



MEMORANDUM

MEMO NO. FJSC/01/2024

APPOINTMENT OF TWENTY-TWO (22) JUSTICES TO THE COURT OF APPEAL

The Hon. President of the Court of Appeal, Hon. Justice M.B Dongban-Mensem had requested for the appointment of twenty-two (22) new Justices to the Court of Appeal in view of the vacancies created by the elevation and retirement of some Justices of the Court of Appeal.

2. The Federal Judicial Service Commission at its 92nd Meeting held on the 27th of March, 2024, considered the Judges nominated by Judicial Officers of superior Courts in Nigeria. A total of eighty-nine (89) names were forwarded by the President of the Court of Appeal to the Commission, urging the Commission to approve twenty-two (22) out of the eighty-nine (89) candidates for onward transmission to the National Judicial Council for consideration and appointment as Justices of the Court of Appeal.
3. As Rule 3(2) of the Revised National Judicial Council Guidelines and Procedural Rules provides for the submission of double the number of Judicial Officers intended to be appointed, Members of the Federal Judicial Service Commission in exercise of its power vide Paragraph 12(a)(iv) of Part I to the Third Schedule of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (1999), as amended, decided to advise the National Judicial Council to nominate the

following twenty-two (22) persons as their priority for appointment as Justices of the Court of Appeal.

PRIORITY LIST:

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| A. <u>North-Central</u> | <u>State</u> |
| 1. Hon. Justice Polycarp Tema Kwahar | - Benue |
| 2. Hon. Justice Ruqayat Oremei Ayoola | - Kogi |
| 3. Hon. Justice Eneche Eleojo | - Kogi |
| 4. Hon. Justice Asma'u Akanbi-Yusuf | - Kwara |
| 5. Hon. Justice Abdullahi Muhammad Liman | - Nasarawa |
| 6. Hon. Justice Abdu Dogo | - FCT |
| B. <u>North-East</u> | <u>State</u> |
| 1. Hon. Justice Fadawu Umaru | - Borno |
| C. <u>North-West</u> | <u>State</u> |
| 1. Hon. Justice Ishaq Mohammed Sani | - Kaduna |
| 2. Hon. Justice Zainab Bage Abubakar | - Kebbi |
| 3. Hon. Justice Abdulazeez M. Anka | - Zamfara |
| D. <u>South-East</u> | <u>State</u> |
| 1. Hon. Justice Nnamdi Okwy Dimga | - Abia |
| 2. Hon. Justice Victoria Toochukwu Nwoye | - Anambra |
| 3. Hon. Justice Henry Aja-Onu Njoku | - Ebonyi |

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 4. Hon. Justice Donatus Uwaezuoke Okorowo | - Enugu |
| 5. Hon. Justice Ngozika N. Okaisabor | - Imo |

E. South-South

State

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Hon. Justice Ntong Festus Ntong | - Akwa Ibom |
| 2. Hon. Justice Nehizena Idemudia Afolabi | - Edo |
| 3. Hon. Justice Eberechi Suzzette Nyesom-Wike | - Rivers |

F. South-West

State

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 1. Hon. Justice Lateef Babajide Lawal-Akapo | - Lagos |
| 2. Hon. Justice Abiodun Azeem Akinyemi | - Ogun |
| 3. Hon. Justice Oyewumi Oyejoju Oyebiola | - Oyo |
| 4. Hon. Justice Bayo Ademola Taiwo | - Oyo |

Members also decided to recommend the following persons as reserve candidates:

RESERVED LIST

A. North-Central

State

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Hon. Justice Dorcas Venenge Agishi | - Benue |
| 2. Hon. Justice Dr. Folajobi Ajayi | - Kogi |
| 3. Hon. Justice Adamu Yahaya | - Kogi |
| 4. Hon. Justice Toyin Bolaji Adegoke | - Kwara |
| 5. Hon. Justice Rose Godwin Soji | - Nasarawa |
| 6. Hon. Justice Jacob Azi Atsem | - Plateau |

State**B. North-East**

1. Hon. Justice Abdulhameed Mohammed Yakubu - Gombe

State**C. North-West**

1. Hon. Justice Isa Aliyu - Kaduna
2. Hon. Justice Bello Ladan Raha - Kebbi
3. Hon. Justice Bello Mohammed Shinkafi - Zamfara

