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**2013**  
ANNUAL REPORT  
YEAR BOOK



# Foreword by the President

Distinguished Fellows, first, let me thank all of you for the cooperation that I received from you in the past four years. Clearly, without this support, our efforts would have been miniscule. I want to thank Council for the encouragement to remain focused at all times and most especially the group of Past Presidents for their advice at critical times. I am actually excited to join this elders' club!

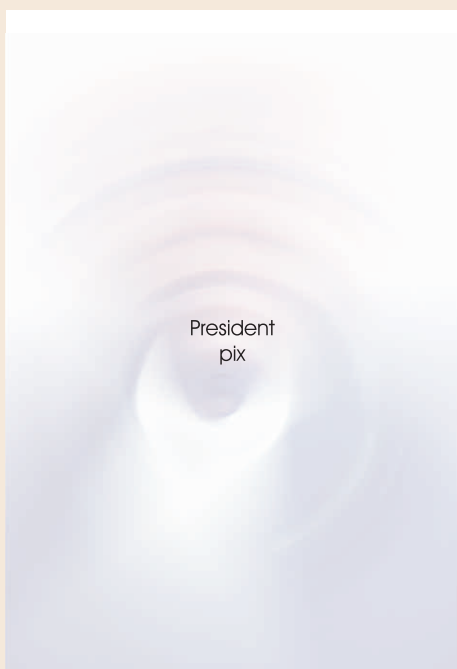
When I took over as President of the Nigerian Academy of Science four years ago, it was with mixed feelings – some anxiety as well as some optimism and excitement. I was the first President to be elected for a four-year term and that came with a lot of expectations. I need to make a difference to the perception of the academy by our stakeholders and also restructure internally in order to position the academy for the emerging challenges. Though I had been Vice-Chancellor of one of the foremost universities in the country, the University of Lagos, for seven years, I did not take this new office for granted. In fact, I saw the election as another opportunity to prove my mettle in my evolving career. I had been elected to be the President of the foremost independent science organisation in Nigeria and Africa, with membership comprising of the best scientists (and best academics) the country had ever produced. There were challenges of ensuring that the Academy became even more visible and respected by virtue of its engagement with the government and the general public via its projects. I was the 16th President, having just taken over from the eminent Emeritus Professor David U.U. Okali FAS.

Thankfully, I can now look back and say that we achieved our goal(s). The Academy is increasingly recognised and respected by all relevant stakeholders. We have been able to secure a number of grants to execute diverse projects which have made a lot of impact on governance and the society. In 2011, we were commissioned by the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology to accredit her parastatals and agencies to help determine how well they are achieving the goals for which they are set up. We have collaborated with the Federal Ministry of Health on such projects as on improving Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) in the country and linking agriculture and nutrition (also in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture). We also worked with the Lagos State Ministry of Health to train their health managers on evidence-based health policymaking. Last year, we carried out a study on maternal and perinatal mortality and also on exclusive breastfeeding in the country. We also engaged the regulatory agencies in the health sector to discuss innovations that may be necessary for the training of health workers in Nigeria. These are just a few of our flagship projects.

We have successfully collaborated with the private sector. We have received support from Zinox Technologies on some projects including the NAS Media Roundtable and Awards. We are now working with Schlumberger on the Schlumberger Excellence in Educational Development (SEED) project which has seen NAS Fellows volunteer as mentors to secondary schools across the country in developing science projects. Other private institutions that have worked with us over the years include Chams Plc, Vitafoam Plc, and the Nigerian Economic Summit Group (NESG).

Looking ahead, there are a number of ongoing project negotiations – to assess and train life scientists on bioethics and biosecurity issues; to collaborate with the World Class Universities in World Cities (WC2) to address health inequalities in 20 world cities; a regional collaborative project to facilitate the development and application of STI to the economies of West Africa under the Economic Partnership Agreement.

Our development strategies resulted in the receipt of an



President  
pix

# Foreword by the President

endowment fund of Five Million (USD) Dollars (\$5,000,000.00) from the Presidency. This has been invested to ensure that the interest generated is guaranteed running cost for the Academy personnel costs, administrative expenses, and core activities. The Bill for an Act to Establish the Nigerian Academy of Science has passed the second reading at the House of Representatives and with the network of our friends and those who believe in us- we are set for success very soon. We are now processing an application for substantial land in Abuja in a prime location, where a befitting, monumental Academy building will be erected.

