REPORT OF THE MEETING OF NISLT WITH TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS (UNIVERSITIES, POLYTECHNICS AND MONOTECHNICS) DEANS/HEADS OF DEPARTMENT (HODs) OFFERING SCIENCE LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY (SLT) ON MANDATORY PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION AND SLT PRACTICE IN NIGERIA

HELD BETWEEN 8TH AND 10TH JUNE 2023

AT
THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY (NISLT) NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, SAMONDA, IBADAN, OYO STATE

TABLE OF CONTENT

SUMMARY/COMMUNIQUÉ

At the end of a one (1)day meeting attended by Council Chairman, DG, Directors /Staff of the Institute, Dean, HODs and staff of some Universities/Polytechnics across the Country resolved and agreed as follows after serious and robust deliberations:

A. Institutions/Heads of Department, SLT, to ensure that :

i. Licensed Science Laboratory Technology personnel are recruited to mann science laboratories,

ii. Staff (Academics and Laboratory Personnel) in SLT department including the unbundled departments should have NISLT Annual license to practice (ALP).

iii. Employment of Non SLT graduates Staff into SLT department should henceforth be stopped.

iv. Institutions should collaborate with the Institute (NISLT) to ensure that the SLT students have adequate practical knowledge before graduation.

v. The coordination of students indexing should be handled by the HOD.

vi. That all institutions should maximize use of current and updated publications, manuals and training aids during teaching and practical classes.

vii. SLT laboratories should be well furnished with equipment and consumables.

viii. HODs should ensure standardize laboratory systems through certification and accreditation as enshrined in the NISLT Act

ix. The development of appropriate laboratory practical manual and SOPs are important for all institutions.

x. There should be good enabling environment (venue) for examinations inclusive of adequate equipment and chemicals/consumables.

xi. Departmental laboratories should be provided for practical aspect of MPEs

xii. That the SLT graduates from the Universities should ensure proper registration of their graduates as certified laboratory Scientist with the NISLT upon completion of MPEs as contained in the NUC CCMAS 2022.

xiii. That all institution causing problems for graduates of this programme in Polytechnic/College of Technology/Monotechnic should be sanctioned henceforth.

xiv. All Universities/Polytechnics where SLT is being offered should send all their SLT students/graduates to NISLT for indexing, Professional Examination and Registration as precursor for MPE

xv. Involvement of active and qualified members of NISLT for accreditation exercises and resource visitation by NBTE and NUC is very important.

xvi. There should be periodic meeting with NISLT on how to improve on SLT programme.

xvii. There should be synergy between Scientists/Technologists and the Lecturers on the effective implementation of SLT programme

NISLT: The Institute should;

i. Commence sales of application forms and release the modalities for the examinations without delay.

ii. All schools should be advised against the recruitment of non SLT to enhance professionalism as contained in the Presidential Executive Order Number 5.

iii. The council should ensure SLT professionals are fully involved in the NBTE/NUC accreditation of SLT programmes.

COMMUNIQUE DRAFTING COMMITTEE:

S/N	NAME	ADDRESS
1.	Dr Oshomoh Emmanuel Ola FELLOW (F.0097)	Head of Department, Department of Science Laboratory Technology, University of Benin, Edo State.
2.	Prof. Adekunle Sofolabo,	Dean, School of Science Laboratory Technology, Uniport
3.	Dr. Olubunmi Titi ATTAH ASSOCIATE (A 4936)	Dean, Science and Technology Federal Polytechnic Ede
4.	Peter Adefisoye OLUWAFISOYE FELLOW (F0222)	Director, Education, Training and Inspectorate, Nigerian Institute of Science Laboratory Technology (NISLT)
5.	Abiola OKUNLADE (Examination and Records)	Deputy Director (Statistics) Nigerian Institute of Science Laboratory Technology (NISLT)

INTRODUCTION

The Nigerian Institute of Science Laboratory Technology, a parastatal of Federal Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation organized meeting with Heads of Department on NISLT Professional Examination, Registration and SLT Practice between 8th and 10th June 2023 at NISLT HQ, Ibadan.

