

NTI NEWS BULLETIN

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23,000 NIGERIAN TEACHERS TRAINED BY SMASE IN 10 YEARS---Says NTI SMASE Director



Dr. Hafsat Lawal Kontagora Director, Centre for Strengthening of Mathematics and Science Education, NTI

Dr. Hafsat Lawal Kontagora, the NTI SMASE Director, has said that the SMASE Nigeria Project had within the last 10 years trained no fewer than 23,000 primary school teachers across the country.

Kontagora , who made the revelation in an interview with the **Bulletin** recently also revealed that the teachers were trained through the ``***cascade model***'' of training.

According to her, the ***model*** is a three-tier system of training that comprised of training at the national, state and local levels.

``The National Trainers trained 13 to 15 trainers; the state trainers cascade to 200 core teachers at the state level and they in turn train 600 teachers at the local level,

who subsequently take the training to the school level,” she said.

The Director however, explained that one of the main characteristics of SMASE Nigeria Project included focusing on In-Service Education Training(INSET).

“The INSET addresses improvement of quality of teachers in terms of attitude, pedagogy, mastery of content, resource mobilisation and utilisation of locally sourced teaching materials.

“Another characteristic of the project being upheld is the Activity-based, Student-centred with Experiments and Improvisation/ Plan-Do-See-Improve **ASEI/PDSI** approach.

“This approach was what the Japanese teachers employed for ages and has proven to be very effective in building teachers’ capacities and improving interest.

“This approach has also been effective in the improvement of performance of learners to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills,” she said.

In a related development, the Director SMASE in a special report submitted to the Institute’s Management recommended the adoption of Knowledge Co-Creation Programme (KCCP) strategy for SMASE training.

Kontagora made the recommendation in a report on KCCP for improving quality of teaching and evaluation methodology in Mathematics and Science Education in sub-Saharan African English speaking countries.

“ I would therefore like to conclude by recommending that NTI should adopt this KCCP programme holistically as part of

SMASE trainings to improve the teaching and evaluation methodology of Science and Mathematics in Nigeria or modify aspects of the training,” she said.

She said the KCCP, which is aimed at improving quality of teaching and evaluation in Mathematics and Science Education in Sub-Saharan African English speaking countries was designed as a course for improving teaching and evaluation methodology by Okayama University, Japan and funded by the Japanese Government through Japan International Cooperation Agency(JICA).

Recall that since 2013, the programme is being conducted annually to build the capacity of teachers, teacher-trainers and supervisors of trainers from Sub-Saharan Africa English speaking countries.

“This year, a total of Seven participants from four African countries participated in the training.

“The countries included Nigeria, Malawi, South-Sudan and Zambia and the trainees comprised Science and Mathematics Teachers at Primary School, Teacher Trainers and Supervisors, who have been involved in In-service Teacher Training (INSET) of Primary Science and Mathematics Education,” she added.

The Director said the objectives of the programme among others, included the enhancement of participants’ capacity in conducting quality lessons and evaluation based on pedagogical content and knowledge that would lead to the achievement of quality INSET.

According to her, the training was characterised by presentations,

demonstration, observation and analysis of Science and Mathematics.

It would also be recalled that the NTI SMASE centre had cascaded the training to its staff between February 12 and 15, 2019 (see **Bulletin of February-March, 2019, Vol.1, No. 17, page 12**) , in its effort to actualise and implement the recommendation of the KCCP in Lusaka, Zambia , held between June 2 and 30, 2018.



Prof. Garba Dahuwa Azare
Director-General and Chief Executive NTI

NTI MANAGEMENT DIRECTS PROVISION OF HYGIENE MATERIALS TO STAFF

Mal. Mahmud Muhammed Usman, the outgoing Registrar and Secretary to Council, had directed the Institute's state coordinators nationwide to provide their staff with requisite hygiene materials in their various offices.

The directive was contained in a Circular titled: **“ Re: Partial Resumption of Duties by Officers on Grade Level 14 and Above and those on Essential Duties,”** issued on Friday, May 15 and signed by Usman on behalf of NTI Management.

It stressed that materials to be provided included facility for regular hand washing and sanitisers.

