

APWEN Monthly

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APWEN

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL WOMEN ENGINEERS OF NIGERIA

INVESTITURE OF ENGR. DR. ADEBISI R. OSIM, FNSE, FNICE, FIMC AS THE 18TH PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL WOMEN ENGINEERS OF NIGERIA

The Investiture Ceremony of the 18th President of the Association of Professional Women Engineers of Nigeria (APWEN), Engr. Dr. Adebisi R. Osim, FNSE, FNICE, FIMC was held on Saturday 3rd February 2024 at the NAF Conference Centre & Suites, Abuja where the crème la crème of the society, engineering and other professionals graced the occasion.

The Chairman of the Occasion was NSE President; Engr. Margaret Aina Oguntala, FNSE. While the keynote Speaker was the DG, National Centre for Women Development; Hon. Dr. Asabe Vilita Bashir.



APWEN President Engr. Dr. Adebisi R. Osim, FNSE, FNICE, FIMC making her Inaugural Address

Below is the Inaugural Address of the 18th APWEN President Engr. Dr. Adebisi R. Osim, FNSE, FNICE, FIMC.

Protocols

It is with a great sense of honour that I stand before you all today. With a humble heart, I accept the responsibility to serve in the highest office of this distinguished body of women, the Association of Professional Women Engineers of Nigeria, APWEN. Today marks the beginning of a new chapter. Together, we shall forge a path of innovation, inclusivity, and empowerment in the world of engineering.

APWEN has flourished these past four decades; from being a pressure group set up by our pioneer President, Engr. Olutunmbi Maduka, and five other female engineers of repute whom we refer to now as our founding members. My predecessor Engr. Dr. Elizabeth Eterigho, has done an excellent job in leading the association to greater heights. APWEN has reached out to hundreds of children encouraging them to join the engineering family throughout various projects such as; FunSTEM, Town and Gown, SheEngineer, Invent-it Build-it, Introduces a girl to Engineering, Who wants to be an Engineer? As well as our scholarship programs to primary and secondary school pupils interested in pursuing a career in engineering. Our town and town project fosters healthy relationships between our undergraduate, young engineers and the experienced ones thereby creating strong networks upon which their careers are built. As an association we have impacted the lives of many young girls, fueled their dreams and proffered for them a strong support system. Now, the baton has been handed over to me and I intend to hit the ground running. Watch out for APWEN, here we come!

Margaret J. Wheatley wrote in her book, 'Turning to One Another....' that, "There is no

power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about". I am proud to state that APWEN knows what it cares about. Our aims and objectives are grafted in our mission and vision statements; 'To be the catalyst for the advancement of women in the engineering profession towards national and global technological development', and 'To continuously increase awareness that engineering is a career for girls also, thereby improving the numerical strength of female engineers.' APWEN is a special division of the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE). We are special in the sense that APWEN consists of all disciplines of engineering as well as the fact that we have only one gender; we are all women. As we discharge our engineering duties the motherly instincts in us provides the needed passion to mentor and guide the young ones to take up STEAM courses thereby leading to engineering sparked with imagination and creativity through the arts in ways that naturally align with STEM learning.

As a young girl drawn to the sciences, I obtained a Bachelor of Engineering degree from the great University of Agriculture, Makurdi. I was one of four females in a class of over 40 students in year 1 and graduated as the only female in my class. That experience had such a great impact in my life as a young lady and to this day has influenced my journey through the engineering profession. The need of a strong female engineering community cannot be overemphasized as engineering had been seen as 'man's work' for years but what a joy it is to be in this time and day where that narrative is shattered. Engineering is for ALL.

Inclusivity in Engineering

Setting goals and aspirations, we will work together as 'unity is strength'. Moving forward as an association, we shall not only

focus on the girl-child but we shall extend our hands as mothers and hold up our boys as well. By fostering diversity and equality, the practice of providing equal access to opportunities and resources will become integrated into the greater society. In line with this we will commence a programme tagged. 'STEM FOR ALL'. STEM FOR ALL is an all-inclusive outreach programme targeted to both the primary and secondary school population. Hands-on science is one of the best ways to get children thinking creativity.

