



**NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION – LAGOS BRANCH**

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING OF THE NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION, LAGOS BRANCH  
HELD ON MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2018 AT THE FOYER OF THE HIGH COURT, IGBOSE, LAGOS STATE**

**1. ATTENDANCE**

**1.1 Officers**

- |    |                        |   |                     |
|----|------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Chukwuka Ikwuazom      | - | Chairman            |
| 2. | Ikechukwu Uwanna       | - | Secretary           |
| 3. | Bolatumi Animashaun    | - | Vice Chairman       |
| 4. | Uzoeghelu-Nzube O. Joy | - | Treasurer           |
| 5. | Caroline Obi           | - | Financial Secretary |
| 6. | Moshood Abiola         | - | Publicity Secretary |
| 7. | Uchenna Nwadialo       | - | Social Secretary    |
| 8. | Nkechi Nnajofofor      | - | Welfare Secretary   |
| 9. | George U. Ukwuoma      | - | Assistant Secretary |

**1.2 Members**


**1.1 Members**

- |     |                           |     |                       |
|-----|---------------------------|-----|-----------------------|
| 1.  | Supo Olaibi               | 2)  | Lucy Ahaneku          |
| 3.  | Adeleke Agbola            | 4)  | T. A. B. Oladipo      |
| 5.  | Edmund Amadi              | 6)  | Dayo Ayoola – Johnson |
| 7.  | Olatunji Dawodu           | 8)  | Julius A. O. Odupitan |
| 9.  | Andrew Negbenebor         | 10) | Rita Uloko            |
| 11. | Valetina Opone            | 12) | Saheed Sanni          |
| 13. | Chikwendu Agazie          | 14) | Adeolu A. Fadumila    |
| 15. | Fernandez Marcus – Obiene | 16) | Daniel Yeri           |
| 17. | Kolawole Oluwadare        | 18) | David Ogebe           |
| 19. | Stephen O. Agida          | 20) | Femi Odebode          |
| 21. | Hope O. Abraham           | 22) | Eboh Patrick Alao     |
| 23. | Anthonia Eke              | 24) | Christopher Thompson  |
| 25. | N. E. Ene                 | 26) | Chidi Ezeikpe         |

27. Nkechukwu Ohike-Odiki
29. Arubaleze Kenechukwu
31. Chinedu Anyaso
33. Joseph Ekene Ndibuagu
35. Abiye Tam – George
37. Adebola Olarotimi Lema
39. Simon Chingle
41. Emmanuel Achukwu
43. Grace Adenubi
45. Agbo Nwanneamaka
47. Onyedika Nwosu
49. Ideh Oghenevo
51. Ken Chinedu Konze
53. Augustine Okeh
55. Lawrence Owube
57. Fodil Olanrewaju Mohammed
59. Kukei Umoye
61. Ayemere Jacob
63. F. Aliyu
65. Joan Gandonu (nee Ahamefule)
67. Semidara Gesiye L.
69. Kola Ibrahim
71. Mordiyah Awayewaserere
73. Dauda Shakirudeen Olaide
75. Aghaonu Chris
77. Ikedimma Valentine
79. Oloyede Oyediran
81. Kelechukwu Uzoka
83. Mindia Yahaya Chiwar
85. Immaculate Ojochide Odekina
87. Grace Alaba
89. Emmanuel Umoren
91. Sylvanus nnaemeka Okoli
93. Onah Mariellus
95. Esohe Oriakhi
97. Ugwu Ifeoma
99. Peter Omolodun
101. Cyprian Egbuna
103. Kamar Raji
105. Tope Akinyode
107. Femi Fajolu
109. Samuel Adetokunbo King
111. Dennis O. Akhagba
- 28) Abdulrasheed Ibrahim
- 30) Eric Ikwele
- 32) Onuka Sixtus
- 34) kenechukwu Chukwujekwu
- 36) Olanrewaju Hakeem Oladipo
- 38) Ayo – Ponle, Adefowoke
- 40) Victoria Onyinye Lawrence
- 42) Sunday Thomas Udoh
- 44) Rowland J. C. Eneje
- 46) Ken Ahia
- 48) Afusat odebunmi Ibraheem
- 50) Agu Raphael Nnaemeka
- 52) Ngozi Maureen Ibeh
- 54) Ifeoma Ben
- 56) Ikenna Okoli
- 58) Nkechi Precious Igwegbe
- 60) Justice u. John
- 62) Caleb Ekene O
- 64) W. A. Aminu
- 66) Nicole Nwigha
- 68) Hammed Bakare
- 70) Okeke Ejike
- 72) Chukwunonso Nkamuke
- 74) Chinyere Obasi
- 76) Ubaniukoma Lawrence
- 78) R. C. Maduagwu
- 80) Kenechukwu Nwolisa
- 82) Okey Akunyili
- 84) Chidi Okoroji
- 86) Simon C. Njoku
- 88) Ugochukwu Nnaji
- 90) Almond Waive
- 92) Olisa Ifedigbo
- 94) Odebiyi Oluwatosin
- 96) Ololade Olukowi
- 98) Chidinma Okoronkwo
- 100) Uzoigwe Sopuruchukwu
- 102) Okey Eneh
- 104) Agnes Usulor
- 106) Abaniwonda Kafilat Foluke
- 108) Maduabam Stephanie
- 110) F. B. Odesanya
- 112) Adebayo Koku