The Circular mentioned that the NTI Management also directed heads of all NTI offices nationwide to “ensure strict observance of social/ physical distancing and all that COVID 19 Protocols contained.”

According to the Circular, NTI staff had been enjoined to stay safe and avoid acts that would pre-dispose them to COVID 19 infection among other challenges.

The circular mentioned that the NTI Management had noted and regretted that most Zonal/State offices had been under lock and key since March 25 in spite of the directive.

“Accordingly, Management wishes to draw the attention of all staff to the fact that failure to be on duty without any justifiable excuse – like being on leave- is an act of gross misconduct.

“This extant rule will no doubt be applied to all staff on CONRAISS 12 and above; and all those below who are asked to be on duty by their Heads for the performance of essential duties,” Usman stressed in the circular.

PROF AZARE APPROVES APPOINTMENT OF ACTING NTI REGISTRAR



Mal. Abubakar Mohammed Sadiq New Acting Registrar and Secretary to Council

Prof. Garba Dahuwa Azare, the NTI Director-General and Chief Executive, has approved the appointment of Mal. Abubakar Mohammed Sadiq of the Registry Department, to oversee the affairs of the Department, pending the ratification of his acting appointment by the Institute's Governing Council.

Mohammed's appointment was conveyed through a letter made available to **the Bulletin**, dated Friday, May 29, with Reference **No. NTI/SS/PER/217/VOL.I/349**, signed by Mr Obioha Ogbuka, the Deputy Registrar, Human Resources Division of Registry Department on behalf of Prof. Garba Dahuwa Azare, the NTI DG/CE.

“Your appointment is consequent upon the commencement of terminal leave of the Registrar and Secretary to Council, Mal. Mahmud Mohammed Usman, with effect from June 2, 2020.

“While wishing you the best in the new position, it is hoped that you will bring to bear your years of training and experience to the effective discharge of the

responsibilities of the department and justify the confidence reposed in you by the Management,” the letter concluded.

Mohammed, who was born on January 10, 1963, holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration and joined the services of the Institute on April 10, 1986.

He has within the years of his working sojourn in the Institute, got promoted to different levels and assigned multifarious responsibilities with the last one being Deputy Registrar I (Academic Records Divisions) with effect from January 12, 2016.

Our man of the moment, who hails from Zaria Local Government of Kaduna State is married and blessed with children.

NTI FOSS DIRECTOR COMMENDS DG/CE FOR PAYING OUTSTANDING HONORARIA



Mr. Israel Durodola Director, Field Operations and Students' Services, NTI

Mr. Israel Durodola, the NTI FOSS Director, has commended Prof. Garba Dahuwa Azare, the NTI Director-General and Chief Executive, for directing the Bursary

Department to promptly pay all the Institute's outstanding Teaching Practice, Projects and Facilitation honoraria to Centre Managers and Facilitators.

Durodola, who gave the commendation in a recent interview with **the Bulletin** also appreciated the support and cooperation of Mal. Mahmud Mohammed Usman and Mal. Yunusa Danbala Labaran, the out-gone Registrar and Current Acting-Bursar respectively, for their various cooperation in expediting and making the exercise possible.

He exhorted NTI Field Staff and Centre Managers to block all revenue leakages and advised that students must be counseled to pay their fees directly through the banks.

“Any member of staff or Centre Manager involved in diversion of fees would be sanctioned appropriately,” he said.

According to him, the DG/CE had made efforts to ensure that course books have been made available to all students who registered pointing out that books had been distributed to State Coordinators “on condition that they would release them only to students that have paid.”

The Director directed the NTI Zonal offices to coordinate the proper running of state offices under their supervision, among others, checking absenteeism from duty posts and adequate supervision of state coordinators under them as well as adequate monitoring of study centre(s) in their respective domains.

He insisted that they must ensure proper implementation of the Institute's guidelines, endorsement of requests; letters and complaints only after reading through.

“It is incumbent on the coordinators to ensure that practicals are being conducted in their study centres as and when due.

“Students must have practical notebooks as a clear evidence that the practicals are being conducted,” he said.

“We are reviewing the ‘Practical Guide,’ to assist in the conduct of practical for relevant programmes. Our practical kits must be put in proper use,” he said.

Durodola directed the coordinators to ensure that those admitted register for their respective programmes pointing out that the tradition of waiting close to examination time to register is no longer acceptable.

