

Virtual Sitting Summary for Sokoto Division

BEFORE HON. JUSTICE R. B. HAASTRUP

Feb 21, 2025 01:32 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada) ID: 876 7351 2234

Quick recap

The meeting focused on various legal matters, primarily concerning the Abuja and Sokoto councils, with discussions on online presence, bank matters, and court proceedings. The court also addressed several cases, including disputes between parties, measurement issues, and claims against local government employees and banks. The conversation ended with the court adjourning several cases to future dates due to absent parties or lack of notification.

Next steps

Abbas to serve hearing notices on all parties for the adjourned cases.

Claimants' counsel to prepare witnesses for the case adjourned to 21st March 2025.

Court registrar to use proper language when addressing the court, saying "As the court pleases" or "Yes, my lord" instead of "Okay, my lord".

Valentine Ajibo to attend the hearing on 11th April 2025 for the case against Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company.

Court to issue and serve hearing notice on the Claimants' counsel for the case adjourned to 11th April 2025.

Summary

Abuja Council and Sokoto Matters

The meeting involved discussions about various matters, primarily focusing on the Abuja and Sokoto councils. The team, including Abbas, Bimbo, and Zhokwo, discussed the Abuja council's online presence and the need to address a matter related to the 1st Bank of Nigeria. They agreed to prioritize this matter before moving on to the Sokoto matters. The team also mentioned the need to return to the Abuja matter in 15 minutes. The conversation ended with the understanding that the Abuja matter would be addressed first, followed by the Sokoto matters.

Court Proceedings and Case Adjournment

The court begins with a roll call of counsel present. Zuko Zuko represents the claimants, while Bimbo and Olushi Itaiw represent the defendants. The court grants a motion to regularize filed by the defendants. Both sides adopt their final addresses as oral arguments. The case is adjourned to April 10, 2025 for judgment. The court then moves on to another case involving Comrade Abakar Abdullahi Makama and others versus Nigerian Union of Local Government Employees, where Yus Abubakar represents the claimants and MRD Labrun represents the defendants.

Dismissal of Claimants' Unprepared Case

The court ruled in favor of the defendants, dismissing the claimants' action as premature and incompetent. The claimants failed to exhaust internal remedies before approaching the court, and their processes did not fully comply with the rules of the court. The 1st claimant's participation in the suit was also deemed invalid due to his retirement from the local government service. The court struck out the claimants' originating summons and did not award any costs.

Court Cases and Hearing Dates

In the meeting, the court discussed several cases. The first case involved a dispute between two parties, with the court deciding to adjourn the case to March 18th for further proceedings. The second case was about a measurement issue, with the court setting a date for a definite hearing on March 24th. The third case involved a claimant and a defendant, with the court deciding to adjourn the case to March 18th for further proceedings. The court also discussed the possibility of a network issue during the next hearing and decided to hold the next hearing at 9 am.

Final Retail Addresses and Applications

The meeting involved discussions about the adoption of final retail addresses and a pending application filed on August 8, 2024. The court registrar confirmed the proof of service for the final written address and the motion filed by the defendant. The defendant's application to regularize reply was also discussed, with the defendant

expressing no objection to it. The court then proceeded to grant the orders as requested in the defendant's application.

Legal Matter and Management Committee

Usman and Yusuf discussed a legal matter involving a claimant and a defendant. They referred to various dates and documents, including a final written address and a statement of defense. They also discussed the role of a Management Disciplinary Committee and the claimant's failure to appear before it. Yusuf emphasized that evidence from cross-examination supports the defendant's argument and that the defendant did not breach the claimant's right to a fair hearing. The conversation ended with Usman and Yusuf agreeing to move forward with their legal submissions.

Court Adjourns Cases to Future Dates

The court adjourns several cases to future dates due to absent parties or lack of notification. For a case involving Musa Salihu Sakaba and First City Monument Bank, the court sets a new date of March 21, 2025, for hearing of application and definite hearing. The court also addresses a case with Abu Bakr Mohammed and Trust Bank Nigeria, adjourning it to March 21, 2025, for definite hearing. For the case of Tani Suleiman and others versus Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company, Valentine Ajibo appears for the defendant, but the claimant is absent. The court adjourns this case to April 11, 2025, for definite hearing, with instructions to serve hearing notices to all parties.

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