Internationally, the Academy continues to hold its place as the national representative on the International Council on Science (ICSU). Also, within the last four years, NAS was elected to be the Vice-Presidency of the Network of African Science Academies (NASAC) and the Executive Committee of the Inter-Academy Medical Panel (IAMP) while continuing to play a prominent role on the Inter-Academy Panel. We have also increased our partnership with the other African academies and successfully hosted the 8th Annual Meeting of African Science Academies from the 11th to the 14th of November 2012 apart from the African academies; there were representatives of the US National Academies and the German Academy (the Leopoldina) in attendance.

We have been able to win the confidence of many funders, both locally and internationally. We are grateful for the support and cooperation we have received from such institutions as the US National Academies, Rockefeller Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, US Department of State, Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research/WHO, Wellcome Trust, Save the Children, Inter-Academy Foundation, Inter-Academy Panel and the Inter-Academy Medical Panel, among others.

My thanks also extend to our staff under the able leadership of Dr Doyin Odubanjo. The comradeship in the office and the improvement in the work environment have facilitated the productivity at the Academy.

We have made a significant impression on governance at both the executive and legislative levels in the country. I urge you and trust that we shall all provide the incoming President and the new Council all that is necessary to fully establish the Academy as the nation's voice of science.

Thank you and Best Wishes at all times.



Distinguished Professor Oye Ibidapo-Obe FAS, OFR  
President

# From the Executive Secretary

Looking back on 2013, we started the year fully aware of the challenges that lay ahead of us. We had achieved some success the year before in moving towards a place of sustainable visibility and impact but now had to think of how to maintain, and indeed build upon, past achievements; all within the context of a change in the leadership of the Academy. We miss Professor Oye Ibidapo-Obe who became President in the midst of a crisis four years earlier but was able to bring stability to the Academy and, indeed, the secretariat. We are adjusting to meet up with Professor Oyewale Tomori's speed and affinity for electronic operations. Coincidentally, there was need for a new Strategic Plan at the same time which provided an opportunity for the new leadership to think of how to move further in fulfilling the Academy's mission.

It is always a joy to work with new partners. We are happy to welcome Ford Foundation as one of our cherished funders. The project being funded by the Foundation is helping the Academy solve on our nation's most critical problems, youth unemployment. The Academy has undertaken to evaluate the developmental and reproductive health needs of the youth in Nasarawa and Ekiti States. Ultimately, the findings will inform action plans that can be used to address the needs of these youths. It is also expected that the success anticipated in the two states will necessitate a scaling up of the project to other states of the country. We are grateful for the warm reception by the two states, especially as expressed by the governors, Mr Tanko Al Makura (Nasarawa) and Dr Kayode Fayemi (Ekiti). We are also grateful for the support received from Professor Friday Okonofua in ensuring that the project is funded by Ford Foundation.

Other new partners have included the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA), the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef), TY Danjuma Foundation. With these, we have begun to work earnestly to improve immunization in Nigeria through the Academy's Vaccine and Immunization Advisory Committee. We are hopeful of fruits from work with the Directorate of Technical Cooperation in Africa (DTCA) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nigerian Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI), Federal Ministry of Agriculture and the British Deputy High Commission, among others.

Finally, our push at the international level also yielded some fruits in 2013. NAS was elected into the Board of the Inter-Academy Council (IAC) which is an international body of national science academies that produces reports to scientific, technological, and health issues related to the great global challenges of this time. NAS was re-elected to the Executive Committees of the Inter-Academy Medical Panel (IAMP) and the Network of African Science Academies (NASAC).

It goes without saying that the achievements were due to the collective effort of many. We are grateful for the dedication and volunteerism of Fellows, especially the leadership. Behind the scenes stand an amazing staff team who keep giving their best on a daily basis to make NAS a reputable national treasure. To many other stakeholders, we are grateful and look forward to working with you this year. Happy new year.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'M. Oladoyin Odubanjo'.

Dr. M. Oladoyin Odubanjo  
Executive Secretary

## 1.0 The Nigerian Academy of Science

The Nigerian Academy of Science (NAS) is one of the oldest merit-based academies in sub-Saharan Africa, having been founded in 1977. The Academy has 42 Foundation Fellows, among a total Fellowship of 133 Fellows and 3 Foreign Fellows. The uniqueness of the Academy is the ability to provide unbiased evidence-based advice to government and other stakeholders as well as to promote scientific excellence as an independent and unbiased body.

Being the foremost independent scientific institution in Nigeria, NAS represents the national scientific community on such bodies as the International Council for Science (ICSU), the Inter-Academy Panel (IAP), the Inter-Academy Medical Panel (IAMP) and the Network of African Science Academies (NASAC). NAS also collaborates with other science academies around the world.

