



JULY – SEPTEMBER
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COPYRIGHT MATTERS

A NEWSLETTER OF THE NIGERIAN COPYRIGHT COMMISSION



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Federal Government Poised to Reform Copyright System, Presents Bill for New Copyright Act

THE Federal Government has kick-started the process for the first major reform of the nation's copyright system in over three decades.

This followed the transmission of the Copyright (Repeal) Bill as approved by the Federal Executive Council to the National Assembly for enactment into law.

Director-General of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein, who disclosed this in a statement issued in Abuja today, stated that the new Bill, which aimed at overhauling the copyright system in Nigeria, sought to, among others, strengthen the enforcement mechanism for copyright violations through stiffer penal sanctions and more effective procedures better suited to the digital environment.

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Copyright Commission Arrests 3 Book Pirates, Impounds Infringing Materials Worth N10m in Lagos

THREE suspected copyright pirates engaged in illicit printing of school books have been arrested by the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) during an antipiracy operation at the weekend in Lagos.

The Commission confiscated ten thousand (10,000) copies of printed materials at different stages of production, estimated at over N10 million Naira, during the raid carried out by Copyright Inspectors at printing outlets in Ikate, Surulere, Lagos State on Friday, 17 September 2021. The materials seized included printing plates, book covers, inner texts belonging to different authors and publishers.

The suspects, Miss Elizabeth Alomilewe, Mr. Angus Umeh and Mr. Nchekwube Obi, were arrested on the premises for contravening the provisions of the Copyright Act.

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On display are some of the suspected pirated books impounded by officers of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) in Ikate, Surulere, Lagos State on 17th September 2021.

NCC, NPA, Ariaria Booksellers Sign MoU against Book Piracy

DIRECTOR-GENERAL, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein, has assured stakeholders in the book industry of the Commission's continued commitment to antipiracy measures to facilitate creation of safe corridors for stakeholders in the creative sector to enable right owners reap dividends of their intellectual property (IP).

The Director-General disclosed this during the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the NCC, Nigerian Publishers Association (NPA) and Booksellers Association of the Ariaria International Market, Aba, at the Abia State Capital, Umuahia on 22nd September 2021.

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Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Trade and Investment, Abia State, Chief Sir Michael Egwu (M) witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Nigerian Publishers Association (NPA) and Booksellers Association, Ariaria International Market, Aba, in Umuahia, Abia State on September 22, 2021. Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (R) signs for the Commission; Chairman, Books and Stationeries Section, Mr. Uchenna Echetam (L) represents the Chairman, Booksellers Association, Ariaria International Market, Aba; while the NCC State Coordinator, Owerri Office, Mr. Michael O. Madueke, watches.

NCC Arrests 4, Impounds Pirated Books Worth N5M

THE Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) has arrested four piracy suspects and impounded 2,500 copies of pirated textbooks worth five million Naira, belonging to various authors and publishers. The seizures and arrests were made during an anti-piracy raid carried out by operatives of the Commission at different bookshops in Yaba area of Lagos State on Thursday, 23rd September 2021.

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Operatives of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) inspecting books at a bookshop during the raid executed at Yaba books market, Lagos on 23 September 2021.

NCC Impounds Pirated Books, Arrests 3 Suspects in Suleja

OPERATIVES of the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), backed by armed Police Officers, have arrested three suspected pirates and impounded 250 pirated copies of the Holy Bible and different titles of textbooks.

The seizures estimated at one million, five hundred thousand Naira (N1,500,000), were made by the Copyright Inspectors during a recent anti-piracy operation carried out at One Way Road, Suleja Market in Niger State.

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Some of the suspected pirated books confiscated by operatives of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) at One Way Road, Suleja Market, Niger State.

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School Proprietors Patronising Pirated Books to be Prosecuted - NCC DG

SCHOOL proprietors who are found distributing or patronising pirated books would, henceforth, be arrested and prosecuted, Director-General, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein, has cautioned.

