MINUTES OF THE 61st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS HELD ON THURSDAY, 25th APRIL, 2025, AT THE JUNE 12 CULTURAL CENTER, ABEOKUTA, OGUN STATE.

S/N	PROCEEDINGS	ACTION
1.0 1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.5	Call to order The 61 st Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR) started at about 1.30 pm with the house called to order by the President, Chairman of Council, Dr. Ike Neliaku, fnipr, who welcomed all members present.	
2.0 2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.8 2.9 2.10 2.11 2.12 2.13 2.14 2.15 2.16 2.17 2.18 2.19 2.20 2.21 2.22 2.23 2.24 2.25	Adoption of Meeting Agenda Agenda 1. To read the notice conveying the meeting 2. To receive the President's Report 3. To receive the audited accounts for the year ended 31st December, 2023 4. To authorise Council to fix the remuneration for the auditors 5. Hosting of 2025 NPRWeek 6. Report on 61st Diamond Jubilee 7. Launch of Register of Members, 2024 8. Launch of NIPR Life Assurance Policy 9. Creation/Review of Bye-Laws 10.Report of NIPR Act Enforcement and Compliance Committee 11.Presentation of Membership Benefits Amendment to agenda Brig. Gen. S.K. Usman (rtd), fnipr proposed amendments to the agenda while moving a motion for adoption of the agenda as amended to include: 12.Transaction of Any other Business 13.Next AGM 2026 14.Closing remarks by the President 15.Closing of meeting Dr. Igwe Chibueze, mnipr, move to second the motion with Dr. Oludare Ogunyombo, mnipr, lending additional support.	
3.0 3.1 3.2	Reading of Notice Conveying the Meeting The Registrar, Chief Uzoma Onyegbadue, fnipr, read the notice conveying the 61 st AGM of the NIPR.	
4.0 4.1 4.2	President's Report The report of the president was received by the meeting and covered the following four broad areas:	

- 4.3 i. Ideological and philosophical framework;
- 4.4 ii. Programmes and activities;
- 4.5 iii. Future forward; and
- 4.6 iv. Conclusion

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Under the Ideological and philosophical framework, the president espoused the following approaches:

- a. The Big Family Approach of consolidation and not opposition;
- Value-Mantra, as a mechanism to weigh derivable values to the institute, to include, Professional value, Reputational value and Financial Value;
- c. Enterprise approach
- d. Relevance approach; and
- e. Inclusive approach

The second part of the report on programmes and activities informed on the achievement of the placement of Public Relations in the scheme of service of the Federation through redesignation of information officers cadre to Information and Public Relations officers Cadre at the 45th National Council on Establishment meeting held in the Bauchi, 11th -13th December 2023 and followed by a circular by the Head of service dated March 21st, 2024 referenced

- 4.26 HCSF/SPSP/ODD/CND/100/S.1/196.
- 4.27 The President reported on the interest of Nasarawa State 4.28 to host the NIPR Finishing school and plans of transition 4.29 to the Public Relations University. The offer he noted, had 4.30 been approved by council. He further appreciated the 4.31 Governor of Nasarawa State, His Excellency, Engr. 4.32 Abdullahi A. Sule, for approving a monthly grant of One 4.33 Million Naira only (N1,000,000) to Nasarawa State 4.34 Chapter for its activities.
- 4.35 The General Assembly was informed about the 4.36 digitisation process embarked upon leading to a medium 4.37 wholly owned and hosted by the institute with a new 4.38 www.niprng.org.ng. The initiation website, 4.39 institutionalisation of a National Spokespersons Summit 4.40 and the hosting of the maiden edition from March 26th -4.41 27th, 2024 was as well as the establishment of NIPR Hubs 4.42 aimed at deepening Public Relations, to addressing 4.43 critical issues affecting the different sectors of the 4.44 economy. To engender inclusive and delegated 4.45 leadership, he informed that council had approved 4.46 constitution of several committees with terms of 4.47 reference aimed at achieving several tasks for the
- 4.48 institute. Fostering of strategic partnerships with 4.49 government, professional and industrial bodies to 4.50 advance interest of NIPR had been largely pursued and

