

**NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY
(FEDERAL MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION)**



MINUTES OF THE 37TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

HELD ON

THURSDAY 11TH NOVEMBER, 2021

**AT THE ALIYU AKWAI-DOMA THEATRE, UNIVERSITY OF JOS
PERMANENT SITE, PLATEAU STATE**

SN	ITEMS	DISCUSSIONS/DECISIONS	ACTION BY										
1.	ATTENDANCE	<p><u>Attendance</u></p> <p>¹See attached list</p>											
2.	37.01 COMMENCEMENT	<p>a. ²Opening Prayer</p> <p>³The 37th Annual General Meeting commenced at 3.30 p.m. with an ⁴opening prayer offered by Alhaji A. Yusuf, Council Member ⁵representing South West Zone.</p> <p>b. ⁶Unveiling of the 5th Governing Council Members and ⁷Investiture of the Chairman of the 5th Governing Council, ⁸Elder Olu-Ajayi FISLT .</p> <p>⁹The Registrar/Secretary to Council, NISLT, Mr. Yemi Gbadegesin ¹⁰welcomed the professional members of the Nigerian Institute of ¹¹Science Laboratory Technology (NISLT) to the 37th Annual General ¹²Meeting.</p> <p>¹³The Registrar/Secretary to Council gave the citation of the new ¹⁴Chairman, Elder Olu- Ajayi Michael as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ¹⁵Pioneer National Chairman of the Association of Science ¹⁷Laboratory Technologists of Nigeria (ASLTON) ✓ ¹⁸Elected into the 4th Governing Council and Chairman of the ¹⁹Finance Committee, as well as a member of the ²⁰Appointments, Promotion and Disciplinary Committee of the ²¹Council. ✓ ²²Re-elected after his success in the screening process of the ²³Federal Ministry of Science Technology and Innovation on ²⁴the 14th October 2021, following the election exercise by ²⁵ASLTON. ✓ ²⁶Now Chairman of Council <p>²⁷The immediate past Chairman of the Council, Mr. Charles Obaseki ²⁸then conducted the decoration of the new Chairman. Mr. Obaseki ²⁹commended the new Chairman for his role in the success of the ³⁰previous Council. He then handed over the medal of office to the ³¹Chairman of the 5th Governing Council of NISLT, Elder Olu- Ajayi on ³²behalf of the Honourable Minister, Federal Ministry of Science ³³Technology and Innovation, Dr. Ogbonnaya Onu. He advised that ³⁴there should be synergy between the Council Chairman and the ³⁵Director-General.</p> <p>³⁶The immediate past Chairman of the Council then decorated the ³⁷other members of the Council as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="496 1865 1091 2042"> <tr> <td>³⁸James Gberindyef FISLT</td> <td>Vice Chairman</td> </tr> <tr> <td>³⁹Mallam Kaigama Kaka FISLT</td> <td>Member</td> </tr> <tr> <td>⁴⁰Alphonsus N. Ikegwu FISLT</td> <td>Member</td> </tr> <tr> <td>⁴¹Emmanuel I. Eze FISLT</td> <td>Member</td> </tr> <tr> <td>⁴²Dr. Comfort S. Alagoa FISLT</td> <td>Member</td> </tr> </table>	³⁸ James Gberindyef FISLT	Vice Chairman	³⁹ Mallam Kaigama Kaka FISLT	Member	⁴⁰ Alphonsus N. Ikegwu FISLT	Member	⁴¹ Emmanuel I. Eze FISLT	Member	⁴² Dr. Comfort S. Alagoa FISLT	Member	
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⁴² Dr. Comfort S. Alagoa FISLT	Member												

