

NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY

(FEDERAL MINISTRY OF INNOVATION, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY)



MINUTES OF THE 39TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

HELD ON

TUESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER, 2024

**AT THE LAGOS STATE UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF
MEDICINE (LASUCOM), IKEJA, LAGOS STATE.**

<u>ITEMS</u>	<u>DISCUSSIONS/DECISIONS</u>	<u>ACTION BY</u>
39.01 Commencement	ATTENDANCE: 289 participants (see attached list) a)₁ Opening Prayer ₂The 39th Annual General Meeting commenced at 10.00 am with opening prayers ₃by <i>Bashir Maa’ji of University of Maiduguri and Dr Innocent Oghate Ajawobu</i> ₄<i>of Nnamdi Azikwe University, Awka.</i> b)₅ Welcome address by the DG/Registrar/CEO and Nomination of Chairman for the Meeting ₇The DG/Registrar/CEO of NISLT, <i>Yemi H. Gbadegesin FISLT</i> while welcoming ₈all members to the meeting, appreciated them for their professional commitment ₉and also confirmed the presence of the zonal representatives at the meeting. He ₁₀reported that presently, the Institute Governing Council has been dissolved for the ₁₁past two years and requested that members should nominate a Chairman that ₁₂would preside over the meeting. <i>Kaka Mallam Kaigama FISLT</i>, University Of ₁₃Maiduguri ASLTON chapter, on behalf of all members of ASLTON moved a ₁₄motion that <i>Elder Olu Ajayi FISLT</i> the immediate past Council Chairman should ₁₅preside as Chairman over the <i>39th Annual General meeting</i>. The motion was ₁₆seconded by Peter <i>Adefisoye Oluwafisoye FISLT</i> from NISLT. c)₁₇ Opening Address by the Nominated Chairman ₁₈The Nominated Chairman of the meeting, <i>Elder Olu-Ajayi Michael FISLT</i> ₁₉welcomed members to the meeting. He appreciated members for their patience ₂₀since the beginning of the Conference. He also appreciated the ASLTON National ₂₁Executives, the Lagos State Chairman, the Lagos state LOC members and the ₂₂Management of LASUCOM. He enjoined members to make useful contributions ₂₃that would add value to the profession. He wished them successful deliberations.	
39.02 Adoption of the Agenda for the 39th AGM and minutes of the 38th AGM held at Ibadan	2)₂₄ Reading and Adoption of the Agenda of the 39th AGM ₂₅The agenda for the 39th Annual General Meeting was read and adopted for ₂₆deliberation by <i>Hajia Aisha Abubakar FISLT</i> NIPRD, Abuja, and seconded by ₂₇<i>Dr. Ivon Ettah</i>, University of Calabar, Calabar. 3)₂₈ Director General/Registrar/CEO’s Stewardship Report ₂₉The Director General/Registrar/CEO while presenting his stewardship report ₃₀during his tenure as Director General/Registrar/CEO of the Institute, thanked God ₃₁for preserving his life, family and for all his achievement during his tenure. He ₃₂made it known to the house that Eko 2024 was his valedictory Conference since it	