Dr. Asein gave this warning while speaking on Brekete Family Reality Talk Magazine Programme during a copyright advocacy visit to Human Rights Radio 101.1 FM and Television Station, in Abuja recently.

Reading the riot act, the Director-General stated that the Commission was intensifying its anti-piracy campaign against all forms of copyright piracy, particularly in the book industry, as schools resume for the new academic session.

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Anchor of Brekete Family Reality Programme and Executive Media Strategist/CEO of Human Rights Radio 101.1 FM and TV Station, Abuja, Dr. Ahmed Isah, aka Ordinary President, during a live transmission, engages DG, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (R) in appraising the quality of PLEASURES Magazine, a publication of Dotmount Communications.

NCC Canvasses More Access to Learning Materials for the Blind

DIRECTOR-GENERAL of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein, has called for affirmative action to ensure more access to learning materials in accessible formats for blind, visually impaired and print disabled persons in line with the Discrimination Against Persons With Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, 2018 and the Marrakesh Treaty which the country ratified in 2017.

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Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (2nd R) with (R-L) President of ALDIN, Mr. Daniel Onwe; Director, ANWAB, Mr. Danlamin Basheru; and Chairman, ALDIN, FCT Chapter, Mr. Kassim Lawal, during an advocacy visit to the Commission's Headquarters, Abuja

Copyright Commission Intensifies Anti-piracy Measures in Printing Industry

AS Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) intensifies anti-piracy interventions in the country, the Commission has charged printers in the country to be vigilant in accepting printing jobs only from right owners in line with the provisions of the Copyright Act which is geared at checking the scourge of copyright infringements.

The Director-General of NCC, Dr. John O. Asein, disclosed this in Kaduna on 5th July 2021 while handing over 17,400 seized pirated books worth ten million, five hundred thousand Naira (N10,500,000.00) to the right owner, Alhaji Kamar O. Giwa, in company of his counsel, Mr. Tumininu Aluko Olokun.

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Director of Operations, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Mr. Obi Ezeilo, representing DG NCC, Dr. John O. Asein, speaking during the handing over of N10.5 Million worth of 17,400 seized pirated books to the right owner, Alhaji Kamar O. Giwa, (standing R) in company of his counsel, Mr. Tumininu Aluko Olokun (L). Also on the high table are (R-L): Comptroller of Immigration, Mr. Muhammed Abdullahi and Director, NCC Kaduna Office, Mr. Hassan Usman

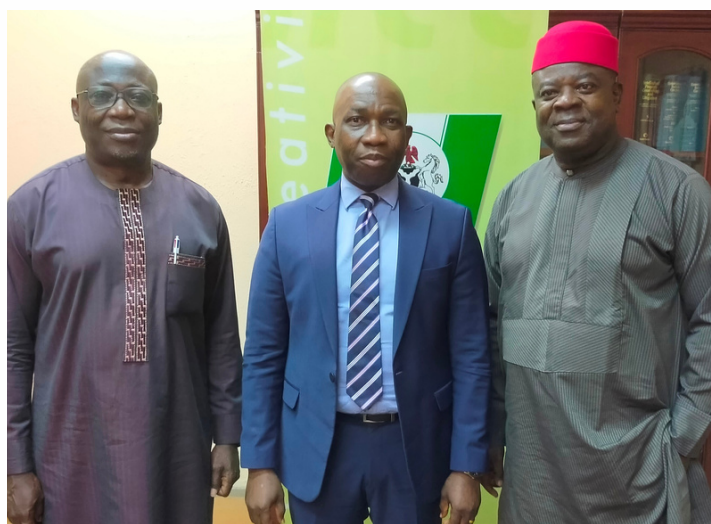
Copyright Commission Set for Regulations to Sanitise Book Industry

MORE regulatory interventions for total compliance in the book chain will soon be introduced for publishers, printers and booksellers in the country.

