



The Nigerian Society of Engineers

# A Society That Desires Development Cannot Take Engineers for Granted - SGF

2025 e-Newsletter Vol.003

Thursday, January 30, 2025



President of the Nigerian Society of Engineers, Engr. Margaret Aina Oguntala, FNSE, presenting a plaque to the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF), His Excellency, Senator Geroge Akume, CON

Abuja – Thursday, January 30, 2024

The Federal Government has reaffirmed its commitment to collaborate with the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) to drive engineering infrastructure development and technological advancement in Nigeria. This declaration was made by the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF), His Excellency, Senator Geroge Akume, CON, during the official visit to his office by the President of NSE, Engr. Margaret Aina Oguntala, FNSE, on Thursday, January 30, 2024.

During the meeting, the NSE President presented NSE's request for full sponsorship of its proposed Innovation Hub, which is designed as a technology incubation and product development

centre. This initiative aims to adapt existing technologies and research projects under an academia-industry project exchange framework to produce commercially viable products. She explained that the Innovation Hub is modelled after Taiwan's transformation into a semiconductor powerhouse, emphasising the role of policy backing and financial support from the government in achieving this vision.

The NSE President also took the opportunity to advocate for the long-standing request for the institution of an Engineering Salary Scale or an Enhanced Entry Point for Engineers in public service, proposing that Engineers' Entry Point should not be less than Grade Level 10. She urged the SGF to take a decisive action on this matter to enhance the morale and boost the productivity of Engineers across the country.

Additionally, Engr. Oguntala raised concerns about the appointment of non-Engineers into engineering positions in agencies such as the River Basins Development Authorities (RBDAs). She called for corrective measures to ensure that only qualified Engineers are appointed to such roles, which are crucial to national development.

Another key request from NSE was for the SGF to facilitate a courtesy visit by NSE to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, to discuss NSE's role in Nigeria's infrastructure revolution. The NSE President emphasised NSE's capacity to provide expert guidance on national engineering and technological policies, as well as offer strategic advice on efficient resource allocation for sustainable national development.

In response, Senator Akume first congratulated the NSE President for the feat of becoming the first female President of the Society with a history of over three decades, describing it as a remarkable achievement. Sen. Akume assured Engr. Oguntala that the Federal Government is fully committed to working closely with NSE to drive national development. He acknowledged the importance of engineering and technology in advancing the country's economic and infrastructural landscape.



*“A society that wants to develop cannot take for granted the inputs of Engineers. I have travelled a lot and have seen the works of Engineering. Engineers in Nigeria are also good innovators and we are proud of your achievements. I encourage you to continue pushing for the professional development and welfare of your members. I have some seasoned technocrats here with me, including the Permanent Secretary, Ecological Fund and the Director, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation and we have listened carefully to your requests. We will do what we can to support your initiatives”,* the SGF further said.



Group Photograph