### 1.1 Vision

The vision of the Academy is an improved quality of life for the Nigerian society through the promotion and application of science and technology.

### 1.2 Mission

The mission of the Academy is to strengthen the nation's ability to deliver the fruits of science to society by the acquisition, growth, and dissemination of sound scientific knowledge and facilitation of its use in the solution of major national problems.

### 1.3 Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the Academy are to promote the growth, acquisition and dissemination of scientific knowledge and to facilitate its use in the solution of major problems of national interest. The Academy does this by:

- Providing advice on specific problems of a scientific or technological nature presented to it by the government and its agencies, as well as by private organizations;
- Bringing to the attention of the government and its agencies problems of national interest that science and technology can help to solve; and
- Establishing and maintaining the highest standards of scientific endeavour and achievement in Nigeria, through:
  - organization of conferences, seminars, workshops and symposia
  - publication of journals and reports
  - recognition of outstanding contributions to science in Nigeria through awards and prizes
  - development of a working relationship with other national and international scientific bodies and academies.

### 1.4 Core values

The core values of the Academy include the following:

- merit
- pursuit of excellence

- credibility
- volunteerism
- service orientation
- evidence-based hallmark
- relationship-building
- commitment

## 2.0 NAS Governance/Management

### 2.1 The 37th Council

S/N	NAME OF FELLOW	POSITION
1.	Professor Oyewale Tomori, FAS	President
2.	Professor Mosto Onuoha, FAS	Vice-President
3.	Professor Olusoga Sofola, FAS	Treasurer
4.	Professor Domingo Okorie, FAS	Academic Secretary, Physical Sciences
5.	Professor Temitayo Shokunbi, FAS	Academic Secretary, Biological Sciences
6.	Professor Olusegun Adewoye, FAS	Public Affairs Secretary
7.	Professor Olaitan Soyannwo, FAS	Foreign Secretary
8.	Professor Olusegun Oke, FAS	Representative, Physical Sciences
9.	Professor Olusegun Ekundayo, FAS	Representative, Physical Sciences
10.	Professor Ephraim Okon, FAS	Representative, Physical Sciences
11.	Professor Augustine Esogbue, FAS	Representative, Physical Sciences
12.	Professor Ikenna Onyido, FAS	Representative, Physical Sciences
13.	Professor Timothy Obi, FAS	Representative, Biological Sciences
14.	Professor Babatunde Onadeko, FAS	Representative, Biological Sciences
15.	Professor Israel Adu, FAS	Representative, Biological Sciences
16.	Professor Adeyinka Afolayan, FAS	Representative, Biological Sciences
17.	Professor Fola Esan, FAS	Representative, Biological Sciences
18.	Professor Paul Okonkwo, FAS	Chairman, Publications Committee
19.	Professor Oye Ibidapo-Obe, FAS	Immediate Past President

### 2.2 The Fellowship

The Academy's Fellowship comprises of both male and female scientists with diverse expertise covering all fields of science, including engineering and medicine. The Fellowship also has members from all the geopolitical zones of the country and outside the country (Foreign Fellows).

The Nigerian Academy of Science is merit-based and only a few scientists get elected into the Fellowship each year. To be elected, a scientist has to be nominated by a Fellow of the Academy, which nomination must also be endorsed by three other Fellows. Subsequently, an appropriate Sectional Committee of the Academy will assess the nominations received, based on the candidate's field of expertise. The Committee will then recommend candidates (who get a minimum score) to the Council for possible shortlisting. Council prepares the final short list of candidates that will then be presented for election. The top ten candidates with at least 50% of total votes cast will be deemed elected.

In 2013, there were 25 new Fellowship nominations received while there were 34 rollover nominees from the January 2013 elections. These were duly considered by the Sectional Committees and the Council. 14 candidates were shortlisted for election at the January 2014 AGM of the Academy.

## 2.3 The Secretariat



The daily activities of the Academy are coordinated by its secretariat which is based at the Academy House, 8A Ransome Kuti Road, University of Lagos, Lagos. The secretariat staff, at the end of 2013, are listed below:

<b>Dr Oladoyin Odubanjo</b>	– Executive Secretary
<b>Mrs. Scholastica Lan</b>	– Programme Manager
<b>Mr. Samuel Shofuyi</b>	– Finance Associate/ Assistant Administrative Manager
<b>Dr Kikelomo Ogunsulire</b>	– Project Officer
<b>Miss Gertrude Ogieguata</b>	– Project Officer (Development)
<b>Mr. Abdulbaqi Shittu</b>	– Project Officer (seconded from the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology)
<b>Miss Anjola Olanipekun</b>	– Project Associate
<b>Mrs. Motunrayo Oyeyemi</b>	– Project Associate
<b>Miss Mobolaji Dasaolu</b>	– Administrative Officer (Communications)
<b>Mrs. Ifeoluwa Edawole</b>	– Administrative Officer
<b>Mr. Nicholas Ibeh</b>	– Administrative Officer
<b>Mr Etim Idongesit</b>	– Office Assistant

