges of the present technology-driven age through increased use of information technology facilities to deliver high-quality services to the public;
- rendering high quality legal services to government through timely legal advice to guide government action, deployment of appropriate legal personnel to Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and facilitating the early translation of Government policies into legislation through the Ministry's legal drafting function;
- ensuring close collaboration with stakeholders, government agencies, civil societies and the international community in order to improve on justice delivery;
- prosecuting criminal cases on behalf of government;
- handling and defending civil cases for and on behalf of the government;
- negotiating and vetting contracts on behalf of government ministries, departments and agencies.

5. Apart from the prosecution of cases, most of these matters were handled through the resident Legal Units in the various Ministries, Departments and Agencies who act as representatives of the Attorney-General of the Federation within their organizations. In addition to the legal units and liaison offices in the six geo-political

zones of the country, the Ministry supervises the activities of the following parastatals :

- Nigerian Law Reform Commission
- Legal Aid Council
- Council for Legal Education
- National Drug Law Enforcement Agency
- National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons
- Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies
- Nigerian Copyrights Commission; and
- Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration

### **Structure and Organisation**

6. To undertake and achieve its statutory mandate, the Federal Ministry of Justice is structured as follows:

**(a) Seven Professional Departments namely:**

- (i) Department of Public Prosecutions of the Federation (DPPF)  
(see Table B)
- (ii) International and Comparative Law (ICL)
- (iii) Civil Litigation and Public Law (CL&P) (see Table C)
- (iv) Solicitors Department (SD)
- (v) Legal Drafting (LD)
- (vi) Citizens' Right (CR) (see Table D)
- (vii) Law Reporting and Publications (LRP)

**(b) Three Service Departments:**

- (i) Human Resources Management Department (HRM)
- (ii) Planning, Research and Documentation (Statistics) Dept. (PRS)
- (iii) Finance and Account Department (F & A)

**(c) Five Units:**

- (i) Information and Protocol Unit
- (ii) Internal Audit Unit
- (iii) Freedom of Information Act Implementation Unit.
- (iv) Central Authorities Unit
- (v) Justice Sector Reform Unit

**REFORM OF THE JUSTICE SECTOR**

7. In line with the ministry's Vision to ***"Make Justice accessible to all consistent with the ideals of democracy and rule of law"***, we set out upon assumption of office on April 6, 2010 to make the Ministry more responsive to the yearnings and aspirations of Nigerians. One of the special purpose vehicles used in this regard is a comprehensive programme of Justice Sector Reform.

8. This led to the articulation of a formal document called the ***"Strategy for the Implementation of Justice Reforms in Nigeria"*** and the inauguration of the panel on the Implementation of Justice Reforms on 9<sup>th</sup> of August, 2011 to ensure that the eight-point strategy initiatives were implemented within a 24 month period. This panel is chaired by Hon. Justice Ishaq Bello, of the FCT High court.

9. The Panel elaborated an eight point strategy on the following areas:

- Reform of the Criminal Justice System

- Legislative Reforms and Advocacy
- Promotion and Protection of Human Rights
- Improvement of Institutional Mandates and Structures of Justice Institutions in line with emerging international developments
- Improved International Cooperation Mechanisms
- Fair Application of the Freedom of Information Act
- Enhancement of Welfare Services and Staff Development
- Improved Accountability and Efficiency of the Staff of the Ministry of Justice and allied Institutions

10. Under its Legislative Reforms and Advocacy Project, the Panel working with relevant departments in the Ministry has facilitated and re-worked a draft harmonized *Bill on Criminal Justice Administration*, which consolidates the criminal procedure laws in order to reduce delays and provide for more humane treatment of suspects. The reworked version incorporates provisions on Community Penal Service and remedies for victims of crime. This project is also undertaking the drafting of various Bills and Regulations to enhance the work of the various anti corruption Agencies (ACAs). Most prominent of these are the Bills on Proceeds of Crimes; Protected Disclosures; Anti Money Laundering and Terrorism.

