SPEECH DELIVERED BY HIS EXCELLENCY, MALAM DIKKO UMARU RADDA, PhD, CON DURING THE OFFICIAL VISIT OF THE STATE OF QATAR AMBASSADOR TO NIGERIA TO THE FORMAL COMMISSIONING OF A ROAD IN THE STATE "QATAR STREET" NEAR GOVERNMENT HOUSE, KATSINA ON TUESDAY; 18th FEBRUARY, 2025 BY 12NOON

His Excellency Dr. Ali Ghanem Al-Hajri, the Ambassador of Qatar to Nigeria, His Excellency the Deputy Governor, Executive Council members, Heads of Agencies and Parastatals, ladies and gentlemen good afternoon.

It is with profound gratitude and great honour that I stand before you today at this momentous occasion—the commissioning and naming of this 2-kilometre dual carriageway as Qatar Street. Today, we celebrate not just the completion of an important infrastructure project, but also the enduring friendship between Nigeria and the State of Qatar, personified by our esteemed guest, His Excellency Dr. Ali Ghanem Al-Hajri, the Ambassador of Qatar to Nigeria.

This road, which we now officially name Qatar Street, symbolizes more than just a route for transportation; it represents a passage

of connection—connecting our people, our cultures, and our nations. It stands as a testament to our mutual respect, cooperation, and the commitment we share to foster development and progress for the benefit of our citizens.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt appreciation to the Government of Qatar for their unwavering support and partnership with Nigeria. Under the leadership of His Highness the Amir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, and through the effective diplomacy of Ambassador Al-Hajri, our countries have enjoyed a robust relationship that continues to foster economic growth, cultural exchange, and mutual understanding.

As we gather here today, let us reflect on the significance of this moment. Infrastructure development is a cornerstone of sustainable progress. Roads like these not only improve connectivity but also stimulate economic activities, enhance trade, and promote social integration. This dual carriageway will undoubtedly pave the way for increased mobility and accessibility, contributing to the overall development of our beloved state.

To our esteemed guests from Qatar, please know that your contributions to our progress have not gone unnoticed. We are grateful for your investments, your shared expertise, and the people-to-people partnerships that continue to blossom between us. We look forward to deepening our collaboration and exploring new avenues of cooperation that will drive our nations forward.

In this regard, I also hereby declare the commission of the second street in Daura call 'HH Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani Street.' Marking the one year anniversary of the commissioning of the school and mosque in Daura by Qatar Charity. This is again in recognition of the special connection between Qatar and Katsina State.

In closing, let me reiterate our commitment to nurturing this friendship and goodwill. As we unveil Qatar Street today, may it serve as a reminder of the strong ties that bind Nigeria and Qatar—a symbol of hope for our communities, and a path towards a brighter and more prosperous future for all.

Thank you all for being here today to witness this significant occasion. May our partnership continue to grow and flourish.