



# FUTA NEWS

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: INDISPENSABLE TOOLS IN CRISIS**

### **RESOLUTION – DON**

Science and Technology have been identified as valuable tool in resolving conflicts and managing crisis embattling the society. Professor Kayode Adebowale stated this while delivering the key note address at the 4th Annual Conference of the School of Sciences, Federal University of Technology, Akure held at CCE Hilltop Auditorium of the Institution. He spoke on the theme: The Roles of Science and Technology in Conflict Resolution and Crisis Management. Adebowale a Professor of Chemistry and Director , Special Duties at the University of Ibadan ,said to achieve productivity, economic empowerment that will enhance better standard of living and create peaceful co-existence among conflicting communities, adequate application of Science and Technology is germane.

He said globally there is a strong and increasing interest in the promotion of sustainable development however, in African countries and other developing nations; this important goal is like a mirage due to the most common human induced factor of crisis and conflict, among others. He highlighted the issues leading to conflict to include: Inequitable distribution of resources, resultant wide spread poverty, denial of human right and basic necessities and the absence of rule of law due to a weak judicial system.

According to him these issues affect sustainable development negatively by the decrease of man power, quality, destruction of basic infrastructures, polluted political climate and the destabilization of the institutions and structures of the society.He explained that a culture of war grows where there is propaganda which

encourages monopoly of power and the exploitation of people and resources while a culture of peace is characterized by freedom of expression and dialogue based on logic rooted in education.

Making a case for application of science in conflict resolution, Adebowale stated that since the scientific method relies on observation and experimentation to describe a natural phenomenon, it should be used in peace building and not only restricted to laboratory based knowledge. The Don said that Science and technology, particularly ICT in today's world offers different opportunities for quick conflict awareness, assessment and resolution. He also added that the creation of indigenous technology through the applications of the knowledge of science will give rise to industries and job creation which will in turn increase capital, labour and other forms of productivity which will in the long term empower the citizenry. Adebowale posited that the brain behind industrialization is the application of Science and Technology for socio economic advancement which is absolutely necessary for minimization of the competition for scarce resources, building of infrastructure investment in agriculture, increased information dissemination and communication, wealth creation and improved standard of living.

Summing up, Professor Adebowale said that the products that Science and Technology have offered to mankind are too numerous to mention and that sustainability of development goals can only be achieved and preserved for future generations, in a knowledge based economy.

Earlier in his address, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Adebisi Daramola who was represented by the Deputy Chancellor (Academics), Professor Tunde Arayela said the theme of the conference was apt considering the state of the nation and indeed the entire world. He gave kudos to the Dean, Professor Olubode Koriko for impacting positively on the productivity of the entire staff and students of the School. The Vice-Chancellor also commended the School and particularly staff and students of the Department of Mathematics for bringing honour to the University through the brilliant performance of their students at the recently concluded 8th

National Mathematical Competition for the University Students (2016 NAMCUS) in Abuja under the aegis of the National Mathematical Centre (NME).

In his welcome address, Dean, School of Sciences, Professor Olubode Koriko said it was a distinct honour and singular privilege to have Professor Adebowale to deliver the key note address, adding that Adebowale began his career in FUTA and was part of the academic staff that made the Chemistry Department a pride to all. The Dean said the theme was carefully chosen to address a number of issues especially the utilization of research works from tertiary institutions to resolve conflict in the society.