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|------|---------------------------|------|-----------------------------|
| 113. | Olajumoke Kassim          | 114) | Moses Kassim                |
| 115. | Okechukwu Nwizu           | 116) | Douglas Okojie              |
| 117. | Engurube James-Kenneth O. | 118) | Azubike Okaro               |
| 119. | Chukwuebunna J. Umeh      | 120) | Emokiniovo U. Joy Ani       |
| 121. | Oyebanjo O. Idiat         | 122) | Olawole Fajusigbe           |
| 123. | Laurenta E. Bello         | 124) | Segun Ololade               |
| 125. | Seyi Bella                | 126) | Oghogho Aghinifen           |
| 127. | Collins Ajikun            | 128) | Stephen Amallagoge          |
| 129. | Odunsi Kazeem             | 130) | Kingsley Ebimoh             |
| 131. | Ijeoma Chizoma Okoro      | 132) | Uti Theodora                |
| 133. | Amaka Aneke               | 134) | Ejadairo Ekpo               |
| 135. | Rosemary Ubajaka          | 136) | Simi Owoeye                 |
| 137. | Olubusola Ojo             | 138) | Abiri Zeniath Peace         |
| 139. | Matthew Okwara            | 140) | Christabel Iremhinmhen      |
| 141. | Chinonyelum Assumpta      | 142) | Gabriel Amadi               |
| 143. | Uche Ajogwu               | 144) | Afolabi Odeleye             |
| 145. | Victor Akpeji             | 146) | Ubom Unwana J               |
| 147. | Adedayo Adesina           | 148) | Onuigbo Ifeanyi Earl        |
| 149. | Chinyere Nwaogu Akomor    | 150) | Funke Agbor SAN             |
| 151. | Mfon Usoro                | 152) | Egbe U. Ande                |
| 153. | Iwatt Ndueghe             | 154) | Kelechukwu Okwujiako        |
| 155. | Emeka – Iloegbunam, Gerty | 156) | Lanre Folarin               |
| 157. | Shaibu R. Aliyu           | 158) | Emodi Ogochukwu             |
| 159. | Olawale Adebisi           | 160) | Ilias Kazeem                |
| 161. | Abisoye Omotayo           | 162) | George Nwabunike            |
| 163. | Frances Onwunali          | 164) | Olatoye Akinbode            |
| 165. | Peretimi Pere             | 166) | Kennedy Nwanfor             |
| 167. | Godson C. Ugochukwu       | 168) | Chinedum Umeche             |
| 169. | Sixtus Iwuoha             | 170) | Martin A. Akpaka            |
| 171. | Uchechi Ngonadi           | 172) | Iswat Eniola Olorunnimbe    |
| 173. | Ogbonnaya C. Agbafo       | 174) | Emeka Nwadioke              |
| 175. | Tunji Adeyemi             | 176) | Chinyere Owuatah            |
| 177. | Ikenna N. Onwusika        | 178) | Dr. Erimma Gloria Orié      |
| 179. | Ochu Innocent Agwu        | 180) | Friday Idor Okike           |
| 181. | Edward Porbeni            | 182) | Jacob Ayemere               |
| 183. | Chijioke A. A.            | 184) | Mariam Jogai O.             |
| 185. | Tanimola Anjorin Ajose    | 186) | Begbaji Abayomi Abdulahi    |
| 187. | Chinedu Nduka             | 188) | Isiaka Olatunji Abdulhameed |
| 189. | Ibrahim Y. Abikan         | 190) | Ifeatu Medidem              |
| 191. | Innocent David            | 192) | N. J. Inyang                |
| 193. | Ajayi Oluwadamilola       | 194) | Ogo Ofili                   |
| 195. | Ugwuoke S. Chidubem       | 196) | Alekeh Barnabas C           |
| 197. | Paul O. Okoro             | 198) | Chidiebere B. Onuokoro      |