State**D. South-East**

1. Hon. Justice Ory Zik-Ikeorha - Abia
2. Hon. Justice Obiora Atuegwu Egwuatu - Anambra
3. Hon. Justice Uwabunkeonye Onwosi - Ebonyi
4. Hon. Justice Chukwujekwu Joseph Aneke - Enugu
5. Hon. Justice Chikere Annie Ononeje-Madu - Imo

State**E. South-South**

1. Hon. Justice Augustine Dominic Odokwo - Akwa Ibom
2. Hon. Justice Abua Elias Ojie - Cross River
3. Hon. Justice Victor Oziegbe Aghabue Oviawe - Edo

State**F. South-West**

1. Hon. Justice Ogunjobi O. Olukayode - Lagos
2. Hon. Justice James Kolawole Omotosho - Ogun

3. Hon. Justice Mojeed Oladimeji Ishola - Oyo

4. Hon. Justice Olukayode Adegbola Adeniyi - Oyo

4. The documents considered by the Commission in reaching its decision at the Meeting are herein listed under and attached as Annexure (I-XI)

(i) Letter Ref No: PCA/S.19/XVI/5071 dated 21st March, 2024 from the President of the Court of Appeal to the Hon. Chief Justice of Nigeria and Chairman of the Federal Judicial Service Commission [Annexure I]

(ii) Letters of request for nominations to the Justices of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, Justices of the Court of Appeal, All Heads of Courts in Nigeria and the President of Nigerian Bar Association and their responses. [Annexure II]

(iii) List of current Justices of the Court of Appeal. [Annexure III]

(iv) Disposition of the Justices of the Court of Appeal. [Annexure IV]

(v) List of shortlisted candidates. [Annexure V]

(vi) National Judicial Council Performance Evaluation of Judicial Officers of Superior Courts of Records. [Annexure VI]

(vii) Federal Judicial Officers Nominal Roll. [Annexure VII]

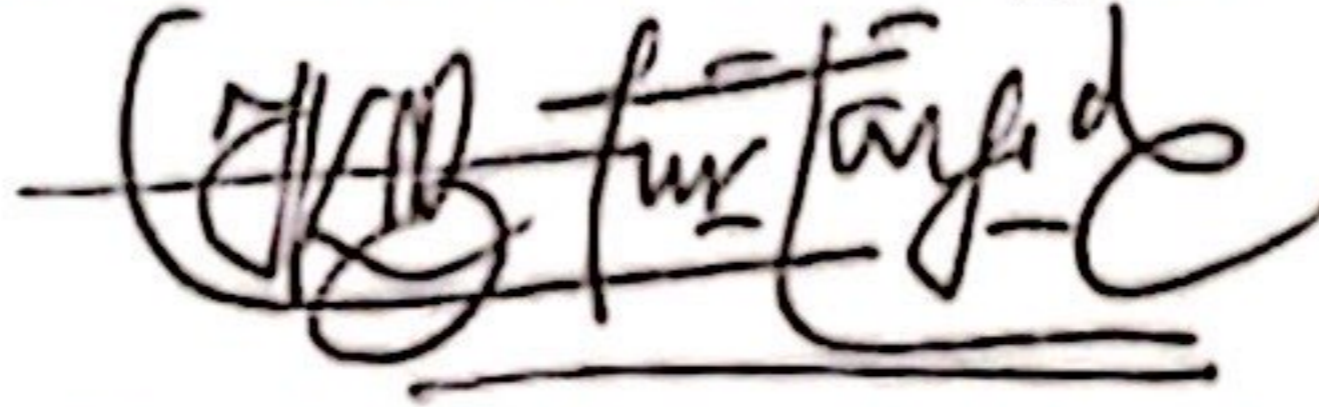
(viii) States Judicial Officers Nominal Roll. [Annexure VIII]

(ix) Curricula vitae of the 44 Nominees. [Annexure IX]

(x) 5 Judgments each of the 44 Nominees. [Annexure X]

(xi) Minutes of the 92nd Meeting of the Federal Judicial Service Commission. [Annexure XI]

5. Members of the National Judicial Council are hereby invited in line with Paragraph 21((a)(i) of Part I to the Third Schedule of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), to recommend to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the appointment of twenty-two (22) candidates listed in the priority list as Justices of the Court of Appeal.



Hon. Justice Olukayode Ariwoola, GCON
*Chief Justice of Nigeria and Chairman,
Federal Judicial Service Commission.*

2nd
..... April, 2024.

