



# NBRRI

## NEWSLETTER

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The Quarterly Newsletter of the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute

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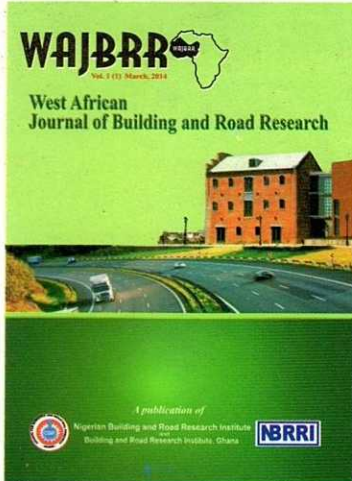
**...ARC. MIKE ONOLEMEMEN,**  
MINISTER OF WORKS



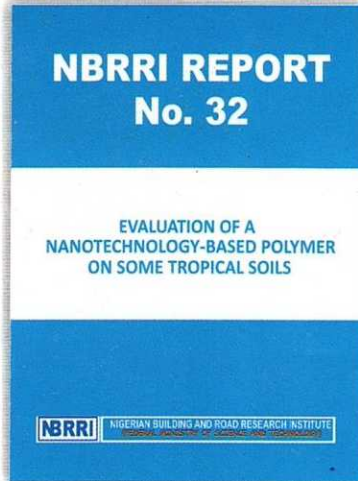
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**....MRS. WINIFRED OYO-ITA,**  
Permanent Secretary, FMST

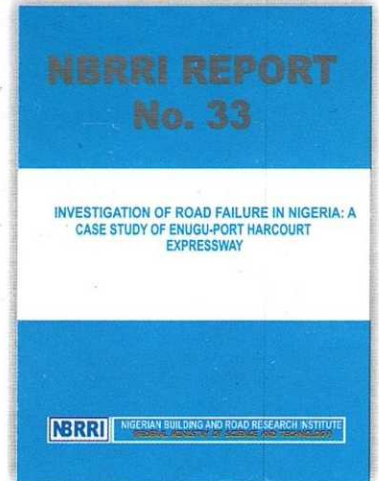
# NEW NBRRI PUBLICATIONS



West African Journal of Building and Road Research, Vol. 1 (1), March 2014, 84 pages



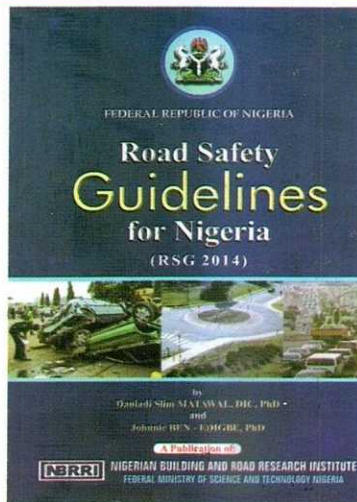
NBRRI REPORT No. 32: Evaluation of a Nanotechnology-Based Polymer on some Tropical Soils



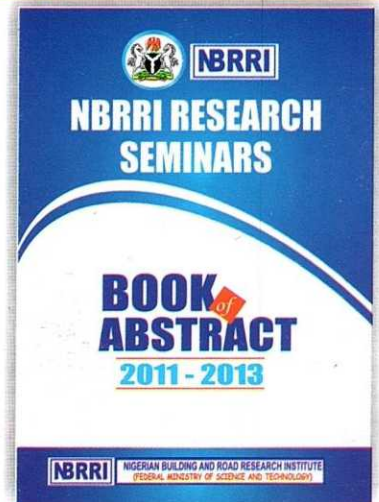
NBRRI REPORT No. 33: Investigation of Road Failure in Nigeria- A Case Study of Enugu-Port Harcourt Expressway, 48pages



HOUSING SUMMIT 2014: Proceedings of International Conference on Achieving Affordable Housing in Nigeria, 221 pages



Road Safety Guidelines for Nigeria (RSG 2014), 240 pages



NBRRI Research Seminars: Book of Abstract (2012-2013), 15 Pages

## OTHER NBRRI PUBLICATIONS

- NBRRI TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 22:** Collaspe of Buildings in Nigeria: Technical Report on the Collaspe of a 2-Storey Building at Mararaba (Near Abuja), 22pages, Oct 2011
- NBRRI TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 23:** Collaspe of Buildings in Nigeria: Technical Report on the Collaspe at Adenubi Close, Ikeja , Lagos State, Nigeria, 19pages, Oct 2011
- NBRRI TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 24:** Preliminary Survey of some Limestone Deposits in Nigeria, 12 pages, April 2012.
- NBRRI TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 25:** Preliminary Survey of Some Clay Deposits in Nigeria, 8 pages, May 2012
- NBRRI TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 26:** Report on a Collapsed Building in Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria, 16pages, July 2012
- NBRRI TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 27:** Design and Fabrication of Water-Bitumen Spraying Machine, 16pages, July 2012
- NBRRI TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 28:** Design and Fabrication of Cube & Beam Moulds and Slump Cone Apparatus, 14 pages, June 2013
- NBRRI TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 29:** Collapse of Buildings in Nigeria- Analyses of Collapse of Two-Storey Building at Kubwa Extension III, 37pages, December 2012
- NBRRI TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 30:** Engineering Characteristics of Subgrade Soils of Kogi State, Nigeria Analyzed for Economic Pavement Design, 25pages, December 2012
- NBRRI TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 31:** Assessment of Speed Trends During Day-Time and Night-Time of Nigerian Drivers: A Case Study of Abuja Metropolis, 60 pages, May 2013

## EDITORIAL

The Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRII) has continued to be in the limelight and in the news. After the eventful and successful NBRII-organized International Housing Summit that took place in June 2014, NBRII has recorded other feathers to its cap. In collaboration with a Nigerian professor in the Diaspora, NBRII published a book on *Road Safety Guidelines (RSG) for Nigeria* - the first of its kind in Nigeria. The document, which was launched by Architect Mike Onolememe, the Honourable Minister of Works in September 2014, provided a series of technical guidelines for ensuring and playing complementary safety roles on Nigerian roads. The 240-page *RSG 2014* is a valuable document for Stakeholders in the Road sector especially Road Safety practitioners and relevant MDAs such as the Federal/State Ministries of Works, FRSC, FERMA, etc.

Likewise and at the same event, NBRII Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was inaugurated by the Hon. Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Abdu Bulama. The TAC which is made up of technocrats, professionals and experts from the construction sector in the academia, industry and public service, was a novel idea by NBRII to add value to, and encourage complementary inputs into its R&D activities for the benefit of the built environment, the construction industry and Nigeria at large. *NBRII Newsletter* was at the forum where these two unique events that drew the attention of two Honourable Ministers, took place; and now brings you highlights of the Events.

A key figure that has been very supportive of NBRII programs at the parent Federal Ministry of Science and Technology is the indefatigable, unassuming, calm but astute and articulate Permanent Secretary Mrs. Winifred Oyo-Ita, who has a penchant for hard work, performance and excellence. *NBRII Newsletter* placed this woman of integrity on the spot with an interview that gave an insight, beyond what it bargained for, into her background, her passion, her driving force, her activities at the FMST and home front. The interview is revealing and is as refreshing and rewarding as it is educative.

Also presented in this edition of *NBRII Newsletter* is NBRII continued efforts at developing quality Curriculum for the training of Artisans in various Trades in the construction industry. This effort is driven by the desire of NBRII to have quality Artisans in Nigeria, stem the importation of Artisans from neighboring countries and stop the attendant huge capital flight. The third phase of the Curriculum Development took place with the organization of a Workshop by NBRII which involved the participation of experienced Artisans in nine Trades, for incorporation into the Curriculum. The Draft Curriculum, which is being developed in line with global best practices, will be subjected to peer review before adoption by the appropriate organs. The highlights of these and other stories are succinctly presented in this edition of *NBRII Newsletter* for your information and pleasure. You are invited to read on and enjoy the menu

EDITOR

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### NBRII (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.

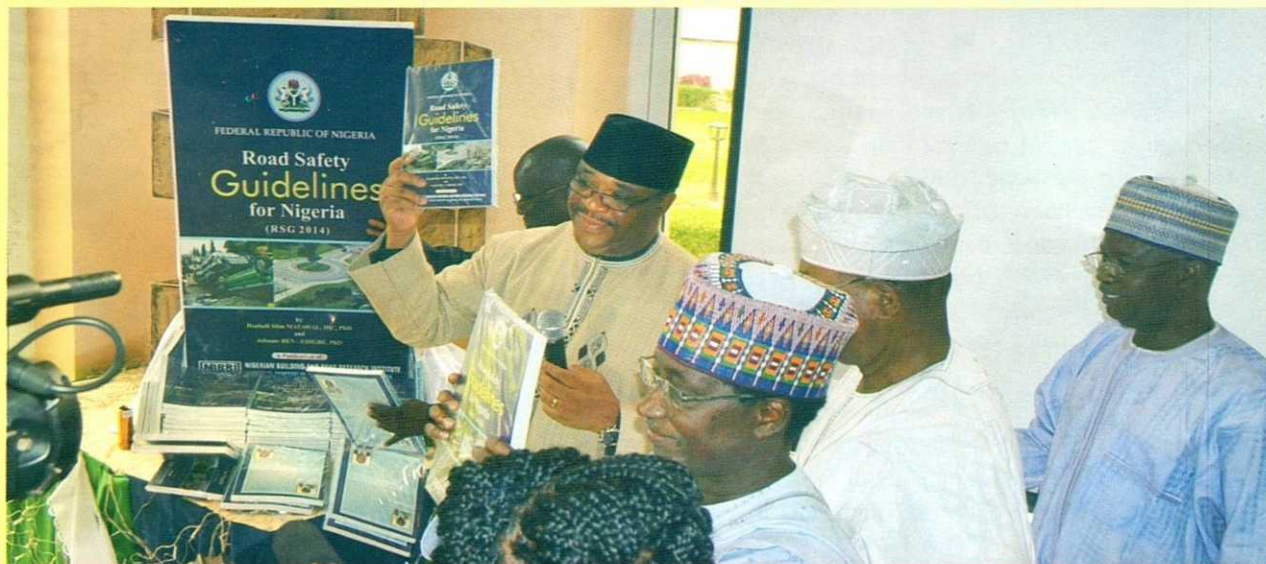
#### MISSION

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

# NBRI LAUNCHES ROAD SAFETY GUIDELINES AND INAUGURATES TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Honourable Minister of Works, Arc. Mike Onolememen launching the RSG 2014. He flanked by the Hon. Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Abdu Bulama and other dignitaries

The Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRI) made history on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2014 when it held a two-pronged event that had significant impact on the Nigerian construction industry. The first was the launch of a 240-page ROAD SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR NIGERIA (RSG 2014) which is a premier technical document prepared by NBRI to serve as guide in the promotion of Road Safety practices in Nigeria; while the second was the inauguration of a 13-member NBRI Technical Advisory Committee to provide technical backstop in advisory capacity on NBRI R&D programmes.

