



nesreanews

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From the Editorial Desk

A lot has happened in NESREA since the last time we came your way. The Agency has a new boss at the helm of affairs and the cover story tells all you need to know about the Director General of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency, Prof. Aliyu Jauro. Professor Jauro took over from Dr. Lawrence Chidi Anukam as the third Director General of the Agency and until his present appointment, was a Deputy Director at the National Centre for Petroleum Research and Development at the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, (A.T.B.U) Bauchi.

We are happy to let you know that Nigeria has recorded yet another milestone in environmental protection with the take off of Circular Economy Approaches to the Electronics Sector in Nigeria. The programme which was recently launched in Lagos

Nigeria in conjunction with Global Environment

Facility, is the first of its kind in Africa. You learn more about this programme and how it would impact on the environment as you turn the pages.

And recently, when stakeholders in the environment sector came together for the Annual Federal and State Legislative Dialogue organized by the NESREA, the Director General had just one message for them, "lets team up to save the environment"! We bring you details of this meeting in this edition.

Of course we have lots more on what the Agency has been doing to preserve the environment, and with our regulars, this edition promises to make an interesting read.

See you on the inside!

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SUSTAINING THE LEGACY

Impressive! This is my summation about the reception given to me when I arrived to assume duties as the new Director-General. I also regard my quick settlement as unprecedented. This, I believe was as a result of the high standards of discipline maintained by you – members of staff.

However, be that as it may, this is a new journey; government is a continuum and we have to move faster and try to get things done efficiently.

In this, I solicit once again the cooperation of all members of staff to continue to be loyal, patriotic and maintain discipline.

On my part, God willing, the sky is the limit and I will ensure that no stone will be left unturned; we would have to look at ways of improving compliance monitoring and enforcement as well as staff welfare.

Environment as you know is you and me; so it is going to be a joint effort; we have to do a lot to create awareness, sensitize members of the public on our mandate and

mission; our programmes and activities. We need to get to the grassroots, ensure that they understand that a damage to the environment is a setback for their future generation.

We are going to work out ways to ensure our State Field Offices are efficiently run; and get our laboratories working again.

The good news is that we are progressing fast with the National Vehicular Emission Control Programme; the National Generator Emission Control Programme as well as the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programme. These are programmes that will put life into the Nigerian environment. We also have on board the Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO) for the Food and Beverage, Electrical & Electronic and The Battery Sectors. These are laudable steps in the right direction.

We have had to hold interviews for Accreditation of Environmental Consultants and also set in motion the process of Circular Economy approaches with visits to key spots in Lagos.

People are beginning to show responsibility; same applies to companies. Let's keep this spirit up and consolidate on our mission and mandate.

The legacy of the past administration cannot just be discountenanced with. We are studying the viable programmes with a view to improving on them.

We have also listened to various presentations and suggestions; they are all geared towards moving the Agency forward. One thing is clear, we are edging closer to some technological advances that are certain to help the Green and Brown environment stabilize, reduce Green House Gas and eliminate waste completely.

Once again, I thank you because this is all due to your cooperation – and understanding.

In the near future, we shall have a robust system in place that will leave the Agency better than we met it.

**NESREA MANAGEMENT TEAM:**

L-R, Dir. Special Duties, Mr. Abdulsalam Isa, Dir. Legal Services, Barr. Bola Braimoh- Tokura; Dir. Environmental Quality Control, Mr. S. B. Joshua; Director General, Prof. Aliyu Jauro; Dir. Inspector and Enforcement, Mrs. Miranda Amachree; Dir. Partnership & Education, Mr. D. B. Salka; Dir. Admin & Finance, Mr. Abdullahi Hassan, Dir. Planning & Policy Analysis, Mr. Raph Nnam

ALIYU JAURO STEPS IN AS NESREA DG

Professor Aliyu Jauro has assumed office as the substantive Director General of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency, NESREA. Prior to his assumption, the Director Inspection and Enforcement, Mrs. Miranda Amachree acted briefly following the expiration of the tenure of Dr. Lawrence Chidi Anukam.

Until his appointment by the President and Commander in Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, President Muhammadu Buhari, Professor Jauro was Deputy Director at the National Centre for Petroleum Research and Development at the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, (A.T.B.U) Bauchi. He holds a Bachelor of Tech. Degree in Industrial Chemistry from A.T.B.U Bauchi and MSc and PhD Degrees in Industrial Chemistry from the same University. He joined the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University as a Graduate Assistant in 1997 and rose through the ranks to Professor in Industrial Chemistry in 2014.

Between March and October 2005, Professor Aliyu Jauro was on research at the German National Centre for Geosciences Research, (GeoForschungsZentrum), Potsdam, Germany. He had won the German Academic

Exchange Scholarship (DAAD) and the European Association of Organic Geochemists (EAOG) Travel Grant in 2005. He also earned the TetFund Institutional Based Research Grant in 2018.

His areas of research include Coal Chemistry, Petrography and its General Application, Biofuel Production and Characterization as well as Petroleum/ Environmental Organic Chemistry.

