



# NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION



## CROSS RIVER STATE FORUM

Temporary Secretariat:  
Judiciary Headquarters, Mary Slessor Avenue, Calabar, Cross River State

### PRESS STATEMENT

We received with concern the report making the rounds that the Office of the Honourable Attorney General and Minister of Justice of the Federation has directed the postponement of the National Elections of the Nigerian Bar Association citing irregularities in the list of eligible voters, amongst other things.

As Chairmen of the branches of the Nigerian Bar Association in Cross River State and as members of the National Executive Council, we are constrained, on behalf of the members of our respective branches, to express our well-considered opinion that such a directive is, besides from being unwarranted and unjustified, against the letter and spirit of the Constitution of the Nigerian Bar Association, which has several decision-making organs of which the Office of the Honourable Attorney General and Minister of Justice of the Federation is none.

We are particularly concerned that these agitations for the postponement of the elections are geared more at causing a disruption in what has hitherto been a smooth transition process currently being midwived by the Electoral Committee of the Nigerian Bar Association (ECNBA). We therefore support the stance taken by the Electoral Committee of the Nigerian Bar Association to proceed with the conduct of the elections and adopt wholly the Press Statement issued by the President of the Nigerian Bar Association, Mazi Afam Osigwe, SAN

We would also like to seize this opportunity to express our confidence in the capacity of the ECNBA to conduct free and fair elections into the National Offices of the Nigerian Bar Association as well as the NBA Representatives in the General Council of the Bar.

We would also like to commend the Mazi Afam Osigwe, SAN led administration of the Nigerian Bar Association and the National Executive Council (NEC) for their diligence in the administration of the affairs of the Bar as we urge them not to be distracted by the seeming upheavals but to stay focused as they steer the Bar towards a smooth transition.

**Enome J. Amatey**  
Chairman, NBA Calabar Branch

**Ikpi Ayeni Daniel**  
Chairman, NBA Ikom Branch