The meeting was attended by Deans/HODs of SLT from various Universities, Polytechnics and Monotechnic both physically and virtually Nationwide.

At the end of the meeting, the participants expressed their appreciation, warm reception and commended the Director General/Registrar/CEO and management of NISLT for organizing the meeting.

1. RUNNING OF SLT PROGRAMME IN VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS;

A. School/faculty of SLT.

a.   SLT is a professional Course therefore the NISLT Governing Council in accordance with the mandate (Advancing Science Laboratory Technology Profession) will henceforth sanction Institutions that refused to adhere strictly to the ACT 12, 2003 that established the Institute as well as the Section 2 of the Presidential Executive Order Number 5.

b.   Institution offering SLT and currently have at least four (4) options should commence the process of expanding the programme by creating School/Faculty of Science Laboratory Technology and each option become a stand-alone department.

I. Approved Universities and polytechnics

a.   **Universities offering SLT:** Only Fourteen (14) Universities are known to be offering Science Laboratory Technology Degree programme in Nigeria as shown below according to geopolitical zones.

GEOPOLITICAL ZONES		UNIVERSITIES
South-West	1.	Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomoso
	2.	Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti
	3.	Bamidele Olumiluwa University of Education, Science and Technology Ikere Ekiti
South-South	4.	Delta State University, Abraka
	5.	University of Benin, Benin City
	6.	University of Calabar, Calabar **(Commenced process of Approval)**
	7.	University of Port Harcourt, Port Harcourt
South-East	8.	Federal University of Technology, Owerri
	9.	University of Nigeria, Nsukka
North-Central	10.	Nasarawa State University Keffi
	11.	Federal University Lafia **(Commenced process of Approval)**

	12.	University of Jos, Jos
North-East	13.	Bauchi State University, Gadau, Bauchi
	14.	Modibbo Adama University, Yola

b. **Polytechnic/Monotechnic offering SLT:** The accreditation of SLT programme in Polytechnics and Monotechnics are jointly carried out between NBTE and NISLT the list of currently approved Polytechnics and Monotechnics can be seen on the NBTE website.

II. **SLT Degree Nomenclature:**

    i. The University Degree of SLT as proposed should be awarded as (Bachelor of Science Laboratory Technology (OPTION). E.g., BSLT (Physics with Electronics)

    ii. The Polytechnic/Monotechnic offering HND should award (HND SLT (Option)) E.g., HND SLT (Physics with Electronics)

    iii. The following options are currently approved for SLT programme:

S/N	UNIVERSITIES	POLYTECHNICS
1.	Biology Technology	Biological Sciences
2.	Biochemistry Technology	Biochemistry
3.	Chemistry Technology	Applied Chemistry
4.	Chemical/Petroleum Technology	Environmental Biology
5.	Geology/Mining Technology	-
6.	Microbiology/Biotechnology Technology	Microbiology
7.	Physics/Electronics Technology	Physics with Electronics
8.	Physics with Production Technology	-
9.	Physiology/Pharmacology Technology	-

    iv. **Nature of SLT Training:** Purely Professional. All institutions should hence forth desist from conducting alternative to practical for SLT students. Institutions should ensure that SLT students are adequately exposed to real practical in their various options before graduation.

    v. **Examination Centre:** Only approved and recognized Institution by NISLT Governing Body can apply for a centre for the NISLT professional Examination.

B. **SLT Departmental Headship:**

    i. SLT is a professional programme and as such it is expected that only NISLT professional**ly** qualified Academia should Head the Department of SLT.

    ii. In the main time all non-professional HODs are encouraged to do the needful to be properly registered with NISLT to enhance professionalism.

C. **Professionalism of SLT (Teaching and Science Laboratories' manning)**

    i. Professionalism of SLT should be emphasized at all levels.

    ii. SLT courses are to be taught by only qualified SLT professionals and the Science Laboratories should be manned by professionally certified personnel.

    iii. SLT trained and Registered Members of the Institute are to handle GLT courses (Instrument maintenance, Workshop Technology and Laboratory Organization

& Management among others) based on various options for professionalism

2. MODALITIES FOR MANDATORY PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS (MPE).

A. The modalities for the improved NISLT Mandatory Professional Examinations (MPE):

i.   The Mandatory Professional Examination (MPE) is divided into two (2) modules of four (4) papers with two (2) papers in each module.

ii.   Paper 1- Practical in chosen technique;

iii.   Paper 2- Theory in chosen technique;

iv.   Paper 3- General Laboratory Procedures, instrument maintenance and laboratory services; and

v.   Paper 4- Laboratory Organization and Management, application of ICT in the laboratory.

