

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



**MINUTES OF THE 37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)**

**HELD ON**

**WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

**AT THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE, LECTURE  
THEATRE\AUDITORIUM, UNIVERSITY OF ABUJA PERMANENT  
SITE AIRPORT ROAD GIRI, GWAGWALADA, FCT ABUJA**

SN	ITEMS	DISCUSSIONS/DECISIONS	ACTION BY
	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>Attendance</b> See attached list	
1	<b>37.01 COMMENCEMENT</b>	<p><b>a. Opening Prayer</b> The 37th Annual General Meeting commenced at 2.30 p.m with an opening prayer offered by the immediate past Chairman of the Governing Council, Mr. Charles Obaseki.</p> <p><b>b. Opening Address by the Chairman of the Governing Council</b> The Council Chairman, Mr. Olu Ajayi in his welcome remarks to all stakeholders, emphasised the importance of being corporately dressed at stakeholders meetings. He also requested that all stakeholders should be security conscious while the meeting would be on-going considering the state of insecurity nationwide. He admonished members to be brief and precise in their presentations.</p>	
2	<b>37.02 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA FOR THE 37TH AGM AND MINUTES OF THE 36TH AGM HELD AT JOS</b>	<p><b>a. Adoption of the Agenda of the 37th AGM</b> The agenda for the 37th Annual General Meeting was read and adopted for deliberation by Mr. Ogunwole Michael Ogunmola, LAUTECH Ogbomosho and seconded by Prof. Sani S.D. Mohammed, Nile University of Nigeria, FCT-Abuja.</p> <p><b>b. Adoption of the Minutes of the 36th AGM held at Jos</b> The minutes of the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2021 held at University of Jos had earlier been uploaded on the Institute's website for the perusal of members but the Chairman requested that the minutes should still be looked into page by page and corrections to the minutes were taken.</p> <p>Prof. Sani S.D. Mohammed, Nile University of Nigeria, FCT-Abuja suggested that a member has to be present during the previous AGM before he can be qualified to adopt or second the minute of the last AGM.</p> <p>Mr. Udosen I. Edward, Federal Polytechnic, Bauchi moved the motion for the adoption of the minutes of the 37th AGM as amended and was seconded Patrick Anthony, Federal University of Gashua, Yobe State.</p> <p>The Chairman while introducing the Zonal Representative implored them to take note of issues concerning their respective zones and resolutions reached on them and where meaningful conclusion cannot be reached, such matters can be taken to the Zonal meetings or Council.</p>	

**37.03  
MATTERS  
ARISING FROM  
THE MINUTES**

**a. <sup>38</sup>Harassment of NISLT Members**

<sup>39</sup>Ogun State: It was reported that at the level of the State  
<sup>40</sup>Government, the Institute and Dr. Wumi Abimbola, the Ogun  
<sup>41</sup>State ASLTON Chairperson has been interfacing on the  
<sup>42</sup>lingering issues between MLS and SLT within the Local  
<sup>43</sup>Government.

<sup>44</sup>Delta State: It was reported that the member involved was  
<sup>45</sup>jailed in Delta State because he claimed he was a Medical  
<sup>46</sup>Laboratory Scientist and has been released. It was also  
<sup>47</sup>mentioned that NISLT, FMSTI and FMJ were involved in  
<sup>48</sup>resolving the matter. The next court hearing would be coming  
<sup>49</sup>up in the following week.

<sup>50</sup>Cross Rivers State: The Government is privy to the on-going  
<sup>51</sup>discussion between aggrieved members employed by  
<sup>52</sup>Government Hospitals and the Institute. Barrister Etuk, Council  
<sup>53</sup>member from the South-South reported back to the meeting on  
<sup>54</sup>the case at the Federal High Court, Calabar on harassment of  
<sup>55</sup>members. He stated that the No-Case submission presented by  
<sup>56</sup>the prosecution against the defendants who are the aggrieved  
<sup>57</sup>ASLTON members had been overruled. Barrister Etuk also  
<sup>58</sup>reported that the last court session did not hold. The case was  
<sup>59</sup>slated for 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022 which happened to be a public  
<sup>60</sup>holiday The case was then adjourned to 14th, 15th and 16th of  
<sup>61</sup>November 2022.