## 3.0 Highlights of 2013 Events

### 3.1 2013 Annual General Meeting

The Academy, on Saturday, 26th of January 2013, held its 37th Annual General Meeting (AGM) at Sheraton Hotel, Ikeja Lagos. In attendance were 47 Fellows. A highpoint of the meeting was the change in the leadership (President) of the Academy. Another highpoint was the election of 10 scientists as Fellows of the Academy.

Professor Oyewale Tomori FAS, a foremost virologist, took over from Professor Oye Ibidapo-Obe FAS, OFR as the Academy's President. Professor Ibidapo-Obe had led the Academy for the statutory four years. Professor Tomori was the Foundation Vice-Chancellor of Redeemer's University, Nigeria. He had served as the Regional Virologist and Laboratory Coordinator, World Health Organization (Africa Region), and has wide ranging experience in virology, disease prevention and control, national capacity building, and development in the African region.

In his speech at the event, Professor Oyewale Tomori, FAS promised to serve the Academy with wholly and work for the attainment of its vision. He said "Our vision is an improved quality of life for the Nigerian society through the promotion and application of sound science and technology. The Academy shall also be a dynamic body capable of responding to changes in society and modifying and reorganizing its structure as conditions in the society demand".

The Fellows who were elected at the AGM are Professor Sunday Atawodi, Professor Tola Atinmo, Professor Chukwudozie Ezeokoli, Professor Oye Gureje, Professor Isa Hussaini, Professor John Idoko, Professor Oladele Kale, Professor James Momoh, Professor Sunday Odunfa, and Professor Patience Osadebe.

Finally, the 37th Council of the Academy was constituted at the AGM (See list in Section 2.1).

### 3.2 Public Lecture on Disease Epidemics in Nigeria

Along with its AGM, the Academy organized a public lecture, on the 25th of January 2013, which was delivered by the Honourable Minister for Health, Professor C.O. Onyebuchi Chukwu. The lecture was titled "Disease Epidemics in Nigeria: Are we helpless?" The Chairman of the occasion was Nigeria's first Professor of Medicine, and a Foundation Fellow of the Academy, Professor Theophilus Ogunlesi FAS.

Professor Onyebuchi Chukwu defined used the opportunity to enumerate some of the steps being taken by the Federal Ministry of Health to ensure disease control in the country. He also answered questions from the public after his lecture.

The public lecture was attended by guests from government, universities, college of medicines, university teaching hospitals, research organizations, media, and others.

### 3.3 NAS Science Journalism Award

The Nigerian Academy of Science endows a yearly award to promote excellence in science reporting. Each entry is assessed based on creativity, originality, relevance, research, language, angles/areas covered, understanding of the subject, and Information to educate. The prize consists of a plaque, a laptop, and one hundred thousand naira only (N100,000).



This year, Miss Oluwatoyosi Ogunseye of Punch Newspaper emerged winner of the 2012 NAS Science Print Journalist Award. Her entry consisted of three serial published articles, were titled “The rich also cry: A tale of deaths and diseases in a heavily polluted upscale estate; “The rich also cry: Killer metals in the blood”; and “The rich also cry: When investment is a curse”. Miss Ogunseye in her response thanked the Academy for encouraging her to aim for greater heights.

The award presentation ceremony was held at the conference room at the NAS Secretariat on Thursday, 25th of April, 2013. The Director-General of the Center for Black and African Arts and Civilization (CBAAC), Professor Babatunde Babawale, was the guest speaker at the event. He spoke on science, culture, and the challenges of development in Nigeria. Professor Babawale said that western technology cannot be imported wholesale without the support of our culture. He explained that the reason science and technology seem to fail to take root and germinate easily in our society is because we fail to make them culturally relevant.

### 3.4 Induction of New Fellows and Public Lecture

Sequel to their election at the AGM earlier in the year, 10 distinguished scientists were inducted into the Fellowship of the Nigerian Academy of Science at an event held in Abuja on Thursday, 16th of May, 2013. As a custom, the induction ceremony was preceded by a public lecture titled “Meteorology, Climate Change, and the Nigerian Economy”; and which was delivered by the Director-General of the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET), Abuja, Dr. Anthony Anuforom.