|      |                           |      |                         |
|------|---------------------------|------|-------------------------|
| 199. | Olapeju Balogun           | 200) | Emerson Ishiekweme      |
| 201. | Elizabeth O. Agbontaen    | 202) | Uangbaoje K. Ihinose    |
| 203. | Ezema Christopher Nonso   | 204) | Hundeyin Abiodun        |
| 205. | Benjamin Waive            | 206) | Fidelis Egho            |
| 207. | Olakunle Karimu           | 208) | Uchenna Obi             |
| 209. | Chinedu Nneke             | 210) | Raph Amobi Chikezie     |
| 211. | Ayodeji Odukale           | 212) | Kenechukwu Ugochukwu    |
| 213. | Elabor J. Agbibaku        | 214) | John Uthman             |
| 215. | Ginika Uche               | 216) | Efekimo Jacinta Ufuoma  |
| 217. | Tunde Adesokan            | 218) | Eguono Soewan           |
| 219. | Yewande Ajilore           | 220) | Harry O. Ukaejiofor     |
| 221. | Sotonye Amachree          | 222) | Ariyo Odole             |
| 223. | Felix Ogunmade            | 224) | Alamu Olushola M        |
| 225. | Eboh Thomas Okwudili      | 226) | Leonard U. Ojukwu       |
| 227. | Kate Suinner              | 228) | Maiza Muniretu          |
| 229. | Femi Akin – Johnson       | 230) | Francis Apakama         |
| 231. | Oyeyemi Oyeleye           | 232) | Aririguzo Clara Chinasa |
| 233. | Chinedu Sabinus           | 234) | Nnadi Moses Chijioke    |
| 235. | Quadri Oluwaseun          | 236) | Akerele Olajide         |
| 237. | Lawrence Austincoleman    | 238) | Charles Nneji           |
| 239. | Faith Adarighofua         | 240) | Adebayo Oriola          |
| 241. | Lawrence Chuka Okwara     | 242) | Dungbara N. S. Torbari  |
| 243. | Tope Tokan – Lawal        | 244) | Obinna Ishiguzo         |
| 245. | Oluwaseun Olusiji         | 246) | Chimezie Onwuama        |
| 247. | Edem O. Uko               | 248) | Dayo Onakoya            |
| 249. | Titilayo W. Oluwafemi     | 250) | Adetola Bucknor – Taiwo |
| 251. | Chinelo Mgbeadichie       | 252) | Chioma Mgbeadichie      |
| 253. | Oluwafemi E. Adeniyi      | 254) | Mathias M. Oguta        |
| 255. | Olabamiji A. Adeyeye      | 256) | Mbanugo Udenze          |
| 257. | Ogunmoroti Makanjuola     | 258) | K. S. Lawal             |
| 259. | Marian Jones              | 260) | Tinuke Osuba            |
| 261. | Omohafe Theresa Opara     | 262) | Judedavid O. Mbamalu    |
| 263. | Uwala E. Murphy – Akpieyi | 264) | Osayanmo E. Osazuwa     |
| 265. | Wale Adesokan SAN         | 266) | Chief Emeka Ngige SAN   |
| 267. | Uche Ikwueme              | 268) | Obiora Atuegwu Egwuatu  |
| 269. | Onyinye Nwabuzor          | 270) | Lateef Omoyemi Akangbe  |
| 271. | Uchenna Ozoagbo           | 272) | Famodimu Jacob          |
| 273. | Lady Debbie Obodoukwu     | 274) | Zik C. Obi II           |
| 275. | J. O. Aikpokpo-Martins    | 276) | Dr. Mobolaji Ojibara    |
| 277. | Geraldine Wey             | 278) | Paul Usoro SAN          |
| 279. | Ayi – Ekpenyong Imah      | 280) | Lilian Eronini          |
| 281. | Olukayode Adeluola        | 282) | Abdulnasser Salau       |
| 283. | Gideon Okebu              | 284) | Charles Aaron           |

