



SOCIETY OF GYNAECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS OF NIGERIA (SOGON)

POST- SOGON 8TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND 44TH AGM COMMUNIQUÉ HELD AT NICON LUXURY HOTEL ABUJA

The Society of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of Nigeria (SOGON) held her 8th International conference and 44th Annual General meeting from November 30th to December 3rd 2010 at NICON LUXURY Hotel, Abuja

The theme of the conference was *Priorities in Reproductive Health, while* the sub-themes were (a) *Gynaecologic Endoscopy* (b) *Litigations in Obstetrics & Gynaecology* and (c) *prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV*.

The topics of this year's Pre-conference workshop were (i) **Update in Fertility regulation** and (ii) **Hands-on training on Surgical Techniques of management of post partum haemorrhage including the B-Lynch procedure** conducted by Professor Christopher Balogun-Lynch, a world expert based in the United Kingdom

About 450 participants from within and outside Nigeria attended the International conference, including Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Paediatricians, Nurses and Midwives, Policy makers, Pharmaceutical and Allied companies, Development partners, representatives of Federal and State medical institutions and members of the mass media.

The Special Guest of honour is the First Lady of the Federal republic of Nigeria, Her Excellency, Dame (Dr) Patience GoodLuck Jonathan, represented by the Honourable Minister of Health, Professor Christian Onyebuchi Chukwu.

An important highlight of the conference was the conferment of Honorary Fellowship of SOGON awards on two distinguished International Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. They are Professor David John Taylor, The Director of the GATES/FIGO Maternal and Newborn Health (MNH) Initiative and Professor Christopher Balogun-Lynch, a world renowned expert on maternal health, all based in the United Kingdom.

Forty seven (47) new members of SOGON were inducted at the well attended opening ceremony.

The OK Ogan Memorial Lecture, titled: *Global trend in Medical Education -Time to Stir in Nigeria*, was delivered by a Nigeria Professor M. Ezimokhai, based in United Arab Emirate.

There were **four plenary scientific sessions** and thirty two (32) parallel sessions during which ninety two (92) original, peer-reviewed, scientific papers were presented.

Resolutions at the conference

1. The conference expresses its gratitude to the First Lady, Dame(Dr) Patience GoodLuck Jonathan for hosting members of the Society to a Dinner at the Presidential Villa, during which she renewed her commitment to safe motherhood and the reduction of maternal and newborn deaths and stated that ‘**NO WOMAN SHOULD DIE GIVING LIFE**’
2. The request by the First Lady that her Initiative, the **Women for Change and development** partners with SOGON in her determination to reduce maternal mortality in Nigeria, was gladly accepted by the Society.
3. The conference lauded the Honourable Minister of Health, Professor Christian Onyebuchi Chukwu for the successful signing of a Memorandum of Understanding(MOU) between SOGON and the Federal Ministry of health (FMOH) on maternal and newborn health, aimed at strengthening the existing partnership between the Society and Federal Ministry of Health
4. SOGON advocates for improved service for training and research in the Obstetrics & Gynaecology Nigeria and the regulation of practice for the benefit of Nigerian public and members of the society.
5. The conference reiterated the commitment of SOGON to the support for the Integrated Maternal, Newborn and Child health (IMCH) strategy of the Federal Government of Nigeria to reduce maternal and newborn deaths in Nigeria towards achieving MDGs 4 and 5.
6. The Society expresses its appreciation to the Federal Government of Nigeria, Development partners and other donors for supporting the very highly successful conference.

Finally, the General Assembly of the Society approved that its **45th Conference** be held in Ibadan in **November 2011**.

Chief (Dr) Tinuola Abiola-Oshodi
President, SOGON

Professor Innocent AO Ujah, mni
Secretary General, SOGON

3rd December 2010