

PRESS RELEASE

PRESIDENT YAR'ADUA PROUD OF NIGERIAN NATIONAL ORDER OF MERIT(NNOM) LAUREATES

President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua GCFR, has express his appreciation and admiration for rich contributions of NNOM laureates towards national development with particular emphasis on the vision 2020.

President Yar'Adua made this declaration recently during the second annual forum of NNOM laureates held recently in Abuja.

The President, who was represented by the Honourable Minister of Science and technology Mrs. Grace Ekpiwere, said the useful inputs, ideas and recommendations from “these distinguished Nigerian intellectuals who are specialists and professional icons in virtually all fields of learning” will certainly be utilized in policy formulation, as well as in the resolution of some salient issues of national interest.

He urged the laureates to come up with viable, well articulated and cost-effective solutions that will assist the nation achieve its desired goals and objectives.

Speaking earlier, the Chairman governing Board of the Nigerian National Merit Award (NNMA) Prof. Oluwafeyisola Sylvester Adegoke, NNOM said it is in consideration of the resolve to be proactive and assist government with quality ideas that the board selected: ‘Developing a Road Map for the Rapid Technological and Industrial development of Nigeria’ as the theme for this year’s forum.

Prof. Adegoke said the objective is to review the varied Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) development models drawing inspiration from the history of newly developed nations and prepare a road map for the

resuscitation of the Nigeria's near-comatose science and Technology research and development effort

He said at the end of the forum a communiqué will be issued to the Government.

Alheri Davo (Mrs.)

H/PPRU

3rd December, 2008.