Director-General of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein, disclosed this during a consultative meeting with the new President of the Nigerian Publishers Association (NPA), Chief (Hon.) Uchenna Cyril Anioke and the immediate past NPA President, Mr. Gbadega Adedapo at the NCC Headquarters in Abuja recently.

Dr. Asein indicated that the Commission's interventions were geared at sanitising the book industry by creating an effective regulatory regime to enhance the protection and development of the creative industry.

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Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein flanked by the newly inaugurated President of NPA, Chief (Hon.) Uchenna Cyril Anioke (R) and the immediate past President of NPA, Mr. Gbadega Adedapo, during a courtesy visit to the Commission's Headquarters, 27th September 2021

NCC Restates Plan to Regulate Printing Industry

THE Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) has reaffirmed its commitment to the regulation of the printing industry in order to curb piracy in the printing business.

The Director-General of NCC, Dr. John O. Asein, stated this while speaking as special guest and member of panel of discussants at the 2nd Nigerian National Printers Conference themed: "Using Regulation to Revive the Ailing Printing Industry", held at Oba Complex, Ogun State Secretariat in Abeokuta on 14th July 2021.

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NCC DG, Dr. John O. Asein (2nd L) and representative of Ogun State Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, Mr. Taiwo (L) listen to a participant at the exhibition during the 2nd Nigerian National Printers Conference held at Ogun State Secretariat, Abeokuta on July 14 2021.

NCC Seeks Support of FRSC, VIO, Traffic Wardens in Anti-Piracy Operations

THE Director-General, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein has called on officers of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Vehicle Inspection Officers (VIO) and Police Traffic Wardens to support the Commission in its anti-piracy operations across the country by assisting its officers on field enforcement functions.

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DG NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (5th -R) with some Directors of the Commission, resource persons and trainees (squatting) during a Drivers' Performance Improvement Course, held at NCC Headquarters, Abuja on 12th August 2021.

Support Use Of IP For Poverty Alleviation, Professional Bodies Told

PROFESSIONAL bodies have been charged to support Government's vision of lifting 100 million Nigerians out of poverty in ten years, by promoting the use of Intellectual Property (IP) as a tool for wealth creation, gainful employment and sustainable growth in the creative industries.

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Director-General, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein, presents some copies of the Commission's publication, WHAT IS COPYRIGHT? to the President Nigerian Institute of Estate Surveyors and Valuers (NIESV), ESV Emmanuel Okas Wike during his visit to NCC Headquarters, Abuja.

FG, Copyright Community Laud Late Prof. Egerton Uvieghara

FEDERAL Government has hailed the Late Prof. Egerton Uvieghara as a legal icon who demonstrated exemplary sense of responsibility and rare commitment to his calling in the field of law and as a trail-blazer in Nigerian Labour law and Commercial Law.

Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN, made this commendation in his tribute during a virtual programme, "An Evening of Tributes" organised by the Nigerian Copyright Commission on 8th September 2021, in honour of Prof. Uvieghara who was the first Chairman of its Governing Board.

The Minister who was represented by his Special Assistant on Media, Dr. Jubril Gwandu, recalled that the late Professor participated actively in the drafting and eventual enactment of the Copyright Act in 1988. He described him as a thorough-bred academic who mentored other scholars and policy makers and promoted team cooperation and synergy both at the NCC where he served as pioneer Chairman of the Governing Board from 1989 to 1994 and the Nigerian Law Reform Commission (NLRC) where he also worked as Commissioner from 1993 to 2003.



NIGERIAN COPYRIGHT COMMISSION



Celebrates
The Life & Times of

**Late Professor
Egerton
Uvieghara**

Pioneer Chairman, Governing Board
Nigerian Copyright Commission

1937 - 2021

An Evening of Tributes

DATE: 8th September, 2021
TIME: 3.30pm

VENUE: zoom
Meeting ID: 884 8633 4316
Passcode: 674752

Describing the late Professor Uvieghara as one of Nigeria's finest legal minds, the Minister whose Ministry supervises the NCC and NLRC said further: "The Federal Government of Nigeria, The Federal Ministry of Justice and the entire justice sector condole with his family, colleagues in the academia and the entire creative sector and pray that the Almighty will give us the fortitude to bear the loss."

