

**NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY
(FEDERAL MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION)**



**MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING (EOAGM)**

HELD ON

WEDNESDAY, 2ND DECEMBER, 2020

**AT THE WESTERN SUN HOTEL,
EDE,
OSUN STATE**

SN	ITEMS	DISCUSSIONS/DECISIONS	ACTION BY
1.	ATTENDANCE	<p><u>Attendance</u></p> <p>See attached list</p>	
2.	36.01 COMMENCEMENT	<p>Opening Prayer</p> <p>The Extra Ordinary Annual General Meeting commenced at 10:10 am with the opening prayer offered by Alhaji Abubakar Adamu, Council member representing North West Zone.</p> <p>Chairman's Opening Remarks</p> <p>The Chairman of Council, Mr. Obaseki C. welcomed all members of Council, Management, and staff of the Institute and representatives of the Association of Science Laboratory Technologists of Nigeria (ASLTON) to the meeting. He thanked God for journey mercies and appreciated members for their passion and interest in ensuring the progress of the profession. He thanked them for their cooperation, steadfastness, and laudable ideas for moving the profession forward since their arrival at the Institute's Stakeholders' and Extra-Ordinary Annual General Meeting. He explained that the Extra Ordinary General meeting was meant to ensure that the Institute met its statutory responsibility of holding its Annual General Meeting for the year 2020 despite the restrictions and lock-down, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the postponement of the Scientific National Conference for 2020 by ASLTON. He enjoined participants to make useful contributions to discussions and wished them successful deliberations.</p>	
3.	36.02 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 35 TH AGM HELD ON 22 ND NOVEMBER, 2019	<p>a. Adoption</p> <p>The motion for the adoption of the minutes of the 35th Annual General Meeting held on the 22nd November 2019 at Ozoro, Delta State was moved by Mr. Olu-Ajayi Micheal, (NISLT Council member, representing the South-West Zone) and was supported by Mr. James Waba (NISLT Council member, representing North-East Zone).</p>	
4.	36.03 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</p> <p>i. Harassment of NISLT Members</p> <p>The Chairman reported that the harassment of the Institute's members is still ongoing all over the country and a case of harassment of one of the Institute's members at Ikom in Cross-River State has been taken up by the</p>	

³⁴Institute in the court of law with legal representation by a Council member
³⁵(Barrister Sunday Edet Etuk) and the Institute’s Legal Officer. He added that
³⁶there have been positive reports so far from the case. He also reported that
³⁷a similar case in Delta State is being handled by the Institute’s Legal Officer.

ii. ³⁸**NISLT Scientific National Conference**

³⁹The Chairman reported that the Scientific National Conference was
⁴⁰postponed by ASLTON and said the information for the postponement was
⁴¹passed to the Institute and circulated to members of ASLTON nationwide.
⁴²He said that ASLTON should subsequently organize and hold the Scientific
⁴³National Conference, while the Institute (NISLT) shall organize and hold the
⁴⁴Annual General Meetings attached to ASLTON Scientific National
⁴⁵Conferences.

iii. ⁴⁶**Modalities for the implementation of M&E Task Team**

⁴⁷The Chairman of Council informed all present that, the first phase of the
⁴⁸implementation of the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Task Team Project
⁴⁹has been completed by holding a training workshop for all state’s
⁵⁰Chairpersons of ASLTON and that the second phase will be handled by the
⁵¹Governing Council members in their respective zones. He said Council
⁵²members shall be empowered to conduct training at the axis of the zones
⁵³they represent in Council and reported that the cost implication of the
⁵⁴logistics, accommodation, and transportation shall be provided by the
⁵⁵Institute. The fund for the M&E Task Team is already in the custody of the
⁵⁶Institute and the funds shall be released as soon as approval is received
⁵⁷from the Federal Ministry of Finance.

iv. ⁵⁸**Use of NISLT Logo**

⁵⁹The Chairman said that the use of the Institute’s (NISLT) logo without
⁶⁰obtaining appropriate approval from the Governing Council and
⁶¹Management of the Institute is an Offence. He added that only ASLTON has
⁶²the express approval to use the Institute’s Logo and observed the illegal
⁶³use of the logo by other associations, groups of persons, or individuals
⁶⁴without obtaining the required permission from the institute’s authorities
⁶⁵which he said should be stopped.

