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## S3N2022: ABIODUN, PANTAMI, OTHERS EMPHASIS NEED FOR SMART, SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

The Nigeria Computer Society International Conference dubbed S3N2022 commenced today at the June 12 Cultural Centre, Abeokuta and will run till Thursday August 4, 2022 under the theme: 'Smart, Secure and Sustainable Nation'.



The Governor said the conference theme couldn't have come at a better time as recent events point to the need for critical review of governance and government process for better management of scarce resource.

Speaking through Prof. Abayomi Arigbabu, the State Commissioner for Education, Science, and Technology, the Governor said that his administration has been intentional with governance especially in developing initiatives Ogun State Digital Economy Infrastructure Project (OGDEIP), which no doubt leads a path to

success to the burgeoning economy of the Gateway state and the country at large.

Governor Abiodun said Ogun has taken hold of the future to make digital access available to all the citizens and businesses and it is the most far-sighted action any government can take in the present time.

He said the benefits of the digital economy infrastructure to Ogun State are numerous, pointing out that at the climax of COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown, the State was credited as the first to launch 'DigiClass' to facilitate e-learning for the students.

He said that the other projects such as Ogun Tech Hub, Ogun Job Portal and others geared towards great economic development; access to youths and to attract more investments to drive end results, among others.

The Governor expressed delight

with NCS' executives for choosing Ogun State as the host State of the largest gathering of IT professionals in the country.

Nodding in agreement, Professor Isa Ali Ibrahim (Pantami), the Minister of Communications and Digital Economy, and chairman of NCS International Conference 2022, said the adoption of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) initiatives and its application in all sectors of the state economy, cannot be overemphasized.

he said that these form the nucleus of the Ministry's Digital Economy agenda and policy directions.

Pantami, also the chair for WSIS 2022, has this to say about the NCS conference theme:

"The theme for this year's conference is very apt; three topics merged to one: 'Smart nation, Secured nation and Sustainable nation'. This theme is dear to my heart because it is

part of the area I have been working on, particularly, in the academic: 'Datafication of Society to Foster an Internet Economy' and 'Cybersecurity Initiatives for Securing a Country' and the President of the Nigeria Computer Society (NCS) is among the reviewers. To cap it all, we must keep emphasizing on skills rather than paper degrees (certificates); this is about a sustainable nation. Without skills we cannot sustain our nation.

"Before you convince people to embrace smart nation initiatives, you need to convince them of the concept with emphasis on the benefits.

"Smart nation is basically about the deployment of digital technology to support and enable operational efficiencies. It saves time, energy and brings peace of mind as well as excitement. As it is in Nigeria today, we do not really have fully

developed smart States, but some are work-in-progress. There are four States that are picking up like Ogun State where we are today. However, we have some smart estates which are signs that we are developing Internet of Things (IoT) devices installed in these estates".

The Minister tasked IT professionals not to rest on their oars as global economic outlooks point to a need for a smart, secure and sustainable nation and even development.

Engineer Aliyu Aziz, the Director General/CEO, National Identity Management Agency (NIMC), delivering the keynote address (virtually) at S3N2022, reiterated that different economies now depend on smart technologies for survival hence emphasis on Smart Agriculture, e-learning, Internet of Things and security, respectively.

# NCS TO PLAY KEY ROLE FOR AFRICAN COMPUTER SOCIETY TO EMERGE - CHURCHILLS OGUTU

The Nigeria Computer Society (NCS) will play crucial role towards establishing a pan-African IT professional's body – African Computer Society (ACoS), says Churchills Ogutu.

Ogutu, an Executive of the Computer Society of Kenya, represented Dr. Waudu Siganga, President, at this year's Nigeria Computer Society (NCS) International Conference under the theme: Smart, Secure and Sustainable Nation.

Ogutu who also the ICT Officer at Nuclear Power and Energy Agency, Kenya, had during a brief interview with TechEconomy, stated that the Nigerian counterpart (NCS) is favorably disposed towards setting up African Computer Society as a vehicle to drive innovation on the continent.

