**Goodwill Message**

Honorable Minister of Education (State),

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

I stand here with great pleasure and I am honored to be associated with this very important event.

The dual mandate for Colleges of Education represents a bold initiative to enhance the quality of tertiary education in Nigeria. By concurrently running NCE and degree programs, we can produce graduates who are well equipped to meet the needs of our tertiary institutions and society. This innovative approach has the potential to increase access to quality education, improve lecturer/teacher quality and promote national development.

The 10th National Assembly remains committed to supporting the development of tertiary education in Nigeria and the Committee has been working tirelessly through budgetary allocation to provide funding and resources to support the growth and development of our tertiary institutions. Our interventions have focused on promoting access, quality and relevance in tertiary education. We believe that the dual mandate is a critical component of this effort, and we are excited to be part of this journey.

I am confident that this summit will provide a platform for stakeholders to discuss the issues, challenges, and opportunities associated with the dual mandate. The summit's objectives are timely and relevant and I look forward to the outcome of your deliberations. I have no doubt that the summit will provide valuable insights and recommendations that will inform the implementation of the mandate which I know is not without its challenges. However, I believe that these challenges also present opportunities for growth and innovation. Our tertiary institutions must be creative and resourceful in addressing the challenges and seizing the opportunities. We must work together to ensure that the dual mandate is implemented in a way that promotes access, quality and relevance in tertiary education.

I wish us all the best and look forward to productive and successful deliberations. I am confident that the outcome of this summit will contribute significantly to the success of the mandate.

Thank you.

**Distinguished Senator Dandutse Mohammed Muntari**

Chairman,

Senate Committee on Tertiary Institutions and Tetfund