



NBRRI

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 2, No.2, September 2013

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY VISITS NBRRI...Pg 18



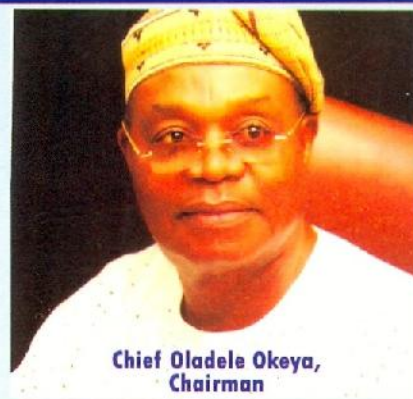
Mrs. Omobola Johnson
Hon. Minister, Federal Ministry of Communication
Technology, and Supervising Minister,
Federal Ministry of Science and Technology

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Chief Oladele Okeya,
Chairman



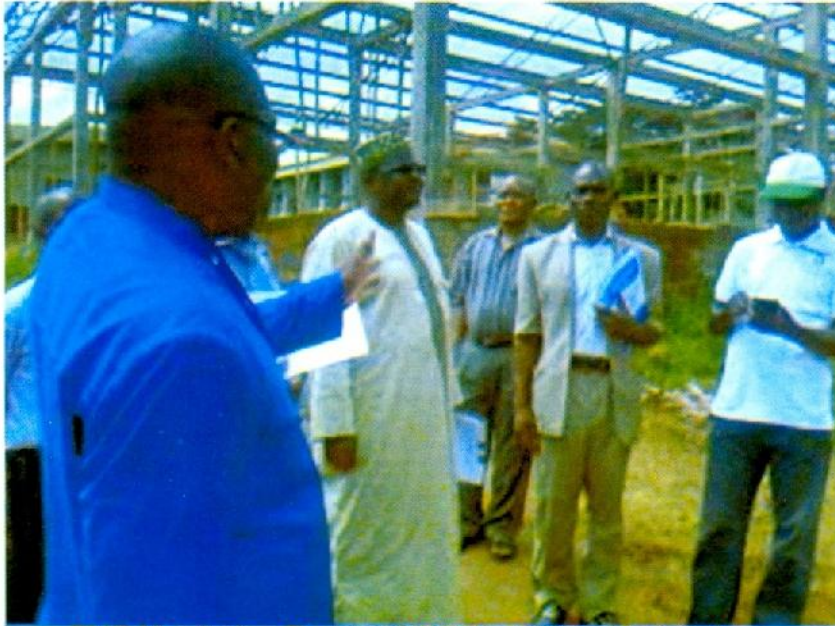
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FMF MONITORING & EVALUATION TEAM ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO NBRII



FMF Monitoring Team at NBRII National Laboratory Complex Project Site, Ota

A two-man team from the Federal Ministry of Finance led by a Deputy Director in the Ministry; Mr. Yusuf Aliyu Addy was on official assignment to the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute, National Laboratory Complex in Ota, Ogun State.

Their visit was to evaluate and monitor the performance of the second quarter 2013 budget appropriations to the Institute, the releases and utilization made so far. On ground to welcome the team and conduct them round the laboratories and the on-going projects was the Assistant Chief Planning Officer of the Institute, Mr. Arabi Paul Kehinde.

Mr Arabi explained the budgetary allocations and the level of funds the Institute has received so far in the year under review. He also showed the visitors round the various project sites and the laboratories. Among places visited were:

- a) **Building Research Department Laboratory**; where research work on the development of ceiling boards made from paper pulp, sawdust and molasses was on-going.
- b) **Soil Laboratory**; where laboratory investigation on field soil samples obtained from Zamfara, Kebbi and Jigawa States were on-going to generate data which will be used in the development of digitized subgrade soils maps of the areas.
- c) **Geographical Information System (GIS) Laboratory**; where completed digitized soils maps of various states in the country as well as those undergoing completion were being prepared
- d) **The Skills Acquisition Centre** project which is under construction using NBRII technologies.
- e) **The Pilot NBRII Pozzolana Cement plant** which is under construction and at completion stage.

Mr. Yusuf Aliyu expressed satisfaction over the level of work being done by the Institute. He commended the efforts of the Director-General/Chief Executive Officer, Prof. Danladi Matawal, in initiating and implementing the development of the flagship pilot projects which have significant output and outcomes that will benefit the nation; and called for their speedy completion. He praised the ability of the DG/CEO in managing the budget within the short period of time given to the Institute. He opined that when the projects, especially the Pilot Pozzolana Cement Plant is completed and starts production, it will be a major breakthrough and an economic boost to the nation.

EDITORIAL

The activities of the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRI) and its interactions with Stakeholders have continued on the upward swing. Such was the situation in the third quarter of 2013 during which a new Governing Board was appointed after a lull; the Institute explored several areas of collaborations with different organizations both locally and internationally; several recognitions were accorded the Institute and especially the Director-General; among others. These and more are presented in this edition of *NBRI Newsletter*.

After a lull of about one-and-a-half years, a seven-man Governing Board headed by Chief Dele Okeya, an astute and successful technocrat, businessman and politician, was appointed by the Federal Government of Nigeria. The other members are Arch. John Alkali, Alhaji Adamu Waziri, Engr. Augustine Eneh and Chief Gunju Ojo as well as Representatives of the Hon. Ministers of FMST; FMW and FMLHUD. *NBRI Newsletter* welcomes the members of the new Governing Board and wishes them a successful and fruitful tenure which is coming at a time that NBRI is enjoying peace, progress and significant achievements.

The visit of members of the House of Representatives' Committee on Science and Technology to NBRI as part of its Oversight function during the period was quite eventful and rewarding. The members expressed their satisfaction on the on-going flagship projects which included the pilot Pozzolana (NBRI) Cement Plant and the Skills Acquisition Centre, both of which were at advanced stage of completion. Another notable visitor to the Institute was the Hon. Commissioner of Science and Technology in Plateau State.

In the third quarter of 2013, NBRI indeed made several efforts to expand its sphere of collaboration with stakeholders. These included collaborations with a team of Consultants for Growth and Employment in States (GEMS2), the Transport Research Laboratory in the United Kingdom and a host of others

Similarly, the NBRI Cooperative Multipurpose Society held its Annual General Meeting which saw the emergence of a new Executive headed by Mr. Kehinde Arabi.

The 22nd Engineering Assembly of the Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) which held during the period was featured in this edition. NBRI presented a Paper based on a research work on the failure of the Enugu-Port Harcourt expressway. Highlights of these are presented in an interview with Dr. Chuka C. Osadebe, a Deputy Director in Road Research Department of the Institute.

Worthy of mention in this edition is the avalanche of recognition which NBRI and indeed the Director-General received within the period. This started with the *Award of Excellence* by a Non-Governmental Organization known as 'FISCAL TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY INITIATIVE'. This was followed with the induction of DG/CEO of NBRI, Professor Danladi S. Matawal as a *Fellow* of the prestigious Nigerian Academy of Engineering; and later, his induction to the *Construction Hall of Fame*. *NBRI Newsletter* wishes Professor Matawal more successes and the propagation of NBRI far above the sky.

These and more are the presentations which no doubt has made this edition of *NBRI Newsletter* a must read.

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NBRI (VISION, MISSION & CORE VALUES)

BUILDING CAPACITY & SETTING THE PACE IN INDIGENOUS CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

VISION

To evolve and use a comprehensive and integrated approach in appropriate technology development and transfer, sustainable capacity building and investment promotion.

So as to foster the application of environment-friendly and energy-efficient innovation construction materials, manufacturing technologies and cost-effective building and road construction practices.

Which will enhance job-creation, wealth generation and poverty reduction as well as nurture the emergence of vibrant, knowledge-based and highly competitive indigenous construction companies capable meeting global standards.

MISSION

Integrated R&D, capacity building and robust extension services in which technological innovation and knowledge-based practices in the fields of building, road, and engineering materials will be used to provide adequate and affordable housing and road infrastructure as well as increased economic empowerment.

CORE VALUES

- Professionalism
- Commitment and integrity
- Resourcefulness
- Innovativeness

MEET OMOBOLA JOHNSON: THE SUPERVISING MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



Mrs. Omobola Johnson
Honorable Minister, Federal Ministry of Communication Technology, and Supervising Minister, Federal Ministry of Science and Technology

Following a cabinet reshuffle by President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, *GCFR* in which Professor Ita Okon Basse Ewa was removed as the Minister of Science and Technology, a supervising Minister was appointed to oversee the Ministry. She is Omobola Johnson, the Honorable Minister of Communication Technology. The Honorable Minister is expected to coordinate the activities of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology in line with the Transformation Agenda pending the appointment of a substantive Minister of Science and Technology.

Prior to her ministerial appointment, Honorable Omobola Johnson was Country Managing Director of Accenture in Nigeria. She has over 25 years consulting experience and has worked with a cross-section of companies in a variety of industries; successfully transforming them into more competitive and dynamic organisations. Omobola is also the founding Chairperson and member of Board of Trustees of Women in Management and Business (WIMBIZ), a non-governmental organisation that seeks to improve the success rate of female entrepreneurs and increase the proportion of women in senior positions in corporate organisations. The

Honorable Minister is also Vice-Chair, Global Agenda Council on Africa, World Economic Forum.

