

PROFILE



MR. ADELEKE, ADEKOLA AYANDELE, FCIB **POSITION: OTHER ELECTIVE POSITIONS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL**

Adekola Adeleke is currently the **Executive Director and Head, Commercial Banking [Ecobank Nigeria]**. In this role, he is responsible for the execution of the Bank's commercial banking business strategy in Nigeria.

Kola has had a multi-faceted career with Ecobank cutting across different geographies and business functions. With 33 years of valuable work experience, 32 of which was spent in the banking sector, Kola began his career at Ecobank Nigeria in 2006 as the Area Manager Ikeja/Ibadan and subsequently Regional Head, Lagos/South West following which he was made the Regional Head, Apapa when the Lagos/South West Region was decentralized into 5 Regions. It was from here that he took up a Group Office (Ecobank Transnational Inc.) appointment as the Managing Director of Ecobank Liberia in 2010, a position he held for five years.

After a successful stint in Liberia, Kola moved on to become the Managing Director of Ecobank Zambia in February 2015 where he successfully turned around the fortunes of the Bank. He later became the SADC Cluster Managing Director responsible for Zambia, Zimbabwe, Congo DR, Malawi, and Mozambique, and in this capacity, he oversaw the business operations of five Ecobank affiliates. He returned to Ecobank Nigeria in 2020 upon his appointment as the Executive Director and Head of Corporate Banking.

Prior to joining Ecobank, Kola worked briefly with Spring Bank (now Heritage Bank) and the former Citizens Bank where he held senior positions at various times as Group Executive, Telecoms; Group Head, Risk Management; and Head, Energy Sector. He was also exposed to Branch Management, Commercial Banking, and Internal Control & Audit.

Kola has been an active member of the Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria (CIBN). He became an Associate and a Fellow of the CIBN in 1996 and 2009 respectively. He was an EXCO Member of the CIBN, Lagos Branch up till March 2010 when he relocated outside Nigeria. He

remained a good Ambassador of the CIBN throughout his stay in Liberia and Zambia. He leveraged on his position as an EXCO Member of the Liberia Bankers Association (LBA) between January 2013 to February 2015 to assist CIBN in building a relationship with the LBA.

Kola also held the following key positions during his stay in Zambia/Southern Africa:

1. Board Member, Southern African Development Community (SADC) Banking Association, April 2018 to April 2020
2. Chairperson, Bankers Association of Zambia, February 2018 to April 2020
3. Board Vice Chairperson, Zambia Electronic Clearing House Ltd, February 2018 to April 2020
4. Board Member, Zambia Credit Guarantee Scheme Ltd, February 2018 to March 2019
5. Vice Chairman, Bankers Association of Zambia, December 2016 to February 2018
6. Member, National Financial Switch Committee, appointed by the Bank of Zambia Governor, March 2015 to February 2018

He has been visible in major events of CIBN since his return to Nigeria in 2020 and was nominated as a member of the Consultative Committee for the Alliance of African Institutes of Bankers (AAIOB) in 2021.

Kola holds a Bachelors' degree in Finance (Banking) and a Masters' degree in Finance – both from the University of Lagos. He also holds a TRIUM Global Executive MBA, awarded jointly by the London School of Economics and Political Science, New York University Stern School of Business, and HEC Paris School of Management.