39.03 Matters Arising from the Minutes	33 was the last one he will take minutes as the Director General/Registrar/CEO. He 34 went further to appreciate the pioneer Director General/Registrar/CEO of the 35 Institute (Dr Ighodalo Folorunso Ijagbone) and his family for the love and interest 36 they had in him. He continued by appreciating the past and present Honourable 37 Ministers of Innovation, Science & Technology, Permanent Secretaries both past 38 and present, Science, Technology and Promotion (STP) Directors both past and 39 present, past Governing Council Chairmen/members, ASLTON Chairmen and 40 members and also Management of the Institute both retired and those still in 41 service. He also thanked Mr. President and the Vice President of the Nation as 42 well. 43 4) Reading and Adoption of the Minutes of the 38th Annual General Meeting 44 held at Federal College Of Animal Health & Production, Moor Plantation, 45 Ibadan, Oyo State. 46 The Minutes of the 38th Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2023 held at the Federal 47 College Of Animal Health & Production, Moor Plantation, Ibadan, Oyo State, had 48 earlier been uploaded on the Institute’s website for the perusal of members. The 49 Chairman requested that the Minutes should still be read and the necessary 50 corrections be made for adoption. 51 Corrections 52 Line 136 – S should be removed from Service. 53 Line 203 - Mr Darmi 54 Line 278 – Institute to Ministry 55 Line 255 – Through the Ministers of Education of every State 56 Line 302 – Mr Anoemuah Rawson Omogbemi 57 Mr. William B. Debekeme, Niger Delta University, Wilberforce Island Bayelsa 58 moved the motion for the adoption of the Minutes of the 38th AGM as amended 59 and was seconded by Dr. Elizabeth O. Joel FISLT, University of Ibadan. 60 5) Matter Arising from the Minutes 61 a) Harassment of NISLT members 62 The DG/Registrar/CEO stated that at the moment, there was no official report of 63 any form of harassment from any member on his desk therefore making it very 64 difficult for the Institute to respond. He admonished members to formally write to 65 the Institute on cases of such harassment instead of putting them on social media 66 platforms. The Chairman added that the state branches should be domesticated 67 and likewise chapters are to consolidate and be vibrant so as to make interfacing 68 easy with relevant bodies and Management of their Institution in an attempt to 69 solve issues concerning members within their State.
---	---

	b) ⁷⁰Membership Revalidation ⁷¹The DG/Registrar/CEO, categorically stated that the membership revalidation ⁷²exercise has been on for a very long period and thereby giving members enough ⁷³time to revalidate their membership with the Institute. He continued by stressing ⁷⁴that the exercise will end by December 2024 so as to make way for complete ⁷⁵digitalization of the Institute's activities on the website. c) ⁷⁶Update on Fellowship Examination ⁷⁷On fellowship examination, the DG/Registrar/CEO stated that the fellowship ⁷⁸program is ongoing and that two induction ceremonies were proposed to take ⁷⁹place tomorrow but unfortunately one would not be holding because of ⁸⁰incomplete documentation and submission of thesis for consideration of results by ⁸¹the Management of the Institute. He also continued by saying that due to the ⁸²absence of a Governing Council, Management has sought concurrence from ⁸³ASLTON leadership which was granted for the members who are to be inducted ⁸⁴to the Fellowship grade. He made it known that the advertisement for 2025 ⁸⁵fellowship Diet is out while lectures for the 2024/2025 fellowship Diet will be ⁸⁶commencing the Second Module in November 2024. In his presentation on ⁸⁷fellowship examination, the DG/Registrar/CEO stated that the Fellowship ⁸⁸Examiners list is outdated and plans have been put in place for its review and ⁸⁹members who are interested in becoming Fellowship Examiners are to apply for ⁹⁰such by sending their CVs. d) ⁹¹Mandatory Professional Examination (MPE) ⁹²The DG/Registrar/CEO briefed members that the Institute is making great ⁹³progress in the conduct of its Mandatory Professional Examination. He continued ⁹⁴by saying that the Institute commenced the MPE in five (5) centres in October ⁹⁵2023, nine (9) centres in May 2024 and twenty one (21) Centers in October 2024. ⁹⁶He further stated that the year 2024 examination diet was successful. He ⁹⁷emphasized that Institutions not duly profiled and participating in the MPE will be ⁹⁸sanctioned and removed from the list of Institutions offering SLT. e) ⁹⁹Post Graduate Degree Program in SLT (University of Jos, ¹⁰⁰LAUTECH, University of Port Harcourt and University of Ibadan) ¹⁰¹The DG/Registrar/CEO reported that the post-graduate degree programmes are ¹⁰²still on going in some Universities. He frowned at instances where non-Science ¹⁰³Laboratory Technologists were admitted into such program. He continued by ¹⁰⁴saying that MSC in SLT can not be used for professional Registration. Pre ¹⁰⁵requisite for registration is either HND/BSC / B.Tech. and a Pass in MPE.	
--	--	--

f) ¹⁰⁶Scheme of Service (Enhanced Entry and Exit points)

