

**OPENING REMARK BY THE DEPUTY VICE – CHANCELLOR RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS (PROF. OLUYEMISI BAMGBOSE, SAN) AT THE TETFUND 2021 NRF PROPOSAL REVIEW ON TUESDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2021**

I am delighted to welcome you to the TETFUND 2021 NRF Proposals Review Program here at the University of Ibadan. I welcome our researchers and appreciate their efforts in putting together these fantastic and viable Concept Notes. We are very grateful to the Research Management Office for its tremendous support particularly Professor A. S. Jegede and his amiable team, thank you for devoting your time and resources to the course of research and development.

Also, I wish to extend a special welcome to all our resource persons present here today.

We are fortunate to have the support of our Vice – Chancellor, Professor, Oyebode Adebawale, and other principal officers and we are always assured that we are not alone. As you all know, we received several Concept Notes, however, not all can be selected.

Even with limited resources and other mounting challenges, I thank the Research Management Office for working tirelessly to make this Review program a success. I also congratulate all whose Research Concept Notes would be selected in advance. I must say, all Concept Notes received are substantial and relevant to the advancement of research. In case yours is not selected, this does not mean your Research Proposal is not good or relevant, but our hands are tied due to limited funding, and we can only make do with what we have. However, through the help of God and diligence on our part, we look forward to having more grants and funding in the future to accommodate more Research Proposals.

There is no gainsaying that there is a need to encourage researchers through funding and other related support mechanisms especially in Africa where currently the culture of research is minimal. Research has been singled out as the missing link in Africa's development and so all hands must be on deck to allocate more resources to research, development of technical capabilities of the workforce, and for funding viable research projects. Research is critical for accelerating development in all spheres of life and my office stands ready to facilitate a continued exchange of ideas and innovations for the advancement of research, within the University of Ibadan, in the African region, and across the world.

I thank you once again for supporting this course and I wish everyone a blissful Christmas celebration, a happy holiday, and a blessed 2022.