Impactful Leadership

My vision for our notable association remains clear. It is to empower, inspire and elevate. Together we will create an environment where each voice is not only heard but valued. We will harness the collective brilliance of our diverse membership to drive positive change, innovation and a lasting impact in the engineering landscape. My leadership approach will prioritize mentorship, support, and a shared commitment to excellence ensuring that every engineer in APWEN contributes meaningfully to our collective success. As stated in my new year's charge to members, we will foster an inclusive environment that encourages the growth of each member by creating opportunities for networking, collaboration as well as professional development. We will work hand in hand with educational institutions, industry partners, and policy makers to break down barriers and create a more equitable future for all aspiring engineers.

Empowering Engineers

This is all about cultivating skills and creating opportunities. We will establish initiatives for ongoing professional development, workshops and training sessions to keep engineers abreast of the latest industry trends and technologies. In addition, we will develop platforms for engineers to connect, share experiences and build valuable professional networks within and outside the association. We shall continue to celebrate our own through recognitions and rewards because fostering a culture of appreciation is a form of motivation. At the chapter levels and other avenues that will be provided for engineers

to take on leadership roles will be encouraged as this allows our members to showcase and enhance their leadership skills.

Plans are already being developed in conjunction with the Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation to engage our members in the area of entrepreneurs through training in the Agricultural sector. Farming is a powerful means of empowerment as agriculture is a significant part of the Nigerian economy. Food security will reduce our dependency on external markets. APWEN shall maintain its community development engagement as partners with OPSWASH (Organized Private Sector on Water Sanitation and Hygiene).

Embracing Innovation

This involves cultivating a culture within APWEN that values creativity, welcome new ideas, and adapts to technological advancements. Our programmes are aimed at breaking gender barriers and fostering a passion for STEM fields. The programmes will comprise of:

- ❖ Speaker Series: Invite successful female engineers to share their journeys, challenges, and triumphs, inspiring the girls and providing real-world perspectives.
- ❖ Mentorship Opportunities: Connect girls with experienced mentors in the engineering field who can offer guidance, advice, and support throughout their academic and professional journey.
- ❖ Collaborative Projects: Encourage teamwork by assigning collaborative projects that showcase the practical application of engineering concepts, fostering creativity and problem-solving skills.
- ❖ Field Visits to Tech Companies: Arrange visits to prominent engineering and technology companies, allowing participants to witness the impact of engineering in real-world settings.
- ❖ Networking Sessions: Facilitate networking opportunities members to connect with peers who share similar interests, creating a supportive community.
- ❖ Culminating Showcase Event: Wrap up the schools program with a showcase event where participating schools can present their projects, share their

experiences, and celebrate their achievements with family and mentors.

- ❖ "EmpowerHer": In this project, we aim to instill confidence, curiosity, and a love for engineering, paving the way for a future generation of female engineers in Nigeria.

A Vision for the Future

In a bid to conclude, I want to reiterate that our collective strengths will drive us to new heights. My journey is one that promises growth, collaboration and lasting impact. On behalf of my executive committee members, which I will soon inaugurate. We promise that we will not disappoint. Our association will continue to be a beacon of excellence, a driving force for positive change and a source of inspiration for generations to come. Thank you for entrusting us with the privilege to serve.

Long live the Association of Professional Women Engineers of Nigeria

Long live the Nigeria Society of Engineers

Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria

God bless you all.



The outgoing APWEN President; Engr. Dr. Elizabeth Eterigho, FNSE making her opening remarks



The outgoing APWEN President; Engr. Dr. Elizabeth Eterigho, FNSE transferring the medallion to incoming APWEN President; Engr. Dr. Adebisi Osim, FNSE



Inauguration of the new Executive Members

In her address, the former APWEN President, Engr. Dr. Elizabeth Eterigho, FNSE urges members to unite with new leadership for association's advancement.

She emphasized the importance of unity among members to support the association's new leadership. Engr. Eterigho highlighted the spirit of togetherness and love for both the progress of the association and the nation at large.