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WIPO MAGAZINE

THE WIPO MAGAZINE EXPLORES INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP), CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION AT WORK ACROSS THE WORLD. THE PRINT EDITION IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.





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News from State Offices

NCC Partners ABU, Zaria, on Copyright

THE Nigerian Copyright Commission has indicated commitment to partner with the Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria to boost copyright knowledge and development of creativity.

Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein stated this during the first conference of the Faculty of Environmental Design, ABU, Zaria held from Monday, 28th to Friday, 2nd July, 2021.

The theme of the conference was, “The Environment: Sustainable Development and Emerging Possibilities”, with a sub-theme on “Celebrating Oneness in Creativity”.

Dr. Asein enlightened the gathering on the importance of the copyright e-registration system introduced by the Commission in line with the Copyright Act. He stressed the need for academics and right owners to take advantage of the programme.

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DG, NCC Dr. John O. Asein (3rd R) and NCC Board Member, Dr. Mrs Alewai Mamza (1st L) in a group photograph with participants at the first Conference of the Faculty of Environmental Design, ABU, Zaria, on 28 June 2021.

NCC Confiscates 250 Books Worth N500,000, Arrests Pirate in Benin

THE Nigerian Copyright Commission, (NCC) has impounded two hundred and fifty copies of pirated books worth five hundred thousand Naira (N500, 000) and arrested one piracy suspect in Benin, Edo State.

He said the operation, carried out by Copyright Inspectors with armed Police backup, was sequel to surveillance activities based on a tip off by some publishers in Edo State.

Assistant Director and State Coordinator of NCC Benin Office, Mr. Joseph Ajang, revealed that the Commission made the seizure during an anti-piracy operation carried out at a retail outlet, Progress Bookshop, in the state capital on the 21st of September, 2021.

**For More News from
the states visit:
copyright.gov.ng**

Copyright Commission Impounds Infringing Broadcast Gadgets, Arrests Suspects in Port Harcourt

THE Nigerian Copyright Commission, (NCC), Port-Harcourt Office, has arrested four suspected broadcast pirates and seized some contrivances being deployed for broadcast piracy in Rivers State.

The State Coordinator, NCC Port-Harcourt Office, Mrs. Nkechi Ezinma, who revealed this, stated that the anti-piracy operations were carried out by Copyright Inspectors in the State capital on 24th September 2021, backed up by armed operatives of the Department of State Services (DSS), Rivers State Command.

Mrs Ezinma indicated that the seizures were made during the operation carried out in the following four locations, Nos. 24 Abba Street; 67, Egede Street; 96, Akokwa Street; and 22, Afikpo Street all in Mile 1, Diobu, Portharcourt.

She added that the arrested suspects were Paul Otunuya (m), Joy Horsfall (f), Precious Chukwukere (m), George Aguguo Egwo (m), Mercy Innocent (f), Ndoki Briggs (m) and John Nwogu (m).

According to her, the anti-piracy operation was executed after investigation and surveillance activities based on a complaint lodged with the Commission by Multichoice Nigeria, owners of DSTV cable network.



Cable satellite dishes deployed for infringing broadcast activities found during the anti-piracy operation by NCC operatives in Port Harcourt on 24th September 2021.

NCC Assures Authors of Copyright Protection in Uyo

THE Director-General, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein has assured authors, stakeholders of the Commission's commitment to ensuring the protection of their rights in Nigeria.

Represented by the NCC Akwa Ibom State Coordinator, Mr. Elijah Akpan, the Director-General disclosed this in his goodwill message during the 1st National Conference of Network of Book Clubs and Reading Promoters in Nigeria held at Watbridge Hotel, Uyo on 17th September 2021.