His recent research engagement was by the NNPC (as part of ATBU Team) on Environmental Baseline Studies (EBS) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for its Petroleum Exploration Campaign in the Bauchi/ Gombe area inaugurated by Mr. President.

He is a fellow of the Chemical Society of Nigeria (FCSN), a member of the Institute of Chartered Chemists of Nigeria, (MICCON), member of Polymer Institute of Nigeria (MPIN) and a member of the Nigerian Association

of Petroleum Explorationists (MNAPE).

Meets Staff

Prof Aliyu met with the management and staff of the Agency and urged them to join hands with him to ensure that the environment is sanitized.

The DG has also gone on familiarization tour of some Zonal and State Field Offices of NESREA.



Prof. Aliyu Jauro (L) with well wishers and some Management Staff of the Agency on his resumption day; (R) Dir. Inspection & Enforcement Mrs Miranda Amachree.



DG NESREA Prof. Aliyu Jauro (M) with staff of the South West Zone. To the Right of the DG is Dir. SWZ Mr. Adeleke Ajani.



L - R SA to DG Alh. Bello Makama. DG NESREA Prof. Aliyu Jauro, Katsina State Co-ordinator, Mr. Jonathan Dajal.



(L - R) Dir. SWZ Mr. Adeleke Ajani; SA to DG Alh. Bello Makama; Dir. Special Duties, Mr. Abdulsalam Isa; Dr. Liaison Office, Mr. Ayuba Jacob; NESREA DG Prof. Aliyu Jauro; Dir. EQC, Mr. Simon Joshua; Dir. Admin & Finance, Mr. Abdulahi Hassan; Dir. Partnership & Education, Mr. D. B. Salka. during DG's Visit to Lagos Liaison Office



Cross Section of NESREA Staff during an interactive session with the DG in Lagos



Prof. Aliyu Jauro with staff of the North West Zone in Kano.



NESREA DG Prof. Aliyu Jauro with staff of the Katsina State Field Office.



Staff of Gombe State Field Office in a group photograph with the Director General of NESREA

Briefs the press on Amended NESREA ACT

The Director General also briefed the press of the Amended NESREA Act which was assented to by the President, General Muhammadu Buhari in December last year. He said the new Act will bring the needed vigour into environmental protection in the country.

He said, "The amendment enables the agency's authorized officers to seal and close down premises or facilities whose pollution to the environment is of imminent danger to life and property, while an application to the court for a warrant or order is being sought." Prof. Jauro further stated that the Act

enables the Agency to enforce administrative penalties and allow stiffer penalties for offences.

The DG called on citizens and facility owners to acquaint themselves with the environmental laws in operation in the country, warning that offenders will be

sanctioned.

He added, "All industrial facilities and the business community are by this notice advised to carry out their activities within the scope of environmental laws of the country as necessary measures shall be undertaken if any breach of the law is observed."



(L-R) Dir. Inspection & Enforcement, Mrs Miranda Amachree; Director General, Prof. Aliyu Jauro and Dir. Legal Services, Barr. Bola Braimoh-Tokura. at the maiden press briefing.



(L-R) Prof. Oladele Osinbajo; DG NESREA, Prof. Aliyu Jauro; Rep. Perm Sec. Min. of Env. Mrs. Oluwa Toyin Agbenla, Dir. Inspection & Enforcement (NESREA) Mrs. Miranda Amachree, Rep. UNEP, Geneva, Eloise Touni; Reps. UNEP Paris, Ran Xie and Feng Wang.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY BERTHS IN NIGERIA WITH GEF GRANT

Aparadox

Electronics are basic necessities in the world of today but they also pose problems. The challenge lies in the handling of the resultant large volume of waste from used electronics. At the end of their useful life, these electronics end up in dumpsites or fall into the hands of persons who lack knowledge of how to handle them.

The concern about electronic waste also known as e-waste arises from the fact that it contains about 1000 hazardous substances, and releases dioxins and furans which are known carcinogens and could be released into the environment from crude recycling practices (burning). Cables are burnt openly by artisans, Cathode Ray Tubes (CRTs) and other parts are broken and processed to extract copper, precious materials like gold and diamond. These hazardous

substances end up contaminating the air, soil and water thereby posing great danger to human health and the environment.

The search for a solution.

For Nigeria, it has been a long journey in search of safe and environmentally friendly method of tackling the big problem. The Abuja Platform on e-waste, organised by the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency, NESREA in 2009, was the first time the Nigerian government would

bring together key sector players to seek solution to electronic waste. Following the outcome of the conference, NESREA intervention centered on ending the influx of e-waste into the country as well as sensitization of importers and artisanal recyclers on the dangers of improper handling of e-waste. This initial intervention was however just a base for more sustainable solution to used/end of life electronics.



(L-R) DG. NESREA, Prof. Aliyu Jauro; CEO Hinckley, Adrian Clews; Rep. UNEP Geneva, Eloise Touni; Rep. UNEP Paris, Feng Wang & Dir. Inspection & Enforcement; Mrs. Miranda Amachree on tour of Hinckley Facility in Lagos.

The Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Programme

Knowing the economic gains and employment opportunities laden in the recycling of e-waste, NESREA focused attention on guiding stakeholders towards the Extended Producer Responsibility Programme which vests manufacturers with the responsibility of taking care of the waste from their products. The legislative framework for the implementation of EPR is already in place and contained in relevant National Environmental Regulations. The Operational Guideline for the EPR has since been put in place.

Of course, the ultimate goal of the EPR programme is to achieve a Circular Economy model in the production and consumption processes in Nigeria. The Circular Economy model is that in which a product at its end of life, becomes a secondary raw material for another product. It is a sustainable and zero waste concept.

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) intervention

The funding needed for the takeoff of the Extended Producer Responsibility Programme in the electronics sector came in the form of 2 million dollars grant by the Global Environment Facility GEF. The funding was announced at the "Formal Launch and Inception meeting of the GEF/UNEP Funded "Circular Economy Approaches to the Electronics Sector in Nigeria", hosted by NESREA in Lagos.

The Director General of NESREA, Prof. Aliyu Jauro said the project would enable Nigeria adopt a financially self-sustaining circular economy approach for the electronics sector, and would aid the reduction, elimination and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment. Prof Jauro disclosed that UNEP is designated as the Implementing Agency for the project while NESREA is the Executing Agency.

In a good will message, UNEP Representative, Mr. Feng Wang pledged the willingness of UNEP to work with Nigeria to develop a model that will be self-sustaining. He described the project as a way of

demonstrating circular economy systems in Nigeria, adding that the programme would extend to different sectors of the economy.

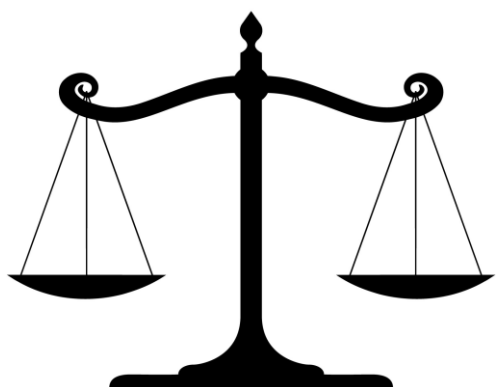
The Circular Economy model is a win – win situation for Nigeria and as the Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Environment, Mrs Ibukun Odusote said, the gains are enormous. Mrs Odusote was represented at the launch by Federal Controller for South West, Mrs. Oluwatoyin Agbenla. She described the project as apt, considering the volume of e-waste being generated and the need to use it as resource to grow the economy and generate employment along the waste value chain.

The Permanent Secretary added that the intervention would be in the treatment and management of e-waste, which will indirectly support the E-waste Producers Responsibility Organization of Nigeria (EPRON) to provide the enabling environment for participation by relevant stakeholders.



DG NESREA Prof. Aliyu Jauro and other dignitaries during a visit to Odo-Iyalara Ojota Scrap Metal Yard, Lagos.

THE ESSENCE OF THE NESREA AMENDED ACT



The President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, General Mohammadu Buhari has signed the amended NESREA Act into law. This would be the first time the NESREA Act was being amended since the establishment of the Agency in 2007.

NESREA has worked assiduously on the review of the NESREA (Establishment) Act, 2007 to address certain legislative inadequacies and noticeable drafting errors in the old Act which have continued to stall the operations of the Agency and weaken enforcement measures.

One of the major changes in the NESREA amended Act is the inclusion of the Federal Ministry of Health in the composition of the Governing Council of the Agency. This was a necessary amendment considering the important linkage between human health and environmental protection.

The new Act also empowers the Agency to establish and enforce administrative penalties, a move that would strengthen enforcement measures.

The amendment, enables NESREA authorized officer(s) to seal and close down premises or facilities whose activities pose imminent threat to life and property, while a warrant or court order is being sought from court.

It also allows for tougher penalties against perpetrators of environmental crimes. In the old Act, provisions on penalties were not deterrent enough as the hands of the Judges were tied by the operational words, "not exceeding". In the amended Act, it was replaced with "not less than", thereby giving the presiding Judge a wider latitude to issue out appropriate sanctions to erring facilities or persons according to the gravity of the offence and those

committing the offence.

Failure to adhere to regulations is responsible for the high level of environmental challenges in Nigeria and for the country to achieve its developmental agenda, there must be a deliberate effort towards actualization of environmental sustainability.

The mandate of NESREA empowers the Agency to enforce all environmental laws, guidelines, policies, standards and regulations in Nigeria and to prohibit processes and the use of equipment or technology that undermine environmental quality, and to enforce compliance with provisions of international agreements, protocols, conventions and treaties to which Nigeria is a signatory.

News Beat

NIGERIA IS THE FIRST AFRICAN NATION TO LAUNCH CIRCULAR ECONOMY - DG NESREA



Executive Vice Chairman, NCC, Prof. Umar Danbata (R) presents a souvenir to DG NESREA during the latter's visit to NCC.