“Mobilise and sensitise your old and new students to register at the beginning of each semester,” he said.

NTI TO EXECUTE OWN MANDATE IN SPITE OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC LOCKDOWN----
Says Newly appointed Ag. Registrar



Mal. Abubakar Mohammed Sadiq
New Ag. Registrar and Secretary to NTI Council

Mal. Abubakar Mohammed Sadiq, the newly-appointed Acting NTI Registrar and Secretary to Council, has emphasised that the Institute has a myriad of mandate that must be executed regardless of the prevailing COVID-19 Pandemic and its attendant lockdown.

Sadiq made the emphasis in a Circular titled: ***“Re:Attendance of Duties by Officers on Grade Level 14 and Above and Those on Essential Duties on Daily Basis,”*** issued on Friday, June 5, 2020 and signed by him which he addressed to all Staff at the Headquarters, Zonal, State and Liaison Office(s).

“Accordingly, it behoves staff to be conscious of this and readily contribute their quota to the effective delivery of services to the different stakeholders chief of which are the students,” he said .

The Registrar, however, mentioned that the circular was further to earlier Internal Circulars dated March 25 and April 20,

issued to staff on partial resumption of duties and consequent upon directives of the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation (HoSF).

He mentioned that following HoSF’s Circular of June 1, all staff on CONRAISS 12 and above and those recalled for essential duties are to henceforth, be on their duty posts Mondays through Fridays 9:am to 2: pm.

“Zonal/State Coordinators and Head, Liaison Office, Abuja, are for the umpteenth time being directed to abide by the directives of the Institute on partial resumption of duties.

“It is regrettable that most Field Offices have remained closed since the on-set of the COVID 19 Pandemic Lockdown of activities,” he said in the circular.

NTI ACTU CHAIR SPEAKS ON WAYS TO DEVELOP AND FOSTER ETHICS AND INTEGRITY AT PERSONAL AND CORPORATE LEVELS



Comrade Adamu Musa
ACTU Chairman NTI

Comrade Adamu Musa, the Chairman, NTI-Anti Corruption and Transparency Unit (**ACTU**), has said that there is the need for individuals and corporate entities to have and maintain ethics for their continued existence.

Musa who made the disclosure in a recent interview with the **Bulletin**, also defined ethics as “**code of morality or a system of moral principles governing the appropriate conduct for an individual or group.**”

He said that Integrity entails the possession of quality and adherence to high moral principles, completeness, as well as wholeness i.e. the state of being sound or undamaged.

According to him, Integrity is a moral compass that guides behaviour in addition to choosing to act based on values rather than benefits or gain.

He explained that there are three levels of Integrity which involved Personal/Professional Organisational and National, pointing out that each level is a component of the succeeding one.

“Integrity is a critical determinant of progress at all the three levels,” he said.

On the need for ethics and integrity in our societies, Comrade Musa argued that both need to be entrenched because the moral regulation of behaviour in society is necessary to promote and preserve the well-being of members.

“There must always be ‘policing’ of those structures of society which encourage us not to do wrong and punish us when we break rules, laws, courts, family discipline, community norms and so forth to ensure we do what is ethical.

“There is always the need for Corporate Ethics and Integrity as against Unethical practices and lack of integrity which have serious damaging impact on staff, clients and the larger society.

“One such impact is Corruption... and we all lose!” he said.

The NTI-ACTU Chairman maintained that ethics and integrity are necessary tools in building social cohesion, inclusiveness and Trust.

He explained that regulation of behaviour in organisations is necessary to promote organisational objectives and preserve the well-being of members of the organisation.

On ethical requirements for MDAs, Comrade Adamu said there is need for public servants to acquaint themselves with provisions of Chapter 2, Section 23 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) as well as its provisions on discipline, integrity, dignity of labour, social justice, religious tolerance, self-restraint and patriotism.

“They are complemented by, Code of Conduct for Public Officers, Public Service Rules, Extant Circulars, Legislations on Anti-Corruption and Public Procurement, Extracts from the Civil Service Handbook in addition to Code of Ethics and Conduct in the Civil Service.

