



## Kudos: NIMC Delivers NIN.

DG/CEO. Barrister Chris Onyemenam congratulating his Director IT/Database, Engr. Aliyu Aziz for the feat -Elvis Ogah.

**A**ura of joy filled the NIMC Headquarter enrolment centre at exactly 7.00pm on Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012. What is the good news? The Director-General/CEO of the Commission, Barr. Chris 'E Onyemenam became the first person to be successfully enrolled into the National Identity Database (NIDB) and a unique National Identification Number (NIN) was instantly assigned to him.

Words could hardly quantify the magnitude of excitement on Barr. Onyemenam's face. It was indeed a rare feat; a milestone that took several years of hard work and determination to accomplish.

The event of that day signified that the NIMC has delivered

one of its key mandates which include the enrolment of persons into the NIDB from age 16 above and issuance of a unique Identification Number called NIN.

Still basking in the apparent happiness, Barr. Chris Onyemenam commended the entire management and staff of NIMC for this great accomplishment. He gave glory to Almighty God for his mercies and guidance towards delivering this all important National Project in our life time.

It will be recalled that one of the major constraints to economic development in Nigeria has been lack of reliable data which is very useful for economic planning. But, with the success achieved in the delivery of NIN, Nigeria, after years has gotten it right.

# WHY DO WE NEED AN ASSURED IDENTITY SYSTEM IN NIGERIA?

-Fatima Ogale

Many years ago, Nigeria through her successive administrations has sampled different methods and approaches aimed at establishing a secure National ID Database for ease of reference in the time of need, be it education, economy, social, and political sector for national planning. One of such samples after a decade gave rise to the global scientific method of demographic and biometric collection of human data for which individual's identity can be asserted. Many countries of the world have embarked on this project using different jargons that are relatively suitable to them, like social security number in US and others but commonly referred to National Identity. In all of these, Nigerians have been asking pertinent questions, why embark on this system? Few examples will suffice here while the rest will continue in our next edition.

## Tax Administration:

Tax payer identification is a key and crucial requirement for the proper and effective application of tax laws in Nigeria. Tax evasion or non-filer problem affects the potential of the tax system to generate revenue internally and also equity and fairness within the system. It is therefore imperative, to design a taxpayer identification system to identify potential taxpayers and reduce the possibility of evading taxes and making false declarations on tax returns. The relationship between the total number in the population in any given country and the total number of registered taxpayers provide a very clear indication of the level of the non-filer problem.

## Crime Control and Administration of Justice:

There are no criminal records in Nigeria and as a result convicted felons could remain in the system with fictitious identities and criminals do not really suffer the consequences of their

crime. It is difficult to arrest wanted suspects who remain in the system with multiple identities and thus make crime control extremely very difficult in Nigeria

income rises above poverty level such person or persons as the case may be cease to qualify for the alleviation benefits. The efficient administration of this programme is made possible when



A cross section of Enrolment centre in Abuja.

The effective use of National Identification system in crime control requires a significant change in the manner and way our law enforcement agencies operate. A streamline procedure in the way the law enforcement agencies deal with the public will showcase the wonders of database driven national identification system.

## Administration of Poverty Alleviation Programmes:

Poverty alleviation programmes are usually targeted at families within poverty levels. The absence of an identifier makes it impossible to target the right category of people and Government programmes in this direction fail woefully. The national identification system should form the bedrock for identifying those eligible for the programme which aims at raising the beneficiary's income level.

In other words, once a beneficiary's

the National Identity Management System (NIMS) is established. Now that NIMC has succeeded in establishing NIMS and National Identification Number (NIN) being assigned to individuals on successful enrolment, the goals of the poverty alleviation programmes can be realized in a very visible and concrete terms.

## Farmers in the Rural Areas:

Aside providing the farmers with a convenient and assured means of proving their identities, this number which is called NIN can do even more wonders because all individuals are involved in one form of transaction or the other which requires a payment situation where the highest level of assurance is required. In this case, one can easily provide his NIN and at a touch of a button and his identity is confirmed by reference to the National identity database via a web-based service.

# THE CHALLENGES OF MANAGING NATIONAL DATABASE

**T**he issue of a National Identification System in any country is usually the subject of controversy and resistance. Like in the UK a major reason for the resentment of the National ID system is the notion that it would invade the privacy of citizens.

In Nigeria for instance, the reason for resentment are varied and include suspicious by sections of the country that it would offend their religious sensibilities, and that if used as a voter registration card, it would affect the voting strength of sections of the country.

In the United States, the idea of a national ID system met very strong resistance especially since civil liberties groups argue it would erode the privacy of citizens. The irony of it all is that there is a national identification system already in existence in the United States since 1935 Known as Social Security Number. This national identifier essentially stores all the information about the individual in a national database.