The well-attended event which took place at the Sandralia Hotel, Abuja, was graced by eminent personalities and organizations including the Chief Executives (or representatives) of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), the National Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), the Nigerian Navy, etc. as well as Mrs. Winifred Oyo-Ita, the Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology (FMST), Directors in the FMST, notable members of the academia and critical stakeholders in the Nigerian construction industry. Also present were two serving Honourable Ministers of the Federal Republic of Nigeria namely, Dr. Abdu Bulama, the Honourable Minister of Science and Technology who was the Chief

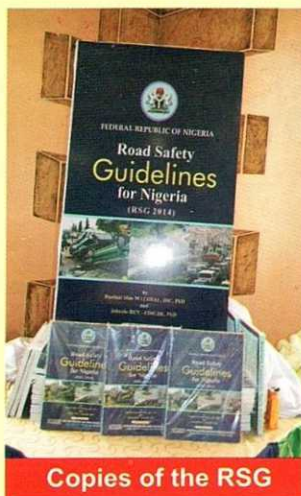
Host; and Arc. Mike Onolememen, the Honourable Minister of Works.

The Honorable Minister of Works, Architect Mike Onolememen, who was the Special Guest of Honour, unveiled and launched the 240-page *Road Safety Guidelines for Nigeria (RSG 2014)* while the Honorable Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Abdu Bulama inaugurated the *NBRI Technical Advisory Committee*.

Speaking at the event, the Minister of Works, Arc Onolememen applauded the vision of NBRI towards ensuring the safety of citizens on Nigerian roads; and noted that, the document properly aligns itself with the primary objective of the Federal Road Development project to reduce fatalities on Nigerian roads by 50% and improve safety level along selected Road Corridors.

On his part, the Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Abdu Bulama, while inaugurating the Technical Advisory Committee, noted that the FMST is proud of NBRI for spearheading, through its vibrancy in its R&D activities, the drive and growth of Research and Development as enshrined in the overall object of Nigeria's Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) policy.

Other notable speakers during the epoch making event included Mrs. Winifred Oyo-Ita, the Permanent



Copies of the RSG

*Continued on Page 5*

# MEET THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, DR. ABDU BULAMA



**DR. ABDU BULAMA**  
Hon. MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Hon. Minister of Science and Technology Dr. Abdul Bulama was born on 17<sup>th</sup> March 1953. He hails from Gujba of Yobe State. He had his secondary school career at the famous Barewa College, Zaria (1969

to 1973) and later attended the North-East College of Arts and Science, Maiduguri (1973 to 1975). From there, Dr. Bulama proceeded to the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria (1975 to 1978). Between 1980 and 1984, he attended the University of Liverpool.

Dr Abdul Bulama started his working career as a Lecturer with Ramat Polytechnic Maiduguri in the early 80's and rose to become the Head of the Science Laboratory Technology Department. He was later appointed the Chairman of Gujba Local Government Area in Yobe State. After completing this assignment,

Dr. Bulama returned to Ramat Polytechnic, Maiduguri; and in 1988, he was appointed the Provost of the Federal College of Education (Technical), Potiskum. In 1992, Dr. Bulama was appointed Rector of the Federal Polytechnic, Nasarawa where he served two terms. While holding this post, he was also assigned to oversee the Federal Polytechnic, Bida for almost two years.

Dr. Bulama served as the Resident Electoral Commissioner in several States of the Federation, namely Bauchi, Borno, FCT, Adamawa, Zamfara and Enugu States. Indeed he has the record of being the longest serving INEC commissioner from 2002 to 2010. In 2013, he was appointed as the Board Chairman of Sokoto River Basin Development Authority by Mr. President

Dr. Bulama, who holds the traditional title of Zanna Uyoma of Gujba, is a Fellow of Gray's International College of Science, Management and Information Technology. He was also a member of the National Conference 2014, representing North-East Geopolitical Zone.

Dr. Abdul Bulama was appointed the Honourable Minister of Science and Technology in 2014 by Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCFR, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

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Secretary, Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, and the Chairman, NBRI Governing Board, Chief Dele Okeya who gave the Welcome Address. There were

also goodwill messages from the Chief of Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Usman Jibril and the Commandant-General, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Dr. Ade Abolurin

## NBRI TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AT A GLANCE

S/N	NAME	Representation
1	Prof. Salihu Mustafa, FNSE, FAEng., FAS	Civil/NAE
2	Professor Raifu I. Salawu, FNSE, FAEng., FAS	Electrical/NAE
3	Professor TAI Akeju, FNSE, FAEng., FAS	Structural/NAE
4	Professor T. M. Aguara, FNSE, FAEng.	Highway/NAE
5	Professor I. K. Zubairu, FNIOB	Building
6	Dr. Mohammed Babagana, PhD	COREN Rep.
7	Engr Battah Yaga Ndirpaya, FNSE	NSE Rep.
8	Professor Natalie Anigbogu	Academic
9	Dr. Samson Duna, Ph.D.	Academic
10	Professor P. Ogunsote	Academic
11	Nig. Ass. of Small Scale Industrialists	Commercial
12	Mr. Rotimi Ayekanmi, Snr Correspondent	Media/Public
13	DG/CEO NBRI	Secretariat

Note: NAE-Nigerian Academy of Engineering; NSE-Nigerian Society of Engineering; COREN- Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria

## S&T MINISTER APPLAUDS NBRI FOR CONSTITUTING TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Honourable Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Abdu Bulama inaugurated NBRI Technical Advisory Committee at a well attended ceremony which took place on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2014 in Abuja. While addressing the gathering, the Honorable Minister of Science and Technology expressed his delight to be part of this historic occasion of inaugurating the members of NBRI Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The Minister said the occasion was a watershed, not only in the annals of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology but also the entire country in view of the immense benefits to be derived from the initiative.

Dr. Bulama stated that the Federal Ministry of Science & Technology is proud of Agencies under its purview such as NBRI that are spearheading the role of Research and Development (R&D) in the overall growth and development of the Science, Technology and Innovation sector of the economy. He expressed optimism that the Technical Advisory Committee of NBRI will efficiently perform its intended mandate of reviewing, criticizing and placing the R&D activities of the Institute in proper perspective and in line with international best practices.

The Honorable Minister confirmed that he has been briefed by the NBRI DG/CEO that membership of the Committee is comprised of an array of seasoned and experienced academicians, professionals, technocrats and stakeholders in the built environment drawn from professional/regulatory bodies, the construction industry, the academia, etc. He noted that the members were selected based on their immense contributions to the built environment; and that the Committee has a life span of two years renewable on the ground of satisfactory performance.

The Minister noted that "The underlying objective of the Committee is to ensure that all research officers and technical staff of the Institute are positively engaged in relevant R&D activities aimed at achieving the transformation agenda of Mr. President, His Excellency Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan (GCFR) to create jobs, generate wealth, establish industries and enterprises; and to curb unnecessary importation of goods through the provision of acceptable indigenous substitutes in the Institute's mandate areas". He added that this is a commendable principle and a noble set of objectives as it will accelerate the commercialization of NBRI's technologies and innovations resulting in improved socio-economic development of the country.



Dr. Abdu Bulama,  
Minister of Science and Technology

Before performing the inauguration of the committee, the Minister commended NBRI for the following laudable achievements:

- The successful publication of the Road Safety Guidelines (RSG 2014) for Nigeria which will serve as a reference document for engineering education and enforcement aimed at developing effective and safe road network system throughout the country;
- The successful hosting of many annual conferences in the last four (4) years on Stakeholders Forum (2011), Building Collapse (2012), Road Pavement Failure (2013) and an International Housing Summit on Affordable Housing (2014).
- NBRI's visible representation and active participation in all meetings of the National Council on Science and Technology (NCST) since 2011.

Dr. Bulama urged relevant Stakeholders in the Built Environment including NGOs and MDAs within and outside Nigeria to strategically partner with NBRI as it strives to fully achieve its mandates in the areas of capacity building, integrated R&D activities and promotion of local content in the Nigerian Construction Industry.

## THERE SHOULD BE STRONGER COLLABORATION BETWEEN NBRI & FEDERAL MINISTRY OF WORKS TO ENSURE SAFER ROADS

...ARC. MIKE ONOLEMEMEN, HON. MINISTER OF WORKS



Arc. Mike Onolememen

“Although the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRI) is under the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, its activities are of interest to the Federal Ministry of

indeed the entire road sector, because of the immense implications on Nigerian roads.” This assertion was made by the Honourable Minister of Works, Arc. Mike Onolememen when he unveiled and launched a 240-page Book titled *Road Safety Guidelines for Nigeria (RSG 2014)*. He further noted that as the Minister of Works with responsibility for over 36,000 kilometers of Federal Roads, any development which will have a positive impact on our roads like that of NBRI is of personal interest to him

In his address during the Book Launch, the Honourable Minister took critical cognizance of NBRI's mandate and observed with keen interest some areas such as conducting integrated Research and Development activities into:

- The design and construction of roads best suited to the Nigerian environment;
- Local construction, foundation and earthworks for buildings and bridges, especially on problem soils;
- Road safety including occurrence of accidents and methods of reducing the number of accidents;
- Structural designs of buildings and bridges and the development of design criteria, specifications

and codes of practice;

- Provision of consultancy services relating to Building, Road and Engineering Materials to the public.

Arc. Onolememen noted that the identified areas of NBRI mandate which particularly deals with the road sector are closely related to the responsibilities of the Federal Ministry of Works and as such, called for stronger collaboration and synergy between the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute and the Federal Ministry of Works in the effort to ensure delivery of better and safer roads to Nigerian road users.

The Minister acknowledged the role of Science and Technology in all sectors of the economy, noting that every economy is undeniably advanced by innovations in Science and Technology. He further stated that, in order to realize Mr. President's Transformation Agenda and Vision 20-2020, the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology and all its agencies must redouble their efforts especially in the area of Research and Development to enhance local content in Nigeria's industrial growth and socio-economic development.