Meanwhile, the President of the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE), Engr. Margaret Aina Oguntala, FNSE expressed confidence in the transformative power of collaboration with the Association of Professional Women Engineers of Nigeria (APWEN).

"I believe that your leadership will work with excellence to propel the Association of Women Engineers to new heights", said the President.

However, amidst optimism, a call for responsibility resonated as the leader emphasized, "To whom much is given, much is expected".



NSE President; Engr. Margaret Aina Oguntala, FNSE making her remarks.

With a rallying cry for unity, the NSE Leader beckoned all members to join hands in a collective effort to elevate their organizations. "It is with the understanding

that I beckon all of you to join hands with me as we hit the ground running."

The NSE President affirmed the commitment of the Nigerian Society of Engineers to collaborate wholeheartedly with APWEN. Recognizing the crucial role of women in engineering, the NSE pledged to foster an inclusive environment where every engineer, regardless of gender, can contribute meaningfully to a shared vision.

"As we embark on this journey, let me assure you that the Nigerian Society of Engineers, under my leadership, is wholeheartedly committed to collaborating with APWEN.

She recognizes the significance of women in engineering, and we are dedicated to fostering an environment where every engineer, regardless of gender, can contribute meaningfully to our shared vision. This collaboration marks a promising step towards gender inclusivity and collective progress in the engineering community.

APWEN HOLDS PRE-INVESTITURE WORKSHOP FOR NATIONAL AND CHAPTER EXECUTIVES

The Association of Professional Women Engineers of Nigeria (APWEN) held Pre-Investiture Workshop for all National Executives, Chapter Executives and Zonal Coordinators of APWEN on branding, etiquettes, rules and corporate responsibilities.

The event was held on 2nd February 2024 at the Main Auditorium of the Nigerian Society of Engineers Headquarters, Central Business District Abuja.

The speakers during the workshop were Engr. Valerie Agberagba, FNSE – GM Renewable Energy NDPHC & 9th APWEN President, Egr. Dr. Ini Usoro, FNSE – Director, Road Maintenance Management Services Department, FERMA & 13th President of APWEN, Stacey DelVecchio – SWE Fy14 President, Engr. Obianuju Okwusogu, FNSE – Managing Partner, VERTON Consultants & Chairman, APWEN Audit and Process Committee), Engr. Zansi Adebawale, PMP – Manager, Daikin Middle East & Africa (APWEN Brand Ambassador).



APWEN PAYS COURTESY VISIT TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, FCDA; ENGR. SHEHU HADI AHMAD, FNSE, FNIQB

The President of the Association of Professional Women Engineers of Nigeria (APWEN); Engr. Dr. Adebisi R. Osim, FNSE, FNICE, led a delegation of APWEN members in a courtesy visit to the Executive Secretary of the Federal Capital Development Authority, Engr. Shehu Hadi Ahmad, FNSE, FNIQB to invite him for the investiture and to seek for his continued support to APWEN on Thursday, February 1, 2024.



In his response, the Executive Secretary promised to support the Association for more partnership and collaboration.

In attendance were the President, APWEN; Engr. Dr. Adebisi R. Osim, FNSE, FNICE, 9th

President, APWEN; Engr. Valerie Agberagba, FNSE, 11th President & Chairman, President Investiture Planning Committee; Engr. Dr. Iniobong Usoro, FNSE, FNICE, Past Chairman, APWEN Abuja Chapter; Engr. Elizabeth Oricha, FNSE, Vice President, APWEN; Engr. Nnenna Chinyere Igwegbe, FNSE and APWEN Abuja Chapter Member; Engr. Josephine Udeigwe, MNSE.



APWEN ATTENDS THE 2024 NIGERIA INTERNATIONAL ENERGY SUMMIT (NIES)

The Association of Professional Women Engineers of Nigeria (APWEN) attended the Nigeria International Energy Summit held between the 26th February to 1st March 2024 at the Presidential Banquet Hall, Aso Villa, ICC Abuja. During the plenary sessions, the 13th APWEN President Engr. Nnoli Akpedeye, FNSE, Engr. Dr. Yetunde Aladeitan, FNSE, Engr. Elohor Aiboni, FNSE and Engr. Charlotte Essiet, MNSE delivered outstanding presentations respectively.