In 2002, Japan launched a mandatory nationwide system whereby every citizen is assigned an 11 digit identification number. The Japanese database stores personal data such as name, address, date and place of birth, gender and possibility for more data. Even at the launching of the project there was

mounting opposition and government had started working on privacy protection legislation to pacify opponents of the system.

The case of Nigeria is quite different. The project which was originally conceived in 1977 was eventually executed in 2003 after several controversies and bottlenecks. Registration exercise was reported to have taken place at 600,000 centres across Nigeria, registering about 60,000,000 adults from the age of 18 years and above. The information collected in this exercise were name, gender, address, occupation, state/local government, height, photographs and fingerprints were also taken.

Therefore, a National Identification System is urgently needed in Nigeria because many people in the country operate with fictitious identities and this has hindered Government programmes in many sectors. For instance, currently the tax system, criminal justice system, banking and financial system do not operate on real identities of people thereby making the various systems less productive and inefficient.

It is against this background that we therefore, call on all to embrace the new National Identity Management System(NIMS) been deployed by the NIMC.

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Delta State Deputy Governor, Prof. Amos Utuama (SAN) in a warm hand shake with Barr. Chris Oyemenam, Director-General NIMC in Government house Asaba.

## NIMC TOP MANAGEMENT pays courtesy visit to GOVERNOR UDUAGHAN of DELTA STATE.

— ANTHONY OKWUDIAFOR

**T**he top Management Staff of the NIMC led by the Director-General, Barrister Chris Onyemenam recently paid a courtesy call on the Executive Governor of Delta State Dr Emmanuel Uduaghan in the Government house Asaba.

The Governor who was represented by his Deputy Prof Amos Utuama reiterated the importance of operating a reliable, secured and dependable national identity data base of Nigerians and Legal residents in Nigeria. Prof Utuama further stated that it has

become more pertinent and fundamental for the government to know the number of people living in the country given the current security challenges and the need for Nigeria to assert itself as a sovereign Nation.

Earlier the Director-General NIMC informed the Deputy Governor, Prof Utuama that NIMC Management chose Asaba for its retreat because of the peaceful nature of the State capital and the massive infrastructural development recently witnessed in Delta State.

Barrister Chris Onyemenam assured

that all hands are on deck in achieving a hitch free enrolment exercise of all Nigerians and legal residents living in the Country.

He called for the support of the Delta State Government towards achieving this important national assignment.

On the Director-General's entourage were:- Engr Aliyu Aziz, Director IT/Data Base, Mrs. Cecelia Yahaya Acting Director Operations, Mr.M.S Obaba, Acting Director Corporate Services, Mal Ibrahim Abdullahi, Acting Director, Finance and Investment and others.

# NIMC SENDS-OFF BATCH 'A' CORPS MEMBERS

- Judith E. Ekanem



Corps member Valentina Isiguzo exchanging greeting with fellow corps member at the watchful eyes of Management Representatives.



Outgoing corps members, at attention while reciting the National Anthem during their sent-off ceremony.

As the saying goes, there is time for everything under the sun, time to come and time to go, time to mobilize and time to demobilize, time to serve and time to pass out.

NIMC recently sent-off a group of batch 'A' Corps Members who ended their one year service in NIMC headquarters, Abuja.

Addressing the outgoing Corps Members, the Director-General/Chief Executive, Barrister Chris 'E' Onyemenam commended them for their dedication to duties and resourcefulness. He remarked that the Corps Members had earlier provided NIMC with customized office key holders and NIN awareness stickers which the Commission truly appreciates.

The DG / CEO who spoke through the Director Corporate Services, Mr. M.S Obaba informed the Corps Members that henceforth, the Commission will organize a send-off party for Corps Members who have shown absolute dedication to duty.

*“ The Handwork of a Man is SELF-PORTRAIT of HIMSELF... Autograph your work with excellence ”*

Chris Onyemenam

Mr. Obaba however encouraged the outgoing Members to be good Ambassadors of NIMC wherever they find themselves. He added that application of educational skills is not enough unless it is combined with intellectual capabilities, whether in the formal or informal sectors.

Furthermore, Director Identity Database/IT Engineer Aliyu Aziz who was represented by Engineer Hassan Isa and Deputy Director, Human Capital Management, Mrs. Winifred Ojeih challenged the outgoing Corps Members to make IT their reference point. Stating that in IT world, individuals create jobs rather than waiting to be employed. They called on the Corps Members not to cage themselves in a box but rather they should show class in everything they do.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Corps Liaison Officer (CLO1), Umoh

Uyime Joseph lauded the N I M C Management, Colleagues and Staff of the

Commission for the cooperation, support and kind gesture extended to them during their service year in NIMC. The outgoing Corps Members also called on the Commission to consider providing accommodation for future Corps Members to help ease some of their challenges.

