

**SPEECH BY THE HONOURABLE ATTORNEY-  
GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION AND MINISTER  
OF JUSTICE CHIEF MICHAEL KAASE  
AONDOAKAA, SAN AT THE COMMISSIONING  
OF THE EFCC DATA CENTRE AT THE  
COMMISSION'S HEADQUARTERS, ABUJA ON  
TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2008.**

Protocol,

1. It gives me great pleasure and honour to be part of the history making event this morning as the EFCC commissions its Data Centre in the Commission's Headquarters. This indeed marks another milestone in our effort to effectively position the Commission to perform the task of fighting Corruption, Economic and Financial crimes in our country.
2. We all know that corruption is not our way of life but just a very serious crime that is hampering the development of this country. From this standpoint therefore, the administration of President Yar'Adua has declared its zero tolerance for corruption.
3. As an administration anchored on the Rule of Law, we desire to achieve ZERO TOLERENCE

FOR CORRUPTION by prosecuting the war on corruption within the ambit of the law. We cannot fight <sup>this</sup> crime and enforce the law ~~by breaking the law.~~ *within the ambit of our orientation.*

4. We are determined to fight corruption decently as civilized people. We shall eradicate it. We are designing decent measures that will make corruption unattractive without <sup>necessarily</sup> ~~necessary~~ taking mob action ~~as the distaste and anger of our people would demand.~~
5. Corruption is an evil that has given this nation a bad name and if we must take our proper place as a nation, we must without delay, do away with this evil. We can not attain our vision of being one of the greatest 20 economies in the world by 2020 if we don't do away with corruption. Our commitment to the eradication of corruption therefore is total.
6. If we must fight corruption effectively, we need information. Data is processed information. This Data Centre as one of the three envisioned by the EFCC is very crucial in the fight against corruption:

- It will compliment in fulfilling the specific purpose and mission of the EFCC.
  - It will make the Commission's work purposeful, result-oriented and effective.
  - It will enhance the Commission's capacity to manage social impact and assess its performance.
7. It is a fact that Data generally only gives us some direction and a commitment without necessarily determining the future. I hope and believe that this Centre will give us a basis to mobilize our resources and energies to achieving zero tolerance for corruption which is our target. Ladies and gentlemen, this Data Centre is certainly our vehicle towards a decent war against corruption in our country.

Thank you all for listening and God bless.

*UNODC*