NIALS

NIGERIA INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES

NIALS Digest

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NIGERIA INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES

NIALS Digest

Editor-in-Chief
Prof. Abdulqadir Ibrahim Abikan

EDITORIAL CREW

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PAS Information & Publicity
(Editor)

Abdullahi Habiba Trisha
DIS Editorial

Nwosu Ahunna U.C
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Ebong Ndifreke
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CONTACT
08100363602
Abuja: Supreme Court Complex, Three Arms Zone, Abuja
P.M.B 385 Garki, Abuja
info@nials.edu.ng www.nials.edu.ng
09012443547
Lagos: University of Lagos Campus Akoka, P.M.B 12820,
Yaba, Lagos - Nigeria

MOTTO

Knowledge that
makes the Difference.

MISSION

To be the nucleus and hub
of legal research and advanced
studies in law in Nigeria.

OUR VISION

To be a world class institution that is the primary source of information, training and advice at the highest level of policy formulation on legal matters, effectively impacting on local and international institutions in the development of law.

NIALS ENABLING ACT

Commencement Establishment of the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies

(1) There is hereby established an institute to be known as the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (in this Act referred to as "the Institute" which shall have the functions assigned to it by this Act.

(2) The Institute shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL, etc.

(1) There shall be established for the management of the affairs of the Institute a body to be known as the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies Council in this Act referred to as "the Council"

(2) The Council shall consist of the following members, that is
   a. A Chairman to be appointed by the President;
   b. A representative of the Federal Ministry of Justice;
   c. A representative of the Federal Ministry charged with responsibility for higher education;
   d. Six Deans or Heads of Faculties, or other formations of Nigerian Universities offering degree courses in law at not less

than post-graduate level, to be appointed by the President; the Director-General of the Nigerian Law School; one member of the Judiciary nominated by the Chief Justice of Nigeria; the President of the Nigerian Bar Association; five persons of whom one shall be a woman to be appointed by the President; and the Director-General of the Institute.

(3) The provisions of the Schedule to this Act shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Council and the other matters therein mentioned.

FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

i. Council shall be responsible for the determination of the overall policy of the Institute and in particular for the financial and operational programmes of the Institute and for ensuring implementation of such policies and programmes.

ii. Without prejudice to the generality of subsection of this section, it shall be the duty of the Council to approve the research and training programmes of the Institute, determine the fees to be paid for research, consulting, training and any other services that may be offered by the Institute and promote or undertake any other activity that in the opinion of the Council is calculated to help achieve the purposes of the Institute.

NIALS ANTHEM

Ever questioning, Ever Probing,
Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies!
Vision foretold by founding fathers,
Ideas nurtured by patriotic fervor,
Urging us to make the difference,
And be the nucleus of legal studies,
With passion and hope our mandate deliver,
And be the best that we can be,
A truly world class institution,
Nigeria's law abode!

FORMER DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE INSTITUTE, PROF. EPIPHANY AZINGE CROWNED AS ASAGBA OF ASABA





Professor Epiphany Chigbogu Azinge PhD, SAN, OON, FICMIC, KSG, KSJI, a former Director General of the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, was officially installed as the 14th Asagba of Asaba on January 4, 2025. The coronation event which took place in Asaba, Delta State was graced by notable personalities from various sectors, including Professor Abdulqadir Ibrahim Abikan, the current Director General of the Institute, accompanied by Research Professors and employees from NIALS.







NASU EXECUTIVES MEET WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

The Non Academic Staff Union Executive (NASU) of the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies on Tuesday, 7th January, 2025, convened a meeting with the Director General, Professor Abdulqadir Ibrahim Abikan, at the NIALS Office in Lagos State.

Commencing the meeting, the NASU Chairperson, Comrade Bamiduro Ruth, expressed gratitude to the Director-General for his presence and pledged collaborative efforts with his administration to realize his objectives and vision during his term.

In response, the DG stressed the imperative of collective effort for the advancement and attainment of the Institute's goals and vision.

Also in attendance were the Institute Secretary, Mr Ademola Sharafadeen and the Institute Librarian Professor Anyaogu Uluocha.

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL NIALS VISITS THE VICE CHANCELLOR UNILAG

The Director General of Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Professor Abdulqadir Ibrahim Abikan on Tuesday, January 7th, 2025 paid a courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor of University of Lagos, Professor Folashade Ogunsola, OON FAS. He was accompanied by some management staff of the Institute.









NIALS MANAGEMENT STAFF MEET WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL



The Director General of Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Professor Abdulqadir Ibrahim Abikan on Wednesday, 8th January, 2025 exchanged pleasantries with Professor Bolaji Owasanoye, Institute Secretary, Mr Ademola Sharafadeen, Institute Librarian, Professor Anyaogu Uluocha, Director, School of Postgraduate Studies, Professor Ngozi Udombana and Professor Emmanuel Okon.