The Director General of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency, NESREA, Prof Aliyu Jauro says Nigeria is the first African country to launch the Circular Economy model.

Prof Jauro who spoke during a courtesy call on the Executive Vice Chairman of the Nigerian Communications Commission, NCC, Prof. Umar Danbatta also said the efforts of the Agency in promoting this model was already attracting a lot of support both locally and internationally, including a recent grant from the Global Environmental Facility, GEF.

The visit was to enable both

organizations strengthen the existing relationship and rub minds on some areas of interest particularly in E-waste control and environmentally sound Telecommunication operations.

NESREA DG described as worrisome the existence of a parallel regulation on E-waste control by the NCC pointing out that the National Environmental (Electrical / Electronics Sector) Regulations, S.I. 23, 2011 developed by NESREA has since been in force as a tool to control E-waste in the country, adding that Nigeria was the first country in Africa to have such a regulation.

He said, "The Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) being a major provision of the Regulation is the bedrock of the plan towards establishing a Circular Economy model in the country." This fact Prof

Jauro added was well acknowledged by the then Honourable Minister of Environment, Surv. Suleiman Zarma at the 12th edition of the Annual Stakeholders' Forum organized by the Agency.

He urged the Commission to complement the efforts of NESREA by requesting operators in the sector to register with the E-waste Producer Responsibility Organization of Nigeria, EPRON, which is the Producer Responsibility Organization registered by NESREA for the sector.

In his response, the Executive Vice Chairman of the NCC, Prof Umar Danbatta affirmed the preparedness of NCC to collaborate with NESREA. He promised that the areas of conflict would be effectively addressed.

NIGERIA AT CITES COP 18, SEEKS END TO PANGOLIN TRAFFICKING



The Assembly - Delegates to the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to CITES in Geneva

The Director General of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency, Prof. Aliyu Jauro was part of the Nigerian delegation to the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES CoP18), which held in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Director General was accompanied to the meeting by the Director, Environmental Quality Control, Mr. S.B Joshua. Other Nigerian participants at the event were Director General of Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria, FRIN, Prof. Shola Adepoju; representatives from Federal Ministry of Environment, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; and the Nigerian Customs Service NCS.

In her remarks, the Secretary-General of CITES, Ivonne

Higuero emphasized the need to focus on effectiveness and expansion of CITES' compliance instruments, including the permit system, given new challenges presented by the digital era.

She also stressed the importance of cooperation with other Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEA) and intergovernmental organizations; the need to bring equal attention to lesser known species; and the crucial role of wildlife custodians and rural communities.

The Nigerian delegation made several interventions during the

meeting, and one of them was an advocacy in favour of Pangolins. The Nigerian team expressed worry that the country was being used as a source and transit for the trade which was driving the pangolins towards extinction.

While informing the meeting that Nigeria was working hard to end the trafficking, the delegation urged parties to strengthen their enforcement efforts by targeting pangolin trafficking networks and abide by all decisions in order to strengthen efforts to combat pangolin trafficking. It is estimated that more than 500,000 pangolins have been trafficked globally since CITES COP 17 and the mammals are killed for their meat, scales and body parts.

The NESREA team engaged in discussions with several other countries on areas of mutual interest including capacity building for staff, Information exchange on Intelligence-led investigations and strengthening of enforcement tools and framework.



(L-R) Some delegates from Nigeria. 3rd and 5th from left are DG NESREA Prof. Aliyu Jauro & Dir. Environmental Quality Control, Mr. S. B. Joshua (NESREA representatives).

PHOTO SPEAK



DG NESREA Prof. Aliyu Jauro (R) with other recipients of the Fellowship of the Institute of Chattered Chemists of Nigeria. (ICCON).



DG NESREA Prof. Aliyu Jauro with Management Team of NESREA after his investiture by ICCON.



NESREA Boss receives delegation from Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University Bauchi, on a courtesy visit.



Prof. Aliyu Jauro with the President, Chemical Society of Nigeria, Prof. Oladele Okeniyi, during a visit by the Executive Members of the CSN.



DG NESREA, speaking during a panel session at the Packaging, Plastics, Food Processing Labelling and Print Exhibition (Propak West Africa 2019). held in Lagos.



NESREA Dir. Environment Quality Control, Mr. S. B. Joshua flanked by Shruti Surest (L) & Mary Rice of the Environmental Investigation Agency (UK)

PHOTO SPEAK



(L-R) Rep. UNEP Geneva, Eloise Touni, DG NESREA Prof. Aliyu Jauro, Dir. Environmental Quality Control, S. B. Joshua, At the 18th meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP) to CITES in Geneva.



Front row: L-R Dir. Inspection & Enforcement, Mrs. Miranda Amachree, Executive Vice Chairman NCC, Prof. Umar Danbata, DG. NESREA, Prof. Aliyu Jauro, with other officials of NCC and NESREA during a visit to the NCC



Chairman of Governing Council NESREA, Barr. Iyiola Oladokun, 4th right; with NESREA DG, Prof. Aliyu Jauro and some Management Staff of the Agency during a Visit to the Chairman in Ibadan, Oyo State.



