

FOBTOB CELEBRATES 45TH ANNIVERSARY

The Food, Beverage & Tobacco Senior Staff Association celebrated her forty-fifth anniversary on Wednesday 16th August 2023, at the Lagos Airport Hotel, Ikeja Lagos. An Award ceremony and symposium were part of the festivities. The memorable event was attended by important dignitaries including Former President, Comrade Dele Olowogoroye (1984-1985), former Executive Secretary, Barr. Sola Iji, as well as officials of member companies too numerous to mention.



The National President, General Secretary and dignitaries



The National President and National Executive Council members



The National President and Women wing



The Central Working Committee Members



National President and Branch Secretaries



The National President and Secretariat Staff

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

In his opening speech during the 45th Anniversary Symposium, the President of FOBTOB, Comrade Jimoh Oyibo emphasized on the urgent need for the Federal Government to address the foreign exchange challenges in order to prevent the food and beverage sector from imminent collapse.



Comrade Jimoh Oyibo during his address

He also highlighted the dangerous threat to food security as being presently experienced due to the incessant invasion of farmlands by herdsmen nationwide.

Comrade Oyibo hinged his warning on the inherent danger capable of plunging the nation into food crisis if the attacks on farmers and their produce by terrorists were not urgently addressed by the Federal and State governments.

He further stated that the heavy taxation imposed by bandits parading themselves as herdsmen on farmers before they can access their farmlands, as well as the increasing trend of farmers having to provide their own security at an exorbitant cost by hiring security guards to protect their farmlands, would have a negative impact on ensuring sufficient food supply across the country.

"Since we rely on produce from our local farmers, heavy taxation being forced on farmers by herdsmen in order to access their farmlands and some farmers now securing their farmlands with hired security guards will contribute to the food insufficiency across the country", he declared.

"FOBTOB PLAYS INTEGRAL ROLE IN SHAPING OUR INDUSTRY"- IDL MANAGING DIRECTOR/CEO, CHIEF PATRICK ANEGBE

In his own speech, The Managing Director of Intercontinental Distillers Limited and the Chairman of the FOBTOB 45th Anniversary, Chief (Engr) Patrick Anegebe



Chief Patrick Anegebe

acknowledged the pivotal role that the Food Beverage and Tobacco Senior Staff Association (FOBTOB) plays in shaping the food, beverage and tobacco industry in the last 45 years. He said that the Association's tireless advocacy for its members rights, fostering a collaborative environment and promoting fairness and equity within the sector is commendable.

Chief Anegebe also recognised the strong partnership between the Employers and the Union, a situation which contributed immensely to the harmonious working relationship which exists to date. He said "This collaboration has allowed the industry to thrive and succeed. The union members, on their part, have demonstrated dedication



Comrade Solomon Adebosin
(General Secretary)

FOBTOB

Bulletin

Monthly Newsletter

August 2023

• Issue No. 14

and commitment, and thus making invaluable contributions to the growth and prosperity of their respective companies. Their hard work and expertise have been vital in ensuring the recurring success of the business.”

Chief Anegebe expressed his profound gratitude to the entire members of FOBTOB for their unwavering commitment to excellence. He said that looking ahead, as the industry continues to evolve, all stakeholders should continue to nurture the collaboration, good communication, and understanding. “By working together, sharing knowledge and expertise, they can overcome any challenges that may arise”, Anegebe added. He concluded by emphasising the importance of building on past successes and forging a path of growth and prosperity for the industry and its employees, who are the backbones of the companies.

HISTORY OF FOBTOB BY THE GENERAL SECRETARY



The Association known as Food Beverage Tobacco Senior Staff Association was formally registered on August 15th, 1978, to organize qualified senior staff workers for membership, advancing their education, and providing benefits and assistance as outlined in the constitution.

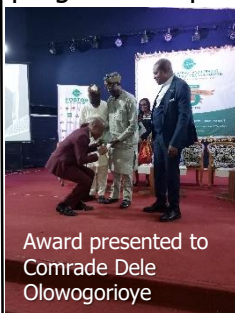
The General Secretary, shared that this great Association’s journey began in 1977 when the Federal Government reorganized trade unions into industrial unions. Comrade Ralph Alabi, the First President, created the first FOBTOB logo and the payoff line quote; Towards Better Living. Meanwhile, the Treasurer, Mrs. Elizabeth Wyse, coined the acronym FOBTOB, which is still in use today. The Association has experienced significant growth, expanding to forty-eight branches with over seven thousand members. He listed the past Presidents of our Association thus:

- Comrade Ralph Alabi Guinness Nigeria Limited (1978-1980)
- Comrade J. A Iledare Nigeria Brewery Limited (1980-1984)

