

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: The Hon. Chief Judge,
From: The Chief Registrar,
Date: 19th July, 2022

CR
Approved
25/7/22

Subject: - Establishment of small claims court and matters incidental thereto.

The Ease of Doing Business in Nigeria is a policy of the present administration which is being implemented by the Presidential Enabling Business Environment Council through Enabling Business Environment Secretariat which works closely with the relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and other stake holders to promote the implementation of Small Claims Courts reform across State Government in Nigeria. This initiative is to continue to support State Judiciaries to improve access to justice for Medium, Small and Micro Enterprises.

The establishment of Small Claims Courts as well as the adoption of the best practice elements for its operational structure is a key deliverable from State Governments for both international and national interventions such as the upcoming World Bank States Action on Business Enabling Reforms (SABER). To this end, the Management of the High Court of Bauchi State set up a Management Committee comprising the Chief Registrar, Deputy Chief Registrar Process & Litigation, the Director Magistrates and three Senior Magistrates who interface thrice with officials of the Presidential Enabling Business Environment Council. From the meetings held, it was made clear to the Committee that States accessibility to World Bank State Action on Business Enabling Reforms (SABER) fund

is determined by the level of achievement of the stipulated milestones from Disbursement- Linked Indicators (DLIs). The Small Claims Courts reforms falls under the DLI 10 called "Quick determination of commercial disputes". For every milestone achieved in line with the DLI matrix, a disbursement will be made to support the State Judiciary in fostering the implementation of the Judicial reforms. This is expected to be led by the State Judiciary.

In line with the above, we are most humbly recommending the following for your Lordship's kind approval to enable us swing into action towards the establishment and operationalization of the Small Claims Court in Bauchi State Judiciary in accordance with all expected milestones as captured in the DLI matrix:

1. Members of a Judicial Committee: -

- I. Justice Mu'azu Abubakar - Chairman
- II. Emmanuel Subilim Danjuma Esq – Secretary
- III. Fatima Abubakar Esq. - Member
- IV. Abdullahi Ya'u Kundak Esq. - Member
- V. Abdulfatah Baba Sekoni Esq. – Member

2. Designate the following District Courts as Small Claims Court: -

- a) Presiding District Court 7 to be presided over by senior Magistrate Garba Abdullahi Kundak Esq.
- b) Presiding District Court 12 to be Presided over by Senior Magistrate Zainab Shu'aibu Esq.
- c) Principal District Court 4 to be Presided over by Chief Magistrate Amina Garuba Esq.


Subilim Emmanuel Danjuma Esq.
Chief Registrar