



The Nigerian Society of Engineers

PORT HARCOURT BRANCH



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Happy New Year

New Year Message from Engr. Kombo Theophilus-Johnson, FNSE

May I on behalf of myself and family wish the entire members of the Nigerian Society of Engineers particularly members of the Port Harcourt Branch a Happy New Year 2015. I pray that in this year 2015 and beyond, we shall discover and reclaim the grace and purpose of God upon our lives and continue to soar higher in our endeavors.

Very many thanks for all your support for the Branch in the year 2014 that led to our successes and may I urge you not to relent this year as we look forward to even greater and more purposeful support from you to take the Port Harcourt Branch to the ul-

timite.

I wish you a joyous new year and express my hope for your happiness and good future. Wishing you all the blessings of a beautiful season.



*Engr. Kombo Theophilus-Johnson, FNSE
Chairman*



The Executive Committee of the Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch paid a Christmas visit to Engr. Prof. Youpele Orukalama Beredugo, FNSE, OFR, (3rd from right) in his residence on Wednesday 24th December 2014. The Vice Chairman of the Branch Engr. Emmanuel Idoniboye (3rd from left) presented a Greeting card to Engr. Prof. Beredugo, on behalf of the members.



The **International Workshop on Open Data for Science and Sustainability in Developing Countries**, to which [WFEO/CIC](#) is a co-organizer, had been successfully held in Nairobi, at UN office conference room 2, Kenya, from Aug.6-8. Prof. Gong co-chaired the workshop and has given an address in the opening session on behalf of WFEO/CIC (see appendix) .

Reflecting to the worldwide recognition to importance of data in this digital era, this workshop has drawn very much attentions and supports, especially the local supports from the UNESCO office at Nairobi, the Ministry of education and research and the Ministry of information communication technology of Kenya, the Jumo Kenyatta University for Agriculture and Technology, and the international supports from many institutions like ICSU, WFEO, GEO, ICA, ISDE ISPRS, RDA, etc. The workshop participants are coming from Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda, Tanzania, Madagascar, China, Japan, Pakistan, Malaysia, US, UK, Germany, France, Netherland, Russia, etc.

In the opening session, the representatives from the co-organizers, [UNESCO](#), [CODATA/ICSU](#), [WFEO/CIC](#), and the Ministry of education and research of Kenya have given welcome addresses, followed by a keynote speech by Engineer Matiang'i, the cabinet secretary for [Information Communication Technology of Kenya](#). Dr . Fred Matiang'i presented an inspiring vision of a 'people-centric, inclusive, open and development-oriented information society' and the challenges of realizing this vision.

Dr. Matiang'i argued that there is a need 'to develop policies, both at the international and national levels, that deal with development and

implementation of data and information, including issues around Open Access, Access to Information and Data protection legislation, and on charging and reuse of public sector information.' To this end, he suggested that 'specific strategies for ensuring scientific knowledge is placed in machine searchable repositories be developed and implemented by public agencies and universities as drivers. Furthermore, information, research and content funded by governments should be made freely available over the internet as part of the global public commons, to the maximum extent possible.

The purpose of the workshop is to review the advances achieved and to share the good practices related to open data issue in the past 10 years since the first meeting of the [World Summit of Information Society](#) (WSIS, Geneva 2003), and to discuss important further actions, especially international collaborations to boost universal and equitable access to and effective use of data in developing countries. In the workshop, the activities as well as the policy and status of open data of international bodies, like UNESCO, ICSU, ICA, ISDE, IRDR, RDA, GEO, etc., and national strategies in developing countries are reported and discussed.

As the output of the workshop, a set of documents, the Nairobi Data Sharing Principles and The Guidelines of Implementation of Data Sharing Principles for Sciences and Sustainability in Developing Countries are drafted and discussed in the workshop, general agreement has been achieved and the documents will be finalized soon according to the workshop discussions.

Visit: <http://www.wfeo.net/report-open-data-ssdc-international-workshop-2014/>



The World Engineering Conference and Convention (WECC2015), the 5th WEC, will be held in Kyoto, Japan, in 2015. This event will showcase Japan as a nation built on scientific and technological innovation to achieve sustainable development in the 21st century. WECC2015 will also provide a forum for sharing information focused on innovations required to make sustainable development a reality and advances in fundamental technologies to achieve this vision. Adopting both local and global perspectives, WECC2015 aims to make a productive contribution to worldwide peace and socioeconomic progress. From the perspective of "Engineering for Society and Engineering in Society", WECC2015 intends to strike a balance between the innovation that engineering aims to achieve and presentations by engineers and researchers who will provide the basis for such innovation. Reflecting this approach, the overall conference theme will be "Engineering: Innovation and Society". Main themes will be:

Innovation for Sustainable Growth and Socioeconomic Development:

- Innovation for a Resilient Society
- Green Innovation

- Life Innovation
- Innovation for Competitiveness

Engineering Research and Development for Innovation:

- Mobility and Machinery
- Information and Communication Technology
- Chemicals, Materials and Resources
- Energy and Environment
- Urban Development and Buildings

Engineering for Society and Engineering in Society:

- Social Mission of Engineering and Ethics for Engineers
- Science and Technology based on the Societal Trust and Communication
- Women in Engineering and Society
- Human Resource Development and Engineering Education
- Improvement of Engineering Education
- Young Engineers Leading the Next

Important Dates:

10 March 2015 – Submission of abstracts

30 April 2015 – Acceptance notification

Visit: <http://www.wfeo.net/events/wecc-2015-world-engineering-conference-and-convention/>

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NOTICE! NOTICE!! NOTICE!!!

All members of NSE Port Harcourt Branch should pay their Annual Branch Dues of N5000 for Corporate Members and N7,500 for Fellows to UBA Account No. 1000183629 (Port Harcourt Main Branch). Also pay National Annual Subscription of N9,000.00 for Corporate Members & N11,500 for Fellows directly to First Bank Account No. 2020502052 & forward all tellers to the secretariat for reconciliation. All payments should be made into the bank accounts.