



# L R C N **Bulletin**

LIBRARIANS' REGISTRATION COUNCIL OF NIGERIA

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## LRCN, TRCN Synergize for Improved Service Delivery

**L**ibrarians' Registration Council of Nigeria (LRCN) and the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) have formed synergy to ensure effective service delivery in the teaching and library services sector.

The two organizations agreed to work together when the Registrar/CEO of Librarians' Registration Council of Nigeria, Professor Michael Afolabi led the Council's Management on a courtesy visit to TRCN on Tuesday, 17th January, 2017.



Professor Afolabi making remarks during the visit.

Professor Afolabi said LRCN considers the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria a very strategic stakeholder and visited them to exchange views on how to move forward, the nation's education sector especially ensuring that libraries in the Basic and Post Basic institutions in Nigeria deliver effective services.



Professor Afolabi and Professor Ajiboye exchanging publications

The LRCN Registrar stated that both agencies can jointly conduct capacity building workshops for teacher-librarians and staff of school libraries. He hinted that when LRCN conducted survey of 257 school libraries within the Federal Capital Territory, the outcome was worrisome. He said the Council observed that due to inadequate skills, some educational materials donated to libraries are either abandoned or underutilized. He said the place of libraries in the education sector especially at the basic and post basic levels is strategic. "We want to partner with you to intervene in library sector in the schools," he said.

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Discussion ongoing during the visit



Group photograph of LRCN and TRCN management

On his part, the Registrar/CEO of TRCN, Professor Sunday Ajiboye concurred on the need for both organisations to work together saying that teaching and libraries are two inseparable pair as there will be no teaching without books and instructional materials. He said LRCN and TRCN should partner on relevant projects. “ We should sit down and look at areas to synergize and collaborate.” He therefore suggested that a team be raised from LRCN and TRCN to facilitate the collaboration.

Members of LRCN Management that accompanied the Registrar/CEO to this visit are: Director, Professional Services Department (PSD), Alhaji Abdullahi Wase; Deputy Director, PSD, Noram Amako; the Chief Information Officer, Mrs Ngozi Oboh and the Chief Administrative Officer, Adetimi Adeyanju.

## eLibrary Standards to be made Public Soon

The long awaited standards and guidelines for setting up and managing the elibraries in Nigeria will be presented to the public soon.

The Director General of National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), Dr Isa Ali Ibrahim Pantami stated this when the Registrar/CEO of Librarians' Registration Council of Nigeria (LRCN) led the management of the Council on a visit to NITDA on Tuesday, 24th January, 2017.



Professor Afolabi and Dr. Pantami

The eLibrary standards were jointly produced by LRCN and NITDA as part of on-going collaboration between the two agencies.



Cross section of LRCN and NITDA staff during the meeting



Professor Afolabi presenting copies of LRCN publications to NITDA DG

Professor Afolabi had during the visit called the attention of the NITDA DG to the fact that stakeholders will be delighted to commence the deployment of the new standards in providing eLibrary services across the nation. “May I also seize this opportunity to state here that stakeholders are excited about the eLibrary standard we jointly developed and are ready to adopt it. We wish to suggest that these standards be finalized and effective machinery be put in place for publicizing them so that the Nigerian public will understand and benefit from this germane policy,” he said. Professor Afolabi also assured that Librarians' Registration Council of Nigeria is willing to work with NITDA to ensure full deployment of ICTs in library operations across the nation.

Dr Pantami then reiterated that NITDA is open to collaborations that will make the nation IT – driven, saying that he will review the standards and make them public.”eLibrary standards will be among my priorities,” he said.



Group photograph of NITDA and LRCN teams



Deputy Director Accounts, Mr Olufunmbi Oyebanjo; Director, Professional Service Department, Alhaji Abdullahi Wase and Registrar/CEO of LRCN, Professor Michael Afolabi

Already, LRCN partnered with NITDA in the Capacity Building Workshops on Application of Free and Open Source Software in library operations; Set up model eLibrary at the LRCN Head office in Maitama and also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for 316 Digital Community Opportunity Centers (DCOC) across the country. This project involves conducting Baseline survey of the public libraries; training of the staff in the DCOCs to acquire requisite skills to deliver effective services; creating awareness about the centres and what they have to offer as well as providing adequate eResources for collection development.

## Senate Advocates Increased Funding for LRCN

**M**embers of the Senate Committee on Basic Education have assured on increased budgetary allocation for the Librarians' Registration Council of Nigeria, LRCN. The lawmakers gave the assurance during the 2017 defence of the Council's budget at the National Assembly Complex, Abuja.

Members of the committee were unanimous in their observation that LRCN was poorly funded and noted the need to urgently intervene to ensure the statutory responsibility of the Council are fully performed.

Specifically, Senator representing Borno Central at the NASS, Senator Kaka Mallam Yale said “ the agency is poorly funded. It should be funded to be able to perform its statutory responsibilities.”



Cross Section of participants during the budget defence



LRCN Registrar with Deputy Director, Accounts

Asides LRCN, other agencies and parastatals under the Federal Ministry of Education that appeared before the Committee for budget defence include the National Library of Nigeria; Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria, National Mathematical Centre; Universal Basic Education Commission; National Commission for Mass Literacy and National Educational Research and Development Council.

Earlier, the Chairman of the Committee, Senator Aliyu Wamakko in his opening remarks called on all agencies appearing before the committee to make honest presentations so as to make it easier for them to make meaningful contributions that will result in smooth operation of the agencies.