11. Furthermore, I have in the exercise of the powers conferred on me by the Constitution, developed a prosecution policy and

guidelines based on international best practices for prosecutors in the MOJ and other law enforcement agencies (LEAs). The Prosecutorial Guidelines and Policy which are in response to the growing demand for the regulation of criminal prosecutions in Nigeria, will incorporate a code of ethics and recommend best practices to guide prosecutorial discretion in routine and complex cases. The draft instruments were shared with Attorneys General of the States, relevant Law Enforcement Agencies with prosecutorial functions and the Nigerian Bar Association for inputs.

### **Implementation of the Freedom of Information Act**

12. The reform plan has led to certain concrete initiatives towards enforcement of the Freedom of Information Act 2011 (FOIA). Towards this end, we organized on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October last year a sensitization workshop of the FOIA for legal advisers of MDAs and law officers of the FMOJ. The Office of the Attorney General of the Federation also issued an Advisory Memorandum HAGF/MDAS/FOIA/2012/I of 28<sup>th</sup> January 2012 to all public Institutions which has been published and widely circulated. We have also developed comprehensive guidance notes for all public institutions on the operational, institutional and substantive aspects of implementing the FOIA 2011.

13. Furthermore, in compliance with the Act, the report and account of dispositions of FOIA requests by public institutions for 2012

was submitted by my office to the relevant bodies in the National Assembly just before the timeline of April 1 lapsed.

### **Support for the Legislative Process**

14. In facilitating the early implementation of the decisions of the Executive arm of government through preparation of Executive Bills for consideration by the National Assembly, the Ministry drafted several Bills with the potential of impacting positively on the polity, especially in the socio-economic and political spheres of the country. Some of these Bills were passed into law, while others are at various stages of consideration before the National Assembly. A comprehensive list of all the legislation that has been prepared by the Ministry is shown in Schedule I below. The Ministry also drafted and gazette many subsidiary instruments to give effect to principal laws. Two examples, of such are the eight Regulations to give fillip to the Proclamation in December 2011 of a State of Emergency in 15 local Government Areas.

### **Complex and Cross border crimes**

15. As the Central Authority for Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition in Nigeria, my office is spearheading proactive engagement through bilateral linkages with several countries such as the UK and Australia. We have also constituted specialized units on Mutual Legal Assistance and Cyber crimes. In terms of legislative reform, the Ministry is currently drafting

comprehensive legislation on Mutual legal assistance while a committee under the chairmanship of Hon Justice Roseline Ukeje has been constituted to review the legislation on Cybercrimes and Terrorism to take into account, our current security challenges as well as update and incorporate international best practices.

### **THE ANTI- CORRUPTION CRUSADE AND RECOVERY OF STOLEN FUNDS**

16. In demonstration of this administrations' political will to tackle corruption, especially in the area of preventing criminals from benefiting from the proceeds of their crimes, the Ministry collaborated with the **Justice for all (J4A)** and the **International Centre for Assets Recovery, Switzerland** and other development Partners to organize capacity building workshop on Stolen Asset Recovery and Management of Proceeds of Crime in October, 2011. The workshop provided a platform for sharing of experiences and exchange of ideas from other jurisdictions and international best practices in the effort towards structuring and reforming the country's legal and institutional framework for asset recovery.

17. The Ministry has since 2010 in line with international best practices emphasized 'restitution' or disgorgement of stolen assets that would ensure direct benefit to the Nigerian Government as the 'Victim State. As a result of the adoption of this practice, affected companies and individuals were made to disgorge the proceeds of crime and to pay appropriate penal fines. In the year under review

substantial sums have been recovered from foreign jurisdictions as well as proceedings initiated in Nigeria.

## **RELATIONSHIP WITH STATES' MINISTRIES OF JUSTICE**

18. The Federal Ministry of Justice in April 2012 re-activated the forum of the Body of Attorneys General which in the past, served as a forum for exchanging ideas and sharing experience on issues of common concern. A meeting of Solicitors General was also initiated for the first time to ensure that the decisions of the Body of Attorneys General are implemented. The meetings afforded Attorneys General and Solicitors General from the States the opportunity to learn from each other and from the initiatives at the Federal level which have already crystallized into legislation, for example - the **Freedom of Information Act 2011** and The **Terrorism Prevention Act 2011**.