<sup>62</sup>The DG/Registrar/CEO added that during the visit of the  
<sup>63</sup>Honourable Minister of Science, Technology & Innovation to  
<sup>64</sup>the Institute in September 2022, he was briefed on the matter  
<sup>65</sup>and he promised to revisit the cases on harassment of members  
<sup>66</sup>using legislative measures.

<sup>67</sup>In his own response, the Chairman of Council proffered that the  
<sup>68</sup>long term measure to resolve the cases of members in the  
<sup>69</sup>health sector is the legal angle. In the short term however, he  
<sup>70</sup>recommended the process of implementing the Health Care Bill  
<sup>71</sup>as it was done in Ekiti State where ASLTON members are also  
<sup>72</sup>members of the State Committee on Science and Technology  
<sup>73</sup>which assisted in resolving the problem. He therefore reiterated  
<sup>74</sup>the need for ASLTON State branches to liaise with the Science  
<sup>75</sup>and Technology Committees of their State Governments as well  
<sup>76</sup>as the Primary Health Care agencies and do some politicking.

<sup>77</sup>The ASLTON President, Mr. Damos expressed deep concern  
<sup>78</sup>over the discrimination of ASLTON members' by Medical  
<sup>79</sup>Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria in the health sector. He  
<sup>80</sup>therefore advised that measures should be adopted to solve  
<sup>81</sup>issues at the state and local levels and that there should be  
<sup>82</sup>synergy at all levels.

<sup>83</sup>The Chairman advised members to acquaint themselves with the  
<sup>84</sup>Management of their Institutions for the mutual benefit of all  
<sup>85</sup>parties. He added that issues should be tackled at Branch or  
<sup>86</sup>State levels first before being taken to the NEC quarterly  
<sup>87</sup>meetings.

<sup>88</sup>Alhaji Yusuf, a Council member representing the South West,  
<sup>89</sup>expressed displeasure on how members had not been routing  
<sup>90</sup>their complaints through the official reporting procedure  
<sup>91</sup>through the DG/Registrar/CEO to the Council.

**<sup>92</sup> b. Membership Revalidation**

<sup>93</sup>The DG/Registrar/CEO stated that the evaluation of members’  
<sup>94</sup>certificates was done by the Federal Ministry of Education  
<sup>95</sup>previously. He explained further that the problem with the  
<sup>96</sup>evaluation of Final Diploma and Higher National Diploma  
<sup>97</sup>certificates by the Federal Ministry of Education was brought up  
<sup>98</sup>again this year, even though the case had been revisited in 2019.

<sup>99</sup>It was noted that the revalidation exercise had been extended to  
<sup>100</sup>December 31st 2022. The DG/Registrar /CEO reported that  
<sup>101</sup>only 1,127 members had revalidated their membership  
<sup>102</sup>certificates. He sought the opinion of stakeholders on closing or  
<sup>103</sup>extending the exercise, saying that closing it would mean that  
<sup>104</sup>all defaulters would have their membership revoked. Mr.  
<sup>105</sup>Adeyemi Olugbenga of the University of Ibadan requested that  
<sup>106</sup>the closing date for the exercise should be extended to the end  
<sup>107</sup>of June 2023 so as to give room for more members to  
<sup>108</sup>participate. Responding to Mr. Moses Hassan from NVRI, the  
<sup>109</sup>DG/Registrar/CEO said that members whose certificates were  
<sup>110</sup>not ready should attach their statements of result as an  
<sup>111</sup>alternative. Also a membership mini card would be given to  
<sup>112</sup>members who have successfully completed their revalidation  
<sup>113</sup>by the Institute.

<sup>114</sup>Prof. U.B. Owhe-Ureghe of Delta State University, Abraka  
<sup>115</sup>supported the need to ascertain the true membership strength of  
<sup>116</sup>the Institute. Mr. Anoemuah Rawson, Delta State University  
<sup>117</sup>Abraka requested for a letter of confirmation of revalidation to  
<sup>118</sup>which the answer was in the affirmative.