		<p>43 Chakyin Y. Gongwang <i>FISLT</i> Member</p> <p>44 Alhaji Abubakar Adamu <i>FISLT</i> Member</p> <p>45 Alhaji Adebayo A. Yusuf <i>FISLT</i> Member</p> <p>46 Barr. Sunday E. Etuk <i>FISLT</i> Member</p> <p>47 Hon. Ahmed K. Ishaq Member (Public Interest)</p> <p>48 Kehinde Osinaike Member (FME)</p> <p>49 Alhaji Shaibu Umar Member (FMSTI)</p> <p>50 Yemi H. Gbadegesin <i>FISLT</i> DG/Registrar/ CEO and Secretary to the Council</p> <p>c. 51 Re-Appointment of the DG/Registrar/CEO, NISLT-Yemi H. Gbadegesin</p> <p>52</p> <p>53 The DG/Registrar/CEO NISLT also informed the members that his</p> <p>54 appointment as the DG/Reg./CEO of the NISLT has been renewed</p> <p>55 by the President and Commander-in-Chief Muhammadu Buhari</p> <p>56 GCFR with effect from 1/7/2021 as contained in a letter dated 8th</p> <p>57 June 2021.</p> <p>d. 58 Maiden Address by the President and Chairman of the</p> <p>59 Governing Council, Elder Michael Olu-Ajayi, <i>FISLT</i></p> <p>60 The Chairman of the Governing Council presented his maiden</p> <p>61 address to all members. He stressed that the first assignment of the</p> <p>62 5th Governing Council would be for members of the Council to</p> <p>63 present policy memoranda from their constituencies for the</p> <p>64 development of the SLT profession.</p> <p>65 The Chairman promised to consult with former members of the</p> <p>66 Council considering their wealth of experience. He also</p> <p>67 acknowledged the contributions of Dr. Ighodalo Ijagbone, the pioneer</p> <p>68 Director- General of the Institute. He gave his word that the</p> <p>69 amendment of the Act of the NISLT would be pursued as a means of</p> <p>70 ending the harassment of ASLTON members by the members of the</p> <p>71 Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria (MLSCN).</p> <p>72 In his charge to the Council, Elder Olu-Ajayi stated that statutory</p> <p>73 meetings would hold quarterly. He encouraged them to mobilize</p> <p>74 ASLTON members to resist harassment from the MLSCN. He</p> <p>75 promised that the Board of Trustees would be sustained and would</p> <p>76 support the Council and the Management.</p> <p>77 The Chairman urged ASLTON members to contribute all that was</p> <p>78 necessary to defend the SLT profession. He appealed for an end to</p> <p>79 hate speech and conflict whilst emphasizing the need for more</p> <p>80 professional activities and involvement in decision-making in their</p> <p>81 workplaces by occupying significant positions. The Chairman also</p> <p>82 appealed for an end to fruitless petitions. He noted that membership</p> <p>83 of the APBN is a welcome development but that ASLTON must put</p> <p>84 its house in order. Members were also encouraged to build capacity</p> <p>85 for collaboration and synergy.</p>	
3.	37.02 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 36th EOAGM HELD ON 2nd DECEMBER, 2020	<p>86 The minutes of the 36th Extra Ordinary AGM (EOAGM) had earlier</p> <p>87 been uploaded on the Institute's website. The Chairman requested for</p> <p>88 corrections from members with the assumption that members had</p> <p>89 downloaded and gone through the minutes.</p>	

		<p>90 Tikyaa Grace pointed out that the minutes should be minutes of the 91 AGM which was held at Delta State Polytechnic, Ozoro. The Registrar 92 explained that the EOAGM was held at Ede and was both physical 93 and virtual. He said that the minutes of the AGM held at Ozoro were 94 discussed at the Ede EOAGM.</p> <p>95 Asuzu-Samuel Henrietta observed that most members were not at the 96 EOAGM and rather requested that the minutes be read out for all.</p> <p>97 Mr. Damos S. N., the ASLTON President collaborated on this point by 98 saying that only Council members attended the EOAGM and opined 99 that the majority of members at the meeting may not have contributed 100 actively to the matters arising. Mr Charles Obaseki, the former 101 Council Chairman and CEO of BISEF Geotechnical, Ilorin lamented 102 that members do not visit the Institute's website which is the most 103 authentic source of information for members. On the issue that only 104 Council members attended the EOAGM, Mr. Obaseki reiterated that 105 the EOAGM was held with Council members attending physically 106 while other members attended virtually. He also referred to the power 107 of the Chairman of the Council in organizing EOAGM as contained in 108 Act 12, 2003.</p> <p>109 Adoption of the minutes</p> <p>110 The corrections having been taken and in the absence of further 111 corrections to the minutes, Mr. James Gberindyler, the Vice Chairman 112 of Council moved a motion for the adoption of the minutes of the 36th 113 EOAGM held at Ede, Osun State. The Director ETI NISLT Peter 114 Oluwafisoye seconded the motion. The minutes were then adopted 115 for discussion.</p>	
4.	<p>37.03</p> <p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</p>	<p>a. 116 Harassment of NISLT Members</p> <p>117 The Registrar reported that harassment of members of the Institute 118 had persisted despite the efforts made so far. He said the most 119 recent is the case of harassment of members working in Local 120 Government Areas in Ogun State and those in clinical laboratories, 121 especially in Cross River and Delta States. He informed members 122 that the court case against members of the Institute at Ikom in 123 Cross River State ended in their favour with a no-case submission 124 by the Judge.</p> <p>125 The Registrar stated that MLSCN had written to the Honourable 126 Minister, Federal Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation 127 (FMSTI) for a courtesy visit. He said he would compile all issues 128 members are having with MLSCN and take time to study them 129 before he would present them at that meeting. He, therefore, called 130 on anyone with relevant information and documents to send such 131 to his email address which he shared at the meeting.</p> <p>132 On the issues that members are having in Ogun State, the 133 Registrar reported that the Director, ETI, NISLT Mr. Peter 134 Oluwafisoye, and some staff of the Institute had visited Ogun State 135 to resolve the issues. He explained that the affected members 136 failed to address the issues in the letter from their employers and 137 were therefore stagnated. The Registrar said that a new Head of 138 Service had just been appointed in Ogun State. He therefore 139 promised to revisit the issue with the new Head of Service.</p> <p>140 On Sokoto State that stopped SLT graduates from the internship in</p>	