In particular, the Minister noted the strings of achievements recorded by NBRI and applauded the visionary efforts of the Professor Matawal-led administration which has professionally positioned the Institute to uplift its R&D activities through the establishment of its standard Materials Testing Laboratories and Research Library situated within the Federal Capital Territory, among other laudable projects. Onolememen urged NBRI “not to rest on its oars but to work even harder to achieve beyond expectation in line with the mantra of transformational leadership”

Speaking specifically on the launch of the *Road Safety Guidelines for Nigeria (RSG 2014)*, Onolememen noted that the document is a milestone achievement for Road development and management in Nigeria; and he applauded the vision of NBRI towards

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# ROAD SAFETY GUIDELINES (RSG 2014) IS DESIGNED TO ENHANCE SAFETY ON NIGERIAN ROADS

.....DG NBRRI, Prof. Danladi S. Matawal

**O**n September 2, 2014, the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRRI) organized a well-attended event during which the *Road Safety Guidelines (RSG 2014)* was launched by the Hon Minister of Works, Arc. Mike Onolememen; and NBRRI Technical Advisory Committee was inaugurated by the Hon Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Abdu Bulama. In his address at the occasion, the Director-General/CEO of the NBRRI, Professor Danladi S. Matawal said the occasion was a platform to launch NBRRI to greater heights in executing its mandate in line with international best practices while empowering its R&D Staff to effectively and collectively participate in its developmental activities to achieve goals of the Transformation Agenda of Mr. President, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCFR.



**Prof. Danladi S. Matawal**  
DG NBRRI,

and sustain a high level of research in the mandate areas, comparable to global standards.

d) To provide alternative opinions and approaches to procedures, processes, and activities and suggest solutions or avenues for solutions to problems and challenges in research, Codes/Specifications/Standards piloting in engineering (in collaboration with regulatory/professional associations and SON),

capacity building and commercialization.

e) To introduce the Institute and its personnel to relevant national and international avenues and foundations for collaboration, funding/finance, and even specialized supervision.

Prof Matawal noted that NBRRI is a category "A" parastatal under the aegis of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology (FMST) and that the constitution and formal inauguration of a NBRRI Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was long overdue. He stated that TAC is expected to execute the following responsibilities:

- a) To put into sharp focus NBRRI's R&D activities towards the realization of the Institute's mandates and responsibilities to the Government of the Federation and the Nigerian people.
- b) To ensure that NBRRI benefits from the wealth of experience of other seasoned and exposed academics, technocrats and industrialists within the country.
- c) To systematically and periodically subject the R&D activities of the Institute to peer review and criticisms in order to achieve excellence

The DG NBRRI also stated that the Technical Advisory Committee shall operate under the following guidelines:

- i. It shall meet not more than twice per year
- ii. Its oversight functions shall encompass all the areas of specialization as embedded in the Institute's mandate;
- iii. It shall convene its inaugural meeting with immediate effect, in which the various Heads of Research departments will be in attendance at the beginning, and templates developed for its future activities.
- iv. At the end of every activity, a report will be presented to the Director-General/CEO, who after studying for the benefit of the R&D Departments, will present the Report to the Board and/or the Honorable Minister.

Speaking further in his Address, Prof. Matawal

stated that NBRI took pains to develop the *Road Safety Guidelines* (RSG 2014) in synergy with international collaborations. This document, in complementation with the *Road Capacity Manual* which is currently being developed by NBRI, are designed to provide some leverage in the unique national applications of engineering, education and enforcement to Road Transport sector that have eluded the country over the years. He noted that as a regulatory handbook, the RSG 2014 will be found useful by several Stakeholders such as the Federal Ministry of Works, State Ministries of Works, Urban Development Boards, City Municipal bodies, FERMA, FRSC, Federal Ministry of Transport (FMT), the Nigerian Army, the Nigeria Police, VIOs, etc.

Elaborating further, Prof. Matawal said the publication has attempted to explicitly state the various steps and processes required to successfully instill optimal safety on Nigerian roads through a sequence of strategies for identifying problem spots & problem issues, procedures for intervention, investigation, remediation measures, monitoring & evaluation on Nigerian roads; and developing a template for national Database coupled with its utilization to ensure enhanced future safety on Nigerian roads. He therefore called on all Stakeholders and indeed all Nigerians to support the document by adopting the RSG

During his address, the DG/CEO of NBRI took time

to inform the public on some critical NBRI activities, achievements and innovations recorded over the past four years primarily for the purpose of information dissemination and to open a window for would-be collaborations and partnerships with MDAs such as the FMW, FMLHUD, SURE-P and other Stakeholders. One of the areas is the pet project for the Development of standard Curriculum for Artisans in the Construction industry which would be of interest to FMW, FMLHUD, SURE-P. Another area is the successful hosting of Annual Conferences on topical issues in the Built Environment by NBRI; which have yielded many dividends within NBRI and in the construction industry. Other programmes highlighted included the Pozzolana Pilot plant project which is a success story, the development of Concrete Mix Design Manual which is being executed in collaboration with COREN, the setting up of State-of-the-Art Materials Testing Laboratory and Construction Library in Abuja, the infusion of young, zealous and brilliant research personnel into NBRI fold, among others

Prof. Matawal concluded with a passionate plea for land to erect a befitting NBRI Corporate Headquarters Building Complex in Abuja to provide the needed room for the enormous NBRI programmes and activities and for enhanced performance.

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ensuring the safety of citizens on Nigerian roads.

The Road Safety Guidelines for Nigeria (RSG 2014) is a technical publication prepared by the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute as a compendium of guidelines to be considered in the provision of safe roads in Nigeria.

The Honourable Minister stressed that the Road Safety Guidelines for Nigeria (RSG 2014) properly aligns with the Federal Road Development project's objective of reducing fatalities on Nigerian roads by 50% and improving safety level along selected Safe Road Corridors. He noted further that "It is my belief that the first edition of the Road Safety Guidelines (RSG 2014) which provides information specifically for

the country and sets out standard approach to accident data analysis will go a long way to help address some of the developmental challenges we face in the road sector." The Minister therefore called on all relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) as well as Governments in the 36 States of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory Administration to patronize and use the document; and partner with NBRI with a view to ensuring that there is concerted effort and synergy with regard to road safety in Nigeria.

Arc. Onolemehen revealed that the Federal Ministry of Works recently updated its Highway Design Manual to a 12-volume document with detailed information on road signs, markings and other road safety issues including Road Safety Auditing.

## NBRII NORTH-CENTRAL ZONAL OFFICE TO PARTNER WITH PLATEAU STATE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

As part of efforts to promote and popularize the use of innovative technologies of the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRII) for enhanced infrastructural development and improvement of the living standards of Nigerians especially at the grassroot, NBRII North-Central Zonal Office in Jos is to partner with the Plateau State Ministry of Science and Technology. This decision was reached when the Zonal Coordinator of the NBRII North-Central Zonal Office, Mr. Terver Tyosar made a courtesy visit to the Honourable Commissioner for Science and Technology Plateau State, Dr. Paul Samani Wai at the Joseph Gomwalk Secretariat. At the interactive meeting, the need for synergy and collaboration between NBRII and the State Government through the Ministry of Science & Technology, especially in the area of application of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) to improve the well being of Nigerians was emphasized.

The Zonal Coordinator, Mr. Tyosar accompanied by his team gave a run down of the mandate of NBRII which is basically on building capacity and setting the pace in indigenous construction technology development. He explained that NBRII has developed several research innovations which are critical and designed to ease the provision of affordable housing and cost-effective roads to Nigerians. He informed the Honourable Commissioner and his Management team that one of the primary mandate of the NBRII North-Central Zonal Office was to propagate and popularize NBRII innovations to the grassroot; and that this informed the courtesy visit to the Honourable Commissioner. While enumerating on some of NBRII technologies, Mr. Tyosar mentioned that NBRII was at the moment constructing a Skills Acquisition Centre in Bot-Bokkos in Bokkos LGA in Plateau State, which is almost completed. He also mentioned that NBRII has commenced the construction of a pilot



NBRII North-Central Zonal Coordinator Mr. Terver Tyosar addressing the Management of Plateau State Ministry of Science and Technology in Jos.

Pozzolana Cement Plant which will utilize as raw materials, the abundant volcanic ash prevalent in Plateau State, as part of its R&D extension services. He further enumerated on the vast opportunities available at the Zonal office for the entire populace of the North-Central Geo-political zone and encouraged the Ministry to key into them. After his oral presentation, the Zonal Coordinator of NBRII North-Central Zonal Office, Mr Tyosar, on behalf of the Director-General of NBRII, Professor Danladi Slim Matawal, presented some NBRII publications to the Honourable Commissioner.

In his response, the Honourable Commissioner expressed optimism at the establishment of the NBRII North Central Zonal office in Jos and thanked the Coordinator for the timely visit. He further promised to work closely with the Zonal office for the benefit of the people of Plateau State. After useful deliberations, it was agreed that the initial areas of collaboration shall be in the provision of training for Artisans and Craftsmen in Plateau State on the production and use of NBRII technologies in housing delivery. The Director of Engineering in the Ministry, Engr. Patrick Peter Mangai was however directed to liaise with the Zonal Coordinator on workable strategies for collaboration between NBRII Zonal Office and the State Ministry of Science and Technology.



NBRII North-Central Zonal Coordinator Mr. Terver Tyosar presenting some NBRII publications to the Hon. Commissioner of Science and Technology, Dr. Paul Samani Wai

# NBRII RANKS AT PAR WITH OTHER RESEARCH INSTITUTES GLOBALLY

.....Chief Dele Okeya, Chairman, NBRII Governing Board



**Chief Dele Okeya**  
**Chairman, NBRII Governing Board**

"The inauguration of the Technical Advisory Committee and launch of the Road Safety Guidelines for Nigeria (RSG 2014) is traceable to the beautiful strides and tireless efforts of NBRII under the visionary leadership of the focused, articulate, academic and seasoned bureaucrat, Professor Danladi S. Matawal" This assertion was made by the Chairman of the NBRII Governing Board, Chief Dele Okeya while delivering his welcoming address at the event. He further noted that the untiring effort of the Institute's management has enabled NBRII to rank at par with other Research Institutes globally in a highly competitive and dynamic 21st century world.

While welcoming the Honorable Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Abdu Bulama, and the Minister of Works, Arc Mike Onolememe, Chief Dele remarked that the Minister of Works has been with NBRII several times before, notably as the Special Guest during the NBRII International Conference on Road Pavement Failure in 2013.