At the 1st National Conference of Network of Book Clubs and Reading Promoters in Nigeria (NBRP) held in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, were (L- R): National President of NBRP, Mr. Richard Mammah; NCC Uyo Office, Akwa Ibom State Coordinator, Evang Elijah Akpan; E-Librarian, Mrs Funmi Illori; and Dr. Des Wilson of University of Uyo.

Dr. Asein commended the State Governor, Mr. Udom Emmanuel and the Deputy Governor, Mr. Moses Ekpo and other stake holders for the support given to the Book Club. He also lauded the initiative of the founder of the Uyo Book Club, Dr. Udeme Nana, for efforts at restoring the reading culture in the State.

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Copyright Commission Solicits Stakeholders' Support to Check Piracy in Ilorin

COPYRIGHT stakeholders in the printing industry have been urged to join in the fight against piracy in the printing of literary works.

This call was made by the Acting State Coordinator, NCC Ilorin Office, Mrs. Bilikis Bello during a meeting held by the office with the Association of Professional Printers of Nigeria, (ASPPON) Kwara State Chapter, on September 21, 2021.

The Acting State Coordinator informed the ASPPON members of the Commission's efforts towards protecting creativity and fighting piracy. She expressed dissatisfaction with the association's level of compliance with the provisions of the Copyright Act in terms of keeping records of printed materials and urged them to desist from any act capable of aiding piracy.



Copyright inspectors, Mr. Adebola Gbogboade (L) and Mr. Mahmud Abdulakeem at the OKAYSON Printing Press Ilorin, Kwara State, during a copyright compliance inspection of the printing press.

Mrs. Bello expressed the Commission's readiness to continually sensitise its publics on the ills of piracy and cautioned that offenders would be prosecuted.

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Copyright Commission, Stakeholders Partner against Pirates in Enugu

THE Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) is committed to strengthening its collaboration with the Nigerian Publishers Association (NPA), Nigerian Booksellers Association (NBA) and the Chartered Institute of Professional Printers of Nigeria (CIPPON) to boost the national campaign against piracy and other challenges undermining book publishing and distribution in the country.

Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein stated this during a reception held in honour of the National President of NPA, Chief (Hon.) Uchenna Cyril Anioke at Villa Toscana Hotel, Enugu State 11th September 2021.

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Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (R) graced a reception in honour of the National President of Nigerian Publishers Association (NPA), Chief (Hon.) Uchenna Cyril Anioke (M). Others are: Senator Ike Ekweremadu (2nd R); wife of the celebrant, Mrs. Martina Anioke (3rd R); co-chairman of the event and former Dean, Faculty of Law, Enugu Campus, Prof. Joy Ezeilo; a Federal House of Representatives member representing Awgu, Aninri and Oji River Federal Constituency Enugu South, Hon. Toby Okechukwu; and Chairman, Nigeria Book Fair Trust, Mr. Gbadega Adedapo (L).

School Proprietors, Book Sellers Cautioned against Piracy in Ilorin

SCHOOL proprietors and book sellers in Ilorin, Kwara State, have been urged to deal in only genuine copyright publications and shun pirated books.

Ag. State Coordinator, Ilorin Office, Mrs. Bilikis Bello, cautioned during separate copyright sensitisation of the stakeholders that the Commission would spare no effort in ensuring diligent prosecution of those caught engaging in piracy of any kind in their respective dealings. In an effort to ensure strict compliance with copyright regulations on books, Mrs Bello led a team of Copyright Inspectors on copyright sensitisation and compliance inspection visits to the Federal Staff Secondary School; SWOT Academy and Trendsetters Academy in the Ilorin West Local Government of Kwara State on September 20, 2021.



