



NIGERIAN WOMEN IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (NIWIIT)

For enquiries - send an email to support@niwiitng.org

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION HELD ON THE 8TH MARCH, 2021

PREAMBLE

The event attracted stakeholders from all over the country made up of the National Executive Council, Iconic women in IT, special guests and other esteemed members of NIWIIT. Prior to this day, NIWIIT started a week long campaign where her ICONIC leaders raised hands to affirm their challenge, the International Women's day celebration was at the end of a weeklong NIWIIT contribution to a campaign that sensitized the world about #IWD 2021, which was declared open by the president Mrs. Bayo – Osibo Bamidele at 2:02 PM, she welcomed members and briefly elaborated on the reason why NIWIIT had to participate in the international Women's day, she challenge the women with the colours of the day (1.) white : to be of a pure heart (2.) purple: to follow justice and equity and (3.) green: to be hopeful and together, they can achieve their goals.

Mrs. Victoria Awolabi gave the opening remarks. In her speech, she made the women understand that God has blessed them, making them women of special value, she said that women have the capacity of carrying out multiple tasks, she therefore charged all participants to take notes during the event to make judicious use of it thereafter.

All the speakers and participants at the event, charged each other and challenged their selves.

OBSERVATIONS:

Participants at the event observed that:

1. The international women's day was strategic and timely, charging and motivating them to represent the image of what NIWIIT advocates for, so that together, they could achieve their goals.
2. The delivery format of the event included eleven (11) lead presentations made up of three (3) lead speakers, three (3) persons with Charges, five (5) persons with words of encouragement, followed by exhaustive discussions by the participants. The following lead presentations were made:
 - (a.) Women are discriminated with little or no efforts to fight for their right.
 - (b.) Women are still intimidated and scared of interacting with men, some women have not even discovered their purpose.
 - (c.) There was need for women to make an impact where ever they find themselves without any form of bias.
 - (d.) Some males, still refuse to create space for the female folk.
 - (e.) There is a decline in the study of Computer Science by the female folk on the basis that it is difficult.
 - (f) Our society still encourages gender bias.
 - (g) Women stereotype themselves with negative images and are still scared of studying programming courses.
 - (h) There are still vacant spaces left for women to compete with their male counterpart

and occupy.

(i) There was need for women to empower, support and encourage their fellow women.

(j) There was need for women to be passionate in all they do.

(k) Women in leadership positions to lead with integrity.

Following the discussions and interactions, the following resolutions were adopted by the participants:

1. Women should step up to equality, the literate woman should get up and fight for the right of the uneducated woman, to empower and integrate them into the society so that they can be digitally transformed with digital skills.
2. Women should challenge their status quo, their inner self, create values for their self such as integrity and honesty, to believe in their selves and strive to be the best by following the acronym SMART where :- S stands for: Self-discovery, M: Mentorship, A: Adaptability, R: Responsibility, T: Tech SAVY, Women who are yet to discover themselves or purpose should be identified, provided with a better platform, environment and resources to develop themselves by encouraging our female children, nieces, cousins and neighbours to pick interest in studying IT courses.
3. Women should strive to be better version of themselves, to promote equality, diversity and inclusion, to build equity and self-respect, women should build equality and not put their feelings before data and facts because data is transparent but feelings are bias.
4. Women should come together to create space for themselves where the male counterpart refuses to create space for them, take over their space and build their generation.
5. Women should mentor their younger ones at home and work places, expose them to the opened windows they have in Computing and encourage them to do online courses. NIWIIT State Chapters should embark on sensitization on IT to encourage young girls to go into the study of Computer science, in primary, secondary and tertiary institutions.
6. Women should challenge their fellow women against all forms of gender bias, capitalize on their inner strength and multitasking abilities to stand out high and do exploits not only in Information Technology but in all their endeavours.
7. Women should celebrate themselves and stop stereotyping themselves with negative images, but rather pick up their challenges and compete favourably with their male counterpart in Programming (software development).
8. Women should compete and take their places as competent women, to strive to be better than where they were yesterday.
9. Women should empower their fellow women, nurture and mentor the young women.
10. Females should be passionate in everything they do, to develop a passion in apps development and do better like their male counterpart.
11. Women in leadership positions should choose a life of integrity, authenticity and value, to choose a challenge of changing their own world and encourage other women to do same.

CONCLUSION

The vice president Mrs. Ifeyinwa, Ngozi Arize gave vote of thanks and appreciated all for taking out time to participate in the event. The program came to an end at 3:58 PM with closing prayers led by Mrs. Hassanat Oketokun.

COMMUNIQUE DRAFTING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mrs. Bayo – Osibo Bamidele - Chairperson

Gbor Grace Dooshima - Secretary