FUTA HAS CAPACITY FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY

(German Expert)

A German with keen interest in Capacity Development in Nigerian Energy Development Programme, Mr. Felix Nitz has affirmed that the Federal University of Technology, Akure has great capacity to play a key role in the emerging Renewable Energy configuration in the country. Nitz who paid a courtesy call on the vice-Chancellor, Professor Adebiyi Daramola said Nigerian market and environment are ripe for Renewable Energy to complement government’s effort in power generation which will eventually create jobs and improve the economy. He also expressed his admiration for the University’s effort in Renewable Energy through the establishment of a Centre. “I am happy this University is ready for partnership in Renewable Energy. I decided to come here first because of your capacity in Renewable Energy through your Centre. We believe the market is ripe, so we need to build professionals. We need people with competence because Renewable Energy requires entrepreneurial dimension to attain great achievement,” he added.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Adebiyi Daramola expressed FUTA’s readiness to partner with Nitz, stressing the benefits the venture will bring to the nation. He said Penn State University, USA is already interested in collaborating with FUTA on Renewable Energy and added that sometimes because of the multidimensional and importance of a project, it could be funded by three or more donors.

Daramola said “The clarity of our vision in Renewable Energy is not accidental. It is based on what we have identified as infrastructural gap. In my sojourn around the globe, I have seen how solar energy is being used which is lacking in our nation because of our dependence on
fuel which has its negative effects on the environment. We have done a lot of research on Renewable Energy because our plan is to turn FUTA into a Green Environment. We are taking that step because we know our government cannot handle energy issue alone”. Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Professor Adedayo Fasakin corroborated Professor Daramola’s speech by saying “Energy is a problem in Nigeria and as a University of Technology we want to proffer solution because the society depends on the ivory towers for solution to challenges”.