	<p>141 medical laboratories, the Registrar said he would take up the issue 142 with the Federal Ministry of Education and the ITF to put a stop to 143 the anomaly, .even though the letter of complaint was not addressed 144 directly to him. Mr. Damos pleaded that Kaduna Polytechnic which 145 had a similar problem should also be included.</p> <p>146 The Chairman in his remarks explained that when the National 147 Assembly enacted the National Primary Health Care Development 148 Agency bill, all State Houses of Assembly were directed to 149 domesticate the bill in their various States. He said that through his 150 efforts and some other members, SLT profession was included in 151 the Primary Health Care Agency bill Committee in Ekiti State. He 152 therefore advised members to get involved in decision-making in 153 their states by politicking through their State Houses of Assembly, 154 Organizations and Institutions' decision-making bodies whilst 155 ASLTON should target the Science and Technology Committees of 156 the National and State Assemblies and be very active at their 157 working places. The Chairman expressed displeasure that there 158 are no active ASLTON branches in many States of the Federation. 159 He said SLT professional matters in such States may not be given 160 the required attention since they are not active.</p> <p>161 Fyaktu, Emmanuel said that Jos University Teaching Hospital 162 (JUTH) does not accept SLT graduates even for Microbiology, 163 Biochemistry or Chemical Pathology. For the Primary Health Care 164 bill, he said he would meet the Chairman for further advice on how 165 to handle the issue in Plateau State. The Chairman on his part 166 advised him and other members to be relevant in their working 167 places and liaise with the Vice-Chancellor, Heads of Organizations 168 and other Principal Officers for interactions and show of relevance.</p> <p>b. 169 Revalidation of Membership Status</p> <p>170 The Registrar reported that the revalidation of members was still 171 ongoing. He said he will take the matter to Council to decide when 172 to close the revalidation. He said that the exercise was necessary 173 to determine the active and current members of the Institute.</p> <p>174 Mr. Damos, the ASLTON National President requested to know the 175 date the portal for revalidation would close.</p> <p>176 The Registrar responded that the revalidation is still open to all 177 members while the issue of when to close the portal will be 178 discussed at the next Council meeting.</p> <p>179 The Chairman in his remarks encouraged members to show their 180 commitment by renewing their membership dues on time. He 181 mentioned the observed benefits of this in Ekiti State as pre- 182 requisite qualification for promotion and annual increment.</p> <p>c. 183 Update on Fellowship Examination</p> <p>184 The Registrar appreciated the 4th Governing Council of the Institute 185 for approving the Fellowship Programme /Examination. He 186 reported that the first set just finished their second module 187 examination and would commence their thesis in the third module. 188 He stated that the advertisement for the second diet is already out 189 and application forms would be available till March 2022. He</p>	
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190 therefore advised interested and qualified Associate members to
191 visit the Institute's website for details on how to apply for the
192 programme.

193 Mr. Damos requested that members who had spent fifteen years in
194 the profession should be exempted from some modules of the
195 Fellowship examination.