		<p>v. 66Induction of Fellow Members</p> <p>67The Chairman reported that the last set of induction for Fellow members of 68the Institute has been scheduled tentatively for the next quarter of 2021. 69He explained that the Covid-19 pandemic has delayed the pace of the 70process for the preparation and that the names of all the candidates for the 71Fellow that have defended their projects have been forwarded to the 72Chairman of the Council Committee on Program, Evaluation and 73Accreditation for consideration/recommendation by the Committee and 74onward presentation of its report to the Governing Council at its next 75meeting for approval.</p> <p>vi. 76Use of Social Media</p> <p>77The Chairman informed the meeting that, it has been observed that the use 78of social media by some members of the Institute to perpetuate the 79indiscriminate abuse of members, ASLTON leadership, the Institute and the 80Governing Council has reduced drastically due to the interventions made to 81curb the disturbing trend.</p> <p>vii. 82Non-Payment of Annual Dues/Membership Revalidation</p> <p>83The Chairman annotated that the regularity of payment of the annual dues 84by members is very poor. He added that it is very important for members 85to pay their annual dues as at when due and that the Membership 86Revalidation Exercise embarked upon by the Institute, was meant to 87provide information on amongst many other things, the actual membership 88strength & spread of the Institute and assist it in the formulation of 89strategies to ensure that annual dues are paid-up regularly by a higher 90proportion of the Institute’s members and have a prospective estimate of 91the quantum sum of funds that could be generated annually from payment 92of annual dues by members.</p> <p>viii. 93Zonal offices</p> <p>94The Chairman reported that the Edo State Government has allocated an 95office space for the establishment of the Institute’s South-South Zonal 96Office in Benin-City, Edo State and that the office has commenced 97operation, while the North-East Zonal Office located in Kano State is yet to 98be opened due to lack of appropriate operational office space. He added</p>	
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		<p>99that Kaduna and Sokoto States had been initially considered for the location 100of the Zonal Office, but present events have over-taken the justifications 101for the location of the office in both states. He added that the Institute is 102awaiting feedback on the availability of appropriate office spaces in Kano 103State by the team saddled with the responsibility of finding one. The 104Chairman also announced that the Institute presently has three (3) fully 105functional Zonal Offices and introduced the Zonal Coordinators of the 106offices – viz: (1) Mr. Ipinmoye Oluwagbemiga .A (North-East Zonal Office 107in Yola, Adamawa State); (2) Mr. Alalade Babajide Gboyega (South- East 108Zonal Office in Abakalaki, Ebonyi State); (3) Mr. Osakue Ohehen 109Emmanuel (South-South Zonal Office in Benin-City, Edo State) who were all 110present. The Chairman said that the issue of the Headship of the Zonal 111Offices, which has become contentious amongst the staff of the Institute, 112shall be discussed at the end of the presentation of the matters arising.</p> <p>ix. 113Scheme of Service (Enhanced entry and exit points)</p> <p>114The Chairman requested that the Registrar who attended the meeting of 115the National Council Of Establishments organized by the Office of the Head 116of Service of the Federation in Lagos State, present his report on the 117subject matter. The Registrar reported that the meeting of the National 118Council of Establishments was held for the consideration of the final 119vetting and ratification of the newly proposed enhanced Scheme of 120Service. He also reported that the documents submitted by the Institute 121(NISLT) for the SLT professional cadre have been embedded in the new 122Scheme of Service. He added that the Head of Service (HOS) shall forward 123the final document to the Federal Executive Council for final approval. He 124informed the meeting further that the entry-level for all graduates of five 125(5) years academic programmes into the Federal and State Civil Service has 126been agreed on to be Grade level 09 and this applies to the registered SLT 127graduates. He availed the stakeholders present at the EOAGM details of 128the efforts the Institute had put in place to ensure the success recorded so 129far on the newly enhanced Scheme of Service for Science Laboratory 130Technologists.</p>	
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162 Observations/Comments on Matters Arising

