



**COMMUNIQUE OF THE 37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND  
GENERAL MEETING OF THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTION  
OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS HELD AT THE FEDERAL  
UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, MINNA, NIGER STATE  
FROM 4<sup>TH</sup> - 7<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2016.**

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**PREAMBLE:**

The Nigerian Institution of Agricultural Engineers held her 37<sup>th</sup> National Conference and Annual General Meeting at the Federal University of Technology, Minna, Nigeria between 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2016; with the theme "Agricultural and Bioresources Engineering: Gateway to Diversify Nigeria Oil-Based Economy, Job and Wealth Creation and Environmental Sustainability".

The following are the sub-themes: Agricultural Waste to Wealth for job creation and healthy environment; Soil and Water Resources Management for Sustainable Agricultural Production; Post-Harvest and Value addition for food security; Improved Farm Transportation System for reduction of Post-Harvest losses; Renewable Energy for Sustainable Environment; Farm Mechanization and Emerging



Technologies; Entrepreneurship in Agricultural Production; Farm Structures and Electrification for Enhanced Rural Life and Development.

## INTRODUCTION

The opening ceremony which was attended by over Three Hundred (300) invited guests which was chaired by the President of Nigerian Society of Engineers, Engr. Otis Anyiji *FNSE* with the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, Chief Audu I. Ogbah as the guest of honor who was represented by Engr. Tekpat Kelvin (*FNSE*) of the National Programme for Food Security. Also in attendance was the Etsu Nupe, Alhaji Yahaya Abubakar who was represented by Wambai Nupe, Engr. Abdullahi M. The chief host was the Vice Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. M. A. Akanji who was represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) - Prof. Oluwole O. Morenikeji. The keynote speaker was Alhaji Gambo Hamzat



Garba, the Executive Secretary, Kaduna State Investment Promotion Agency.

This year's conference was attended by Agricultural Engineers and other related Professionals from various Institutions and organization within and outside Nigeria. A total of One Hundred and Seventy (170) participants attended the conference.

At the end of the conference, critical issues were observed and recommendations that will enhance the successful implementation and sustainability of Agricultural Engineering for wealth creation were made.

## **OBSERVATIONS**

The following observations were made during the conference:

- i. The current drive of the Federal Government in diversifying the economy through agriculture is a step in the right direction for job and wealth creation.



- ii. There is little or no synergy between the various MDAs and private organizations to achieve the desired economy diversification.
- iii. There is inadequate investments in research and development in all areas of agriculture.
- iv. There are a lot of potentials that can be derived from agro and domestic wastes products for renewable energy generation.
- v. The current trend in farmer-cattle herdsman clash is not healthy for agricultural activities in Nigeria.
- vi. There are a lot of agro machines that have been developed in research institutes but have not been commercialized.
- vii. Environment pollution has been on the increase in recent years which has resulted in the decline of agricultural productivity.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

The following observations were made during the conference:

- i. A sustained and diligent implementation of the newly launched agricultural promotion policy (THE GREEN ALTERNATIVE).
- ii. To achieve the desired economy diversification, there is need for strategic collaborative efforts between all the agencies involved in agricultural related activities in the country.
- iii. There is need to encourage research and development in all areas of agriculture through adequate funding by the government and non-governmental agencies.
- iv. Appropriate measures should be put in place by the various governments to cob the present farmer-cattle herdsmen conflict to enhance agricultural production.
- v. The Federal Government Agencies should liaise with Agricultural Research Institutions in disseminating developed technologies.
- vi. Efforts should be put in place to control/reduce environmental



pollution for clean environment, wealth creation, sustainability  
and increased agricultural productivity.



## BEST PAPERS PRESENTED

1. Title: Performance of a Single Chamber Soil Microbial Fuel Cell  
across Varied loads for Power Generation

Presenter: Simeon, M.I.

2. Effect of Total Solid Concentration of Faecal Matter on Biogas  
Production and Pathogens Reduction.

Presenter: I.B. Mahmood

3. Title; Assessment of Selected heavy metal Presence in some  
Dumpsites in Nigeria

Presenter: Musa, J.J.

4. Title: development of an Automated Hybrid Solar and Biomass  
Moringa Leaf Dryer

Presenter: Gana, I.M.

5. Title: Parboiling effects and Challenges of Rice Processing in  
Nigeria.

Presenter: Musa Ebayaya.