¹⁰⁷The DG/Registrar/CEO, informed members that the Institute Management and
¹⁰⁸the leadership of ASLTON has not received the omnibus scheme of service for
¹⁰⁹members of ASLTON from the Office of the Head of Civil Service of the
¹¹⁰Federation but obtained photocopy of the new Scheme of Service. There was
¹¹¹problem in obtaining the improved Scheme of Service due to curriculum disparity
¹¹²among Institutions (Universities and Polytechnics) offering Science Laboratory
¹¹³Technology. He also attributed the delay in obtaining the scheme of service due
¹¹⁴to frequent change of officers in the Office of the Head of Civil Service of the
¹¹⁵Federation handling the issues.

g) ¹¹⁶Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)

¹¹⁷The DG/Registrar/CEO, reported that the exercise was constrained due to lack of
¹¹⁸funds to conduct the exercise and the inability of the Institute to access its funds
¹¹⁹from the Treasury Single Account (TSA) with the Federal Government. While
¹²⁰appreciating members in Edo State for their readiness to continue Monitoring
¹²¹& Evaluation within their State, the DG/Registrar/CEO said that in the interim,
¹²²NISLT Zonal offices and their representatives within their zones will be used for
¹²³Monitoring & Evaluation exercises and other members who are interested in
¹²⁴working with the Institute should submit their CV to the Institute.

h) ¹²⁵Amendment of NISLT Act

¹²⁶The DG/Registrar/CEO, informed members that the amendment of the NISLT
¹²⁷Act also awaits the constitution of the Governing Council of the Institute. He also
¹²⁸said that parts of the Act to be amended have been highlighted with inclusions
¹²⁹being penciled down and awaiting the Governing Council and other stakeholders
¹³⁰contributions before going to the National Assembly for enactment.

**i) ¹³¹SLT Program Accreditation in Polytechnics/
¹³²Monotechnics/Universities (NUC, NBTE)**

¹³³The DG/Registrar/CEO, briefed the members that the issue with the National
¹³⁴University Commission (NUC) still remains the same. Speaking further, he said
¹³⁵that Universities offering Science Laboratory Technology programs are
¹³⁶complying in terms of headship and teaching. He continued by saying that the
¹³⁷position of the Institute to continue with NBTE will be decided by the house at an
¹³⁸appropriate time and this was due to NBTE violating the MoU between them and
¹³⁹the Institute. Speaking further, he said the Institute has decided to put resource
¹⁴⁰visitation/accreditation to polytechnics on hold until the signed MoU is reviewed.
¹⁴¹He also made it known to the house that NBTE did not have any qualified
¹⁴²Science Laboratory Technology professionals within its ranks to carry out
¹⁴³accreditation process for Science Laboratory Technology programs in the
¹⁴⁴Polytechnics.

j) ¹⁴⁵Headship and Teaching of SLT Courses

¹⁴⁶The DG/Registrar/CEO reported that for the past two years, it has been his
¹⁴⁷cardinal preaching that the headship and teaching of Science Laboratory
¹⁴⁸Technology program in Institutions should be fully manned by registered
¹⁴⁹members of the Institute. He went on by saying that the Institute will not condone
¹⁵⁰the appointment of non-registered members as Heads and teaching Staff of
¹⁵¹Science Laboratory Technology program in Institutions across the Country. He
¹⁵²continued by saying that meetings were held with Institution offering SLT and it
¹⁵³was agreed that it will be corrected in phases and subsequent appointment of
¹⁵⁴headship and teaching staff will be drawn from registered members of the
¹⁵⁵Institute. He called on members to help combat this menace by supporting the
¹⁵⁶Institute in playing active role officially where and when necessary.

k) ¹⁵⁷Digitalization of NISLT Registration and Renewal

¹⁵⁸The DG/Registrar/CEO, informed the members that as from January 2025, once
¹⁵⁹finalized by the Institute ICT, all activities of the Institute will be fully digitalized
¹⁶⁰and the website of the Institute will be fully operational which will be a means of
¹⁶¹communication from the Institute to the general public and members.

l) ¹⁶²ASLTON Stand on Renewal of Annual License to Practices

¹⁶³The DG/Registrar/CEO while reporting on Renewal of Annual License to
¹⁶⁴Practices reminded the house that it was agreed at the 2023 Conference that
¹⁶⁵members renewing their annual license to practices are required to have clearance
¹⁶⁶from their ASLTON State Branches & Chapters before their annual licenses can
¹⁶⁷be renewed by the Institute.