“A civil servant must ensure compliance with the principles of Law through the display of professional discipline, efficiency, loyalty, dignity, integrity, industry, equity, impartiality and fairness.

“S/he must have public-spiritedness, courage, courtesy, cooperation, tact and national consciousness,” he added.

According to the NTI-ACTU Chair, a civil servant is additionally expected not to solicit, accept, demand or receive either directly or indirectly any payment, gift or other advantages in kind in return for performing or refraining from performing official functions and obligations.

He however, explained that the benefits of ethics and integrity in the workplace is to among others, infuse morality into the minds of people.

According to him, Ayn **Rand**, an internationally acknowledged moralist once said: ***"The purpose of morality is to teach you, not to suffer and die, but to enjoy yourself and live."***

**SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION
KEY TO TECNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT ---
Says Dr Hafat Lawal Kontagora.**



Dr. Hafsat Lawal Kontagora
Director SMASE

Dr. Hafsat Lawal Kontagora , the NTI SMASE Director, has said that a key factor globally recognised for any country's

technological development is the improvement of Science and Mathematics education.

Kontagora made the disclosure while presenting a paper titled: **“Strand 4 : Curriculum Development Implementation and Assessment ,”** at a conference on **“Strengthening of Mathematics and Science Education in Africa ,”** held in Nairobi , Kenya before the Global COVID -19 Pandemic Lockdown.

She explained that the paper presentation was sequel to a study that assessed the impact of SMASE In-Service Education Training(INSET) in teaching and learning of Mathematics and Science Education in some states in Nigeria.

According to her, the study showed that SMASE-trained teachers performed significantly better than their non-SMASE trained counterparts in the implementation of Activity-based, Student-centered with Experiments and Improvisation (**ASEI**) and Plan, Do, See and Improve (**PDSI**) approach.

“Pupils taught through the ASEI/PDSI approach by the SMASE-trained teachers demonstrated higher participation with the mean score in a given group being 3.4408; 3.2281 and 3.2237 as against 2.8828; 2.4583 and 2.6719 respectively.

“Findings also indicated that there are challenges and areas of difficulty in areas like higher order thinking skills, teaching of graphs, indices, place value, magnetism, basic electricity and electrical circuit,” she said.

The Director however, recommended another INSET Cycle to be initiated by the Centre as intervention for the gaps and challenges identified in addition to urging

the Federal Government to provide more support and the strengthening of SMASE INSET especially at school levels.

She further advised the scaling up of impact study to the remaining states in this country.

On the relevance of technological advancement being fundamental in the development of nations, Kontagora stressed that the feat would remain unattainable without a strong base in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

“Strong STEM base begins at the basic education level through the way Mathematics and Science subjects are taught and learnt,” she said.

The Director further explained that 15 years ago, the Federal Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (**JICA**) conducted a baseline study on the status of Mathematics and Science subjects in selected primary schools in the country.

“The study revealed serious challenges in teaching and learning of both disciplines; it confirmed a strong association between low teaching capabilities and poor learning performances.

“This low achievement in both disciplines became worrisome and a source of concern to many parents, educators and government because they occupy a special position in national development.

“This created the need to as a matter of urgency establish a mechanism to address the challenges of teaching and learning of Mathematics and Science subjects,” she said.

LOSSES RECORDED IN THE EDUCATION SECTOR OWING TO COVID-19 UNQUANTIFIABLE----Says Prof. Iliyasu

Prof. Ahmed Iliyasu, the Special Assistant to Prof. Garba Dahuwa Azare, the NTI Director-General and Chief Executive has said that the setback suffered by the Education Sector as a result of COVID-19 Pandemic is colossal.

The disclosure by Iliyasu, monitored by the **Bulletin**, was made during an interview with the *Express Radio, 90.3 FM*, in Kano, on Monday, June 1, 2020.

“Corona virus has affected all facets of our lives including education and this is not only limited to this country, but the whole world,” he said.

He regretted that students are redundant for about three months now with some having already developed anxiety of whether or not they would even continue with their studies.

While commenting on Radio as a medium of instruction and delivery during the lockdown, Iliyasu averred that it is a veritable alternative for education and enlightenment.

According to him, most children hardly listen to the radio and even if they do, the issue of interaction is very difficult. He, however, commended the government for the timely intervention.

