

## Engr. Francis Oriakhi

FNSE, FNIHTE, FNICE, KSM

National Chairman (NIHTE)

AS I ASSUME OFFICE (01/01/2025 TO 31/12/2026) AS THE 6TH NATIONAL CHAIRMAN OF THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS (NIHTE) – A DIVISION OF THE NIGERIAN SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS (NSE).

I wish all members of the Institution of Highway and Transportation Engineers across all the chapters in Nigeria and our stakeholders – ministries, agencies, parastatals, companies, firms and institutions etc. (among which are the Federal Ministry of Works (FMW), Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA), Nigerian Building & Road Research Institute (NBRRI), Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) and Rural Access and Agricultural Marketing Project (RAAMP), a happy new and eventful 2025.

As we commence the journey for the next 2 years of a new EXCO led by me, I use this opportunity to appreciate the immediate past National Chairman Engr. Saidu Hassan, FNSE, FNIHTE, and all our past National Chairmen – Engr. Isa Emoabino, FNSE, FNIHTE, Engr. G.O Anaduaka, FNSE, FNIHTE, Engr. Dayo Oluyemi, FNSE, FNIHTE and Engr. George Nsonwu, FNSE, FNIHTE for their selfless service and contributions to the institution's founding, nurturing and growth over these years. They have brought the institution to this present enviable height it has attained today.

I call on you our esteemed and distinguished members of NIHTE to join hands with National EXCO to continue to build a professional institution that is dedicated to the practice and advancement of Highway and Transportation Engineering in Nigeria. This is key as we continue as an institution to play a crucial role in the professional development of highway and transportation engineers and the improvement, development and turnaround of the highway and transportation engineering practice, delivery framework and system in Nigeria.

A lot of achievements and grounds have been covered by the institution over years of its existence, I am convinced that there is much room for improvement going forward. In the same vein, it is our sincere wish that the legislative and executive arms of our government look favorably at all our road reforms proposals/bills and other various positive suggestions and papers on our road/transportation improvement and maintenance before them.

Let us all join hands to make the Nigerian Institution of highway and Transportation Engineers achieve our primary objective of turning round the practice and delivery of the profession in Nigeria to global best practice standard in the next few years.

Long Live the Nigerian Institution of Highway and Transportation Engineers (NIHTE)

Long Live Nigeria

Sincerely,

Engr. Francis Oriakhi, FNSE, FNIHTE, KSM.

National Chairman - Nigerian Institution of Highway and Transportation Engineers (NIHTE)