

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS, (1998 EDITION)

I. NAME

1. The name of body shall be "Nigerian Institute of Physics" to be abbreviated NIP, herein after referred to as the Institute

II. OBJECTIVE

1. The Institute shall be a non-profit, non-political forum for physicists concerned with
 - (a) The advancement and dissemination of the knowledge of physics
 - (b) The exploration of the potentials of physics for the progress of society, Industry and technology.

III. ACTIVITIES

1. To invite from the members and other persons Communications, written or oral, relating to Physics and to receive, listen to and discuss such communications at meetings of the Institute
2. To promote cooperation among institutions of higher learning, schools and examining bodies in relation to Physics Curriculum Development, and to encourage, guide and cooperate in the education and training of those who wish to become physicists or are interested in Physics
3. To encourage cooperation among institutions of Higher learning and research bodies with regards to research, dissemination of ideas and rationalization of efforts, with particular reference to the needs of the country.
4. To continually communicate with industries and explore every employment prospect for Physics graduates.
5. To publish any communications made to the Institute, any papers, treatise, communications and publication which relate to Physics, and any reports of proceedings and accounts of the Institute

IV. MEMBERSHIP

1. The membership of the NIP shall be open to physics or other persons actively engaged in a field considered by Council to be related to Physics.
2. Membership shall consist of Fellows. Ordinary members, Associate members, Student members, Honorary fellows and Corporate members.
3. The following categories of membership shall have the relevant approved acronyms associated with them.
 - (a) Fellow – FNIP
 - (b) Ordinary Member – MNIP
 - (c) Associate Member – AMNIP

- (d) Honorary Member – Hon. FNIP
4. Members shall have the right to affix the relevant acronym after their names and such usage shall be recognized by Constitution
 5. Certificates of membership signed by the President and Secretary shall be issued to all categories of members except student members.
 6. Certificates of membership shall remain the property of Nigeria Institute of Physics.
 7. Fellowship of the Nigerian Institute of Physics (FNIP) shall be conferred on any ordinary member of the Institute who, for a minimum period of 10 years, made distinguished contributions to the development of NIP and the advancement of Physics through services to the society and has, as a result, been nominated and approved for such award by Council.
 8. An ordinary member of the Institute (MNIP) shall be a person actively engaged in practicing or teaching Physics or related scientific field for a period not less than three (3) years. In addition, the person shall possess any of the following qualifications:
 - a. Graduate of physics or physics related discipline acceptable to Council (HND or NCE)
 - b. Other qualifications approved by Council.
 - c. Transfer from Associate Membership after at least 3 years relevant experience as AMIP
 9. A candidate for election of Associate Member of the Institute (AMNIP) shall possess any of the following qualifications:
 - a. Graduate of physics or physics related discipline acceptable to Council (HND or NCE),
 - b. Other qualifications approved by Council.
 - c. Transfer from student membership after obtaining necessary qualification specified in (a) or (b).
 10. Any applicant for student membership must be a postgraduate or undergraduate student of Physics or physics related field approved by Council, in good standing, at a recognized degree awarding institution. Eligibility for student membership shall terminate at the close of the calendar year in which the student member ceases to be a postgraduate or undergraduate student.
 11. Honorary Fellowship shall be conferred on persons who in the opinion of Council, have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of Physics and Science in general through service to society. The acronym shall be Hon. FNIP.
 12. Corporate membership shall be granted to Corporations, Companies and institutions of higher learning which, in the opinion of Council, have contributed to the advancement of Physics and Science in general.
 13. Honorary Fellows, Student and Corporate members of the NIP shall enjoy all the privileges enjoyed by other categories of members except that they shall not hold any office, vote or be voted for, or serve in the Council of the NIP.
 14. Every member shall have a registration number.
 15. Every member in good standing shall be entitled to one free copy of each issue of the Institution's Newsletter and a copy of each issue of the Nigerian Journal of Physics at a subsidized rate.