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285. Augustine Egwuatu
287. Iwuegbu Martino
289. Kenechukwu Akuma
291. Deborah Sukuta Alali – Braide
293. Sule M. Danian
295. Oyoje Bello
297. Oyinkansola Ibukun – Thomas
299. Ajibola Lawal-Akapo
301. Ayodele Ashiata Kadiri
303. Yusuf B. Bello
305. Olayinka Abimbola
307. Oluwasogo Ayoola
309. Matesun Israel Shola
311. Oluseyi Olukoga
313. Ogechi Olisa – Mokelu
315. Ige Asemudara
317. Joyce Oduah
319. Anthony C. Eze
321. Ekanem C. Nakanda
323. Obele Akinniranye
325. Amachree E. Victor
327. Charles Usen
329. Olayinka Ola – Daniels
331. Chief Chuks Ikokwu
333. Tochukwu Chukwumerije
335. Christy Egere
337. Aramide Adekunle-Fatokun
339. Abioye Akerele
341. Alex Muoka
343. S. B. Onu
345. N. Ngonadi
347. M. N. O. Olopade
349. Franklin Ihedoro
351. Augustine I. Ogbodo
353. L. Adebowale Omar.
355. Olabode Olanipekun
357. Wofai Jimmy Robert
359. Michael S. Akinleye
361. Okeke Chidiebere Kingsley
363. Adedayo Idowu
365. Josiah Agbi
367. Ezeani Anthony Chukwudum
369. Funke Henshaw
- 286) Kayode W. Bankole
- 288) Oluwole Adebayo Okelana
- 290) Nnamdi Ezeanochie C
- 292) Amina Daniel
- 294) Ogungbamila Babatunde Lot
- 296) Mercy Udosen
- 298) Philip Ikumawoyi
- 300) Loko Olufunke
- 302) Toyin C. Olaore
- 304) Chimezie V. C. Ihekweazu
- 306) Paschal Ozioko
- 308) Olivia Nwachukwu
- 310) Olubukola A. Adebisi
- 312) Gloria Ireka
- 314) Iyawe Ogbo
- 316) B. R. Asemudara
- 318) Aderemi Bashua
- 320) Alajuronye Obidi Cecil
- 322) Kaduru Chikezie
- 324) Riliwanu I. Are
- 326) Juwon Adedeji
- 328) Akeem Oyeboade
- 330) Ohilebo Uniugbe
- 332) Seth Amaefule
- 334) Kayode Adeniji
- 336) Funmi Dosunmu
- 338) M. M. A. Sanni
- 340) Martin A. Ogunleye
- 342) Chief Ziggy Azike Life bencher
- 344) Nwana E. Chuks
- 346) Bode Omoboriowo
- 348) U. C. Madubunike
- 350) Ginika Okoroafor
- 352) Olumuyiwa Onabanjo
- 354) M. A. Saliu
- 356) Omoke Kelvin
- 358) Musibau Ishola Alagbala
- 360) J. K. Aworinde
- 362) Mathew Nkap
- 364) Roland Dogoh
- 366) Njoku Bernard Chinedu
- 368) Uche Okoli
- 370) Florence E. Chijioke – Duru