<sup>119</sup>Mr Moses Hassan, NVRI VOM, pleaded for an extension of the  
<sup>120</sup>revalidation exercise especially for some paid-up members in  
<sup>121</sup>VOM branch who are yet to convocate and collect their  
<sup>122</sup>certificates because of the issue in Plateau State Polytechnic.

<sup>123</sup>The DG/Registrar/CEO advised them to go online, revalidate  
<sup>124</sup>and attach their statements of result.

125 Mr. Patrick Anthony, Federal University Gashua, Yobe State  
126 inquired if it is necessary for someone whose license is three  
127 (3) years old to revalidate his membership. The  
128 DG/Registrar/CEO explained that the purpose of membership  
129 revalidation is to upload members' documents online and that  
130 the process is free.

131 Professor Sani S.D Mohammed, Nile University Abuja, advised  
132 that there should be a timeline and deadline for members to  
133 revalidate their membership with the Institute.

**c. 134 Examinations**

**135 Fellowship Examinations**

136 The DG/Registrar reported that the guidelines for improved  
137 fellowship programme would be strictly adhered to and their  
138 induction would be within the first quarter of 2023 during the  
139 Council meeting which would occur after the Fellowship  
140 defence in December 2022.

141 Mr. Ayotunde Omorilewa, University of Lagos, made a  
142 passionate appeal for people that has been on their Fellowship  
143 program for long to be allowed to complete their theses and  
144 defend. The DG/Registrar responded that it would be difficult  
145 for now but that it would be noted for Council deliberation.

146 Dr. Bashir Alkali, Kano State Polytechnic, inquired if the fee he  
147 paid when he registered for his Fellowship examination is still  
148 tenderable now that there is a new policy to which the  
149 DG/Registrar replied in the negative.

**150 Professional Examinations**

151 The Registrar informed the forum that the professional  
152 examination has been divided into two categories.

**a) 153 External candidates**

154 Those who graduated long ago and did not know that they are  
155 to write the professional examination. This group of  
156 candidates have already obtained forms for the examinations  
157 while those who were willing to be examiners had also been  
158 shortlisted and examinations would be conducted in the first  
159 week of December and results would be presented to Council  
160 for ratification.

**b) 161 Internal candidates (Polytechnics and Universities  
162 Graduates)**

163 It was reported that the prolonged ASUU strike had affected the  
164 programme and resulted in an extension of the examination  
165 date. The DG/Registrar/CEO however informed stakeholders  
166 that the examinations would now hold in the first week of  
167 December 2022 for those candidates that had been shortlisted.

168 He explained further that the examination was for graduates of  
169 SLT and that there would be no discrimination against SLT  
170 graduates in polytechnics. Other affected Institutions are Ekiti  
171 State Polytechnic, LAUTECH, University of Jos, Akwa Ibom  
172 State Polytechnic, Federal Polytechnic Ilaro and Bauchi State  
173 Polytechnic.

174 Stakeholders were informed that Prof. U.B. Owhe-Ureghe had  
175 been appointed as the Head of Department of the SLT  
176 Department, Delta State University, Abraka in place of the  
177 former HOD who is not a member of the Institute. In addition,  
178 it was reported that Kaduna Polytechnic was not allowed to  
179 present candidates due to non-adherence to quality standard in  
180 the running of Science Laboratory Technology (SLT) program  
181 at Kaduna Polytechnic.

182 Mr. Adeyemi Olugbenga of the University of Ibadan requested  
183 that members that stopped at the HND SLT level years ago  
184 should be exempted from the programme but rather they should  
185 be fined a certain amount of money and that examination  
186 centres should be increased across the Country considering  
187 economic factors.

188 The DG/Registrar responded that almost ten (10) centres in the  
189 South West as well as Kaduna Polytechnic, UNIJOS and FUT  
190 Yola had already applied. He advised those interested to visit  
191 the NISLT website for necessary information.