V. ELECTION AND TRANSFER OF MEMBERS

1. The election or admission of members into the Institute or the transfer of membership from one category to another shall be by Council.
2. No transfer of membership into the fellowship grade or honorary fellowship grade shall be allowed.
3. Application for election and transfer shall be made as prescribed hereunder:
 - a. Proposal for any person being considered for election into the fellowship grade must be made by two members of Council in good standing and forwarded to the General Secretary along with The Curriculum Vitae. The proposal shall on presentation to Council, be considered and approved by at least two-thirds of votes of the members present at the Council meeting. Such approval shall be notified to candidate in writing and a formal conferment carried out at the next Annual Conference or such other time as maybe directed by Council. The number of Fellows to be selected in any given year shall be at the discretion of Council.
 - b. The proposal form for ordinary membership shall be endorsed by at least two ordinary members in good standing.
 - c. The proposal form for Association membership shall be signed by at least two ordinary members in good standing.
 - d. The proposal form for student membership shall be signed by the Head of his/her Department.
 - e. Proposal for any person being considered for Honorary Fellowship shall be as laid down in article V 3 (a) above except that no Curriculum Vitae of the candidate shall be required.
 - f. The Council will normally invite organizations and institutions into the corporate membership. But where an organization or institution applies to become a corporate member, the proposal form must be signed by at least two members of Council in good standing.
4. The proposal form duly completed shall be forwarded to the Council through the General Secretary for consideration.
5. An applicant whose membership is approved by two third of the Council membership present at the Council meeting at which his proposal is considered shall be deemed elected or admitted and shall be notified accordingly.
6. No election shall take place until applicant shall have paid all fees incidental to his application.

VI. DUE AND FEES

Annual dues and admission fees payable by members shall be determined by Council, subject to the approval of the next Annual General Meeting. Honorary members are exempted payment of fees and dues. Admission fees shall be paid once and for all on application.

VII. COUNCIL AND HONORARY OFFICERS

1. The Officers of the Institute shall consist of the President, Vice-President, the General Secretary, the Assistant General Secretary, the Treasurer, the Financial Secretary, the Editor, the Deputy Editor and the Publicity Secretary.
2. The management of the Institute shall be vested in a Council made up of the Officers of the Institute and six ordinary members, and headed by the President. The Council

shall meet at least twice between Annual Conferences and at least once during an Annual Conference.

3. There shall also be Trustees and Auditors of the Institute appointed by the Institute.
4. Election of officers, ordinary members to the Council Trustees and Auditors shall take place at the Annual General Meeting of the Institute.
5. All officers of the Institute and all services on the Council shall be honorary and without remuneration.
6. All officers shall normally serve for two years but shall be eligible for re-election for another term of two years, after which they shall not be immediately eligible for re-election into the same office, unless the Institute so desires.
7. Any casual vacancy on the Council may be filled by the Council from among the ordinary members of the Institute until the following Annual General Meeting.
8. The provisions of articles IV (13) and VII (2) notwithstanding, Council is empowered to co-opt no more than two members into Council for a fixed tenure which shall not exceed the life of the Council.

VIII. VIII ELECTION INTO COUNCIL:

1. Conduction of Elections:

- a. An Election committee of five (5) members from the general members shall be constituted by Council at least six (6) months before the election conference.
- b. The Chairperson of the election committee shall be an active Fellow of the Institute.
- c. Other members of the election committee shall be nominated from active and financial members who must have attended and participated at the annual conference for at least five (5) consecutive years.
- d. The election committee shall call expression of interest for the various elective positions at least four (4) months before the election date.
- e. Expression of interest for any office must be submitted to the election committee by the aspirant at least three (3) months before the election date.
- f. The list of qualified aspirants must be published by the election committee at least one (1) month before the election date.
- g. All elections shall be by secret ballot.

2. Eligibility to Hold an Office:

President:

- (i) A candidate for this position must have been seen to have contributed significantly to the development of NIP and the advancement of Physics in the past ten (10) years prior to the election year.

- (ii) The candidate must have attended and participated at the annual conference for ten (10) consecutive years.
- (iii) The candidate must have served as council member in any capacity for at least six (6) consecutive years.
- (iv) The candidate must normally be an active financial member in the last ten (10) years prior to the election date.
- (v) The expression of interest to be submitted by the aspirant must be endorsed by two (2) serving council members.
- (vi) The candidate should be a known Physicist within at least five (5) of the geopolitical zones of Nigeria.

