

ADDRESS BY THE HONOURABLE CHIEF JUDGE OF GOMBE STATE,
HON. JUSTICE HALIMA S. MOHAMMED, ON THE OCCASSION OF
INAUGURATION OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF SMALL CLAIMS COURT FOR GOMBE STATE
HELD ON THE 27TH DECEMBER, 2023, AT THE CHAMBERS OF THE
HON. CHIEF JUDGE, HIGH COURT COMPLEX GOMBE.

PROTOCOLS

My Lord, Hon. Justice Fatima Musa, My lords, Hon Judges of the Gombe State High Court, Directors, Magistrates, ladies and gentlemen.

It is with gratitude to Allah (SWT) that I address you on this landmark occasion of the inauguration of the Steering Committee for the establishment the Small Claims Court for Gombe State.

As micro, small and medium scale enterprises (MSMEs) are fast evolving in the State, the need to establish the Small Claims Court in Gombe State cannot be overemphasised. Gombe State is already taking a centre stage in enabling environment for ease of doing business. It came first in ranking twice consecutively, kudos to His Excellency.

The objectives of the small claim procedure is to provide easy access to an informal, inexpensive and prompt resolution of simple debt and liquidated money demands not exceeding Three Million Naira (N3,000,000:00).

The Small Claims Court will enhance access to justice and accord legal inclusiveness to aggrieved persons/small business owners whose small claims could not get the desired space in the congested dispute resolution platforms. We have collaborated with the Presidential Enabling Business Environment Council (PEBEC) to see that the Small Claims Court is a reality in Gombe State.

Consequently, in the exercise of the powers conferred on me by Section 274 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) and by virtue of all other powers enabling me in

that behalf, I constituted the Steering Committee for the Establishment of the Small Claims Court for Gombe State, Nigeria. The terms of reference of the Steering Committee which I will Chair, is as per attached to the letter of the constitution of the committee.

The Committee comprised of personalities with knowledge and experience in adjudication and conflict resolution. I am confident that they will justify the confidence reposed in them.

Accordingly, the Chairman and members of the Steering Committee for the establishment of the Small Claims Court for Gombe State are as Follows:

1. Hon. Justice Halima S. Mohammed - Hon. Chief Judge
(Chairman)
2. Hon. Justice Fatima Musa - Member
3. H/W Babayo Usamatu Abba - Member
4. H/W Japhet L. Maida - Member
5. H/W Haruna Bello Gelengu - Member
6. H/W Alhussain Ibrahim - Secretary

On this note, it is my honour to formally inaugurate the Steering Committee for the establishment of the Small Claims Court for Gombe State.

Thank you and God bless us all.

Hon Justice Halima S. Mohammed
Chief Judge, Gombe State