SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY, MALALM DIKKO UMARU RADDA, PHD, CON, THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF KATSINA STATE AT THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (CDP) AWARENESS PROGRAM ON ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVES HELD ON THURSDAY, 2ND OCTOBER, 2025 AT LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE COMMISSION, KATSINA

Protocol:

It is with a deep sense of purpose and unwavering commitment to transparency that I address you today at this crucial Community Development Program (CDP) Awareness Session on our state's anti-corruption initiatives.

Corruption is not merely a crime; it is a cancer that erodes public trust, diverts resources meant for the people, and stifles the progress of our communities. For too long, our people have suffered from the mismanagement of public funds that should have built schools, equipped clinics, and provided clean water. But no more.

My administration has declared a zero-tolerance policy against corruption in all its forms. This is not just a slogan; it is a solemn pledge to every citizen of Katsina State. And today, we bring this fight to the grassroots, where development begins and where accountability must be most visible.

The Community Development Program (CDP) is one of our most powerful tools for inclusive and participatory development. It empowers communities to identify their own needs, design their own projects, and

manage their own resources. But with this power comes great responsibility. Public funds entrusted to CDP committees are sacred trusts not personal property. To ensure integrity in the CDP process, we have taken concrete steps:

i) Mandatory Public Disclosure: Every CDP project, from inception to completion, must be publicly displayed in the community—showing the budget, the contractors, and the progress of work.

ii) Community Oversight Committees: Each community must establish a vigilant oversight group comprising youth, women, elders, and religious leaders to monitor project implementation.

iii) Digital Tracking: We are deploying a real-time digital platform where every kobo of CDP funds can be tracked by citizens using their mobile phones.

iv) Whistleblower Protection: Anyone who reports corruption in CDP projects will be protected, and if the report leads to recovery of funds, they will receive a recommendation and or reward from the state.

v) Swift Sanctions: Any CDP committee member, local government official, or contractor found guilty of fraud or embezzlement will face immediate dismissal, prosecution, and full restitution of stolen funds.

Let me be clear: There will be no hiding place for mismanagement in this administration. Whether you are in Government House or in a village council, if you mismanagement public funds, you will be held accountable.

To our CDP facilitators, ward development committees, and local government officials: you are not just administrators you are custodians of public trust. I charge you to uphold the highest standards of honesty,

diligence, and service. Remember, the eyes of your community are upon you, and the conscience of your people will not be silenced.

And, you are also the true auditors of this program. Do not be afraid to ask questions. Demand to see project documents. Attend community meetings. Report any wrongdoing, no matter how small it may seem. Your vigilance is our strongest weapon against corruption.

This anti-corruption drive is not about punishment alone; it is about restoration. It is about restoring dignity to public service, restoring hope to our youth, and restoring faith in our collective future.

Together, we will build a Katsina State where every naira spent on development delivers real and visible impact, where a classroom is built, a borehole flows, and a road connects a farmer to the market. A Katsina State where integrity is the norm, not the exception.

Let us move forward with courage, unity, and an unshakable commitment to doing what is right and always remember, we have put in place the public complaint and anti-corruption commission in the state.

Thank you, and May the Almighty Allah guide and protect us all.