“At the end of COVID-19, we would now see it is becoming obvious that Distance Learning is now a necessary mode of instruction,” he added.

In a related development, the SA had recently represented Prof. Garba Dahuwa Azare, the NTI DG/CE at an online education discourse, which was organised by **EDUCeleb.com**, with the theme: “ **Teaching and Teacher Education in the Post COVID-19 Era.**”

The event which featured no fewer than 33 participants from different parts of the world, included Heads of Parastatals, Provosts of Colleges of Education and other stakeholders, pointed out that teacher education must be prioritised.

It emphasised that doing so would provide the required development the country needs at various sectors of human endeavours after the COVID-19 Pandemic era.

The conference also recommended among others, that teachers should be subjected to regular training and retraining to cope with the challenges ahead, using Educational Technology.

NTI Multi-Purpose Co-operative Society Declares N1.7 Million as Dividends



Mal. Musa Sabon-Birni,
Chairman NTI Multi-Purpose and Cooperative Society Ltd.

The NTI Multi-Purpose Cooperative Society Limited, (NTI-MPCSL) Kaduna, has declared the sum of **N1,761,513.47 (One Million, Seven Hundred and Sixty-One Thousand, Five Hundred and Thirteen Naira, Forty Seven Kobo)** as dividends to be shared among its no fewer than 363 registered members.

The information was contained in a prepared speech obtained by **the Bulletin**, from Mal. Musa Sabon Birni, the NTI-MPCSL Chairman, meant for delivery on June 3, during the 2020 Annual General Meeting(AGM), which was postponed in accordance with the COVID-19 Pandemic’s protocols.

Sabon Birni, indicated in the speech that some of the feats achieved since he became

NTI-MPCSL chairman, included among others, the installation of an Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) at the Institute's Main Gate and the renovation of its shop by the Management.

Other achievements enumerated by him included the prompt payment of retirees' savings and deceased members' savings to their next-of-kin

According to him, the future plan of the NTI-MPCSL is to diversify into other less-risky businesses, sales of shares to members, accepting fixed deposits from members and maintaining a functional Cooperative Shop.

Sabon-Birni, however, reiterated his determination to address the challenges facing NTI-MPCSL which included but not limited to irregular deduction or excess deduction; non-deduction of members' savings and late remittance of deductions made from source.

“ By our Bye-Laws, we cannot start doing anything concerning business of any kind until after six months of savings.

“ This shows that we are starting from the scratch and that is the beginning of the NTI -MPCSL, ” he said.

It would be recalled that the present Executive members of the Cooperative Society took over from the NTI-MPCSL Interim Management Committee on August 29, 2018 with 363 registered members and a cash balance of N160,400 only.

Hamidu Heads NTI Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee



Mal. Ibrahim Hamidu, newly appointed Chairman, NTI Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee

Mal. Ibrahim Hamidu, the Deputy-Registrar, in-charge of Works and Housing at the NTI Registry Department , has been appointed by the NTI management as the Chairman, NTI Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee (NTI SSDC).

His appointment was conveyed to him through a letter dated May 7 and signed by Mal. Abdulkadir Yakubu, the then Head of NTI Secret Registry on behalf of Prof. Garba Dahuwa Azare, the NTI DG/CE.

The letter indicated that the appointment was consequent upon the constitution of NTI SSDC in a memo dated 25thMarch, 2020.

It mentioned that sequel to that development, the NTI Management directed the conveyance of its approval alongside those of the NTI SSDC members.

According to the letter, members of the Committee included Dr. Nsan Akonjomun, from the NTI Academic Services Department; Mal. Aminu Musa from the Bursary and Dr. Oyedeji Mobolaji of FOSS Department.

Other members of the committee include Barr. Habibu Hussaini of the Registry; Dr. Samaila Yakubu from Examinations Department and Mal. Abdulrahman Yusuf of the Quality Assurance and ICT with Miss Hauwa Ekundayo Sa'idu of Registry Department to serve as Secretary to the Committee.

It further disclosed that the committee's tenure would be for a period of two years.

NTI SMASE CENTRE STAFF DISTRIBUTE COVID-19 PALLIATIVES TO INDIGENT NEIGHBOURS

No fewer than 30 households with at least five members each, in Barakallahu and Rigachikun villages, near the Institute, on Saturday, May 2, received COVID-19 palliative packages.

