



NIGERIAN ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENT DOCTORS

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

House 1,69 Road (A) F close Gwarimpa, Abuja.

+2348036667892, +2348038902861

nardnigeria@gmail.com Banker: GTB Plc

NARD/SG/2020-2021/310721/

31st July 2021

THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE NIGERIAN ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENT DOCTORS HOSTED BY ARD FMC UMUAHIA FROM 26TH –31ST JULY, 2021.

PREAMBLE

The National Executive Council (NEC) of the Nigerian Association of Resident Doctors (NARD) held her National Executive Council meeting tagged Umuahia 2021 with the theme: THE NIGERIAN DOCTOR, AN ENDANGERED SPECIES: GRAPPLING WITH A PANDEMIC, POOR WORK PLACE INFRASTRUCTURE AND SECURITY THREATS in Umuahia, hosted by ARD FMC Umuahia from 26th -31st July 2021.

The Chairman of the occasion was Chief Sir G.C Onyendilefu and the Special Guest of Honour was His Excellency, Victor Okezie Ikpeazu, PhD, Executive Governor of Abia State.

The Chief Host was the Medical Director, Federal Medical Centre Umuahia, Prof. Azubuike Kanario Onyebuchi.

The Keynote Speaker was Prof. Chuks I. Kamanu, Dean Faculty of Clinical Medicine, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, Abia State University Teaching Hospital, Abia State.

ACTIVITIES

1. The NEC was attended by over 50 member Chapters of the Association across the country to deliberate on issues affecting health care delivery in Nigeria and the welfare of her members.
2. Courtesy call on His Excellency, Victor Okezie Ikpeazu, PhD, Executive Governor Abia State.
3. Courtesy call on His Royal Highness, Eze Joseph Ndubuisi Nwabeke, Chairman of the Traditional Rulers Council, Abia State.
4. Courtesy call on the Medical Director, FMC Umuahia Prof. Azubuike Kanario Onyebuchi.
5. The Doctors Reach out Program (T-DROP) was done at Mbarukwu Amuzukwu Civic Centre Umuahia Abia state.

President
Dr. Okhuaihesuyi UYILAWA
Department of Orthopaedic and Trauma, Delsuth, Oghara
okhuaihesuyiyilawa@yahoo.com
+2348036667892

First Vice President
Dr. Arome C. ADEJO
Accident and Emergency Department, FMC Abuja.
krisarome@yahoo.com
+2347069702460

Second Vice President
Dr. Chukwujama EJIOFOR
Department of Family Medicine, UNTH Ituku Ozalla, Enugu
echukwujama@gmail.com
+2348033825100

Secretary General
Dr. Jerry ISOGUN
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, DELSUTH, Oghara.
idjerry2@gmail.com
+2348038902861

Assistant Secretary General
Dr. Omolola AJAYI-ALAO
Department of Obs. and Gynae. EKSUTH, Ado-Ekiti
omolola.ajayialao@gmail.com
+2347032682293

Treasurer
Dr. Yewande ARIYO
Department of Internal medicine, DELSUTH, Oghara
yewandaris@yahoo.co.uk
+2348035965506

Financial Secretary
Dr. Okeke KINGSLEY
Department of Community Medicine, Alex Ekwueme Federal University Teaching Hospital, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State.
kifer95@yahoo.com
+2348037792770

Publicity and Social Secretary
Dr. Dotun OSIKOYA
Accident and Emergency Department, OOUTH Sagamu
ojkoya77@gmail.com
+2348034528587

Editor
Dr. Lawson OBAZENU
Department of Surgery, Federal Medical Centre, Nguru
lawsonfasa@gmail.com
+2348162645620

Deputy Editor
Dr. Hammed OYEWO
Department of Obs. and Gynae., Federal Medical Centre, Nguru
lekamm@yahoo.com
+2348136784003

Immediate Past President
Dr. Aliyu SOKOMBA
Department of Community Medicine, ABUTH-ZARIA
drsokomba@gmail.com
+2348035935832

Immediate Past Secretary General
Dr. Bilqis MUHAMMAD
Department of Anaesthesia & Critical Care, ABUTH-ZARIA
bilqis14140@gmail.com
+2347039521631

