



SOIL SCIENCE SOCIETY OF NIGERIA

RC: No.3087

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT
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20th May 2022

Prof. Dr. Rainer Horn,
The Chairman,
IUSS Presidential Election Committee.

Dear Prof. Horn,

NOMINATION OF PROFESSOR DR. VICTOR OKECHUKWU CHUDE FOR THE POSITION OF PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF SOIL SCIENCES (IUSS) FOR 2023/24

It is with delight and great pleasure that I nominate Professor Dr. Victor Okechukwu Chude, CEO of NISS, for the position of President Elect of the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) for 2023/24. In addition to the extraordinary devotion of his energy, resources and time to the service of soil science, Victor demonstrates exemplary contribution to the professionalization of soil science in Nigeria.

Professor Chude holds a Doctoral and Master of Science degrees in Soil Science from the University of Ibadan. Prior to these, he obtained a B.Sc. in Plant/Soil Science from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. He worked between 1978 and 1987 as a Research Officer and between 1988 and 2002 as a Professor of Soil Science. Professor Chude has over 180 publications to his credit and supervised over 25 Masters and Doctoral theses many of whom have become Vice Chancellors, Researchers, Policy Makers, Scholars making meaningful impacts in soil science and the community.

Before Prof. Chude became the President of the 53-year-old Soil Science Society of Nigeria (SSSN), the Society was relatively unknown nationally and internationally; was not a financial member of the International Union of Soil Science (IUSS) and had an annual budget that was less than \$5,000. His 15 years as President of SSSN tremendously transformed the Society to a budget of above \$30,000, gave voice, enhanced visibility and participation in National policy discourse and implementation. The SSSN is now an active financial member of IUSS with increasing active participation in World Congress of Soil Science (WCSS)- thanks to the uncommon efforts, sacrifice, advocacy and drive of Prof. Chude. Victor takes it upon himself to provide exceptional support and service to student members and newly registered soil

PRESIDENT

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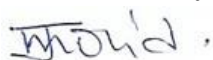
scientists. This has resulted in the 100% increase in the membership of SSSN during his tenure as President. He has also encouraged the active participation of young soil scientists at conferences through provision of sponsorship grants from corporate members of the society. In 2020 over Twenty (20) young scientists attended the 44th Annual conference courtesy of such grants.

Professor Chude's leadership, dedication and initiative contributed immensely to the enactment of Law and establishment of the Nigerian Institute of Soil Science (NISS) and hence, professionalization of soil science as a course in Nigeria. As the pioneer Registrar of the Institute, over 250 soil scientists have been registered as professional soil scientists in Nigeria between 2017 and now. Victor's accomplishment is not limited to the teaching sector alone. As the Chairman of the National Fertilizer Committee, his infectious enthusiastic, passionate pursue of set goals ensure success against all odds. This has resulted in signing of a new National Fertiliser Use Policy Law which aims at regulating abuse, misuse, adulteration and protection of genuine investor, farmers and soil resources.

On the African and global scene, Prof. Chude has not only attended virtually all the meetings of African Soil Science Society, IUSS and WCSS, he has overtime also demonstrated that his leadership skill is impeccable as he has managed to coordinate series of impactful activities simultaneously and with so much passion and dedication. During the five years of his tenure as the Chairman of the African Soil Partnership (AFSP), he remained committed to creating awareness and bringing to lime light activities of Soil Scientists and finding solutions to soil related issues in the African region. In this role, he has facilitated the hosting of several impactful workshops, training on physical soil processes for West Africa among others.

Since joining the Executive committee of SSSN in 1986, Victor's actions, dedication, skills, respect for teamwork, have earned him respect of his peers and has become mentor and role model to several soil scientists in Nigeria and Africa. His skills, knowledge, exposure, willingness to help others, and dedication to soil science and the community make him our nominee for the position of President Elect of the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) for 2023/24.

Yours sincerely



Professor Dr. Jibrin M Jibrin, FSSSN, RSS (NISS)
President, Soil Science Society of Nigeria.