Omobola holds a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from the University of Manchester and a Masters degree in Digital Electronics from King's College, London. She is nearing completion of a doctorate degree at Cranfield University; her research focuses on corporate leadership practices in emerging markets.

NBRRI GETS NEW GOVERNING BOARD

The Federal Government of Nigeria, on the 21st of August 2013, announced the appointment of Governing Boards of 42 Federal Government parastatals and Agencies. Among these was the Governing Board of the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRRI). The 7-man NBRRI Governing Board has Chief Dele Okeya as its Chairman. Other members include Arch. John Alkali, Engr. Augustine Eneh and Chief Gunju Ojo as well as Representatives of the Hon. Ministers of Federal Ministries of Science and Technology; Works; and Lands, Housing and Urban Development.

Profile of some Members of NBRRI Governing Board Chief Oladele Okeya, Chairman

Chief Oladele Okeya hails from Emure-Ekiti, in Emure Local Government Area of Ekiti State. He has vast experience in the public and private sectors. His stint in the public sector included working as a Planning Officer with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Sokoto State; as a Planning and Budget Officer with the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria; as an Expenditure Control and Foreign Exchange Officer and later as a Finance Officer with same University.

Chief Okeya later sojourned into the private sector where he held the position of the Executive Director at Sambaba – Paddle Group Limited based in Kano and later as Executive Director of Intek Limited also based in Kano. He later returned to the Public sector under the Ekiti State Government where, at different times, he was the Chairman, Contracts Review Committee in 2003; Honorable Commissioner, Ministry of Works and Transport from 2003-2005; and Special Adviser to the Government on Environment from 2005-2006.

Chief Okeya has also held several prime positions in the Ekiti State Government. He was a member of Ekiti State Tenders Board from 2003-2005; member Committee for Development Target, Ekiti State in 2003; and member of Ekiti State Agricultural Development Program Executive Committee (ADPEC) from 2003-2005. Between 2004 and 2005, Chief Okeya was a member of Ekiti State Roads Coordinating Board during which period he was also a Member of the Monitoring Team, Federal Government "Operation 500 Roads Program" handled by the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA). He was a Member of the Planning and Implementation Committee for the College of Medicine, University of Ado-Ekiti in 2004; and also a member of the Project Committee for the visit of Mr. President to Ekiti State in 2005.

Chief Dele Okeya is the Chairman, Prime Technology

Limited; Director Intercontinental Technical and Management Co. Limited; Director, Weston Petrogas Limited; Director, Healthscope Limited; Director, Telephone Technology Limited; and Director, Laconi Ventures Limited.

Chief Okeya is an astute politician whose objective is to make genuine, selfless, worthy, meaningful, valuable and value-added contributions to national development and to be exemplary citizen and a sincere, dynamic, dedicated, dependable, articulate, transparent and purposeful leader that inspires trust, confidence and hope. His zeal is to generate, formulate and implement ideas, policies, action plans and strategies that will improve the lives and enhance the economic and general well-being of the generality of the Nigerian people. He is a man who strongly believes in the prudent management of resources, accountability and transparency; rule of law and due process.



**Chief Oladele Okeya,
Chairman**

Chief Dele Okeya has a lot of honors and awards bestowed on him. Amongst them are Award of Excellence from Emure-Ekiti

Community in 2003; Justice of Peace (JP) in December 2004; Certificate of Honour and Recognition in 2004 from the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC); Certificate of Merit as an Excellent Leader in 2004/2005 from the National Association of Emure-Ekiti Students; Ambassador of Ekiti Youth in 2005 from Grand Coalition of Ekiti Youth; one of 50 most Eminent Influential Democrats in Nigeria in 2005 from Nigerian Tribune; Commissioner of the year Award, 2004 by Civic Enlightenment Organization of Nigeria; Nominated Man of the Year, 2004 by American Biographical Institute; Nominated Certified Distinguished Administrator, 2004 by Leadership Trust Foundation; Nominated for Development in Nigeria Merit Award 2006 by People, State and Resources (PSR); Merit of Excellence for Distinguished Achievers Award in 2006 by Glamour News Magazine.

Arc. John Longkat Shindai Alkali, OON, FNIA,

Arc. John Longkat Shindai Alkali hails from Shendam in Plateau State. He had his First School Leaving Certificate from St. Joseph College, Vom in 1969; B.Sc. and M.Sc. Architecture from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria in 1975 and 1977 respectively.

Arc. Alkali is a seasoned administrator with a lot of experiences. He worked for over 30 years in the Public Sector. He rose from Architect I in 1978 to a Permanent Secretary in the Federal Ministry in 2003.

The developmental history of the Federal Capital Territory cannot be complete without mentioning the name 'Arc John Alkali'. This is so because he was the Director of Public Building, Federal Capital Development Authority, FCDA from 1996 – 2000; Director, Architecture, Federal Ministry of Works and Housing from 2001 – 2002; Executive Director, Works & Technical Services, Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) from 2002 – 2003; Pioneer Permanent Secretary in the Federal Ministry of Housing and Urban Development from 2003 –

2006; and Permanent Secretary, Manpower Development Office, Office of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation from August 2006 to September 2006.

In October 2006, he retired voluntarily as a Permanent Secretary in the Federal Civil Service into active politics, private business and practice.

Arc. Alkali has chaired a lot of committees. He has attended seminars and conferences in Nigeria and outside the Country.

He is a Fellow, Nigeria Institute of Architects, Member of Nigeria Institute of Town Planning. He has numerous awards amongst which are the national award as the Officer of the Order of Niger (OON), Public Service Merit for Excellence Award, Award of Excellence by Nigerian Institute of Building, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah outstanding Merit Award; Africa Meritorious Service for good conduct, etc.

He is happily married and the marriage is blessed with children.



Arc. John Longkat Shindai Alkali, OON, FNIA, Member

Engr. Eneh, Augustine O., MNSE,

Engr. Eneh, Augustine Ogoamaka is a civil engineer, a member of the Nigerian Society of Engineers and a man who has great experience in the engineering practice.

Engr. Eneh hails from Udi Local Government Area of Enugu State. He attended the prestigious University of Nigeria Nsukka (UNN), where he graduated in 1986

He is a man endowed with the ability to excel in all he does. He has good communication



Engr. Eneh, Augustine O., MNSE, Member

and interpersonal skills; and is an excellent team player with high sense of responsibility. He is a honest and dependable person.

Engr. Eneh was the Project/Site Manager with Eagle Construction LTD in both Jos and Abuja from 1986–1991. He was the Director/Project Manager with Tribond Construction Company LTD from 1992–1995. He is currently the Managing Director ENATEC Nigeria Limited.

He is a Christian, married and a successful and focused politician.

HON. (DR.) JOSHUA OLAGUNJU OJO, JP, FIMEA, FIMBS

Hon. (Dr.) Gunju Ojo hails from Ahoro-Dada in Ori-ire Local Government Area of Oyo State. He is a man with a very humble beginning. He attended Baptist Day School, Ayegun Baptist Day School, Baptist Secondary Modern School, all in Ogbomosho, Oyo State. He also attended Baptist College, Iwo, Osun State; Institute of Marketing, Manchester in England; University of Ibadan, Oyo State and Faith Foundation Fuller College of Nigeria.

Hon. Ojo is a Fellow, Institute of Management Executives and Administration of Nigeria (FIMEA); Fellow, Institute of Business and Management Sciences (FIBMS) and Fellow, Legislative Process and Procedure (FLPP) Worldwide Conference of Nigeria.

Hon. Gunju Ojo has attended several seminars and workshops which include that on Political Stability and Rule of Law, London, United Kingdom; Training/Workshop on Good Governance at the International Conference Center in Abuja; Policy and Financial Management for Corporations, Companies and Parastatals in Oyo State, organized by Administrative Staff College of Nigeria, ASCON.

Over the years, Hon. Ojo has worked in both the Private and Public sectors. He has a wide area of experience in teaching between 1976 and 1981; in business promotion and marketing with Nigerian Tobacco Company Limited, Ibadan as a Senior Sales Representative and with the defunct African Breweries Limited Ibadan as Sales Operation Manager from 1982 to 1990. Thereafter, Hon. Gunju Ojo went into private business precisely the farming profession.



HON. (DR.) JOSHUA OLAGUNJU OJO
Member

From 1991 to date, he has been running an integrated 150acres of farmland at Idi-Amu village, Ori-ire Local Government in Oyo State; and a Cocoa farm at Okomu village at Ovia South West Local Government Area in Edo State. He is currently the Deputy Chairman, All farmers Association of Nigeria, Oyo State Chapter, a position he has held since 2010.

A very unassuming personality, Hon. Ojo is a goal getter, and an astute and a refined Politician. He was elected Councilor on the platform of Social Democratic Party (SDP), Ori-ire Local Government from 1991 to 1993. He was Member/Deputy

Speaker of the Oyo State House of Assembly from 1999 to 2003; Deputy Governorship Aspirant of the Action Congress (AC) in Oyo State between 2006 and 2007; the Federal House of Representatives candidate on the platform of Alliance for Democracy (AD) party for the Ogbomosho North, South and Ori-ire Federal Constituency of Oyo State in 2003. Under the platform of PDP, he was a Member of the National Assembly Screening Committee for Niger State in 2010 and National Delegate to the 2011 and 2012 PDP National Conventions in Abuja. He was a member of the PDP Presidential Campaign Committee, South-West of Nigeria for Goodluck/Sambo Campaign Organisation in 2010 to 2011.

