



# COMMUNIQUE



## **AUTOMOTIVE & LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS'** **INSTITUTE (AutoEI)**

(A Division Of *The Nigerian Society of Engineers*)

**COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE PUBLIC LECTURE ON**  
**“*THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA*”**  
on 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2019

Held at the Julius Berger Hall of the University of Lagos, Lagos - NIGERIA.

### **PREAMBLE:**

The Public Lecture on “The Automotive Industry Development in Nigeria” was held as part of activities of the Lagos Chapter of the AutoEI. The Guest Speaker Mr Olutoyin Okeowo, the Managing Director of Metropolitan Motors Lagos and a major player in the Automotive Industry over the decades presented the Lecture. The Automotive and Locomotive Engineers’ Institute (AutoEI), a Division of the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) Lagos Chapter organized the event as part of its 2019 Programme. The Occasion was Chaired and declared open by His Royal Highness Obi Engr. *Otis Anyaeji*, FNSE, FAEng, FAutoEI, the 30<sup>th</sup> NSE President. The Vice Chancellor of the University of Lagos was present at the event with an array of academic and administrative personnel of the Institution. The Chief Host was the National Chairman AutoEI Engr. Oladimeji Taiwo MNSE, MAutoEI, MNIMEchE while the Host was the Lagos Chapter Chairman, Engr. Dr. Nehemiah Alozie MNSE, MAutoEI. The Discussants were the Head of Business, Mitsubishi Corporation of Nigeria and Chairman Auto & Allied Sector Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry Mr Bambo Adebowale, MD/CEO of Truckmasters Nigeria Limited Mr Tony Arenyeka, Head of Department Mechanical Engineering and Project Coordinator HEPSSA Engr. Dr. Moore Ojapah, CEO AutoDome Nigeria Limited Mrs Funke Anurukem and CEO Tributary Initiative for Learning, Mrs Eniola Olugbake. The Public Lecture had other critical stakeholders as key Contributors representing different industry segments.



The participants deliberated extensively on the above topical issue of great public interest and came out with the following observations and resolutions:

1. In order to ensure consistency in Policy formulation and implementation, the Federal Government through the Ministry of Trade & Investment should forward to the National Assembly, a bill for an Act on the National Automotive Industry Development Policy
2. In order to boost local integration on the future Nigerian car, the federal government through the National Automotive Design & Development Council (NADDC) should revive the local content development of major components such as tyres, radiators, batteries and cables as a starting point for the vehicle assembly plants and replacement markets. This could be achieved through technical audit of existing facilities and provision of required support that will make them attractive to Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs).
3. In order to address the skills gap between the requirements of the Automotive Industry and the Nation's current level, the Federal Government through the National Universities Commission (NUC) and National Board for Technical Education (NBTE), should update the engineering and technology education curricula in Universities and Polytechnics to be in tandem with current realities in the industry.
4. The development of a vibrant automotive industry as an alternative to our current oil economy must be seen as the veritable means to achieving the manufacturing economy required to industrialize Nigeria and create the much needed jobs. To this end, the Federal Government through the relevant agencies should make the development of the steel and mining industries topmost priority as a way of producing the materials needed for the growth of the Auto Industry.
5. In order to guarantee the volume that will be attractive to investors in the sector, the Federal Government through the relevant agencies should streamline the number of available vehicle models in the country and also put in place a Vehicle Finance Scheme with low interest rate and longer repayment tenor than is currently obtainable in the market.
6. There is need to review and where necessary amend the present Automotive Policy after due consultation with the various stakeholders in the Industry. This will certainly ensure the buy-in if all concerned and engender smooth implementation.

7. Finally, the three major Automotive hubs planned by Government in the automotive policy is a welcome development. However, in order to reduce cost of production and enhance the ease of doing business, the Federal Government through the Ministry of Power, Work & Housing should address the issue of adequate and uninterrupted power supply.

**Automotive & Locomotive Engineers' Institute (AutoEI)**



Engr. Oladimeji TAIWO, MNSE, MAutoEI, MNIMechE

**National Chairman,**

31<sup>ST</sup> July, 2019.