Prof. Aliyu Jauro , on facility inspection at Loquat Tannery LTD. in Sharadawa, Kano State, Nigeria.



Members of Nigerian Civil Service Union, NESREA Chapter at the 2019 May Day Celebration in Abuja.



Association of Senior Civil Servants of Nigeria, NESREA Unit at the Workers' Day

TEAM UP TO END ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN NIGERIA... NESREA DG



DG NESREA, Prof. Aliyu Jauro, (4th left) and other participants at the dialogue

The Director General of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency, Prof. Aliyu Jauro says key stakeholders in the environment sector must work together to tackle environmental problems in Nigeria.

Professor Jauro, who spoke at the 9th annual Federal / State Regulatory Dialogue of NESREA, tagged, "Implementation of National Regulations: Tools for improving Air Quality" held at the Chelsea hotel, Abuja, urged stakeholders to join hands with NESREA on the implementation of National Environmental Regulations. He said, "these regulations are not NESREA regulations, but National regulations. It therefore, behoves stakeholders at all levels of government to key into these instruments, by way of implementation towards the greater good and the preservation of the natural environment for future generations".

The NESREA DG expressed as worrisome, the annual State Global report by Health Effects Institute (HEI) which branded Nigeria as having the highest number of deaths from air pollution in Africa, and also the ranking as the 4th most polluted country in the world.

Collaboration between stakeholders in both the private and public sector in the implementation of the National Environmental Regulations, he noted, was the solution to air pollution and other environmental problems. Prof. Jauro said among the steps taken to curtail air pollution were the launch of the National Vehicular Emission Control Programme (NVECP) and

the National Generator Emission Control Programme (NGECP), as well as the ban on the importation of two stroke engines. He added that although the goal of any nation was to attain a level of industrialization, such ambition must not be to the detriment of the environment. He called on participants to make suggestions that would strengthen the existing regulations.

In her Keynote Address, the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Environment, Mrs. Ibukun Odusote, who was represented by the Director of Environmental Assessment, John Alonge, described the Dialogue as a veritable platform to propagate ideas to improve environmental protection in the country. She called on participants to give their best to the deliberations saying, "Government at all levels have taken necessary measures to ensure that air pollution and indeed every environmental challenge is controlled. The establishment of the Federal Ministry of Environment, creation of NESREA and the ratification of various Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements demonstrate the commitment of government to tackle its environmental problems."

Goodwill messages came from the various participants at the event.



Prof. Aliyu Jauro in a chat with Journalists at the Annual Dialogue



Break out session during the workshop

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS MAY LOSE THEIR LICENSES IF...

Some Environmental Consultants accredited by the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency, NESREA may lose their licenses if they fail to abide by the extant rules and

guidelines in the sector.

Speaking at the 4th Refresher/ Induction Course organized for the consultants in Abuja, the Director General of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations

Enforcement Agency, Prof Aliyu Jauro expressed dismay at the conduct of some consultants who turned in poor quality of work.

He stated that the workshop was intended to improve the capacity of the consultants to carry out their jobs in line with international best practices by improving their skills in preparing acceptable audit reports.

Prof. Jauro added that with the recently amended Act, the Agency intends to strengthen her enforcement activities in order to deliver on her mandate, and urged the consultants to improve on their jobs.

The participants commended NESREA for convening the meeting and pledged to serve as vanguards for environmental enforcement and compliance monitoring.



NIGERIA AND CHINA GO TOUGH ON WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING

Nigeria and China are set to implement tougher measures against illegal trade in endangered species of wildlife. The two countries took the decision when a team from Anti-Smuggling Bureau (ASB) of General Administration of China Customs (GACC) and Economic Criminal Investigation Department of Ministry of Public Security China visited Nigeria to work out modalities with the Nigerian government to end transnational wildlife crimes.

The team, led by Sun Zhijie, was at the headquarters of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency, NESREA where they were received by the Director General, Professor Aliyu Jauro and the management team of the Agency.

The Director-General took the opportunity, to brief the team on the achievements recorded so far in wildlife enforcement. He said NESREA has developed and operationalized regulations to control International Trade in Endangered Species and was highly scored by the CITES secretariat.

The Director-General disclosed further that the Agency also facilitated the

establishment of Inter-agency Committee on CITES Enforcement, which comprises all regulatory agencies in Nigeria, adding that effective collaboration with other agencies to combat wildlife crimes was yielding the desired result.

Though Prof Jauro expressed concern that several Chinese nationals had been implicated in the illicit trade, he said he was confident that working together, both countries would bring wildlife crimes to an end.

Leader of the Chinese delegation, Sun Zhijie, said the team was in Nigeria to work with the Federal Government to track down those behind the wildlife trade.

He also added that China had strict laws against the illegal trade and its officials were up to task in putting an end to the menace.

NESREA is the designated Enforcement Authority for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in Nigeria. The country domesticated the convention through the enactment of Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1985 which has been reviewed.

