

NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION SECTION ON PUBLIC INTEREST & DEVELOPMENT LAW (SPIDEL)

# TOWNHALL MEETING (A HYBRID EVENT)

### Theme

Justiciability of Chapter Two of 1999 Constitution: Pragmatic measures for Government's Accountability



12:00 NOON	ARRIVAL & REGISTRATION
12:20 PM - 12:25 PM	NATIONAL ANTHEM
12:25 PM - 12:30 PM	INTRODUCTIONS BY COMPERE - Mojibade Sosanya
12:30 PM - 12:35 PM	NBA PRAYER
12:35 PM - 12:55 PM	<ul> <li>WELCOME REMARKS</li> <li>i. Steve Abar, Chairman, Planning Committee</li> <li>ii. Dr Monday Ubani, Chairman, NBA Section on Public Interest and Development Law (SPIDEL)</li> <li>iii. Olumide Akpata, President, Nigerian Bar Association</li> </ul>
12:55 PM - 1:05 PM	CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS - Hon. Justice Helen M. Ogunwumiju Justice of the Supreme Court (JSC)
1:05 PM - 2:35 PM	FIRST PLENARY
	LEAD PRESENTER: Femi Falana, SAN
	MODERATOR - Kayode Akintemi
	DISCUSSANTS:
	Hon. Justice Onuoha Ogwe, Chief Judge, Abia State
	<b>Rt. Hon Onofiok Luke,</b> Chairman, House of Reps Committee on Judiciary <b>Suleiman Usman, SAN,</b> Attorney General & Commissioner for Justice, Sokoto State <b>Emmanuel Okorodudu -</b> Head, Democracy and Good Governance, ECOWAS Commission, Abuja
	Kolawole Oluwadare, Deputy Director, Socio-Economic
	Rights and Accountability Project (SERAP)
2:35 PM - 3:05 PM	Q & A SESSION
3:05 PM - 4:05 PM	LUNCH BREAK
4:05 PM - 5:35 PM	SECOND PLENARY
	LEAD PRESENTER: Anthony Ojukwu, SAN, Executive Secretary, NHRC
	MODERATOR - Kayode Akintemi
	DISCUSSANTS
	Olawale Fapohunda, Attorney General & Commissioner for Justice, Ekiti State,
	<b>Yemi Adamolekun</b> Executive Director, Enough is Enough (EiE) <b>Samson Itodo –</b> YIAGA Africa
	Cecilia Aransiola – Amnesty International
	Soji Apampa – CEO, Integrity Organization
5:35 PM - 6:05 PM	Q & A SESSION
6:05 PM - 6:10 PM	VOTE OF THANKS - Princess (Dr.) F. Frank-Chukwuani



Chairman: **Hon. Justice Helen M. Ogunwumiju** Justice of the Supreme Court (JSC)



Host: **Dr. Monday O. Ubani** Chairman, NBA SPIDEL



Chief Host: **Olumide Akpata** President, Nigerian Bar Association



# FIRST PLENARY



Lead Speaker: **Femi Falana, SAN** 



Discussant: Hon. Justice Onuoha Ogwe Chief Judge, Abia State



Discussant: Suleiman Usman, SAN Attorney General & Commissioner for Justice, Sokoto State



Discussant: Kolawole Oluwadare Deputy Director, SERAP



Discussant: **Rt.Hon Onofiok Luke** Chairman, House of Representatives Committee on Judiciary



Discussant: Emmanuel Okorodudu Head, Democracy and Good Governance,ECOWAS Commission, Abuja





Kayode Akintemi



# **SECOND PLENARY**



Lead Presenter: Anthony Ojukwu, SAN Executive Secretary, NHRC



Discussant: Olawale Fapohunda, SAN Attorney General & Commissionerfor Justice, Ekiti State



Discussant: **Samson Itodo** YIAGA Africa (Virtual)



Discussant: **Soji Apampa** CEO, Integrity Organization



Discussant: Yemi Adamolekun Executive Director, Enough is Enough (EiE)



Discussant: **Cecilia Aransiola** Amnesty International





Kayode Akintemi

# Goodwill Message

### JOE-KYARI GADZAMA, OFR, MFR, SAN, FNIALS, FICMC, DipICArb, FNICArb, FCIArb, C.Arb.

Chairman, NBA-Security Agencies Relations Committee. Chairman, Mentoring Committee of the Body of Benchers for Young Lawyers. Chairman Advisory Board of Environmental Lawyers Association of Nigeria. Pioneer Chairman, NBA - Section on Public Interest and Development Law. Past Chairman Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Abuja Chapter.Past Chairman, NBA, Abuja Branch.Life Bencher.