- Comrade Dele Olowogoroye Cadbury Nigeria Limited (1984-1985)
 - Comrade Wole Olusanya Flour Mills Nigeria Limited (1985-1990)
 - Comrade Emeka Chinweze West Africa Milk Co Plc (1990-1994)
 - Bayo Abioye Nigerian Breweries Plc (1994-1998)
 - Comrade Charles Ighalo Seven-Up Nig Plc (1998-2002)
 - Comrade Gabriel T Babalola Cadbury Nigeria PLC (2002-2009)
 - Comrade Tunde Abdulrahman (mni) Nigeria Bottling Company Limited (2009-2015)
 - Comrade Quadri Olaleye Nestle Nigeria Plc (2015-2021)
- The past Secretaries were also mentioned. They are:
- Comrade Joseph Oqua Ansa (1978-1979)
 - Mr C.O Aiyegbusi (1980-1984)
 - Comrade Sola Iji (1984-2003)
 - Comrade Ade Ola-Joseph (2003-2015)
 - Comrade Solomon Iji (2016-2019)

EXCELLENT SERVICE AWARD

Selected Management of member-companies, Branch leadership, National Secretariat Staff, and other deserving members of the public received “Excellence Service Awards” during the FOBTOB 45th Anniversary Celebration for their distinctive performance and partnership in ensuring the progress and prosperity of the Association.



Award presented to Comrade Dele Olowogoroye



Award presented to Barrister Shola Iji



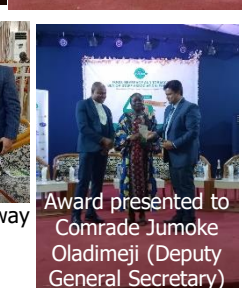
Award presented to Mr Owei Lakenfa



Award presented to Nigerian Bottling Company Branch



Award presented to Cway Branch.



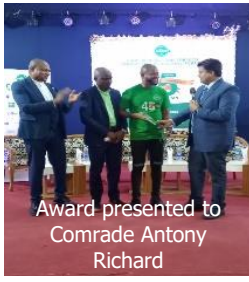
Award presented to Comrade Jumoke Oladimeji (Deputy General Secretary)



Award presented to Comrade John Idebogie on behalf of



Award presented to Comrade Peter Iyeye Deputy General Secretary



Award presented to Comrade Antony Richard

ANNIVERSARY WORKSHOP (ENFORCING WORKERS' RIGHT IN NIGERIA) BY MR ANDY EGBOH

It is important to remember that human rights are inherent and should be respected for all individuals, regardless of their race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status. As a Director from the Federal Ministry of Labour, Mr. Andy Egboh noted that these rights include the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and many more. However, Mr. Andy while not seeming to disagree with the United Nation's notion of 'Fight for your rice before your rights' pointed out that workers should not allow themselves to be dehumanized just for food, adding that it is unacceptable for workers to accept servitude or the loss of their right to association, socio-political rights, and safety at work just to hold onto their jobs. Furthermore, he posited that it is important to note that Nigerian workers have the right to freely assemble, as this is clearly stated in Section 40 of the Constitution. Any abridgment of this right is unlawful and illegal, and employers should not be allowed to ban workers from forming or joining unions with reckless abandon. He opined that even though these illegal and unconstitutional practices are rampant; the Labour Ministry has not taken any action to enforce the Constitution and Labour laws. In fact, some employers freely belong to their employer unions while denying their employees the same right. It is on this premise that the Labour Director is advocating for the deregulation of labour and removing it from the exclusive list in the Constitution. Continuing, he said this is an outdated quest from colonial times when minimum labour standards were rejected in favour of allowing



Mr Andy Egboh

NATION-WIDE PROTEST

On Wednesday 2nd August 2023, there was a nationwide protest held by the Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) and the Trade Union Congress of Nigeria (TUC). Our Association the Food Beverage and Tobacco Senior Staff Association (FOBTOB), being part of TUC Affiliates participated in the mass protest, against the Federal Government's unilateral decision to remove fuel subsidy without providing palliatives to cushion the effect in return.

The Organized Labour said that while it is not averse to petroleum subsidy removal, it insisted on the upward review of the minimum wage to Two Hundred Thousand Naira (N200,000), not minding any additional planned palliatives for Nigerians before the protest can be called off. The Labour leaders present at the rally expressed their grievances over the worsening social and economic conditions in the Country due to the fuel subsidy removal. The protest was led by the Organized Labour Union leaders in all the States of the federation, Lagos inclusive while the Presidents of Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) and Trade Union Congress of Nigeria (TUC) met with President Bola Tinubu at the Government House in Abuja on the same day. They were also scheduled to meet with the National Assembly Leadership on Thursday 3rd August 2023 after their emergency National Executives Council meeting.



