

7TH ASCS Fellowship Investiture & Induction Ceremony

Trade Facilitation – The Nigerian Challenge

The event took place on the 6th of **December 2018** at Golf View Hotel GRA, Ikeja, Lagos. The welcome address was delivered by the **Director General of ACSC, Prof. Madu Obiora**, he thanked the audience for honouring the event with their presence and gave an overview of the progress and achievements of ACSC since 8 years of its creation.



Prof. Madu Obiora, DG, African Centre for Supply Chain.

Also he informed the audience of the efforts being made by the body to proffer solutions/recommendations on the problems affecting Logistics and Transportation in the Apapa area as a result of the grid lock and the recommendations will be documented in the 2018 Industry Report.



Sonny Allison - Founder/Executive Chairman GMC Logistics.

The keynote speaker **Sonny Allison** spoke on the theme “**Trade facilitation – The Nigerian Challenge**” stating the importance of reflecting and touching on issues of foundational building stones for the sustainable development of our nation.

According to the a newly Inducted Fellow, accelerating our journey to becoming a developed nation, we must build strong institutions, devoid of our mortal enemies - corruption, nepotism, tribalism, religious intolerance and other vices that hide under the phrase, “Nigerian factor”.



Panel discussion on “Trade facilitation – The Nigerian Challenge”

He also stated that the key amongst many such building blocks is infrastructure, considering infrastructure, power (electricity) is the core on which everything else draws energy. He said once we fix electricity, which he believed is the next big thing as Telecoms was a while ago, other things will begin to fall into place.

How Trade Facilitation operates?

It involves standards and procedures associated with information flows needed to move goods from seller to buyer. For trade facilitation to take place effectively and efficiently, there are four principles that must be present namely; transparency, simplification, harmonization and standardization.



Newly Inducted Members taking the ACSC Oath for Code of Conduct Practice.



From R – L: Olabode Olatunji, Larry Chinekezie, Chief Agu Cajetan, Prof. Madu Obiora, Damian Nwatarali, Onisoya Osuebe, Sonny Allison and Makama Adamu.

Sonny Allison emphasized the importance for a **single window system** which is a one-stop-shop process that obviates the need for a trader to fill various forms at different agencies. Thus, by completing the details of his/her importation or exportation online, all the relevant agencies can access it.



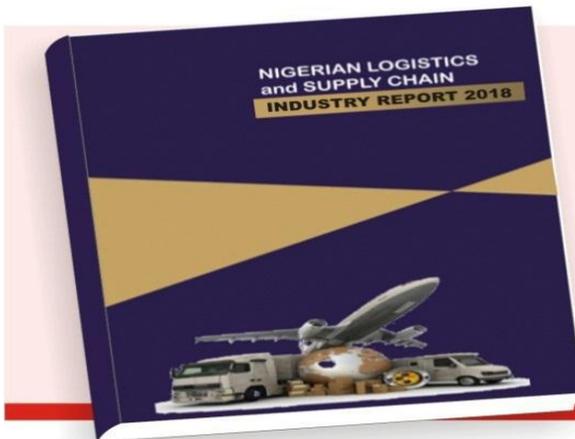
Mrs Carol Onuoha giving the vote of thanks.

In conclusion, he emphasized that since Nigeria has ratified the Trade Facilitation Agreement, the provisions should be implemented to the letter when it comes into force. This will bring tremendous improvement in Nigeria's competitiveness in international trade because; the new regime will also attract more investors and boost economic activities in Nigeria.

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