¹⁶⁸RESPONSE BY MEMBERS

¹⁶⁹**Rev. Chinekeokwu Rufus K.C. FISLT**, Federal University of Technology,
¹⁷⁰Owerri, admonished members not to use the various social media platforms to
¹⁷¹report issues of harassment but to formally communicate with the Institute
¹⁷²through State branches and chapters. He continued by saying that it will be easy
¹⁷³to address challenges on harassment of members fully registered and licensed,
¹⁷⁴including registered Private laboratory owners.

¹⁷⁵**Dr. Ibekwe Sixtus E.**, University of Port Harcourt, was of the opinion that the
¹⁷⁶court ruling on the harassment case won by ASLTON, Calabar branch should be
¹⁷⁷hosted on the Institute website for posterity.

¹⁷⁸**Mr. William B Debekeme.** Niger Delta University, proposed that a courtesy visit
¹⁷⁹by the Institute should be made to Federal Ministry of Health and a follow up on
¹⁸⁰it by ASLTON so as to dialog with them on the role of NISLT in the health sector

	181to mitigate harassment by MLSCN. 182Mr. Peter Adefisoye Oluwafisoye FISLT NISLT, made it known to the 183members that the harassment experienced by members are categorized into two 184types: • 185Members working in the various science laboratories. • 186Members operating private laboratories. 187He continued by saying that the most common harassment is on member 188operating a laboratory and therefore advised them to have their laboratories 189registered and approved by the Institute before operation. 190The Director-General/Registrar/CEO responded that the advise given by Rev. 191Chinekeokwu Rufus K.C. FISLT, Federal University of Technology, Owerri is 192highly noted and should be followed by members. 193On the opinion that the court ruling on the harassment case won by ASLTON, 194Calabar branch should be hosted on the Institute website for posterity, the 195Director-General/Registrar/CEO made it known that permission has been taken 196from relevant authorities and awaits response from them before such can be done. 197On the issues of harassment, the Director-General/Registrar/CEO continued by 198saying that as of now, there is no official case of harassment of any member from 199any quarters. He further informed the house that the Institute and the leadership 200of ASLTON has paid courtesy visit to the Federal Ministry of Health and this 201has created good synergy between them. 202Dr. Ibrahim Sani, University of Abuja, suggested that the Institute should 203collaborate with the Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria and work out 204a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between MLSCN and ASLTON so as 205to end further harassment on members. 206Dr. Tarila E. Amakoromo, University of Port Harcourt, suggested that 207revalidation of licenses should be open ended because many members are having 208licenses without jobs. This should be opened until they secure jobs. 209Dr. Akpoji Bernard S. University of Port Harcourt, followed in suit with the 210suggestion of Dr. Tarila E. Amakoromo and added that revalidation should only 211come up if a member have just secured a job after renewing his licenses for a 212long period of time. In addition to that Mr. Bokoko Holgate Appolos, River 213State University also supported it. 214Mrs. Eze (Boniface) Janefrances, University of Port Harcourt Teaching 215Hospital, was of the opinion that the Institute should assist in creating job 216opportunities for licensed members by mandating chemical, reagent laboratory 217equipment vendors in Nigeria to employ licensed Science 218Technologists/Scientists as their personnel and also obtain license from the	
--	--	--