196 On the issue of exemption of some members from the Fellowship
197 examination, the Registrar requested the ASLTON National
198 President to submit a position paper on the issue which he would
199 then present to Council.

d. 200 New Professional Membership Examination

201 The Registrar reported that Council had approved the
202 commencement of Mandatory Professional Examination (MPE) for
203 all SLT graduates from Universities and Polytechnics starting from
204 January 2022. He stated that the induction of students at various
205 schools would end by December 31, 2021. With effect from
206 January 2022, the induction of members would hold centrally only
207 for candidates that have successfully passed the MPE. He said
208 graduates of other Science courses would be allowed to write the
209 examination which has replaced the PMTE only after undertaking
210 PGD and Master's degree in SLT.

e. 211 Zonal Offices

212 The Registrar stated that the Zonal Offices in Benin, Abakaliki, and
213 Yola are functional. He advised members to use the Zonal Offices
214 for their meetings and also engage the Zonal Heads on issues that
215 concern members in their zones. He said that all the Zonal Heads
216 would be sponsored for subsequent AGMs.

f. 217 Scheme of Service (Enhanced entry and exit points)

218 The Registrar reported that a meeting was held with the Oyo State
219 Head of Service, which had Alhaji Yusuf, Mrs. Olubadewo, Mr.
220 Owoyemi, and other professionals in attendance. He stated that he
221 had presented a position paper on the enhanced entry point for
222 professional members of the Institute and that the entry-Point had
223 been adjusted to level 10 in Oyo State. He however said that the
224 scheme of service has not been approved by the National Council of
225 Establishment.

226 The Registrar therefore advised the North Central Zone to hold a
227 meeting with their States' Head of Service to intimate them of the
228 new entry-point and work together for its implementation.

229 The Registrar advised ASLTON State chapters to meet with the
230 Head of Service of their respective States since they all meet at the
231 National Council on Establishment during which issues concerning
232 the Scheme of Service at the national level were discussed to
233 support the request of the Institute. He stated that the enhanced
234 entry point for SLT graduates is Grade Level 10. He informed
235 members that the exit point of Grade Level 17 has also been
236 implemented in Oyo State.

237 The Chairman then promised that the new scheme of service
238 would be all-encompassing.

g. ²³⁹Curriculum Development in Universities and Polytechnics

²⁴⁰On Kaduna Polytechnic, the Registrar reported that the institution
²⁴¹contravene to the directive of the Institute on the implementation of
²⁴²the developed curriculum. But the Institution offers for example
²⁴³National Diploma in Microbiology without SLT. He said all efforts to
²⁴⁴get KADPOLY to reverse the decision had proved abortive. He,
²⁴⁵therefore, stated that the Institute had declared running SLT
²⁴⁶programme in KADPOLY as illegal. He appreciated the efforts of
²⁴⁷Alhaji Gidado, the Acting HOD for his support in addressing the
²⁴⁸issue.

h. ²⁴⁹Post Graduate Degree Program in SLT

²⁵⁰The Registrar informed members that some Institutions are
²⁵¹beginning to run Postgraduate Degree programmes in SLT at
²⁵²PGD, Master, and Ph.D levels in Nigeria. He mentioned that
²⁵³University of Port Harcourt and Ladoke Akintola University of
²⁵⁴Technology, Ogbomosho have started PG programmes while the
²⁵⁵University of Jos would start theirs in the next academic session.
²⁵⁶He advised members to avail themselves of the opportunity to earn
²⁵⁷higher degrees in SLT.

i. ²⁵⁸Amendment of the Act Establishing the NISLT

²⁵⁹The Registrar informed members that the process of Amendment
²⁶⁰of the Act will be pursued by the Council. He therefore advised
²⁶¹members who have inputs into the proposed amendment to send
²⁶²such to the Institute's official email address which will be forwarded
²⁶³to Council. He further explained that the procedure will be thorough
²⁶⁴in order not to leave out any issues. He said that all former
²⁶⁵Presidents of the Council and Registrars will be contacted for their
²⁶⁶input.

j. ²⁶⁷Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

²⁶⁸The Registrar informed members that the implementation of the
²⁶⁹M&E has been included in the Institute's 2022 budget which had
²⁷⁰just been defended. He also mentioned that the issue of
²⁷¹procurement of project vehicles, sensitization, and creation of
²⁷²awareness of the project through the press were all yet to be
²⁷³carried out.