He said, aligned his thoughts with Professor Adesina Sodiya, the President of NCS's position that Africa needs to train more

youths on Ethical Hacking and how to use historical data through the help of artificial intelligence to fight cybercrime.

Narrowing down to Nigeria and Kenya, the similarities among African countries in Information Technology development, he said, "The similarities are the same across the world. One typical example is what happens in cyber-hacking. The world is becoming a digital village. This is why we feel a need to come together to block cyber threats. Africa has the best brains; we must do everything possible to keep our best home.

"If you look at Kenya, the best technology for mobile money was invented in Kenya. It is called the M-Pesa. Today, the world is taking a leaf from that technological breakthrough.

We are coming together because we need to motivate our children and persuade our young



innovators that the best way to go is to develop Africa.

“In a nutshell, we want to come together under an African umbrella to pursue a common goal: Put African innovation forward in the global arena. We need to jointly fight cybercrime. If one country is trying all it could to combat cybercrime and the other is not meeting up to expectations, then, we need each other to meet the target. It was just like when Coronavirus came, it started from somewhere and later spread; the whole world felt the impact. Also, cyber-hacking started from someone but has now become a global issue. Therefore, everybody must be involved to curb the increase in cybercrime. The Internet, like every other thing that has advantages, has its disadvantages. But we need to work harder to block the disadvantages. We understand that while the vibrant, young African youths are working hard to invent solutions to solve our problems, the bad eggs are not

sleeping too. We need to go ahead of them”.

“Africa is ripe for digital revolution. Bill Gates (Microsoft) employs Africans; Google, Oracle, amongst others, employ Africans who help them perform the ‘magic’ we applaud across the world.

“There is the issue of corruption (on the Continent), but the greatest corruption is not giving the youth opportunity; now we need to convince them to stay back here (in Africa) by making the place secure and making the IT ecosystem robust.

Churchills Ogutu said that collaborations towards establishing African Computer Society have been extended to Uganda, Tanzania, Nigeria, Congo, Tunisia, Kenya, with discussions still ongoing in many other countries.

“We need to have the goodwill of the individual country’s Computer Society/Association to get the job done”, he said.

# NIGERIA COMPUTER SOCIETY INDUCTS 854 NEW MEMBERS

The Nigeria Computer Society induction ceremony was held at June 12 Cultural Centre Abeokuta Ogun State, as part of activities for this year's



International Conference under the theme: 'Smart, Secure and Sustainable Nation'. Addressing the new inductees into one of the noblest professions, Professor Adesina Sodiya, the President, advised them not to take anything for granted regarding the knowledge of the profession.

He said that NCS is determined to work with relevant authorities to ensure that only the people with required standards of knowledge and skills are allowed to deliver IT projects.

This, he said, is a means to checkmate quackery and other

unwholesome practices in the industry.

He said that the new inductees are in pursuit of excellence by seeking to become members of the computing profession and improve on themselves from time to time as circumstances may permit.

Prof. Sodiya reiterated that one of the hallmarks of professionalism, especially in Information Technology (IT), is training and retraining, given the high obsolescence of Information Technology and the need to be updated on a regular basis.

Earlier, Mr. Tunde Ezichi, who chaired the ceremony, said there the inductees, first understand why you are practitioners in the Information Technology profession.



“Please note that the profession has the power of life and death; it depends on how you use it. Software drives virtually everything. Artificial Intelligence has disrupted other technology. IT has impacted every aspect of human endeavour. “Once you are practicing, you will be confronted by different situations requiring decision-making. The route you take will determine if you will be praised to high heaven or condemned. Your practices will impact the global economy – government, businesses and

individuals. Our nation (Nigeria) will depend on the IT profession to get it out of the rocks”, he added.

### Induction Lecture

Dr. (Mrs) Adeola Ilechukwu delivered the induction lecture titled: Tradition and values of Nigeria Computer Society (NCS).

She said that since its establishment in 1978, Nigeria Computer Society has lived up to expectations in terms of advocacy for adequate, high standards and ethical conduct of its members and the development of IT in Nigeria.



“Membership is open to every person involved either directly or indirectly in computer science and information technology and systems.