It is with great pleasure that I congratulate the executives and members of the Nigerian Bar Association Section on Public Interest and Development Law (NBA-SPIDEL) as you hold your Town Hall Meeting on Monday, 28th February, 2022 at Marriot Hotel, Ikeja GRA in Lagos.

I must sincerely commend the initiative of the organizers of this auspicious event for the choice of theme:

which I consider germane. From the array of speakers lined up for the sessions, it is an undeniable fact that the event will surely arouse the consciousness of the various institutions mandated to provide socio-economic rights to Nigerians.

I urge you all to participate effectively, cross-fertilize ideas whilst addressing issues that affect your distinguished members by contributing your quota to the promotion and development of the Section pivotal to public interest litigation as well as development law programmes which I was privileged to be her Pioneer Chairman.

Please be assured of my best wishes and support, always. Thank you and God bless.

## Goodwill Message

### DELIVERED BY Y.C MAIKYAU SAN AT THE TOWN HALL MEETING ORGANISED BY NBA - SPIDEL ON THE 28TH OF FEBRUARY 2022

I am indeed humbled by the invitation extended to me by the NBA Section on Public Interest and Development Law to deliver a goodwill message at this very important Town Hall Meeting, taking place today at the heart of the capital city of Lagos State. It is my view that meetings like this showcase the importance of NBA SPIDEL, as a section of our esteemed bar association, in providing an avenue for cross-fertilization of ideas with regards to salient public interest issues affecting the polity.

In the immortal words of the eminent philosopher Roscoe Pound, "Law is indeed a medium of social engineering which has the propensity to shape and balance competing interests in society". NBA SPIDEL, I say without equivocation, must continue to see itself as that medium through which our great association continues to impart sustainable change for the



betterment of the general populace. This particular Town Hall Meeting with the theme "Justiciability of Chapter Two of the 1999 Constitution: Pragmatic Measures for Government's Accountability" is indeed an opportunity for all resource persons invited to shed light on the vexed and controversial issues of the justiciability of the socio-economic rights and the mechanisms for accountability of government in the protection of the said rights.

This Town Hall meeting could not have come at a better time, as the socio-economic rights are necessary instruments for accountable government and good governance while the non-justiciability of those rights as enshrined in Chapter 2 of the 1999 Constitution has continued foist hardship on ordinary Nigerian Citizens by limiting their rights of redress in the court of law. It is indeed the view of many public interest commentators that the current regime of non-justiciability of socio-economic rights is being used as a constitutional shield by the Government and its agencies for bad leadership and corruption. Hence, the time is ripe for a debate on socio-economic and political rights in Nigeria and whether there is need to expunge from the Constitution clauses which oust the jurisdiction of the courts to inquire into certain matters such as those predicated on Chapter 2, so as to promote accountability in government, strengthen the judiciary and enforce citizen's rights of redress. \*We must continue to explore possible change in the current structure and/or, leverage on the windows within the present constitutional framework to advocate and ensure the enforceability of the matters under Chapter 2 of our Constitution.\*

Fortunately, I have had the privilege of studying the programme released for this Town Hall Meeting and I am elated to observe the rich quality of same both in terms of subject matter and of resource persons. I only urge that the recommendations and observations arising from our discussions be reduced into actionable steps to be implemented as a policy document. Once more I am grateful for the opportunity to deliver this goodwill message and wish us all fruitful deliberations

Yakubu Chonoko Maikyau, SAN, FCIArb (UK), FCIMC Principal Partner , Y.C Maikyau & C0 Chairman, NBA Welfare Committee



# - **SPONSORS**





MAIKYAU & CO. LEGAL PRACTITIONERS, NOTARIES PUBLIC AND ARBITRATORS

# JB DAUDU & CO.