

## Be above board and carry people along, Mimiko tasks new LG bosses



*Ondo State Governor, Dr Olusegun Mimiko Speaker of the State House of Assembly, Samuel Adesina and his Deputy, Dare Emiola during opening ceremony of a 3-Day Induction Seminar for Local Government Interim caretaker Committee members in the State held at NIEPA, Ondo*

Ondo State Governor, Dr Olusegun Mimiko on Friday tasked newly appointed interim caretaker committee members of local governments in the State to shun any tendency of corruption, carry the people of their respective areas along in the scheme of governance and be above board.

Governor Mimiko stated this at the National Institute for Planning and Administration (NIEPA) in Ondo while declaring open a 3-Day Induction Seminar for the interim caretaker committee members.

Governor Mimiko, had last week Monday, following an approval from the State House of Assembly to re-constitute an interim committee members into the 18 local government council areas in the State, inaugurated the new caretaker committee chairmen in Akure. The Assembly had ordered the dissolution of the former interim caretaker committee.

The Governor while noting that local government administration played a lot of significant roles in the development of any nation, enjoined the council bosses to accept their new position as an avenue to develop and impact on the lives of their people and also to build good or bad images for themselves.

He counselled them to devise means to better the lots of their people and make effective utilization of the resources available in their areas. He further stressed that council workers must also be involved and carried along in the conception and implementation of their programmes at all times.

The Governor warned them against employment without necessary approval, adding that all recruitments done in the last two years without approval must be reviewed.

Dr Mimiko also advised the council bosses to hold regular meetings with the people of their constituencies and never to distant themselves from them.

His words: "If the local government is not keyed into global system, of what we are trying to do, it is just a waste of time. Like I said, the closet government to the grassroots is local government. It comes with its own challenges, the challenge of interfacing with the people all the time. I told our caretaker chairmen during their inauguration that they have become the property of everybody; even they might want to enter your bedrooms.



*Chief of Staff to Ondo State Governor, Dr Kola Ademujimi, the Secretary to the State Government, Dr Rotimi Adelola, Governor Mimiko, Samuel Adesina and Dare Emiola during opening ceremony of the Induction Seminar*



*Governor Mimiko addressing participants*

"The good thing about our local government is that our people are more enlightened, they know your limitations, they know your

strength and another thing about them is



*Ondo State Governor, Dr Olusegun Mimiko in a group photograph with participants*

that they will always appreciate whatever you do for them. You have the unique opportunity to impact on your people. For me to be the chairman of local government is a very important step in the political career of anybody.

"I want to tell you that the good you do will live after you and the bad you do will also live after you. I know some people who were local government chairmen before and they now find it difficult to go to their local government areas because of the reaction they will expect from the people. "I also know some people who are free to move around within their council areas and their people will continue to appreciate them. I want to advise you to shun corrupt tendencies. This will make you to be free but if you allow them to tie your hands because of few millions of naira, it will not be in your own interest".

Earlier in his address of welcome, the Secretary to the State Government, Dr Aderotimi Adelola said the seminar would enable the council bosses to get acquainted with government programmes and policies, adding that it would also enable them to seek clarifications on issues of development at the state and local government levels.