B. Eligibility for the Professional Examinations (MPE):

i.   Only candidates Studying/holding HND/BSc in SLT are eligible to write MPEs in the following techniques:

S/N	UNIVERSITIES	POLYTECHNICS
1.	Biology technique	Biological Sciences
2.	Biotechnology Technique	
3.	Biochemistry Technique	Biochemistry
4.	Chemistry Technique	Applied Chemistry
5.	Chemical/Petroleum Technique	Environmental Biology
6.	Geology/Mining Technique	-
7.	Microbiology Technique	Microbiology
8.	Physics/Electronics Technique	Physics with Electronics
9.	Physics with Production Technique	-
10.	Physiology/Pharmacology Technique	-

ii.   Diaspora Candidates who studied SLT will be considered based on the points above.

C. CURRICULUM

- The NISLT Governing Council approved Curriculum will be used:
  - Download on the institute website: www.nislt.gov.ng
  - Scroll to information,
  - Click on Download
  - https://nislt.gov.ng/down/g33.pdf (NISLT Professional Examination Hand book)

D. Candidates (External and Internal)
External Candidates: SLT graduates from approved Polytechnics and Universities.
Internal Candidates: Current SLT students in approved Polytechnics and Universities.

3. DATES AND APPLICATION OF 2023 MPE
A. MODULE I

- Profiling/Indexing (May – 31st July 2023) (INTERNAL STUDENTS)
- Application form are to be filled through HODs: 1st – 30th August 2023.
- Online Registration (AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2023)
- Examination (9th – 13th October 2023)
- Joint marking at the Institute HQ
- Result to Be Released after marking, compilation and consideration by the NISLT Governing Council.
- Application form Sales: N5,000
- Authentication and Verification of Students/Certificates: N10,000
- Course fees and Examination: Paper One: N20,000
  Paper Two: N20,000
- Re-sit of Examination: (N10,000 per paper)
- Any candidate that failed two papers will reregister for the Examination

B. MODULE II

- Examination (4th – 9th December 2023)
- Course fees and Examination: Paper Three: N20,000
  Paper Four: N20,000

C. Personnel for the Examination (Institution):
  i. Management Staff,
  ii. HOD, Coordinator(s),
  iii. Registered Members of the Institute,
  iv. ICT staff, and
  v. Mechanic/Generator Operator.

D. Personnel for the Examination (NISLT):
  i. Council Reps,
  ii. Institute's staff,
  iii. Examiners and
  iv. Management staff

4. CONDITION FOR SELECTION OF A CENTER FOR MPE EXAMINATION
  1. Application letter from requesting Institution
  2. NISLT SLT Accredited institution
  3. Number of Candidates of Examination shall not be less than 150.
  4. Available Laboratory facility.
  5. Availability of Qualified and Current laboratory Technologists/Scientists registered with NISLT.
  6. Availability of CBT center with minimum of 150 functional computers, Internet and power supply for MODULE II Examination.

5. APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Eligibility criteria for the MPE
- ❖ External Candidates
    - Graduates of SLT from NISLT Accredited Institution.
- ❖ Internal Candidates
    - A current student of SLT in an Accredited Institution
    - Must be in 400L or 500L for University Students
    - HND I or HND II for Polytechnic Students
    - Must have being profiled as student of SLT by the Institution
    - Candidates must pass all papers in Module I to be eligible to register for Module II.
    - Candidates must pass the two modules to be registered as a professional Member