- **163 Mr. Damos S.N.** (National President, ASLTON) commented on the
164 issue of the headship of the institute's Zonal Offices. He said that
165 based on the professionalism and progress of the Institute, only
166 the Science Laboratory Technologist/Scientist cadres of staff is
167 qualified to head the zonal Offices and administrative staff cannot
168 head the Zonal Offices.
- **169 Mr. Ipinmoye Oluwagbemiga A.** (Zonal Coordinator, NISLT
170 North-East Zonal Office) said that a comparison of the functions of
171 the position of the Zonal Coordinator of the Institute's Zonal
172 Offices with the required professional competencies to fill the
173 position shows that only the Science Laboratory
174 Technologist/Scientist cadres of staff are qualified due to their
175 technical abilities to undertake the responsibilities of the
176 establishment of science laboratories, organize and conduct
177 training in all the areas of SLT and maintenance of science
178 laboratory equipment. Based on the points he highlighted, he
179 averred that administrative staff will not be suitable to head the
180 Zonal offices
- **181 Mr. Ebaddan C. Williams** (Council Member, representing South-
182 West) pointed out that, references from other professional bodies
183 around the country, shows that the professional members always
184 head their zonal or branch offices as the case may apply and due
185 to the nature of services to be provided by the zonal offices, It is
186 most appropriate for them to be headed by the technical staff of
187 the Institute and not administrative staff.
- **188 Mr. S.O Emmanuel** (NISLT, Ibadan) in his contribution to the issue,
189 requested that the Governing Council and Management of the
190 Institute should study the Public Service Rule (PSR) to identify the
191 category of agencies that the Institute belongs and apply the rules
192 on the headship of zonal or branch offices. He also noted that the
193 Governing Council and Registrar/CEO, according to the PSR, are
194 empowered to formulate and implement professional and

		<p>195 administrative policies based on the uniqueness or peculiarity of 196 the agency. He added that it is important for the Institute to 197 specify if it is a professional, regulatory or research institution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 198 Mr. Adeyemi O.J (National Sec. Gen., ALSTON) posited that the 199 zonal offices are best headed by the technical staff of the Institute 200 (Science Laboratory Technologists/Scientists) • 201 Mr. Gberindyer James (Council Member, North- Central) in his 202 comment, said he agreed with the position of Mr. Ipinmoye on 203 the issue of the Headship of the Zonal Offices. He said during the 204 lecture x-raying the Act of the National Assembly establishing the 205 Institute the previous day, it was highlighted that the Headship of 206 the Institute is exclusively for members of the Institute with 207 specific levels of qualifications/requirements which he said should 208 automatically be adopted for the zonal offices and therefore the 209 Zonal offices should be headed by qualified Science Laboratory 210 Scientist/ Technologist. • 211 Prince Y.M Gisilianbe (Council Member, North-East) while 212 supporting the view that the zonal offices headship should be 213 exclusively for the Institute’s technical staff, notified the Registrar 214 that most of the electrical appliances in the Institute’s North- 215 Central Zonal Office in Yola, Adamawa state have not been put to 216 use due to faulty electrical sockets in the office. He requested that 217 the sum of N250, 000 be made available to ensure that the 218 sockets are changed and other electrical repairs are undertaken 219 for the optimal use of the electrical appliances in the office. <p>220 The Registrar in his response said he had made consultations on 221 the Headship of the Zonal Offices with other professional bodies 222 and said that his findings were that; their zonal offices are all 223 headed by their professional members. He specifically mentioned 224 his visit to COREN and another professional body and reported his 225 findings as being in line with posting their professional members 226 to head all their zonal offices notwithstanding the levels of other 227 categories of staff in the zonal offices. He appreciated all those 228 that contributed to the resolution of the issue, which he said</p>	
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		<p>229 would represent the stand of the Management on the matter.</p> <p>230 The Registrar also reported that, despite the paucity of funds, the 231 Institute has commenced the payment of imprest to the zonal 232 offices. Though the imprest is not yet regular, the zonal offices are 233 expected to undertake minor repair and maintenance from the 234 monies forwarded for the running of the zonal offices. He also 235 said the Head of the North-East Zonal Office ought to have 236 notified the Institute's Management formally and request for 237 funds to fix the observed problems or fix it and forward a request 238 for the reimbursement of the funds spent in that regard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 239 Mr. Ebaddan C. Williams (Council Member, representing South- 240 West) Commented that it is important to find out how the Zonal 241 Offices spend the imprest they receive from the Institute because 242 they have many states to cover in their respective zones. He 243 posited that the imprest is not likely to be sufficient for all the 244 activities the zonal offices are expected to undertake.• 245 Mr. Oguntunde Abayomi (Council Member representing FMST) 246 advised that the Zonal Offices should build good working 247 relationships and show its relevance to the State Governments 248 and other relevant major organizations in their respective zones. 249 He said this would likely provide an avenue for them to attract 250 various types of assistance that could augment the allocations 251 from the Institute. <p>252 The Chairman appreciated the contribution of the Director, STP 253 FMST and stated further that the South-South Zonal Office in 254 Benin-City, Edo State, is located on the same floor as the State 255 Ministry of Science and Technology, which houses the offices of 256 the Honorable Commissioner of Science and Technology and the 257 permanent Secretary of the Ministry. He added that the Ministry 258 was established in 2018 and they have requested for the Institute 259 through its zonal coordinator to assist in the provision of the 260 much needed technical support in making the Ministry effective 261 and efficient in moving Science and Technology forward at all</p>	
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²⁶²levels in the state.

