



Presidential Address at the Inauguration of the Executive Members of the Nigerian Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (NIEEE)

Protocols

It is with profound gratitude, humility, and a deep sense of responsibility that I'm before you today as the President of the Nigerian Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (NIEEE). By the grace of Almighty God and through the collective confidence reposed in us by our distinguished members, I have the honour to formally inaugurate the newly elected Executive Committee of our great Institute for the 2026 administrative year.

Today is not merely ceremonial; it marks the dawn of a new chapter in the life of NIEEE. It signifies renewed hope, fresh ideas, and a shared commitment to advancing the vision, mission, and core values of our Institute. The expectations before us are high, and rightly so, because NIEEE remains a critical pillar in shaping Nigeria's technological advancement and engineering excellence.

Distinguished elected executives, your presence here today is a testament to the trust, confidence, and belief your colleagues have placed in your leadership capacity. This mandate is both an honour and a solemn call to service. Leadership, as we all know, is not about title or position, but about responsibility, sacrifice, and impact. I therefore charge each and every one of you to join hands with me in unity of purpose and clarity of vision.

Let me be unequivocal: 99% cooperation and loyalty will not suffice. What is required of us is total commitment—of time, intellect, integrity, and passion. Together, we must lead with purpose, guided by sound ethics, professional excellence, transparency, and an unwavering resolve to serve the best interests of our members and the engineering profession at large.

This Executive Committee has just one year to serve, to inspire confidence, and to deliver measurable outcomes that will leave a lasting legacy. Time is therefore of the essence. Attendance and punctuality at meetings are non-negotiable, and I assure you that all meetings under this administration will be time-conscious, goal-oriented, and productive. We will respect one another's time, recognizing that efficiency is a hallmark of effective leadership.

Key Focus Areas for Our Tenure

As we engage, deliberate, and execute our responsibilities, the following strategic priority areas will guide our actions and decision-making:

Innovation

We must deliberately and consistently embrace innovation. The challenges confronting the engineering profession today require creative thinking and bold solutions. As leaders, we must be willing to move beyond conventional approaches, explore new ideas, adopt emerging technologies, and encourage innovative thinking across all levels of the Institute.

Impact

Our activities must go beyond routine engagements and ceremonial programmes. While webinars and meetings are important, our focus must be on initiatives that deliver tangible value, programmes that directly benefit our members, strengthen professional competence, influence policy, and contribute meaningfully to national development.

Visibility

NIEEE must be seen, heard, and felt—locally, nationally, and globally. We must deliberately enhance the Institute's visibility through strategic partnerships, thought leadership, advocacy, and public engagement. Creative and forward-thinking ideas are required to position NIEEE as a leading voice in engineering and technology discourse.

Annual Programme and Performance Measurement

Each portfolio holder is required to submit a comprehensive programme of activities for the year. These programmes will be translated into clear Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to enable objective performance tracking and evaluation. At the end of the tenure, every executive is expected to present a detailed annual report to the house, highlighting achievements, challenges, lessons learned, and recommendations.

Ambassadorship at Chapter Level

Every executive must see himself as an ambassador of NIEEE within their respective chapters. Active participation, visibility, commitment, and exemplary conduct are expected. Your leadership should inspire your chapters and positively influence the zones you represent, fostering unity and collective growth.

Board Nominations

Having been elected since October, I trust that your board nominations are already underway. I urge you to forward your proposed nominations for board membership to the Office of the President and copy the ES latest by 15th January to ensure timely constitution of our governance structures.

Our Guiding Philosophy

The guiding philosophy for this administration is simple, clear, and purposeful:
“Empowering the chapters and developing together.”

We are committed to strengthening NIEEE from the grassroots by empowering our chapters, promoting collaboration, embracing diversity, and fostering a strong sense of togetherness. When our chapters grow, the Institute grows; when we develop together, we achieve sustainable progress.

Road Map Committee Reports.

A road map committee was set up in October 2024 to define a road map (a short- and medium-term strategic framework) for the administration. They submitted their report timely in June 2025. The raw report has been posted on the exco platform. Please read it. Meanwhile, work is going on to translate the report to an implementable form.

NIEEE Constitution

The constitution is our bible; it is expedient that all exco members get well familiar with it by reading it over and over again in order to guide your activities.

Engagement on the Exco Platform

I strongly encourage every executive to be active on the Exco platform. It will save us abundant time. Make it a habit to engage there at least twice daily so that responsibilities are dispatched without delay. Leadership demands sacrifice. Having presented yourself willingly to serve, you have no excuses for non-performances. Much is expected from each of us, and we must rise to the occasion.

Boards and Committees

At our first Satutory meeting, nominations into boards and committees will be formally considered. Our goal is to have the Governing Council, Board and committees fully constituted by early February to enable smooth and effective operations.

Corporate Responsibility and Teamwork

This administration will operate on the principle of teamwork, while recognizing individual accountability. No single person can achieve our collective goals alone. Our strength lies in collaboration, mutual respect, and shared responsibility.

As John C. Maxwell rightly stated:

“No task is too great, no accomplishment too grand, no dream too far-fetched for a team. It takes a team effort to make a dream work.”

Similarly, Henry Ford reminds us that:

“Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.”

Let these words guide our interactions, decisions, and collective efforts throughout this tenure.

Conclusion

Distinguished colleagues, the time has come for us to move from words to action. The task before us is demanding, but the opportunity is great. Let us break barriers, raise professional standards, strengthen our chapters, and make this tenure truly memorable in the annals of NIEEE.

Let us lead boldly, serve selflessly, and deliver excellently.

Thank you for your commitment, and may God bless you all.

God bless the Nigerian Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.

Engr. Felix Adegbeye, FNIEEE

President, NIEEE