<u>WELCOME ADDRESS OF THE CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE STAFF –</u>

AIR VICE MARSHALL MICHAEL SAMSON-OJE

THE COMMISSIONING OF SERVICES INTEGRITY SAVINGS & LOANS LIMITED ON THURSDAY THE 1ST DAY OF DECEMBER 2016

1. The Governor of the Bank of Ghana, Dr. Abdul-Nasiru Issahaku, Formation Commanders,

Service Commanders,

Directors General,

Senior Officers,

Officers, Men and Civilian Employees of the Ghana Armed, Forces,

Distinguished Invited Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

- 2. I wish on my own behalf and on behalf of the Ghana Armed Forces to welcome you all to today's event, which is the Commissioning of the Services Integrity Savings and Loans Limited.
- 3. About five years ago, precisely in March 2011, the Ghana Armed Forces' High Command invited a consultant and tasked him to carry out a full technical feasibility and financial viability on the prospects of a bank project for the Ghana Armed Forces. This was no doubt a dream that conceived an ambitious notion of establishing a bank for the military, which was going to be the first of its kind in the West African sub-region.
- 4. Distinguished invited guests, ladies and gentlemen, the consultant after doing a thorough professional job, came out with a very comprehensive Report which spelt out a road map for establishing a bank for the rank and file of the Ghana Armed Forces which will stand the test of time and also cater for the welfare of the Officers, Men and Civilian Employees of the Ghana Armed Forces as well as those of the general public and the business community. Thus, the commissioning of the Services Integrity Savings and Loans Company, which you are going to witness shortly, is a decisive step that is being

taken by the Ghana Armed Forces into the banking industry with the view to incubating this company into a universal Bank in the immediate future.

- 5. Ladies and Gentlemen, this Savings and Loans Company, which is emanating from the security realm is no doubt a novelty. It is nonetheless poised to swiftly and surely enter the banking industry to assume a unique identity with the ambition of positioning itself eventually as the bank of choice with the best, secured and most reliable services that will help its customers and their businesses realize their goals.
- 6. Indeed, Services Integrity Savings and Loans Company is a unique brand whose core values are premised on integrity, professionalism and service. Thus, as it enters the banking industrial space, its posture is one of attaining the highest level of honesty, discipline for and on behalf of its stakeholders. SIS&L, even as it is new, will be committed to appreciating the needs of its customers as it rolls out its products packaged to solve the problems of customers.
- 7. Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, this new banking whiz kid on the block shall seek to attain the highest standard of customer service, accountability, and confidentiality. I am reliably informed that SIS&L is poised to operate with unquestionable commitment, loyalty and dedication to the interest of its customers. What this means to me is that your business and investments are secured and safe with this company. I therefore urge the general public, civil and public servants including the business community to trust the company with their investments.
- 8. I will like on behalf of the Officers, Men, Women as well as the Civilian Employees of the Ghana Armed forces to thank all those who worked tireless for the realization of this project. I will like to single out for mention, Dr. Kofi Wampah during whose tenure as Governor of the Bank of Ghana the Certificate was given to SIS&L to operate as a Savings and Loans company. I will also like to acknowledge the support given by Lt Gen PA Blay, Major Generals Adinkra and RK Opoku-Adusei at the budding stages of the creation of this company. It is thanks to their material and moral support that we are witnessing today's event. I also like to thank all the dignitaries and the distinguished invited guest who despite their busy schedules have found time to be with us today. May Services Integrity Savings and Loans Limited flourish into one of the best Universal banks in Africa and beyond.