- ²⁶³**Mr. Ebaddan C. Williams** (Council Member, representing South-
²⁶⁴West) talked about the harassment of NISLT members. He said the
²⁶⁵Institute ought to go out and regulate the laboratories under its
²⁶⁶purview and in doing this it will help check the harassment
²⁶⁷experienced by members on the field. He also noted that the issue
²⁶⁸is more rampant in the southern state than the northern ones in
²⁶⁹the country.

²⁷⁰The chairman in his response said the zonal representatives in the
²⁷¹Governing Council will handle the matter on harassment of
²⁷²members in its next phase of deliberations on the implementation
²⁷³of the M&E Task Team activities.

- ²⁷⁴**Mr. Adeoye Ayodele** (Virtual participant) commented on the need
²⁷⁵to set the entire Institute's regulatory machinery towards
²⁷⁶ensuring that the harassment of its members is curbed and he
²⁷⁷also said the headship of the Institute's zonal offices should be
²⁷⁸exclusively for the Technologists since the Institute's mandate is
²⁷⁹professionally on Science Laboratory Technology. He requested a
²⁸⁰further explanation from the Registrar on the entry-level of
²⁸¹graduates into the Civil Service based on the number of years of
²⁸²their course of study. He added that only the Science Laboratory
²⁸³Technologist and not the Medical Laboratory Scientists have the
²⁸⁴training and skill set to undertake repair and maintenance of
²⁸⁵laboratory equipment.

²⁸⁶The Chairman in his response informed Mr. Adeoye Ayodele that
²⁸⁷he shall be allowed to work with the Council zonal representatives
²⁸⁸in his zone to contribute in ensuring that the challenges
²⁸⁹encountered by members as he has highlighted are solved.

- ²⁹⁰**Barrister Sunday Edet Etuk** (Council Member, representing South-
²⁹¹South) Said the harassment of professional members of the
²⁹²Institute, affects all aspects of the practice of SLT profession. He