The newly inducted Fellows are:

- **PROFESSOR SUNDAY ATAWODI, FAS** – A Professor of Biochemistry at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. Professor Atawodi FAS is currently the Deputy Dean of Science at the university
- **PROFESSOR TOLA ATINMO, FAS** – A Professor of Nutrition at the University of Ibadan, Oyo State. He is currently the principal investigator of a World Bank/STEP-B grant to establish a Center Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering at the university
- **PROFESSOR CHUKWUDOZIE EZEKOLI, FAS** – A Professor of Veterinary Medicine at the College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Agriculture, Makurdi. His expertise is in small animal medicine and surgery
- **PROFESSOR OYE GUREJE, FAS** – A Professor of Psychiatry at the University College Hospital, Ibadan. He is an internationally acclaimed psychiatrist and neuroscientist with diverse research interests in psychiatry and neuroscience. He is the second person ever to be awarded the higher doctorate of DSc by the University of Ibadan, and was conferred with the Nigerian National Order of Merit
- **PROFESSOR ISA HUSSAINI, FAS** – A Professor of Pharmacology at the University of Maiduguri. He is the substantive Dean of Pharmacy at the University of Maiduguri

- **PROFESSOR JOHN IDOKO, FAS** – A Professor of Medicine. He is currently the Director-General of the National Agency for the Control of AIDS (NACA) in Nigeria
- **PROFESSOR OLADELE KALE, FAS** – A Professor of Public Health at the University of Ibadan, Oyo State. He was the Foundation Dean of the Faculty of Public Health of the university and currently serves on several national committees of the Ministry of Health
- **PROFESSOR JAMES MOMOH, FAS** – A Professor of Electrical Engineering and former Chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering. He is the Director for the Center for Energy Systems and Control (CESaC) at the Howard University, USA. He is a founder of the International Conference in Power Systems Planning which has hosted more than ten conferences Between USA and Africa
- **PROFESSOR SUNDAY ODUNFA, FAS** – A Professor of Food and Industrial Microbiology at the University of Ibadan, Oyo State. He served as the Director-General of the Federal Institute of Industrial Research Oshodi (FIRO), Lagos State. Professor Odunfa FAS is a recipient of the 2011 Moselio Schaechter Award by the American Society for Microbiology
- **PROFESSOR PATIENCE OSADEBE, FAS** – A Professor of Pharmacy at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. She is the first female substantive Dean of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences (UNN).

### 3.5 Youth Development Programme

In Nigeria today, the youth constitute a large percentage of the nation and, without proper attention to their needs, they can constitute a threat to development. The Nigerian Academy of Science is “mobilizing support for developing, implementing, and sustaining livelihood and life skills development” among youths in Ekiti and Nasarawa states of Nigeria. The programme will see NAS carry out needs assessment studies in the two states and subsequently develop action plans to address the needs found. The programme is funded by the Ford Foundation.

In implementing the programme, the Academy paid courtesy visits to the Governors of both states and also met with key policymakers to ensure their support. Subsequently, teams were deployed for the needs assessment studies, which are currently ongoing.

### 3.6 Schlumberger Excellence in Educational Development (SEEDS)

The Schlumberger-NAS collaboration is a project aimed at igniting the passion for science among students in secondary schools. This is achieved by having selected schools constitute project teams to develop a science project with support from their teachers and mentors selected by the Academy. This is done under the Schlumberger Excellence in Education Development (SEED) programme. The 2013 edition included an introductory workshop in April and a project exhibition workshop in Port-Harcourt, Rivers State, between the 4th and 7th of August, 2013. The proposals were reviewed by assigned mentors consisting of some Fellows of NAS and some members of the Nigerian Young Academy (NYA).

The grand finale event, the SEED Schools Science Project Challenge and Exposition was held at Eko Hotel Convention Centre in Lagos on the 29th of November, 2013. 22 school teams participated and presented their projects. Winners of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes were from Federal Government Girls College, Owerri, Federal Government College, Ogbomosho, and Niger Delta Science School, Rivers State, respectively.

### 3.7 Vaccine Stakeholders Meeting

In her mission to help our nation achieve high immunization coverage levels, rationalize the introduction of new vaccines, and ensure a significant reduction of deaths from vaccine-preventable diseases, The Nigerian Academy of Science has set up a mutli-disciplinary Vaccines and Immunization Advisory Committee (NAS-VIAC) to provide technical, independent, and evidence-based advice on immunization issues. The Committee is chaired by Professor Oyewale Tomori FAS.