**d. 192 Post Graduate Degree Program in SLT (UNIJOS,  
193 LAUTECH and UNIPORT)**

194 It was observed that the programme had been advertised since  
195 February 13th and 14th 2022. On a positive note, LAUTECH  
196 and UNIPORT has since started with the programme. The  
197 conversion programme for B.Sc Science degrees and non-HND  
198 SLT programmes at UNIPORT has since been objected to.  
199 Also, some Institutions had commenced the B.Sc SLT degree  
200 programme to pave way for the post graduate degree  
201 programmes.

202 The Chairman advised those agitating for courses in Physiology  
203 and Pharmacology to start from the undergraduate level for  
204 which the course is readily available.

205 The DG/Registrar/CEO therefore advised SLT Departments  
206 University of Benin and Delta State University respectively to  
207 start running their post graduate degree programme in Science  
208 Laboratory Technology so as to encourage their students in the  
209 pursuit of a higher degree in Science Laboratory Technology  
as requested by the Institute.

210 Mrs. Obiano Chineta, Babcock University, Ogun State,  
211 suggested that candidates from other departments outside  
212 Science Laboratory Technology should be allowed to take a  
213 Post Graduate Diploma in Science Laboratory Technology and  
214 then proceed to Masters level instead of being deprived of an  
215 opportunity of pursuing a career in Science Laboratory  
216 Technology.

217 In addition, an advice was given that the Annual Licence to  
218 practise should be digitalized and that passport photographs  
219 should be added.

**e. 220 Scheme of Service (Enhanced entry and exit points)**

221 The DG/Registrar/ CEO reported that the Office of the Head of  
222 Service sent representatives to Oyo State to deliberate on the  
223 Scheme of Service for Science Laboratory Technologists. The  
224 meeting considered the issue whereby graduates with Masters  
225 degrees are now being employed as Graduate Assistants despite  
226 the Institute's collaboration with the NUC. The DG/Registrar  
227 informed the meeting that he had taken up the issue with the  
228 Oyo State Head of Service and that the issue was well  
229 presented. It was noted that necessary documents for  
230 addressing the issue had been submitted in August 2022.

231 He then informed the meeting that the new policy on  
232 conversion for Science Laboratory Technologists stipulates that  
233 conversion must have been done before reaching CONRAISS  
234 10.

235 Mr. Iwetan Benedict B, Delta State University, Abraka  
236 requested that the point of entry for those with Masters in  
237 Science Laboratory Technology in the Scheme of Service  
238 should be upgraded from Graduate Assistant to Lecturer II and  
239 that the Institute should liaise with the Nigerian University  
240 Commission to harmonize the process of accreditation of  
241 Science Laboratory Technology programme.

242 The DG/Registrar/CEO responded that the rule as it relates to  
243 conversion has to be adhered to according to the Scheme of  
244 Service. Also a new improved curriculum has been submitted  
245 to the Nigerian University Commission (NUC) which is being  
246 studied for implementation. He also added that the Institute has  
247 a very good relationship with the National Board of Technical  
248 Education (NBTE).

**f. 249 SLT Programme at Polytechnics / Universities**

250 UNIPORT members complained about the teaching of SLT  
251 courses by non-SLT staff of the University and demanded that  
252 the trend should be discontinued. In response to this, it was  
253 again emphasised that only ASLTON members can head SLT

