

REGISTRAR'S NEW YEAR (2012) MESSAGE TO ALL STAFF

Beloved colleagues,

It is with a heart full of joy that I extend warm greetings and felicitations to you all as I welcome all of you into the New Year 2012. I thank God on behalf of all of us, for seeing us through 2011 and granting unto us the grace of life, good health, protection, provision, and favour on all fronts. I pray that we will, individually and collectively, enjoy more from the abundance of His grace in 2012 and beyond.

Let me use this occasion to congratulate you all on the modest achievements and successes which we recorded in 2011. We committed ourselves to the accomplishment of the Council's mission of developing and maintaining internationally accepted procedures in examinations. We strove for the highest standards in the application of ICT to the various processes in the conduct of the Council's business. We brought all offices of the Council to a comparable level of ICT deployment to service delivery, especially in the areas of registration of candidates for our examinations, processing of examination results and payment of examiners' claims. In all offices, with no exception, the registration of candidates for the Council's examinations was done electronically. The capturing of candidates' scores electronically at the marking venue commenced in some of the offices. So did the e-payment of examiners' claims for the marking of candidates' scripts. We reduced the period of processing candidates' results drastically and the results were released ahead of schedule - the results of the May/June 2011 WASSCE were released in August and those of November/December 2011 before Christmas in all offices. The acquisition of necessary equipment/infrastructure was aggressively pursued and complemented with deliberate efforts at building the capacity of our workforce to meet the challenges that come with the deployment of technology to service delivery. The icing on the cake was our conducting all the Council's examinations - national and international, May/June and November/December - without any reported case of leakage. We made very significant progress towards clearing the backlog of unprinted certificates in the various offices. All these and more have been made possible by your determined efforts crowned with divine blessing.

I therefore want to place on record my most sincere appreciation of your loyalty and firm commitment to the core values of the Council in the discharge of your responsibilities in 2011. I can only hope and pray that in 2012 and beyond, you will not only keep up the good work but also strive to do even better.

I am sure you will want it acknowledged that as ways of facilitating better service delivery and fostering greater industrial harmony, Management in all the offices showed commitment, in various ways, to enhancing staff welfare and improving the work environment in 2011. I am confident that there shall be a relentless pursuit of programmes that will further enhance the welfare of staff in all offices in 2012.

I must let you know that Council, at its 59th Meeting in March 2011, decided that as part of the process of collective midwifery of the *5-Year Strategic Plan* by relevant stakeholders, the Plan should be remitted to the National Committees so that it could enjoy their ownership and sponsorship. The decision has been complied with and we are hoping that after going the rounds, the Plan would receive the blessings of the National Committees and the approval of Council. I am confident that the successful implementation of the Plan, when finally approved, will place WAEC light years ahead of its competitors.

Colleagues all, we must not expect that the year 2012 will be without its own challenges. We must indeed anticipate challenges that will arise in the normal course of our deploying new and more efficient strategies in the execution of the Council's mandate. We must also envisage that socio-economic happenings and developments in the Member Countries and around the world may foist some sundry challenges on us. I therefore urge you all to hold yourselves in readiness for these challenges and be resolute in your determination to surmount them all. I believe **WE CAN** and I am confident **WE WILL**.

I must at this juncture remind you that I assumed office as the eleventh Registrar to Council on October 1, 2007. By the Council's Convention, the Registrar is appointed for a five-year term that is renewable for another term not exceeding two years. I have, at every opportune forum these past four years, made it clear that I would **not**, for any reason whatsoever, seek a renewal or extension of my five-year term. It is therefore, with great delight and unqualified gratitude to the Almighty Allah that I use this opportunity to formally inform you that my five-year tenure as Registrar shall end on September 30, 2012 when, by God's grace, I will hand over the mantle of leadership to my successor. This New Year Message to you shall, as such, be my last as Registrar to Council.

Permit me therefore to place on record my sincere appreciation of your individual and collective support and cooperation which have contributed in no small measure to the modest successes and achievements that have been recorded in my tenure. My only wish is that you keep the flag of WAEC flying higher and higher and higher as I am confident

that you will extend to my successor in office the support and cooperation which I enjoyed from you all.

In a similar vein, the three-year tenure of the sixteenth Chairman of Council, Prof. J. A. S. Redwood-Sawyer will end with the 60th Annual Council Meeting in March 2012. On behalf of the Secretariat and the entire staff of the Council, I wish Prof. Redwood-Sawyer divine blessings in his future endeavours.

Beloved colleagues, I commend you all to the unfailing care of God, the Almighty as I pray that the year 2012 will be a year of unprecedented uplift for our great organization and for each and every one of us as well.

I wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

SIGNED

ALHAJA (MRS.) MULIKAT A. BELLO

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