How to Apply
1. **External Candidates - These are graduates of SLT from accredited Universities and Polytechnics. They are expected to apply directly on the NISLT portal through the url:** https://nislt.gov.ng/mpeeligibility.php
2. Internal Candidates - **These are students of SLT from accredited Universities and Polytechnics. They are to apply through their Institutions, i.e. the respective HODs will present them for the examinations. They cannot apply directly to the Institute.**

Stages for the Application
- Student Profiling (only Eligible Students)
- Registration for MPE
- Registration for Examination
- Induction and Registration for professional Membership

Students Profiling/Enrolment
- ➢ Student Profiling
    - ○ The HOD is expected to submit the list of all eligible students (400L & 500L for Universities and HND I & II for Polytechnics)
    - ○ The list should be in Excel file format following the template already provided NISLT
    - ○ Ensure the details are correct before sending to the Institute. NISLT shall not bear the consequence of any error
    - ○ Only profiled students can register and write the MPE
    - ○ Each profiled student will be assigned a reference number

Application Procedures:
- ○ A softcopy of the profiled students with their reference numbers in MS Excel will be sent to each Institution. These are the only SLT students that can write the examination from the school.
- ○ Each Institution will compile the list of interested candidates for the MPE (after payment of stipulated fees) and send same to NISLT in the approved format with proof of payment.
- ○ List must contain the full names of the students, area of specialization and Reference Numbers assigned to each student.
- ○ The students will be enrolled and their list will be sent to the school containing their Reference Numbers

REGISTRATION FOR MPE

- Each enrolled student will be required to login and fill their MPE forms here with assigned Ref No. https://nislt.gov.ng/mpeeligibilitycontinue.php
- Completed forms will be submitted for processing
- NISLT will process the forms and approve individual student
- MPE numbers will be issued for approved students which will be in this format: MPE/yearofreg/xxxxx. Ex MPE/2023/00012
- The list of registered students with their MPE numbers will be forwarded to the Institutions.
- Students who fail to complete the forms online will not be able to write the exams even they pay for it.
- Once the registration is approved, the student will receive a mail to indicate that the registration has being approved, the MPE number and the login details.
- The student can then login to access his or her portal using this url: https://www.nislt.gov.ng/mpelogin.php
- It can also be accessed by selecting the Professional Examination menu on the website and then clicking "Login to MPE Portal"
- Examinations will be scheduled in diets. Each diet may contain Module I, Resit I, Module II, Resit II.
- Institutions will submit list of their students who have paid for any Module of the examination namely Module I, Resit I, Module II, Resit II. The list of candidates will be in MS Excel format with the student's name, area of specialization and MPE number.
- It is expected that students will write Module I at 400L and HND I and then Module II at 500L and HND II
- However, those that are presently in 500L may have to write both Module I & II before they graduate.
- The details of students registered for each module will be sent in each MS Excel file or in a separate MS Excel Worksheet
- Only those approved and assigned MPE number can be registered for any Exam
- The Institute will upload the list of those registered for the exams accordingly
- Once that is done, the candidates will be able to view the registered exams on their individual portals.
- Candidates must pass **ALL** papers in Module I to be qualified to register for Module II
- No candidate will be allowed to write any module and Resit at same time.
- If a candidate fails one paper, he or she will Resit that paper. If the candidate fails the 2 papers in a module, he or she will **RE-REGISTER** for the module.
- A candidate will RE-REGISTER for any module if he or she fails to write the exams. It simply means the money paid for the exam will be forfeited
- If a student's graduates from the school without passing all the modules, he or she would return to the school to be registered for any pending module or Resit examination. Alternatively, the candidate will forfeit the already written and money paid and registers afresh as an external candidate.

MPE Candidate's Portal

- All registered students (those who have completed the form and their forms approved by the Institute) will be able to login to their portals with their username and password
- Candidates can use this link to login into their portals: https://nislt.gov.ng/mpelogin.php
- Once result is released, mails will be sent to all who registered for the examination to check their results on their portal. The candidates will also be able to view the exam they registered for on the portal.
- Candidates can change their password from their portal

- After passing the two (2) modules, candidates can then register as members of the Institute from their portals