## **ADDRESSING PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS**

19. Mindful of the need to maintain professional discipline and eschew all forms of misconduct, corruption and sharp practices in the legal profession, the Ministry of Justice, in collaboration with the Nigerian Bar Association, held the Inaugural Meeting of the General Council of the Bar in April, 2012. The meeting marked a fresh beginning in the collective resolve to reposition the Bar Council for the effective discharge of its statutory functions as envisaged by the Legal Practitioners Act.

## INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS AND INSTRUMENTS

20. As a committed member of the International legal Community, Nigeria has always complied with all international agreements and promptly ratified and domesticated statutes to which she is signatory. During the period under review, the Ministry prepared the following instruments:

**TABLE A**

<b>Instruments</b>	<b>Dates of Ratification</b>
Instrument of Accession on Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons	September, 2011
Instrument of Accession on the Reduction of Statelessness	2011
Instrument of Ratification of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Good Governance	2011
Instrument of Ratification of African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in (Kampala Convention)	April, 2012

21. It is instructive that Nigeria is an active participant in forums where these instruments are reported upon. For example, Nigeria presented its Fourth Periodic Report on the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights at the 50<sup>th</sup> session of the African

Commission on Human and Peoples Rights held from 24<sup>th</sup> October to 5<sup>th</sup> November 2011 in the Gambia. The report which was product of an inter-ministerial committee hosted by the Ministry of Justice was acclaimed by the Commission.

22. In other spheres, the Ministry of Justice through the Department of International and Comparative law formed the arrow head in the election of qualified Nigerians into some international positions in the year under review. For example, Nigeria's candidate Dr. Chile Eboe Osuji was elected in December as a Judge of the International Criminal Court while Dr Thompson Adegbite, another Nigerian was elected a Member of the Legal Technical Commission of the International Seabed Authority in July 2011. You will recall also my re-election in November 2011 as a Member of the International Law Commission.

**SUMMARY OF CASE DISPOSITIONS BY SOME DEPARTMENTS IN THE  
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**

**TABLE B  
DISPOSITION OF CRIMINAL MATTERS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC  
PROSECUTIONS BETWEEN MAY 2011 AND MAY 2012**

S/N		RECEIVED	CONCLUDED	IN PROGRESS
1.	CASES	184	32 (17%)	152 (83%)
2.	PETITIONS	24	24 (100%)	-
3.	MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTS	30	7 (23%)	23 (77%)

**TABLE C**  
**DISPOSITION OF CIVIL MATTERS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL LITIGATIONS**

S/N	PARTICULARS	
1.	NUMBER OF CIVIL CASES INSTITUTED SINCE 29 <sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2011	170
2.	NUMBER OF CASES CONCLUDED	128
3.	NUMBER OF CASES SETTLED OUT OF COURT	8
4.	NUMBER OF CASES ON APPEAL	35

**DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINTS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENS RIGHTS**

22. The creation of an avenue for people to lodge complaints is one of this administration's planks for effective justice delivery in the country. The statistics below shows the number of complaints the Ministry received through its Department of Citizens Rights since May 2011.

**TABLE D**

S/N	PARTICULARS	NO.
1.	Number of complaints received since 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2011	449
2.	Number of complaints treated and resolved since May 2012	057
3.	Number of complaints pending resolution	392

**PART II – PARASTATALS OF THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**

23. The Ministry of Justice supervises Eight Parastatals namely:
- (a) The National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP)
  - (b) The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA)
  - (c) The Nigerian Law Reform Commission
  - (d) The Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies
  - (e) The Council of Legal Education, Nigerian Law School
  - (f) Legal Aid Council
  - (g) The Nigerian Copyright Commission
  - (h) The Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration

**National Agency For the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP)**

24. The National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP) which is Government's institutional arrow-head in the battle against the scourge of human Trafficking has continued to discharge its statutory mandate in a credible manner in line with Nigeria's obligations under the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its supplementing protocols.