Chief Okeya noted that the Institute Board of Governors was duly briefed on the constitution of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) which was indeed a revival of one of the many corporate cultures of NBRII that was unfortunately abandoned for over fifteen years until now. He expressed his appreciation to the Honourable Minister of S&T for his magnanimity and kind gesture in upholding the tenets and core values of 'Leadership Continuity' as clearly illustrated by the noble act of approving the inauguration of the Technical Advisory Committee that was constituted long before his well deserved

appointment into the federal cabinet by His Excellency, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCFR.

Chief Okeya used the opportunity to congratulate the Minister of Science and Technology, on his appointment to lead the highly coveted Federal Ministry and prayed for God's divine guidance for maximal impact and success during his tenure at the FMST. He however drew the attention of the Honourable Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Bulama to the low budgetary allocation to NBRII and implored the Minister for his intervention for an upward review of the Institute's funding provision. He noted that "This has become more imperative with the erection of the massive Laboratory Complex extension, which has already been completed in the NBRII National Laboratory Complex in Ota, which requires the provision of state-of-the-art equipment, tools and facilities" He further mentioned the need for increased financing of R&D activities, the injection of young and experienced staff/officers, enhanced capacity building of all technical staff and greater exposure of all research officers to modern research methods.

The Board chairman remarked that It is no longer news that NBRII which was set up by a decree of the Federal Government of Nigeria as far back as 1977, is yet to own a parcel of land or property in Abuja for its corporate headquarters and office complex to accommodate national laboratories, infrastructures etc. befitting its status as a category 'A' parastatal under the aegis of the Federal Ministry of Science & Technology. He further explained that since the Federal Government directed NBRII to relocate to Abuja from Lagos on 28th February 1998, It has lived in rented accommodation. In view of the enormous activities and the importance to demonstrate its technologies and provide expert service delivery to Nigerians, the need for a befitting space has become a challenge. He therefore solicited for appropriate intervention in this regard.

Chief Okeya finally used the opportunity to commend NBRII for resuscitating the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and urged all the Technical Staff of the Institute to take full advantage of the presence of the team whose membership are drawn from very experienced, robust and seasoned intellectuals with world-class views and trainings. This according to him will boost R&D efforts and contribute to the developmental goals of Nigeria in-line with the Transformation Agenda of Mr. President, His Excellency Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCFR.

## NBRII ORGANISES CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP FOR ARTISANS IN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY



NBRII DG/CEO Prof. D.S Matawal speaking at the Opening Ceremony of NBRII-organized Curriculum Development Workshop for Artisans in the Construction Industry. He is flanked on the left by Prof. Akeju and Prof. Mustapha

whereby Artisans in the construction industry are imported specially from neighbouring West African countries of Ghana, Benin, Togo, Niger, and Cameroun culminating in colossal capital flight. He stated that in order to stem this negative trend and the unwholesome trend of quackery in the industry, NBRII embarked on developing a Curriculum for the training and building capacity of Artisans in the construction industry. He emphasized the importance of the exercise and informed the participants that the Workshop is the third stage in a process championed by NBRII to develop an all-embracing, globally-accepted 'Curriculum for Artisans' in different trades in the construction industry.

According to the DG, the first stage involved carrying out a Needs Assessment, where a six-member Committee was given a mandate to conduct skills gap analysis and assess deficiencies; plan and organize a workshop for developing a Curriculum for training of Artisans in the construction industry. He added that a two-prong Workshop was adopted for the exercise. The first Workshop which is also the second stage involved the training of 17 Facilitators drawn from NBRII and facilitated by a Consultant, Engr. J.O Falade using the DACUM process, for the development of Curriculum for nine different Trades that included Masonry, Electrical Installation and Plumbing, etc. The second Workshop which is the third stage and the current Workshop, involved the actual input from experienced Artisans which will be processed for incorporation into the proposed Curriculum being developed in accordance with global standards.

The DG/CEO emphasized that in the Workshop, which is the third stage of the process, a draft Curriculum for Artisans would be developed for nine Trades in the construction industry and later subjected to peer review. He stated that the Curriculum will be geared towards solving the following challenges:

- i. Cost savings on importation of skilled labour

In continuation of its resolve to develop a comprehensive training scheme for various artisans in the country, the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute, NBRII organized a Workshop on Curriculum Development for Artisans in the Construction Industry. The four-day workshop took place from 24<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup> August 2014 at the Top Rank Hotel, Jabi, Abuja. It had in attendance 70 participants made up of 8 Observers, 17 Facilitators, 37 Artisans and others

The Observers, made up of practitioners in the field, were drawn from the Nigerian Academy of Engineering, SURE-P, Council of Registered Builders of Nigeria (CORBON), the Budget office of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Nigerian Universities, NBRII and the Building and Construction Skilled Artisans Association (BACSAAN). The Facilitators were drawn from NBRII staff who earlier underwent a 7-day Training programme as Facilitators for the purpose of developing a Curriculum in line with international best practices. The Artisans were drawn from experienced and practicing Artisans in some artisanal trades in the country.

Speaking at the Opening ceremony of the event, its convener and Director-General/CEO of NBRII, Prof. D.S Matawal welcomed the Guests and Participants to the workshop. He decried the unwholesome practice

- from neighboring countries which in 2012 alone, led to a capital flight of N540 billion.
- ii. Provision of a uniform training schedule for Artisans in different trades in the construction industry
- iii. Improving the capacity and performance of artisans and craftsmen in the construction industry
- iv. Creating awareness to the artisans/craftsmen, etc.

Prof. Matawal stressed that the curriculum to be developed would be practically oriented and easy to implement. He noted that though trades like Soil testing, Asphalt concreting and Laboratory Materials testing processes were not part of the current exercise, nonetheless it must be developed in the near future along with the nine trades that have been covered at the workshop.

The Coordinator of the Workshop, Engr. J.O. Falade made a presentation on the curriculum development process, titled "Introduction to DACUM". He explained "DACUM" as a curriculum Development process which comprise of the following:

- i. Five to twelve (5-12) expert workers to constitute a Panel of experienced Artisans in the occupation/skill
- ii. Qualified facilitators
- iii. Small group of people engaged in brainstorming
- iv. Incorporating group interaction synergy
- v. Group consensus via discussions
- vi. Producing superior quality result.



A cross section of Participants at the Workshop



Coordinator of the Workshop, Engr. J.O Falade

The coordinator stressed that developing the Curriculum involved three sets of participants namely, the Panelists (who are practicing Artisans in the chosen field), Facilitators (who are trained to elicit the critical components of the Curriculum for each Trade) and Observers (who are experts in the field and who will witness the exercise). He employed all participants to work assiduously to achieve the goal of the Workshop.

Also speaking at the occasion, the Secretary of Building and Construction Skilled Artisans Association of Nigeria (BACSAAN), Ibrahim Aliyu, on behalf of the Association, appreciated the initiative of NBRI in developing a curriculum for Artisans/Craftsmen; and assured NBRI of their support and cooperation.

The Workshop went into plenary session which was very interactive and rewarding. The critical duties, tasks and requirements involved in the execution of each Trade were identified and isolated and will constitute the critical elements for inclusion in the proposed Curriculum, which will be subjected to peer review before adoption in line with global standards.

# PHOTO GALLERY



(L-R) NBRI TAC Members Profs T. Oguara, R. Salawu and S. Mustafa discussing.



NBRI Board Chairman, Chief Dele Okeya presenting a gift to the Minister of Works, Arc. Mike Olonomemen.



NBRI Board member, Mai Adamu presenting a gift to the Perm Sec, Mrs. Winifred Oyo-Ita.



Minister FMST, Dr. Abdu Bulama, receiving a gift from Chief Dele Okeya, NBRI Board Chairman.



A cross section of Guests at the occasion



Another cross section of Guests at the occasion

# PHOTO GALLERY



NBRI Board Chairman, Chief Dele Okeya, Minister of Works, Arc. Mike Onolomemen, Minister of S&T, Dr. Abdu Bulama and P.S FMST, Mrs W. Oyo-Ita at the Book Launch and Inauguration of TAC members



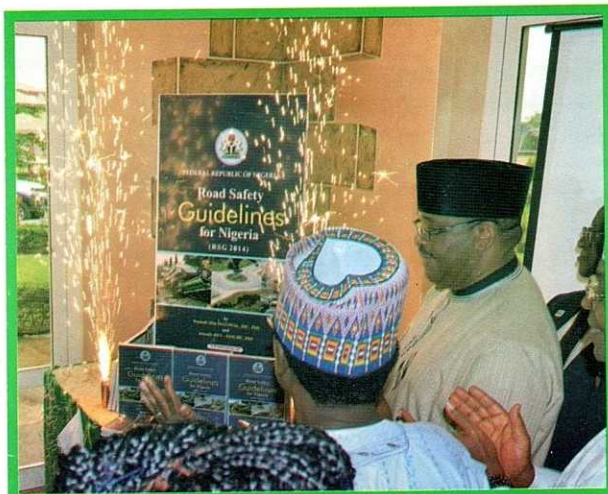
Some members of the NBRI TAC standing up for recognition during the Inauguration



NBRI TAC Members, Prof. P. Ogunsote and Prof. N Anigbogu exchanging views at the event



Dr. Bulama and Arc. Onolomemen share a warm ministerial embrace.



Minister of Works, Arc. Mike Onolomemen launching the Road Safety Guidelines RSG 2014.



NBRI TAC Chairman, Prof. R. I Salawu responding after the inauguration of the Committee

# FUNDING SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION IS A SERIOUS ISSUE

*She is no doubt a woman of inestimable value, dedicated and committed to the cause of human empowerment and development. Since her deployment as the Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, Mrs Winifred Oyo-Ita, has left no one in doubt of her determination to put the Ministry in the limelight of impacting Nigerians positively through Science, Technology and Innovation. Her instant presence in the S&T family caught the attention of the NBRI Newsletter. When approached for an interview, she promptly obliged in spite of her tight schedules. The outcome of the interview is not only revealing but demonstrates the astuteness and dexterity of a seasoned administrator and achiever. Following are excerpts from the Interview.*

**NBRI Newsletter:** Ma, may we meet you and have an insight into your background.

**Mrs. Oyo-Ita:** My name is Mrs. Winifred Ekanem Oyo-Ita. I am an indigene of Adiabo Okurikang in Odukpani LGA of Cross River State. I am a proud Nigerian. I started my primary school at St. Mary's Private School in Lagos, then Queens College Yaba. I sat for "A" levels examination after which I attended the prestigious University of Lagos where I earned BSc (Hons.) degree in Accounting. Thereafter I qualified as a Chartered Accountant. At present, I am a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria. I also hold a Masters degree in Public Administration.



