



Memorandum of Understanding Between the Nigeria National Association of the Deaf (NNAD) and the Association of Sign Language Interpreters of Nigeria (ASLIN)



This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been drafted to issue a statement that codifies strong and lasting collaboration between the Nigeria National Association of the Deaf (NNAD) and the Association of Sign Language of Nigeria (ASLIN) as well as enhance the organization's commitment to work in a close partnership for the future benefit of the Deaf community, the Sign Language Interpreting community, and for all people who use Sign Language in Nigeria.

This agreement recognizes the supremacy of NNAD to advance the political, cultural, and educational rights of deaf people in Nigeria. It also recognizes the supremacy of ASLIN members to advance the profession and rights of Sign Language Interpreters in Nigeria.

The Mission of NNAD is to advance and promote the rights of the Deaf in Nigeria.

The vision of NNAD is "A Nigerian society free from discrimination against Deaf persons".

The mission of ASLIN is to provide a national platform for zonal and state forums for continued growth and development of Sign Language profession and eliminate any barrier to information of importance to the Deaf community in Nigeria.

The vision of ASLIN is to promote the profession of Sign Language Interpretation and create access to information for the promotion of inclusion of the Deaf people in Nigeria.

The NNAD and ASLIN affirm the importance of a joint, working relationship and an established transparent communication protocol at all levels of the organization, local, regional, national, and international to stay informed and keep abreast of issues impacting the Deaf and interpreting communities.


NNAD and ASLIN Presidents, with the support of their respective boards, shall commit to the following:


- 1) Work in close cooperation in actively exchanging information that is of common interest and/or might have an effect on both organizations and members at local, state and national levels. We affirm the importance of collaboration, close liaison and transparent communication between the Deaf community and Sign Language Interpreters at a local, regional and national level in Nigeria.
- 2) Maintain organizational membership as well as individual memberships for the executive members and Board of Trustees (BoT) members in each other's organization.
- 3) Continue to partner on joint oversight of commencement of administration upgrades to the NNAD/ASLIN National Interpreter Certification tests.
- 4) Continue to partner on joint oversight of and upgrades to the NNAD-ASLIN Code of Professional Conduct.

- 5) Encourage collaborative agreements between State Associations and Affiliates of NNAD and Affiliate Chapters of ASLIN.
- 6) Pay particular attention to the development of national links in order to build capacity, provide a forum for discussion and share resources among Deaf people and Sign Language Interpreters.
- 7) Support and attend each organization's programmes.
- 8) Publically recognize the importance of and encourage the involvement of deaf members and deaf people in ASLIN and Sign Language Interpreters in NNAD/Deaf community.
- 9) Recognize that both Deaf people and Sign Language Interpreters are essential partners, individually and collectively, and that the continued collaboration between NNAD and ASLIN is a crucial and integral element to the future success of both organizations and members.
- 10) Both organizations will strive to increase learning opportunities to increase the number of professional Sign Language Interpreters who are competent and appropriately qualified to national Standards.
- 11) That hearing children of Deaf Adult who are skilled in Sign Language should be fully involved in ASLIN and Interpreting profession.
- 12) The choice to pick Sign Language Interpreter as occasion demand should lie within the Deaf concerned. Deaf should have absolute right to select who will interpret for him/her.
- 13) Pursuant to the above, NNAD/ASLIN will work to jointly draft and sign a Code of Ethics to guide Sign Language Interpreters and profession in Nigeria as well as penalty for violating these laid down ethics.

This MoU is effective upon the day and date last signed and executed by the duly authorized representatives of the parties of the MoU.

Effective2013.

Alha. .
NNAD National President


Timothy G. Tinat
ASLIN National President