“By your induction today, there are certain obligations of which you must pay your annual subscriptions. A member whose subscription is in arrears and is duly notified cannot vote. The Council may take any necessary step(s) in recovering of arrears of subscription including the publication of names of defaulters.

She also told the inductees that they are required to participate in NCS annual conferences, CPN IT Assembly, enlist on State Chapter, and register with one of the interest groups – ITAN, ISPON, ISPAN, NiWIIT, NITPCS, ITSSP, AITP.

“Your professional conduct must comply with the constitution of the Society”, she said.

Dr. Charles Onyeukwu, Chairman, Ethics and Disciplinary Committee, said members must abide by ethics of the profession, especially in their workplace.

“Taking credit or passing someone’s work as though it was your effort is highly unethical. Your efforts should be towards the growth of the organization; deceptions, fortification of company’s documents to deceive Government Agencies must not continue”.

While presenting the candidates for induction, Professor Oludele Awodele, Chairman, Credentials Committee of NCS, said the Society can boast of having the highest number of IT practitioners in Nigeria in its fold.

He said that the 854 inductees were properly screened and have satisfactorily agreed to abide by the professional conducts.



## TECHNEWSTOKENIZATION OF NIN, BVN WILL EASE IDENTITY AND ACCESS MANAGEMENT - OLUSEYI AKINDEINDE

**T**raditional financial securities such as stocks, bonds and other real world assets are increasingly moving to blockchain infrastructure.

This happens due to the many benefits of this technology, such as lightning fast settlement, 24x7 trading, access to international investors and a significantly increased liquidity.

The World Economic Forum predicts that 10% of the global GDP (\$7.8 trillion) will be stored on the blockchain by 2027.

Dr. Oluseyi Akindeinde, the Co-Founder/CTO at Digital Encode Limited, even wants the Nigerian government to take proactive steps by tokenizing the Bank verification Number (BVN) and/or the National Identification Number (NIN), as means to enhance security of transactions and ensure seamless processing.

Speaking at the Nigeria Computer Society (NCS) international Conference under the theme: 'Smart, Secure and Sustainable Nation' Dr Akindeinde said that a security on

the blockchain termed 'tokenized security', will make BVN and NIN more relevant to events in the digital world.

He also said that online fraud has widespread business impacts hence Financial Technology (Fintech) companies require effective end-to-end strategy to prevent account takeover (ATO), deter new account fraud, and stop suspicious payment transactions.

The Digital Encode Co-founder's presentation:

"I believe that using technology we can solve a lot of Nigeria's challenges. But one of the issues I have with regulators is: At times regulations tend to stifle innovation. We just have to use technology to power our economy and regulators have to align towards that path. Issues around data and verification or authentication must be addressed to enhance our productivity and secure the cyber space further.

Industry-wise, let me use the financial technology companies

(FinTechs) for the illustration: When you download their apps they ask the same questions for KYC – names, address, email, password, phone number, etc., for all of them. It means something isn't right. Why is that we have National Identification Number (NIN) and Bank Verification Number (BVN) and they do not serve the purpose of a simple KYC for banking services.

In the real-world, when you are driving and the policeman flanks you, asks for your identification, you can flash your driver's license. There are two things there: That identity I showed him is in my custody and I can also request for his own identity if I am not sure of his identity.

Now, if you look at all the implementations of fintech apps – web and mobile applications, the identity is just a one-way direction; I have proven who I am to the fintech company, but there is barely no way they are proving their true identity to me. This raises cybersecurity issues. The hackers can now say: Hold on, in the real-world, identification is a two-way thing, but online there is absolutely nothing.

Well, people argue that these apps use SSL, TSL, and other layers of security. No! There is a need for players to understand the layers of security. TLS and SSL operate on certain layers of security in which they just keep data in transit. Guess what, I can sit down here, put up a website that looks exactly like one of the banks or fintech companies, buy SSL certificates off the shelf and install them on the URL.

Now, the question is: How do we replicate what is obtainable in the real-world digital space to make it 'Smart Technology'? There are two things there: I don't need to always input my username and password on every website. Secondly, I need to prove that what I have is truly my information.

