

AN ADDRESS OF WELCOME PRESENTED BY THE VICE
CHANCELLOR, GODFREY OKOYE UNIVERSITY ENUGU, ON
THE 2ND BIENNIAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
BIOTECHNOLOGY AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Protocol

On behalf of the management, staff and students of Godfrey Okoye University, I welcome you all to this 2nd Biennial International Conference on Biotechnology and National Development. You have come from far and near to attend this conference. Your presence in large numbers shows how important this conference is to you and how the field of BIOTECHNOLOGY has continued to attract the attention of both scientists and non-scientists.

The theme of this conference is “**Biotechnology, Climate Change and Poverty Reduction**”. It is quite an interesting theme because I have seen, from the reports of various researchers, how climate change is influencing not only agricultural productivity but also the global economy. A lot of arable land has been rendered unproductive and useless. Consequently, many farmers have been thrown out of their jobs. In addition, climate change has affected the fishing industry very badly as many rivers and streams have since ceased to exist. The result is increase in poverty among many rural communities and villages. It is in the light of all these changes that this theme becomes very important and should attract the attention of scholars, scientists and non-scientists. I hope that the presentations and discussions will bring about a deeper and better consciousness of the seriousness of climate changes. I also hope that we can have good answers to the question about the place of Biotechnology in solving the problems of climate changes. I am convinced that this conference will yield results that could push the boundaries of our knowledge a little further. I, therefore, heartily welcome you to this conference and wish you fruitful presentations and discussions. God bless you!

Rev. Fr. Prof. Christian C. Anieke
Vice Chancellor