NIALS STAFF AT THE LAGOS OFFICE MEET AND INTERACT WITH THE NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL

On Monday, January 6th, 2025, Professor Abdulqadir Ibrahim Abikan, the newly appointed Director General of the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, held his initial official meeting with the staff in the Lagos office.

The meeting was attended by key management personnel such as the Institute Secretary, Mr Ademola Sharafadeen, Research Professors, Non-Academic Directors, Research Fellows, Unit Heads, and all staff members. The Director General also undertook an inspection of the facilities during this meeting. Additionally, on Thursday, January 9th, 2025, Professor Abikan held an interactive session with staff members at the Professor Ayo Ajomo Auditorium in the Lagos office of the Institute.














NIGERIA'S LAW ABODE

NIGERIAN INST
ADVANCED LEGAL







NIGERIA'S LAW ABODE




NIALS INITIATES RESEARCH PROJECTS TO EVALUATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

The Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS) is set to embark on a comprehensive research project focusing on all Government Establishments with the aim of evaluating their alignment with their Objectives and Missions. This initiative was unveiled on Wednesday, January 22, 2025, when Professor Abdulqadir Ibrahim Abikan, the newly appointed Director General of NIALS, along with key management staff and Research Professors of the Institute, paid a courtesy visit to the Chief Justice of Nigeria and Chairman of the NIALS Governing Council Justice Kudirat Motonmori Olatokunbo Kekere-Ekun.

The Director General stressed the importance of securing a permanent office accommodation for the Institute and sought the support of the CJN in its permanent site construction. He also addressed the need for recruiting junior Research Fellows and decry the inadequate welfare and allowances for Institute staff.

The Chief Justice of Nigeria expressed gratitude to the Director-General for the initiative of interaction and pledged her support to the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies. She emphasized the importance of securing office accommodation as a top priority. Despite acknowledging the ongoing challenges with funding, she assured that she would explore avenues to address the issue.



NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL OUTLINES VISION FOR THE INSTITUTE



In a maiden meeting held at the Abuja office on the 23rd of January, 2025, the newly appointed Director General of the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS), Professor Abdulqadir Ibrahim Abikan, introduced himself to the staff and outlined his vision for the future of the Institute.

He expressed his commitment to elevating NIALS's reputation both nationally and globally. Professor Abikan emphasized the untapped potentials of the Institute and highlighted his efforts to implement innovative ideas since assuming office in November.

He stressed the importance of research and training tailored to the needs of various legal





agencies. He underscored the significance of disseminating Research findings to specific agencies for their benefit, rather than for public consumption.

Furthermore, Professor Abikan emphasized his commitment to improving the welfare of the Institute's employees. He said during a courtesy visit he made to the Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN), discussions were held regarding the accommodation and welfare of NIALS staff, with the CJN promising to address the office accommodation issue and consider welfare improvements at the next council meeting.

Professor Abikan highlighted the need for staff in Abuja to have accommodation similar to those in the Lagos office, suggesting solutions such as cooperative agreements or engagement with the Federal Mortgage Bank. He also engaged with the Institute's union to resolve several issues and promised to work towards addressing their concerns.

The arrival of the new Director-General at the Institute sparked both excitement and high expectations among the staff. However, the Institute Bursar, Mr John Yawe raised concerns about what usually happens after the initial enthusiasm fades away. He pointed out that it is important for the staff to understand the reasons behind this trend and whether it ultimately benefits the institute as a whole.

Professor Ifekandu, representing the Research Fellows at the Post Graduate School, highlighted some of the challenges faced by researchers and emphasized the crucial role of Research in the Institute. She outlined several areas that require immediate attention from the new Director General:

1. Employment of junior Research Fellows
2. Increased support for the Post Graduate school to enhance its performance
3. Enhancement of the remuneration for Research Fellows teaching at the PG school
4. Provision of necessary working materials, which are currently being funded out of the researchers' own pockets, including data for lectures, printing machines, and papers.

The Director General addressed the issue of redundancy among senior staff, stating that a review of job functions will be conducted to ensure roles are properly aligned with responsibilities.

In response to the high rate of indiscipline among staff, the Director General emphasized the importance of adhering to professional conduct and maintaining a positive work attitude. He mentioned that disciplinary actions will be taken against any staff found guilty of misconduct.

Regarding the uniformity of ID cards, the Director General acknowledged the need for standardization and announced that a new design will be issued to all staff members to promote a sense of unity and identity within the Institute.

The Director General expressed concern over the lack of work tools and poor ventilation in

certain areas of the Institute. He assured that necessary improvements will be made to provide a conducive working environment for all staff.