The NAS-VIAC held a few meetings in the course of the year during which it was decided to organize a meeting of stakeholders involved in immunization in Nigeria. At the end of the year, the Committee hosted a Vaccines Stakeholders Meeting with the theme 'Immunization in Nigeria: Attitude, Accountability, Economics, and Politics'. This was held in Abuja from the 4th-5th of December 2013 at Reiz Continental Hotel.

This stakeholders meeting brought together key immunization stakeholders to discuss without bias, the issues of attitude, politics, economics, and accountability as affecting routine immunization in Nigeria; and also to discuss the delay in polio eradication and other disease control initiatives in Nigeria. Participants at the meeting included some members of the National Assembly, top officials of the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA), relevant officials from the Federal Ministries of Health and Finance, National Planning Commission, State Commissioners for Health, immunization programme managers, national and international immunization partners, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations (CSOs) and partner national academies. Financial support for the meeting was from UNICEF, NPHCDA and TY Danjuma Foundation.

### 3.8 The Nigeria Science Prize

The Nigerian Academy of Science (NAS), as the 'voice of science' in Nigeria, is dedicated to the advancement of evidence-based science, technology, and innovation. The Academy is tasked with the administration of the Nigeria Science Prize sponsored by Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG). NAS embarked on an awareness creation and stakeholder engagement project, in collaboration with the NLNG, to consult with key stakeholders on needed reforms in science research and the Nigeria Science Prize.

Two regional workshops were hosted by the Academy on the 31st of October 2013 and the 27th of November 2013 in Abuja and Lagos respectively. Participants were from the northern (Abuja workshop) and southern geopolitical zones (Lagos workshop). These brought together relevant stakeholders in science research and education as well as policy, and industry players. The objectives of these workshops were to discuss the state of science research in Nigeria, increase awareness of and re-orient the Nigeria Science Prize as a medium for solving major national problems through science and research, as well as bridge the gap between the science community and industry.

### 3.9 NAS Executive Committee Strategy Retreat

The Executive Committee of the Council of the Academy held a Strategy Retreat at Fourpoints by Sheraton Hotel in Lagos on the 5th and 6th of Mardh 2013. The last Strategic Plan (2007 – 2012) was reviewed and a new one (2013 – 2017) was drafted. Also, plans for the year 2013 were discussed extensively and a draft budget approved.

### 3.10 NAS Hosts AHJA Workshop

In its bid to partner with science journalists to promote regular and accurate reporting of science, the Academy partnered with the African Health Journalists Association (AHJA) to host a workshop on the interpreting health data. The AHJA workshop was held at the Academy's conference room on the 15th and 16th of February 2013.

A second press briefing/workshop, by AHJA, was held on the 22nd of April 2013 at the Academy's secretariat, to mark the World Immunization Week.

### 3.11 Nigerian Young Academy (NYA) Workshops and General Assembly

With support from NAS, the Nigerian Young Academy held a workshop on Advances in Chemistry at the secretariat of the Nigerian Academy of Science from the 25th to the 28th of March 2013. Professor Joseph Okogun FAS was a keynote speaker at the workshop.

The general assembly and national conference of the NYA was held at the University of Ibadan from the 2nd to the 4th of July 2013. At the event, a new leadership of the NYA was appointed to be led by Dr Abidemi Akindele, as President.

## 4.0 Engaging the Government

### 4.1 Visit to Nasarawa State

As part of its youth development programme, funded by the Ford Foundation, a NAS delegation visited Nasarawa State on the 24th of June 2013. The NAS delegation, led by the President, met with Governor Tanko Al Makura and members of his cabinet to discuss and seek the support of the state for the impending project. Alhaji Al Makura thanked the Academy for picking Nasarawa State as one of only two states to benefit from the project. He admonished the Nigerian Academy of Science to advocate for policies that make science education to be taught innovatively from the nursery level of education.

The NAS delegation was hosted by the authorities of the Federal University Lafia while Governor Al Makura also presented the Academy with a plaque.

### 4.2 NAS' visit to Ekiti State

The Governor of Ekiti State, Dr. Kayode Fayemi, on the 23rd of July, 2013 welcomed the Nigerian Academy of Science delegation led by the President, Professor Oyewale Tomori FAS. The delegation visited the governor to seek his support for the Academy's youth development programme (funded by Ford Foundation) planned for the state.



Dr. Fayemi expressed his gratitude to the Academy for choosing Ekiti State as one of the pioneer states for this development project. Also in attendance at the meeting were some members of the State Executive Council.