²⁷⁴Mr. Damos requested for the outcome of the M&E program since it
²⁷⁵was created to checkmate quackery in the profession.

²⁷⁶The Registrar responded that the training for the M&E is on course.
²⁷⁷He said the National, Zonal, and State training had been done but
²⁷⁸the branch training was yet to be done. He explained that it was
²⁷⁹after the branch training that the program will take off. The
²⁸⁰Registrar further explained that funds had been the limiting factor
²⁸¹for the project He also mentioned that the mapping of laboratories
²⁸²had not been completed in some States which would further delay
²⁸³the commencement of the project.

²⁸⁴He promised that the Institute would work towards achieving the
²⁸⁵goals of the M&E despite the challenges facing the implementation
²⁸⁶of the program.

k. ²⁸⁷SLT Programme at the Polytechnics and Universities

²⁸⁸The Registrar reported that those who did not study SLT but were
²⁸⁹registered as members in the past cannot rise to become Fellows
²⁹⁰of the profession. He said this was the decision of Council and that
²⁹¹the only condition for them to rise to become Fellows is if they
²⁹²study SLT.

**I. ²⁹³Accreditation of SLT Courses at the Polytechnic and
²⁹⁴University Levels**

²⁹⁵The Registrar reported that the problem the Institute is having with
²⁹⁶NUC was because they do not involve the Institute in SLT
²⁹⁷accreditation in the Universities and have not been referring to the
²⁹⁸NISLT Course Curriculum. He reported that at one of the meetings
²⁹⁹with NUC representatives, they claimed that the Professors they
³⁰⁰use are NISLT members. The Registrar stated that he had since
³⁰¹challenged NUC to make available the list of those Professors and
³⁰²check their names in the membership yearbook of the Institute to
³⁰³determine if they were members or quacks. He explained that the
³⁰⁴Institute was still pursuing the issue and meetings were scheduled
³⁰⁵with the Federal Ministry of Education where the Institute
³⁰⁶presented a position paper on the issue. He promised to follow up
³⁰⁷on the issue to a logical conclusion. This had affected the
³⁰⁸accreditation of SLT programmes at Ozoro, Delta State.

³⁰⁹To this end, he informed the meeting that the Institute would
³¹⁰engage the NUC on the issue.

m. ³¹¹Headship of SLT Programme

³¹²At Delta State University, for instance, the Registrar reported that
³¹³the Council sanctioned the Institution by suspending the running of
³¹⁴SLT over breaches in the modalities of offering SLT in the
³¹⁵Universities in Nigeria. He however said that the University had
³¹⁶shown remorse and had met all the required guidelines including
³¹⁷removing the HOD of SLT who is a graduate of MLSCN. He
³¹⁸therefore informed members that the Council had since lifted the
³¹⁹suspension placed on the University. He promised to present a
³²⁰position paper stating that only professional members of the
³²¹Institute could head SLT departments.

³²²The Registrar informed members that anyone who desired to teach
³²³SLT courses must have the Institute's professional certificate. He
³²⁴promised to upload the information on the Institute's website. In
³²⁵addition, he notified the meeting that the Federal Ministry of
³²⁶Education would soon hold its annual meeting in Enugu where
³²⁷such issues would be addressed. He said the minimum standard
³²⁸for setting up science laboratories in Nigeria would be discussed at
³²⁹the meeting and the Institute is expected to lead the discussion on
³³⁰that. He said that he would involve the South East Council
³³¹representatives when the time comes.

³³²Responding to the issue, the Chairman informed the meeting that
³³³most Northern Polytechnics had non-SLT professionals as HODs
³³⁴and lecturers of their SLT Departments. This he said was being
³³⁵corrected.

336 Observations and Comments on Matters Arising

- **337 Ms. Asuzu-Samuel Henrietta** reiterated Mr. Babajide
338 Alalade's point on the closing of duty of the security
339 officials attached to the venue of the AGM and therefore
340 requested that the meeting be postponed till the following
341 day since it was already late and there were still many
342 issues to deliberate upon. The Registrar declined the
343 request and insisted that adequate security measures had
344 been put in place for the meeting. He also informed
345 members that there are vehicles to transport members
346 back to their various hotels after the meeting.