25. In the period under review, 271 cases of Trafficking in Persons were reported. Of this number, 165 were prosecuted and 30 convictions recorded. 135 cases are pending in the courts. The

Agency also organized specialized training for 39 Prosecutors at the Rockview Hotel Abuja, from 30th January to 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2012.

26. Central to NAPTIP's law enforcement strategy is concern for and rehabilitation of victims. During this period, the Agency rescued 812 victims of trafficking. Many of these victims are currently undergoing training in different skills ranging from, hairdressing, hat making, computer literacy, welding, and tailoring.

### **National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA)**

27. The commitment of Nigeria since the establishment of the NDLEA to the crusade against illicit drug use and trade has resulted in her de-listing from the list of countries hitherto regarded as having major drug trade problems by the United States of America. This has been due to the efforts we made especially in making the counter-narcotics war a national security concern.

**TABLE E**

**DISPOSITION OF CASES BY NDLEA MAY 2011 – APRIL 2012**

<b>S/N</b>	<b>ARRESTS AND PROSECUTIONS</b>	<b>CONVICTIONS</b>	<b>TYPES OF DRUG</b>	<b>QUANTITY</b>
1	1,500	1,220	Cannabis Sativa (marijuana)	650,155.93kg
2			Cocaine	360.765 kg
3			Heroin	39.844kg
4			Psychotropic substance	4,093.46kg

28. A major breakthrough in the period under review was the discovery and neutralization of two clandestine laboratories in Lagos. These laboratories are for the illicit production of Methamphetamine and have a combined production capacity of 20 – 50 kg. Among the items recovered from one of the laboratories are 41.15kg of Ephedrine, and 4kg of Methamphetamine. Three (3) Bolivians and one (1) Nigerian are currently being prosecuted in respect of these discoveries, while two other suspected persons are still at large.

### **The Nigerian Law Reform Commission**

29. The Nigerian Law Reform Commission has continued to provide legislative support to the National Assembly and other governmental institutions. During the period under review:

(a) The Commission held a National Workshop on the Reform of the Merchandise Marks Act, CAP.MIO, L.F.N. 2004 and Trade Marks Act Cap.T13 L.F.N. 2004 on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2012. This is with a view to reduce the number of separate enactments on the same subject matter and to evolve a comprehensive and up to date body of legal principles and rules governing Merchandise/Trade Marks, suitable for the circumstances of the country.

(b) The 2011 edition of the Nigerian Law Reform Journal was presented to the public at the above said workshop held in February.

(c) Another National Workshop was held on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2012 on the Unification and Reform of the Criminal Code, Cap C.38 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria (L.F.N.) 2004 and Penal Code, Cap. 532, Laws of Abuja, 1990 (Part 1). This is with a view to unify and update/improve the Legal framework for the Criminal Justice System in Nigeria and to achieve a greater uniformity in the Law.

### **Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies**

30. As the foremost institution for research and advanced studies in law and related disciplines in Nigeria, the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies has continued to bring a lot of innovation and creativity to bear on its continuing legal education and postgraduate programmes. It has hosted series of roundtable and policy dialogues on topical issues cutting across all spheres of life. It has also created twenty specialized Legal Research Centres.

31. During the period under review, seven roundtables on different areas of the Law were held, as part of the Institute's contribution to the development and shaping of government policies and plans.

## TABLE F

### SUMMARY OF OUTPUT OF NIALS FROM MAY 2011 – APRIL 2012

	NUMBER OF BOOKS PUBLISHED	ROUNDTABLES	PUBLIC LECTURES	TRAINING PROGRAMMES
	23 TITLES	15 THEMES	11	19

32. The NIALS press offers quality production, excellent editing and proofreading services by a faculty of distinguished Professors, Research Fellows and seasoned in-house editors and an unrivalled indexing of publications by technically trained Librarians. During the period under review, the press produced four publications as listed below. This is in addition to the institute's news letter published monthly.