Protest held in Lagos

NOBLE PRIZE CERTIFICATE

On Thursday 3rd August 2023, the ADVOCATES FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE IN NIGERIA (AFGGN) honored Comrade Jimoh Oyibo, National President, FOBTOB with a prestigious award of noble recognition. This esteemed accolade acknowledges his remarkable efforts as a VANGUARD OF SOCIETAL TRANSFORMATION IN NIGERIA. Comrade Oyibo's dedication and unwavering commitment to advancing societal excellence, fostering capital development, promoting humanitarian endeavors, and demonstrating outstanding service to God, humanity, and Africa at large have earned him this well-deserved recognition. Congratulations to the Federation of Bright Talents and Outstanding Brains (FOBTOB) for their relentless pursuit of sustainable development through societal transformation, effective service delivery, and other numerous commendable achievements.



Award received on behalf of the National President.

FAMILIARISATION VISIT

The Management of FrieslandCampina (WAMCO) visited the National Secretariat on Tuesday 8th August 2023.



FOBTOB Executives and Friesland Campina Management

CENTRAL WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING

The Central Working Committee meeting was held on 14th August 2023 at the Lagos Airport hotel Ikeja Lagos



Central Working Committee Members

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

The National Executive Council meeting was held on 15th August 2023 at the Lagos Airport Hotel Ikeja Lagos.



SPECIAL DELEGATES CONFERENCE

The Constitution of our Association was reviewed and amended on 17th August 2023 at the Lagos Airport Hotel Ikeja Lagos.



Selected pictures of Comrades in attendance

OLAM SANYO BRANCH ELECTION

Olam Sanyo Foods Limited Branch, held her election on 30th August 2023. The election was held at the Company premises in Lagos.



National representatives and elected Executives



FOBTOB

Bulletin

Monthly Newsletter

August 2023

• Issue No. 14

TRADE UNION CONGRESS TRAINING

The Trade Union Congress of Nigeria Lagos State Council held their 2023 Annual Training from 30th-31st August 2023 at Ikeja Lagos. The training was themed **21ST CENTURY TRADE UNIONISM: LAWS, CONVENTIONS AND INTERNATIONAL BEST PRACTICES**. Comrades from our Association benefitted from the training.



A picture of Comrades in attendance

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

During the National Executive Council meeting, our National Treasurer Comrade Bunmi Adesanya was celebrated at the event. Congratulations Ma!



Comrades celebrated with the celebrant.

National Treasurer Comrade Bunmi Adesanya

FEDERAL MORTGAGE BANK PRESENTATION

During the National Executive Council meeting, the representative of Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria Joseph Osabediyi, and his team members enlightened the Comrades in attendance about NHF and how workers can benefit under the affordable housing scheme of FGN



Mr Joseph Osabediyi

COURTESY VISIT

The Central Working Committee Members of our Association visited the Managing Director of Intercontinental Distillers Limited, Chief Patrick Anegebe on Tuesday 29th August 2023. The visitation was to appreciate him for honouring the invitation of the recently held 45th Anniversary Symposium as the

Chairperson of the occasion. Chief Patrick Anegebe noted that *"FOBTOB is a partner in progress and an organisation with knowledgeable people who understand industrialisation. Countlessly, they have been humbly helpful to the industry at large"*.



Comrade Jimoh Oyibo & Chief Patrick Anegebe



Chief Patrick Anegebe & FOBTOB Executives

UPCOMING PROGRAMME



FOOD, BEVERAGE AND TOBACCO SENIOR STAFF ASSOCIATION (FOBTOB)
An Affiliate of Trade Union Congress of Nigeria (TUCN)



IN CONJUNCTION WITH
FRIEDRICH EBERT STIFTUNG

WELCOMES YOU ALL TO THE

INAUGURAL FOBTOB WOMEN CONFERENCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP

CONCEPTUALISING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV) AS AN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ISSUE: A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO UNDERSTANDING CAUSES AND ERADICATION IN NIGERIA'S FOOD, BEVERAGE AND TOBACCO SECTOR

Date: Thursday 21st – Friday 22nd September, 2023

Time: 9:00am Prompt Each Day

Venue: Mitros Residences, Ibara Housing Estate, Along Abeokuta Sport Club Road, Opposite FRSC Office, Abeokuta, Ogun State.

FOBTOB... TOWARDS BETTER LIVING

SOLIDARITY FOREVER!

“There’s no magic **formula** for great **company culture**. The key is just to **treat your staff** how you would like to be treated.”

- Sir Richard Branson -