Hon. Gunju Ojo has a lot of awards and is a Patron of many Associations. He is also a Doctorate Fellow in Business Management from the Institute of Internal Auditors of Nigeria.

Hon. Gunju Ojo is happily married with children.

NBRI NEW GOVERNING BOARD AT A GLANCE

Chief Oladele Okeya,	-	Chairman
Arc. John Longkat Shindai Alkali, OON, FNIA,	-	Member
Engr. Eneh, Augustine O., MNSE,	-	Member
Hon. (DR.) Joshua Olagunju Ojo	-	Member
Representative of Hon. Minister of Science & Technology	-	Member
Representative of Hon. Minister of Lands, Housing & Urban Dev.	-	Member
Representative of Hon. Minister of Works	-	Member
Prof. D.S. Matawal, DG/CEO NBRI	-	Secretary

PERMANENT SECRETARY, FMST APPLAUDS NBRI



Permanent Sec. FMST, Hajiya Rabi Jimeta (L) being conducted round some NBRI facilities

It was an enthusiastic moment when the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, Hajiya Rabi Jimeta, *min*, paid a working visit to the Administrative Headquarters of the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRI) in Abuja

After welcoming the Permanent Secretary to NBRI, the DG/CEO presented a brief on the R&D programmes, the critical activities, achievements, challenges and projections of the Institute. The highlights of the briefing covered NBRI's efforts at providing a well equipped mini-Materials Testing Laboratory at Abuja; the setting up of a well-stocked Library in Abuja Office; the on-going Curriculum Development for Artisans in the Construction industry; the setting-up of a pilot Pozzolana Cement production Plant at NBRI Ota office which has been completed and undergoing test production; the development of a Skills Acquisition Centre using NBRI technologies which is progressing satisfactorily in Ota; the opening of three additional Zonal Offices at Uyo, Gombe and Jos to complement the existing ones at Lagos, Kano and Nnewi in order to get NBRI technologies to the end users; amongst others. The DG/CEO, Prof Matawal emphasized that these activities and programmes are being carried out in line with the

institute's mandate and in tandem with the Transformation Agenda of Mr. President to increase local content and local capacity utilization in socio-economic development. After the briefing, Hajiya Rabi Jimeta was conducted round the existing facilities at NBRI headquarters, especially the NBRI Display Centre, the new mini-Materials Testing Laboratory, the mini-Library, the model structure built with NBRI interlocking Blocks within NBRI office, the Conference Centre, NBRI Machines on display, etc.

After being conducted round NBRI facilities at the Headquarters, Hajiya Jimeta noted that a firsthand assessment of the Institute gave her the opportunity to appreciate the efforts being put in place by the Institute, especially in the areas of building and road research activities and research facility improvement. She expressed satisfaction at the activities and achievements of the Institute under the able leadership of the DG/CEO, Professor Danladi Matawal and his Management team; and noted that the Research & Development (R&D) innovations developed by the Institute are quite



Prof D.S. Matawal, DG/CEO NBRI explaining a point to Hajiya Rabi Jimeta (L) being

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DG NBRRI INDUCTED INTO THE CONSTRUCTION HALL OF FAME

On Friday, 20th September, 2013, twenty three eminent Nigerians were inducted into Nigerian Construction Hall of Fame. Eighteen of the inductees were in the Individual category while five were in the Corporate category. The event took place at the Sheraton Lagos hotel, Ikeja, Lagos. One of the inductees was the DG/CEO of the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute, Professor Danladi Slim Matawal.

The Nigerian Construction Industry Hall of Fame is an initiative which holds bi-annually and created as a platform of interaction between professionals of distinct characters, second to none, anywhere in the world. The idea was borne out of a desire to identify and uphold these erudite and eminent professionals and organizations that have stood the test of time, believing in "Project Nigeria",

facing all challenges and still remaining focused in delivering value services to the construction sector. The selection of the inductees is based on stringent criteria which focuses on professionalism, effective contributions, dedication, hardwork in various fields related to the construction industry. Potential professionals and organizations are nominated by their peers in the industry.

The opening address was given by Mr. Kenneth Oduola Stevenson. He stated that this year's theme: "Sustainability Strategies for Energy Efficiency in Nigeria" is topical and has the potential of reawakening us to the realization that strives towards attaining sustainable power; as this is not

just the responsibility of the Government but that of everybody

In his remarks, the Chairman of the occasion, Engr. Abraham Lasebikan mentioned that Nigerian Construction Industry Hall of Fame is an initiative that has created a network of interaction between the environment, public and the government. He further

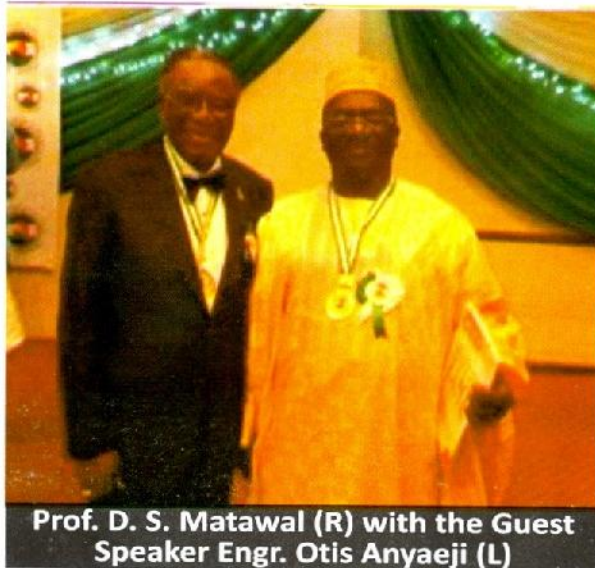
stated that the Nigerian Construction Industry Hall of Fame was conceptualized to act as a bridge between the past and aspirations of the future to

recognize the roles, growth determinations, professional integrity and innovations "seen in our collective brand to ensure sustainability, growth, not just in the professional bodies to which we all belong, but to our nation as a whole."

Speaking further, the Chairman noted that Nigeria is currently engaged in carrying out sustained efforts in the Power sector, which in turn affects all other areas of our lives. He observed that the critical issue

in the power sector does not just lie in the provision of Energy efficiently but more importantly in the sustainability of energy efficiency. This will indeed contribute to stimulating widespread acceptance of the vision and growth of the nation as well as opening a new discuss and opportunities in the construction industry.

He commended the inductees of this year's Hall of Fame and charged them to be agents of growth, bundle of continual excellence to aspire to do more and not relax on their oars. The inductees were to note that since they have given their whole life to their profession and being recognized for, it is a testimony of their driven ambition that will be



Prof. D. S. Matawal (R) with the Guest Speaker Engr. Otis Anyaeji (L)

impacted to younger members of their various vocations.

The guest speaker, Engr. Otis Anyaeji, Chairman/Managing Director, O. T. OTIS Engineering delivered an exclusive lecture on the theme: *Sustainability Strategies for Energy Efficiency in Nigeria*. The paper re-emphasised the recommendation that energy efficiency is the most economic and readily available means of improving energy and reducing in-house gas emission which simply means a way of managing and reinstating the growth of energy. The paper enumerated the benefits of energy efficiency primarily as a powerful tool for achieving a sustainable energy fiction; adding that in the past ten to fifteen years, the main issue was that development has been sustained through this means. According to him, improvement in energy efficiency can reduce the means for refreshment in the infrastructure and also reduce consumer welfare. Speaking further, he

analyzed and gave examples of energy efficiency barriers in the public sector like policy/regulatory barriers, public and user equipment/service provider, etc.

In his conclusion, the paper emphasized the need for technology acquisition, capacity building and training to ensure that Nigeria move in the right path to industrialization and sustainable development.

Some guests present at the ceremony included the Governor of Kano State, Engr. Dr. Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso who was ably represented by the Honorable Commission, Ministry of Lands and Physical Planning, Kano State, Dr. Mohammed Nadu Yahaya; the former Governor of Ogun State, Otunba (Engr.) Gbenga Daniels; the Managing Director of Kresta Laurel Ltd, Engr. Bibiolu; Otunba Dola Oyefeso; Alhaji Ar-rabiu Musa Mohammed; and other important dignitaries.

Continued from page 8

relevant and appropriate to the provision and improvement of mass housing to the Nigerian populace. She noted that this is quite apt in the current dispensation since the provision of decent and affordable housing are part of the key elements in Nigeria's Transformation Agenda under President Goodluck Jonathan Administration.

She further expressed particular interest in the development of a curriculum for artisans in the built industry by the Institute. Stressing that, a significant landmark will be achieved in the construction industry once it becomes effective as it would also curb some of the menace experienced in the industry. On the the pilot pozzolana cement plant located at the institute's National Laboratory Complex in Ota, Ogun State, Hajiya Jimeta opined that, President Jonathan would be elated at the internal efforts made by NBRI towards the production of



Permanent Sec. FMST, Hajiya Rabi Jimeta (Centre) Flanked by Prof. Matawal, DG/CEO, NBRI(L) Dr. Talabi, Director Technology Adaptation and Assesment (FMST) and NBRI Management Staff.

alternative cement.

In her final words of encouragement, Jimeta pledged the continuous support of the Ministry of Science and Technology towards the Institute's zeal and efforts at fulfillment its mandate to the benefit of the country.