Ag. State Coordinator, Mrs. Bilikis Bello (M) and a Copyright Inspector, Mr. Joel Adedoyin with the Principal of SWOT International School, Mr. Rahim Jawando, during an inspection of books at the school in Ilorin, Kwara, State on 20th September 2021

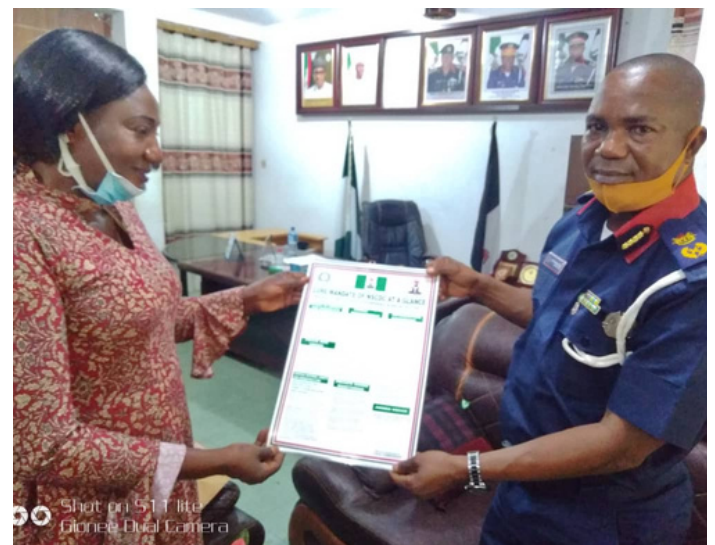
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Photosplash

Continued Next Page >>



DG, NCC Dr. John O. Asein presenting the Copyright Act and other publications of the Commission to the Managing Director, Rose of Sharon Group and Vice Chairman Famfa Oil, Apostle (Dr.) Folorunso Alakija at the Commission's exhibition stand during the 2021 Nigeria International Book Fair, Lagos in July 2021.



The Oyo State Commandant of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), Michael Akintayo Adaralewa, presenting the mandate of the NSCDC to the Commission's Oyo State Coordinator, Mrs. Olabisi Ogundiran.



NCC State Coordinator, Makurdi Mr. Thomas Ngbannun sensitizing pupils of ECWA Primary School, Makurdi on the importance of copyright and creativity as part of the Commission's back-to-school campaign in September, 2021.



Copyright Inspectors of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) inspecting some books at a bookshop during an antipiracy raid at Yaba book market Lagos.



A trainee, Mr. John-Temple Kehinde makes a point during the question-and-answer session at the Driver's Performance Improvement Course organised for drivers by Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) in Abuja, recently.



DG, NCC Dr. John O. Asein with Chief Mrs. Felicia Sani, OON, President Market Women Association of Nigeria (MWAN), during the Commission's advocacy visit to Human Rights Radio and Television, Abuja on 16th September 2021.

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Copyright e-Registration:
09019011230, 08183413611

e-Registration Link:
eregistration.copyright.gov.ng



An official of the Commission's Ibadan Office, Mr. Kayode Fapohunda (ACCO Operations), inspecting books on display during the Commission's routine inspection of bookshops in Abeokuta, Ogun State on 20th September 2021.

Photosplash



NCC State Coordinator, Yola, Mr. Yusuf Ibrahim (R) inspecting a printing outlet in Yola metropolis on 13th September 2021, as part of the Commission's nationwide compliance checks on printing outlets.



Cable satellite decoders used for broadcast piracy impounded during an anti-piracy operation carried out in Port Harcourt on 24th September, 2021.

Interview

NCC Needs Funding, Institutional Empowerment to Perform as Enforcement Agency – Board Member

INTERVIEW of a Member of the Governing Board of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. (Sir) Jesse Odu

May we meet you, sir?

My name is Dr. Sir Jesse Odu. I represent the literary industry on the Governing Board of the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC).

What, in your view, are the main challenges of Copyright Administration in Nigeria and what can be done to address the challenges?

Actually, when we met as the Board of Nigerian Copyright Commission, we brainstormed on the challenges facing effective copyright administration in Nigeria.

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Dr. Sir Jesse Odu, representing the literary industry on the Governing Board of the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) with DG, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (L).



