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# COPYRIGHT MATTERS

A NEWSLETTER OF THE NIGERIAN COPYRIGHT COMMISSION



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## NJI, NCC Renew Commitment to Training of Judges on Intellectual Property

**NIGERIAN** Copyright Commission (NCC) and the National Judicial Institute (NJI) have agreed to intensify their collaboration in the training of judges to enhance the adjudication of intellectual property (IP) matters in the country.

The two Government agencies reached the agreement during a courtesy visit by the Director-General of NCC, Dr. John O. Asein, to the Administrator of NJI, Honourable Justice Salisu Garba in Abuja, on 9th February 2022.

In his remarks, the Director-General thanked the NJI for the successful implementation of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) pilot project on IP Rights Education and Professional Training for Judicial Training Institutions, executed in 2017-2018.

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# NCC Intensifies Antipiracy Operations, Arrests 4 Suspects, Impounds Infringing Books

**AS** Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) renews its antipiracy drive for effective copyright protection, four suspected pirates have been arrested and infringing books worth over two million, Five Hundred Naira (N2.5million) impounded.

Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein disclosed this at a post operation media briefing at the Commission's Headquarters in Abuja on Wednesday, 23rd March 2022. Dr. Asein indicated that the Commission would intensify its enforcement activities while also sustaining the sensitisation of printers and booksellers on the ills of piracy.

According to him, "We have made a firm resolve that enforcement will be top priority in our intervention programmes. We spent a lot last year enlightening booksellers and educating them on the ills of piracy. However, it appears they are unrepentant.

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Director, Regulatory, Mr. Augustine Amodu (3rd R) leads a team of Copyright Inspectors and armed Policemen on a book antipiracy operation in Wuse Market, Abuja on 23rd March 2022.

# Copyright Commission, MCSN, DJAN Discuss Royalty Payments

**THE** Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) has facilitated the emergence of an appropriate framework between the Musical Copyright Society of Nigeria (MCSN) and Disco Jockeys Association of Nigeria (DJAN) to ensure the collection of royalties for musicians and improve the business dealings of DJs.

This development emerged at a consultative meeting initiated by the Commission for representatives of MCSN and DJAN in Abuja on 16th February 2022 to address areas of concern identified by the two organisations.

In his remarks, the Director-General, Dr. John O. Asein, indicated that the Commission was particularly interested in the development of sectorial synergy amongst right owners, users, collective management organisations (CMOs) and other stakeholders in the music value chain.

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Chief Executive Officer, MCSN, Mr. Mayo Ayilaran (1st-L) speaking at a consultative meeting of NCC, DJAN and MCSN on royalty management in Abuja. Attentive are: DG, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (3rd-R); and others (L-R) NCC Director, Regulatory, Mr. Augustine Amodu; Director Operations, Mr. Obi Ezeilo; Director, Nigerian Copyright Academy (NCA), Mr. Mike Akpan and President, DJAN, Mr. Tade Adeyemi.

# NCC, SNA Collaborate to Maintain Standards in Art Industry

**THE** Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) and the Society of Nigerian Artists (SNA) have committed to renewed regulatory measures for maintaining standards and best practices in the art industry.

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*Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (R) presents one of NCC's public enlightenment publications, WHAT IS COPYRIGHT?, to the National President, Society of Nigerian Artists (SNA), Mr. Mohammed Suleiman, 19th January 19 2022.*

# AVRS Assured of Renewed Synergy to Grow Movie Industry

**FILM** industry stakeholders have been assured of the Commission's disposition in leveraging the copyright system to create wealth for right owners and sustain the film ecosystem.

Director-General, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein, gave the assurance during a consultative visit of the Chairman, Audio Visual Rights Society, Mr. Mahmood Balogun, to the Commission's Headquarters, Abuja, Abuja on Tuesday, 18th January 2022.

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*Chairman, AVRS, Mr. Mahmood Balogun (R) explaining a point to the Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein, in his office, Abuja on Tuesday, 18th January 2022.*

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# NCC Staff for Regular Enforcement Training, Retired Director Invested Special Copyright Inspector

**ALL** officers of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) will undergo periodic enforcement training and reorientation to enhance efforts at delivering on its mandates under the Copyright Act.

Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein, disclosed this while investing the Commission's retired Director of Planning Research and Statistics, Mr. Bitrus Dauda, as a Special Copyright Inspector during a send-forth ceremony organised in his honour at the NCC Headquarters, Abuja, on 14th February 2022.