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|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 371. Azubike Ijeamaka         | 372) Lawal Omolade             |
| 373. Osungbesan Teye          | 374) Peace Okoro               |
| 375. Akinkuotu Oluwaseyi      | 376) Raji Folasade             |
| 377. Ogo Onyia                | 378) Oghenekevwe Okpobia       |
| 379. Akin Adewopo             | 380) Matthew Esonanor          |
| 381. Adeyemi Tajudeen Bolanle | 382) Saheed Nurain Adewale     |
| 383. Akpomfeta A. Augustine   | 384) Dioka Eneh                |
| 385. Okeke Ijeoma Tina        | 386) Love Ezemegbuna           |
| 387. Ishola Mujeeb Oluwayemi  | 388) Ejimofor Hope             |
| 389. Nwaogbe Uchenna          | 390) Rotimi Ogunlade           |
| 391. Boniface Igwe            | 392) Folarin Oloyede           |
| 393. Adeola Osifeko           | 394) Ifeanyi Eze               |
| 395. Onyeka Egbunike          | 396) Ebere Sada                |
| 397. Oparaku Chinonye         | 398) Azeezat Omolara Oladejo   |
| 399. Victor Nwaksi            | 400) Adaku Mbama               |
| 401. George Nwabunike         | 402) Isu Ewa Isu               |
| 403. Okpalanozie Anthony      | 404) Olaniyi Abimbola Olaronke |
| 405. John Duru                | 406) Okey Ilofunluwa           |
| 407. Fashina Fatai            | 408) Adesuyi Daramola          |
| 409. Muhammed Doko Idris      | 410) Olumayowa Owolabi         |
| 411. Ezeadi Chizoba           |                                |

**APOLOGIES**

1. Dame Carol Ajie
2. Bob Ijeoma
3. Philip Njetene
4. Stephen Obajaja
5. Lady Debby
6. Frank Agedo

|            |  |  |
|------------|--|--|
| <b>1.0</b> | <b><u>OPENING PRAYER</u></b>   |  |
| 1.1        | The meeting commenced at 1:25pm with an opening prayer led by Tunde Busari SAN   |  |
| <b>2.0</b> | <b><u>CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARK</u></b>  |  |
| 2.1        | The Chairman welcomed members to the monthly meeting of the Branch. He also recognized the presence of all very senior lawyers and members of the Inner Bar. |  |
| <b>3.0</b> | <b><u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING</u></b>  |  |

3.1 The Minutes of the previous monthly general meeting of the Branch held on the 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2018 were considered and the Chairman called for only substantive corrections to the Minutes. In the absence of any corrections, Mr. Supo Olaibi moved a motion for the adoption of the Minutes and same was seconded by Mr. Abioye Akerele.

#### **4.0 MATTERS ARISING**

4.1 **Report of the Land Inquiry Committee:** Mr. Tunde Busari SAN, the Chairperson of the Land Inquiry Committee presented the report of the Committee. He started by restating the terms of reference of the Committee which were to wade into the problems arising from the purchase of a property at 169 Igboere Road and the issues regarding the development of the Lekki land. He stated that the issues with the Igboere property had since been concluded last year with the committee ensuring the refund of 50 Million Naira to the branch.

4.2 He further noted that the mandate of the Committee was extended to include negotiating with the erstwhile developer of the Lekki Land to arrive at a settlement. He reported that the developer had said that they would only be willing to relinquish their possession if they were paid the total sum that had been expended on the land, which according to them amounted to 35 Million Naira. However, the Committee was able to negotiate the figure downwards to 10 Million Naira ex gratia payment to be made to the developer.

4.3 He added that the letter containing the proposal which is an addendum to the Supplemental Report had been handed over to the Branch Chairman. He also mentioned the other members of the committee who he had worked with. They include Mr. Olumide Akpata, Mr. Alex Muoka, Ms. Geraldine Way, Mazi Okechukwu Unegbu, Chief Ademola Shadipe and Ms. Marian Jones.

4.4 The Chairman thereafter invited comments on the recommendations of the Committee. Mr. Seth Amaefule expressed gratitude to the members of the Committee. He added that the Chairperson of the Committee should clarify whether the architectural drawings, bill of quantities and all other documents are included in the consideration being given by the developers in exchange for the 10 Million Naira. This was confirmed.

4.5 Mr. Omoboriowo stated that the negotiated sum was rather high but that the explanation from the Chairperson of the Committee showed that it is necessary. He advised that the agreement should stress that the reason the branch is conceding such an amount is to prevent any future legal issues arising from the matter. He moved a motion that the branch should pay the said 10 Million Naira to the developers. Mr. Rotimi Adeniji seconded the motion.

4.6 In the absence of any opposition, the Chairman affirmed the motion and thanked the members of the Committee for their efforts and service to the Branch.

4.7 **Purchase of Land for the Branch:** The Chairman reminded all that at the last meeting he had mentioned the offer of a parcel of land at Berkley Street. He also that G. Elias & Co had been selected to handle the transaction so that the

Executive Committee would not be directly involved.

