

PRESS RELEASE

TAFIDA RECEIVES EXECUTIVES OF THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF NIGERIA (ICAN, UK DISTRICT SOCIETY).

His Excellency, Dr Dalhatu Sarki Tafida, OFR and High Commissioner of Nigeria to the United Kingdom, Monday 9th August 2010, in his office, received six members of the Executive Committee of ICAN, UK District Society. The delegation was led by the Chairperson, Mrs Ronke Adeagbo.

2. The objectives of the visit were to show appreciation to the High Commissioner for the various forms of support he had given the Society, as well as commend his untiring efforts at turning the entire Mission around, particularly the Immigration Section. Lady Adeagbo added that they were in the High Commission to also apprise the High Commissioner of the events that the Society had scheduled for Nigeria at 50 and beyond. These include:

- i) The holding of the Nigeria at 50 celebratory Seminar on 24th of September 2010 at the High Commission under the theme "The Accounting Professional in Diaspora as a driver of sustainable national development";
- ii) The ICAN UK District Society annual Dinner-dance and Award night scheduled for 20th of November 2010 aimed at raising funds for the less privileged in Nigeria and to which the High Commissioner had been invited;
- iii) The first UK Conference of Accountants, which would have Nigerian and global perspectives and aimed at profiling the Nigerian Accountants, as well as promoting sustainable growth in Nigeria;
- iv) The other conferences of ICAN UK aimed at mobilizing for an ICAN sponsored bill at the National Assembly and also the entire civil society sector in Nigeria for the joint purpose of the improving governance and regulation of the Civil Society, the Accountants included;

v) The role of ICAN UK District Society in professionally equipping Nigerian Accountants in the Diaspora and in CANUK, through its scheduled monthly CPD meetings;

3. Responding, Dr. Tafida warmly welcomed the visiting Executives and noted that it had almost become a practice to receive them annually. He stated that this not only portrayed the Society as that of serious-minded members, who want to be seen again and again, but also as one that is prepared to state what it has the capacity or otherwise to do for society, here in the UK and at home. Tafida pledged to keep encouraging the ICAN UK District Society to perform better so that it can improve its active membership size across the UK. He opined that if the Society could have many branches across the UK, it would give it greater capacity to encourage more Nigerians to come to the UK to acquire knowledge and cognate experience. He noted that Nigeria more than the UK and Europe today required the services of professional Accountants.

4. Dr. Tafida noted that the Society was late in indicating interest in celebrations scheduled to mark the Golden Jubilee of Nigeria's Independence. He, however, advised the Society to urgently present their proposals to the Committee officially charged with the harmonization and coordination of the various events and to also submit application for the use of the Mission's facility for the Seminar. He assured that once these were done, he would make the Banking Hall of the Mission available for the Nigeria at 50 Seminar, subject of course to conditions prescribed by the Mission. Dr. Tafida also promised to honour the invitation to the Dinner-dance/Award night, one way or the other. Ahead of the planned First UK Conference, he advised that the necessary prior consultations for the recognition in the UK of Nigerian awarded Accountancy degrees be effected.

5. The meeting ended with group photographs and protocols.

Nigeria High Commission,
London, United Kingdom,
09 August, 2010.