



# The Nigerian Society of Engineers

## PORT HARCOURT BRANCH



2010 / VOLUME 71

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16TH JANUARY, 2010

The Investiture Ceremony of Engr. Chief Olamuyiwa Alade Ajibola *FNSE*, the 27th President of The Nigerian Society of Engineers, on the 15th—16th January, 2009 at the International Conference Center, Abuja.

### The Investiture Ceremony on Saturday 16th January 2010



Engr. Ali decorating Engr. Ajibola



Engr. Ajibola (right) inaugurating the 2010 EXCO



Engr. Ajibola delivering his first Presidential speech



Engr. David Mark (Senate President) giving his speech



Engr. Prof. Hart & other PH engineers



Engr. Dr. Igoni (PH Chairman) & some PH EXCO

### @ The Colloquium on the 15th January 2010

**The Nigerian Society of Engineers**  
Port Harcourt Branch  
gladly invites

to the  
**Investiture**  
of ENGR. DR. ASINYETOGHA HILKIAH IGONI, MNSE  
as the 15th Chairman  
OF THE NIGERIAN SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS, PORT HARCOURT BRANCH

Date: Thursday, 21st January 2010 Time: 4.00pm  
Venue: Recneps Event Place, Eastern Bye-Pass, Port Harcourt.

<b>CHAIRSMAN</b> Engr. A. O. Ajibola, FNSE President, Nigerian Society of Engineers	<b>SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOUR</b> Rt. Hon. Tonye Harry Speaker, Rivers State House of Assembly	<b>CHIEF HOST</b> Prof. Nimi D. Briggs Chairman, RS Independent Doctoral Commission
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**ROYAL FATHER OF THE DAY**  
His Royal Majesty, King Edward Asimini William Dappa Pepple  
Amanyarabo of Grand Bony Kingdom, Persekule XI, William Dappa Pepple III.

**RSVP**  
Engr. Denis A. A. Danila, MNSE  
Vice-Chairman/Chairman Plans. Comm.  
08033595127

Engr. Goodluck C. Ikemiyi, MNSE  
General Secretary  
08032856649



Some past NSE presidents



Min. of National Planning Dr. Sham-suddeen Usman & Engr. Ali (right)

**The E-Newsletter team of the Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch stopped over briefly at the National Engineering Center (NEC) Abuja to have a chat with the 27th President of NSE immediately after his investiture. Below is the interview.**

**E-Newsletter:** *We want to congratulate you sir on the successful investiture ceremony that was conducted today. Sir, please we want you to tell us briefly the challenges ahead for the next two years that you will pilot the affairs of the Nigerian Society of Engineers.*

**Engr. Ajibola:** Well fortunately the Nigerian Society of Engineers has got to a level that it is well equipped to face its challenges. The challenges ahead are still very much the challenges that we have had most of the time because the Nigerian public and the Nigerian government do not have the right understanding of the engineering profession and therefore they are under utilizing engineering as it were by Nigerians. They believe that engineering is a function that resides in a foreign land and therefore to use it in Nigeria you have to import it not knowing that through the Nigerian engineers engineering resides in Nigeria and this is what we have to manage in the next two years. This is what has been managed for a long time but it is getting worse and worse because we are seeing less and less of the projects that are been done, the infrastructural development that are been done in this country. We can see less and less of it been done by the Nigerian engineers. More percentage goes to the foreign engineers.



Engr. Chief O. A. Ajibola

**E-Newsletter:** *Thank you very much sir. What words do you have for the Nigerian engineers that will take them to another level in the next two years that you will pilot the affairs of NSE?*

**Engr. Ajibola:** Well, you see as I said in my speech to whom much is given much is required. If we are demanding more from the society we ourselves must equip ourselves better to be able to take on the challenges that will come our way. Assuming that the policy challenges as a result of our advocacy what happens next? Obviously, what happens next is that they will be looking for Nigerian engineers. We've got to identify where we are. We've got to know the locations of the Nigerian engineers. We've got to know where their expertise resides and we've to be able to have at our finger tips such information ready to be deployed to face those challenges. We've got to be able to identify also the deficiency in the engineering training and

capacity that we have and build up our capacity to meet these challenges. At the same time there is nothing that is stagnant. Knowledge as I said and even ways of doing things, ways of living and so on are changing so rapidly in this second decade of the millennium that it is hard to cope with it. Therefore it requires continuous development, continuous professional development which the Nigerian Society of Engineers will try to ensure it is available for those who will take advantage of it and we will encourage our members to take advantage of this. We've also identified the fact that Nigerian engineers, we the Nigerian engineers have less tendencies to adopt management practices, to adopt high standards in our operations but most especially the attitude of enterprise. We need enterprise to be able to survive. Now we can either work on infrastructure and survive on infrastructure or we survive on what we can make by ourselves, what we initiate. As engineers we have the tools, we have the training, we have the knowledge, we can manufacture, we can innovate, we can invent. We should deploy all that is in our arsenal to be able to show Nigerians that we are the people that will make the economy stable and sustainable in the future.



Engr. Chief O. A. Ajibola & Engr. Otuneh, Otunte J.

**E-Newsletter:** *Thank you very much sir. We are very grateful for the presidential opportunity you gave us to have this brief interview with you and the E-Newsletter team wish you a successful two year tenure in office.*

**Engr. Ajibola:** I want to say thank you. As I am saying thank you, I also want to say that I am looking forward to working with all the Nigerian engineers because I have said it the resources that we need resides within us and we shouldn't be shy or we shouldn't be docile about it. We should bring out the resources. I welcome suggestions from all our members and I welcome participation in everything that we do so that together we will move forward because it is not about me, it about the Nigerian Society of Engineers and it's a collective affair. Thank you.

**E-Newsletter:** *Thank you very much sir.*

**@ The Dinner Ceremony on Friday 15th January 2010**



Some senior members of the society



NSE PH Branch EXCO members



Presidential round table (L-R: ES, Dep. Pres, President & IPP)



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**NOTICE! NOTICE!! NOTICE!!!**

All members of NSE PH should pay their **annual branch dues** of N4000 and **compulsory levy** of N5000 towards the Engineer Resource Center to UBA ACC. NO: 0234-031-0000962 (Port Harcourt Main Branch). Also pay **National Annual Subscription** of N7,500.00 for Members & N9,500 for Fellows directly to AFRIBANK ACC No. 1420202215613 & forward all tellers to the secretariat for reconciliation. All payments should be made at the Bank