4.8 He went on to state that since then, the firm of G. Elias & Co has received title documents; conducted a search on the property at Alausa and provided the Executive Committee with a search report. He stated that the only issue highlighted by the search report is the fact that the present owners of the property have yet to register their title.

4.9 It was also noted, based on information received from the Agents to the property that S.P.A. Ajibade & Co. had represented the original owners in the sale transaction and on reaching out to S.P Ajibade, the Agents' assertions were confirmed as they confirmed the validity of the land transaction.

4.10 The Chairman further stated that the company serving as agents of the current owners was a company called "Misa Properties Limited", which was headed by the husband of a member of the Branch. He said that in company of some senior members of the bar such as Mr. Tola Osobi SAN and Mr. Olumide Akpata, he had gone to speak with the Managing Director in order to indicate a serious interest in the parcel of land as well as try to get a reduction in the asking price which is N55,000,000 (Fifty-five Million Naira).

4.11 He also said that the firm of G.Elias & Co had contracted the services of a valuer who valued the land at between Fifty and Sixty Million Naira. He mentioned that despite efforts to have the price of the property reduced through the Agents, the current owners were insisting on the present price.

4.12 He also mentioned that there seemed to be a serious buyer waiting to step in in the event that the branch steps away from the deal. However, he said that he had made it clear to the Agents that he cannot make a decision without hearing from the members of the branch. He added that the Agents had agreed to a direct assignment from the current owners, if the branch accepted the terms, to prevent double payment of consent fees.

4.13 Mr. Muoka commended the Executive Committee on the manner in which the transaction had been handled thus far. He went on to propose the motion that the members of the branch give the Chairman the authority to conclude the purchase of the land at Berkley Road.

4.14 The Chairman also addressed the issue of the unexpired residue on the property. He stated that the original title was a leasehold, and thus the right of occupancy would be deemed to have come into effect upon the enactment of the Land Use Act. Thus, the interest which the branch would have would be 99 (ninety-nine) years less the number of years it has been since the enactment of the Land Use Act.

4.15 Mr. Rotimi Adeniji submitted that having seen the land in question, the branch should purchase it at Fifty Million Naira. His motion was seconded.

4.16 The Chairman told the members that the decision to be made was, "Whether the



Executive Committee should walk away from the transaction if the owners refuse the price of Fifty Million Naira?”

4.17 Mr. Bode Omoboriowo seconded the motion already moved by Mr. Alex Muoka. He suggested that the Committee negotiate for an amount between Fifty and Fifty-five Million naira. The Chairman replied by clarifying that the negotiation was being led by G. Elias & Co and that Tola Osobi SAN and Olumide Akpata were only brought in because of their relationship with the Misa Properties Limited. Mr. Omoboriowo then urged that if the price could not be reduced then the present amount should be agreed to.

4.18 Mr. Nwadioke asked if there was a Building Committee in place and suggested that if such a Committee exists, they should work hand-in-hand with G.Elias & Co to enable the completion of the transaction. The Chairman explained that there was a Building Committee which had been set up by the previous administration but by virtue of the Uniform Bye-Laws, it was dissolved upon the election of a new Executive Committee. He further stated that he had met with the former Chairman of the Building Committee, Dr. Wale Babalakin SAN, who indicated that he would be happy to continue serving as Chairman of same. He added that the Executive Committee was in the process of reconstituting the Building Committee and in doing that, more people would be brought in to energise the Committee. He however added that the building committee was for the building project and not for the acquisition of the land.

#### **5.0 TREASURER'S MONTHLY REPORT**

5.1 The Chairman explained that the members of the Executive Committee spent a lot of time and effort organizing the Law week which had happened a week before, and as a result of that, the treasurer was unable to complete the Treasurer's Report in time to circulate it to the members ahead of the meeting. He assured all that the Secretary would circulate the report after the meeting so that members can make substantive comments which will be taken at the next monthly meeting in June.

5.2 However, the Treasurer presented her report for the expenses of the branch in the month of April 2018. She spoke on the salient points of the report which were the outstanding balances in the Branches' bank accounts and the expenditures made by the branch as well as investments made by the Branch within the period.