OBSERVATIONS

1. The NEC appreciated the NOC for their efforts with regards to the welfare of members.
2. The NEC noted the suspension of the total indefinite strike action One Hundred and Thirteen (113) days ago due to Government promises as entailed in the Memorandum of Actions (MOA) signed at the instance of the Minister of Labour, Sen. Dr Chris Ngige.
3. The NEC also noted the efforts of the Hon speaker of the House of Representatives in ensuring that the Medical Residency Training Funds is captured in the supplementary budget. They however frowned at the delay by the Federal Government in disbursing the funds to our members.
4. They decried the undue hardship our members on GIFMIS platform are facing due to the delays in payment of their salaries ranging from three to seven months.
5. The NEC noted that despite Government promise to migrate her members from the GIFMIS to the IPPIS platform, they are still stuck on the GIFMIS platform which is laced with payment irregularities.
6. The NEC noted with grievous concerns the circular from the Head of Service of the Federation removing House Officers from the scheme of service and the consequent implementation by the Lagos State Government.
7. They also observed that some House Officers are still being owed 1-2 months salaries.
8. The NEC noted that bench fee for outside postings by Resident Doctors has been abolished, however some Chief Medical Directors have renamed the bench fee as training fee causing hardship on her members.
9. NEC noted that with regards the non-payment of the National Minimum Wage Consequential Adjustment, the list of affected institutions and personnel strength had since been submitted to the Federal Ministry of Health as directed by the MOA signed with the Federal Government yet nothing has been done.
10. They also noted that the Chief Medical Directors in collaboration with NARD have submitted the list of salary shortfalls for 2014 to 2016. They noted with dismay the merry-go round behavior of the Federal Ministry of Health in disbursing the salaries shortfalls to her members.
11. The efforts made so far with the payment of death in service insurance benefit to the next of kin of our members and other healthcare workers was duly noted by the NEC.

12. They observed with concerns the conditions of our members under different State Government employs, especially Abia, Imo and Ondo State Governments who currently owe our members nineteen (19) months, seven (7) months and four (4) months' salary arrears respectively. They however appreciated the promise made by the Executive Governor of Abia State during a courtesy visit to him to pay the arrears of three months out of the accumulated nineteen months salaries owed to our members in ABSUTH by Monday 2nd of August 2021.
13. They observed with serious concerns the poor response of most State Governments in domesticating the Medical Residency Training Act of 2017 while commending States like Delta and Benue which have adopted the law.
14. The NEC lamented the acute manpower shortage in most tertiary health institutions and the attendant burnout effects on our members. They noted with serious concerns that this situation is made worse by the ongoing deadly brain drain decimating the nation's health care system.
15. They bemoaned the non-remittance of her membership dues by the Registrar of Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria, Dr.T.A.B Sanusi despite following all the dictates of the Nigeria Labour law and appropriate stake holders consultations.
16. The NEC observed with serious concerns that despite several meetings with the Presidential committee on Salaries and other top Government Stakeholders on the review of hazard allowance for health workers, the hazard allowance still remains a paltry sum of five thousand naira.
17. They also noted the non-payment of COVID-19 inducement allowance to some of our members in Federal and most of our members in State Tertiary Institutions.

RESOLUTION

1. After critical appraisal of the performance of both Federal and State Governments on all the issues affecting the welfare of our members as observed above and the insincerity of Government in implementing the memorandum of action after One Hundred and Thirteen (113) days, the NEC unanimously resolved by vote to resume the total and indefinite strike action from 08.00hrs Monday 2nd August, 2021.
2. The NEC in particular demanded the immediate withdrawal of the circular removing House Officers from the scheme of service.
3. Finally, the NEC stated unequivocally especially to the members of the public that the NARD is committed to the smooth running of the health sector; however, can only do so when our welfare is given the desired attention.

APPRECIATION

On behalf of the entire membership of the Nigerian Association of Resident Doctors, the President and the National Officers Committee express their heartfelt gratitude to the following distinguished individuals:

1. His Excellency, the Governor of Abia State Victor Okezie Ikpeazu, PhD.
2. Hon. Dr Yusuf Tanko Sununu, Chairman House Committee on health services
3. The Honourable Minister of Labour Sen. Dr Chris Ngige.
4. The Honourable Minister of Health, Dr. Osagie Emmanuel Ehanire.
5. The Honourable Minister of State for Health Sen. Dr Adeleke Mamora
6. The President, Nigerian Medical Association, Prof I. O Ujah mni
7. His Royal Highness Eze Joseph Ndubuisi Nwabeke, Chairman Traditional Rulers Council, Abia State.
8. The Medical Director, FMC Umuahia, Prof. Azubuike Kanario Onyebuchi.
9. Prof. Chuks I. Kamanu, Dean Faculty of Clinical Medicine.
10. All past Presidents and Secretaries, NARD.

Long live the Nigerian Association of Resident Doctors

Long live the Nigerian Medical Association

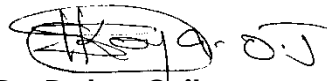
Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria



Dr. Uyilawa Okhuaihesuyi
President



Dr. Jerry Isogun
Secretary General



Dr. Dotun Osikoya
Publicity/Social Secretary