



# The Nigerian Society of Engineers

## PORT HARCOURT BRANCH



2010 / VOLUME 75

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FEBRUARY 27TH, 2010

NSE PH Branch EXCO members visited the Administrator of the Greater Port Harcourt City Development Authority (GPHCDA) Mrs. Aleruchi Cookey-Gam in her office in Trans-Amadi, Port Harcourt on February 16th 2010. The EXCO members were led by the Branch Chairman Engr. Dr. A. H. Igoni.



Left: Engr. Dr. A. H. Igoni addressing the GPHCDA Administrator.



Right: NSE PH EXCO members & Mrs. Aleruchi Cookey-Gam in a group photograph during the visit

### An Interview with Engr. Ebele Okeke *FICE, FNSE, CFR*, On the Welfare of Nigerian Engineers.

**E-Newsletter:** *We are members of the E-Newsletter team of the Nigerian Society of Engineers, Port Harcourt branch and we publish our newsletter every two weeks. Today we will be discussing the welfare of the Nigerian engineers. Before we proceed, can you tell us about yourself?*

**Engr. Ebele Okeke:** I am the first Nigerian lady Civil Engineer and the first lady engineer to be Permanent Secretary and I am the first lady Head of Service. I studied civil engineering in University of London in England and I have an MBA from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. I am a fellow in the Nigerian Society of Engineers, Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers Great Britain, Ireland. I have national honours, OON and CFR.



Engr. Ebele Okeke

**E-Newsletter:** *Thank you madam. Being the first lady civil engineer, how was the challenge like being a lady amongst men?*

**Engr. Ebele Okeke:** I wouldn't say it was challenging because in the university, in the class that I was in, I was the only lady in the class of twenty-eight boys. So I have already started acclimating myself to working with men. As a matter of fact I feel more comfortable with men than women.

**E-Newsletter:** *Thank you very much. In the Nigerian society, how do you rate the welfare of*

*Nigerian engineers? Is it above standard or below standard? Is it encouraging for the growth of the engineering profession? I mean like their salary at the end of the month. You find engineering graduates working in banks instead of doing engineering jobs. Is it encouraging for the engineering profession?*

**Engr. Ebele Okeke:** For engineers working in banks that is ok. If the banks get involved in infrastructural projects, they need the engineers. But generally, taking the salary of the Nigerian engineers, I wouldn't say it is very encouraging. They get more in the private sector. In the civil service it is not quite encouraging and we have been trying to fight to get at least the entry level. You know the doctors, I think their entry level is Level 12. For the engineers we have been able to get Level 10. With time I'm sure that things would improve, but now, I wouldn't say it is at the point it should be.

**E-Newsletter:** *What advice would you give to the Nigerian engineers to enable them sustain in the profession, especially now that their welfare package is not too good?*

**Engr. Ebele Okeke:** First of all you have to be interested in what you are doing. Everything is not all about money. First of all, I will encourage the Nigerian engineers to focus on the professional aspect of it; not just giving up. I have noticed that a number of engineers do not take their professional exams. They will just get into government or into an organization. They rise up to the top, and then at the end of the day we encourage them to come and take fellowship;

that shouldn't be the case. They should start from when they are young to focus on their profession and grow because if we all focus on the profession, we will all be singing from the same page. You can only get the welfare of Nigerian engineers improved if everybody is interested in the profession. Look at the doctors, the doctors sing from one page, the lawyer sing from one page. That is what we should be doing. The doctors have procedure. Take for example, we are talking about round pegs in round holes, most of these engineering organizations are not headed by engineers in government but if it is medicine, everything is for doctors and even their ministers are medical doctors. We all have to try and make sure our profession is well recognized. It is when you have recognized your own profession that you will be able to fight as a group; that you will be able to have a pressure group from government and any other organization. Thank you.

