

## **UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, ABEOKUTA**

### **INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROFESSOR OLUWAFEMI OLAIYA BALOGUN, ON THE ESSENTIAL ELECTRONIC AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY (TEEAL)/ACCESS TO GLOBAL ONLINE RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURE (AGORA) NATIONAL TRAINING-OF-TRAINERS WORKSHOP JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE INFORMATION TRAINING AND OUTREACH CENTRE FOR AFRICA (ITOCA), AND UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, ABEOKUTA, HELD AT THE SENATE CHAMBERS, ON TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2011.**

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development)  
Acting Registrar  
Acting Bursar  
Acting Librarian  
Guest Trainers  
Staff of Information Training and Outreach Centre for Africa (ITOCA)  
Deans of Colleges and Postgraduate School  
Directors of Institutes and Centres  
Heads of Departments and Units  
Distinguished Colleagues  
Invited Guests  
Gentlemen of the Press  
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my pleasure to welcome you to University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (UNAAB). I am particularly happy to welcome the Resource Persons, the Officers of the Information Training and Outreach Centre for Africa (ITOCA) and the participants to the Essential Electronic Agricultural Library (TEEAL)/Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (AGORA) National Training-of-Trainers Workshop which UNAAB is jointly organizing with Information Training and Outreach Centre for Africa (ITOCA).

As part of its efforts to improve the quality of research and teaching, the University had endorsed collaboration with ITOCA, South Africa to jointly organize this Workshop. The challenges before the University to keep our staff up to date by providing innovative teaching tools; to encourage international collaborations in the spirit of global health by attracting more participants from other university across the country: motivate, mentor and promote the next generation of scientists necessitate the need to organize series of workshops in recent times at UNAAB.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, this international workshop is aimed at presenting methods for improving educational deliveries to international standards, and equipping university staff with the necessary tools for improving the quality of knowledge delivery to levels that will promote enhanced educational standard and ensure that the University becomes attractive to international academics and students. The workshop will among other things focus on the use of electronic/online library for improving teaching and research in Agriculture and related sciences.

### **About the University of Agriculture, Abeokuta**

The University of Agriculture, Abeokuta is one of the three specialized Universities of Agriculture in Nigeria. It was established by the Federal Government in January, 1988. The University had witnessed significant improvement in infrastructural, equipment and material facilities as well as human resources for qualitative teaching, research and extension activities. This is consistent with our vision of making the University one of the top 10 universities in Africa and among the top 100 Universities worldwide in terms of quality of our products and impact on national development. Improvement in the teaching environment continue to be of high priority to the management of the University.

In building international networks with other Institutions and Universities across the globe, Centre for Internationalization and Partnerships (CENIP) was established to strategically position University of Agriculture, Abeokuta. Through CENIP, UNAAB has developed strong and mutually rewarding linkages and partnerships with national and international Institutions and Agencies, especially in regions like Asia, Europe, North and South America and East and Southern Africa. The centre successfully organized and co-ordinated CTA/ UNAAB Training Courses on Web 2.0 Tools both at UNAAB and University of Ibadan.

Ladies and gentlemen, you are once again welcome to our serene environment and I enjoin you to take a tour of nature's splendor and partake of the hospitality of our community.

Finally, distinguished audience, I have the honour to declare the International Training-of-Trainers Workshop open, and I wish you a rewarding session.

Thank you and God bless.

**Professor Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun**  
**Vice-Chancellor**

**Tuesday, June 7, 2011**