		<p>293 said all existing documents that could assist in the course of 294 checking the harassment of members, should be examined and 295 implemented as soon as possible. He reported that the case of 296 Harassment he is handling on behalf of the Institute at Ikom, 297 Cross-River State is going on well with a positive outcome and that 298 the case has been adjourned to 20th January 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">299 Mr. Adeyemi O.J (National Sec. Gen., ALSTON) highlighted the 300 importance of identifying the specific areas of conflict between 301 the Science Laboratory Technologists and the Medical Laboratory 302 Scientist and that whether members facing harassment from the 303 MLSCN on the operation of private laboratories are qualified to do 304 so and have obtained the necessary approval to operate such 305 laboratories. <p>306 The Chairman in his response said that the procedure for the 307 establishment of private laboratories by interested members of 308 NISLT is clearly spelt out by the Institute’s Rules and Regulations. 309 The Institute provides the guidelines for the establishment of all 310 types of laboratories in the area of SLT and ensures that it 311 conforms to minimum standards before giving the necessary 312 approval. In other words, he said all SLT private laboratories must 313 be registered with the Institute to legitimize their operations and 314 that when the necessary approval to undertake specific laboratory 315 procedures is obtained from NISLT. Then, the Institute can 316 confidently rise to defend and protect such laboratories when 317 they are harassed by the MLSCN. He said that NISLT cannot 318 defend a laboratory that is not registered with it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">319 Mr. Ebaddan C. Williams (Council Member, representing South- 320 West) asked if the private laboratory of the member whose case 321 of harassment is being handled in the court-of-law by the Institute 322 in Cross –River State has been inspected. <p>323 The Registrar informed him that the laboratory of the member 324 was visited for assessment and the report of the assessment</p>	
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		<p>325prescribed a change in the assay and all observed abnormalities 326were communicated to the laboratory for the necessary 327corrections. He added that because the laboratory had a 328provisional license to operate, the Institute could not stay aloof on 329the matter. It was also regarded as an important opportunity to 330present and defend the Act Establishing the Institute in the court 331as the case may be. He mentioned several NISLT Licensed private 332Science Laboratories operating around the country without any 333form of harassment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">334Mr. Omorilewa (Virtual participant) in his comment suggested 335that the Institute should establish a liaison office in Lagos State to 336exploit the vast commercial and industrial activities requiring the 337services and regulation of the Institute. He said this will help boost 338the image of the Institute. He asked how far the Governing 339Council has gone on the consideration for the approval for the 340issuance of the Institute’s professional stamp/seal for certified 341members. <p>342The Chairman informed him that Council’s approval has been 343given for the issuance of the Institute’s professional seal/stamp 344for members. He said interested members can apply for it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">345Prince Y.M Gisilianbe (Council Member, North-East) said, he has 346had to step in as the State Chairman of ASLTON in Adamawa 347State, to resolve issues concerning the Institute’s professional 348members and those of the MLSCN in the State’s health sector. He 349identified the Biochemistry and Microbiology options of the SLT 350profession as the area of conflict between the Institute’s and 351MLSCN’s members and advised NISLT professional members to 352ensure that they do not encroach into the medical laboratory 353areas of professional operation, to avoid unnecessary conflicts.354Ebekere Williams (Virtual participant) in his contribution, Mr. 355Williams referred to a letter written by the Institute (signed by the 356past Director-General/Registrar) to the Executive Governor of	
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		<p>357 Bayelsa State on the subject of harassment of the Institute's 358 certified members. He further said that the Executive Governor, in 359 conjunction with the Honourable Commissioner of Science, 360 Technology and Manpower Development, wrote to him as the 361 State Chairman of ASLTON, notifying him of a letter by the 362 Government to all concerned to immediately stop the practice of 363 terrorizing and harassment of professional members of NISLT who 364 were employed following due process in all medical and health 365 institutions in Bayelsa State. A Committee was instituted to look 366 into areas of perceived conflict between the two regulatory 367 bodies in the state and to reverse any directive that might have 368 been issued by an authority that conferred undue privileges to 369 members of MLSCN and might have contributed to unease 370 between the two bodies in the state, pending when the matter is 371 looked into and resolved. He advised that a copy of the referred 372 letter from the Institute be produced and sent to all the state 373 governors of the Thirty-six (36) states of the federation including 374 FCT. He expressed the belief that it will lead to a roundtable 375 discussion to finally settle the areas of conflict between NISLT and 376 MLSCN all over the country.</p> <p>377 The Chairman appreciated his contribution and requested that he 378 forwards a copy of the referred letter to the Office of the Director- 379 General/Registrar of the Institute for the necessary action to be 380 taken as advised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">381 Mr. S.O Emmanuel (NISLT, Ibadan) expressed his concern on the 382 powers/authority of a government-established institution to 383 sanction another parallel agency of government that is equally 384 established and certified by the same government. He also added 385 that the duty of Council Zonal Representatives is coordinating 386 the Institute's member's activities in the practice of SLT and also 387 looking into the issue of unregistered laboratories operated by 388 members in their respective zones. <p>389 The Chairman informed Mr. Emmanuel that the issue was not 390 about the powers or authority of the two-parent agencies but the 391 type of laboratory practices carried out by NISLT certified</p>	