MORE AWARDS FOR PROF. MATAWAL DG/CEO, NBRII.



Prof. D.S Matawal receiving his award

It was yet another moment of fulfillment for the DG/CEO of NBRII, Prof. Danladi Matawal when he recently received an Award of Excellence. The award which was presented by a Non-Governmental Organization known as 'FISCAL TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY INITIATIVE' had a unique background to it.

In presenting the award tagged 'FISCAL Transparency Accountability' to the DG as well as the Organization's Stickers known as 'Ambassador's Stickers', the group, led by its National President, Barrister Charles Edo narrated that his team, unknown to the Institute, had witnessed the processes of procurement organized by the Institute in accordance with government procedures. Edo said to his amazement, Prof. Matawal was on ground from the beginning of the exercise to the end to ensure that things were done appropriately and transparently. He also observed that NBRII has played crucial and pivotal roles in the road industry.

In his response, Prof. Matawal thanked the group for the honour and emphasized the symbolism behind the visit as it relates to Fiscal Transparency in governance. Matawal also told the team that the award is an encouragement and a challenge not only for himself and the Institute but a pointer for the nation to undergo transformation and fight

corruption with greater vigor. He opined that the nation must go through drastic change in order to be recognized globally. He further lamented the spate of corruption which has ravaged the entire country, stressing that the country can move forward through leaders with fundamental inner convictions and philosophies. He further assured that the Institute is on the right lane of addressing infrastructural decay in the country as evidenced in the various national technical workshops organized by the Institute in recent times; from building collapses to road pavement failure, amongst others.

In his final words, Professor Matawal urged the group and challenged them to do more on the society, as this is crucial and necessary for the Nigerian nation in order to move forward.

The FISCAL Transparency and Accountability Initiative was registered in April 2012 by the Corporate Affairs Commission with the aim to promote Fiscal transparency and accountability across the globe as well as advocacy against corruption and poverty; organize lectures, seminars and institute an award of excellence in the promotion of Fiscal Transparency and Accountability, amongst others.



Prof. D.S Matawal with his Award Portrait

TRL LIMITED (UK) AND NBRI SET FOR COLLABORATION



Prof. D.S Matawal, DG/CEO of NBRI (3rd from L) with the Delegation from TRL UK

Final arrangements have been concluded for the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Nigerian Building & Road Research Institute, NBRI, and the renowned Transport Research Laboratory (TRL) Limited, United Kingdom.

The MoU between the two organizations is with respect to a technical collaboration in the field of Road Transport technology in Nigeria. In a meeting held at the NBRI Administrative Headquarters, Jabi, Abuja, representatives of both TRL, UK and NBRI deliberated on the draft MoU preparatory to its being signed.

Both NBRI and TRL, UK have similar mandates especially in the area of road research. While TRL is a research laboratory and international consultancy outfit set up to carry out independent and impartial world-class research, consultancy, testing and certification for all aspects of transport

technology, NBRI on the other hand, was established, among other things, to build capacity as well as to conduct integrated and applied Research and Development (R&D) in building, road and construction sectors of the Nigerian economy.

Part of the aims and objectives of the MoU includes enabling NBRI to undertake high quality research projects and to disseminate the results; and also to enable NBRI develop its credibility and international reputation through high quality research through developing partnership and linkages with the international research community.

It is expected that the MoU, when signed, will also pave way for mutual collaboration for enhanced strategies that will encourage beneficial R&D activities, technology acquisition and adaptation in the road sector for the benefit of NBRI and the Nigerian nation.

22ND COREN HOLDS ENGINEERING ASSEMBLY

Nigerian Engineers nationwide under the umbrella of the Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) recently converged in the nation's capital, Abuja for the 22nd COREN Engineering Assembly. The General Assembly is a national forum for discussing issues in the engineering profession and forging a way forward for the body. The Assembly for 2013 was held on Tuesday 20th and 21st August 2013 at the Abuja International Conference center with the theme *Accelerating National Development: The Role of Engineering Profession in Nigeria*.

In his Opening Speech at the event, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Dr. Goodluck Jonathan, *GCFR* who was represented at the event by the Permanent Secretary in the Federal Ministry of Works, Abubakar Kolo Mohammed charged Nigerian engineers to use their skills to develop the nation.

He assured the Assembly that the Federal Government is poised to undertake high level patronage of Nigerian engineers as a strategy to attaining high local content in Nigeria's infrastructural development. While reiterating government's commitment to this and support for the activities of COREN, he stated that "Recently, over 500 engineering graduates were employed through the Ministry of Works and have since been trained and deployed to various offices and road projects across the country".

Earlier, in his Welcome Address, the President of COREN, Engr. Kashim Ali emphasized the importance and relevance of Nigerian engineers to the country's infrastructural development, stressing that, Nigeria as a nation has depended on other nations for too long. He reiterated that "Our indigenous capacity must be developed through practice; the time has come for Nigerian engineers to be challenged on major national projects".

Meanwhile the Hon. Minister of Works, Architect

Mike Onolememe also represented by the Permanent Secretary of the FMW, Abubakar Kolo Mohammed, challenged COREN on key infrastructural challenges such as the high incidences of building collapse and road failure. He urged the body to curb the menace and identify those involved for appropriate sanctions, adding that "All relevant stakeholders should be put on notice to ensure that this renewed policy is implemented. Enough is enough!"



Engr. Kashim Ali, FNSE, mni
COREN President

The event witnessed a lot of activities such as exhibitions, paper presentations, etc. Dr. Chuka C. Osadebe of NBRI presented a paper on behalf of the institute tagged: *Road Failure in Nigeria; A case study of Enugu-Port Harcourt Road*. The paper highlighted some of the failure patterns observed on the Enugu-Port Harcourt expressway to include: High traffic volume of overloaded heavy vehicles, Poor sub-grade soils, Poor/lack of adequate drainage system, Excessive axle loading, Use of poor construction materials, Inadequate/lack of Maintenance,

Inappropriate Routine/Periodic maintenance carried out unprofessionally by untrained or ill-trained personnel, and Poor supervision of road pavement construction.

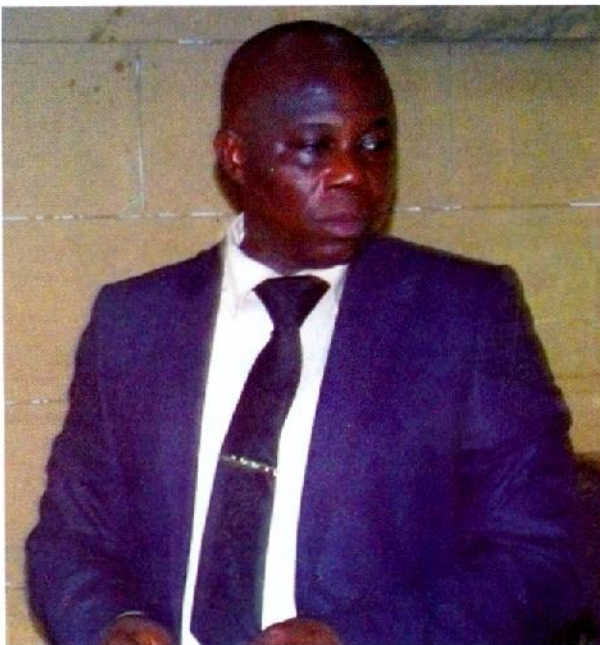
Osadebe in an interview with *NBRI Newsletter* after the event gave a brief assessment of the COREN assembly from his viewpoint and its relevance to national development. He believes that it is important for COREN to ensure that the Communiqué and resolutions from the two day meeting be brought to the attention of relevant technocrats and government functionaries for implementation. Dr. Osadebe also called on COREN Disciplinary Tribunal to be empowered to carry out the issue of discipline on erring members or companies in an appropriate manner.

The well-attended General Assembly also had the Executive Governor of Katsina State, Alhaji Ibrahim Shehu Shema in attendance. The Director-General/CEO of the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute, Professor Danladi Matawal, who is a registered member of COREN was also on ground for the two-day event.

TIMELY AND APPROPRIATE MAINTENANCE INTERVENTIONS - KEY TO PRESERVE NIGERIA'S ROAD ASSETS

....Dr. Chuka. C. OSADEBE

Dr. C. C. Osadebe is a Deputy Director at the Road Research Department of the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute. He presented a paper entitled: Road Failure in Nigeria; A case study of Enugu-Port Harcourt Expressway on behalf of the Institute at the 2013 COREN General Assembly in Abuja. In a brief interview with the NBRII Newsletter editorial team shortly after his presentation, Dr. Osadebe shed more insight into his paper and the importance of COREN to Nigeria's development.



Dr. C. C. Osadebe,
Deputy Director, Road Research Department, NBRII

NBRII NEWSLETTER: In your view, what do you think is the relevance of COREN to the country as a whole?

Dr. C. C. Osadebe: The Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria is a statutory body with the responsibility of regulating and controlling all Engineering training and practice in Nigeria. It is empowered to keep a register of Engineering craftsmen, technologists, engineers and engineering firms who wish to practice in the country. No individual or organization is allowed to practice in Nigeria without the approval of COREN. In other words, the body ensures and enforces the registration of all engineering personnel (i.e. Engineers, Engineering technicians, Engineering craftsmen, technologists

and consulting firms wishing to practice or engage in the practice of engineering). The body also ensures that the standard of engineering practice in Nigeria is desirable and quacks are excluded from practicing the profession.