Also in Ekiti State, Honorable Churchill Adedipe (Majority Leader) welcomed the Academy to the House of Assembly. Honourable Adedipe affirmed that the Academy will be granted full support as necessary by the House. He explained that the citizens of the state will find comfort in knowing that such developmental efforts are currently undergoing.

## **4.2 NAS's visit to the Ministry of Agriculture**

The Nigerian Academy of Science (NAS) led by its President, Professor Oyewale Tomori, FAS paid a courtesy visit to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, and rural development, Dr. Akinwumi Adesina on Monday the 22nd of July, 2013. Dr. Adesina, who was represented by the Minister of State (Alhaji Bukar Tijani) expressed surprise at not having met with the Academy before then. He highlighted three areas of feasible collaboration between his Ministry and the Academy. They are rural energy, horticultural crops, and Bio safety bill for Nigeria which is purely science based. The Academy promised to develop proposals on these to be submitted to the ministry.

## **4.3 Visit to Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI)**

Given Nigeria's dependence on the extractive industries for income, NAS paid a courtesy visit to the Nigerian Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) to discuss how the two institutions may collaborate. The Academy's team (comprising the President and Executive Secretary) was well received on the 24th of June 2013 at NEITI's office in Abuja.

The Executive Secretary of NEITI, Hajiya Zainab Ahmed, expressed delight at the visit and looked forward to working with NAS in the near future.

## **4.4 Courtesy Visit to Tertiary Education Fund (TETFUND)**

The Acting Executive Secretary of TETFUND, Dr. Aliyu Naiya, welcomed the Academy and its delegation led by the President, Professor Oyewale Tomori FAS to the Education Trust Fund office in Abuja on the 26th of June, 2013. At this meeting, potential areas of collaboration between NAS and TETFUND were discussed. One of which was to assess government funding of research in the country – to estimate the amount disbursed so far, its utilization, and impact.

# **5.0 International Activities**

## **5.1 NAS Elected to the Board of the Inter-Academy Council**

The Nigerian Academy of Science (NAS) has been elected as a member of the InterAcademy Council (IAC) for a period of five years (2013 – 2017). The Inter-Academy Council (IAC) is a multinational organization of science academies founded to develop and disseminate technical reports on scientific, technological, and health issues related to the great global challenges of development and urbanization thereby providing knowledge and advice to national governments and other relevant international organizations.





For the development and growth of the IAC, the Nigerian Academy of Science will work together with others on the current 18-member Inter-Academy Council Board. This is composed of presidents of fifteen academies of science and equivalent organizations—representing Australia, Brazil, China, France, Germany, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, the United Kingdom, South Africa, the United States, and The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS).

## **5.2 NAS Re-elected to the IAMP Board**

At its scientific conference and general assembly held in South Africa on 13 – 16 August 2013, the Nigerian Academy of Science was re-elected to serve on the Inter-Academy Medical Panel's (IAMP) Executive Committee from 2013 till 2015. NAS is represented on the IAMP Executive Committee by Professor Fola Esan FAS. He was accompanied to the meeting by the Executive Secretary of NAS.

## **5.3 NAS Elected to the IAP Strategy Committee**

Professor Gabriel Ogunmola FAS was elected to serve on the Inter-Academy Panel's (IAP) adhoc committee on Programmes and Strategic Planning. The IAP is the umbrella body for national science academies globally.

## **5.4 NAS Re-elected to serve on the NASAC Board**

The general meeting of the Network of African Science Academies (NASAC) was held at Addis Ababa on the 15th of November 2013. There, NAS was re-elected to serve on the Board of NASAC. The President of the Hassan II Academy of Science and Technology (Morocco) was elected as the new Chairman of NASAC.

## **5.5 9th Annual Meeting of African Science Academies (AMASA-9)**

The 9th annual meeting/scientific conference of the African science academies was hosted by the

Ethiopian Academy of Sciences (EAS) from the 9th to the 12th of November 2013 in Addis Ababa. The theme of the conference was "The role of biotechnology for Africa's development". The NAS delegation to the conference included Professor Njidda Gadzama FAS (member of the International Organising Committee), Professor Oyewale Tomori FAS, Professor Oye Ibidapo-Obe FAS (as member of NASAC Executive Board), Professor Bamidele Solomon (Director-General, National Biotechnology Development Agency), and Dr Oladoyin Odubanjo.

## **5.6 2013 IAMP Exco/ Young Physician Leaders (YPL) Meeting**

The IAMP's YPL programme continued this year with young physicians (less than 40 years old) being nominated by academies globally to attend. Again, as in previous years, the two nominees from NAS were shortlisted to attend. They are Dr Arinola Ipadeola, a Consultant Endocrinologist from the University College Hospital Ibadan and Dr Udemé Ekrikpo, a Consultant Nephrologist at the University of Uyo Teaching Hospital.