**Mrs. Winifred Oyo-Ita,  
Permanent Secretary, FMST**

Federal Civil Service structure precisely in the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federation in 2001. From there I was posted to NAPEP, then to National Population Commission, and then to the Federal Ministry of Transportation as Deputy Director, Audit. From there, I was posted to the Federal Ministry of Power as Deputy Director, Accounts.

It was from the Ministry of Power, in 2009, that I became Director, Finance and Account. From there I was posted to the Public Complaints Commission where I

worked for sometime before my posting to the Head of Service. It was there in 2013 that I got appointed as Permanent Secretary representing Cross River State. My first posting as Permanent Secretary was to the Ministry of Special Duties and Inter-Governmental Affairs; and in April this year (2014), I was posted to the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology.

My public service career started in Cross River State Housing Corporation and thereafter I moved on to Cross River Estate LTD as the Finance Controller. While there, I was appointed Managing Director of the Cross River Estate Limited. At that time, the company was the rubber producing estate for development although it has been privatized. From there I moved on to the Federal Civil Service as Assistant Director (Project Account Unit), then to Petroleum Trust Fund (PTF) in 1997. From PTF, I entered the main stream of the

**"I intend to use value-added strategy that will ensure effective and practical application of R&D results into innovations that will benefit the Nigerian populace. This strategy will help to attract funding at both the domestic and international levels"**

**N B B R I Newsletter:** Your resumé shows that you have been in public service for some time now. How do you intend to use your vast wealth of experience to improve and reposition the



Mrs. Oyo-Ita responding to questions from NBRI Newsletter team

Federal Ministry of Science and Technology for national growth and development?

**Mrs. Oyo-Ita:** I have been in the public service for over 26 years. With my experience, I intend to use value-added strategy that will ensure effective and practical application of R&D results into innovations that will benefit the Nigerian populace. This strategy will help to attract funding at both the domestic and international levels, such that the Ministry can effectively carry out programmes in line with the Transformation Agenda of the Government. Also, I am embarking on the ward-based clusters programme which is more of a technology cluster programme aimed at increasing grassroots participation, interactions and collaborations in Science, Technology & Innovations (STI) to impact on everyday living. Again, I am initiating programmes that will impact on rural women especially in the areas of food processing, production of enhanced seedlings and agricultural products while also facilitating capacity building in basic and accessible technologies for value addition.

**NBRI Newsletter:** Today, the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology has a Gender Desk Officers forum. How do you think the Ministry can provide sustainable development through this forum?

**Mrs. Oyo-Ita:** You know, there is a saying that if you train a man, you train an individual but if you train a woman, you

train a whole nation, because women have that close contact with the family and the community. Even at grassroots levels, it is the women associations that are able to utilize little resources and opportunities that come to them and have more influence on their children than the men. Also, there are some things that women do that, which when backed with appropriate technology, will help in improving their standard of living, address maternal mortality as well as infant mortality. We are fashioning strategies through the FMST agencies, especially those that are involved in food processing and fabrication of basic tools and equipment, to access certain technologies that will help the Nigerian woman. Examples include application of technology in melon breaking, cassava processing, oil palm milling and so on. The cook stove technology that will minimize the use of firewood to generate enough energy for cooking activities is another area being considered. When you improve the quality of lives of women, you improve economic generation and their earning capacity. The implication is that they are able to have better nutrition, better access to healthcare, improved maternal lifespan and infant lifespan.

**NBRI Newsletter:** It is no longer news that there is a low level of awareness by the average Nigerian on the relevance and application of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) to our daily life and national development. How best do you think this can be tackled?

**Mrs. Oyo-Ita:** The challenge of ST&I awareness amongst Nigerians can be addressed with more investment in publicity and advocacy. I wish that all Agencies will have this kind of forum where Newsletters, Journals, etc. are published. But then,

**“I am embarking on the ward-based clusters programme which is more of a technology cluster programme aimed at increasing grassroots participation, interactions and collaborations in Science, Technology & Innovations (STI) to impact on everyday living.”**

**“...if you train a man, you train an individual but if you train a woman, you train a whole nation, because women have that close contact with the family and the community.”**

you may not have enough people in the scientific world or those involved in the academia that will read up all these magazines and research journals. So, we need to go more into the electronic and print media. These include Newspapers and General purpose Magazines, Television and Radio programmes which will enlighten people more.

There is also the need to get our industries. This underscores our strategy to develop Research Institutes/industry partnership, whereby the Triple Helix Method that has worked so well in the developed countries will work in Nigeria. This method involves Government identifying a policy, the academia working on research aspects to address the needs of industry and the Industry buying over the research results which are translated into industrial products.

This awareness has to be created because many viable research results are just hanging on shelves, in the laboratories and in research institutes. The industry has to buy into these research products and invest. We are now having more interactions with the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN) and the Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (SMEs) to enable them key in into this initiative. But the Industries generally have the challenge of investment. They are not willing to invest in an unknown area or product. This underscores the gesture being made to Government to initiate the enabling environment that will encourage the entrenchment of venture capitalists to help industrialists with some bridging

**“The challenge of ST&I awareness amongst Nigerians can be addressed with more investment in publicity and advocacy”**

**“.....This underscores our strategy to develop Research Institutes/industry partnership, whereby the Triple Helix Method that has worked so well in the developed countries will work in Nigeria”**

facilities and facilitate the transformation of research products to market products.

**NBRI Newsletter:** One of the main challenges of parastatals under FMST over the years has been the issue of underfunding. This has greatly affected R&D in these agencies. Do you foresee any immediate plan to address this challenge?

**Mrs. Oyo-Ita:** Funding ST&I is a very serious issue. But you see, what has been happening so far is that the Ministry and its Agencies have been relying on only one source of fund; and that is the annual budget appropriation. It can never be and it cannot happen in any country that is serious about development, to rely on annual budget appropriation alone for its ST&I policy implementation. That is why it is gratifying to note that President Goodluck Jonathan, in February 2014, inaugurated the National Research and Innovation Council (NRIC). One of the key roles of NRIC is to follow up on the issues of national R&D activities and funding as approved

in the Science, Technology & Innovation Policy (2012). Under this Policy, there is a long list of sources of fund to feed the ST&I Policy. You have the National Research and Innovation Fund (NRIF) which is going to be funded through various sources of Fund. There are so many sources of fund for the NIRF. Apart from the annual budget appropriation, the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) will also be a source of funding in addition to funds from international donors, and and various public development funds.

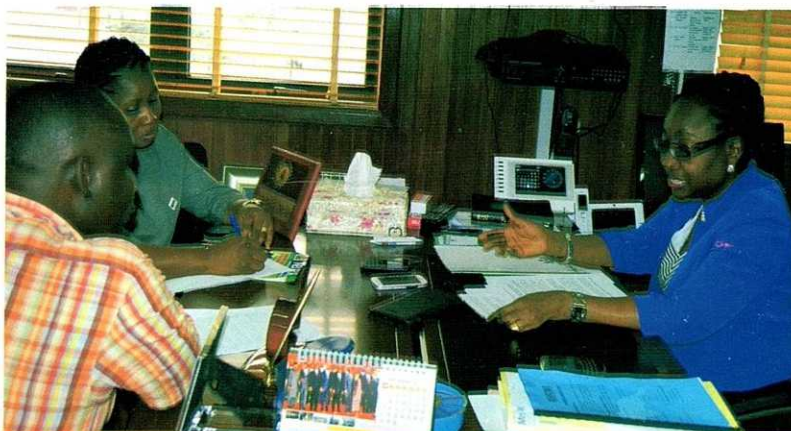
At the moment, we are working on the different sources of fund for the S&T Policy. We will soon be calling for a Retreat where all stakeholders including other cognate Ministries and organizations involved in research and development brainstorm and chart a way forward. The purpose of the Retreat would be to draw up a framework for the implementation of the ST&I Policy; articulating funding requirement and accessing the fund. We don't want a situation where there will be some misgiving that the national ST&I Policy will be perceived as FMST affair only. We want to make it very clear through this Retreat that the Policy is open and available and concerns all cognate MDAs as well as other sectors of the economy that can benefit from R&D innovations in the country. That is why the NRIC has a wide range of Council Members with Mr. President as the Chairman. The Ministers of Agriculture, Health, Education, Water Resources, Industry Trade and investment are all members too while the FMST is the secretariat of the NRIC.

So, it is not just enough to rely on budget appropriations which are never adequate. By the time the Retreat holds, the framework for funding

**“The Honourable Minister is very passionate about the research-industry networking, and he has already expressed interest in what many of our agencies are doing, especially NBRI”**

**“.....This awareness has to be created because many viable research results are just hanging on shelves, in the laboratories and in research institutes. The industry has to buy into these research products and invest. We are now having more interactions with the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN) and the Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (SMEs) to enable them key in into this initiative”**

strategy for the implementation of ST&I Policy in all spheres of Nigeria's socio-economic endeavours would be developed; and the country would be better for it.



**Mrs. Oyo-Ita responding to questions from NBRI Newsletter team**

**N B B R I Newsletter:** Technological innovations by NBRI and other agencies in the FMST have a lot of potentials especially for youth empowerment and job creation. How do you intend to create a platform for this

to be actualized?

**Mrs. Oyo-Ita:** For women, we want to work more closely with the Ministry of Women and Social Development and the Ministry of Education because we believe that if we can attract the girl-child at a young impressionable age, then they will have interest and passion for the Sciences. I would like the Ministry of Education to try and aid girls to be bold in expressing their love for sciences, mathematics and engineering. You find out that sometimes, girls in mixed schools get intimidated by the boys at an early age. We need to get our girls to

**“Funding ST&I is a very serious issue.... (because)... the Ministry and its Agencies have been relying on only ... annual budget appropriation. .... That is why it is gratifying to note that President Goodluck Jonathan, in February 2014, inaugurated the National Research and Innovation Council (NRIC).... which is going to be funded through various sources of funds”**

develop that self-confidence that they can equally be good in science, technology and mathematics without reducing their femininity or making them less of a woman.

Some people feel that if you are too brilliant and knowledgeable in the sciences then you are almost like a man, but this is not true. Our girls need to be encouraged right from an early age to be in love with the sciences. Also, the parents should encourage their daughters at home to engage in the sciences as much as taking care of the home front. This does not stop the girls from excelling in the sciences and mathematics.

