

PROTOCOLS

President, Commander-in-Chief of Federal Republic of Nigeria,
Hon. Minister of Agriculture,
Your Excellency, Deputy Gov. of Imo State Prof. Njoku
Hon. Minister of Agriculture
Acting President of NIAS
President of ASAN
Registrar of NIAS
Director of Animal Husbandry Services FMARD
Board of Trustees ASAN
Council Members NIAS
Deans of Faculties Agriculture
Directors of Various Research Institutes
Invited Guests
Distinguished Professional Colleagues
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen .

I welcome you all from your various destinations to this great occasion.

I return thanks and honour to the most high God for His benevolence upon all of us to gather here physically in this annual programme, our 9th ASAN-NIAS JAM, holding at the nation's capital, Abuja.

History is being made today, and a new dawn is being unveiled in the annals of our great association - ANIMAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (ASAN).

Today this great and noble professional association has returned me unopposed as the National President to lead her into the years ahead, charting a new direction and gliding through all turbulence towards stabilizing the livestock sub-sector of the Agricultural sector of the Nigerian Economy with our professionals contributing their expertise.

I am aware of the daunting task of repositioning our professional practice in tune with the local needs and the world order and as such, I am well-prepared, equipped and experienced for the task and trust you have put on my shoulder from today onwards.

Our profession holds the greatest number of opportunities and windows amongst any known profession in the world in terms of value chains. All these are equitably important.

We shall harness all these opportunities through the application of entrepreneurial knowledge and technology towards placing our profession in the right position it deserves among the league of professions in Nigeria - nay the world.

We are expected to lead in the race for high GDP generation in the post-oil economy through practical applications of our disciplines in Animal Agriculture.

It is estimated that the sub-Saharan Africa where Nigeria belongs will witness great population growth from year 2030 to 2050 and beyond.

This poses a challenge to us!

Within this period as well, it is estimated that Sub-Saharan Africa will produce a large percentage of the world food to support its contribution to the world population explosion.

As Animal Scientists, we will tailor our drive for excellence with the hindsight of the above narrative, triggering activities horizontally and vertically towards meeting local demands for protein, at least cost/protein basis, and for generating foreign exchange.

We shall strive to create Centers of Excellence in all the geo-political regions of Nigeria according to regional competences to drive our target growth.

A central collative point will be created to sort and utilize the various regional deliverables to meet our target KPI's (Key Performances Indices.)

All past, present and future research findings by our erudite professors and researchers will be put into practical use.

We shall initiate year-round training and retraining of our undergraduates and graduates in practical application of their theoretical knowledge such that a graduate of Animal Science will no longer be seeking for employment but be instant employers of labour.

We shall embolden our Graduate Animal Scientists such that they will no longer be shy but smart and sharp through the acquired practical entrepreneurial skills to face the world and other professionals.

We shall collaborate with NIAS and other educational bodies through Federal Ministry of Education to inculcate entrepreneurial studies in livestock curriculum in our Universities that teach ANIMAL SCIENCE.

We shall create committees to drive our programmes and experts according to their age of graduation and works carried will be appointed to head these committees.

Of great concern to us in Nigeria is the opening up of many hitherto locked up opportunities like Dairy industries, Pasture Management, Feedlots (Hay and silage), Beef production through fattening, massive piggery production, Hatcheries, small ruminants-native and adaptable, Rabbitary, micro-livestock, etc.

We shall face boldly and solve the various Nutritional challenges bedeviling our country through the creation of a strong think-tank on alternative sources for feeding our livestock. We shall collaborate with government in this regard and we will research findings for government utilization base on our professional guide.

We shall open up new areas like rendering industries, abattoir services and regulations to attract more professionals to our value chain products and create jobs for our young graduates.

There will be no time to waste, hence our interdisciplinary collaborations will be very cordial, friendly and win-win situation but firm lest our rights be infringed upon.

We shall collaborate with all local regulatory agencies like NAFDAC, etc and other Internationally recognized agencies to form partnerships that will improve our speed of professional deliverables .

We shall also collaborate with the Nigerian Customs, NESREA and other MDA's to submit position papers on our professional demands with a view to easing various lockjams which face us while doing our professional businesses.

We shall collaborate more also with International bodies and groups in funding our researches, setting up of labs like NIR labs, promoting exchange and transfer of knowledge and training of our undergraduates and graduate of Animal Scientist in utilization of various advanced equipment like milking machines, A.I tools, abattoir equipment rendering equipment and bio-gas machines.

We shall make Animal Science Association of Nigeria a brand and seek for offshore brands to collaborate with like European Unions or global bodies like FAO to attract projects for us and our country

On youth development, apart from the above general programmes, we shall revisit the revival of all livestock projects in our various Universities teaching Animal Science such that Animal Science Student Association (ASSAN) will be more vibrant in innovative products competition than a mere talk show association. It will be an annual event rotated like ASAN, NIAS-JAM, to showcase their innovative talents in livestock production portfolios.

We shall accord more recognitions and respect to our elders and those still in active service of our profession so as to bridge the generational gap ensuring no knowledge is lost. Animal Science gala nite will be instituted and rotated to offer our retired and active Animal Scientists an opportunity to interact thereby bounding both in age, cultural, religious and professional unity.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am not all knowing, I will serve the Association with due diligence, respect and fear of God.

I shall welcome suggestions and constructive criticisms and shall hold the Association first in all my decisions.

I will like written suggestions than oral and shall have no special affinity for individuals, tribes, religion or region as I am elected to grow our noble Association leveraging on various KPI's -key performance indices.

I will build on the successes of the past occupants on the Presidency of this great Association while infusing my ideas with our eyes on the future.

Great Animal Scientists!!, Greatest Animal Scientists!!!, I plead for your unalloyed support to achieve these enduring programmes that will benefit everybody and generations of Animal Scientists unborn as I recognize that without teamwork, all the enumerated programmes above cannot be achieved.

Give me your trust and support and we shall together create Animal Science of our dream - the toast of All professional bodies.

Thank you.

ISIADINSO, RAYMOND OBIAJULU

(RAS, FNIA, FASAN, MNSAP, MFIPAN, MPAN)

PRESIDENT FEED INDUSTRIES PRACTITIONERS ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (FIPAN)

ASAN PRESIDENT ELECT.