There is a technology for it called Blockchain Technology. Unfortunately, in Nigeria, when you mention blockchain technology, most people say 'cryptocurrency'. Yes, cryptocurrency is one of the implementations. What blockchain has given us is the ability to send real-life assets, digitally.

For instance, when you login to your

banking app A to send money to banking app B you aren't actually moving value rather messages. You are delegating authority for that movement to the bank. That is why, sometimes the transactions fail then you have to call your bank and the bank goes ahead to call the switching company. There is no mechanism online, presently, by which you can digitally move value from one place to another. The blockchain technology gives impetus to that because it permits asset tokenization.

Then, I ask: We have NIN and BVN, but they serve no purpose other than for verification. Can we digitize the numbers and make them smarter in such a way that with my mobile phone, as long as I have NIN, I can be digitally identified across the board. In other words, we tokenize the NIN. Any app I am logging in I have to just put in the token, it gives me a QR Code to scan so I can connect to that app. Then, I can be digitally served. It will no longer become a cybersecurity issue.

The reason we have growing cases of cybersecurity is that we have

many databases in Nigeria; so, if they don't hack you in Bank A, they chase you to Bank B, C, etc. Silos identification will not help the system".

He proposed a system that will make NIMC a centralized issuer of digitalized identity.

"If this is implemented I can login to any app through the NIMC app. I wonder why every time we want to open a bank account they keep asking for my data whereas I already have a BVN. Having a BVN (should) provide that I am already 'verified'; then I should work in any bank, provide the number and get my services done without hassles. That is what blockchain technology can do for us.

By the time we start using that self-serving identity, we will not keep having databases in silos.

Secondly, when I visit a bank's website I can authenticate the originality when they send me a QR Code notification on the status. So, even when a hacker sits down, he will have difficulty because he does not have access to that private key".

## S3N2022: PANTAMI GIFTS NIM TO ZARA EZENWOKO, THREE OTHER NCS NATIONAL IT WHIZKIDS CHAMPIONS

**P**rofessor Isa Pantami,

Minister of Communications and Digital Economy was evidently excited today with the testimonials of coordinators of

Nigeria Computer Society flagship National IT Whizkids Competition during the prize presentation at the ongoing NCS Conference – S3N2022.

Pantami, a strong advocate of digital skills over paper qualifications, was delighted with the performances of the secondary students who keenly contest in the competition as stated by Professor Adesina Sodiya and Dr. (Mrs.) Florence Babalola; President and Chairperson, Education and Manpower Development Committee of NCS, respectively.

They said that the students demonstrated good understanding of the quiz coverage area drawn from computer Studies curriculum as approved by the Federal Government of Nigeria and emerging trend in



technology.

The National IT Whizkids Competition is to stimulate the interest and passion of young minds in Information Technology.

The competition is organized by Nigeria Computer Society and other partners for Secondary school students.

Entrants are usually expected to participate in the competition which is fully on IT related subject matter; moving from State to Zonal and National levels.

At the end of 2022 National IT Whizkids Competition, Valerie Zara Ezenwoko, SS1 student of Deeper Life High School, Uyo Akwa-Ibom State took the first position, followed by



Orebiyi Emmanuel Oluwatimileyin of African Church Grammar School, Ogun state.

The third position went to Victor Uma Okpe of Grundtvig international Secondary School, Anambra state and Abdulyassar Yahaya Musa, a student of Day Science College Kano, Kano state, occupies the fourth position.

NCS presented laptop and cash prizes (amount undisclosed) to the students.

However, the climax of the occasion was when Prof. Pantami stepped in to express Federal Government's delight with the students' performances.

He pledged cash gifts worth N1,000,000 (first - N500,000; Second - N300,000; third and fourth - N100,000 each) to the students.

Furthermore, the Minister said that agencies under the Ministry will take up the duty of construction of special ICT projects in the schools represented by the students.

The announcement was greeted by cheers from the College of Fellows, the National Executive Council (NEC) and hundreds of NCS members



present at the conference - S3N2022. He didn't stop there. Pantami said that the Ministry will partner with NCS during subsequent editions of the the competition to provide improved prizes to the winners as means encourage STEM - (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education in Nigeria.





# BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NIGERIA COMPUTER SOCIETY (NCS)

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- Local content development
- And many more

To register, visit [www.ncs-portal.org.ng](http://www.ncs-portal.org.ng)  
For further information, visit [www.ncs.org.ng](http://www.ncs.org.ng)

**Come, Let us promote IT together in Nigeria.**

NCS National Secretariat

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# STAY SAFE: PROTECT YOURSELF AND THOSE AROUND YOU

## THE COVID-19: WE WANT YOU TO STAY ALIVE

Dear professional colleagues, Nigeria Computer Society (NCS) as a Professional body in Nigeria are not oblivious of the pandemic ravaging the world called 'COVID-19'.

We care for our members. Therefore, we wish to inform our precious and distinguished members of the need to pay utter attention to basic preventive measures against COVID-19.

Stay aware of the latest information on the COVID-19 outbreak, available on the WHO website and through your national and local public health authority. Most people who become infected experience mild illness and recover, but it can be more severe for others.

Take care of your health and protect others by:

- a. Constantly getting basic preventive measures and current updates from WHO (<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>). Kindly always follow the guidelines as outlined
- b. Paying attention to national and international information on COVID-19
- c. Being an health ambassador by helping to sensitise the public on preventive measures against the virus
- d. Ensuring you always take advice from healthcare professionals
- e. Taking general measures to improve your health conditions

Nigeria Computer Society (NCS) wants our members to always be strong and healthy. Together we shall continue to build strong and virile IT Profession.

Stay Alive!!!

**Executive Secretary**  
NIGERIA COMPUTER SOCIETY (NCS)  
[www.ncs.org.ng](http://www.ncs.org.ng)

<p><b>STAY AT HOME IF YOU ARE UNWELL</b></p>	
<p><b>WASH YOUR HANDS REGULARLY</b></p>	
<p><b>COVER COUGHS AND SNEEZES WITH FACE MASK OR DISPOSABLE PAPER TISSUES</b></p>	
<p><b>STAY 1.5 METRES AWAY FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE COUGHING OR SNEEZING</b></p>	
<p><b>AVOID TOUCHING YOUR FACE, NOSE AND MOUTH WITH UNCLEAR HANDS</b></p>	





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# PANTAMI

## HACKATHON FOR DIGITAL ECONOMY

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# PROFESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP UPGRADE APPLICATION

## REQUIREMENTS

The Nigeria Computer Society Fellowship award is granted to interested members with proven and verifiable track records; and known to be an authority in the field of computing with significant contributions to the growth of the profession over the years.

### Requirements – (A):

1. Be at least thirty years of age and has not less than ten years relevant professional working experience, at least five of which must have been in position of senior management responsibility.
2. Has professional activities and achievements justified and accepted as an authority in the profession.
3. Be considered by the Society to be fit and proper person to be so recognized.
4. Holds a certificate of an examination or examinations recognized by the society for the membership grade.
5. Has his/her application sponsored by two fellows, who are financially up-to-date with NCS, College of Fellows and CPN.

6. Applicant for Fellowship grade must have been a Member for at least 10 (ten) years, of which at least 2 (two) years out of 3(three) years (preceding the date of application), of regular attendance/participation in the activities of the Society can be verified.
7. Must have been registered by CPN for at least 3 years

### Requirements – (B):

1. First degree (HND or B.Sc.) in Computer Science/ Information Technology/any related discipline OR Computer Professional Examination (CPE Stage II)
2. Practicing IT for a minimum of 20 years
3. Must have registered with NCS and CPN or concurrently registering with the Fellowship application.
4. Must pay special admission fee to be determined by the Council.
5. Must also fulfil (2), (3), (4), (5) in Requirements – (A) above

Visit [www.ncs.org.ng/fellowship/](http://www.ncs.org.ng/fellowship/) to apply  
Application Fee: N20,000  
Submission Deadline: September 30th, 2022.

For further enquiries, please contact:

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