NESREA AND EPRON FINE TUNE STRATEGIES FOR E-WASTE RECYCLING



NESREA Management team with members of EPRON. 4th Left - DG NESREA Prof. Aliyu Jauro

The Management of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency, NESREA met with the officials of the E-waste Producers' Responsibility Organization of Nigeria EPRON. The meeting was in furtherance of discussions on the implementation of the Extended Producer Responsibility Programme in the electronics sector.

Director General of NESREA, Professor Aliyu Jauro who chaired the meeting identified three critical areas in the implementation of the programme as capacity building, funding and public sensitization. These areas, he said, would be given the needed attention. He pointed out that "public awareness is key to the success of any programme. If the public is not aware, there is no way people can key in. When it comes to collection of these electronic waste, people need to be sensitized."

Handling large volume of waste in the electronics sector is the challenge of living in a technologically driven world, and for EPRON, the efforts of NESREA was laudable. The Chairman of EPRON, Dr Oladimeji Oresanya said this, "Nigeria is ready for e-waste administration. It is an achievement for NESREA because that was the dream of NESREA. That was the expectation of everybody and we can tell even the global community also that in Nigeria, we are ready and we are fully ready."

The Extended Producer Responsibility Programme was put in place by NESREA as part of efforts to institutionalise environmentally sound management of waste in the country by ensuring that producers take responsibility for the entire life cycle of their products. The EPR supports the Circular Economy model

which is globally accepted as a sustainable consumption and production pattern where products at the end of life are not considered waste but rather, become secondary raw materials for some other products.

EPRON is a collective entity created and administered by producers in the electronics sector to manage the mandatory take-back scheme or other product stewardship programme under the EPR Programme. The organization serves as an interface between NESREA and other key sector players as the programme will be private sector driven while NESREA is the regulator.

Among other roles, EPRON will ensure that players in the sector comply with the rules and guidelines set out by NESREA; Provide expert advisory services to the Producers, Collectors and Recyclers and coordinate the Public Private Partnership (PPP) arrangements in the EPR.

Recently, Nigeria received grant from the Global Environmental Facility, GEF for the takeoff of the "Project on Circular Economy Approaches in the Electronics Sector". The GEF project would support the activities of EPRON thereby pushing Nigeria into a zero-waste regime in the electronics sector.

NESREA WELCOMES ASSISTANCE TO BOOST WILDLIFE PROTECTION



DG NESREA Prof. Aliyu Jauro makes a presentation to Senior Technical Advisor, EPI, Dr. Winnie Kiru

In 1974, Nigeria ratified the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (wild fauna and flora) and domiciled it by enacting the Endangered Species Act of 1985. With that, the country officially kicked off the CITES enforcement with deployment of wildlife law officers to Nigeria's Ports and Border posts. Weak enforcement of CITES however led to illegal trade in wildlife and a Trade Ban was placed on Nigeria in 2005.

Tracing the timeline of CITES enforcement in Nigeria during a visit to NESREA by the Elephant Protection Initiative, the Director General of NESREA, Professor Aliyu Jauro, said the Agency has effectively checkmated the activities of wildlife traffickers. "A total of 1746.16kg of seized and confiscated ivory and non-ivory items are under Agency's custody with some suspects arrested, prosecuted and convictions secured in some cases." The achievement was as a result of collaboration with sister agencies such as the Nigerian Customs Service.

In 2007, The National Environmental Standards and

Regulations Enforcement Agency, NESREA was created and among its mandate was the enforcement of regulations protecting wildlife in Nigeria. To strengthen the enforcement of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and CITES in the country, NESREA conducted baseline studies on wildlife in the country; sought inter-agency cooperation and inaugurated Inter-Agency Committee on CITES; developed relevant regulations; embarked on awareness creation; carried out CITES training and facilitated a massive raid of local ivory market in FCT by the Inter-Agency Committee. The Agency also took a step further to develop and gazette the National Environmental (Protection of Endangered Species in International Trade) Regulations, 2011. This was ranked as Category 1 by CITES Secretariat.

These efforts brought about a drastic reduction in wildlife crimes and the trade suspension on Nigeria was lifted in 2011. Since the lifting of the ban, the Agency heightened its CITES enforcement activities, working closely with relevant stakeholders.

The country however has some challenges in enforcing the wildlife regulations, and these include, inadequate holding facility for stockpiles of ivory and other seized products, lack of the necessary logistics for instant response, non-presence of NESREA at the ports, and lack of the necessary training on the identification techniques of CITES items.

To buttress this point, the Senior Technical Advisor of EPI, Dr. Winnie Kiru, said Nigeria was not alone in the dilemma. She said, "This is not a unique problem to Nigeria, it is happening all across Africa. So, the management of ivory stocks became an urgent issue that the EPI wanted to help resolve and developed some tools for inventory and tracking movement of ivory."

The EPI intervention according to her, was in assisting countries develop Ivory Stockpile Management and domesticating the African Elephant Action Plan (AEAP). Staff of the Agency were thereafter trained on the Stockpile Management System.