- **347 Dr. Godwin M. Magit of UNIJOS** wanted to know what was
348 being done about the usurping of duties of technologists in
349 the laboratories. He further emphasized that some
350 Universities are employing non-technologists to work in the
351 laboratory. He suggested that the Institute should take a
352 strong position against such Institutions.

353 The Chairman in his response said that there was no
354 document that clearly states that lecturers are not allowed
355 to carry out laboratory work. He however lamented the
356 action of some of our members who abandon their official
357 duties. He said that this had prompted some HODs to
358 appoint lecturers in their Departments as Coordinators in
359 charge of the laboratory. He advised members to always
360 be at their duty posts and be alive to their responsibilities.

- **361 Emmanuel Ukpoko** pointed out that there was no position
362 called Laboratory Coordinator in the University system. He
363 therefore advised members facing this challenge to write to
364 the Management of their University attaching the Institutional
365 Mandate. He was optimistic that the illegal position would be
366 reversed.

- **367 Hajia Lateefat N. Giwa-Imam from the University of**
368 **Maiduguri** lamented that it was discovered in her Institution
369 that those recruiting non-SLT professionals as technologists
370 were their relatives and that removing them would be
371 difficult. She pleaded with the Registrar to visit the
372 University and help sort the issues out with the
373 Management. She also said that UNIMAID was seriously
374 working towards starting the B.Sc.degree programme in SLT
375 and therefore needed the Institute to quickly come in. Mrs.
376 Giwa-Imam also reported that some lecturers were taking
377 practicals in the Chemistry laboratory at UNIMAID.

378 All members experiencing this were advised to contact their
379 Institution's ASUU chairman based on the information
380 released that the ASUU National Chairman had said that any
381 lecturer usurping the duties of technologists in any University
382 in Nigeria should be reported to him directly.

383 In his response, the Registrar promised to consider visiting
384 UNIMAID. He also said that the Institute was working
385 towards ensuring that all lecturers in SLT Department are