SELECTED EXAMINATION CENTERS

S/N	STATES	PROPOSED CENTRE/LOCATION
2.	1. Adamawa 2. Borno 3. Taraba 4. Yobe	**Modibbo Adama University of Technology, Yola.**
3.	1. Bauchi 2. Gombe 3. Plateau	**University of Jos, Plateau State.**
4.	1. Kebbi 2. Sokoto 3. Zamfara	**Fed Poly Kamora Namoda**
5.	1. Abuja 2. Niger 3. Kaduna 4. Nasarawa	**Nasarawa State University**
6.	1. Kwara	**Federal Polytechnic, Offa.**
7.	1. Jigawa 2. Kano 3. Kastina	**Kano State University of Science and Technology, Wudil, Kano State. And Kano State Polytechnic Kano**
8.	1. Benue 2. Kogi	**Federal Polytechnic, Ugbokolo.**
9.	1. Ekiti 2. Ondo	**Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti.**
10.	1. Oyo	**LAUTECH and NISLT HQ**
11.	1. Osun	**Federal Polytechnic, Ede.**
12.	1. Lagos 2. Ogun	**Federal Polytechnic, Ilaro**
13.	1. Enugu 2. Ebonyi	**University of Nigeria, Nsukka.**
14.	1. Abia 2. Anambra 3. Imo	**Federal University of Technology, Owerri**
15.	1. Edo	**University of Benin.**
16.	1. Delta	**Delta State University, Abraka.**
17.	1. Bayelsa 2. Rivers	**University of Port Harcourt**
18.	1. Akwa Ibom 2. Cross Rivers	**Akwa Ibom Polytechnic**
19.	Professional Examination for Diaspora candidates and Qualifying Examination and others	**Special center (NISLT HQ)**

RECOMMENDATIONS

At the end of a one (1)day meeting attended by Council Chairman, DG, Directors /Staff of the Institute, Dean, HODs and staff of some Universities/Polytechnics across the Country resolved and agreed as follows after serious and robust deliberations:

B. Institutions/Heads of Department, SLT, to ensure that :
   i.   Licensed Science Laboratory Technology personnel are recruited to mann science laboratories,
   ii.   Staff (Academics and Laboratory Personnel) in SLT department including the unbundled departments should have NISLT Annual license to practice (ALP).
   iii.   Employment of Non SLT graduates Staff into SLT department should henceforth be stopped.
   iv.   Institutions should collaborate with the Institute (NISLT) to ensure that the SLT students have adequate practical knowledge before graduation.
   v.   The coordination of students indexing should be handled by the HOD.
   vi.   That all institutions should maximize use of current and updated publications, manuals and training aids during teaching and practical classes.
   vii.   SLT laboratories should be well furnished with equipment and consumables.
   viii. HODs should ensure standardize laboratory systems through certification and accreditation as enshrined in the NISLT Act
   ix.   The development of appropriate laboratory practical manual and SOPs are important for all institutions.
   x.   There should be good enabling environment (venue) for examinations inclusive of adequate equipment and chemicals/consumables.
   xi.   Departmental laboratories should be provided for practical aspect of MPEs
   xii.   That the SLT graduates from the Universities should ensure proper registration of their graduates as certified laboratory Scientist with the NISLT upon completion of MPEs as contained in the NUC CCMAS 2022.
   xiii. That all institution causing problems for graduates of this programme in Polytechnic/College of Technology/Monotechnic should be sanctioned henceforth.
   xiv.   All Universities/Polytechnics where SLT is being offered should send all their SLT students/graduates to NISLT for indexing, Professional Examination and Registration as precursor for MPE
   xv.   Involvement of active and qualified members of NISLT for accreditation exercises and resource visitation by NBTE and NUC is very important.
   xvi.   There should be periodic meeting with NISLT on how to improve on SLT programme.
   xvii. There should be synergy between Scientists/Technologists and the Lecturers on the effective implementation of SLT programme

NISLT: The Institute should;
   i.   Commence sales of application forms and release the modalities for the examinations without delay.
   ii.   All schools should be advised against the recruitment of non SLT to enhance professionalism as contained in the Presidential Executive Order Number 5.
   iii.   The council should ensure SLT professionals are fully involved in the NBTE/NUC accreditation of SLT program.