**NBRI Newsletter:** Ma, recently you paid a working visit to NBRI and also attended the International Housing Summit organized by the Institute. How do you intend to use your good office to address some of the challenges of NBRI?

**Mrs. Oyo-Ita:** One of the critical challenges of the institute which is inadequate funding is earlier being addressed through the NRIC and NRIF. Another primary challenge of NBRI is the issue of Office space for its numerous R&D activities. We in the Ministry are going to work on that and appeal to the Hon. Minister of the Federal Capital Territory through our own Hon. Minister, Dr. Abdu Bulama to address the challenge. In addition, I am aware that NBRI has embarked on some very good projects. One of them is the Skills Acquisition Centres which utilizes NBRI products in their construction. We believe that the Skill Acquisition Centres which will

be located in different States nationwide would require land allocation. In this regard, we will solicit for the cooperation of State Governors.

**NBRI Newsletter:** Can you please tell us the focus of the Hon. Minister?

**Mrs. Oyo-Ita:** We are so happy and lucky to have a pure Scientist as the Honourable Minister. He is a specialist and a doctorate degree holder in Polymer Chemistry. He has been in the academia and research sectors for a long time. In fact, his whole teaching career which spans several decades has been in Research. We believe that with the kind of background he is coming from, he really understands the role of ST&I in the development of the nation.

He has very wide network of contacts both in the industry, politics, academia and government. So he is somebody that with his contact, things can move in the Ministry; and he has already started doing that. The Honourable Minister is very passionate about the research-industry networking, and he has already expressed interest in what many of our agencies are doing, especially NBRI.

**NBRI Newsletter:** On a final note, you seem quite busy. How do you unwind after a hard day's job?

**Mrs. Oyo-Ita:** After a hard day's job, I relax at home. Luckily, my children are all grown-ups, but I have a lot of little children I am still taking care of. When I go home I just play with them, find out what they have been doing during the day, and relax. I also listen to news and current affairs occasionally. Sometimes, I watch some comedy on Television. I don't watch films because I don't want anything that will be so serious apart from the news item or current affairs programmes. I just watch some light hearted comedy or drama or listen to some gospel music to cool me down. Before I sleep, I round up with my quite devotion.

**NBRI Newsletter:** Thank you for giving us the opportunity to interact with you ma.

**“We don't want a situation where there will be some misgivings that the national ST&I Policy will be perceived as FMST affair only.”**

# NBRRI DG SPEAKS AT ARCHIBUILT 2014



**DG/CEO, NBRRI, Prof. Danladi Matawal delivery his Goodwill Message at the Archibuilt 2014**

**A**s a key stakeholder and partner (NBRRI), the Director-General/CEO of the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute, Prof. Matawal delivered a Goodwill Message at the Opening Ceremony of the 25<sup>th</sup> edition of Archibuilt 2014 which took place in Abuja between the 19<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of August, 2014. Archibuilt is an international Exposition organized by the Nigerian Institute of Architects (NIA). The annual event, acclaimed to be Africa's biggest on Building Materials and Construction Technology, provides the platform for the largest gathering of key players and professionals in the built environment to interact, exchange ideas and showcase trending products and practices in the industry.

In his goodwill message, Professor Matawal commended the Archibuilt initiative which the Nigerian Institute of Architects (NIA) has sustained over the years and which contributed immensely to the Nigerian construction terrain. He congratulated the organisers on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He noted that on a personal level he has had series of professional interactions with Architects even in his school days and therefore feels as "a part and parcel of the Architects". He also recalled that NBRRI has continuously partnered with the Nigerian Institute of Architects

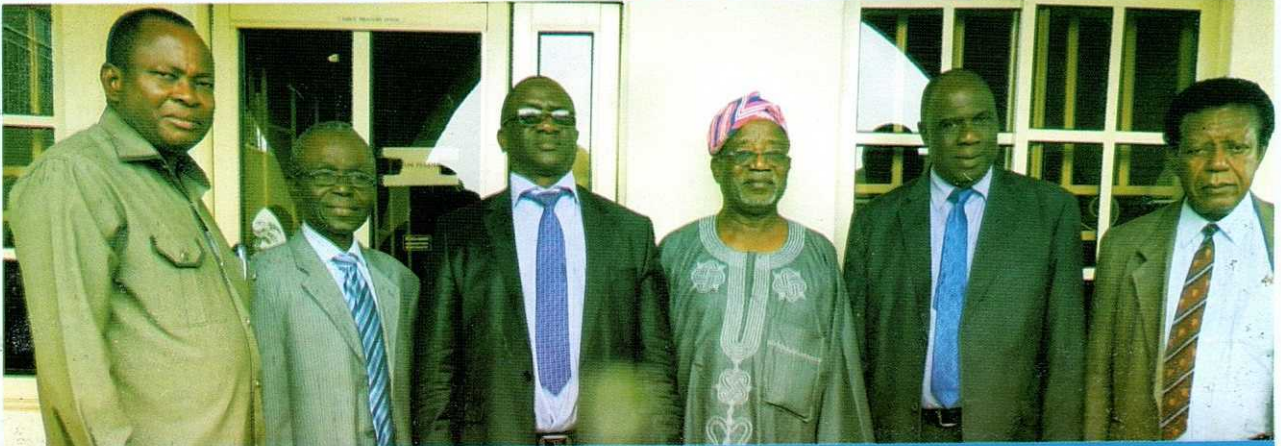
Professor Matawal used the occasion to highlight the many strides, initiatives, activities and achievements of NBRRI since he assumed office in 2011. According to him, NBRRI has gone into multi-lateral

collaborations with many organizations and professional groups including the NIA and the Architects Registration Council of Nigeria (ARCON). NBRRI, he said, has equally been conducting series of activities to achieve its mandate of "conducting applied and integrated R&D in the building and road construction sectors of the economy". To this end, the issues of technology promotion, capacity building, affordable/comfortable housing as well as motorable and safe roads in Nigeria are currently being addressed.

He informed the august body that every year, NBRRI identifies a construction sector-related topical issue which is showcased in a NBRRI-organized annual international Conference in collaboration with experts and key Stakeholders. He noted that in 2011, a Stakeholders Forum was held to appropriately and effectively reposition NBRRI to deliver on its mandate. In 2012, the focus of the Conference was on Curbing Building Collapse in Nigeria, and the positive impact was raising awareness level and the observed reduction of building collapse incidences in Lagos, Port Harcourt and Abuja due largely to the commendable complementary efforts of professional and regulatory bodies. To this end, Prof. Matawal expressed his appreciation to NIA and ARCON for continuously participating in the planning committees as well as for playing leading roles in NBRRI's national and international Conferences. Prof. Matawal also noted that the International Conference of 2013 focused attention on Road Pavement Failure

*Continued on Page 23*

# NIGERIAN ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE VISITS NBRII



Members of Nigerian Academy of Engineering (NAE) during the visit to NBRII. From left: Professors Onwuaju, Salawu, Matawal (DG, NBRII and Host), Ogunye, Damanchi and Okon, all Fellows of the Academy

The Executive Committee of the Nigerian Academy of Engineering paid a courtesy visit to the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRII) Abuja on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2014. The delegation, which was led by the recently-installed President, Professor Raifu I. Salawu, was received by the DG/CEO, Professor Danladi Matawal and top management staff of the Institute.

The Nigerian Academy of Engineering (NAE) was established by statute in 1997 as a non-profit and non-governmental institution for the promotion of excellence in engineering training and practice to ensure the technological growth of Nigeria. The Academy is a national **"Think Tank"** for Engineering and Technology that provides leadership in national engineering and technological issues by conducting studies and research on relevant issues and making inputs to developmental policies at the highest possible level. Its Fellows are drawn from among very senior Nigerian engineering professionals resident in Nigeria and the Diaspora who have distinguished themselves in business, academia, and government. Membership, which is spread across all disciplines in the engineering profession, currently stands at One hundred and forty-three (143)

In his address, Prof. Salawu said the aim of the visit was to identify with the DG/CEO, Prof. Matawal, who is a Fellow of the Academy, and to also appreciate NBRII for its continuous support to the Body. The President stated that the academy is very interested in the activities and achievements of NBRII and would want to interact further with the Institute as it has the experience and expertise. He noted that the mission statement of the Nigerian Academy of Engineering is to "provide input and leadership in national

technological issues and policies at the highest level possible, through contributions to Science, Engineering and Technology ideas in Nigeria and, by extension, globally"

Speaking on the historical background of the body, the President said the Nigerian Academy of Engineering was inspired by the need for a small, focused engineering body that would have the narrower objectives of the advancement and pursuit of excellence in Technology and Engineering, and the provision of a national platform for experts to pool their experiences and insights and make input into public and private technical policy. The idea was encouraged by the existence of similar academies in most developed and developing countries such as the United Kingdom, Canada, India, the United States of America, Russia, and Egypt etc. According to the President, the objectives of the body include, among others, to promote excellence in, and the general advancement of, engineering science, practice, technology and related disciplines, and for the



NAE President, Prof. R. Salawu presenting some documents to DG NBRII, Prof. D. Matawal

advancement of society, economy and humanity.

Prof. Salawu took time to explain how to join the academy, noting that, the body recognizes an individual's worth or by recommendation from the members of the association and not by application from any individual. He emphasized that the academy's on-going project is looking at young engineers to see how they can grow professionally; while its future goal is to bring both academia and researchers within Nigeria and in the Diaspora for collaborations and synergy.

Also speaking at the event, the Honorary Treasurer of the Academy, Prof Peter Onwualu spoke on NBRI collaborating with the academy to solve problems involved in building-related matters and construction. Prof. Onwualu, who was the immediate past DG/CEO of the Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC), further stated that the Academy has noted significant changes at NBRI

since the tenure of the current DG/CEO, Prof. Matawal. He implored the DG/CEO to work with the academy to help the Nigerian society and Government appreciate the worth and potential benefit of the academy to nation building.

Responding, the DG/CEO, NBRI, Prof D.S Matawal expressed his gratitude to the President and members of the Academy for visiting the Institute. He told the visitors that the Institute is going through a lot of transformation which included the bringing on board of young engineers, researchers and other relevant officers into the institute. He expressed his appreciation to the Academy for standing by the Institute and also participating in the numerous activities and programmes of NBRI. While congratulating Professor Salawu on his election as the new President of the Academy, Matawal promised that NBRI will continue to support the Academy in achieving its set goals and objectives.

