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Section on
Business Law



LEGAL BUSINESS

CONFERENCE & AWARDS | 2023

Theme: Powering Tomorrow's Economy Today

July 27, 2023

CIVIC CENTRE, VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS

In partnership with the
Nigerian Bar Association
Section on Business Law
(NBA-SBL)

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Dr Adeoye Adefulu

Chairman of Council, Nigeria Bar Association Section
on Business Law



Ifeoma Ben, LL.M., MCI Arb UK

Founding Partner, The Law Suite & Founder, Legal Business Network

Convener

Welcome Address by Dr Adeoye Adefulu, Chairman, NBA-SBL

Distinguished Guests, Esteemed Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure and immense pride that I welcome you all to the Legal Business Conference 2023, organized by the Legal Business Network in collaboration with the Energy and Natural Resources Committee of the Nigerian Bar Association Section on Business Law (NBA-SBL). As Chairman of the NBA-SBL, I extend a warm embrace to every participant who has graced this occasion with their presence.

Today, we gather here under the resonant theme, "Powering Tomorrow's Economy Today," which could not be more relevant in the context of the ever-evolving global landscape. The power we speak of here not only embodies the energy that drives industries and nations forward but also the force of knowledge, innovation, and collaboration that propels our collective journey towards a prosperous future.

Session 1: The Role of Energy in Economic Growth: Transitioning to the Next Level

Energy remains the lifeline of economic progress, and this session aims to explore how we can transition to the next level. With the ongoing paradigm shift in energy sources and sustainability, we seek to delve into the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead, with the ultimate goal of harnessing the transformative power of energy for sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

Session 2: The Digital Economy and the Future of Business: The Odds and the Opportunities

As we hurtle into the digital age, the landscape of business undergoes profound transformations. This session aims to navigate the complexities of the digital economy, assessing the odds it presents alongside the boundless opportunities. We shall explore the legal frameworks that underpin this dynamic domain while delving into ways to embrace technological advancements responsibly, ensuring they fuel the growth of businesses and the prosperity of our society at large.

Session 3: Business Enabling Environment: Is Nigeria getting it right?

Creating an environment that fosters business growth and nurtures innovation is pivotal to shaping a vibrant economy. In this session, we shall critically assess the Nigerian business landscape and deliberate on whether the nation is on the right track. By pinpointing the challenges and identifying the successes, we aim to forge a path forward that encourages a conducive and competitive business climate in Nigeria.

As we embark on this intellectual journey together, I urge you all to actively engage in discussions, share your experiences, and harness the collective wisdom present here. The Legal Business Conference 2023 is a testament to the power of collaboration, and it is through our concerted efforts that we will discover the solutions that can power tomorrow's economy today.

Once again, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to all the distinguished speakers, partners, sponsors, and participants who have contributed to the realization of this event. Your presence and support are invaluable.

Let us seize the opportunities before us and collectively envision a future of growth, progress, and prosperity for Nigeria and beyond.

Thank you, and I wish you all an enriching and inspiring conference.

**Dr. Adeoye Adefulu,
Chairman, NBA-SBL**

Program Schedule

TIME	ACTIVITIES
9:00-9:30AM	Registration and Networking by Attendees
9:30-9:35AM	Introduction of Special Guests/Dignitaries by the Comperes
9:35-9:40AM	Opening Remarks/Welcome Address: NBA-SBL Chair
9:40-10:00AM	Keynote Presentation: Powering Tomorrow's Economy Today Mr. George Etomi
10:00-11:15AM	1st Plenary Session The Role of Energy in Economic Growth: Transitioning to the Next Level
11:15-12:30PM	2nd Plenary Session The Digital Economy and the Future of Business: The Odds and the Opportunities
12:30-1:00PM	Tea Break/Networking
1:00-2:30PM	3rd Plenary Session Business Enabling Environment: Is Nigeria getting it right?
2:30PM	Vote of Thanks

1ST PLENARY SESSION

The role of energy in economic growth: Transitioning to the next level

SYNOPSIS

This session highlights the significance of energy in driving economic activities and shaping national development trajectories. By highlighting the integral connection between energy availability, accessibility, and affordability, and economic productivity and industrial development, it stresses the importance of transitioning to cleaner, renewable, and more efficient energy sources such as solar, wind, hydro-power, and nuclear energy, to mitigate these challenges.



Moderator

Israel Aye

Partner, Commercial and Energy
Practice (CANDELP)



Speaker

Prof. Oalekan Olafuyi

Professor of Petroleum Engineering, University
of Benin, Immediate Past Chairman,
Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE)
Nigeria Council



Speaker

Effiong Okon

Director New Energy, Septat
Energy Plc



Speaker

Olayemi Anyanechi

Commission Secretary and Legal Adviser,
Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory
Commission



Speaker

Peter Esele

Past President, Trade Union Council

2ND PLENARY SESSION

The digital economy and the future of business: the odds and the opportunities

SYNOPSIS

The digital economy has opened up new horizons for businesses, eliminating geographical barriers and enabling global reach. In an increasingly interconnected world, businesses are leveraging digital tools and strategies to drive growth, efficiency, and innovation. This session gives insight on the transformative impact of the digital economy on businesses and the various opportunities and challenges it presents.



Moderator

Ifeoma Ben

Founding Partner, The Law Suite &
Founder, Legal Business Network



Speaker

Dr Babatunde Obrima

COO, Fintech Association of Nigeria



Speaker

Tunrie Bisi-Afolabi

Legal and Regulatory Counsel, Paystack



Speaker

Chiderah Ike-Okonkwo

Head, Research, Development and Innovations,
Nigerian Data Protection Commission



Speaker

Christopher Abhulimen

Chief Executive Officer/ Co-Founder,
e-Scape Technologies Ltd

3RD PLENARY SESSION

Business enabling environment: Is Nigeria getting it right?

SYNOPSIS

The business enabling environment plays a crucial role in fostering economic growth and attracting investments in any country. This session examines the current state of Nigeria's business enabling environment. It considers key factors such as infrastructure, regulatory framework, ease of doing business, government policies, and investment climate.



Moderator

Adeola Olumeyan

Company Secretary, Channels Television/
Co chair, Inhouse and Govt Counsel
Forum, NBA (Lagos)



Speaker

Toyin Bashir

Partner, Banwo & Ighodalo



Speaker

Zephia Ovia-Ikem

Product Strategy and Operations
Specialist, Paystack



Speaker

Damilola Aloba

Strategy and Transactions Partner/
Consumer Industries Group leader for
West Africa, Ernst & Young



Speaker

Morayo Adebayo

Technical Assistant to the Chief
Executive Officer, Federal Competition and
Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC)

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