



**Goodwill Message by the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), delivered by Seray Jah, IFES at the Validation Workshop for Election Security Training Resources for the 2023 General Elections held at Ajuji Greenwich Hotel, Abuja-FCT – January 9-10, 2023**

The Honorable National Commissioners of the Independent National Electoral Commission, the Resident Electoral Commissioner for FCT, Alhaji Yahaya Bello, Director General of the Electoral Institute (TEI), Heads of Security agencies and the Inter-agency Consultative Committee on Election Security (ICCES), Election Security experts, Directors here present, Development partners, ladies, and gentlemen. The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) is pleased to be part of this validation workshop for Election Security Training Resources for the 2023 General Elections.

IFES would like to express its appreciation to INEC and particularly TEI for its collaboration and openness to receive support over these past years and for the opportunity to continue our partnership.

Managing security threats in the electioneering process is a tall order for INEC, which has the responsibility, together with Nigerian security agencies, of preventing, mitigating, and resolving electoral violence. To effectively do this, security personnel deployed during the elections would need adequate training on their roles and responsibilities during the election. The validation workshop with key stakeholders in elections security presents an opportunity to ratify the quality resources developed to train the security personnel as they prepare to deploy for the 2023 general elections. IFES commends TEI and INEC for putting the workshop.

I want to use this opportunity once again to restate IFES' commitment to continue partnering with INEC and its members in building a sustainable democracy in Nigeria. INEC can count on our readiness to continually partner with the commission in achieving its mission of serving as an independent and effective Election Management Body committed to conducting free, fair, and credible elections for sustainable democracy in Nigeria.

Finally, I want to extend our appreciation to our donors; the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO) for their continuous support and commitment to enhancing credible elections in Nigeria.

On behalf of IFES, I want to applaud INEC for convening this important training and wish the participants/master trainers a fruitful training.

**Seray Jah,  
Country Director,  
IFES Nigeria**