

SOCIETY OF GYNAECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS OF NIGERIA (SOGON)



COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE 50TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE OF SOCIETY OF GYNAECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS OF NIGERIA (SOGON) HELD IN INTERNATIONAL EVENTS CENTRE, AKURE, ONDO STATE, NIGERIA, OCTOBER 3RD TO 7TH, 2016

The Society of Gynaecology and Obstetrics of Nigeria (SOGON) held her 50th Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference between October 3rd and 7th, 2016 at the International Events Centre (The Dome), Akure, Ondo State, Nigeria.

The Conference attracted over Six Hundred Participants from within and outside Nigeria. These included Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Paediatricians, Resident doctors, Nurses and Midwives, Politicians, Policy makers, Lawyers, Women's Rights Activists, Development partners, Pharmaceutical and Allied companies, Government departments and Agencies, representatives of Civil Society and members of the mass media.

The Theme of the Conference was Women Health and SDGs in Nigeria, while the Sub-Themes were: Fertility Modulation: Scope, Ethics & the Law, New Frontiers in Gynaecological Cancers, Communicating with the Unborn Child: Foetal Diagnosis & Therapy in the New Millennium.

His Excellency, The Executive Governor of Ondo State, Dr Olusegun Mimiko (CON) declared the congress open. The Minister of Health who is a member of SOGON, Prof. Isaac. F. Adewole, was represented by Former CMD of University College Hospital, Ibadan – Prof Abiodun Ilesanmi. The J. B. Lawson Memorial Guest Lecture titled "Proposing a Diaspora Response to The Reduction and Prevention of Maternal Mortality in Nigeria" was delivered by Prof. Rotimi Jaiyesimi [MBBS, FWACS, FRCOG, MBA, LL.M (Medical Law)], a Visiting Professor of the University of Sunderland, United Kingdom and Visiting Professor to the Faculty of Law of University of Ibadan.

New Inductees

Fifty new members from across the country were inducted at the opening ceremony.

Awards and Honours

Dr. Chinwe Igwillio, Chief Medical Director of Federal Medical Centre, Jabi, Abuja was awarded the 2016 Distinguished Service Award of Excellence in Administration, while Prof Bissallah Ekele was awarded 2016 Distinguished Service Award in Clinical Services. Three members were honoured for attaining the age of seventy. They include Professor Olurotimi Fakeye, Dr

Ezekiel Bamigboye Ogunbiyi and Prof Oloruntoba Joe O. The Ondo state Honorable Commissioner of Health Dr. Adedayo Kazeem Adeyanju received Award of Excellence for his Efforts and Drive in improving maternal health services and in the reduction maternal mortality rrate in the state.

Pre-Conference Workshops and Scientific Sessions

Five Pre-Conference workshops were held with the following themes –

- CTG & Doppler in Fetal Monitoring
- Update on WHO-FIGO Cornerstones on Family Planning, including Derivative Documents and Tools of the WHO Contraceptive Guidelines.
- Diagnostic & Operative Gynaecological Endoscopy & Colposcopy
- Practical Management of Postpartum Haemorrhage.
- Research Methodology in Obstetrics & Gynaecology

The scientific sessions consisted of 34 poster presentations, 62 original scientific papers, 10 plenary sessions and 2 Symposia.

The 2nd Frontiers of Medical Education Lecture, in honour of Prof. Linus Ajobor titled – Internship is an important component of Medical Education was delivered by Emeritus Prof Nimi Briggs.

Arising from the Conference, the following Observations and Resolutions were made:

1. There is need to maintain and improve on the momentum already gained in the pursuit of the MDGs, in achieving the SDGs.
2. There is dire need of greater political will on the part of Government in the formulation and implementation of policies to enhance maternal and newborn health.
3. SOGON haven commenced the Volunteer Obstetrician Scheme (VOS), will ensure sustained commitment to its implementation nationwide as part of its contribution to improving maternal health.
4. SOGON remain committed to ensuring that the Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response (MPDSR) – an initiative of SOGON is implemented in every state in the country
5. The Government of Nigeria should ensure every graduating medical officer is placed in the housemanship programme without much delays
6. The conference condemns the practice of Gender-based Violence and the medicalization of the practice of FGM and called on government and its members to help in eliminating these practices at every level.
7. SOGON, mindful of the unabatingly high maternal and perinatal mortality indices in Nigeria solicit partnership with the federal government, and also with all the state

governments on their implementation of the Saving One Million Lives (SOML) programme, which can also be seeded to its Volunteer Obstetrician Scheme (VOS) and MPDSR initiatives.

8. SOGON solicit for the nationwide implementation of the National Health Act of 2014 which ensures universal health coverage for Nigeria citizens – albeit in a graded manner (on account of poor finances) – commencing with most vulnerable – the mother and the child. SOGON therefore request free antenatal care and delivery for every mother.

9. In view of the place of family planning in maternal mortality reduction and also in human development in every nation, SOGON request the federal, states and local government, non-governmental organisations and CSOs to put in place necessary machinery to ensure the access of all Nigerians to free and informed family planning services – which will enable the achievement of the federal government commitment to the attainment of Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR) currently at 14%, to 36% by 2018.

10. SOGON request all states of the federation to put in place community based health insurance schemes to improve access to healthcare by the Nigerian citizens.

Venue of 2017 Annual Scientific Conference/AGM

The Conference unanimously adopted that the next edition of SOGON Annual Scientific Conference/AGM will hold in Sokoto State

Appreciation

SOGON is grateful to the Executive Governor of Ondo state, Dr Olusegun Mimiko (CON), the Hon. Minister for Health, Prof. Isaac Adewole and the numerous guests that made the conference, one to be remembered. We are also grateful to the various organisations that sponsored and contributed to the success of the 50th Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference.

Signed

Prof. J. I. Brian-D Adinma
President, SOGON.

Signed

Dr. Chris Agboghroma
Secretary General, SOGON.