The theme for the 2024 Summit was **“Navigating the Energy World Order Security, Transition and Finance”**.



The Nigeria International Energy Summit (NIES) is the official industry event of the Federal Government of Nigeria and remains the only officially endorsed at the highest level of the Federal Executive Council. It is the

global platform for stimulating discussion, interactions signing of high level deals.

Over the years, the event has brought together governments, national and international oil companies, independent, investors, the C&G community and service providers. The Nigeria International Energy Summit provides itself with offering unrivalled opportunities that dive the sort of deal making that re-shape the energy landscape.

Nigeria International Energy Summit connects 50+ ministries and government leaders, 300+ leading speakers, and over 2000+ senior delegates across 5days of pioneering industry-leading insights, delivering deals and transactions across the conference, exhibition, and elite networking platforms.



APWEN HOLDS 2024 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE

The Association of Professional Women Engineers of Nigeria (APWEN) held the 2024 International Day of Women and Girls in Science celebration on Friday 16th February 2024 at Calabar Engineering Center, Parliamentary Extension, Calabar, Cross River State.



The theme for the 2024 International Day for Women and Girls in Science **“A New Era for Sustainability”**. While the sub theme was

“Think Science” – Organizing a fun-STEM competition tagged; **“Introducing a Girl to Engineering”**.

The winners were presented prices and Awards, and Certificates of Participation to students who participated in the competition.



THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF APWEN PORT HARCOURT 4TH CHAPTER CHAIRMAN, ENGR. NNENNAYA NWEZE ANTHONY, MNSE, MNIMEchE

The Association of Professional Women Engineers of Nigerian, APWEN led by the President Engr. Dr. Adebisi R. Osim, FNSE, FNICE attended the Inauguration ceremony of the 4th Chairman of APWEN Port Harcourt Chapter, Engr. Nnennaya Nweze Anthony, MNSE, MNIMEchE. The event was held on Saturday 10th February 2024 at Casoni International Hotels & Suites Ltd, Port Harcourt, Rivers State.



The theme for the Inauguration ceremony was **“Radiant Innovator: Shaping Tomorrow with the Engine Woman”**, and was presented by Engr. Mrs. Eberechi Ebeze and Prof. Chinenye C. Anyadike.

The Inauguration also featured the launching of the Maiden Edition of Engr. Victor Sodje STEM Scholarship Competition which comprises of Secondary School Quiz Competition and Collegiate Pitch Competition.

INVESTITURE CEREMONY OF THE 18TH APWEN PRESIDENT IN PICTURES



INVESTITURE CEREMONY OF THE 18TH APWEN PRESIDENT IN PICTURES



2024 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE IN PICTURES



INAUGURATION OF ENGR. NNENNAYA NWEZE ANTHONY, MNSE, MNIMechE IN PICTURES





SOCIAL DIARY

BIRTHDAYS



The Association of Professional Women Engineers of Nigeria (APWEN) heartily congratulates and rejoices with the following distinguished Members on their birthday anniversaries.



Engr. Amalate Ann Jonathan-Obuebite, PhD, MNSE



Engr. Hauwa Sadiq, FNSE



Engr. Dr. E. J. Eterigho, FNSE



Engr. M. A. Rafiu, MNSE



Engr. V. I. Agberagba, FNSE



Engr. Dr. P. O. Imhade



Engr. E. Agoyi, MNSE



Engr. T. E. Oigiagbe, MNSE



Engr. K. O. Wusah, FNSE



**THE ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL
WOMEN ENGINEERS OF NIGERIA**

Our Vision
To be the catalyst for advancement
of women in the engineering profession
towards national and global
technological development

Our Mission
To continuously increase awareness
that engineering is a career for girls also,
thereby improving the numerical
strength of female engineers.
To encourage women to achieve professional
excellence as engineers and leaders.
To promote the engineering profession as
a positive force in enhancing the quality of life.



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