

**REPORT OF THE 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NIGERIA INTERNET REGISTRATION ASSOCIATION (NiRA) HELD 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2017 AT NiRA OFFICE COMPLEX, 8 FUNSHO WILLIAMS AVENUE, IPONRI, SURULERE, LAGOS**

NiRA held the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) of its members on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 at its Office Complex, 8 Funsho Williams Avenue, Iponri, Surulere, Lagos.

In attendance at the AGM were the NiRA Board of Trustees, NiRA Executive Board of Directors, Members, Stakeholders, Observers and the Press with a record of 100 attendees.

Rev'd Sunday Folayan, chaired the AGM in his capacity as the President of NiRA.

In the President's statement to the Members, he reported on the membership growth of the Association and growth in the number of registered .ng domain names from a modest 22,100 domains in April 2015 to 34,294 domains in December 2016, making the .ng ccTLD the second fastest growing Registry in Africa.

His statement also noted an upgrade in the Registry's infrastructure and International relations with the Kenyan and South African Registries. He acknowledged the contribution of the Nigerian Media and the almost daily endorsement of the .ng brand by the Guardian Newspapers in the print media. He also noted the .ng advertisement on the BRT Buses plying the Ikorodu – CMS route in 2016 in NiRA's quest to popularize the .ng domain.

The President's statement highlighted the following:

- growth in new .ng domain names registrations from 22,100 in 2015 to 34,294 in 2016;
- growth in membership by an additional 60 new members;
- growth in the number and quality of staff with the engagement of Head, Corporate Services, Senior Accountant and Programme Officer for the NiRA Academy;
- utilisation of the NiRA Property as a Resource Centre for training and certification in the DNS Industry;
- securing all assets of the Association in an off-site vault under the custody of the Trustees;
- local and overseas training for staff;
- sponsoring of youth programmes;
- partnership with the Kenyan Registry and South African Registry; etc.

The Members also received the 2016 Annual Report, Independent Auditors Report, Financial Statements of the Association for the year ended December 31, 2016 and 2017 Business Plan.

The 2016 Annual Report highlighted the following:

- the .ng 10<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary celebrations in 2016;
- partnership between NiRA, AFRINIC, ATCON and University of Ibadan on AfriNIC IPv6 and INRM Training workshop;
- partnership with Nigerian Network Operators' Group (ngNOG) on Domain Name Business;

- strategic partnership with industry stakeholders such as One Africa Media, Jobberman, etc;
- industry related activities and partnerships with SMEs and the Government;
- implementation of the DNSSEC .ng root zone;
- corporate social responsibility activities;
- .ng Media Strategy;
- strengthening of the Secretariat; and
- the Corporate Governance report.

The Independent Auditors in their opinion stated that the Financial Statements gave a true and fair view of the state of NiRA’s financial affairs as at December 31, 2016.

The highlights of the Financial Statements of NiRA as at December 31, 2016 are as follows:

<b>Revenue Account</b>		
	<b>2016 (₦)</b>	<b>2015 (₦)</b>
<b>Income</b>	243,155,653	216,322,210
<b>Expenditure</b>	179,781,827	169,444,765
<b>Surplus for Period</b>	63,373,826	46,877,445
<b>Transfer to Accumulated Fund</b>	200,909,123	150,210,062

The 2017 Business Plan include:

- Develop the Concept note for Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs) for the Future.
- Advertisement of the .ng brand on BRT Buses/Radio Stations.
- Partnership with Accredited Registrars to ensure growth of the .ng brand.
- Engagement with relevant Law Enforcement Agencies to tackle Domain Name Abuse.
- Improvement of the NiRA Technical Infrastructure.
- Amendment of NiRA Registrars’ Accreditation Policy and other policies.
- Implementation of the Domain Name Price Charter.
- Review and Registration of premium domain names by way of Auctions.
- Partnership with the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment on digitization of its records.
- Capacity Building on DNS Training and Entrepreneurship for 200 Youths by the NiRA Academy and Resource Centre.
- Development of NiRA White List to increase the confidence level of entities wishing to transact business with Nigerians.
- Acquisition of Land for the NiRA Academy and Resource Centre.

Two (2) Officers’ seats and Three (3) Members’ seats on the Executive Board were vacant and this was filled at the AGM by the electronic election that was conducted. Two (2) nominations were received for the position of Treasurer, Three (3) nominations for the position of Financial Secretary and Eight (8) nominations for the position as Members of the Executive Board of Directors.

The Candidates presented impressive manifestos, resulting in a keenly contested election.

The results of the elections unveiled Mr. Adebisi Oladipo as the Financial Secretary and Mrs. Yetunde Johnson as the Treasurer. Mr. Eugene Ohu, Mr. Chukwuemeka Fred Agbata and Mrs Nkem Anthonia Nweke emerged as the newly elected Members of the Executive Board of Directors.

The President welcomed all the New Directors on behalf of the Executive Board of Directors and handed them a NiRA Tee shirt, symbolic of their position on the NiRA Executive Board.

Members' comments and observations during the AGM were addressed by the members of the Executive Board of Directors as appropriate.

Attached are copies of the 2016 Annual Report and Accounts of NiRA for further information.

**Dated 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2017**

**Edith Udeagu (Mrs.)**  
**Chief Operating Officer/Secretary to Executive Board of NiRA**