		<p><sup>254</sup>Departments, however HODs with Science background are to  <sup>255</sup>be considered for membership of the Institute after following  <sup>256</sup>the necessary modalities. ASLTON was therefore advised to  <sup>257</sup>embark on advocacy visit to their Vice Chancellor on the  <sup>258</sup>importance of this.</p> <p><b>g. <sup>259</sup>Curriculum Development for NUC/NBTE</b></p> <p><sup>260</sup>The DG/Registrar/CEO also reported that while meeting with  <sup>261</sup>the Executive Secretary of the National Universities  <sup>262</sup>Commission (NUC) Professor Adamu Rasheed on the  <sup>263</sup>importance of the engagement of NISLT members in the  <sup>264</sup>accreditation of SLT programmes had been reiterated.  <sup>265</sup>Stakeholders were then informed that the list of all Professors  <sup>266</sup>and PhD holders of SLT departments is to be submitted to the  <sup>267</sup>Institute for compilation to NUC. It was noted that licensure  <sup>268</sup>of the Institute is a pre-requisite for mobilizing SLT graduates  <sup>269</sup>for NYSC.</p> <p><sup>270</sup>The NBTE was however commended for always engaging the  <sup>271</sup>Institute for accreditation activities.</p> <p><b>h. <sup>272</sup>Amendment of NISLT Act</b></p> <p><sup>273</sup>The DG/Registrar/CEO requested that members should study  <sup>274</sup>the Act and see where amendments can be made. Such inputs  <sup>275</sup>should then be passed to the Council for necessary action.  <sup>276</sup>Council also directed that the Registrar should x-ray some  <sup>277</sup>issues that needed to be reviewed before the constitution of a  <sup>278</sup>Committee for this purpose. ASLTON was also directed to  <sup>279</sup>look into the issues as well.</p> <p><b>i. <sup>280</sup>Monitoring and Evaluation (M&amp;E)</b></p> <p><sup>281</sup>It was observed that new ASLTON executives and Council  <sup>282</sup>members had gone through a special training on Monitoring  <sup>283</sup>and Evaluation and that the next stage of the physical activity  <sup>284</sup>was awaiting the release of fund before execution.  <sup>285</sup>Stakeholders were also informed of the programme to collect  <sup>286</sup>data on laboratories in their various States for the purpose of  <sup>287</sup>planning. However, it was reported that only few States had  <sup>288</sup>responded.</p> <p><b>j. <sup>289</sup>Headship of SLT programme</b></p> <p><sup>290</sup>The Registrar emphasised that Headship of Science Laboratory  <sup>291</sup>Technology Programme should be from the SLT profession and  <sup>292</sup>not from other professions. He advised members to speak up in  <sup>293</sup>areas where other professionals are imposed on them.</p>	
4	<p><b>37.04 PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS</b></p>	<p><sup>294</sup>The Chairman of Council invited the Director General/  <sup>295</sup>Registrar/Chief Executive Officer of the Institute who is also  <sup>296</sup>Secretary to the Council to present the Annual Report of the  <sup>297</sup>Institute.</p>	



		<p>298 While presenting the Management report the Director  299 General/Registrar expressed his appreciation to the Chairman  300 and Council members for their support over the year and also  301 the Honourable Minister of Science, Technology and  302 Innovation and the Permanent Secretary.</p> <p>303 The External Auditor was also called upon to present the  304 financial report for the year 2022.</p> <p>305 After the presentation of the reports, the Chairman of the  306 Council then requested for comments and observations.</p> <p>307 Mr. Dashak requested to know the effort the Institute is making  308 on its relocation to Abuja which would help to reduce the cost  309 on transport and travel.</p> <p>310 The Registrar replied that the Honourable Minister has  311 approved the relocation of the Institute’s Headquarters to the  312 FCT but paucity of fund for the payment of relocation of staff  313 has being a major challenge hampering the movement of the  314 headquarters to Abuja.</p> <p>315 In the absence of further comments and observations, Prof.  316 U.B. Owhe-Ureghe moved the motion for the adoption of the  317 financial report Mr. Dunkun Cyril Chukwudi seconded the  318 motion after which the report was adopted.</p>	
5	<p><b>37.05</b>  <b>ADJOURNMENT</b></p>	<p>319 Having exhausted the agenda, Mr Moses Hassan, NVRI VOM  320 moved a motion for the adjournment of the meeting and was  321 seconded by Mr Oyedeji Bukola, LAUTECH, Ogbomoso after  322 which the meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer said by  323 Dr. Bashar Alkali.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>324 <i>Olu-Ajayi Michael</i> FISLT  325 <i>Chairman of Council</i></p> <p>_____</p> <p><i>Yemi H. Gbadegesin</i> FISLT  <i>DG/Registrar/CEO</i></p>	