Some highlights of the occasion included presentation of parting gifts to the outgoing Corps Members and the organizing committee.

The event was attended by the Acting Director of Corporate Communications and his Deputy Mr. Anthony Okwudiafor and Abdulhamid Umar respectively, the Chief Security Officer Major B.A Idiaye, the Labour Adviser to Director General Mr. Ayo Olorunfemi Festus and other Senior Officers in the Commission.



NIMC Management Staff in a group photograph with the DG (centre in a blue native dress) at the Asaba Retreat early in the year



A Corporate support gift to the DG NIMC, Barr. Chris Oyemenam from his State Governor



Director-General NIMC , Barr. Chris Oyemenam flanked by Asagba (R) Commissioner of Information and Strategy Barr. Ogeah C. Chike, Engr. Aliyu Aziz (L) and other NIMC Mgt. Staff during a courtesy call on Asagba of Asaba.



DG NIMC Chris Oyemenam cheerfully receiving blessings and support from His Royal Majesty, Asagba of Asaba during courtesy visit.



DG NIMC Barr. Chris Oyemenam responding to the curious pressmen on Asaba Management retreat, closely watched by the Director, Corporate Communications Okwudiafor. O. Anthony.

# SocialDIARIESSocialDIARIESSocialDIARIESSocialDIARIES



It is a happy birthday to two Barristers, Dele-Awolo Amaka Yvonne (Mrs.) & Adebola Adebayo, when both shared the same birthday and in the same office.



Dorothy Akposabah Efe (Technical Assistant) to DG lifting her cake and mind up with a saying 'Thank you God' on her birthday ceremony on 12th March, 2012.



Happy Couple, Happy Life Mr. Ebilueye Frank of Database Dept. Married his lovely wife on 21st Jan., 2012.



Deputy Director Inspectorate and Regulatory compliance (IRC) Hadiza Ndagabana Sani in a group photograph with her Staff at the Staff's Wedding Ceremony.



Director HCM, Mrs. Agunbiade Aderonke blessing Tolulope's baby, one of her staff at the baby's naming ceremony.



Mr.&Mrs.Evans Akurwe of Payroll Unit carrying their new born baby during the baby's naming ceremony on 10th March,2012.

# NIMS PROJECT GETS ROYAL SUPPORT

- ANTHONY OKWUDIAFOR



Barrister Chris Onyemenam, DG NIMC flanked by his left Hon. Chike Ogeah Delta State Commission for Information and Strategy and Eng Aziz, Director IT/Database during the NIN Advocacy Campaign to the Asagba of Asaba

The Asagba of Asaba, His Royal Majesty Prof. Chike Edozien CFR, JP

has given his Royal

endorsement to the NIMS Project, the Royal Father stated this while welcoming the top management Staff of NIMC led by Barrister Chris 'E Onyemenam during a courtesy visit to his palace in Asaba.

"The need for Nigeria to have a reliable database of Nigerians and legal residents living in Nigeria cannot be over emphasized" the Asagba asserted.

"Chris you are doing a good job at NIMC, we are proud of you, please keep it up".

In the Director-General's remarks, he thanked the Asagba of Asaba for the warm reception accorded members of his entourage despite the short notice. Barrister Chris

"The need for Nigeria to have a reliable database of Nigerians and legal residents living in Nigeria cannot be over emphasized" the Asagba asserted. "CHRIS YOU ARE DOING A GOOD JOB AT NIMC, WE ARE PROUD OF YOU, PLEASE KEEP IT UP".

Onyemenam, informed His Royal Majesty that the NIMC Management Staff were in Asaba for a retreat that will enable a total

review and evaluation of the NIMC operations in the past years and Marshall out implementable strategies that will facilitate the speedy execution of the NIMS Project of enrolling Nigerians and Legal residents with the GMP Card before the end of the year.

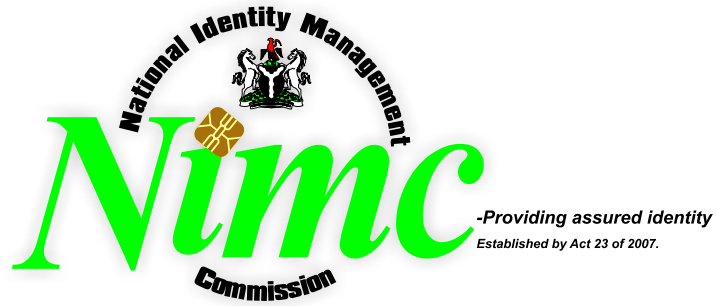
Barrister Chris 'E Onyemenam being a son of the soil, promised to be a good ambassador of Asaba town and Delta State in general.