### PUBLICATIONS

33. Beyond the Institute's mandate to conduct post graduate courses in legislative drafting, the Institute also actively participates in the public hearings of the National Assembly. The Institute during the period under review elaborated eleven Bills for possible consideration by the National Assembly. These include:

- (a) Social Security bill
- (b) Enforcement of Education of Children and Young Persons
- (c) Parental Rights and Child Control Bill
- (d) Women Affirmative Action (Equal Opportunity for Women) Bill

- (e) Widows Protection and Rehabilitation Bill
- (f) Destitute Protection Bill
- (g) Employees Protection Bill
- (h) Bill to Criminalise, Regulate and Sanction Gangsterism, Cult membership and Other Organised crimes
- (h) Death Penalty Abrogation Bill
- (i) Bill for Sanitizing Home and Domestic Environments for the Eradication of Malaria and Yellow fever

### **Council of Legal Education (Nigerian Law School)**

34. The Federal Government recently approved the establishment of two new campuses of the Nigerian Law School to be located in Yenagoa (Bayelsa State) and Yola (Adamawa State) to cope with the ever-increasing demand of more universities that had come on board. The new campuses which took off in 2011 complement the existing campuses in Lagos, Enugu, Kano and Abuja.

35. The Law School has been undergoing reforms for quality education and entronement of international best practices, leading to fundamental changes in curriculum, mode of teaching and learning. The reform has led to IT-driven administration processes, sustained staff development and provision of infrastructure for conducive learning environment.

During the period under review the following achievements were recorded:

## **A. Improvement of Physical Facilities and Infrastructure**

### **i. Abuja Headquarters**

- **Library:** An ultramodern Library has been completed and is being furnished.
- **Seminar Rooms:** A multi-storey block of Seminar Rooms to implement the new curriculum has been completed and ready for commissioning.
- **Library Holdings:** Libraries in all the campuses are undergoing massive re-stocking with essential practice books in line with the new curriculum.

### **ii. Lagos Campus**

- **Hostel:** Work is on-going on the abandoned students' hostel. When completed, it will accommodate all the students in the Campus.

### **iii. Enugu Campus**

- **Auditorium:** The Enugu State Government donated a 1000 capacity Auditorium to the Campus; it is completed. The Nigerian Law School furnished it this year.
- **Fencing:** Partial fencing has been completed;
- **Library:** a Library Block has been completed;
- **Hostel:** Inherited blocks as well as 200 bed phases I & II new blocks have been fully constructed.
- **Sports/Digital Centre:** This has been completed;
- **Seminar Rooms:** Construction of Multi-storey block of Seminar Rooms has been completed.

- **Drilling of Boreholes and water reticulation**

**d. Kano Campus**

- **Seminar Rooms:** 4 Seminar/Digital Rooms have been completed.
- **Library:** Conversion of Bagauda Lake Resort Hall to Library has been completed.

The Kano State Government has donated the following to the Campus: 250-bed Female Hostel, connection of the Campus to the Kano State Water Works mains supply line and provision of a Fire Service Station and facilities.

**LEGAL AID COUNCIL**

36. Access to justice by all Nigerians in line with the rights enshrined in our Constitution may remain a mirage if, in the actual sense, a large majority of the population cannot have this access. It was with this in view that the President, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, signed into law the Legal Aid Act on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June, 2011. With an expanded mandate to provide legal representation on all matters both criminal and civil, there has been a quantum rise in the number of cases handled by the council from June 2011:

**TABLE G**

<b>NATURE OF CASES</b>	<b>GRANTED CASES</b>	<b>COMPLETED CASES</b>
Criminal	5400	2785
Civil	1227	820
PDSS (Police Duty Solicitor	1467	1467

Scheme)		
Total	8094	5072

### **THE NIGERIAN COPYRIGHT COMMISSION**

37. The Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) was established in August 1989 with a statutory mandate to administer, protect promote and regulate copyright in Nigeria. In the period under review the NCC has striven to advance the growth of the nation's creative industry through various enforcement measures, promotional and sensitization initiatives as shown below:

