



# FUTA News

## NARAP MEETS AT FUTA, CHARTS WAY FORWARD

The National Association of Refrigerator and Air conditioner Practitioners (NARAP) recently held its National Executive Committee meeting at the Federal University of Technology, Akure to review its operations and chart the way forward to reposition the body.

Declaring the meeting open, the National President, NARAP Mr John Sunday Akhabue said the essence of the meeting was to review the collaboration started with FUTA in 2010 because there was a perceived vacuum caused by a break in communication. According to him, members are itching to move forward because of the golden opportunity FUTA has offered and therefore saw it necessary to gather to deliberate since the body plays a key role in making people comfortable. In his address, the Associate Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship (CENT), Dr Olayinka Awopetu said that one of the mandates of the Centre is to develop entrepreneurs because not everybody can acquire University degrees. In view of this, the Centre strives to develop artisans by retraining and certifying them. Awopetu said, "Comfort is part of your slogan as a body and we at CENT strive to train people to make others comfortable. We try to certify road side artisans to enable them understand modern methods of doing business with government agencies and other establishments. In order to get to the nook and cranny of Nigeria, we collaborate with stakeholders in other distant states and we play supervisory role, assess them and award them certificates at the end of the training programmes tailored made for them".

Addressing the gathering the Vice Chancellor, Professor Adebisi Daramola reaffirmed the leading position FUTA is occupying in the field of technology in Nigeria. He said that the charge from the presidency in Abuja is for FUTA to become an Entrepreneurial University where people will not just graduate with certificates, but with skills.

Prof. Daramola further said that FUTA is constantly improving on Town and Gown relationship by impacting on the community. According to him, there is a need for neighbouring states around Ondo where FUTA is located to feel and benefit from the presence of FUTA positively. This informed the establishment of CENT which provides opportunity for those who may not have the privilege of formal education to be impacted by FUTA.

Professor Daramola further assured NARAP executive members that CENT will add value to what they

are doing through the training. He said, "We know the latest technology that can move our country forward. CENT is there to add professional value to your operations. FUTA will help you to develop skills. Even young school leavers are welcomed because we want to change their orientation about job seeking by giving them skills that will earn them a future.

In his response to the Vice Chancellor, NARAP's President, Mr. Akhabue said, "We are glad to be here. We have seen that FUTA is doing very well and we shall take the message back to our members that training is good for better success. You have the expertise to develop our skills and we shall maximize this golden opportunity.

Director of the Centre, Dr. A.E. Olajuyigbe said, "I can boldly tell you that FUTA is the best University. Our Centre is well equipped to train and retrain over 200 people at the same time. We have the human and material resources for this. We train in entrepreneurship on how to keep, grow and make business innovations. We also train in sustainability which is key to growth".