NBRII NEWSLETTER: Can you, by a way of summary of the paper you presented at the COREN 22nd Engineering Assembly, tell stakeholders the relevance of your paper to Nigerian Engineers?

Dr. C. C. Osadebe: Nigeria's economy is highly dependent on road transportation system in the absence of effective railroad and water transportation systems to facilitate the haulage of people, goods and services. Hence, the development and maintenance of road pavement is fundamentally important in all economic aspirations: movement of goods and people, industrial products, agricultural produce and services. Basically, it is the critical infrastructure for attainment of all developmental goals, vision and National strategy.

In 2010, there was an estimated 200,000km of Federal, State and Local Government roads with an estimated 36,000km of these paved. Most of these roads have shown varying degrees of distresses in the form of cracking, rutting, deformation, bond failure, etc. Thus, adequate consideration should be given to road deterioration and failure in several

"Nigeria's economy is highly dependent on road transportation system in the absence of effective railroad and water transportation systems to facilitate the haulage of people, goods and services."

roads in the country. Over the last few years, the Federal Government of Nigeria has made

tremendous efforts in developing and improving the road network to enable efficient development of the country's infrastructure. In order to secure and preserve such valuable assets, timely and appropriate maintenance/rehabilitation interventions must take place. In spite of these, many Nigerian roads are still in bad state. But you see, in addition to the development of new road network, both maintenance and rehabilitation activities and the design of new roads will continue and will require reliable traffic load and construction materials data.

All these issues were discussed in the Paper presented at the COREN Engineering Assembly. The paper identified the major cause(s) of road pavement failures using the Enugu-Port Harcourt expressway as a case study. Maybe I should mention here that NBRRI conducted an in-depth study of the Enugu-Port Harcourt Expressway which is one of the strategic roads in the eastern part of Nigeria. This research work, which was sponsored by NBRRI Endowment Fund for Building and Road Research that is managed by the S. O. Fadahunsi (Housing) Foundation, came out with many outcomes which were presented in the Paper. It identified several failure patterns and causes of the prevalent failure on the road.

Some of the failure patterns observed on the Enugu-Port Harcourt expressway included High traffic volume of overloaded heavy vehicles, Excessive axle loading, Use of poor construction materials, Poor sub-grade soils, Poor/lack of

adequate drainage system, Inadequate/lack of Maintenance, Inappropriate Routine/Periodic maintenance carried out unprofessionally by untrained personnel, and Poor supervision of road pavement construction. These causes of road failure that I have just enumerated are engineering problems and they require engineering solutions.

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they require engineering solutions.

In fact, one of the critical issues which the Paper highlighted was the need to review existing operational maintenance strategies of our roads in Nigeria. You see, the maintenance of roads should commence immediately a road is open to traffic. This will prevent the development of cracks on the road. Even when pavement cracks are noticed, appropriate maintenance schedules should be carried out in order to checkmate it and prevent it from further deterioration. Furthermore, it noted the prevalence of excessive axle loading of the road. By this I mean that there were many overloaded vehicles plying the road. That is the road is being overloaded beyond the design specifications. The Paper also emphasized the need for effective enforcement of the axle load regulation not only for this road but for other major roads in Nigeria in order to reduce the rapid rate of road deterioration.

"In fact, one of the critical issues which the Paper highlighted was the need to review existing operational maintenance strategies of our roads in Nigeria. You see, the maintenance of roads should commence immediately a road is open to traffic."

NBRRI NEWSLETTER: Sir, can you give us a brief overview of the relevance of Nigerian Engineers in curbing the incidence of road pavement failure in Nigeria?

Dr. C. C. Osadebe: By Nigerian Engineers, you mean a trained and registered member of COREN! Roads are constructed by Engineers, based on standards and if these standards are not adhered to

"You can see from this year's theme which is 'Accelerating National Development: The Role of the Engineering profession in Nigeria' that the commitment of COREN to national development is not in doubt."

in the design and construction of roads by registered engineers, it will lead to road failure. This will have great consequences on national economy. More often than not, non-professionals who obviously did not have the requisite training are sometimes involved in the design and construction of roads. The consequence is that roads experience early defects due to the use of poor construction materials, poor drainage design, etc. Similarly, engineers provide the needed supervision during the construction phase in order to ensure compliance with specifications and design.

NBRI NEWSLETTER: What advice do you have for the body based on your assessment of the event, as a means of moving Nigeria forward through COREN?

Dr. C. C. Osadebe: The Engineering Assembly is an annual event of COREN that brings practitioners and intellectuals in the engineering field together with the aim of evaluating and discussing issues of mutual interest relating to the engineering profession, in order to achieve the desired standards of practice for accelerated national infrastructural development. The 22nd Engineering Assembly was specially structured to include plenary technical sessions, syndicate meetings of professional Associations and Engineering family forum. The Assembly was attended by over four thousand participants, including engineers, technologists, technicians, craftsmen, etc.

You can see from this year's theme which is 'Accelerating

National Development: The Role of the Engineering profession in Nigeria' that the commitment of COREN to national development is not in doubt. Even the Papers presented were thought provoking. As a forum for renowned and experienced engineers to exchange ideas with others, the Engineering Assembly provides the platform to

address common areas where engineers should effectively contribute to issues of national infrastructural development.

However, I believe that the body should proffer solutions to the dismal performance of the economy of the country and deficient economic structure in order to promote workable enterprise culture. It is also necessary to invite and ensure the presence of policy makers and politicians at various levels of government and other stakeholders relevant to the chosen theme of the annual Engineering Assembly, to come and listen to papers delivered for the purpose of conveying the recommendations to the appropriate quarters for implementation. Moreover, it is important for COREN to ensure that the Communiqué and resolutions from the two-day meeting be brought to the attention of relevant technocrats and government functionaries for implementation.

In addition, COREN Disciplinary Tribunal should be empowered to carry out the issue of discipline on erring members or companies in an appropriate manner and this important assignment should be carried out with all the seriousness that it deserves.

Over the last few years, the Federal Government of Nigeria has made tremendous efforts in developing and improving the road network to enable efficient development of the country's infrastructure. In order to secure and preserve such valuable assets, timely and appropriate maintenance/rehabilitation interventions must take place. In spite of these, many Nigerian roads are still in bad state.

PLATEAU STATE COMMISSIONER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY VISITS NBRI

The Plateau State Commissioner of Science & Technology, **Professor Mrs. Comfort Piwuna**, paid a courtesy visit to the Administrative Headquarters of the Nigerian Building & Road Research Institute, in Jabi, Abuja.

Welcoming the Honourable Commissioner to the Institute, the Director-General/Chief Executive Officer, Professor Danladi Matawal, gave a brief on the vision, mission, mandate, activities and achievements of the Institute.

Speaking on the mandate of NBRI, Prof. Matawal said the last two years has witnessed an increase in the activities of the Institute as Management and Staff work towards actualizing most of its mandates. He disclosed to the Commissioner that NBRI currently has three Zonal Offices located in Newi, Lagos and Kano; but that in order to bring NBRI innovations and technologies closer to the people and to all areas of Nigeria, NBRI is

opening three additional Zonal Offices. With this all the Geo-political zones of the country would have been covered. The Honourable Commissioner was informed that one of the new Zonal Offices is situated in Jos, Plateau State to cater for the North –Central Geo-political Zone. The DG/CEO said the essence of opening these Zonal offices is to enable more Nigerians benefit from the innovations and services of NBRI. He therefore urged the Plateau State Government to take advantage of the presence of the Institute in the State for the overall development of its construction industry.

Professor Matawal further revealed that NBRI has embarked on comprehensive programme to promote its various technological innovations via the

construction of demonstration projects on Skills Acquisition Centres (SAC) in different locations across the Country. He explained that the Centres will be built using NBRI technologies such as the interlocking bricks and blocks. The Honourable Commissioner was further informed that one of the locations where the Skills Acquisition Centre is being built in Bokkos, Plateau State.

The DG also told his guest that NBRI is currently venturing into alternative cement production using

agro-industrial wastes; and that a Pilot Pozzolana Cement Plant that uses clay pozzolan as raw material, was under construction in NBRI National Laboratory Complex in Ota. He further elaborated that the project which is at the completion stage is meant to give Nigerians options in cement materials for their construction activities. Speaking further on the pozzolana project, Prof. Matawal revealed that there are plans to set up other Pilot Pozzolana

Cement Plants using specific raw materials. He informed the Honourable Commissioner that NBRI has plans to set up a pilot plant in Plateau State that will use volcanic ash as its raw materials. He thanked the State Commissioner for coming and wished her well in all endeavors.

Responding, Professor (Mrs.) Comfort Piwuna, appreciated the warm reception accorded her in the Institute; saying from what she has seen, NBRI is moving towards the right direction.

The commissioner said she is on a working visit to NBRI and other parastatals under the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology to explore areas in which Plateau State can benefit from the S&T family.

Continued on page 25



DG NBRI, Prof. Matawal presenting some Technical Documents to Plateau State Comm. of Sc & Tech, Prof. Comfort Piwuna

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY VISITS NBRI

The House Committee on Science & Technology led by its Chairman, Hon. Isiaq Abiodun Akinlade visited the National Laboratory Complex, of the Nigerian Building & Road Research Institute, NBRI, Ota, Ogun State, as part of the Committee's oversight function on 8th July, 2013.