*Continued from Page 21*

while that of 2014 addressed the issue of Affordable Housing in Nigeria.

Prof. Matawal also informed the audience that NBRI has developed a pilot Pozzolana plant at NBRI Office in Ota, Ogun State and is being replicated in Plateau State using different raw pozzolanic materials. According to him, Pozzolana which has replaced Cement Class 4 in the whole world and which is very much being used in Ghana, is suitable for housing construction and can be used as partial cement replacement (up to 50% replacement). The aim of these pilot plants is not to replace or displace cement companies but to empower them and to give Nigerians the option of choice especially for low rise structures.

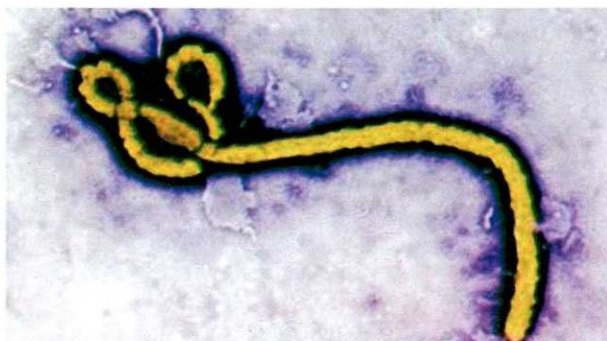
Professor Matawal highlighted other recent initiatives of the Institute. These included the preparation and publication, in collaboration with a Nigerian Professor in the diaspora, of a 240-page Road Safety Guidelines (RSG) for Nigeria, which was launched in September 2014 by the Honourable Minister of Works; and the on-going Development of Concrete Mix Design Manual for Nigeria in collaboration with COREN. The initiative on the Concrete Mix Design Manual was as a result of the recent controversy over cement grades in Nigeria. He emphasized that the Institute's opinion

based on research, was that the controversy over cement grade in Nigeria was unnecessary because "you can use cement of any grade to design concrete of any grade if you adhere to the guidelines and specifications. However, if you allow quackery, you can have cement of the highest grade and still end up with concrete that is very weak". Furthermore, Professor Matawal informed the audience that NBRI is currently involved in the Development of Curriculum for the training of Artisans in the construction sector, and this effort has reached an advanced stage. This also was in response to the high level of quackery in the industry and the unacceptable prevailing situation where tradesmen and Artisans are imported from neighbouring West African countries, leading to huge capital flight and job losses for Nigerians.

Prof. Matawal equally informed the audience that NBRI has a functional, fully-equipped state-of-the-art Materials Testing Laboratory in Abuja and at the NBRI National Laboratory Complex (NLC) in Ota. He said Laboratories are fully equipped and adequately manned to provide professional materials testing services on cement, soils, aggregates, bitumen and concretes primarily for R&D activities but also to the general public. He urged professionals to take advantage of these services.

# EBOLA- FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW

compiled by George N. Omange



## ORIGIN OF THE PRESENT SCOURGE OF EBOLA DISEASE

On December 28, 2013, a two-year-old boy died of an haemorrhagic fever confirmed to be Ebola in Meliandou, Guéckédou Prefecture of Guinea. This began a cycle of epidemics in which his mother, sister, and grandmother all subsequently became ill with similar symptoms and eventually, died. Subsequent deaths have been reported in Guinea until March 2014, when the virus made an incursion into Liberia and in April to Sierra-Leone through a tribal healer. She had treated infected people before her death and the burial rites including the washing of her corpse for burial led to widespread dissemination of infections in women from neighbouring towns.

## HOW EBOLA VIRUS IS SPREAD

The average time between coming in contact with the infection and the start of symptoms (incubation period) is eight to ten days, but it can vary between two and twenty one days. In approximately half of the cases, bleeding from the mucous membranes and body orifices (mouth, nose, anus and vagina) as well as vomiting of blood may be reported within five to seven days after the first symptoms. Death may occur as there may be dysfunction of the body systems within seven to 16 days. A number of infected persons may survive the attack. Human-to-human transmission occurs through direct contact with blood or body fluids (saliva, mucus, vomit, faeces, sweat, tears, breast milk, urine, and semen) of an infected person or by contact with objects contaminated by the virus, particularly, needles and syringes. The virus is transmitted through the nose, mouth, eyes, open wounds, cuts and body abrasions. It is suspected that transmission may occur through other animals such as a fruit bat, ape, gorilla and chimpanzee.

## EBOLA SPREAD IN NIGERIA

The first case of Ebola in Nigeria was through a Liberian-American development consultant, Patrick Sawyer, who flew from Liberia to Nigeria's commercial capital, Lagos on July 20, 2014. He became severely ill upon arriving at the airport and died five days later at a private hospital in Lagos. Staff members at the hospital restrained the patient from infecting the community but 11 workers

(out of which four died) were infected with the virus, some of which came in contact with their family members.

In addition, a contact with the Liberian-American transmitted infection to Rivers State and infected other persons. A total of 898 persons were followed up as potential contacts and approximately 26,000 households were visited with health information in Lagos and Rivers States. On October 20, Nigeria was declared free of Ebola by the World Health Organisation and no more infection exists, going by the latest report by the WHO.

## TIPS ON EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES

- 1) On Friday, July 20, 2014, the index case was recorded in Nigeria through Patrick Sawyer who left Liberia and arrived in Nigeria via the Mohammed Murtala International Airport in Lagos.
- 2) Consequent on this, Dr. Ameyo Stella Adadevoh of a private Hospital in Lagos who treated the Index case became the first Ebola victim in Nigeria.
- 3) Further to the exemplary coordinated activities of the Hon Minister of Health, the Governors of Lagos and Rivers States and their team, the country was saved from the potential epidemic of the disease with minimal loss of lives. Only eight deaths were recorded in Nigeria
- 4) On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2014, the World Health Organisation announced that the Ebola epidemic in Nigeria was over. That day, Nigeria received a clean bill of health because twice the disease's maximum incubation period of 42 days had passed since the last case in Nigeria tested negative.
- 5) West Africa has been mostly affected by Ebola virus. The countries worst affected by the deadly Ebola disease are Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia, and the scourge is still ravaging like wild fire in these countries.
- 6) As of October 14, 2014, a total of 9,216 confirmed, probable and suspected cases have been identified, with 4,555 deaths.
- 7) Other West Africa countries where Ebola disease were recorded included Nigeria and Senegal which after due diligence has been declared Ebola-free
- 8) As of October 2, 2014, all contacts of the Ebola cases in Nigeria have exited follow-ups successfully. A total of 20 persons were infected and eight deaths occurred. Nigeria received accolades for this from the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention

through its director, Dr. Tom Frieden as well as the World Health Organisation

- 9) Mali is the latest country where Ebola disease was reported as at October 23, 2014
- 10) Other countries outside West Africa that have been affected by the Ebola scourge include the United States of America and Spain.
- 11) Unconfirmed reports have it that more women were infected in the different African countries infected than men. Specifically, the Liberian government has announced that 75 per cent of the deaths due to Ebola in Liberia have been women, as of August 22, 2014. Similarly, between 55 and 60 per cent of the deaths due to Ebola in West Africa have been women. This may not be unconnected with the traditional and cultural roles of women in the home and hospitals as primary caregiver, with high risk potential from the contacts with patients from any disease
- 12) Health Education programmes should be target at women and the girl child to equip them to adequately handle care-programmes. There should also be health education on the early recognition of malaria and need for early hospitalization.

#### PROACTIVE AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES

Proactive and Preventive actions at National and Individual levels to prevent the re-emergence and prevention of Ebola include the following:

- a) High level of personal hygiene should be embraced.
- b) The culture of frequent hand washing and application of hand sanitisers in homes and public places should be embraced and increased. Hand washing gadgets and sanitizers should be placed at places of common use and contacts with door handles, light switches, and other surfaces, etc.
- c) The use of infrared thermometers at all public places including Offices, Schools, Banks, Cinemas, etc. should be made mandatory.
- d) Avoid direct contact with infected people
- e) All illegal entry routes into the country should be investigated and sealed.
- f) Strict immigration rules and thorough screening measures should be intensified at all land borders, sea ports and airports.
- a) More state-of-the-art gadgets should be purchased and installed.
- b) Reduction of time spent in crowded settings or fora.
- c) Improvement of airflow in living space or crowded places or places prone to being

crowded by opening the windows.

- d) Avoid touching your mouth, nose, or eyes without washing your hands first;
- e) Avoid rubbing your eyes and nose after shaking hands with someone who has a cold.
- f) Disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects such as toys and doorknobs, etc.
- g) Avoid close contact, such as hugging and kissing.
- h) Avoid sharing personal items such as toiletries, towels and pillows;
- i) Bush meat, an important source of protein in the diet of many Africans, should be handled with appropriate protective clothing and thoroughly cooked before consumption.
- j) Teach children not to share food, spoons, plates and other things that go in the mouth, as in guzzling water from a plastic bottle or double-dipping chips.
- k) All anti-Ebola measures taken and put in place by Government after the entry of the virus into the country should be sustained and improved upon.
- l) Effective Control Measures, among other things, should be put in place to contain the spread of disease through an improvement in tracking, provision of appropriate health education to avert myths and misinformation, and the teaching of appropriate hygiene measures
- m) As a result of the highly contagious nature of the Ebola disease and the high mobility of people in a commerce-oriented global world, the war against Ebola should not be left to the affected countries to fight. It should be a collective social responsibility of large industries and individuals in Nigeria and the world at large.

#### MYTHS TO AVOID

- a) Intake of excessive salt, consumption of bitter cola, etc. are not antidotes to the treatment and/or prevention of Ebola Virus
- b) Current cultural practices in Nigeria and elsewhere such as the drinking of water used to bath a corpse as a means of proving innocence, prevalent in some parts of Nigeria, should be done away with as this predisposes individuals to risk of infection with a pathogen like Ebola virus. Such cultural practices must be reformed in line with the current realities.
- c) All deaths must be certified by a pathologist and any form of direct contact with a corpse until proven to be safe should be avoided.