In conclusion, the DG reiterated his commitment to enhancing the Institute's operations through effective communication, staff development, and strategic financial management



























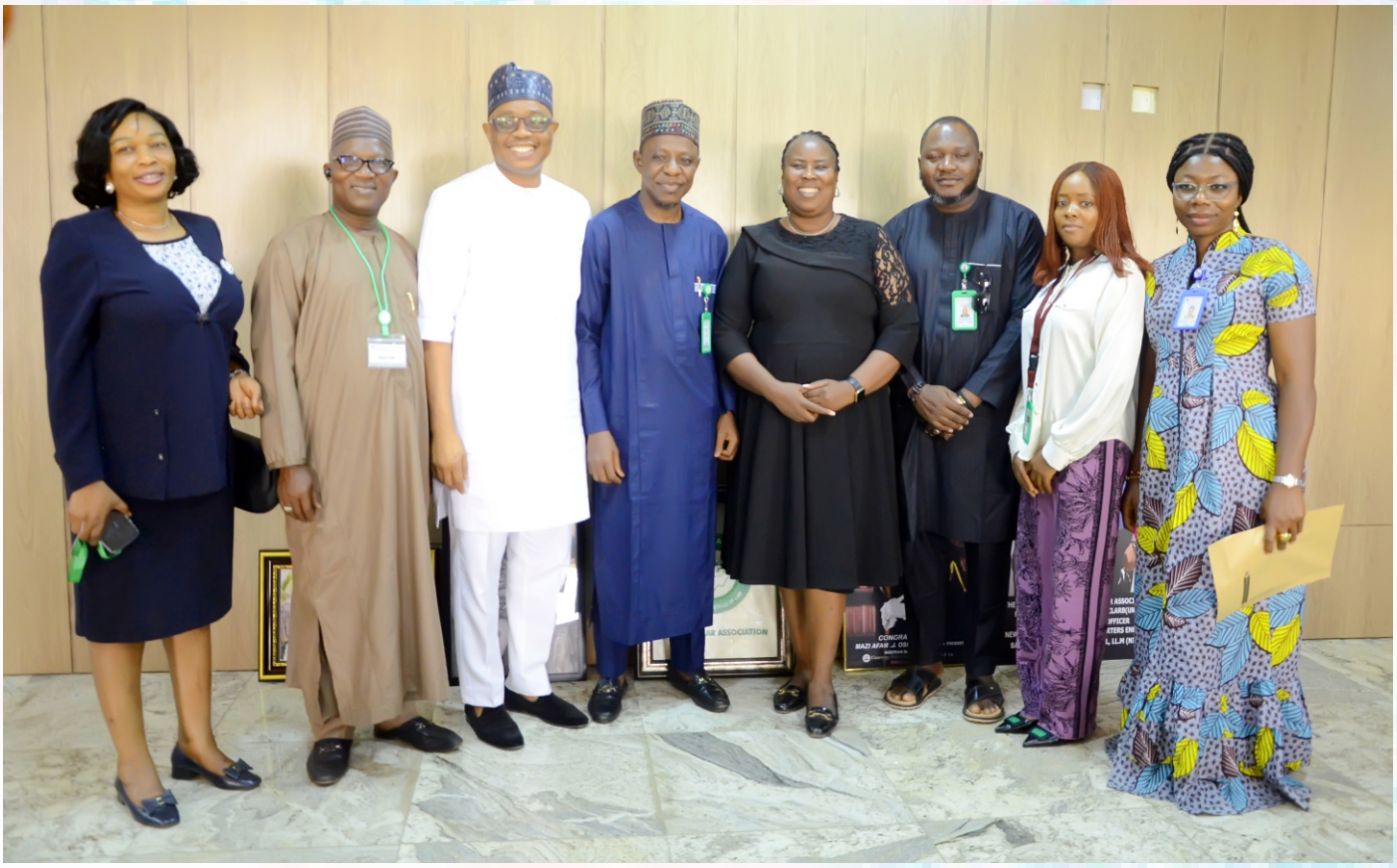
NBA TO ENDOW A CHAIR AT NIALS

The Nigerian Bar Association president, Mazi Afam, SAN has proposed the endowment of a Chair by the NBA at the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies aimed at offering grants to individuals keen on advancing in any area of Research. He said this on Friday, 24th of January, 2025 when the Director General of NIALS Professor Abdulqadir Ibrahim Abikan and his team paid him a courtesy call.

Speaking during the visit, the Director General pointed out key areas of potential partnership which include; the importance of NIALS conducting Research for all government agencies established by law, the need for the NBA to allocate funds for Research purposes, training programs for legal officers in government establishments to stay updated on new regulations.

The NBA president also pledged to collaborate with NIALS on Continuous Professional Development initiatives, with NIALS serving as a faculty. He further expressed gratitude to the Director General for the valuable ideas and initiatives presented.