The Director-General/Chief Executive Officer of the Institute, Prof. Danladi Matawal was on ground to welcome the Lawmakers and conduct them round the Complex.



DG NBRI, Prof Matawal explaining some details to the Chairman, House Committee on S&T, Hon. Akinlade

The Committee's visit was to evaluate the performance of the 2012 budget allocation and also assess the level of release for 2013 budget and the progress of work done with the releases so far.

Prof. D. S. Matawal explained to the Lawmakers how monies have been spent and the performance till date. He took the lawmakers round the Institute's ongoing projects such as the Skill Acquisition Centre and the Pilot Pozzolana Cement Plant, both of which are at their completion stages. The DG/CEO used the opportunity to inform the lawmakers that before the end of the year, the Institute's Pilot Pozzolana Cement Plant will become operational and Nigerians will have access to alternative cement, also known as NBRI Cement.

The House Committee further visited the Institute's Engineering Materials Research Workshop bays where new innovations like the production of NBRI tiles made from broken bottles, locally made roofing sheets, Mador tiles, Pattern mould production for roofing sheets, production of gear

box for NBRI pedestrian roller compactor, etc. were on display for the attention of the Law makers. After an extensive assessment of the Institute and its on-going projects, the Law makers settled to view a mini documentary covering the mandate, achievements, past leadership and current activities of the Institute.

In response to the budget performance, Hon. Akinlade and other members of the Committee expressed satisfaction over the level of work being done by the Institute. They commended the level of commitment by the DG/CEO and his Management team towards research and implementation of its budget. The members of the House Committee on Science & Technology noted that the Institutes has embarked on a lot of new but beneficial projects which has potential to revolutionise the Nigerian construction industry. They promised to continue to render the necessary assistance to the Institute in the discharge of its mandate especially in ensuring that adequate provision of fund is made in the actualization of its goals and objectives.

AHCN SET TO IMPROVE BETTER HOUSING FOR NIGERIANS



A cross-section of Participants at the AHCN Conference/AGM

The Association of Housing Corporations of Nigeria, AHCN, held its 90th Council Meeting/41st Annual General Meeting, AGM, at Owerri in Imo State. At the gathering, members resolved to work assiduously to improve the housing situation in the country.

A 2-day National Workshop was held within the week-long event. The Workshop was a brainstorming session with the Theme **Effective Housing Provision in Post Global Economic Meltdown; Repositioning the housing sector for effective housing delivery**. The objective of the workshop was to reassess the development of the housing sector with a view to proffering and formulating workable options for effective solution to the problem of housing deficit in Nigeria, especially through effective housing delivery strategies to reposition the sector for better performance.

Several papers were presented during the National Workshop. Highlights of the critical Papers delivered at the Workshop are presented herein. One of the papers titled *Activating the new Pension Fund and Insurance Fund for Real Estate Development* was delivered by Dr. I. E. Chukwujekwu, the immediate past President of AHCN. He enumerated some of the problems militating against the housing sector as lack of political will, lack of commitment to investment in housing and lack of holistic approach to housing matters, giving rise to lack of finance, high cost of building materials and high infrastructural development cost. He also highlighted other factors posing as impediments in the housing sector. Among the points raised, the paper presenter singled out housing finance as the most critical problem facing

the housing sector. In proffering solutions, the presenter opined that there is need to create alternative housing finance through accumulated pension funds, insurance funds, unclaimed dividends as well as untapped funds such as legal contributions from Financial Institutions to National Housing Fund (NHF) with good planning, commitment and political will to provide shelter for the people, if properly harnessed into real estate development.

The paper presented by the Federal Housing Authority (FHA) on *Effective Public Private Partnership (PPP) for Mass Housing: Exploring Synergy between Federal Ministry of Lands, Housing & Urban Development* was another paper that elicited robust discussions amongst participants. The presenter opined that PPP is a veritable tool of qualitative, efficient and effective mass housing delivery in a global economic recession and enjoined the three tiers of Government and Housing Agencies to be proactive and take advantage of the PPP to increase housing stock in Nigeria.

The Director-General/Chief Executive Officer of the Nigerian Building & Road Research Institute, Prof. D. S. Matawal who was represented by Bldr. Hafizu Ilyasu Wali, presented a paper titled *NBRII and Housing Agencies Perspective for new Partnership*. The paper emphasized the importance of mutual working relationship between the public and private sector (Developers) as an important tool towards development of all housing schemes. He reiterated the need for effective communication and modern transport system as tool to avert over-centralization and over-crowding as generally observed in satellite towns. He further opined that the scope of developmental projects undertaken by entrepreneurs should increase from encouraging traditional housing projects to condominium buildings, towering commercial complexes, shopping malls, state-of-the-art golf courses, hospitals, theme parks and industrial estates. The paper also highlighted the breakthroughs in building materials development, bringing about reduction in cost of housing production through the use of local building materials; and calls on Government to take the lead and create awareness, sensitize and encourage people to embrace NBRII technologies in housing production, especially among rural dwellers.

PROF. D. S. MATAWAL INDUCTED AS FELLOW, NIGERIAN ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING

The engineering profession has a rich and growing tradition in Nigeria. Associations and Professional bodies in the field of engineering are useful for the professional self-development of engineers. Such organizations in addition, provide opportunities for networking with other members of the profession and more so, with other professional bodies both within Nigeria and internationally for the benefit of the engineering profession and the country.

On the 21st of June 2013, the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute had a rare privilege and opportunity as its Director-General/CEO, Professor Danladi Slim Matawal was inducted as a Fellow into the prestigious Nigerian Academy of Engineering. The event, which witnessed the induction of eleven other eminent engineers, an Annual lecture and Life Achievement Awards to eminent members, took place at the Main Auditorium of the University of Lagos.

In his Opening Address at the occasion, the President of the Academy, Prof. Ayodele Francis Ogunye pointed out that Fellows of the academy are distinguished Nigerians who have excelled in the field of Engineering. He added that the fellowship of the Nigerian Academy of Engineering is the highest award given to any career engineer in Nigeria. The President lamented that, even with the induction of the twelve new Fellows of the Academy which included the DG/CEO of NBRII, Nigeria would still be parading less than a hundred fellows, trailing far behind the United States of America (USA), United Kingdom (UK), Canada, Korea and other developed nations. He challenged the Engineers to braze up with the challenges of their profession in order to increase productivity in the country and gain prominence in the Academy and the engineering profession.

Before the Induction proper, the Academy Annual Lecture with the theme *Engineering Opportunities and Challenges related to Producing a Broad Range of Polymer Products from Oil and Gas* by Prof. Emeritus, Wills Harmon Ray of the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA, who was absent due to ill-

health was ably delivered on his behalf by Prof. Babatunde Ogunaike. The Paper highlighted in a nutshell the varied benefits and processes of polymer production. It noted that Nigeria's oil and gas sector is capable of producing sufficient polymer products of varied ranges; and emphasized that Nigeria can successfully achieve polymer production processes that allow expansion of processing variety and larger volume of products for both domestic use and export, especially to all the West Africa sub-region. The paper stated that "there are well regarded and successful polymer production processes available for license that could be installed in Nigeria to take advantage of the large volume of inexpensive oil, gas and refined products available locally." It concluded that it was high time Nigeria discontinued the importation of polymer products.

Responding to questions posed by participants on the possible health hazards inherent in using polymer products, especially for domestic utensils and products such as table water, soft drinks containers and other related items; Prof. Ogunaike noted that there is the possibility of such health related hazards. Citing the example of using nylon for wrapping local delicacies, such as moi-moi, solid pap, he took notice of the fear nursed by the local people; he however opined that options are available for those who are afraid of using polymer. "However, we should realize that new developments have their challenges, but from time immemorial, when problems occur as a result of new innovations, there are always solutions", he said.

The event also witnessed the conferment of 'Life Achievement Award' to three eminent members of the Academy regarded as elders in the profession with unique track records. They recipients were Prof. Gabriel A. Makanjuola, Engr. Guy Eboe Otobo and Prof. Sikiru Adebayo Sanni.

While inducting the new Fellows, citations were read. Receiving the award, Prof. Matawal pledged to abide by the rules and regulations governing the Academy and promised to use his position to promote and strengthen the activities of the Academy for the overall socio-economic development of the Country.

OLOTA OF OTA CELEBRATES 16TH YEAR ON THE THRONE

In August 2013, the town of Ota in Ogun State went agog when the reigning King of Ota town, His Royal Highest, Oba Moshood Adetoro Alani Oyede celebrated his 16th year on the throne. The 16th Anniversary was marked in a grand style and was witnessed by eminent personalities in the State as well as the entire Ota community.

Ota, where the National Laboratory Complex of the Nigerian Building and Road research Institute (NBRII) is located, is a sprawling and fast growing industrial town in Ogun State, Nigeria. The Olot of Ota is the traditional title and ceremonial/sovereign head of the town. He is also called the Oba, Kabiyesi, Alayeluwa. As a crowned ruler, the Olot of Ota is well respected in the State and enjoys the support of his subjects, opinion and political leaders as well as the Ogun State Government.

His Royal Highness, Oba Moshood Adetoro Alani Oyede is 69 years old and was crowned the Olot of Ota on the 2nd of August 1997 as the 13th Oba of Ota (Aworiland).