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*Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein, makes his remarks while retired Director, PRS, Mr. Bitrus Dauda (2nd R); Mrs. Grace Dauda (1st R); Director, Administration, Dr. Idowu Ogunkuade (2nd L); Director, Nigerian Copyright Academy, Mr. Mike Akpan (1st L); Director, Public Affairs, Mr. Vincent Oyefeso (back row), listen during the send forth and investiture of Mr. Bitrus Dauda as a Special Copyright Inspector at NCC Headquarters, Abuja.*

## NCC Destroys Seized Pirated Works Worth N10.5m in Akwa Ibom

**SEIZED** pirated works worth N10.5 million have been destroyed and disposed of by the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) in Akwa Ibom State.

The State Coordinator, NCC Uyo Office, Mr. Elijah Akpan, representing the Director-General, Dr. John O. Asein, stated that the copyright-infringing works which were destroyed on 31st March 2022 were those not subject to litigation, in line with the recommendation of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO).

Mr. Akpan indicated that items destroyed included pirated books, musical CDs, VCDs and other copyright infringing contrivances like broadcast cables and decoders, seized by operatives of the NCC, Akwa Ibom State Office, in the past five (5) years.

Speaking during the public destruction exercise, the State Coordinator noted that the Akwa Ibom State Waste Management Board assisted the Commission in the destruction and disposal of the pirated works.

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*Seized pirated works at the NCC Uyo Office, Akwa Ibom State being inspected by Copyright Inspectors prior to conveyance for destruction.*



# Copyright Commission Destroys Pirated Works Worth N8M in Ilorin

AS a strong warning signal to copyright infringers, the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) has destroyed impounded pirated works worth about eight million Naira (N8,000,000) in Ilorin, Kwara State.

Representing the Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein, at the public destruction exercise on 2nd February 2022, the Ag. State Coordinator, NCC Ilorin Office, Mrs. Bilikis Bello informed that the destroyed seizures were pirated copies of musical, literary and audio-visual works belonging to various right owners.

She indicated that the seizures “could never be of use to anyone” and added that the Kwara State Environmental Protection Agency (KWEPA) assisted the Commission with the disposal of the debris.

Describing the exercise as a major enforcement activity by the Commission, Mrs. Bello noted that the impact of the huge evacuation was enormous, considering that beyond the market value of the seizures, the impounded works and their public destruction would further disrupt the distribution chain of pirated works.

The Ag. State Coordinator reiterated the Commission’s commitment to eradicating the nefarious activities of pirates in the State and its the environs.

Others on the enforcement team were the following officers in the State Office: Mr. Mahmud Abdulakareem, Senior Copyright Officer (SCO); Mr. Gbogboade Adebola (SCO); and Mr. Johnson Ayodele Principal Executive Officer I.



NCC Kwara State Ag. Coordinator, Mrs. Bilikis Bello (M); Mr. Gbogboade Adebola, Senior Copyright Officer (L) and Mr. Johnson Ayodele, Principal Executive Officer, during the public destruction of seized pirated works in Ilorin, on 2nd February 2022.





# NIGERIAN COPYRIGHT COMMISSION

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## NCC Raids CD Outlets in Ibadan, Arrests Two Suspects

**IN** a renewed clampdown on pirates in the Southwest region of Nigeria, the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Ibadan Office has raided suspected piracy hotspots in Ibadan, Oyo State, and arrested two suspected pirates.

The suspects were arrested on 31st March 2022 in their outlets where they specialised in the duplication of copyright protected works.

Contrivances confiscated from one of the arrested suspects at the Toll Gate, Ibadan Expressway include: a 10 loader CD duplicating Machine and other gadgets, 265 original musical works from different artists and over a thousand duplicated Compact Disc (CD) plates. The suspect who has been in the business for over 30 years specialised in buying original CDs by reproducing and selling them in contravention of the Copyright Act.

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*Deputy Director and State Coordinator, NCC Ibadan Office, Mrs. Olabisi Ogundiran with other operatives of the Ibadan Office during an enforcement operation on 31st March 2022.*

## NCC Boosts Copyright Awareness in Enugu State

**AS** part of efforts to enlighten the public on the mandates and achievements of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), officers of the Commission have intensified efforts at creating more copyright awareness among sister agencies and stakeholders in the state.

Director, NCC Enugu Office, Mrs. Cecilia Ngozi Okeke, who disclosed this in a report stated that the Commission's operatives embarked on several copyright sensitisation outreaches to relevant stakeholders in the state.

According to her, the visits were also aimed at exploring avenues for further collaboration and support for the Commission's antipiracy enforcements, public enlightenments and encourage registration of creative works.