## BIRTHDAYS

NAME	DEPT.	DATE OF BIRTH
Egege Chimeziri C.	RRD	1 <sup>st</sup> July
Ibrahim Solomon	EMRD	1 <sup>st</sup> July
Musa Sarah Abari	A/P	1 <sup>st</sup> July
Ibrahim Garba	CES	2 <sup>nd</sup> July
Okoi Yemi Joseph	CES	3 <sup>rd</sup> July
Ayegba M. Ojogbane	RRD	5 <sup>th</sup> July
Ogwu Ajanigo Angela	CES	5 <sup>th</sup> July
Francis Zakariah Mu'ar	A/P	7 <sup>th</sup> July
Metu Francisca U.	EMRD	8 <sup>th</sup> July
Danjuma Golesh Abel	BRD, Abuja	9 <sup>th</sup> July
Umana Ikouwem I.	BRD	10 <sup>th</sup> July
Kpanaki Martins	BRD	14 <sup>th</sup> July
Gbemisola Famuyide	A/F	14 <sup>th</sup> July
Amos David	BRD	14 <sup>th</sup> July
Otoide E.D	EMRD	16 <sup>th</sup> July
Mbaso Ebele	A/F	17 <sup>th</sup> July
Chioma Eririogu	A/P	17 <sup>th</sup> July
Margaret Ebeagu	PIT	17 <sup>th</sup> July
Alfred Buba	BRD	17 <sup>th</sup> July
Emole Charles U.	A/P	18 <sup>th</sup> July
Ochei E.S	EMRD	20 <sup>th</sup> July
Egbe Sunday Enyi	CES	21 <sup>st</sup> July
Adekunle Aminat O.	PIT	23 <sup>rd</sup> July
Bala Ibrahim	A/P	24 <sup>th</sup> July
Ibrahim Samuel	A/P	27 <sup>th</sup> July
Siyambola I. Inyang	BRD	28 <sup>th</sup> July
Abu Y. Paul	PIT	4 <sup>th</sup> August
Ogboji F. A	A/P	8 <sup>th</sup> August
Akinmade O. Daniel	RRD, Abuja	8 <sup>th</sup> August
Bello D. Yakubu	BRD	10 <sup>th</sup> August
Mustapha Abraham	DG Office	10 <sup>th</sup> August
Birnin-Kudu .M. Rakiya	CES	12 <sup>th</sup> August
Eze E. Chukwuemezie	A/P	15 <sup>th</sup> August
Agala Joshua Ndubisi	Proc	15 <sup>th</sup> August
Adekunle Adebayo	BRD	19 <sup>th</sup> August
Inoh Augustine Gordian	CES	20 <sup>th</sup> August
Adamu Isah Katagum	RRD Abuja	20 <sup>th</sup> August
Ajodo Godspower O.	A/P	20 <sup>th</sup> August
Oki Gbenga	BRD	22 <sup>nd</sup> August
Onoja Patrick	A/F	24 <sup>th</sup> August
Ananso Georgina .N	BRD	26 <sup>th</sup> August
Abdul Amina Ile	PIT	28 <sup>th</sup> August
Okpanachi John Adaji	CES	29 <sup>th</sup> August
Aruna Francis	A/P	2 <sup>nd</sup> September
Francis Aitsebaomo	RRD	2 <sup>nd</sup> September
Quadri H. Adedeji	RRD	4 <sup>th</sup> September
Nwande Ocean	BRD Abuja	5 <sup>th</sup> eptember
Makava Daniel O.	CES	6 <sup>th</sup> September
Ikong Aboyi Pius	BRD	7 <sup>th</sup> September
Udo Itoro Gabriel	RRD	9 <sup>th</sup> September
Juliana Tyoden	RRD Abuja	12 <sup>th</sup> September
Okougha Ayemere F.	BRD	13 <sup>th</sup> September
Oghele Emmanuel	Maintenance	13 <sup>th</sup> September
Daniels Andrea .O	A/P	15 <sup>th</sup> September
Mohammed Abdulgafar	PIT	16 <sup>th</sup> September
Rose Ali	A/P	19 <sup>th</sup> September
Mapis Abigail Daniel	A/F	20 <sup>th</sup> September
Salifu Blessed Ugbede	PITD	20 <sup>th</sup> September
Adewale Adefolarin K.	BRD	20 <sup>th</sup> September
Sylvia A. Waive	A/F	22 <sup>nd</sup> September
Izabi H. A	A/F	22 <sup>nd</sup> September
Oko E. John	BRD	23 <sup>rd</sup> September
Ikpì Cosmas Omini	Maintenance	24 <sup>th</sup> September
Yisa Godwin Lazhi	RRD	24 <sup>th</sup> September
Cinfwat Kishak Zakka	Procurement	26 <sup>th</sup> September
Nwannenna Olachi C.	EMRD	26 <sup>th</sup> September
Yahaya Babatunde	EMRD	26 <sup>th</sup> September
Abubakar Baba Yerima	CES	27 <sup>th</sup> September
Egwu Micheal	A/P	29 <sup>th</sup> September
Nwadinobi Nneka E.	A/P	30 <sup>th</sup> September

## BIRTHS



Mr. Nwasha M.J. of Admin and Finance Department Abuja was blessed with a daughter on 10th august 2014 named CHIKAMSO JOE-NWASHA.



Mrs Enenche Agbo Uchebuakwu of Admin and Finance, Ota was blessed with a boy on 14th March 2014 named Master Ehikowochor Samuel Enenche.



Mr Emmanuel Oghele of Procurement / Maintenance Department was blessed with a baby boy on 30th August 2014 named Jason Emmanuel.



Mr. Mike O. Ogalla of Building Research Department Abuja, was blessed with twins: Ruth Igbi Ogalla and Faith Une- Nwojo on 20th September 2014.



Mrs. Andrea Daniels was blessed with a baby Ojonura Deborah Daniels on 12th June 2014

**BIRTHS**



Arc. Dafang John Maton of BRD Abuja was blessed with a baby boy, Jotham Bwehbum Maton on 28th August 2014

**WEDDING**



Mr. Mohammed Abdulgafar Lafia of Planning and Information Technology Department, Abuja got married to Hikima on 20th September, 2014 in Ilorin Kwara State.

**TRANSITION**

**Engr. (Chief) S. O. Fadahunsi; — Exit of an icon**



Late Engr. (Chief) Samuel O. Fadahunsi

Engr. (Chief) Samuel Olatunde Fadahunsi OFR, CON; founder of S. O. Fadahunsi (Housing) Foundation (SOFF) and co-founder of NBRI-SOFF Endowment Trust Fund passed away on the 12th of August, 2014 after a brief illness. Engr. (Chief) Fadahunsi who died at the ripe age of 94 years was a very distinguished and celebrated professional, researcher, administrator, industrialist and statesman.

He is fondly remembered in NBRI for the unique working relationship with the Institute which culminated in the establishment of NBRI-SOFF Endowment Trust Fund - an initiative that has mobilized complementary funding for several of the Institute's research and development activities.

In his tribute, the Director-General/CEO of NBRI, Prof. D.S. Matawal noted that "Engr. (Chief) S. O. Fadahunsi in his long and accomplished service, contributed in no small measure to the establishment and indeed continuous existence of NBRI as a viable Research Institute in the area of Building and Road

infrastructure. Indeed, the NBRI-SOFF Foundation collaboration on Building and Road research and related matters between the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute and S. O. Fadahunsi (Housing) Foundation was his brain child which has sponsored a number of Research Projects within the Institute. The Institute will surely miss the wise, Godly and forthright counsel of this gem of inestimable value. Rest in Peace".

Born on 17th March 1920 in Ora, Osun State, Engr. (Chief) Fadahunsi belonged to a generation whose contemporaries are hardly around anymore. Within the period of his robust career, he was President of the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) as well as the Council for the Regulation of Engineering (COREN). He was Chairman, Federal Housing Authority (FHA), CEO of the then Lagos Executive Development Board, founding President of the Association of Housing Corporations of Nigeria (AHCN) and Chairman, Board of Directors, RCC (Nigeria) Ltd. Late Engr. (Chief) Fadahunsi holds the national merit award of the Order of the Federal Republic (OFR) and Commander of the Order of the Niger (CON). He has since been buried in his hometown Ilesa, in Osun State.



Architect Emeka Aguluka of NBRI-SOFF Endowment Trust Fund, on condolence visit to Mrs. Iyabo Fadahunsi, widow of Late Engr. (Chief) S. O. Fadahunsi

# NBRI ACQUIRES NEW CONSTRUCTION TESTING MATERIALS EQUIPMENT

In its continuous quest to meet up with its R&D mandate, the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRI) took a giant step with the acquisition of some state-of-the-Art Materials Testing Laboratory equipment. This initiative increased the Materials Laboratory equipment stock of NBRI and enhanced its service delivery in R&D activities and to the general public. The equipment acquired included Sets of Oedometers, Digital Triaxial Machine, Muffle Furnace, Compression/Tension Machine, Blaines Air Permeability Apparatus, Digital Vicat Apparatus, among others.



**Muffle Furnace**



**Sets of Oedometers**



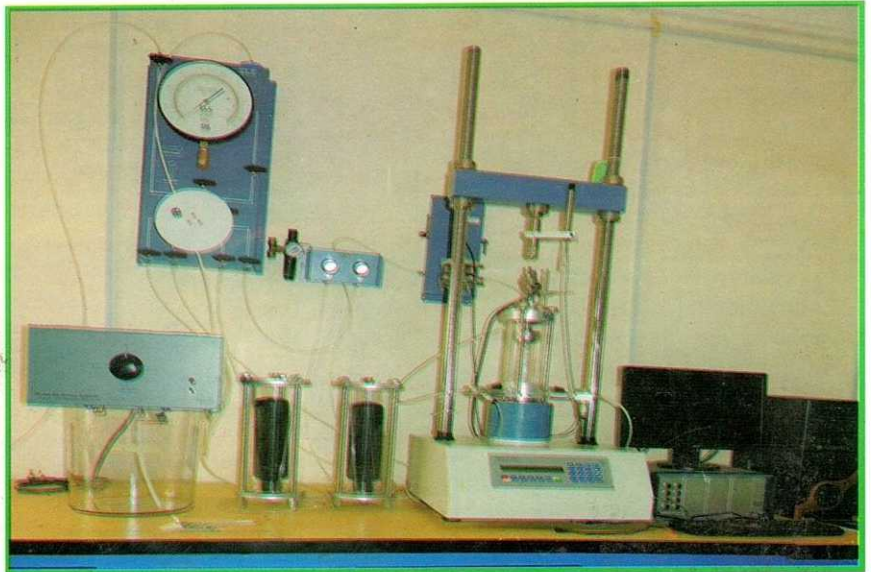
**Compression/Tension Machine**



**Digital Vicat Apparatus**



**Blaine Air Permeability Apparatus**



**Digital Triaxial Test Machine**