

18<sup>th</sup> November, 2022

## COMMUNIQUE OF THE NIGERIAN THORACIC SOCIETY ISSUED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE HELD AT HAWTHORN SUITES, GARKI 2 ABUJA, FCT FROM 17<sup>TH</sup> TO 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022.

### Preamble

The Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference of the Nigerian Thoracic Society (NTS) tagged “Kaduna/Abuja 2022” took place at Hawthorn Suites, Garki 2 Abuja, from 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022. It was a hybrid meeting that ensured that members who were unable to attend physically also participated fully. The theme of the conference, “The Environment and Lung Health” was chosen to bring to limelight the current challenges facing both Nigeria and the whole world as we grapple with climate change and air pollution, and occupational related lung diseases.

The Guest of Honour was the Medical Director Federal Medical Centre Jabi, Abuja, Prof. Saad Aliyu Ahmed who also represented Honourable Minister of Health, Dr Osagie Ehanire. The Guest Speaker was Dr Iroezindu Israel the Medical Director, Occupational Health Corporate & Industrial Medical Services (CIMS).

### Observations:

1. Air pollution continues to be a menace to our society largely as a result of human activities.
2. Comprehensive and coherent implementation of respiratory protection programmes (RPP) have remained unrealizable.
3. Data based evidence are required to shape workplace and public health policies and surveillance to promote lung health.
4. Multi-disciplinary approach is required in the prevention of environmental air pollution particularly at the work place.
5. Although workplace laws on respiratory protection are in existence, many employees and employers are not aware of these laws and the laws are usually not enforced.

### Resolutions:

1. Government is encouraged to do more to stem the tide of air pollution in our society.
2. Government is encouraged to put in place respiratory protection programmes in the workplace.
3. Government should ensure monitoring of work environment to ensure compliance with the existing laws which protect workers from work-related air pollution and subsequently occupational lung diseases.

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4. Government is encouraged to equip our hospitals with comprehensive lung disorder diagnostic and dust sampling capabilities.
5. Government is encouraged to sensitize the general populace on the importance of workplace protection from environmental air pollution.

**Appreciation:**

On behalf of the entire membership of the NTS, the President and Executive committee of the NTS hereby expresses their heartfelt gratitude to the following distinguished individuals and organizations;

1. Honourable Minister of Health, Dr Osagie Ehanire
2. Prof. Saad Aliyu Ahmed, Medical Director, Federal Medical Centre, Jabi, Abuja.
3. Dr Iroezindu Israel, the Medical Director, Occupational Health, Corporate & Industrial Medical Services (CIMS).
4. The Local Organizing committee of the Kaduna / Abuja 2022 NTS conference and;
5. Our sponsors too numerous to mention.

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