

## STATEMENT BY PINNACLE COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED

# RE: ICPC CHARGES NBC DG, OTHERS WITH ALLEGED N2.5B FRAUD

**FOLLOWING MEDIA REPORTS ON THE ICPC CHARGES REFERRED TO ABOVE WHICH MENTIONED PINNACLE COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED (PCL) AND ITS DIRECTORS AS DEFENDANTS, PCL IS CONSTRAINED TO ISSUE THIS STATEMENT:**

1. PCL AND ITS DIRECTORS ARE LAW ABIDING AND ARDENT BELIEVERS IN THE DOCTRINE OF THE RULE OF LAW.

2. PCL HAS A VERY HIGH REGARD FOR AND FIRM BELIEF IN THE JUDICIARY AS THE LAST HOPE OF THE COMMON MAN. PCL NOTES THAT ICPC HAS FINALLY FILED CHARGES IN COURT AFTER A 7 MONTH "INVESTIGATION" AND MEDIA TRIAL. PCL HAS NO DOUBT THAT JUSTICE WILL BE DONE.

3. PCL IS REASSURED THAT NIGERIA SUBSCRIBES TO THE PRINCIPLE OF PRESUMPTION OF INNOCENCE IN CRIMINAL TRIALS AND THAT ICPC WILL HAVE TO DISCHARGE THE BURDEN OF PROOF OF THE COMMISSION OF ALLEGED OFFENCES BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT.

4. PCL IS NOT UNAWARE THAT ICPC RESORTED TO MEDIA PROPAGANDA IN TRYING TO CRIMINALIZE INNOCUOUS FACTS IN AN ATTEMPT TO FRUSTRATE CREDIBLE CHALLENGE OF ARBITRARY USE OF ITS POWERS AGAINST LAW ABIDING NIGERIANS.

5. PCL HAD IN JULY 2018 FILED AN ACTION AT THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT ABUJA AGAINST ICPC & 2 OTHERS (SUIT NO. FCT/ABJ/CS/779/2018) FOR SEVERAL DECLARATORY RELIEFS AND DAMAGES, INCLUDING FREEZING PCL BANK ACCOUNT ILLEGALLY WITH THE AID OF A PURPORTED MAGISTRATE COURT ORDER.

6. PCL HAD SECURED A TEMPORARY REPRIEVE FROM COURT WHEN THE FREEZING ORDER WAS LIFTED AND THE COURT IN ITS RULING BERATED ICPC.

7. THE SUBSTANTIVE CASE IS STILL PENDING AT THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT ABUJA.

8. THE CHAIRMAN OF PCL HAD IN DECEMBER 2018 INSTITUTED AN ACTION AT THE FCT HIGH COURT (SUIT NO CV/578/2018) AGAINST RASHEEDAT OKODUWA, THE SPOKESPERSON OF THE ICPC, OVER THE LIBELOUS CONTENTS OF THE PRESS RELEASE SHE ISSUED IN NOVEMBER 2018.

9. PCL HAD ALSO ISSUED PRE-ACTION NOTICE TO ICPC FOR LIBEL.

10. THE MAIN ISSUE IS THAT ICPC CONDUCTS INVESTIGATIONS WITHOUT FOLLOWING DUE PROCESS AND EXPECTS NIGERIANS NOT TO SEEK LEGAL REDRESS IN COURT.

11. THE CHARGES AGAINST PCL AND ITS OFFICERS ARE PRIVATELY-MOTIVATED INITIATIVES OF A FEW STAFF OF ICPC TO PRE-EMPT LEGAL CHALLENGES OF PCL.

12. PCL WILL PLEAD AND VIGOROUSLY PURSUE ITS INNOCENCE.

13. PCL WISHES TO EXPRESS ITS DEEP APPRECIATION TO ITS INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL PARTNERS AND SUPPLIERS, CUSTOMERS, ASSOCIATES, FRIENDS AND WELL WISHERS WHO HAVE CALLED OR VISITED TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER MEDIA REPORTS ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.

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