

ITF DG CHARGES STAFF TO TURN A NEW LEAF; BE GOOD AMBASSADORS OF CHANGE

The Director-General of the Industrial Training Fund (ITF), Sir Joseph Ari has charged the workforce to imbibe positive work attitudes and values that would guarantee the achievement of the Agency's mandate and the economic diversification programme of the Federal Government.

Sir Ari, who was addressing staff of the Fund during his maiden Interactive Forum with staff at the Centre for Excellence, Bukuru, Wednesday, identified indiscipline and other negative attitudes as obstacles to the realization of corporate goals.

"To my mind, the utmost impediment to our corporate achievement is the rampant indiscipline, which manifests itself in late coming, absenteeism, truancy and other negative work attitudes. These have occasioned a situation whereby some few work tirelessly day and night for the good of the ITF" he said, warning that Management would do all it takes to stamp out such attitudes.

He reminded the staff, drawn from the Agency's Headquarters and its adjoining offices in Jos, that the economic diversification programme of the federal government was reliant on interventions from organisations such as the ITF and therefore the need for a change in the Fund's work processes and the individual mentality of the workforce.

"The economic diversification programme embarked upon by President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, imposes on us additional responsibilities. It requires us more than ever before to equip more Nigerians with the relevant skills to not only ensure its success, but for employability and entrepreneurship to be able to take advantage of the opportunities that will be opened up by the programme. It means, therefore, that we must do more. It also means that we must change our processes and individual mentality" he said.

The DG urged the workforce to key into the change mantra of the Federal Government and commit themselves to be good ambassadors of the change by displaying ethos attitudes and values.

“Today, we must commit ourselves to being good ambassadors of this change. What this means is that, as staff of the ITF, we must imbibe positive work attitudes. It also means if we indulged in absenteeism, punctuality should henceforth be your watchword; if we engaged in what I will term as ‘presenteeism’, whereby we man our duty posts but rarely lifted our pens, it is time to lift up such pens” he said.

The DG, who assumed duty three weeks ago, identified accelerated skills development as the surest way for the country to overcome prevailing economic challenges but also noted that for that happen, staff must generate fresh ideas and initiatives to develop the nation’s human capital and reinvigorate the industries.

In his words “I need not remind you that Nigeria is in an economic recession and the surest and perhaps the only way out of the recession is through accelerated skills development specifically and human capital development generally.

“As the leading skills development institution, Mr. President and indeed all Nigerians expect a lot from us and we cannot afford to betray that trust. We must therefore attend to our duties with utmost commitment and total dedication.

“I expect nothing less from you. We must be innovative and creative; and work in such a way and manner that will develop the human capital to revamp and reinvigorate the industries once more”