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		<p>392 members in their office premises and also 393 unregistered/unlicensed laboratories carrying out practices in 394 areas outside the SLT profession. He added that the M&E exercise 395 is expected amongst many things to enhance the coordinating 396 duties of all Council Representatives in their respective zones. He 397 assured him that his complaint has been noted and actions shall 398 be taken appropriately.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">399 Mr. Ebaddan C. Williams (Council Member, representing South- 400 West) in his comment said, he wants the M&E Exercise to be 401 properly monitored by the Council and laboratories in all the 402 states should be closely monitored and added that the Institute's 403 staff and NISLT members be included in the M&E training . He 404 expressed his doubts on the Institute's database of SLT 405 laboratories in Ibadan. On the issue of the Institute's Fellowship 406 Award/Induction Ceremony, Mr. Ebaddan made a case for a grand 407 ceremony to be hosted in a location like the FCT, Abuja, being the 408 highest professional membership award of the Institute. <p>409 The Chairman in his response said, following the ACT establishing 410 the Institute on the role of its professional members in its 411 programmes, the Institute's members through ASLTON, shall be 412 informed and mobilized on the M&E Exercise in compliance and 413 that the funds for the M&E exercise have been made available by 414 the Federal Government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">415 Mr. Gberindyer James (Council Member, North-Central) 416 complained that his name was not captured on page 9 of the 417 Minutes of the last AGM. He further complained of the non- 418 consideration of the North-Central Zone in the establishment of a 419 Zonal Office following the Governing council's approval for the 420 establishment of six (6) zonal offices in the six geo-political zones 421 of the Federation. He expressed the high expectations and 422 eventual disappointment of his zonal constituents on the subject 423 and appealed that the north-central zone should be considered 424 for the establishment of a zonal office.	
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		<p>425 Mr. Ebaddan C. Williams (Council Member, representing South- 426 West) also appealed for the establishment of a separate South- 427 West Zonal Office for the Institute and a liaison office in Lagos 428 State.</p> <p>429 The Chairman in his responses apologized for the omission of Mr. 430 Gberindyer’s name in the Minutes of the last AGM while 431 informing him that six (6) zonal offices were requested for by the 432 Institute and Government approved only four (4) out of which 433 three (3) have been activated with the North-West zone to be 434 located in Kano State which is still awaiting activation due to office 435 accommodation challenges. He added that the Government has 436 assumed that the Institute’s Secretariat at Samonda, Ibadan, Oyo 437 State, is regarded as a south-west zonal office and the Abuja, 438 office located at Jabi, Airport Road is regarded as the North- 439 Central zonal office of the Institute. However, the Chairman said a 440 lot of personal efforts are being put in place to get the present 441 zonal offices functioning and appealed to the Registrar to do all in 442 his power to ensure other offices are established in the North- 443 Central and South-West of the country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 444 Mr. Damos S.N. (National President, ASLTON) on the non- 445 payment of annual dues by members, called on Council Zonal 446 Representatives in each zone to be more effective on the 447 sensitization of members on the need to pay their annual dues. He 448 added that members are usually discouraged from paying their 449 annual dues consistently as a result of the perceived low benefits 450 accruing from the Institute to its members. • 451 Mr. Gberindyer James (Council member, North- Central) pointed 452 out that the Institute’s Governing Council, Management and 453 ASLTON have roles to play in encouraging professional members 454 to pay their annual dues and that the Council cannot do it alone. 455 He tasked the ASLTON leadership at all levels to up-scale their 456 sensitization activities towards ensuring their members pay 457 annual dues as when appropriate and engage the Institute’s 458 Management in formulating ways to improve the payment of dues 	
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		<p>459by members.</p> <p>460Mr. James Waba (Council member, North-East) suggested that the 461presentation of the 2019 Annual Management Report and Accounts should 462be moved to the last item on the meeting's agenda. This was generally 463accepted by all in the meeting.</p>	
5.	<p>36.05 AMMENDMENT OF NISLT ACT</p>	<p>464The Chairman reported that the Amendment of the NISLT Act by the 465National Assembly was an uphill task but the Council shall continue to 466make all efforts in exploiting all that is required to ensure the amendment 467of the Act. He informed the meeting that fund will be needed and a Three- 468man Committee shall be constituted (amongst which will be Barrister 469Sunday Edet Etuk) to look critically at the subject.</p>	
6.	<p>36.06 SLT PROGRAMME IN THE POLYTECHNIC</p>	<p>470The Chairman reported that, rather than the complete scrapping of the SLT 471programme in the Polytechnics, the Governing Council Committee on 472Education will modify the SLT programmes in collaboration with National 473Board For Technical Education (NBTE) to ensure that the Institute's 474professional members are thrown out of employment.</p>	
7.	<p>36.07 ACCREDITATION OF SLT COURSES IN THE UNIVERSITY & POLYTECHNIC LEVELS</p>	<p>475The Chairman reported that the curriculum and accreditation requirements 476for universities and polytechnics have been presented to the National 477University Commission (NUC) and that of NBTE undergoing review. He 478reported further that the Institute's team (the Chairman, Vice-Chairman of 479Council, The Director-General/Registrar and representatives of the Federal 480Ministry of Science and Technology and Federal Ministry of Education) 481presented the curriculum to NUC. The Registrar promised to continue 482working on the implementation of the curriculum by NUC</p>	
8.	<p>36.08 HEADSHIP OF SLT PROGRAMME</p>	<p>483The Chairman said the Headship of the SLT Programme by professional 484members will be a gradual process due to the non-availability of 485adequately qualified and experienced manpower to head the faculties and 486departments in the Institutions where they exist. He mentioned that the 487University of Port-Harcourt in Rivers State has created SLT Faculty and has 488commenced a Master's Degree Programme in SLT and they are also 489working on starting a P.h.D. Programme in SLT with due consultation by the 490Institute. He said presently, the faculty is headed by a Medical Laboratory 491Science Technologist due to the dearth of sufficiently qualified SLT 492personnel to head the faculty. He reported that the university authority</p>	