4.51 has given room for executing of Memorandum of 4.52 Understanding while discussions at different levels have 4.53 deepened for collaborations with many organisations. 4.54 The report covered the introduction of more legacy 4.55 lecture series like, His Majesty, Obi Alfred Nnaemeka 4.56 Achebe National Peace and Reconciliation Annual 4.57 Lecture; Institute's Professional development 4.58 programmes; Special Training of ECOWAS Executive and 4.59 staff in communication department; Annual directors 4.60 conference and retreat: Mandatory Continuina 4.61 Professional Development (MCPD); Membership, 4.62 Induction of members, Fellowship Upgrade for regular 4.63 and honourary Fellows. The President, Dr, Ike Neliaku, 4.64 fnipr, gave report on council resolution on introduction of 4.65 life membership and review of Master Class fee to 4.66 N400,000. On life membership Subscription, Members 4.67 above 70 years are to enjoy free subscription, above 50 4.68 years will enjoy life membership on payment of Five 4.69 Hundred Thousand Naira only (N500,000), less than 50 4.70 years to enjoy life membership on payment of One 4.71 Million Naira only (N1,000,000). The report covered 4.72 efforts at enhancing service delivery at the National 4.73 Secretariat through the employment of more staff for the 4.74 National Secretariat; Line up of activities towards the 4.75 celebration of Diamond Anniversary of the Institute 4.76 drawn up for the whole month of June, 2024, Chapter 4.77 relations and resuscitation of dormant chapters; 4.78 Compliance and enforcement efforts carried out. The 4.79 report appreciated the commitment, efforts and sacrifice 4.80 of Chief Yomi Badejo-Okusanya's who conceived the idea 4.81 of rebranding our annual AGM and Conference to Nigeria 4.82 Public Relations Week, chairing the National Planning 4.83 Committee and contributions of members of the 4.84 committee and council in making it a success. Other 4.85 activities covered in the report include the Nigerian 4.86 Public Relations Definition Project; the National Order of 4.87 and the Nigeria precedence project Reputation 4.88 Management Group. 4.89 On future forward for the Institute, the report identified 4.90 challenges of lack of clarity on what Public Relations is 4.91 about, lack of understanding by policy makers especially 4.92 in government on the role of Public Relations in national 4.93 development and lack of interest and/or commitment by 4.94 most members to promote the interest of their 4.95 profession and institute. Therefore, emphasis should be 4.96 on giving value to the institute and profession for 4.97 reciprocal values to be earned from government and 4.98 non- governmental organisations.

- 4.99 Concluding, the report appreciated the progress made by
 4.100 the institute over the past year, linking it to the
 4.101 dedication and commitment of our members, council and
- 4.102 | secretariat while urging all to remain steadfast in our
- 4.103 commitment to excellence, professionalism and ethical
- 4.104 conduct in the New Dawn.
- 4.105 | Motion for adoption of the President's report was moved
- 4.106 by Yeye Agnes Shobanjo, mnipr, and seconded by Prince
- 4.107 | Sunday Adejolu, fnipr, from Ekiti Chapter.

Audited accounts for the year ended 31st

December, 2023

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- The External Auditors to the institute Arah Okocha and Co Chartered Accountants, represented by Mr. Kayode Akinyoola presented the audited financial statements of the Institute for the year ended December 31, 2023. The results show growth in operating surplus from N953,086 as at December 31st 2022 to N42, 793,120 by December 31st 2023. Within the same period, current assets grew
- 5.8 31st, 2023. Within the same period, current assets grew from N8, 207,643 to N69,292,690, same with liabilities
- 5.10 from N9,576,746 in year 2022 to N24, 573,221 in year 5.11 2023.
- 5.12 While calling for comments, the president informed that
- 5.13 going forward, the Institute's account should be
- 5.14 reviewed on a monthly basis. Commenting, Mr. Kassim Usman, drew the attention of the meeting to page 23
- 5.16 and 24 of the report and noted that the trajectory of the
- 5.17 institute is moving forward and appreciated the council
- 5.18 for maintaining the statutory time schedule for Annual
- 5.19 General Meetings. He urged that we should look at the
- 5.20 accounting year and suggested that we revert to 31st
- 5.21 March to April accounting cycle. The General Assembly
- 5.22 overwhelmingly supported that we revert to March 31st -
- 5.23 April accounting cycle.
- 5.24 Mr. Chigozie Ogbujo from River State Chapter called for the administrative and financial implications of the
- 5.25 the administrative and financial implications of the
- 5.26 movement to which the auditor retorted that there will be cost attached but will be minimal.
- 5.27 be cost attached but will be minimal.
- 5.28 The President suggested that we make the auditing
- 5.29 quarterly, to which members agreed.
- 5.30 Motion for the adoption of the new accounting cycle from 5.31 March 31st to April was moved by Mallam, Sadig Kassim
- 5.31 | March 31st to April was moved by Mallam. Sadiq Kassim, 5.32 | fninr and supported by Gen. S.K. Usman (Rtd.). fninr
- fnipr and supported by Gen. S.K. Usman (Rtd.), fnipr.

