

TO ALL STAFF

## FELICITATIONS ON THE OCCASION OF THE 33RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE FEDERAL ROAD SAFETY CORPS

It is thirty-three (33) years since the Federal Road Safety Corps was established as a child of necessity to combat the menace of Road Traffic Deaths (RTD) in Nigeria. From a humble beginning, we have progressed to recording annual successes in crash reduction in Nigeria, even in the face of daunting challenges like the COVID-19 pandemic currently ripping the world apart. Our resilience has earned appreciation and commendation from the government and good people of Nigeria.

- 2. The COVID-19 Pandemic brought out the discipline and resilience in all FRSC staff. At the height of the fight against the dreaded virus, we collaborated with other agencies under the auspices of the Presidential Task Force on COVID-19 pandemic as well as enforcing guidelines relating to road transportation in addition to the discharge of other statutory duties. We succeeded in contributing our quota in the best interest of the Nigerian populace for which I commend your dedication and commitment to duty.
- 3. It should be recalled that the Corps took personnel capacity building seriously because it strengthens confidence, skills, knowledge and resources as well as fostered a sense of ownership and empowerment. It was because of these that the Corps strived to ensure that necessary infrastructure was put in place to purposefully minimize an over-reliance on outside facilities as a source of solution to the Corps' problems. The Corps has not only completed the FRSC Academy but also in the final process of its take-off as a Post-Graduate Diploma and Degree awarding institution to be affiliated with the Federal University of Technology, Owerri; and will run for an initial period of two (2) years before it transits to a full-fledged university.
- 4. Also, the Command and Staff College is billed to commence academic work before the end of the first quarter of the year 2021 while the Inspectorate Training School in Owa Alero, Delta State built for the Corps by the Delta State government, is due for inauguration next month and will be open for courses almost immediately. The concept of the Inspectorate Training School is to bring about a higher order

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attainment in the Marshals cadre capacity development and for enhancement of recognition and dignity.

- 5. You are aware that the Corps has established 570 Station Offices in 570 Local Government Areas of the Federation. The purpose of the Station Offices to which personnel have already been deployed, is to expand the Corps horizon towards purposeful securement of the Nigeria roadways through RTC data collection and collation, including those concerning hospital follow up on road crash victims and ensuring real time remittance to the appropriate authorities; maintenance of the status of fleet operators through the Road Transport Standardization Scheme (RTSSS); maintenance of the records and status of the National Driver's License Centers (DLCs) as well as hospitals operating within the Local Government Area; conduct of Road Safety Audit and researches, and submission of the outcome to the appropriate authorities for intervention; liaising with the Local Government Advisory Committee on Road Safety (LACORS) as embedded in the Nigerian Road Safety Strategy (NRSS); and generally, be a liaison Office of the FRSC at the Local Government Areas.
- 6. Aside from the Corps focus on improvement on service delivery, the welfare and wellbeing of members of staff is in clear view. The Post Service Scheme is thriving with profits made and dividends paid to all subscribers. The Flex Housing is on and still has houses for allocation on indication of interest I admonish that those who desire houses should apply. The Zonal Clinics are equally delivering better health care services to staff and their families. In the same vein, the Medical Center has been operating optimally in delivering quality services to both staff and members of the public as part of its corporate social responsibilities.
- 7. The Corps is set to implement the Federal Government's directive on the closure of the disparity between Degree and the Higher National Diploma. Necessary machinery is being put in place for the unification to take place as soon as the logistics are fully worked out for the commencement of the special Conversion Course planned for the purpose.
- 8. Promotion will continue to be constant within its circle. With the establishment of more training institutions to cater for all the cadres of the Corps, promotion from one rank to the other will now include the attendance of structured course(s) for the next rank. However, the promotion process remains transparent. The 2020 promotion exercise has been slated to commence in April and will be concluded as soon as possible, hence you are advised to be prepared.
- 9. You will recall also that the Corps has completed fourteen (14) permanent offices for Sector Commands across the federation. The commitment to ensure that all FRSC offices operate within their own property was borne out of the need to enhance team morale by providing a conducive working environment. Such an environment will equally assist to lower health related issues. Two more of the

buildings have been completed and will be inaugurated soon. This will bring the total of the permanent Sector Commands' offices built in the past six (6) years to sixteen (16).

- 10. I must also reiterate the fact that the Corps takes the In-house lectures, workshops and other local capacity building efforts including parade briefs seriously. You are encouraged to come to terms with the virtual nature of things; a necessity bestowed on us by COVID-19 pandemic. This new normal must be adapted so as not to lose out of the derivable advantages.
- 11. The Corps will diligently continue to implement the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Health Protection Regulations, 2021. Particular attention should be placed on the Corps' responsibilities as contained in Part 2, Reg.18-23, Part 4 Reg. 31-34 and Part 5, Reg.35. All other provisions pertaining to the individual conduct shall equally be complied with. Compliance with the Executive Order NO. 001 of 2017 on the Promotion of Transparency and Efficiency in the Business Environment (Ease of Doing Business) also subsists.
- 12. The Corps is set to establish another Mini-Number Plate production plant in Yola, Adamawa State to bring the number of such plants to six (6) in the country. The new facility will serve Adamawa and Taraba States, thus considerably reducing the distance of travels from the two states to any of the already existing production centers.
- 13. You must also not lose sight of our crusade to urgently ensure that a drastic reduction in Road Traffic deaths is achieved, particularly those related to the overloading of vehicles with passengers and animals. In general, speeding remains a challenge and must be factored into high profile operations. We must continue to operate within the operational procedures and guidelines of the Corps. However, we must be civil in dealing with the members of the public as we enforce road traffic laws and regulations.
- 14. The Corps will dig deeper into the current administration's mantra, "Consultation, Reward and Punishment (CRP)" because of its effectiveness. The Corps has been lifted through easy buy-in into programmes and policies by the stakeholders, rewards for hard working staff have been consistent while the non-conformists to regulations have equal been punished in line with the FRSC provisions on the Regulation of Discipline.
- 15. At this juncture, let me use this opportunity to commiserate with you over some of our colleagues who fell in the course of the discharge of their duties; we pray for repose of their souls and ask God to grant their families, friends and colleagues the fortitude to bear the irreparable losses. The Corps will continue to place a high premium on the lives of its personnel and welfare administration.

- 16. The Corps' gratitude goes to President Muhammadu Buhari, for his administration's consistent support towards road safety initiatives, and also the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Boss Mustapha; for his continuous support and supervisory role as well as the Chairman and Members of the Federal Road Safety Commission. The long canvass for the development of the inter-modal transport system is also fully on stream. When this is put side by side with the new road infrastructure across the nation, life can only be better for Nigerians especially should the pace of development be sustained. The FRSC must also be ready to address the challenges that may arise in the course of the inter-modal transport operations in relation to Road Safety.
- 17. We shall continue to bring professionalism, dedication, and passion to the Federal Road Safety Corps, build on our achievements and break new grounds. Management will not also relent in the construction of career growth opportunities, respect of staff needs, providing feedback on all activities, communicating clearly, encouraging team bonding and creating clear strategies for engagement.
- 18. It is the FRSC anniversary today and I couldn't have thought of any better moment than today to appreciate you. You are a valued part of the FRSC team and your contributions are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your positive attitude and hard work.
- 19. I wish you good luck in all your future endeavours.

20. Happy 33rd anniversary!

Dr. Boboye Oyeyemi, MFR, mni, NPoM

Corps Marshal