

**COMMUNIQUE AT THE END OF THE 2021 ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF NIGERIA  
ASSOCIATION OF HYDROLOGICAL SCIENCES (NAHS) HELD AT THE  
UNIVERSITY CALABAR, 9<sup>TH</sup> – 12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

The conference opening ceremony was held on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at the Senate Chambers of the University of Calabar after participants have registered and it was chaired by the chief host in the person of Prof. Florence Banku Obi, Vice-Chancellor University of Calabar. Other important dignitaries include Dr Ishmael Yaw Dadson, University of Education, Winneba, Ghana and Dr Efron N. Gajare, Director/CEO, National Centre for Remote Sensing, Jos amongst others.

The welcome address was given by the President of NAHS Prof. A. A. Adebayo appreciating all contributions made toward the success of the conference by the management, staff, and students of the University, corporate organizations, government agencies and individuals.

The theme for the conference was Hydrology and Sanitation in a Changing Environment with two lead papers presented by Dr Ishmael Yaw Dadson, University of Education, Winneba, Ghana and Dr. Efron N. Gajare, Director/CEO, National Centre for Remote Sensing, Jos. The papers were titled “Water Resources Management in a Changing Environment: The Fate of Coastal Cities in West Africa” while the second lead paper was titled “Application of Remote Sensing Techniques in Hydrology”

Investiture of fellows was given to five (5) eminent personalities that have contributed immensely to the growth of NAHS and water resources development in Nigeria and the display by the cultural troupe of the University of Calabar provided a musical interlude for the delight and relaxation of those in attendance.

Subsequently, sub-theme lead papers were presented, after which parallel sessions were held and participants presented their papers which centred on eight (8) sub-themes of the conference.

The total number of registered participants was a hundred and five (105) and Sixty-nine (69) papers were presented at the parallel sessions.

Arising from the deliberations at the conference the following pertinent observations and resolutions were made:

- i. COVID 19 pandemic has heightened the need for the provision of safe drinking water and sanitation and the elimination of open defecation to promote the health of the people.
- ii. West Africa's coast is under threats from sea level rise, saline intrusion, erosion, flooding, population growth and urbanization as such requires a sound management strategy to minimize the impact of disasters in the changing environment.
- iii. The use of GIS/ Remote Sensing techniques and modelling is viewed as a veritable tool that can be deployed in hydrology and water resources research, investigation, development and management.

- iv. Water supply optimization can be achieved aside from surface and groundwater exploitation by exploring the potential of rainwater harvesting for household and community use.
- v. Floods and droughts, in the face of climate change, remain a threat to Nigeria's national development hence all hands must be on deck to tackle them.
- vi. Untapped opportunities exist in the water sector with regard to entrepreneurship and job creation.

The University of Port Harcourt is to host the 2022 conference.

On behalf of the National Executive council of NAHS, the Conference Organizing Committee appreciated the contributions of all and sundry towards the success of the conference and wished everybody a safe journey to their various destinations.

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President, NAHS

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Secretary, NAHS

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Chairman, NAHS LOC, 2021