		<p>⁴⁹³Was working gradually to ensure its SLT programme graduates are engaged ⁴⁹⁴in relevant programmes to equip them to take over the headship of the SLT ⁴⁹⁵faculty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ⁴⁴⁷Mr. S.O Emmanuel (NISLT, Ibadan) brought to the attention of the ⁴⁴⁸meeting, his inability to get admitted for an academic Master’s ⁴⁴⁹Degree programme at Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye, ⁴⁵⁰Ogun State despite the possession of an HND and PGD ⁴⁵¹certificates. He expressed worry that, this development could ⁴⁵²hinder his aspirations to undertake a P.HD. programme in the ⁴⁵³future. Because of his experience he suggested that the SLT ⁴⁵⁴programme should be discontinued at the polytechnic level. <p>⁴⁵⁶The Chairman responded by acknowledging that the issue of the ⁴⁵⁷Challenges faced by the HND holders is a general and national ⁴⁵⁸issue not peculiar to SLT alone and that the dichotomy between ⁴⁵⁹the B.Sc. and HND certificates has not been solved. He concluded ⁴⁶⁰by saying that the institute can only make suggestions to ⁴⁶¹Government on the issue.</p>	
9.	<p>36.04 PRESENTATION OF 2019 ANNUAL MANAGEMENT REPORT & ACCOUNTS</p>	<p>⁴⁶²The Registrar/CEO reported that the unusual circumstances caused by the ⁴⁶³Covid-19 pandemic and the ENDSARS protest/riots which both affected ⁴⁶⁴routine office and business activities all over the country caused ⁴⁶⁵unavoidable delays in obtaining the necessary inputs from the Office of the ⁴⁶⁶Honourable Minister of Science & Technology and the necessary vetting ⁴⁶⁷and approval by the Governing Council Committee on Finance before going ⁴⁶⁸to press for the printing and presentation at the Extra-Ordinary Annual ⁴⁶⁹General Meeting. He said based on the provision of the Act of the Institute, ⁴⁷⁰he was ready to present the Management Report and the institute’s ⁴⁷¹external Auditor was on standby to virtually present the 2019 Annual ⁴⁷²Audit Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ⁴⁷³Mr. Ebaddan C. Williams (Council Member, representing South- ⁴⁷⁴West) expressed his disappointment on the quality of print of the ⁴⁷⁵Management’s Report. He compared it with those of the three ⁴⁷⁶previous years. He said the document should have been in ⁴⁷⁷standard print for presentation at the EOAGM. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>478 Mr. Onyebuchi Urgoji (Council member representing Public 479 interest) in comment, said since the same Management of the 480 Institute, ensured a successful standardized printing of the Annual 481 Management and Audit Reports for the past three years as 482 referred to by Mr. Ebaddan, according to him the situation leading 483 to the inability to present the reports as done in previous years is 484 understandable, especially with the challenges posed by the 485 Covid-19 pandemic and ENDSARS protests/riots. He said that 486 the Registrar’s explanations were acceptable.</p> <p>487 The registrar explained that, going ahead to the press to print final 488 copies of the reports without going through the necessary due 489 process of vetting for errors would have resulted in wastage of 490 funds. However, he said if the Chairman Council Committee on 491 Finance gives his express approval, he will go-ahead to present 492 the reports.</p> <p>493 The chairman further explained the various challenges as reported 494 by the Registrar for the inability to produce a final copy of the 495 reports.</p> <p>496 Chairman Council Committee on Finance (Elder. Olu Ajayi 497 Michael) gave verbal approval on behalf of the Committee for the 498 presentation of the 2019 Managements Annual Reports at the 499 EOAGM,</p> <p>500 The Chairman, Governing Council directed the Registrar to ensure 501 the necessary corrections are done and approvals are obtained 502 from the Council’s Finance Committee before going to press and 503 then forward the final printed copy to all Stakeholders in the 504 meeting.</p> <p>505 Mr. Oguntunde Abayomi (Council member representing FMST) in 506 his comment, called on all stakeholders at the meeting to 507 understand the challenges that militated against the successful 508 presentation of the reports as done in the past years.</p> 	
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10.	ANY OTHER BUSSINESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ⁵¹⁴Mr. Oluwafisoye Peter (Director, Education, Training & ⁵¹⁵Inspection. NISLT) announced that the schedule for the Institute’s ⁵¹⁶2021 Training Programme was ready and shall be published on the ⁵¹⁷Institute’s website and hard copies would be forwarded to all ⁵¹⁸ASLTON state branches. He advised all members to avail ⁵¹⁹themselves of the opportunity to attend the training. He said that ⁵²⁰there are innovations and training aimed at addressing ⁵²¹entrepreneurship for members of the profession. He also ⁵²²expressed hope that the proposed Scheme of Service for ⁵²³Laboratory Technologists/ Scientists shall come to fruition in the ⁵²⁴nearest future. • ⁵²⁵Elder Olu Ajayi Micheal (Council member representing South- ⁵²⁶West), as the Chairman of the Governing Council Committee on ⁵²⁷Finance and General Purpose, he reported that the Committee ⁵²⁸has gone through the reports and is giving the Registrar the ⁵²⁹necessary approval to proceed with the printing of the final copy ⁵³⁰of the 2019 Annual Management and Audit Reports for ⁵³¹presentation to the stakeholders. • ⁵³²Mr. Damos S.N. (National President, ASLTON) said the Governing ⁵³³Council should work to ensure that SLT programmes at the ⁵³⁴Universities are converted to Faculties of SLT or School of SLT due ⁵³⁵to the wide options in the SLT professional programme. He also ⁵³⁶highlighted the need for the nstitute to connect with Unity and ⁵³⁷Secondary Schools in view of creating employment opportunities ⁵³⁸for graduates of SLT. He also expressed the appreciation of the ⁵³⁹ASLTON for being invited to the EOAGM and apologized for the ⁵⁴⁰inability of the Association to hold the 2020 Annual Scientific 	