		<p>386 licensed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 387 Austin Okorie from UNN also complained about the same 388 problem in UNN where Higher Technical Officers are being 389 employed. He also requested to know if the Institute was 390 aware of the scheduled accreditation at the University of 391 Nigeria Nsukka by the NUC. <p>392 The Chairman in his remarks, challenged professional 393 members of the Institute to develop cordial relationships with 394 the Management of their Institutions/organizations, and to be 395 involved in the recruitment process. He said that this was 396 the only way to stop the ugly trend.</p> <p>397 The Registrar responded that in 2019 the SLT department in 398 UNN requested for resource visitation which he attended 399 with the former Council Chairman. He directed the Council 400 representative in the University to interface between the 401 institution and the Institute because with the present 402 situation, NUC would not accredit the SLT programme in 403 UNN.</p> <p>404 On Mr. Okorie's observation with regards to the need to 405 review the BMAS curriculum and to involve the appropriate 406 professionals in the review process, Peter Oluwafisoye cited 407 the example of the NUC BMAS policy document which he 408 said can be found on the internet, for lecturers to take 409 lectures, seminars and practicals as well but did not mention 410 technologists at all. This he said should be looked into.</p> <p>411 The Registrar responded that members needed to take 412 ownership of the SLT programmes in their Institutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 413 There was an observation that the Federal College of Animal 414 Health and Production, Vom is admitting students for the 415 SLT programme. Members sought to know if the Institute is 416 aware of the programme and whether SLT courses have 417 been accredited there. <p>418 The Chairman responded that the Institute is not aware of 419 the program. He therefore directed the ASLTON Jos branch 420 to immediately take it up and revert to the Registrar.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 421 Aisha Abubakar from NIPRD raised the issue of stagnation 422 of members at CONTISS 12 and demanded the Institute's 423 intervention. <p>424 The Chairman responded that the issue was already being 425 resolved.</p> <p>426 There was a complaint of members being stagnated at 427 CONRAISS 13 and a question on how the new scheme of 428 service applies to Research Institutes.</p> <p>429 The Registrar responded that the enhanced Scheme of 430 Service would address the issues of stagnation once and for 431 all when it is operational. He advised ASLTON to continue to 432 intervene for members in different Institutions/organizations. 433 He informed members from NIPRD present at the AGM that 434 the DG of NIPRD had invited him for discussion. He</p>	
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		<p>435 promised to discuss the issue when he meets with him.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 436 Paul B. D. Plasu asked why the Institute had not moved its 437 headquarters to Abuja. He also wanted to know what was 438 being done about the employment of non-SLT degree 439 holders <p>440 The Chairman responded that the delay in staff moving to 441 the Headquarters in Abuja was because of logistics and 442 financial challenges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 443 Patrick Anthony from the Federal University of Gashua, 444 Yobe State asked why an annual license of the Institute 445 issued in July should expire on December 31st when it was 446 supposed to be valid for one year. <p>447 The Chairman responded that Act 12, 2003 establishing the 448 Institute stated that the Annual License to Practice would 449 expire on December 31 of every year irrespective of when 450 the license was issued or renewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 451 The issue of the geo-political zones that have only one 452 representative in the Council also came up. The Chairman in 453 his response referred the member to the ASLTON National 454 President, Mr. Damos. 455 On the issue of stepping down in rank for those who had 456 converted from Technologist Cadre to Lecturer Cadre to 457 teach in SLT departments in higher Institutions, the 458 Chairman responded that the practice is the same 459 everywhere. He said once an officer converts from one 460 cadre to another, he or she is expected to be stepped down 461 in rank but the salary will be personal to the person. <p>462 In his response to the issue, the Registrar explained that the 463 entry point for lecturing is a Master's degree in SLT. He 464 narrated how he met with the VC of UNIBEN to resolve a 465 similar issue and advised members to lobby the 466 Management of their Institutions for proper placement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 467 Asuzu-Samuel Henrietta raised the issue of SLT graduates 468 with M.Sc. employed in UNIPORT but placed as Assistant 469 Lecturer instead of Lecturer II. She said that the University 470 adopted a policy that any lecturer employed with M.Sc. that 471 studied a 5-year course would be placed on Lecturer II. She 472 however lamented that SLT graduates recently employed 473 were placed as Assistant Lecturers. <p>474 The Registrar in his response promised to meet with 475 UNIPORT authorities on the issue when he visits the 476 Institution. He also promised to handle all other issues 477 concerning members at UNIPORT when next he visits the 478 Institution but advised Ms. Asuzu to compile all the issues 479 members are facing in the University and forward them to 480 him before his visit to enable him to discuss them with the 481 Vice- Chancellor.</p> <p>482 On the issue of lecturers teaching SLT courses in some 483 Institutions, the Registrar said that the issue was already</p>	
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		<p>484 being handled and that once there was a breakthrough, it 485 would affect all Institutions offering SLT in Nigeria.</p> <p>486 Ms. Asuzu also requested for attention be paid to the career 487 structure for Academic Technologists. She expressed her 488 dissatisfaction with how there was no benefit given to 489 Fellows of the Institute concerning a discounted Conference 490 fee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 491 Katu K. Yakubu spoke on the issue of stagnation of 492 members because only one person could be appointed as 493 laboratory Director at a time. He suggested that 494 technologists should be allowed to reach the peak of the 495 profession by adopting the practice in UNIJOS where all 496 qualified technologists can be promoted to Principal Chief 497 Technologist on CONRAISS 15. However, only one of them 498 on CONRAISS 15 could become Director. <p>499 The Registrar responded that the challenge being faced by 500 Technologists in the Civil Service was being handled. He 501 however noted that the hierarchy in Universities was 502 different from that of the Civil Service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 503 Fyaktu E. John notified the meeting of a Monotechnic in 504 Jos, called UNITECH which was offering SLT and wanted to 508 be made to unravel the situation. 	
	<p style="text-align: center;">37.04 PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS</p>	<p>i. 509 The Registrar expressed displeasure over the inability of the 510 External Auditor to present the full Annual Financial Report 511 of the Institute notwithstanding that he came in from Lagos 512 for that purpose. He apologized to the members for the 513 inability to take the full report because time was already far 514 spent. Consequently, he requested that from 2022, the 515 Conference should start on Tuesday to cover all aspects of 516 the programme. He also hoped to start the next AGM with 517 the Annual Financial Report.</p> <p>518 However, Mr. Adeyemi, the ASLTON National Secretary 519 requested that the External Auditor should be allowed to 520 take the Financial Report</p> <p>(ii) 521 Based on the consensus of members, the Registrar invited the 522 Auditor, Mr. Lawrence Ojebode to highlight the Annual 523 Financial Report for the year ending December 31, 2020. 524 After presenting the report, the Chairman of the Council 525 requested comments and observations from members.</p> <p>(iii) 526 Mr. Damos, ASLTON National President observed that the 527 amount expended on travels was high and therefore advised 528 that the Institute should expedite action on the movement of 529 staff to Abuja to save travel.</p> <p>530 In the absence of further comments or observations, Mr. 531 Fyaktu E. John moved the motion for the adoption of the 532 Financial Report and Mrs. Aisha Abubakar seconded the 533 motion. The report was then adopted.</p>	