Born to a very modest family who had to battle with infant mortality that was so rampant in those days, His Royal highness, Oba Alani Oyede had his primary education at the St. James Anglican School, Ota from 1950 – 1957; then proceeded to Ansar-Ur-deen Teacher Training College, Ota from 1960 – 1961 and later to the African Church Teacher Training College, Ota from 1965 – 1969. There, he obtained his first School Leaving Certificate, Grade II and Grade III Certificates respectively. His brilliant performances at the GCE O/A levels facilitated his admission into the renowned University of Ibadan, Nigeria, where he studied and graduated with Bachelor of Arts (Hons) degree in French and Linguistic in 1974. In pursuance of his French course, he went to University de Nice in France where he obtained the pre-requisite Diploma D'êtres Francais (3e degree). The compulsory

National Youth Service Corps programme which he participated in took him to Ganye in the then North Eastern State, now Adamawa State.

His passion for the teaching profession, which he started in 1962, made him disregard other lucrative jobs and professions at a time of Nigeria's history where plum jobs often awaited fresh University graduates. He later became the Principal of the remodeled Ansar-Ur-Deen Comprehensive College from 1989 to December 1986 when he voluntarily retired from service. In his many years as a seasoned educationist and School Administrator, (a principal), he was regarded as "the voice of wisdom" especially to those who had the privilege to cross his path in life. He was an individual whose voice always made meaning and impacts on people at any given time. He spent most of his active career life as a teacher for more than three decades and did not regret quitting the stage when the ovation was loudest for him.



OLOTA OF OTA

His Royal Highness, Oba Oyede is a man of great virtue, an orator of redefined character, a man of great simplicity, eloquent, amiable, sincere and trustworthy. Under his reign, Ota town experienced tremendous socio-economic growth and became a toast of several industrial companies, secular and non-secular organisations which set up their factories and offices in the town and its environ. The DG/CEO of NBRII and his Management staff has over the years had good rapport and cordial interactions with HRH. He is indeed a great gift to the entire community of the Aworiland in particular and Nigeria in general.

NBRII Newsletter and indeed the Director-General, Management and Staff of the Nigerian Building & Road Research Institute, NBRII wholeheartedly congratulate HRH Oba Alani Moshood Oyede on his 16th Year on the throne; and wish him a long reign on the throne. May you live long and may your reign continue to be peaceful and filled with landmark achievements. As the Yorubas will pray, **Ki ade pe lori, Ki bata pe lese – Ase.**

SPORTING ACTIVITIES RESUSCITATED IN NBRI

Health is wealth. This is a common saying. And for those who have understood its importance will try to keep them fit. Physical fitness is of utmost importance for everyone, both young and old. This can be achieved by engaging in sporting activities; which leads to sustenance of good health, physical fitness, freedom from ailments of various types, among others. It also engenders friendship and unity among participants; happier, healthier and more productive lives.

In line with the above facts, the Management of the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRI) revived its sporting activities which had been in limbo for many years. For effectiveness, NBRI Staff in the Administrative Headquarters in Abuja and the National Laboratory Complex, Ota are encouraged and mobilized to simultaneously participate in the monthly jogging exercise organized by the Institute. The event commenced in

August, 2013 and holds on the third Saturday of every month.

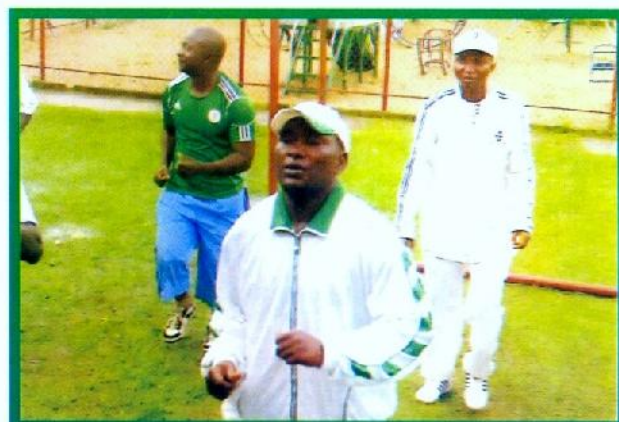
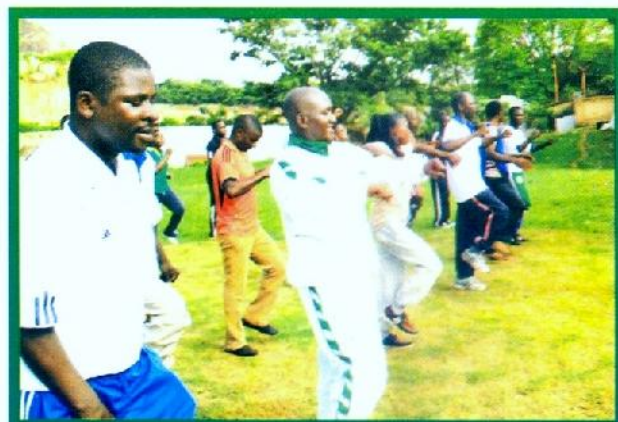
Apart from the monthly jogging exercise, the Institute has taken steps to institutionalize sporting activities amongst its workforce. Consequently NBRI demonstrated its commitment with the provision of sporting equipment for the following Sports: football, volleyball, dart, scrabble, chess and draft, among others.

Furthermore, the Institute is has commenced preparations for participation in the forth-coming Research Institute Games Association of Nigeria, (RIGAN) Games festival scheduled for Lagos, Nigeria. These are being coordinated under the Chairman of NBRI Sports Club, Mr. Amos Tabe, a Principal Admin Officer in the Institute.

Some pictures of work out sessions are presented in the Photo Reel presented below.

Some pictures of work out sessions





NBRII COOPERATIVE MULTIPURPOSE SOCIETY HOLDS AGM



Mr. Ralph Menegbe
Immediate Past NBRII CMS President

The Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRII) Staff Cooperative Multipurpose Society (CMS) held its 17th Annual General Meeting on Thursday 22nd August, 2013 at the Conference Hall of NBRII National Laboratory Complex, Ota. The AGM, tagged "Ota 2013", was to review the year 2012 Annual Report, accounts and activities of the Society.

In his speech at the occasion christened "A New Dawn", the President of NBRII Staff CMS Management Committee, Mr. Ralph Menegbe welcomed members to the meeting and thanked all for their cooperation to the exco. He said the massive progress made by the Society in the last four years (i.e. since 2009) was largely due to positive criticisms and support from members, adding that membership of the society increased to over two hundred and fifty within the year under review.

On the financial state of the society, the President said the revenue base has quadrupled as monthly income from loans and members' contribution showed significant growth. He noted that several members have joined the exclusive NBRII CMS millionaires club as their contributions have reached

and surpassed the million naira mark; and announced that a reward has been set aside for those who hit the million Naira mark in the society.

Mr. Menegbe also said that for transparency and accountability, an independent supervisory committee was set up to go through the records of the activities of the Executives and report its findings to the members; noting that this move is aimed at ensuring high level of financial discipline by the Executive.

On loans, the President said the Exco implemented the decision of the last AGM to extend loan repayment period from 18 months to 24 months and this has given members greater opportunity to access more fund and flexibility to pay back at a more convenient rate. The President further noted that the Society has been able to assist its members to meet up with basic and life changing challenges, while many have obtained facilities to build houses, buy cars and open new businesses. He also said more and more members are now showing interest in the running of the society.

Speaking further, on the issue of land, Mr. Menegbe said, members were able to purchase land through the CMS, adding that members that have not benefited will soon be, as efforts are on to secure more land. He prayed that one day every member would be a landlord in Abuja, Ota and other parts of the country.

Mr. Menegbe who stated that this was his last address to the Society as their President, congratulated the in-coming Executive and urged members to extend the same support and corporation to them.

Other highpoints of the AGM included the Reading and Adoption of the Book keepers Report, Dissolution of the Executive Committee, Ratification of the Election of new Executive Committee and presentation of Gifts and Awards to the deserving members and goodwill messages.

NEW OFFICIALS EMERGE FOR NBRRI COOPERATIVE MULTI-PURPOSE SOCIETY

A new executive for NBRRI Staff Cooperative Multipurpose Society (CMS) has emerged. In the elections held simultaneously in Ota and Abuja offices of NBRRI, Mr. Kehinde Arabi emerged as the new President while Mr. Oyadosu Segun became the new Vice President. Also, Mr. Yakubu Garba was elected as the Treasurer while Mr. Aderoke Akinpelu emerged as the new General Secretary. Mrs. Nike Afon is the new Financial Secretary to be assisted by Mr. Diji Nduka, while Mr. Amos Sule is the Assistant General Secretary.



Mr. Kehinde Arabi,
Current President CMS

In the acceptance speech, the new President, Mr. Kehinde Arabi thanked the members for electing him

and other executives. He also congratulated the outgoing executive for improving the Society during its tenure. Mr. Arabi promised that he will continue to build on the successes recorded by past administrations of the Society and initiate new packages that will further better the lot of cooperators.

Earlier, the out-going President of the NBRRI CMS, Mr. Ralph Menegbe charged his successor to be a President for all and be willing to listen to members. He also urged the new executives to try and balance members' interest with the overall interest and wellbeing of the Society as well as work with all stakeholders including the Lagos State Cooperative Society's Officials, Society's Bookkeepers and the Institute's Management.