Vice-President:

- (i) The eligibility conditions (i) and (ii) for the President shall also hold for the Vice-President.
- (ii) The candidate must have served as council member in any capacity for at least four (4) consecutive years.
- (iii) The eligibility condition (iv) and (v) for the President shall also be applicable for the position of Vice-President.

Secretary General:

- (i) All the eligibility conditions specified for the position of Vice-President shall be applicable for the position of Secretary General.

Assistant Secretary General:

- (i) The candidate must have attended and participated at the annual conference for at least five (5) consecutive years.
- (ii) The candidate must normally be an active financial member in the last five (5) years prior to the election date.

Treasurer:

Same conditions as applicable for the position of the Assistant Secretary General.

Financial Secretary:

Same conditions as applicable for the position of the Assistant Secretary General.

Publicity Secretary / Public Relation Officer:

Same conditions as applicable for the position of the Assistant Secretary General.

Editor-in-Chief:

- (i) Same conditions as applicable for the position of the Assistant Secretary General.
- (ii) The Candidate should be of the rank of a Professor.
- (iii) The editorship of a reputable journal or of a publishing house shall be an advantage.
- (iv) The candidate should have demonstrated significant experience in publishing.

Deputy Editor:

- (i) Same conditions as applicable for the position of the Assistant Secretary General.
- (ii) The candidate must be at least a Senior Lecturer or its equivalent.
- (iii) The candidate should have demonstrated some experience in publishing.

Ex-Officio Members:

- (i) Same conditions as applicable for the position of the Assistant Secretary General.

Non-Executive Officers:

The positions of (a) Immediate Past President; (b) Immediate Past Secretary General; (c) Immediate Past LOC; and (d) Chapter Liaison Officer, who are members of Council, are non-elective positions.

IX FUNCTION of the EXECUTIVE MEMBERS:

X STATE CHAPTER OF THE INSTITUTE

1. As a means of improving membership, bridging communication gap between the institute and the individual practicing Physicists, reaching out to the rural areas and promoting the Institute's activities among local Physicists and in the local schools, there shall be in each state of the Federation of Nigeria a State Chapter of the Nigerian Institute of Physics.
2. The State Chapter shall be run by a State Executive Committee Comprising five members, namely
 - a. The State Chairman
 - b. The State Vice-Chairman
 - c. The State Secretary

- d. The State Treasurer
- e. The State Financial Secretary
- f. The State Publicity Secretary
- g. The State Welfare Officer
- h. The Technical Officer

The State Executive Committee shall have power to co-opt not more than two members into the committee

3. The duties of the State Executive Committee shall Include:
 - a. Registering at State Level of all Physics graduates and other qualified persons into the membership of the Institute.
 - b. Collecting admission fees from new members and annual dues from all members from within the state.
 - c. Forwarding twice yearly a list of all state members and seventy percent of all fees and dues collected from the State to the National Treasurer of the Institute.
 - d. Promoting and popularizing physics within the State by organizing activities such as workshops, seminars, school quiz competitions, Physics improvement classes, membership drive and so on.
 - e. Presenting an annual report on state activities to the National Annual General Meeting holding during the Annual Conference of the Institute
 - f. Any other duty as may be directed by the NIP Council

XI. GENERAL MEETINGS

1. There shall be an Annual Conference for the reading and discussion of papers and of research notes. An Annual General Meeting shall be held during the conference.
2. At an Annual General Meeting, the following items shall be dealt with:
 - a. The approval of minutes of the last Annual or Emergency General Meeting.
 - b. The reports of the Council and the State Chapters.
 - c. The election of the officers and other members of Council.
 - d. Any other tabled business.
3. Decisions of the General Meeting, except on constitutional amendment, shall be by a simple majority.
4. Additional meetings for the reading and discussion of papers may be held at the discretion of the Council.
5. An Emergency General Meeting may be called by the General Secretary at the request of the Council, or of the request in writing by at least 15 voting members of the Institute. At least a thirty days notice shall be given of such an emergency meeting and the item to be discussed must be indicated in the notice.

XII. AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION

1. A notice seeking to amend the Constitution shall be circulated to members at least thirty days before an Annual General Meeting in which such amendment shall be discussed.

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2. The Constitution may be amended at an Annual General Meeting with a two-thirds majority of the voting members present.