As usual, the YPL meeting was held in Berlin (18-22 October, 2013) along with the meeting of the Executive Committee of the IAMP and the World Health Summit.

## **5.7 AU-TWAS Young Scientists National Awards**

The Nigerian Academy of Science in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, The African Union (AU) and The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), has set up an "AU-TWAS Young Scientists National Award" with a view to promote science in Nigeria. The award consists of a certificate and \$5,000.

For the year 2013, Dr Adejuwon Adeneye of Lagos State University won the award for the Basic Sciences, Technology, & Innovation category, while Dr Item Atangwho of the University of Calabar won in the Earth & Life Sciences category.

## **5.9 NASAC Study Group on Climate Change in Africa**

The Network of African Science Academies constituted a regional panel on climate change to draft a brief report on climate change on the continent. Professor Babajide Alo FAS was nominated to represent NAS on the said panel.

In pursuit of the panel's mission, a workshop on climate change in Africa was hosted by the Cameroon Academy of Sciences (CAS) in collaboration with NASAC and the German national academy (Leopoldina). The workshop was held on the 11th and 12th of October 2013 in Yaounde.

## **5.10 Regional Study on Tobacco in Africa**

Professor Oyewale Tomori FAS was invited to co-chair a study panel on the impact of tobacco use in Africa and make recommendations for reducing the mortality and morbidity on the continent due to the use of tobacco. The panel held several teleconference meetings and a physical meeting in Kampala. The report of the panel is to be presented at the African Union's meeting of African Ministers of Health in 2014.

## **5.11 Launch of Policymakers Booklet on GMOs**

The Kenyan National Academy of Science (KNAS) in collaboration with the Academy of Sciences of South Africa (ASSAf), the Network of African Science Academies (NASAC), and the Inter-Academy

Medical Panel (IAMP), hosted a workshop in genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and launched a policymakers booklet in Nairobi on the 15th and 16th of April 2013. Professor Grace Longe FAS, represented NAS at the event.

## 6.0 News on Members

**PROFESSOR (MRS.) FRANCISCA NNEKA OKEKE, FAS** was one of five women globally selected



for the 2013 Laureates for Africa and Arab states. She won the L'Oreal-UNESCO Award 2013 for women in sciences for the physical sciences. Professor Francisca Okeke FAS was also elected as a Fellow of the African Academy of Sciences.

In addition, Professor Francisca Okeke FAS was appointed by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan GCFR to be a member of the newly inaugurated National Space Council.

**PROFESSOR VINCENT OLUNLOYO FAS, OFR** was appointed a member of the newly inaugurated National Space Council by President Goodluck Jonathan.

Also, to mark his 70th birthday, a festschrift and research fair was organised in his honour on the 25th of July 2013 at the University of Lagos.

**PROFESSOR YETUNDE OLUMIDE FAS** had a Special Grand Round organised in her honour (on being appointed an Emeritus Professor by the University of Lagos) on the 26th of June 2013 by the Department of Medicine of the University.

**PROFESSOR ELIJAH MSHELIA FAS** was appointed a member of the new National Space Council by the President, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan GCFR.

**PROFESSOR JOSEPH OKOGUN FAS** was appointed Emeritus Professor of Chemistry by the University of Ibadan, Nigeria



**PROFESSOR KAYODE ADEBOWALE FAS** won the African Union Continental Scientific Award which will be received at a ceremony to be held in Addis Ababa on the 30th of January 2014

National Universities Commission Distinguished Awards were presented to six Fellows; Professors Awele Maduemezia FAS, David Okali FAS, Cyril Onwumechili FAS, Martin Aghaji FAS, Anya Anya FAS, and Mark Chijioke FAS.

**PROFESSOR OYEWALE TOMORI FAS** won the Hallmark of Labour Foundation-Umaru Shehu Award for consistent advocacy for positive change within the university system.

**PROFESSOR ADETOKUNBO LUCAS FAS** won the Hallmark of Labour Foundation Role Model Award for outstanding contributions in the field of Medicine and acclaimed at home and abroad as an authority in Tropical Medicine.

**PROFESSOR THEOPHILUS OLADIPO OGUNLESI FAS** clocked 90 years on the 12th of July, 2013. **PROFESSOR OGUNLESI, FAS** is a Foundation Fellow of the Academy and the first Emeritus Professor of Medicine in Nigeria (1986).

**PROFESSOR OLADIPO AKINKUGBE FAS** clocked 80 years on the 17th of July, 2013.