The palliative packages were donated to them by the staff of NTI's National SMASE Centre, as part of corporate social responsibility.

Dr Hafsat Lawal Kontagora, the Centre's Director, who spoke to **the Bulletin** about the donation mentioned that the gesture was informed by the zeal of the staff to provide "succour to people with the hope that others could learn and do better than what we have done."

She said that the exercise was as a result of various meetings by staff of the centre held at the SMASE Centre with the intention of

reaching out to the less-privileged in the neighbouring communities.

"Each of the staff at the Centre voluntarily contributed his/her widow's mite and the amount of money realised enabled us to reach out to those families.

"They mainly comprised of women working at the Institute, security and other people engaged in menial jobs," she added.

According to her, she and her staff at the Centre are looking forward to what to do next whether in terms of palliatives or any other thing.

Review of Relevant News

MAMMAN SAYS AFFILIATION OF NTI'S PGDE TO UNILORIN BASED ON MERIT



Mal. Bashir Mamman, Director Examinations

In the January-February, 2020 edition of the **Bulletin**, page 9, a news item with the above title was published and it mentioned that Mal. Bashir Mamman, the Institute's Director of Examinations, justified the Institute's choice of University of Ilorin for affiliation of its Post-Graduate Diploma in Education(PGDE)programme, saying it was

based on the university's track record and academic excellence.

According to the report, the Director made the disclosure on Tuesday, January 7, when he led a Five-man NTI delegation on Affiliation of NTI North-Central Zone, to pay a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. S.A. Abdulkareem, in his office at Unilorin.

It also reported that Mamman extended the appreciation of NTI's Governing Council, that of Prof. Garba Dahuwa Azare, the Director-General and Chief Executive and the entire staff of the Institute to the Vice Chancellor and Unilorin's community for its "willingness to affiliate NTI's PGDE Programme in the North-Central Zone."

Mamman, who finally presented the approval letter from NUC to the VC, also informed Prof. Abdulkareem that Prof. Azare would be delighted to host him in Kaduna.

Prof. Abdulkareem, however, expressed delight at having cordial, working relationship with NTI being a leading teacher training institution in the country.

NTI HAS CONFIDENCE IN ITS COURSE WRITERS AND EDITORS---says Prof. Azare



Prof. Garba Dahuwa Azare, Director-General/Chief Executive NTI, Kaduna

According to the January-February, 2020 **Bulletin, Vol. 1, No. 23**, Prof. Garba Dahuwa Azare, the NTI Director-General and Chief Executive, said that the Institute has reposed confidence in the course writers and editors engaged to develop its lasting and qualitative Distance Education materials.

It mentioned that Prof. Azare made the disclosure on Monday, February 3, during the opening ceremony of the NCE Cycle Three Writing, Review and Editing Workshop held at the Institute's Conference Centre.

Prof. Azare, who was represented by Mal. Bashir Mamman, the Institute's Director of Examinations stressed that the exercise has been one of the most outstanding hallmarks of the Institute's Distance Learning System for over four decades now.

In the report, DG/CE said the Institute hosted two workshops in which the NCE Cycle Two, Levels 100 and 200 Physical Education and health Education Bachelors' Degree Instructional Materials were

developed by a cream of professionals in 2019, most of whom were invited again for the exercise.

He reminded them that the Institute's students are adult learners with so many personal exigencies to contend with such as family issues, time constraints and work-related issues that prevented them from undertaking full-time studies in conventional institutions of higher learning.

Prof. Azare said that by enrolling into our programmes, they are separated by time and space from the Institute and may be compelled to study in isolation in their specific remote locations and with few chances of having face-to-face contacts with their tutors.

He concluded that towards making their assignment very successful, the Institute had directed staff of audio-visual and e-learning centre to provide all necessary support services required to access appropriate resources.

NTI PLACES PREMIUM ON TEACHERS PUTTING ACQUIRED SKILLS INTO USE-- Says DG/CE



Prof. Garba Dahuwa Azare, Director-General/Chief Executive of NTI

The **Bulletin of January-February, 2020, Vol. 1, No. 23**, reports that Prof. Garba Dahuwa Azare, the NTI Director-General and Chief Executive, has said that NTI places premium on ensuring that teachers put into use knowledge and skills acquired during workshop conducted by the Institute.