 Mr. Ben Okache, fnipr moved a motion to accept the
- 5.34 report of the auditor and to authorise council to fix the
- 5.35 remuneration for the auditors. This motion was supported by Mr. Ken Eboigbe. Other comments include

the request to check how long an auditor can serve an organisation statutorily, to which the president informed that the tenure allowed is up to 20 years. The meeting was informed that the bursar can be an affiliate member or honourary member of the Institute.

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Hosting of 2025 Nigeria Public Relations Week (NPRWeek)

The AGM was informed that the bid by chapters for the hosting of the 2025 NPRWeek was won by Akwa Ibom State Chapter for the date of Tuesday, April 22 to Friday, April 25, 2025. The president's call for motion to support the bid, drew reactions to the dates chosen which was seen as falling within the Moslem Ramadan fasting period and may not permit full participation. Another date, Monday 5th of May to Friday, 9th of May, 2025 was suggested and chosen.

Elder Casca Ogosu, fnipr moved a motion in support of the hosting rights of Akwa Ibom State Chapter. While supporting the motion, the Immediate Past President, Mallam Mukhtar Sirajo, fnipr, informed that the decision of when and where to hold the Annual General Meeting is wholly that of the Council of the Institute. The Chairman of Akwa Ibom State Chapter Elder Manasseh Umoetteh assured members that Akwa Ibom State Chapter is ready to host the event.

Report on Preparations for Diamond Jubilee celebrations

The Vice President, Prof. Emmanuel Dandaura briefed the meeting on preparations for the institutes 61st Anniversary celebrations. The Vice President shared a brochure to assist members in identifying materials for sponsorship and opportunities that offer values in marketing. The informed that the chapter have roles to play during the events marking the celebrations. Chapters were advised to organise a work where the Governors should be encouraged to participate. The reeled out the line-up of events which include planting of trees by all chapters and at the Reputation House, Abuja, Colloquium for the 27th of June, 2024, where the President and Commander in Chief of Nigerian Armed Forces is expected. He informed that the colloquium will end with a diamond award where those that have contributed positively to the growth of the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations will be honoured. He urged 7.19 all to participate in the sponsorship and marketing of all7.20 activities lined up for the celebration.

Launch of 2nd Edition of Register of Members

The launch of the 2nd edition of register of members was stepped down, as the consignment was yet to arrive Abeokuta. However, members were informed that the Register will be released at the evening event as delivery was assured before then.

NIPR Life Assurance Policy

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A consultant on Insurance to the Institute Mr. Babatunde A. Oguntade of Lectern Insurance Brokers Limited was called up to make presentations to the meeting. He briefed members on the policy of permanent disability and life assurance stating that from a N20,000 premium, a reduction to N9,000 for members will yield a benefit of N2,000,000 to any member affected. The discretionary policy that ends at 60years was noted by members while suggestions were made to make the policy payment part of our annual dues so that it can be permanent. At the end of deliberations, Council was mandated to look deeper and come up with a better option.

