

**WELCOME ADDRESS PRESENTED BY ALHAJI**  
**SULEIMAN D. KASSIM, *Npom, mni, OON***  
**PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF MINES AND**  
**STEEL DEVELOPMENT, AT THE PUBLIC**  
**PRESENTATION OF THE AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL**  
**SURVEY DATA HELD AT LADI KWALI HALL,**  
**SHERATON HOTELS AND TOWERS, ABUJA,**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2010**

The Honourable Minister of Mines & Steel  
Development,

The Chairman, Senate Committee on Solid Minerals,

The Chairman, House Committee on Solid Minerals,

The Country Director, World Bank,

The Lead Procurement, World Bank Country Office,

Directors of the Ministry,

Chief Executives of Parastatals,

Distinguished invited Guests,

Members of the Press,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

**It is my pleasure and privilege to welcome you all to this important occasion of public presentation of the Airborne Geophysical Survey Data of Nigeria by the Ministry of Mines and Steel Development in her bid to diversify the mineral resource base of the Nation through an aggressive acquisition of a high resolution airborne geophysical data of the country.**

**2. Airborne geophysical survey is a rapid means of acquiring reliable geophysical data on certain physical properties of rocks in an area. The method is used to locate geological structures that host minerals and for general geological mapping.**

**3. The Ministry of Mines and Steel Development commenced the acquisition of airborne geophysical data by carrying out a pilot scheme in Ogun State in 2003, covering**

37,108 line kilometers of magnetic gradiometer and spectrometer surveys. The project was completed in 2003 and a ground follow-up survey of anomalous areas was carried out by the Nigerian Geological Survey Agency. The ground follow up survey yielded the discovery of some deposits of base metal sulfides in Ijebu-Igbo and phosphates in Arugudu areas of Ogun state.

4. After the pilot scheme the phase I of the project commenced covering 44% of the country with 774,710 line kilometers and was financed by the Ministry. Phase II covered 53% of the Country equivalent to 1,132,960 line kilometers and was financed by World Bank intervention program.

5. Three geophysical parameters were measured in the survey, namely; Total magnetic

field intensity, Total magnetic field gradient, and Radiometric. In addition to this 33,000 line kilometers of electromagnetic measurements (EM) was also carried out at chosen locations to further highlight deposits of metallic minerals. Processing of the acquired data has been completed. The maps and gridded line data are available in the Agency for dissemination.

6. It is to be noted that Airborne geophysical data are generally useful for mineral exploration, ground water prospecting, pollution and geo-hazard monitoring. The survey also measures and generates the Digital Elevation Model (DEM) which provides detailed information on terrains, vegetations, landforms and drainages. The data is also useful in security surveillance and development planning.

**7. Finally, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my pleasure to once again welcome you to the Public Presentation of the Airborne Geophysical Survey Data of our great country.**

**8. Thank you and God bless.**