The meeting concluded harmoniously with a mutual agreement on the critical importance of Continuous Professional Development for legal practitioners.



















THE NIGERIAN ARMY AND NIALS COLLABORATE TO SHOWCASE POSITIVE ACHIEVEMENTS



In a move to broaden collaboration between the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies and the Nigerian Army, a more elaborate partnership was fashioned out in Abuja on Tuesday, 28 January 2025. The partnership aims to leverage the Army's wealth of data on successful operations and humanitarian efforts, combining it with the Institute's expertise in analysis and presentation to showcase the Army's positive impact on society.

The Director General of the Institute, Professor Abdulqadir Ibrahim Abikan emphasized the importance of showcasing the good work done by the military to the world. He noted that waiting for external organizations like Amnesty International to report on the Nigerian Army's activities was no longer sufficient and that it was essential to take control of the narrative surrounding the Army's operations.

Furthermore, He acknowledged the longstanding partnership between the Nigerian Army and NIALS which primarily focuses on the training of Nigerian Army officers, ensuring that they are equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to fulfill their responsibilities both nationally and internationally.

In his welcoming remarks, the Acting Director, Colonel Samson O Okebukola, Legal Services (Army), described the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS) as a beacon of academic excellence. He emphasized the crucial role of training in achieving organizational goals while reassuring that efforts are underway to facilitate ongoing participation of Nigerian Army officers in training programs offered by NIALS.


ENTRANCE


COAS








ENTRANCE




COAS







NCC STRENGTHENS PARTNERSHIP WITH NIALS



The Director General of the Nigerian Copyright Commission, Dr. John O. Asein, visited the Director General of the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Professor Abdulqadir Ibrahim Abikan on the 29th of January, 2025 to strengthen ties between the two agencies.

Dr. Asein recognized NIALS' expertise in Law, Research and Publications, pointing out the Institute's underutilized capabilities, including the NIALS Press.

A key focus of the visit was leveraging NIALS' resources and experience to enhance the work of the Nigerian Copyright Commission, specifically in research and publications.

Collaboration with NIALS is viewed as a means to deepen the understanding of copyright law among judges and legal practitioners, who may still be unfamiliar with this relatively new field.







NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES BOLSTERS COLLABORATION WITH ICPC IN ANTI-CORRUPTIONS EFFORT



In a bid to enhance the fight against corruption and related offences, the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS) recently engaged in a fruitful dialogue with the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences (ICPC) in Abuja. A delegation from NIALS, led by the Director General, Professor Abdulqadir Ibrahim Abikan, met with ICPC Chairman, Dr Musa Adamu Aliyu SAN, and key officials from both institutions on the 30th of January, 2025.

The aim of the visit was twofold: to explore potential collaboration in research and training programs, and to appeal for office accommodation for NIALS to support its crucial work in combating corruption.

During the discussions, Professor Abikan highlighted NIALS' Research focus areas, emphasizing the importance of collaboration with ICPC in training prosecutors and lawyers.









Our Vision
Our Mission
3-Pronged Mandate of the Commission
1. Enforcement:








NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES STRENGTHENS TIES WITH THE FEDERAL JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION

A delegation from the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS) recently paid a courtesy visit to the Federal Judicial Service Commission (FJSC) at its headquarters within the Supreme Court Complex, Abuja. The visit aimed to foster collaboration between academia and the judiciary, with a focus on research and capacity building.

Led by the Director General of NIALS, Professor Abdulqadir Ibrahim Abikan, the delegation engaged in fruitful discussions with the Executive Secretary, Mrs Halimatu A. Turaki, and other officials of the FJSC. The objectives of the visit included acknowledging the Commission and exploring opportunities for collaboration in judicial research and capacity-building programs for judicial officers and staff.

During the meeting, Professor Abikan acknowledged and appreciated the brotherhood extended to NIALS by FJSC, especially in area of allocating venues during NIALS programs. Professor Abikan highlighted NIALS' core mandate of conducting research and expressed his belief in the Institute's ability to positively impact government agencies, including those with existing Research units. He also emphasized the importance of providing specialized training for staff of government agencies where needed.

Mrs. Turaki, in her response, acknowledged the longstanding relationship between NIALS and FJSC, citing NIALS Press as the first to print the letterhead for the Body of Benchers. She praised Professor Abikan's initiative in seeking collaborations with sister agencies, particularly FJSC.























ABUJA OFFICE:
Supreme Court of Nigeria Complex, Three Arms Zone,
PMB 385, Garki, Abuja.
www. nials.edu.ng, info@nials.edu.ng
Contact: 08100363602

LAGOS OFFICE
University of Lagos Complex, PMB 12820,
Akoka Lagos State.