Creation / Review of Bye-Laws

10.2 The Chairman of legal Advisory Committee (LAC) Barr. 10.3 Karibi George, fnipr was invited to give highlights of the 10.4 review of Bye-Law No. 2 on creation and administration 10.5 of NIPR Chapters. He commenced by giving a report of 10.6 the Chapter Relations Committee which was adopted 10.7 through a motion by Mrs. Onyinye Ralph-Nwachukwu, 10.8 fnipr, and seconded by Mrs. Tiwalade Fapohunda, fnipr. 10.9 Barr. George, gave highlights on the introduction of 10.10 branches in the administrative structure of the Institute, 10.11 relationship with Chapters, framework 10.12 establishment of the branches, tenure and other 10.13 responsibilities. Commenting, Dr. Mohammed Kudu 10.14 Abubarkar, fnipr proposed an amendment to have 10.15 branches in all senatorial zones and the president 10.16 informed that that was considered in the reviewed Bye-10.17 Law No. 2. Mr. Tonye Moyela from Bayelsa Chapter asked 10.18 to know how the process came about and it was 10.19 explained that the document emanated from Chapter 10.20 Chairmen in the past 4 years of engagement. 10.21 A motion for the adoption of the amendment of Bye-Law

No.2 was moved by Rev. Dr. Abraham Olusholaniyi,fnipr,

10.23 as he asked for the setting up of an implementation 10.24 committee to allay the fears of those having cold feet on 10.25 the amendment. Mr. Felix Olunkwa, mnipr, Chairman of 10.26 Abia State Chapter, seconded the motion. Thereafter, the 10.27 President, proclaimed the adoption of the reviewed Bye-10,28 Law No. 2, 2024 as amended. Report on the NIPR Act Enforcement and 11.1 11.2 **Compliance Committee** 11.3 The meeting was informed of the preliminary activities 11.4 of the committee which has set the ground for strict 11.5 enforcement of the NIPR Act in both public and private 11.6 oranisations. These include the dispatch of contravention 11.7 notices and ultimatums and notice to sue, with the 11.8 Inspector General of Police and the Attorney General of 11.9 the Federation copied in each instance. The President 11.10 asked the members of the NIPR Act Enforcement and 11.11 Compliance Committee to stand up for recognition. 12.1 **Presentation on Membership Benefits** 12.2 The Chairman, Membership Services Committee, Hajia 12.3 Maryam Sanusi, fnipr, made a presentation membership benefits which include the following: Career 12.4 12.5 Progression in the Civil Service and Public Advocacy 12.6 Involvement, Networking Opportunities, Discounts, 12.7 Continuing Education Credits / Points, Capacity Building 12.8 Professional Development Opportunities, 12.9 Certification and Accreditation Support, Professional 12.10 Mentorship and Counseling, Resource and Publications, 12.11 Recognition for Professional Achievements, Professional 12.12 Engagement, Strategic Corporate Partnerships, Free 12.13 Access to NIPR Events for Student Members, 12.14 Mentorship Programs, Job Placement and Volunteer Assistance, Access to Established Library/Resource 12.15 Center, E-Library Exclusive to Practice ID Holders, NIPR 12.16 12.17 Bookshop - Members' Bookshop with Special Levy. 13.0 **Any Other Business (AOB)** 13.1 Members raised additional concerns which included the 13.2 following: 13.3 Observation that the there is lack of code of 13.4 conduct publication for members to purchase at the venue of the AGM, to which the President 13.5 13.6 responded that all documents pertaining to the

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13.8 13.9 13.10 13.11 13.12 13.13 13.14 13.15	 Institute have been uploaded on the website and members are encouraged to read them. Observation that there is branding deficit on offerings from the chapters. This was followed with a suggestion that chapters can be graded to know which states that are performing or otherwise. Also new fellows were expected to participate very well in chapter level activities. 	
14.0	Closing Domorks and Adjournment	
14.0 14.1 14.2 14.3 14.4 14.5 14.6 14.7 14.8 14.9 14.10 14.11	Closing Remarks and Adjournment Contributions were received from Comrade Loveth Ekwemalu, fnipr, who appreciated the Institute and the Fellowship Advisory Committee for their efforts. Mr. Indiana Mathew proposed the Kemal formation of sponsorship committee and events management/protocol committee for future events. The President thanked all members for their participation and reaffirmed the Institute's commitment to excellence in public relations practice. A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Lady. Chinwe Ogbuka, fnipr, and seconded by Mr. Abdulrafiu Olokoko The meeting was adjourned at 4.35pm.	
	Chief Uzoma Onyegbadue, fnipr Registrar, Secretary to Council	
	The Melialus BUD Cales	
	Ike Neliaku, PhD, fnipr	
	President, Chairman of Council	