	<p>37.05 Any Other Business</p>	<p>i. Litigations ⁵³⁵The Registrar informed members that there are litigations ⁵³⁶against some of the activities of the Institute, especially from ⁵³⁷Edo State. He also mentioned that there was an anonymous ⁵³⁸letter to the FMSTI that the Council of the Institute should not ⁵³⁹be inaugurated. He however assured members that he had ⁵⁴⁰since responded to the letter and the issues raised in the ⁵⁴¹letter had been discarded. He however recommended that ⁵⁴²disciplinary measures should be taken against those ⁵⁴³involved.</p> <p>ii. ⁵⁴⁴The DG informed members that the Institute has signed an ⁵⁴⁵agreement with Clinotech Laboratories on research and ⁵⁴⁶diagnostic product development for the manufacturing of ⁵⁴⁷medical, science and biotechnology test devices/kits. He ⁵⁴⁸said production will start in February 2022 at the laboratory ⁵⁴⁹in the Institute's, Headquarters, Abuja and that the ⁵⁵⁰agreement would open doors for technology exchange ⁵⁵¹between Clinotech Laboratories and the Institute.</p> <p>iii. ⁵⁵²The Registrar reported that in the year under review, the ⁵⁵³Institute lost about seven (7) members including Mr. F. O. ⁵⁵⁴Sunmonu, a former Director of the Institute, and Mr. ⁵⁵⁵Apampa, a former Council Chairman of the Institute. A ⁵⁵⁶minute's silence was therefore observed in honour of the ⁵⁵⁷departed members.</p> <p>iv. ⁵⁵⁸The Registrar informed members that ASLTON would ⁵⁵⁹continue to organize the Conference. He advised the ⁵⁶⁰ASLTON National President to start early to prepare for year ⁵⁶¹2022 Conference.</p> <p>v. ⁵⁶²Mr. Damos raised the issue of a potential member who ⁵⁶³studied ND SLT and HND Management studies. The ⁵⁶⁴Registrar responded that the person was not qualified to ⁵⁶⁵register as an Associate Member of the Institute.</p>	
	<p>37.06 FINAL REMARKS</p>	<p>⁵⁶⁶The Chairman thanked the Council, the Registrar, ASLTON ⁵⁶⁷Executives, the LOC, External Auditor, and all members for the ⁵⁶⁸success of the Conference and their cooperation as well as patience ⁵⁶⁹all through the meeting. He therefore encouraged synergy between ⁵⁷⁰the Institute and ASLTON. He confirmed to all members that there ⁵⁷¹was no rift between the Registrar and ASLTON Executives. He ⁵⁷²therefore urged the ASLTON National President to maintain the ⁵⁷³tripartite synergy between the Institute (Registrar), Council, and ⁵⁷⁴ASLTON.</p> <p>⁵⁷⁵The Registrar in his remarks confirmed that the issues he had with ⁵⁷⁶the National Secretary of ASLTON had been resolved amicably. He ⁵⁷⁷thereafter had a group photograph with the ASLTON Executives. The ⁵⁷⁸Chairman thanked him and Council for resolving all pending issues to ⁵⁷⁹move the profession forward.</p>	

	<p>37.07 ADJOURNMENT</p>	<p>580 Having exhausted the issues on the agenda, Mr. Emmanuel K. 581 Ukpoko moved a motion for the adjournment of the meeting. Mr. 582 Idibeke A. Udosen seconded the motion for adjournment.</p> <p>583 The meeting was then adjourned. The closing prayer was said by Dr. 584 Mrs. Comfort S. Alagoa and the meeting closed at 8.27 p.m.</p>	
		<p>585 <i>Elder Olu-Ajayi Michael. FISLT</i> 586 <i>Chairman of Council</i></p>	<p><i>Yemi H. Gbadegesin FISLT</i> <i>DG/Registrar/CEO</i></p>