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*Director, Enugu Office, Mrs. Ngozi Okeke with Enugu State, NDLEA Commander, Mr. Anietie Basse Idim during a consultative visit on 24th March 2022.*



## NCC Intensifies Partnership with Universities to Boost Copyright Protection

**THE** Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) has indicated commitment to partner with Universities to boost Copyright knowledge and protection.

Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein stated this during a courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor of the Benue State University (BSU) on Monday, 28th March 2022.

The DG, represented by the State Coordinator of the NCC Makurdi Office, Mr. Thomas Mgbannun, informed the Management of the University of the Commission's willingness to cooperate with the institution in the area of Copyright promotion and protection.

Dr. Asein who highlighted the Commission's antipiracy efforts so far, informed that the Commission was beaming its searchlight on universities and other institutions of higher learning to check proliferation of copyright infringement.

He indicated that the Commission would commence inspection and monitoring of the production, photocopying and reproduction of literary works in higher institutions.

The DG enlightened the University Management on the importance of the copyright e-Registration System introduced by the Commission in line with the Copyright Act, stressing the need for academics and right owners to take advantage of the programme.

Representative of the DG was received during the visit by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Admin) of the University, Prof. Mike Odugbo Odey, who represented the Vice Chancellor.

Prof. Odey thanked the Commission for the enlightenment on copyright matters and assured of the Management's willingness to join in the war against IP thefts.



*The NCC Benue State Coordinator, Mr. Thomas Mgbannun, makes a point while the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Admin, Benue State University, Prof. Mike Odugbo Odey (M) and the University Registrar, Mfaga Modom, listen.*

## NCC, NAPPS Advocate Patronage of Genuine Books by Rivers State Schools

**THE** Nigerian Copyright Commission, NCC Port-Harcourt Office and the National Association of Private Proprietors (NAPPS) have resolved to canvass for patronage of only genuine books in schools in Rivers State.

This was disclosed during deliberations between the NCC State Coordinator, Port-Harcourt Office, Mrs. Nkechi Ezinma and the Association's State Chairman, Dr. (Mrs) Roberta Dosunmu, when Mrs. Ezinma paid a courtesy visit to the NAPPS Secretariat, Port-Harcourt, on 27th January 2022.



*State Coordinator, NCC Port Harcourt Office, Mrs. Nkechi Ezinma (L) presenting a copy of the Copyright Act to the Chairperson, Rivers State Chapter of National Association of Private Proprietors (NAPPS), Dr. (Mrs) Roberta Dosunmu, during a courtesy visit to NAPPS Secretariat, 27th January, 2022.*

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## Copyright Commission, NFVCB, PMAN to Curb Piracy in Kaduna State

**THE** Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) and National Film and Video Censors Board (NFVCB) have committed to exploring inter-agency measure to check copyright piracy in Kaduna State.

NCC State Coordinator, Kaduna Office, Mrs Rukayyat Muhammad Yeldu and the NFVCB Kaduna State Zonal Coordinator, Mr. Umar Fagge reached this understanding during a consultative meeting at the Board's Zonal Office in Kaduna on 15th March 2022.

Deliberations during a courtesy visit by the NCC State Coordinator to the NFVCB State Zonal Coordinator, focussed among other issues on the activation of the inter-Agency collaboration with a view to streamlining the operational modalities of both Government Agencies to ensure effective check on piracy of copyright works within Kaduna and its environs.

Meanwhile, the Governor, Performing Musicians' Association of Nigeria (PMAN) Kaduna State Chapter and the NCC State Coordinator, Mrs Rukayyat Muhammed, have also agreed to build a stronger synergy between the Commission and PMAN to curb the menace of piracy in in the state.

At a consultative meeting during a courtesy visit to NCC Kaduna Office by the state's PMAN executives on 15th March, 2022, the NCC State Coordinator lauded the efforts of PMAN in the fight against piracy and urged the Association to work more closely with the Commission in a bid to create an enabling environment for sustainable growth of the music industry.

Also in attendance at the meeting, was the Kaduna PMAN Ex Officio, National, Mr. Jerry Marshal. In the same vein, the State Coordinator, NCC Kaduna Office, Mrs. Muhammed, led some staff members on a Courtesy Visit to the National Gallery of Art (NGA), Kaduna Office, on 16



*State Coordinator, NCC Kaduna Office, Rukayyat Muhammad Yeldu Esq, flanked by the PMAN Governor, Kaduna State Chapter, Mr. Dazang Deezed ( R) and PMAN National Ex- Officio, Mr, Jerry Marshal during the PMAN visit to NCC Kaduna State Office, 15th March 2022*





An SS2 student, Master Elegbede Ayanfeoluwa Joshua, responds to a question during an NCC copyright awareness programme at St. Augustine's College, New Nyanya.