	219Institute to run their outfits. She also requested that the Institute should make the 220license renewable in every (3) three years. 221Mr. Anoemuah R.O., Delta State University, Abraka, reminded the house that a 222position was taken during the last Annual General Meeting that the revalidation 223exercise should be closed by December 2023 and that any member that wants to 224revalidate his or her membership should apply to the office of the Director- 225General/Registrar/CEO. 226Responding, the Chairman, thanked the last speaker for reminding the house on 227the position taken on revalidation exercise during the 2023 Annual General 228Meeting where it was agreed that the revalidation exercise should be closed by 229December 2023 and affirmed that the position still stand for now. 230Dr. Samuel Onuorah, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, suggested that since 231lectures for fellowship are done online, likewise examinations too can be done 232online or decentralized to the Institute's zonal offices due to the various 233challenges faced by member traveling down to Ibadan to write the examination. 234He also requested to know if been a fellow by years of experience has been 235abolished. 236Mr. Peter Adefisoye Oluwafisoye FISLT, DETI, NISLT, made it known to the 237house that member after obtaining their license can register with the Institute as 238Chemical/Reagents vendors. Also for any science technology laboratory to fully 239function, license of registered members of the Institute are highly needed thereby 240making licensed members gainfully employed. 241The Registrar/Director-General/CEO made known to members that the Federal 242Government, through the Ministry of Innovation, Science and Technology has 243carried out an assessment of sale of chemical in Nigeria and has developed a 244policy on it and that the Institute was part of the policy formulation and that an 245implementation plan has been put in place, of which both are in the favour of 246members. 247He continued by saying that the policy of being a fellow by ten years of 248experience had since being abolished by the Council for a long time and that new 249guidelines have been put in place for the fellowship grade. 250For the online fellowship examination, he noted that both the examinations and 251even meetings with the Heads of Department are often disrupted by network 252communication issues, which are beyond the control of the Institute and the 253candidates being examined. He further stated that, once zonal representatives i.e. 254Council members are approved by the Mr. President, they might be assigned to 255conduct fellowship examinations within their respective zones.	
--	--	--

	256 Dr. Oloruntola Racheal Foluke FISLT, Lead City University, while 257 appreciating the Chairman and Director General suggested that revalidation 258 should be extended for members who are yet to revalidate. She then asked that 259 since licenses that have not been renewed for five years and above cannot be 260 presented for revalidation, what would be the fate of members who have not 261 collected their licenses for over five years. 262 She prayed that the Institute should assist in enshrining professionals in the 263 Science Laboratory Technology Department in Institutions across the Country. 264 She also requested to know how ASLTON will issue clearance online for renewal 265 of NISLT license to members. 266 Mr. Patrick Agbonkhese, University of Jos, informed the Director- 267 General/Registrar/CEO that Science Laboratory Technology students spent (5) 268 years in the University as opposed the (4) four years written on their admission 269 letter and that this has generated a lot of concerns for the students. He also 270 requested to know what the Institute is doing on the issues of internship for 271 Science Laboratory Technology students. 272 Mr. Damos S.N., University of Jos, made the following points: 273 ▪ That professional members should be informed when Mandatory 274 Professional Examination are being done in their various Institutions. 275 ▪ The Registrar should brief members on the issue of Scheme of Service 276 rather than waiting to hear from the ASLTON Chairman. 277 ▪ Attentions of members should be drawn to assignment given to the 278 Institute by government and the role members will perform be clearly 279 made known to them. 280 ▪ On headship and teaching, profiling of staff in Science Laboratory 281 Technology department should be carried out so that roles can be 282 specified. 283 ▪ On Monitoring & Evaluation, he requested that members should be 284 carried along during the process of the execution. 285 ▪ Major options in Science Laboratory Technology programs are being 286 omitted. 287 ▪ On accreditation, he requested the Institute to present a proper curriculum 288 for the profession which will go a long way in addressing issues within 289 the profession. 290 The Registrar/Director-General/CEO, while responding to the last three 291 speakers, stated the following: 292 • Revalidation is closed as agreed by the house but guidelines will be put in 293 place for members with exceptional cases. 294 • On digitization, codes will be generated to confirm payment of annual 295 dues with ASLTON before renewal of annual licenses. 296 • The Institute has being in communication with various Heads of
--	--

