



The Independent Broadcasting Association of Nigeria

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COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE 2025 AGM/CONFERENCE OF INDEPENDENT BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (IBAN)

Issued at the 2025 Annual General Meeting and Conference
Held on 20 November 2025, DAAR Communications Headquarters, Abuja

Theme: **Broadcasting for Information Sovereignty, National Cohesion, and Digital Security**

1. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED

A. Papers Presented by IBAN Representatives

- Welcome Address – Alhaji (Dr.) Ahmed Tijjani Ramalan, Chairman, IBAN
- Opening Remarks – Dr. John Momoh, OON, Chairman, IBAN Board of Trustees
- Keynote: “**Broadcasting for Information Sovereignty, National Cohesion, and Digital Strength**” – Dr. Raymond Dokpesi Jnr.
- Topic: “**Broadcast Sovereignty in a Digital Age**” – Tony Dara, Vice Chairman, IBAN
- Paper: “**Content, Ethics and National Cohesion**”
– Dr. Mahmud Tunde Hassan
- Paper: “**Broadcast Policy, Regulation & Information Sovereignty in Nigeria**”
– Prof. Armstrong Idachaba
- IBAN-Sponsored Security Paper: “**Broadcast Media and Internal Security Challenges**”
- **AI and Digital Transformation Paper** – Chinaemerem Ikenna-Egwuatu

B. Papers Presented by Government Officials

- Address by the Honourable Minister of Information & National Orientation
– Alhaji Mohammed Idris, fnipr
- Address by the Minister of Foreign Affairs – Ambassador Yusuf Maitama Tuggar
- Address by NBC Director – Barr. Charles Ebube



2. RECOGNITION OF PLEAS AND COMMITMENTS BETWEEN BOTH PARTIES

A. IBAN's Requests to Government

IBAN appealed for:

- Review and modernisation of the National Broadcasting Code (7th Edition)
- A Presidential Executive Order enforcing Local Content and “Nigeria-First” advertising patronage
- Stronger protection against unregulated digital platforms undermining licensed broadcasters
- Support for industry sustainability and fair commercial environments
- Partnership in national security communications and public enlightenment
- Greater collaboration among NBC, ARCON, NITDA, NCC, and security agencies
- Investment in digital infrastructure and regulatory clarity
- Formal acknowledgment, protection, strengthening, and prioritisation of Licensed Free-To-Air (FTA) broadcasting as a critical national asset essential for:
 - Building communities
 - Promoting national cohesion
 - Driving cultural preservation
 - Providing shared national experiences
 - Delivering trusted information at scale
 - Ensuring inclusive access for all Nigerians regardless of socio-economic status
- IBAN urges the Federal Government to enshrine FTA protection in policy, regulation, and national media strategy.

B. Government's Requests to Broadcasters (IBAN)

- Actively defend Nigeria's information sovereignty against foreign misinformation
- Project narratives that promote unity, national cohesion, and stability
- Adopt responsible journalism and avoid sensationalism
- Strengthen digital security and counter misinformation, deepfakes, and propaganda
- Support government reforms and public information efforts
- Ensure broadcast platforms remain secure and ethical



C. Mutual Commitments

- Collaborative work on policy reform, digital modernisation, and security communications
- Support for ethical broadcasting as a national asset
- Promotion of Nigeria's cultural identity, unity, peace, and global image
- Strengthening of digital sovereignty and cyber-infrastructure

4. COMMUNIQUÉ

I. Strengthening Nigeria's Information Sovereignty

- Promote accurate, contextual, and Nigerian-authored narratives
- Resist foreign propaganda and algorithm-driven distortion
- Support government efforts to safeguard the national information space

II. Broadcasting as a Tool for National Cohesion

- Ethical, balanced, culturally grounded content
- Programming that uplifts shared values across diverse communities
- Reduction of divisive narratives and promotion of peace-building
- Responsible coverage of security-related issues

III. Digital Security and Cyber-Resilience

- Strengthening cyber-defences of broadcast platforms
- Investment in tools to detect deepfakes, misinformation, and hostile interference
- Collaboration with government security agencies to protect critical information infrastructure

IV. Regulatory Reform and Policy Modernisation

- Comprehensive review of the National Broadcasting Code
- Clearer coordination among NBC, ARCON, NITDA, and NCC
- National Digital Media Ethics Council (proposed)
- Fair and innovation-friendly regulation that protects licensed broadcasters

V. Sustainable Industry Economics

- A Presidential Executive Order reinforcing Local Content and Nigeria-First advertising
- Immediate Executive Authority granted to IBAN demands through the Presidential Order, pending full legislative and regulatory implementation
- Protection for indigenous broadcasters from unfair, anti-competitive, or exploitative agreements and commercial practices
- Elimination of distortions that divert advert revenue to foreign or unregulated platforms
- Industry-wide initiatives to strengthen the media economy



- Incentives for broadcasters who champion ethical and national-cohesion content

VI. Deployment of AI and Digital Transformation

- AI-driven newsroom automation
- Predictive maintenance
- Ethical, transparent use of AI technologies
- Workforce retraining and digital capacity development

VII. Strengthened Collaboration with Government

- Ministry of Information & National Orientation
- Office of the National Security Adviser
- NBC, ARCON, NCC, NITDA
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs

VIII. Advancement of National Media Development

- Continued strategic partnerships with public and private stakeholders
- Support for the 2026 NBMA Awards and the 2026 National Broadcasters Conference
- Commitment to unity-driven, culturally relevant, and technologically advanced broadcasting

IX. Conclusion

IBAN reaffirms its commitment to defending Nigeria's information sovereignty, strengthening national cohesion, and modernising the broadcast industry to meet digital-age realities. The Association calls for a Presidential Executive Order to give immediate effect to IBAN's industry-protection demands pending full regulatory and legislative implementation, including explicit safeguards for indigenous broadcasters against unfair or exploitative agreements and commercial practices.

IBAN urges government, regulators, advertisers, security institutions, and industry partners to work together toward an ethical, secure, innovative, sustainable, and nationally aligned broadcasting ecosystem reflecting the central role of Licensed Free-To-Air broadcasting.

Issued this 20th day of November 2025

Alhaji (Dr) Ahmed Tijjani Ramalan

Chairman

Independent Broadcasting Association of Nigeria (IBAN)