Dr. Kiru was in Nigeria for a high level meeting with the Permanent Secretary Federal Ministry of Environment, Mrs. Ibukun Odusote and other Heads of Departments and Agencies under the Ministry.



Director EOC, Mr. S. B. Joshua speaking during training on Stockpile Management System anchored by EPI for NESREA & sister Agencies

NESREA SHUTS DOWN COMPANY FOR ILLEGAL CHARCOAL EXPORT



Part of the illegal Chinese charcoal production facility sealed by NESREA in Isi-Uzo LGA in Enugu

A Chinese Company recently came under the hammer of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency, NESREA for violating environmental laws.

The company, Kwo Chief Investment Limited, located at Obimo in Nsukka Local Government Area of Enugu State was shut down by NESREA for illegal production and exportation of charcoal in

Nigeria.

On the receipt of petition by concerned Nigerians, NESREA dispatched officers to investigate the allegations levelled against the company. Investigations showed that the company was operating illegal charcoal production facilities at Ikem and Obimo in Isi-Uzo and Nsukka Local Government Areas of Enugu State respectively without permit. This runs contrary to the provisions of the National Environmental (Control of Charcoal Production Export) Regulations

2014.

The Regulation states that "..... a person shall not undertake or engage in any undertaking or activity relating to commercial charcoal production or handling without a valid permit issued by the Federal or State Department of Forestry".

The regulation also provides that, "a person shall not be granted a permit for charcoal production without having a reforestation and rehabilitation plan for the area from where the charcoal will be derived or produced."

In Nigeria, there is a ban on production of charcoal for export, but local commercial production is allowed within the ambits of the law. Indiscriminate destruction of forests for the production of charcoal leads to depletion of forest resources and is one of the causes of climate change.

AGENCY GETS ANTI CORRUPTION UNIT



Members of anti-corruption unit of NESREA take oath of office

The Unit was established by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission, ICPC, in collaboration with the office of the Head of the Civil Service as a mechanism to prevent, identify and correct operational lapses in Ministries, Departments and Agencies of government in the country.

Speaking during the inauguration, the Director General of NESREA, Professor Aliyu Jauro called on staff of the Agency to champion the fight against corruption.

Professor Jauro pointed out that corruption impedes the growth of the nation, saying, "When you have corruption, there is no way you can progress."

In a goodwill message on the occasion, the Chairman of ICPC, Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, represented by Justine Kuatsea said the coming on board of the unit would promote transparency and accountability in the activities of the Agency and charged members of the Unit to "live above board."

Oath of Office was thereafter administered on six staff of the Agency as members of the Anti-Corruption and Transparency Unit of NESREA.

The Anti-Corruption and Transparency Unit (ACTU) has been set up at the headquarters of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency, NESREA.

BETWEEN THEORY AND PRACTICE



Sule Oyofa
DD Press & Protocol

Abuja, Saturday, June 25th, 7am. It was raining heavily and I woke up early to prepare and rush to work. But I did not reckon with the unexpected. Since my mind was fixed on getting to work early, it was an unpleasant surprise then, when, from my base in Lokogoma, using my normal route through Galadimawa junction, I ran into an over flooded section of the road. The small gully channeling water from Apo axis had over ran the highway trapping motorists. For fear of having our vehicles submerged, we all began to turn back. Swiftly, I made a detour to the short route to Gudu through Sunny Vale Estate, but again the entire road had been taken over by flood.

Now panic was beginning to set in. Quickly, I figured out that the best thing to do was to go through Shoprite – actually one of the most reliable routes out of Lokogoma for years- connecting the fast emerging Estates around and made a dash for it.

At last, I made it to the City Centre, but unceasing downpour where, again in Garki, opposite Blake Resort – a notorious spot reputed for floods – flood brought us to a halt. The small river that had formed was a strange sight in a new city like Abuja. But typical of Nigerians, we all began to reverse – like you know, every man for himself!

Finally, after what seemed like ages on the road, I got to the

office 9.30am breathing a sigh of relief! I had left home 7am to escape in what I imagined was going to be a simple drive, but as I discovered on this fateful day – there is still a long way to go – in our planning and environmental cleanup.

Maybe we could have been better prepared with pre-flood warning; perhaps had the weather forecast made mention of this, we could have been alerted. But even now in the office, there was blackout and the generator, having been over stretched was out of action.

When the Newspapers came, I read that the heavy downpour had caused chaos in Lagos, Benin and Ibadan. But prior to this day, our point men in major political offices had been busy purring over who is who, in President Muhammadu Buhari's Ministerial list and who gets what. Few, if any at all, gave thought to the approaching rainy season and how to prepare for it. We are, as it appears, all glued to one spot: Asorock!

When eventually PHCN restored power we all rushed to begin the process of charging our phones, or trying to "save" documents that had been previously typed, but lost as a result of sudden blackout! Next is to begin preparation for courtesy calls, or listen to the endless "presentation" that flow in; for perusal. When you are a little bit free, you attend to the huge pile of "files" on your desk seeking for personal and financial gains; you then put up a memo send it to your immediate boss for

the usual "vetting" . This is the Civil Service ; everything is systematic - theory before practice.