NEW EXCO FOR NBRRI COOPERATIVE MULTI-PURPOSE SOCIETY

Mr. Kehinde Arabi	-----	President
Mr. Oyadosu Segun	-----	Vice President
Mr. Yakubu Garba	-----	Treasurer
Mr. Aderoke Akinpelu	-----	General Secretary
Mr. Amos Sule	-----	Assistant General Secretary
Mrs. Nike Afon	-----	Financial Secretary
Mr. Diji Nduka	-----	Assistant Financial Secretary

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She expressed delight that NBRRI has chosen Jos, as its north-central Zonal Office, saying that this development will bring the Institute and its technologies to the State and environs. Prof. Piwuna was equally delighted for the construction of a Skill Acquisition Center in Plateau State, and pledged that the State Government will partner with NBRRI to ensure that the facility is put into good use for the empowerment of the people.

She noted that the entire State will also be looking

forward to the construction of the Pozzolana pilot plant in the Plateau; saying that all necessary cooperation will be extended to NBRRI when the project comes on board.

The State commissioner urged her host to continue the good work he has started in NBRRI and called on Management and Staff to join hands and take the Institute to higher heights.

BIRTHDAYS

The Management and Staff of the Institute felicitate with the underlisted staff as they mark another year. **NBRII Newsletter** Wishes all bounteous blessings of God, long life and prosperity.

S/N	NAMES	DATE OF BIRTH	DEPT.
1	EGEGE CHIMEZIRI C.	1 ST JULY	RRD
2	IBRAHIM SOLOMON	1 ST JULY	EMRD
3	OKOI Y. JOSEPH	3 RD JULY	CES
4	AYEGBA M. OJOBANE	5 TH JULY	RRD
5	OGWU A. ANGELA	5 TH JULY	CES
6	METU FRANCISCA U.	8 TH JULY	EMRD
7	DANJUMA GOLESH A.	9 TH JULY	BRD
8	UMANA IKOUWEM I.	10 TH JULY	EMRD
9	KPANAKI MARTINS	14 TH JULY	BRD
10	GBEMI FAMUYIDE	14 TH JULY	A/F
11	OTOIDE E.D	16 TH JULY	BRD
12	MBASO EBELE	17 TH JULY	EMRD
13	MARGARET EBEAGU	17 TH JULY	PIT
14	CHIOMA ERIIROGU	17 TH JULY	A/F
15	EMOLE CHALSE U.	18 TH JULY	A/F
16	OCHI E.S	20 TH JULY	A/F
17	AGNES JOHNSON	20 TH JULY	A/F
18	EGBE SUNDAY E.	21 ST JULY	CES
19	AFON ADENIKE.	22 ND JULY	A/F
20	ADEKUNLE AMINAT O.	23 RD JULY	EMRD
21	BALA IBRAHIM	24 TH JULY	A/F
22	IBRAHIM SAMUEL	27 TH JULY	PITD
23	ABU Yakubu	4 TH AUG	PITD
24	AKINMADE DANIEL	8 TH AUG.	RRD
25	OGBOJI F. A	8 TH AUG	PITD
26	AGALA J. NDUBUISI	15 TH AUG.	RRD
27	EDWIN EZEH C.	15 TH AUG.	A/F
28	ADEKUNLE ADEBAYO	19 TH AUG	A/F
29	INOH AUGUSTINE G.	20 TH AUG.	CES
30	ISAH A. KATAGUM	20 TH AUG.	RRD
31	AJODO GODSPOWER	20 TH AUG.	CES
32	OKI GBENGA	22 nd AUG	BRD
33	ONOJA PATRICK O.	24 TH AUG.	A/F
34	WALI HAFISU	25 TH AUG.	CES
35	AKAPSON HABILASARATU	26 TH AUG.	RRD
36	ANANSO GEORGINA .N	26 th AUG	BRD
37	OKPPANACHI JOHN A.	29 TH AUG.	CES
38	ARUNA FRANCIS	2 ND SEPT	A/F
39	FRANCIS .O AITSEBAOMO	2 ND SEPT	A/F
40	QUADRI H. ADEDEJI	4 TH SEPT	RRD
41	BASSEY ESSIEN	5 TH SEPT.	DG's Office
42	MAKAVA DANIEL	6 TH SEPT.	PIT
43	IKONG A. PIUS	7 TH SEPT	RRD



Mr. Adebayo Olaifa of Engineering Materials Dept. Ota had a baby girl, **Isabel Iteoluwa Olaoluwa** on 10th Sept. 2013.



Mrs. Adebimpe Dokunmu of Planning and Information Technology Department, Ota was blessed with a baby boy, **Dokunmu Daniel Tinuola.** on 6th of April 2013



Mr. Ibrahim Mohammed of Admin and Finance Department, Abuja was blessed with a baby boy, **Mohammed Danjuma Mohammed** on 13th September, 2013.

BIRTHDAYS

44	UDO GABRIEL	9 TH SEPT	BRD
45	OGHELE EMMANUEL	13 TH SEPT.	A/F
46	OKOUGH A YEMERE F.	13 TH SEPT	RRD
47	DANIELS ANDREA	15 TH SEPT.	A/F
48	MOHAMMED A.L	16 TH SEPT	BRD
49	ABDULGAFAR A.L.	16 TH SEPT.	PIT
50	ROSE ALI	19 TH SEPT.	A/F
51	MAPIS ABIGAIL D.	20 TH SEPT.	A/F
52	SALIFU BLESSED U.	20 TH SEPT	BRD
53	ADEWALE ADEFOLARIN K.	20 TH SEPT	PITD
54	SYLVIA WAIVE	22 ND SEPT.	A/F
55	IZABI H. A	22 ND SEPT	BRD
56	OKO E. JOHN	23 RD SEPT	A/F
57	YISA GODWIN L.	24 TH SEPT	BRD
58	IKPI COSMOS O.	24 TH SEPT.	A/F
59	INYANG MILLICENT	25 TH SEPT	RRD
60	NWANNENNA OLACHI C.	26 TH SEPT	A/F
61	CINFWAT ZAKKA	26 TH SEPT.	CES
62	YAHAYA BABATUNDE	26 TH SEPT	EMRD
63	BABA YERIMA A.	27 TH SEPT.	BRD
64	EGWU MICHAEL	29 TH SEPT.	A/F
65	NWADINOBI NNEKA E.	30 TH SEPT	EMRD



Josephine was undoubtedly in high heavens with excitement as she said "Yes I do" to her heart throb, Mr Adeyemi Adeyinka, also a staff of the Institute with the Road Research Department. The event took place on Saturday 3rd August, 2013 at Lokoja, Kogi State. **NBRII Newsletter** Wishes the latest NBRII couple, Mr. & Mrs. Adeyemi Adeyinka, and indeed all other married couples mentioned in this edition, a blissful and fruitful union. *Happy married life.*

MARRIAGE



Mr. Martins Esuga Kpanaki of Road Research department, Ota got married to former Miss Ruth Iye Adejoh on 14th Sept., 2013.



Mr. Daniel Akinmade of Road Research Department, Abuja got married to former Miss Bunmi Abimbola Makinde on 14th Sept., 2013.

It was indeed a joyous moment when the entire Public Relations Section of the Institute joined one of her own to celebrate the conjugal bliss of former Miss Josephine Mimido Legogie, the Public Relations Officer at the Ota Office.

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS SEEK SYNERGY WITH NBRRRI



Prof. D. S. Matawal, DG/CEO, NBRRRI (5th from left) in a group photo with some Management team of NBRRRI and the team from South Africa

Institute, intimated them of the achievements and challenges the Institute is facing on national infrastructural issues such as building collapses, road failure; and on efforts made by NBRRRI in addressing them.

He further informed the visitors that currently, the Institute is

The Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRRRI) recently played host to a team of Consultants from South Africa who were on a working visit to the Institute. The team comprising of Graham Wellsted and Simon COETZEE, Consultants for Growth and Employment in States (GEMS2), were accompanied by the current General Secretary of Real Estate Development Association of Nigeria (REDAN), Bldr. Yunusa Shuaibu and the immediate past General Secretary, Builder Anthony Okwa.

engrossed in evolving a training scheme to improve the skills of artisans and craftsmen; as well as in developing an effective curriculum for this.

In his introductory address, Builder Okwa affirmed that the visit was necessitated as a result of the cordial/existing relationship between REDAN and NBRRRI. He said the team is focusing on the construction of real estates in which quality will be assured and employment generated. He reiterated that they were in the Institute to acquire first-hand information and explore possible areas of partnership especially in the area of how to improve on performance of NBRRRI machines for building materials production; build capacity and provide technical support. He said, the team is at the moment engaged in different activities in four States of the Federation. These are: Lagos, Kaduna, Kano and the Federal Capital Territory.

Prof. Matawal assured the team of the Institute's interest and zeal to partner with and learn from the experience of the Consultants, more so as they are engaged in construction-related activities in four States of the Federation.

Graham Wellsted informed the DG/CEO and his Management team that GEMS2 is a development programme supporting job and income growth for the poor in the construction and real estate sector. It is funded by the UK Department For International Development (DFID) and managed by the World Bank.

Responding, the Director-General/CEO of NBRRRI, Professor Matawal welcomed the team to the



Prof. D.S. Matawal, DG/CEO NBRRRI conducting the team from South Africa round NBRRRI Materials Testing Laboratory in Abuja.