	297 departments and even held several meetings with them and they have 298 being carried along with the various information/communiqués and 299 resolutions. • 300 Duration of programme for students offering Science Laboratory 301 Technology in Institutions in Nigeria is five (5) years with a one (1) year 302 Internship or Industrial Training in between. • 303 Also the scheme of service for Science Laboratory Technology profession 304 has gotten to its draft stage at the office of the Head of Civil Service of the 305 Federation. • 306 The office of the Director-General/Registrar/CEO as stated in the ACT 307 2003 is not mandated by law to inform members of the profession with 308 regards to the implementation of the Mandatory Professional 309 Examination. • 310 Monitoring & Evaluation exercise is Council's primary role, but for now 311 there is no Council on ground therefore such activities is on hold pending 312 recommendation from the Minister is approved by Mr. President • 313 The Institute has an MoU with NBTE to run SLT programme with 314 polytechnics and not with monotronics • 315 Research Institutes are actively engaged in all activities of the Institute 316 through their staff members and ASLTON branches. • 317 The Institute's Act cannot be amended by the Management of the 318 Institute, but by its Governing Council and until Council is on ground 319 before the amended Act can be presented to the National Assembly for 320 accelerated hearing. • 321 The Institute does not have control over post graduate courses carried out 322 by various Universities. 323 Mr. Iquot Isaac Sampson, Olabisi Onabanjo University Ago-Iwoye, suggested 324 that the Institute should be represented as a major stakeholder in the accreditation 325 team of the National University Commission for a holistic exercise to be carried 326 out. 327 Dr. Henniretta O. Asuzu-Samuel FISLT, University of Port Harcourt, made it 328 known to the house that the issues of Heads of Department and Deans who are 329 not members of the Institute does not go well with members of the Institute. She 330 also advise that the Institute should inform the various Heads of Department on 331 the requirements for induction of their graduates. 332 Prof. J.O. Osarumwense, University of Benin, Benin, informed members that 333 University of Benin Science Laboratory Technology has started its post graduate 334 programme and the first set of students have graduated. 335 Dr. Iwetan, Benedict B. Delta State University, reported to the house of the case 336 of professional members who did NISLT conversion programme and upgraded to	
--	--	--

39.04 Presentation of 2023 Annual Management and Auditor's Reports	337Lecturer II and Lecturer I respectively upon their acquisition of an MSc. and 338PhD. degree and therefore prayed the Director General to write a letter to the 339Vice Chancellor of the Institution to give the member the required support. 340Comdr. Ibeji Nwokome, Federal University of Technology, Owerri, made the 341following suggestions:- a. 342There should be exemptions for fellowship Grade strictly controlled by 343the Institute's Management. b. 344There is presently a committee set up by National Board for Technical 345Education for the scheme of service for polytechnics. c. 346The Institute should encourage inter disciplinary Post graduate programs. 347Mrs. Eze (Boniface) Janefrances, University of Port Harcourt Teaching 348Hospital, was of the opinion that entry points and exit points of Science 349Laboratory Technology professionals in the health sector should be looked into. 350Mr. Adeuyi Ayodele O. Federal Medical Center Yaba, suggested that the 351Institute should design a policy document where the interest of members in the 352health sector will be captured and that the scheme of service should be unified 353while waiting for the new entry points. 354Mr. Bokokos Holgate Appolos, River State University, was of the opinion that 355the nomenclature of the degree given by institutions running Science Laboratory 356Technology Programs should be the same e.g. B.Tech. 3576) Presentation of 2023 Financial/Accounts Report – External Auditor 358The Chairman of the meeting invited the External Auditor of the Institute to 359present the 2023 Financial/Accounts Report of the Institute. 360Adoption and Acceptance of the Reports for Discussion 361The Chairman on behalf of members thanked the Director- 362General/Registrar/CEO and the External Auditor for their reports. In the absence 363of no further deliberations with regards to the reports, he called for the adoption 364and acceptance of the reports. 365Dr. Mbanisi O.B. FISLT, Federal Polytechnic, Oko, moved the motion for the 366adoption of both the Management & Auditor's Report and it was seconded by 367Mr. O.O. Francis Delta State University, Abraka. 368Mr. Damos S.Nanle FISLT, University of Jos, suggested that the office of the 369Director General of the Institute should be relocated to Abuja for prudent 370management of funds since major activities are at Abuja. 3717) Any other Business (AOB) 372The Director-General/Registrar/CEO informed members that issues to be	
39.05 Any Other Business		