Members of the Director-General's entourage to the Asagba's Palace include Engr Aliyu Aziz, Ibrahim Abdullahi, Cecelia Yahaya, Tony Okwudiafor, Hadiza Dagabana Sani, Mfon Udoh and others.



*Can you spot the  
Difference?*

*There's only one: Their National Identification Number (NIN).*



*...It's a Game Changer: Enrol once and be Identified for life.*

# NCSU NIMC UNIT ELECTS NEW EXCO

- Ibrahim Jibrin

The Nigerian Civil Service Union (NCSU) NIMC Unit surprised their four years old Union Chairman, Comrade Bello Najimu and three others in an election that was keenly contested by electing Comrade Igwe Henry C. and Comrade George Kadiri as Chairman and Secretary respectively. Others elected are Comrade Alawode Adeola, vice Chairperson, and Comrade Mohammed Bala emerged as treasurer.

The election which witnessed a large turnout of members was conducted by the Federal Council Executive, FCT branch, led by Comrade L.U Amaechi, Chairman FCT branch with other executives, including Comrade Ogem Nahemiah, Secretary and others.

Addressing Members, the FCT branch Secretary, Comrade Ogem Nahemiah thanked the Director-General and the entire NIMC Management represented by the Deputy Director, HCM Mrs. Winifred Ojeih, who led others to observe the the conduct of the election. Comrade Ogem expressed the Union branch appreciation for the peaceful manner in which the staff conducted

themselves; stressing that election is not a do or die affair. He also drew the attention of the NIMC management to the members' complaints/agitations to be able to sustain good labour relations presently existing in NIMC.

He declared Comrade Igwe Henry C. as the winner of the Chairmanship position with 200 votes to defeat the incumbent Comrade Bello Najimu who got 75 votes, the post of Vice Chairperson went to Comrade Alawode Adeola who got 212 votes against her two other opponents, Mrs Emilian Ighologba and Mrs Fati Shuaibu who got 39 and 25 votes respectively. Comrade George Kadiri won the Secretaryship seat with 153 to beat the incumbent Treasurer and Acting Secretary, Comrade Luky Asekokhai while Comrade Mohammed Bala emerged as the treasurer.

Responding on behalf the management after the peaceful election, the Deputy Director, Human Capital Management, Mrs. Winifred Ojeih thanked the staff for conducting themselves in an orderly manner and assured them of the Management's tireless efforts in addressing the issue of Staff ID Card in the shortest possible



COM. IGWE HENRY C.  
New Chairman

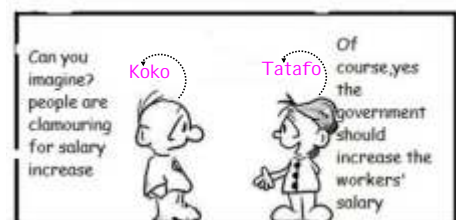
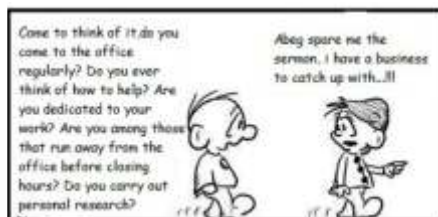
time. She further disclosed that a training committee has been set up to check and address all the irregularities in the training process. This clearly shows the desire of NIMC Management to carry all Staff along, she asserted.

In his acceptance speech, the newly elected Chairman thanked the entire staff for the mandate given to him and promised to create an enabling environment for a good Staff/Management relationship. He also solicited for the support of the outgoing executives in the new task.

“ WE CANNOT SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS WITH THE SAME THINKING WE USED WHEN WE CREATED THEM.”  
Albert Einstein

Courtesy DG NIMC

## ATTITUDINAL CHANGE



by Dele Amoo



# How to enrol for NIN

## Assisted Service Enrolment



**1** Walk into any NIN enrolment centre and request for enrolment assistance.



**2** An Enrolment executive will assist you in picking and filling the enrolment form out.



**3** The Enrolment executive will collect the form and input your information into the database.



**4** You will be able to verify and confirm your enrolment data on the system as it is being fed into the database.



**5** Your headshot, photograph, fingerprints and signature are then captured.



**6** The Enrolment executive will scan the supporting document provided by you.



**7** Your enrolment is acknowledged by a slip with a tracking reference number indicating the completion of your enrolment.



**8** You are free to leave. Your NIN will be communicated to you via SMS or e-mail.

# The Difference is in their National Identification Numbers (NIN)



**...with your NIN**

- ❖ No more Multiple or Duplicate Identities;
- ❖ No more Ghost Identities;
- ❖ Simplifies KYC (Know Your Customer);
- ❖ Enables you to assert your identity anytime, anywhere.

**Enrolment centres to open soon**

**...it's a Game Changer: Enrol once and be identified for life.**