From the Office of the Director-General

PRESS STATEMENT



Federal Government Presents Executive Bill on Copyright to National Assembly

THE Copyright (Repeal) Bill, as approved by the Federal Executive Council, has been transmitted to the National Assembly for enactment into law. The Federal Executive Council, at its meeting of 13 June 2018 (Ref. EC 2018) had considered and approved the draft Bill presented to it by the Honourable Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN.

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TRIBUTES: Late Professor Uvieghara (5th March 1937 – 28th August 2021)

LATE Professor Uvieghara, who died at the age of 84 years, served as the pioneer Chairman of the Governing Board of the Nigerian Copyright Commission from 1989 to 1994, and subsequently as a Commissioner in the Nigerian Law Reform Commission, both agencies under the supervision of the Federal Ministry of Justice. Prior to assuming office as Chairman of the Nigerian Copyright Commission Governing Board, he participated actively in the drafting of the present Copyright Act in 1988. Until his death, Professor Uvieghara remained an icon in the field of copyright and other aspects of commercial law where he had mentored many scholars and policy makers. He was conscientious in his approach to work and promoted a high level of team cooperation and synergy both at the Nigerian Copyright Commission and the Nigerian Law Reform Commission.

A thorough-bred academic and prolific author, Professor Uvieghara taught at the University of Lagos from 1966 to 1998 and will be remembered for his ground-breaking publications including Trade Union Law in Nigeria (1976), Sale of Goods and Hire Purchase Law in Nigeria (1996) and Labour Law in Nigeria (2001). He published widely in local and international journals and his scholarly works in the fields of Labour Law and Commercial Law remain reference materials for many scholars that followed. He was indeed a teacher of teachers and an academic per excellence who demonstrated exemplary sense of responsibility and rare commitment to his calling.

Abubakar Malami, SAN

Honourable Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice

PROFESSOR Egerton E. Uvieghara, former Commissioner of the Nigerian Law Reform Commission [1993-2002] who passed on at age 85. He was a very pleasant person to work with and he contributed immensely to the achievements of the Commission. He participated successfully in carrying out many Law reform projects of the Commission such as reform of the Evidence Act, reform of the Matrimonial Causes Act, etc. He was also one of the outstanding contributors to the success of the Law Revision of the Laws of the Federation of Nigeria (LFN) 2004. He contributed as a consultant in revising the laws establishing the National Industrial Court.

Professor Jummai A. M. Audi

Chairman Nigerian Law Reform Commission

THE eminent professor commenced his sojourn into the academia when he was employed by the Faculty of Law, University of Lagos as Lecturer Grade II in 1966. A focused and brilliant scholar, he quickly rose through the ranks to become Lecturer Grade I in 1972, Senior Lecturer in 1974, Associate Professor in 1978 and a full Professor of Law in 1979, at the age of 42 years.

In his over three decades in the service of the University before his voluntary retirement, he served in diverse capacities, including as pioneer Head of Department of Commercial and Industrial Law in 1978; member of Senate (1975 – 1998); member of the Appointments and Promotions Board; Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee on Examinations Malpractice; Chairman of the Student Welfare Board; Chairman of the Library Committee; Senate Representative to Council; and Rotimi Williams Professor of Law, University of Lagos, to mention but a few. His areas of specialisation included Commercial Law, Labour Law and Intellectual Property. He was well respected by members of the Faculty and the larger University community.

Despite his very inspiring profile, Prof Uvieghara was unassuming, pleasant and very accessible. He was well loved for the easy way he passed on knowledge as well as his rib-cracking jokes to ease tension during lectures. Even post-retirement, he was never far away from the Faculty and continued to stop by to interact with colleagues and attend functions until shortly before his demise. He will be missed for his effortless humour, friendly mien and very sharp mind, among other endearing attributes.

Professor Ige O. Bolodeoku
Dean, Faculty of Law
University of Lagos, Akoka.





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