Retired Director, PRS, Mr. Bitrus Dauda, gives his valedictory speech during his send-forth programme while Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (2nd L); Mrs. Grace Dauda (2nd R) and some Directors of the Commission (L-R) Director, Administration, Dr. Idowu Ogunkuade (1st L); Director, Regulatory, Mr. Augustine Amodu (1st R) and Director, Public Affairs, Mr. Vincent A. Oyefeso (back row), listen.



Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (L) kitting retired Director, PRS, Mr. Bitrus Dauda as a Special Copyright Inspector to mark his retirement while his wife, Mrs. Grace Dauda watches.



The celebrant, retired Director, PRS of NCC, Mr. Bitrus Dauda (M) flanked by his wife, Mrs. Graces Dauda and the Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein, in a group photograph with some Directors of the Commission (R-L): Mr. Obi Ezeilo (Operations); Mr. Mike Akpan (NCA); Mr. Hassan Usman (PRS); Dr. Idowu Ogunkuade (Administration); Mr. Augustine Amodu (Regulatory); former NCC Auditor and current Director, Code of Conduct Bureau, Mr. Babatunde Ogunjimi; Mr. Vincent A. Oyefeso (Public Affairs) and Mr. Emeka Ogbonna (Legal) during the send forth and investiture of Mr. Dauda as a Special Copyright Inspector at the NCC Headquarters, Abuja.



Director, Enugu State Office, Mrs. Ngozi Okeke (M) flanked by Dr. Jesse Odu, (L) and President, NPA, Hon. Uchenna C. Anioke, during a visit to the NPA president.





Assistant Director, Operations, NCC Enugu Office, Mr. Okwudili Akachukwu (L), with armed Police backup, leads other officers during an antipiracy raid on an illegal cable network company, the Real Summit Cable Network at Ikeagwu, Nsukka Town, Enugu State, 10th March 2022.



NCC Benue State Coordinator, Mr. Thomas Mgbannun (3rd L) and Deputy Vice Chancellor, Admin, Benue State University, Prof. Mike Odugbo Odey (M) in a group photograph with the NCC team and the University's Management staff during a courtesy visit to the University by operatives of NCC Makurdi Office, 28th March 2022.



NCC Kwara State Ag. Coordinator (L), Mrs Bilikis Bello, with a team of Copyright Inspectors taking inventory of seized pirated works preparatory to the public destruction exercise on 2nd February 2022.



State Coordinator, NCC Kaduna Office, Rukayat Muhammad Yeldu Esq. (M); Kaduna State Zonal Coordinator, National Film and Video Censors Board (NFVCB), Mallam Umar Fagge (3rd L) and staff members of NCC and NFVCB during a courtesy visit to NFVCB by the NCC officials, 15th March 2022.



State Coordinator, NCC Kaduna Office, Rukayat Muhammad Yeldu Esq. (3rd L- front row) and the Ag Curator, National Gallery of Art, (NGA) Kaduna Office, Mr. Sule Afugbara (3rd R- front row) in a group photograph with some staff members of NCC and NGA during a courtesy visit to the Curator, NGA by officers of NCC, Kaduna Office, 16th March 2022.



In fulfilment of the promise of Director-General, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein at the 2021 AGM of Musical Copyright Society of Nigeria (MCSN) on 13th January 2022, Director, NCC, Lagos Office, Mr. Mathew Ojo, presents a White Cane to a visually impaired musician, an MCSN member, Mr. Chudi Nwulu Mountain at MCSN office. Looking on are: CEO, MCSN, Mr. Mayo Ayilaran (L) and Head, Operations, Lagos Office, Mr. Charles Amudipe.





Secretary-General of the Society of Nigerian Artists (SNA) Mr. Prosper Akeni, displaying an artwork, sensitises students of St. Augustine's College, New Nyanya, during an NCC copyright sensitisation programme in the College.



The e-Government Training Center, Public Service Institute of Nigeria (PSIN) conferred e-Government Training Champions Awards on the best performing participants in Abuja, 11th January 2022. Amongst the awardees are (L-R): Director Administration, Dr. Idowu Ogunkuade; Assistant Chief Accountant, Mr. Mike Iyege and Director, Public Affairs, Mr. Vincent A. Oyefeso.