Practice! That's what we need to do; practice what we preach. We need to tackle environmental problems. If only we are 70% committed, what is over-flooding to worry us? Why do we watch and allow erosion frighten us?

We are, from observations less bordered about our safety and what to leave for our children, the next generation.

That's why ten years ago when I moved into the Apo, Shoprite axis of Abuja City, except for the pyrrhic efforts of the private sector, nothing has changed despite the population increase. There should be more serious efforts at making life easy for us all. It can't be business as usual. If the roads are to be fixed, they should; if drainages are to be constructed, they should, not to talk of train stations or carriageways.

This is why, looking back now, one of the names that regularly comes to mind on what the Abuja City is today is a serving governor who put aside sentiments and worked so hard to give the Capital City the much needed face lift. I imagine what Abuja would have been like without his determined efforts.

The environment is everywhere;

you and me. The entire Nigerian landscape needs to be covered; the cities are becoming too polluted; more cars on the roads; the forests are getting depleted; what is happening? Now erosion is eating deeper in the Eastern States. What is the solution? You may ask.

Thank God NESREA is the police of the environment; thank God there is a vibrant man at the helm of affairs. So now we will begin to see action. There are 33 Regulations already in place. Let's kick out this theoretical stuff.

I believe we now have the commitment and the will to enforce or as they say it – take the bull by the horns. One important fact though is that whatever action we take must be in sync with Global standards.

NEW EXCO SWORN IN FOR ASCSN, NCSU NESREA UNIT

A new leadership has been sworn in for the NESREA Unit of the Association of Senior Civil Servant of Nigeria ASCSN .. The 5-man team who emerged victorious at the unit election are to pilot the affairs of the association for the next four (4) years. The team include the Chairman, Mr. Anunobi Raymond Chikwendu of Planning and Policy Analysis Department (PPA); the Vice Chairman, Mr. Soala Martyns of Environmental Quality Control (EQC) Department and Secretary, Barr. Ibrahim Musa of the Legal Department. Others are, the treasurer, Pearl Ibiabuo of Partnership and Education and the ex-officio, Mr. Pius Egwame of the Admin and Finance.



NESREA ASCN Executive during their swearing in ceremony

The new unit executives of the Nigerian Civil Service Union NCSU also took their oath of office. The unit has as Chairman; Mr. Murtala Uthman; Vice Chairman, Mrs. Grace Kariboro; Secretary, Mr. Godwin Emede & Mrs. Ngozi Dosunmu as treasurer. Ms. Mfon Nkanang and Mr. Samson Mada were sworn in as ex-officio.



NESREA NCSU Executive take oath of office

Congratulating the new executives, of both associations, the Director General of NESREA, Prof. Aliyu Jauro promised that issues pertaining to staff welfare will always be a priority for him.

FIELD ACTIVITIES



DG NESREA Prof. Aliyu Jauro, with Director North West Zonal Office NESREA Dr. Stephen Otitologbon (L) in a meeting with Manufacturers' Association of Nigeria in Kano.



NESREA Officials with facility contact during the opening conference at CDK Integrated Industries Ltd, Ogun State



NESREA team inspecting production process, machines and the general premises of Alhert Polyubag Facility in Bernin Kebbi.



NESREA officials in a meeting with representatives of IHS and Ifelodun community.



Enforcement officers inspecting water storage tanks during a maiden inspection visit at ND Table Water, Sarkin Maka Road, Katsina.



Principal of Federal Ministry of Works Training, Mr Elijah Idiong (Middle) Flanked by NESREA Staff at their graduation ceremony in Kuje Abuja.

FIELD ACTIVITIES



Inspection team at MTN / IHS base station at Yhaya Madaki Way, Katsina



NESREA Official, Mrs. Lilian Okoye sensitizes staff of Primus Table Water during compliance Monitoring visit to the facility



NESREA team inspecting an Illegal dumpsite around Mtela Polythene Plastic Recycling Company, Birnin Kebbi, Kebbi State



NESREA Officers with the site contacts at Dana Pharmaceuticals Limited inspecting the Effluent Treatment Plant of the Facility in Oyo state



NESREA officers with site contact at Sauressig Africa Ltd. Ibadan, Oyo State.



A NESREA staff, Emmanuel Yusuf addresses Students at Barhim Community Secondary School, Batagarawa LGA Katsina State.

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Our Vision

To ensure a cleaner and healthier environment for Nigerians

Our Mission

To inspire personal and collective responsibility in building an environmentally conscious society for the achievement of sustainable development in Nigeria

Our Mandate

To enforce all environmental laws, guidelines, policies, standards and regulations in Nigeria, and to prohibit processes and the use of equipment or technology that undermine environmental quality, and to enforce compliance with provisions of international agreements, protocols, conventions and treaties to which Nigeria is signatory.

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