**E-Newsletter:** *Thank you very much madam. We are very grateful.*



Engr. Otueneh & Engr. Ebele Okeke

### THE NIGERIAN SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS PORT HARCOURT BRANCH YEAR 2010 COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

Coordinator of All Standing/AD HOC Committees – Engr. Dennis Dania -Vice Chairman

1. CAREER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
Engr. Mrs. Ademelechi Chairman
2. ENGINEERING REGULATION MONITORING COMMITTEE  
Engr. Prof. H. I Hart Chairman
3. PREVENTION INVESTIGATION FAILURE ANALYSIS COMMITTEE  
Engr. Dr. T. Lilly Chairman
4. ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION AND MONITORING COMMITTEE  
Engr. Dr. M. J. Ayotamuno Chairman
5. BUSINESS LUNCHEON/ANNUAL LECTURE/AWARDS COMMITTEE  
Engr. (Wari-Alabo) S. Jumbo Chairman
6. INTERNATIONAL TOURS COMMITTEE  
Engr. B. T. George Chairman
7. DEVELOPMENT/PROPERTY MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE  
Engr. A. C. Okezie Chairman
8. INFO TECH/LIBRARY COMMITTEE  
Engr. Chief G. Massari Chairman
9. PROFESSIONAL INTERVIEW COMMITTEE  
Engr. Chief. O. O. Oruye Chairman
10. ENGINEERING WEEK COMMITTEE  
Engr. Dr. A. A. Ujile Chairman
11. ENGINEERING RESOURCE CENTRE COMMITTEE  
Engr. B. J. Benibo Chairman
12. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE  
Engr. Humphrey Amadi Chairman
13. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE  
Engr. Rueben Okparama Chairman
14. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE  
Engr. Otuneh, Otunte John Chairman
15. WELFARE COMMITTEE  
Engr. Edward Orupabo Chairman



February 20, 2010 at the National Engineering Center, Lagos.

The Nigerian Institution of Mechanical Engineers investitures its 2nd National Chairman, Engr. (Prince) Adeyemi Biodun Oyedepo, FNSE on Saturday,

## PROJECT MANAGEMENT COURSE FOR ENGINEERS AND MANAGERS

On the following key areas:

- PROJECT MANAGEMENT PRACTITIONER (PMP)
- PRINCE2 PRACTITIONER
- EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION OF PROJECT PROCEDURES
- IT SKILLS FOR PROJECT ENGINEERS & MANAGERS

OBJECTIVE

To enhance work productivity by effective and efficient planning, execution, monitoring, controlling and demobilization of projects.

BENEFITS

*Participants will among others:*

- Get international certification as Project Management Practitioner (PMP)
- Get international certification as PRINCE2 Practitioners
- Have the chances of enhanced ISO 9001 certification
- Have the opportunity of running the Course in Nigeria
- Save cost, time and energy in running the Course Overseas
- Manage projects effectively and efficiently

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

1. Registration Form is available at [www.nseph.org](http://www.nseph.org)
2. Registration Fee:
 

Members	N100,000.00
Non-Members	N120,000.00

 Payable to NSE, P. H Branch UBA A/C No: 0234-031-000096-2
3. Submit both the payment Teller/ Slip and completed registration Forms at the NSE Mini Secretariat to complete the registration formalities

DATE:  
15-18TH  
MARCH, 2010

VENUE  
NSE Mini Secretariat  
water Works yard  
#3 Bernard Carr Street  
Port Harcourt.

TIME:  
9:00AM DAILY

Please note that this training programme accommodates only the maximum of 40 persons in a class.  
Participation shall be strictly on " first registered, first served "basic

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT:

<b>THE CHAIRMAN</b> Engr. Dr. A. H. Igoni, mnse +234 (0) 702 826 0299, +234 (0) 802 312 3471 e-mail: <a href="mailto:ahigon1@yahoo.com">ahigon1@yahoo.com</a>	<b>THE GENERAL SECRETARY</b> Engr. G. C. Ikemiriri, mnse +234 (0) 803 285 6649 e-mail: <a href="mailto:goodluckikenyiri@yahoo.com">goodluckikenyiri@yahoo.com</a>	<b>THE TECHNICAL SECRETARY</b> Engr. R. N. Okparama, mnse +234 (0) 803 262 6169 e-mail: <a href="mailto:rokparanna@yahoo.com">rokparanna@yahoo.com</a>
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The Nigerian Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Port Harcourt Chapter on technical visit to SPDC Imo River Land Option AGG on Saturday, February 27, 2010.



#### POINT ENGINEERING LIMITED

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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