



4th March, 2013

BPS/DIR/GEN/CIR/01/001

TO ALL DEPOSIT MONEY BANKS

**CIRCULAR TO ALL NIGERIAN DEPOSIT MONEY BANKS,
MICROFINANCE BANKS & PRIMARY MORTGAGE BANKS ON THE
NATIONWIDE ENCASHMENT OF 3RD PARTY CHEQUES ABOVE
N150,000.00 OVER THE COUNTER OF BANKS AND STOPPAGE OF
CHARGES ON 3RD PARTY CHEQUES BELOW N150,000.00**

In recognition of its role in the development of an efficient payments and settlement system, the Central Bank of Nigeria undertook some major initiatives to modernise the system. One of such initiatives was that 3rd party cheques above ₦150,000.00 shall not be eligible for encashment over the counter. It has been observed that the policy has succeeded immensely in the Lagos area and has also contributed to the reduction of fraud on cheques and aided the National Financial Inclusion (NFI) strategy.

In view of the above, all banks are hereby directed to ensure the implementation of ₦150,000.00 limit on 3rd party cheques that could be cashed over the counter nationwide, with effect from June 1, 2013.

It has also been observed that some banks charge their customers in respect of payments of 3rd party cheques below ₦150,000.00, cashed over the counter. By this circular, all banks are hereby directed to stop charging their customers for 3rd party cheques of up to ₦150,000.00, cashed over the counter.

Kindly note and ensure strict compliance.

Dipo Fatokun

Director, Banking & Payments System Department

09-46238455