

Slug; Ondo to partner Communications Ministry to drive ICT development

.... as Ondo Community honours Minister

Ondo State Government is set to partner the Federal Government in the development of its informational technology system in order to enhance governance in the State.

The State Governor, Dr Olusegun Mimiko, disclosed this at the weekend in Ondo during a reception organised by the Ondo Development Committee (ODC) for the Minister of Communications and Technology, Mrs Omobola Johnson, who hails from the town.



(L-R): Ondo State Governor, Dr Olusegun Mimiko and the Minister of Communications and Technology, Mrs Omobola Johnson during a reception in honour of the Minister by the Ondo Community in Ondo town

As an indigene of the State, Dr Mimiko noted the State would need the assistance of the Minister to further develop its existing information technology which according to him had been applied to governance in the areas of internally generated revenue, staff verification exercise, Abiye safe motherhood programme and the residency card process among others.

His words: "In Ondo State there are many areas we will need your partnership so that we will be able to leverage on your position, also that you are one of our own. We have tried to deploy ICT tools in governance in this State since we came on board two and half years ago. For example, we have deployed automated system for our IGR, staff verification exercise has been carried out electronically, we have deployed information technology in our Abiye programme, through our caller user group, we have 6,000 forms state-wide. We have deployed it

in our residency card called Kaadi Igbe Ayo. I believe my team will interface with you in many areas so that we can leverage on your position".

He added "I want to thank God for this opportunity to celebrate one of our own, I want to especially thank the President and Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Dr Ebele Jonathan for his judgement, for his decision to appoint Omobola as a federal Minister and not only appointing her a federal Minister but making her the pioneer Minister of such a pivotal Ministry. Pivotal in the sense that we live in the information age, there is actually nothing we can do in any meaningful sense without information communication technology. For him to have picked one of our own to pioneer all the efforts in that Ministry, we must thank him.

"I don't have any doubt in my mind that by learning and character she eminently qualified to be Minister of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. My piece of advice is that she must remain focus because in that type of position there are lots of distractions. She must look at her pedigree, what she had been before and be focus-driven so that at the end of her tenure she could beat her chest and say I came I saw and I conquered" said the governor.

Earlier in her speech, the Minister, Mrs Omobola Johnson, appreciated the people of the state for their support and promised to be their good and worthy ambassador. She assured of her readiness to use her wealth of experience to transform the communication and technological sectors of the nation's development.

Also the Osemawe of Ondo, Oba Victor Kiladejo advised the Minister not to do anything against her conscience and to remain focused in her decision making.



(L-R): Governor Mimiko, Oba Adesimbo Kiladejo, Mrs Omobola Johnson and Olori Olayinka Kiladejo during the reception.