#### **6.0 KNOWLEDGE SHARING SESSION:**

6.1 The Chairperson of the Continuing Legal Education Committee of the Branch introduced the guest speaker for the session, Mr. Peter Ogbonine, Director, Legal Services/General Counsel at Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI). His presentation was on the topic, ***"The role of Lawyers in Advocating for Transparency in the Extractive Industry"***.

6.2 After his presentation, the Chairman called on Paul Usoro SAN to offer his

appreciation to the speaker on behalf of the Branch. Accordingly, Paul Usoro SAN thanked Mr. Peter Ogbonine for his desire and passion to offer his time to the Bar in spite of his health challenge. He encouraged him and thanked him for the presentation on behalf of the Branch.

#### **7.0 CHIEF OFULUE'S FUNERAL**

7.1 The Chairman reminded all that at the last meeting, he had mentioned that representatives of the branch would attend the burial of the former Chairman. He said that he had led a delegation to attend the burial in Agbor to the pleasure of the family, adding that the funeral went well and the family was grateful. The representatives also presented N100,000.00 to the family as is the practice of the branch.

#### **8.0 MR. THOMAS OLADOTUN ESQ**

8.1 The Chairman reminded members that Mr. Oladotun had come, two meetings ago to give details of his encounter with the Police whereupon the branch decided to support him financially and file an action on his behalf against the Nigerian Police Force as well as a petition against the Inspector General of Police.

8.2 He explained that the agreed finances had been made available to him and that the team of lawyers led by his humble self had set about working on the processes for the matter. He stated that the papers in respect of the matter had been ready for over seven weeks but that Mr. Oladotun was yet to provide some relevant documents such as the Doctor's report and documents evidencing the amount of money that had been spent.

8.3 He said that the members of the team have made incessant efforts to reach Mr. Oladotun stressing that that it was due to the unavailability of these documents that the matter has not been filed.

#### **9.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

9.1 Lady Debbie Obodoukwu noted the need to honour Chief Ofulue posthumously for his efforts in preventing the Nigerian Law School, Lagos campus from being sold during the Abacha regime.

9.2 The Chairman then gave Chief Zik Obi the floor to speak on the matter given his deep knowledge of the matter. Chief Zik Obi said that the Law School had done nothing in recognition of Late Chief Ofulue. He added that during the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Council of Legal Education, he had contacted the Chairman of the Council, O.C.J Okocha, SAN in writing to honour Chief Ofulue for the role he had played. He added that he got no response apart from the letter of commendation he got from Dr. Abayomi and stated that he did not know what Chief Ofulue got.

9.3 The Chairman stated that it would have been better if he was recognized during his lifetime but it was not late. It was resolved that the Branch will write to the Council

of Legal education copying the Director General of the Nigerian Law School and the Body of Benchers on the matter.

9.4 Mr. Bode Omoboriowo suggested that the Executive Committee should invite the Commissioner of Police as well as the person in charge of the Human Rights arm to address the members during the Knowledge Sharing Session so as to inform the members on how to avoid police brutality and who to report such cases to.

9.5 Chief Emeka Ngige SAN asked whether the Executive Committee was aware of the attached vehicles and furniture which littered the Court premises and took up spaces where lawyers should park. He urged that the Branch should take up the matter with the Chief Judge. Mrs Bumi Ibrahim added that the littering of cars in the premises had also become a safety and security issue and that the matter should be presented that way to the Chief Judge. The Chairman responded that he had taken up the matter with the Chief Judge several times.

9.6 The issue of the overpricing of search fees in the Search Registry was brought up again. The Chairman mentioned that the issue had been raised and discussed in the last meeting where it was decided that the Executive Committee would write to the Chief Judge concerning the matter. He added that the letter had already been written and in addition, he had personally visited the archives where he explained to the persons manning the archives that the form of pricing was unjustified and improper. He added that if no response was received in the coming weeks from the Chief Judge, the branch would consider other solutions.

9.7 Sixtus Onuka mentioned that in the Minutes of the last meeting, it was concluded that a legal opinion on the Land Use Charge would be written and made available a fortnight therefrom. The Chairman clarified that it was intended to be prepared by the Law Reform Committee and to be sent to the Lagos state House of Assembly due to the extension of time which the Chairman was given at the Public Hearing for the Land Use Charge to enable the branch come up with a memorandum. He added that the Law Reform Committee had since prepared and sent that document to the Lagos State House of Assembly.