		<p>541 Conference.</p> <p>542 The Chairman in his response said it was not the responsibility of 543 the Governing Council to make universities convert the SLT 544 programmes to Faculties or Schools. He informed him that all SLT 545 stakeholders in the universities should use their 546 positions/influence to advocate for the desired changes towards 547 making the SLT programmes metamorphose to Faculty or School 548 of SLT. He also talked about an approved document emanating 549 from the presentation of the Institute at the National Council of 550 Science and Technology, approved and adopted as a policy of the 551 Federal Government, directing the unity schools to employ at 552 least three (3) SLT graduates to work in the Laboratories. He said 553 lack of fund has been a major challenge in ensuring the Institute 554 ensures compliance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 555 Mr. Olalekan Ajiboye (virtual participant) complained of the 556 observed inconsistencies in the nomenclature of the certificates 557 awarded by the SLT Department of The Ibadan Polytechnic and 558 other polytechnics. He also requested for information on when 559 the new scheme of service for the Technologist will be released as 560 the Registrar had at various times said it was still at the press. <p>561 The Chairman in his response informed him that the issue of 562 differences in the nomenclature of the various certificates 563 awarded by various institutions offering SLT in the country was 564 highlighted during the lecture a day before and it has been 565 resolved that work should begin to harmonize the various 566 nomenclatures. On the Scheme of Service for Technologist, the 567 Chairman, said the issue has been overstretched and that the SLT 568 profession has a Scheme of Service already and the new one being 569 worked on by the Council of Establishments is an enhanced 570 Scheme of Service for the Technologists.</p>	
11.	35.06 ADJOURNMENT/ CLOSING	571 Adjournment/Closing 572 The Chairman appreciated all the stakeholders present and those that 573 participated virtually for their time and useful contributions. He assured	

	<p>574 them that all issues and concerns raised would be looked into. He wished 575 them journey mercies back to their various destinations.</p> <p>576 In the absence of any other business, Prince Y.M Gisilianbe moved the 577 motion for the adjournment of the meeting and it was supported by Mrs. 578 Awonuga Morounfolo A.M. The meeting came to a close at 1.14 pm with a 579 closing prayer offered by Mrs. Oladeji Bosede (Principal Technologist, 580 NISLT, Ibadan).</p> <p> C.A. Obaseki, FISLT Chairman of Council</p> <p> Y.H. Gbadegesin, FISLT DG/ Registrar/CEO</p>	
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