Representing the DG, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein, Director of Finance and Accounts, Mr. Mark Obasi interacts with the State Coordinator, NCC Ontisha Office, Mr. Gabriel Anikwem during a working visit to the state, 5th May 2022.



A resource person, Deputy Director, Regulatory (NCC), Mrs. Susan Bashorun makes a presentation during a capacity-building training on Copyright Registration System, held at the Commission's Lagos Office, 1st March 2022.



Representative of the DG, NCC and Director, Administration, Dr. Idowu Ogunkuade presents a retirement letter to Senior Executive Officer, Operations, Mr. Charles Anyanwu, 10th March 2022.



Deputy Director and Head Legal, NCC Lagos Office, Mrs. Linda Alpheaus (2nd L); presents the Commission's publication, WHAT IS COPYRIGHT to Dr. Hafis Oyetoro (2nd R) aka Saka, during the Art Day celebration of Matori Senior Grammar School, Okota, 9th March 2022. Others are: Principal of the school, Mrs. Funke Oketumbi (L) and the School's Head of Art Department, Mrs. Mary Amangbo.



# Photosplash

## UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, IBADAN,



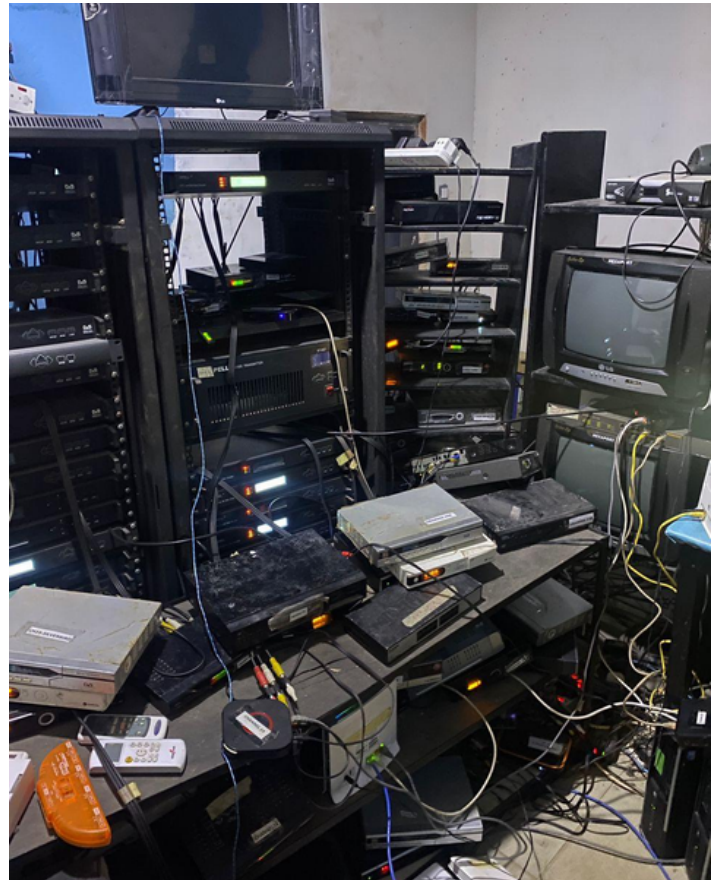
At a consultative meeting of representatives of NCC, Ibadan Office and University of Ibadan on 24th March 2022 are (Seated L-R): Deputy Registrar UI, Mrs. Morenike Afolabi; Vice-Chancellor, UI, Prof. Kayode Adebowale; and Deputy Director, State Coordinator, NCC Ibadan Office, Mrs. Olabisi Ogundiran; with other staff from both organisations.



NCC Bauchi State Coordinator, Mr. Tijani Nasir (4th R) in a group photograph with Chairman, DJs Association of Nigeria (DJAN), Bauchi, DJ Big Black (3rd L), other state executives of DJAN and NCC officers after an enlightenment meeting with DJAN, Bauchi State Branch.



Copyright Inspectors at work during a book anti-piracy operation at the Wuse Market, Abuja, 23rd March 2022.



Some of the infringing contrivances at the Real Summit Cable Network at Ikeagwu, Nsukka Town, Enugu State, including: decoders, TV sets, Transmission consoles, cables, recorders etc, 10th March 2022.



Kano State Coordinator, Mr. Aliyu Gulani (M) and other Officers of the Commission during a routine bookshops inspection exercise within the Sabon Gari Market and Bata, Kano metropolis, 23rd March 2022.





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