9.8 He also stated that the team representing the branch in the case against the Lagos State Government on the issue of the Land Use Charge had come up with the first draft of the processes which were currently awaiting review by the Senior Counsel leading the team.

9.9 The Chairman addressed the issue that was raised by Mr. Fernandez Marcus-Obiene proposed . He stated that many people have told him the date and time of the meeting is the reason they do not attend as it is inconvenient for them. He however stated that it would not be easy to change as the new date and time would be inconvenient for some people as well. He added that if the Executive Committee sees a reason for a change, they will make a recommendation to the branch.

9.10 Mr. Emeka Nwadioke asked that the memorandum submitted to the Lagos State House of Assembly be made available to the members for their enlightenment.

- 9.11 Mr. Andrew Negbenebor lamented that the branch members slept during the heat of the protests concerning the Land Use Charge. He complained that the members of the Branch were not present for the protests which held the day after the last meeting.
- 9.12 Mrs. Bumi Ibrahim reminded the Chairman that the branch was promised a table at the Lagos State House of Assembly to enable members air their views on the law that the House intended to pass. She suggested that the offer be followed up and the Chairman agreed that he would revisit the minutes of that meeting and verify that the offer was still on the table.
- 9.13 The Chairman announced that the Electoral Committee for the upcoming National NBA Elections has sent word to all branches to send a list of names of members who have paid their Bar Practicing Fees along with their functioning email addresses; phone numbers and bank statements showing payments of bar practicing fees. He also told the members of the Electoral Committee's requirement that the branch submit the bank tellers evidencing payment of Bar Practicing Fees. He explained that he had written a strongly worded email complaining about the short deadline given and the impractical requests being made in view of the size of the branch. He said that the Committee had replied by giving an extension till the 11<sup>th</sup> of May, 2018, adding that a further extension till Wednesday 16th May, 2018 was announced at the NEC Meeting. He went on to say that a good number of members had yet to submit their email addresses and asked that they do so before the coming Wednesday after which a list will be collated.
- 9.14 Lady Debby Obodoukwu who commented that the branch had well over 8,000 members suggested that the names of members who had paid their branch dues and Bar Practicing Fees should be sent to the Committee who would cross check the names and upload them online where members can go and upload their details.
- 9.15 The Chairman promised that the list of members who had paid their dues would be sent to the Electoral Committee and he encouraged that as many members as possible add their details so as to enable them be eligible for voting.
- 9.16 The Chairman was reminded that the Vice Chairman of the Electoral Committee, Mr. Tunde Busari SAN, was a member of the branch and should be engaged for clarification. The Chairman said that he had indeed met with Mr. Tunde Busari who encouraged him to send the email to the Committee stating his reservations.
- 9.17 Mr. Akerele suggested that the branch give the Electoral Committee what it was requesting for so that as many members as possible would be eligible to vote. The Chairman added that he and the Secretary would take all necessary steps to ensure that all members are given notice of the requirements.
- 9.18 Mr. Nwadioke reminded the Chairman that at the last election, only about 4500 members were eligible to vote. He urged the Executive Committee to take a more proactive stance towards the issue to ensure as many members as possible be

eligible to vote. The Chairman clarified that the process of accreditation last year was easier as it did not require telephone numbers and email addresses; therefore it is imperative that all hands are on deck to make sure the best is done during the limited time.

#### **10.0 ANNOUNCEMENT**

10.1 The Chairman announced Mr. Adewale Adesokan SAN as the generous host for the meeting. He therefore called on Chief Emeka Ngige SAN to appreciate the sponsor and Chief Ngige SAN conveyed the deep gratitude of the branch to him.

10.2 The cake for May celebrants was cut and supervised by Lady Debby Obodoukwu.

#### **11.0 CLOSING**

11.1 There being no other business, Mrs. Bunmi Ibrahim moved the Motion for the Adjournment of the meeting and Mrs. Tolani Edu seconded same. The meeting was adjourned, accordingly.

11.2 The meeting ended at 3:45 pm with the closing prayer led by Chief Zik Obi.

**Chukwuka Ikwuazom**  
Chairman

**Ikechukwu Uwanna**  
Secretary