- ❖ Number of Enforcement Operations: 35
- ❖ Number of Arrests: 145
- ❖ Number of Pirated works Seized: 6, 193,210
- ❖ Number of prosecutions: 63
- ❖ Number of convictions 19

38. It is noteworthy also to mention that the copyright notification scheme designed to enable copyright owners notify the government of the ownership of creative works received 4,480 applications out of which 3871 have been processed. In this period too several infrastructural improvements have been made namely:

- The development of a web portal and enhancement of ICT tools for departments and zonal centres;
- Upgrading the specialized Library on Intellectual Property;

- Renovation of the NCC Institute – the training division of the Commission;
- Procurement and installation of two customized software to enhance the management of the Copyright Notification Scheme and the operations of the Finance and Accounts Department;
- Partial renovation of the Lagos Office of the Commission to enhance its status as the operational headquarters;
- Establishment of a zonal office in Onitsha to check incidence of piracy in Anambra state and environs;

### **CONFISCATION OF PIRATED BOOKS WORTH N150 MILLION**

39. The Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), in collaboration with Nigeria Customs Service (NCS), on Friday, May 18, 2012, intercepted two container loads of 2,118 cartons of suspected pirated books imported from China. The two containers, impounded at the Apapa Wharf, Lagos comprised 1,222 cartons and 896 cartons of books each, estimated at over N150Million.

The huge consignments of suspected pirated books consist of over 30 titles whose copyright belongs to such foreign publishers as Penguin and local publishers as Macmillan, Longman, Universal Press Limited (UPL) Oxford and Vanguard Press, among others.

The Commission had since four months ago upon the complaint of the Nigerian Publishers Association (NPA) instituted investigation of the high profile book piracy saga. Investigation is ongoing and the Commission is committed to prosecuting the suspected piracy barons.

The prompt confiscation of the infringing books has dealt a big blow to the illegal industry of piracy as the books cannot find their way into the thriving local book industry.

## **CONCLUSION**

40. In concluding this briefing, I wish to use this opportunity to express the gratitude of the Ministry to His Excellency, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, *GCFR*, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and His Excellency, Alhaji Namadi Sambo, *GCON*, Vice- President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for their continued support for the Federal Ministry of Justice. I equally thank the Members of the Federal Executive Council (*FEC*) for their assistance and collaboration with the Ministry in the process of implementation of our various programmes and projects.

41. I also wish to acknowledge the support of the two Houses of the National Assembly, especially in the exercise of their appropriation and oversight powers. The Ministry and its Parastatals have equally benefited from the backing of several Diplomatic Missions, Civil Society Organisations and Donor Agencies. It is my hope that the present level of engagement will be sustained and expanded, in order to improve on our performance and service delivery.

42. Finally, let me acknowledge and appreciate the critical role the media has played in publicising the activities of the Ministry and its parastatals. Your activities have largely been instrumental to the public awareness of the concept of the Rule of Law and all its precepts, as well as the role of the Federal Ministry of Justice in ensuring its observance by government and the entire citizenry. I thank you all and look forward to a more constructive relationship with you.

43. Thank you and God bless you all.

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MINISTER OF JUSTICE**

## **SCHEDULE I**

### **LIST OF 2011 LEGISLATION WHICH EMANATED AS EXECUTIVE BILLS PREPARED/VETTED BY THE LEGAL DRAFTING DEPARTMENT IN 2011**

1. The Evidence Act, 2011
2. The Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority (Cost. Etc.) Act 2011;
3. The Legal Aid Act, 2011;
4. The Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria Act, 2011;
5. The Industrial Training Fund (Amendment) Act, 2011;
6. The Customary Court of Appeal of the FCT, Abuja (Jurisdiction on Chieftaincy Matters) 2011;
7. The Debt Management Bureau (Establishment Etc.) Act, 2011;
8. The Tertiary Education Trust Fund (Ext. Etc.) Act, 2011;
9. The Freedom of Information Act, 2011;
10. The Money Laundering (Prohibition) Act, 2011;
11. The Terrorism (Prevention) Act, 2011;