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Your Excellency,

FACILITATION OF NATIONAL BROADBAND PENETRATION AND
THE DIGITAL ECONOMY IN NIGERIA

Your Excellency may wish to recall receiving mail from the Honourable Minister of Communication and Digital Economy on the above subject matter and directed same to the Ministry as well as the SSG and Chairman Board of Internal Revenue to treat. (See pages 102-111).

2. Your Excellency may wish to be informed that the National Economic Council (NEC) set up a committee comprising State Governors and Ministers in 2013 to review the issues of multiple taxation in the telecommunications industry in Nigeria. The Committee came up with resolutions that will stimulate investment and sustain the value chain in the ecosystem, such as charging ₦145.00 per linear meter of fibre cable Right of Way (RoW) which will give the needed impetus to the industry and facilitate deepening of broadband penetration across the Country. The broadband penetration levels between 2015 to 2019 is 6% to 35.10% respectively, which is responsible to the astronomical contribution of the ICT industry to the National Gross Domestic Products (GDP) of 13.85% as at second quarter of 2019. Easing RoW process and deployment cost will further accelerate this growth and create jobs, develop e-Commerce and enhance learning in schools across the States.
3. Your Excellency may wish to be further informed that the Committee recommended for collaboration between States and the telecommunication industry in order to fast-track the provision of affordable services to underserved and unserved areas which will ginger digital economy and expand tax net to accommodate a new value chain that is knowledge driven and reliant on ubiquitous products and services.
4. Your Excellency may wish to know that achieving the full intentions of the NEC resolutions will require amending the Taxes and Levies Act 2004 to streamline designation and collections of taxes across the three tiers of government.
5. PRAYER: Your Excellency may wish to consider approving the following prayers of the Honourable Minister: -
 - i) Adopting and implementing the NEC resolution of ₦145.00 per linear meter of RoW for fibre cables as it will bring down the cost of deployment

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- ii) Enshrine certainty in the application and approval processes for the Operators.
 - iii) Creation of One-Stop-Shop platform for the taxes and approvals related to the telecommunication industry which will eliminate channels, reduce wastages and ease the conduct of business.
6. Submitted for Your Excellency's consideration and approval, please.


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 Dr. Aishatu Umar Maigari
 Honourable Commissioner

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Approved. Forward Same to the
BOI and ensure compliance.


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