Prof. Azare made the disclosure on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, when he received members of the Kano State Secondary Schools' Management Board (KSSSMB), who came to the Institute on a one-day working visit.

Represented by Mal. Mahmud Muhammed Usman, the then NTI Registrar and Secretary to Council, Azare explained that the Institute's goal among others, included the provision of timely delivery of qualitative professional services to teachers in the country.

According to him, the Institute's enabling law **Act No. 7 of 1978** charged it, to among other things, provide courses of instruction leading to the development, upgrading and certification of teachers as specified in the

relevant syllabus using Distance Learning Techniques.

“With the launching of Universal Basic Education(UBE) programme in 1999 the Institute has been further tasked to produce qualified teachers to meet the new challenges posed by acute shortage of teachers to implement the programme within the context of educational reforms and information and knowledge-driven economy.

“The Act mandated the Institute to upgrade under-qualified and untrained teachers as well as providing refresher and other upgrading courses for teachers,” he said.

According to him, the Institute has been organising workshops, seminars, conferences and carrying out researches in conjunction with other bodies on any matter relevant to educational development in the country.

“We formulate policies and initiate programmes at all levels of education designed to improve by way of research the quality and content of education in Nigeria.

Responding, Dr Bello Shehu, the KSSSB Executive Secretary, said the team’s visit to the Institute was sequel to Governor Abdullahi Ganduje’s request to provide free and compulsory primary and secondary education in the state.

“The Institute’s antecedents and history of successful achievements are our reasons for seeking to collaborate with the Institute in order to train and retrain teachers in the 1,400 secondary schools across the state, ” he said.

Management Frowns at Stray Animals within NTI Premises

The Management of the Institute has once again issued out a warning to some staff residing at the quarters, who are owners of the domestic animals that roam about carelessly.

This was contained in a memo dated June 10, 2020, which was signed by Mal. Nuhu Bilyaminu , a Principal Assistant Registrar (Security Matters), for Mal. Abubakar Mohammed Sadiq, the Acting Registrar, addressed to all residents of NTI Staff Quarters.

The memo regretted that animals are seen roaming carelessly up to the areas accommodating various offices.

It said those animals destroy plants, which the Institute’s management expends so much on for the purpose of beautifying its environment.

“Henceforth, security guards are directed to impound and sell such stray animals and remit the proceeds to the Institute’s confers,” it warned.

Innalil’lahi ‘wa’inailaihi raji’un

The Bulletin regrets to announce the death of **Mal. Usman Ibrahim Bunza**, of the NTI Library Unit, on May 11, 2020 after a brief illness.

Born on June 15, 1964, Bunza, who joined the services of the Institute in January 3, 1992, was until his death a Library Officer, with the Institute’s Teachers’ Radio Sound Library.

The deceased, who rose to CONRAISS 6/11 in the services of the Institute, was an indigene of Bunza, Kebbi State.

He was survived by his wife and children. He was also the Imam of the Institute's Mosque, in Kaduna

The **Bulletin** joins the NTI Executive Management and the entire NTI family to condole with the late Bunza's family on this irreparable loss. May Allah grant him **Aljannatul Firdaus**, amin.

We also regretfully announce the death of Garba Mohammed of NTI, Kano State Office.

The deceased, who died on May 7, 2020 after a brief illness, was until his death a Senior Store Officer on CONRAISE 8/5.

He joined the services of the Institute in September 4, 2001.

May Allah grant him **Aljannatul Firdausi** , amin



Sitting front: Prof. Ahmed Iliyasu and other participants at the Two-day Yobe State Educational Summit, Damaturu, Yobe State, recently.



Mal. Bashir Mamman, Director Examinations NTI, in his Office, recently

PHOTO NEWS



Sitting 1st left:Dr. Hafsat Lawal Kontagora , at the 17th Conference on Mathematics , Science and Technology Education in Africa (COMSTEDA 17) and Annual SMASE Africa Delegates Meeting, held recently at CEMASTE, Nairobi, Kenya.



Across-section of participants at a Servicom Workshop, held at the Institute