

NIGERIAN SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY (NSM)

Communiqué Issued at the End of the 47th Annual Scientific Conference and General Meeting (AGM) of the Nigerian Society for Microbiology (NSM), Held at the University of Cross River State, Calabar Campus, Ekpo Abasi, Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria
September 14–19, 2025

The Nigerian Society for Microbiology (NSM) successfully held its 47th Scientific Conference and Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the University of Cross River State, Calabar Campus, Ekpo Abasi, Calabar, Cross River State, from September 14–19, 2025.

The conference had as its theme: “Microbial Innovations and Entrepreneurial Microbiology: The Pathway to a Healthy Society and Economic Prosperity.”

The sub-themes included:

1. Revolutionising Pharmaceuticals and Health Care through Microbial Bio-innovations (RPHC).
2. Leveraging Plant Microbiomes for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security (LPMS).
3. OMICS Sciences, Synthetic Biology, and Molecular Genetics: Catalysts for Advancing Microbial Research and Innovation (OSSB).
4. Industrial Microbiology and the Role of Microbes in Sustainable Economic Growth (IMRM).
5. Role of Microbes in Restoring Ecosystem (RMRE).
6. Ensuring Food Safety: Innovations in Microbial Control Using Peptide Technology (FSIP).

The opening ceremony of the conference was chaired by Emeritus Professor Ekanem Ikpi Braide (former President, Nigerian Academy of Sciences); other dignitaries include: the Deputy Senate President, Distinguished Senator Barau I. Jibrin, CFR, represented by Professor Bashir Mohammed Fagge; the Honourable Commissioner for Education, Cross River State, Senator Professor Stephen Odey, Vice Chancellor University of Cross River State, Professor Francisca Bassey; Vice Chancellor Kogi State University Kabba Prof K.I. T Eniola; Vice Chancellor Sokoto State University Professor M.B Yerima and Prof. Auwalu Uba, former Vice Chancellor, Bauchi State University, Gadau.

The event attracted over 500 participants drawn from the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria and beyond. These included representatives of more than 100 tertiary institutions (universities, colleges, and polytechnics/monotechnics), research institutes, industries, Federal and State Ministries, Departments and agencies, relevant professional bodies and private sector

Prior to the main conference, a pre-conference workshop was held on the theme: “Application of Bioinformatics and Computational Biology in Microbiology: Sequencing Technologies, Data Mining, Sequence Alignment/Editing, BLAST and Phylogenetics.” The workshop provided participants with practical skills in modern computational tools for microbial research and capacity-building in genomics and data-driven innovations.

Key Outcomes and Resolutions

After robust presentations, plenary discussions, technical sessions, and networking engagements, the following resolutions and observations were made:

1. Microbial Innovations and Entrepreneurship:
 - Microbial innovations hold immense potential in health care delivery, agriculture, food security, environmental restoration, and industrial development.
 - NSM calls for greater investment in microbial biotechnology and entrepreneurial microbiology to promote a healthier society and sustainable economic prosperity.
2. Health and Pharmaceuticals:
 - Microbial bio-innovations can revolutionise the pharmaceutical sector through the discovery of novel antibiotics, vaccines, probiotics, and microbial therapeutics.
 - The Society urges government, industries, and research institutes to foster collaborations that translate microbial research into affordable and accessible health solutions.
3. Agriculture and Food Security:
 - Harnessing plant microbiomes is key to developing climate-smart agriculture, improving soil fertility, and enhancing food productivity.
 - NSM advocates policies that integrate microbial innovations into national food security strategies.
4. OMICS, Synthetic Biology, and Molecular Genetics:
 - These cutting-edge sciences provide a strong foundation for advancing microbial research, innovation, and industrial applications.
 - NSM emphasizes capacity-building in OMICS technologies and calls on universities and government agencies to strengthen training and infrastructure in this area.
5. Industrial Microbiology and Economic Growth:
 - Industrial applications of microbes in fermentation, biofuels, waste management, and bioprocessing can significantly boost Nigeria's economy.
 - NSM urges increased funding and private sector involvement in industrial microbiology research.
6. Ecosystem Restoration:
 - Microbes play critical roles in bioremediation and restoration of degraded ecosystems.
 - NSM recommends adopting microbial solutions in tackling oil spills, waste degradation, and other environmental challenges.
7. Food Safety and Public Health:
 - Innovative microbial control technologies, including peptide-based methods, are vital in ensuring food safety and reducing foodborne diseases.
 - The Society calls on regulators and industries to embrace modern microbial food safety innovations.
8. Capacity Building and Collaboration:
 - The conference reaffirmed the urgent need for multi-sectoral collaborations among academia, industry, policymakers, and international partners.

- NSM commits to sustaining platforms that bridge research, innovation, and entrepreneurship for societal benefit.

Appreciation

The Society expresses profound gratitude to the Management of the University of Cross River State, Calabar Campus, for hosting the conference; to all keynote and plenary speakers, facilitators, sponsors, participants, and members for their invaluable contributions.

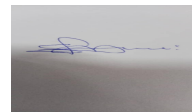
Conclusion

The participants enjoined all Nigerians to break the barriers of corruption, ethnicity, religion and political sentiments that hinder development. The Conference reaffirmed that microbial innovations and entrepreneurial microbiology are indispensable pathways for advancing public health, achieving food security, restoring ecosystems, and fostering economic prosperity in Nigeria and beyond.

19th day of September, 2025, Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria.



Prof. S. A. Ado
President, Nigerian Society for Microbiology (NSM)



Prof. S. Awe
General Secretary, Nigerian Society for Microbiology (NSM)

PRESS RELEASE

Nigerian Society for Microbiology (NSM) Holds 47th Scientific Conference and AGM in Calabar

The Nigerian Society for Microbiology (NSM) has successfully concluded its 47th Scientific Conference and Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the University of Cross River State, Calabar Campus, Ekpo Abasi, Calabar, Cross River State, from September 14–19, 2025.

With the theme “Microbial Innovations and Entrepreneurial Microbiology: The Pathway to a Healthy Society and Economic Prosperity,” the conference brought together over 500 participants from across Nigeria and beyond, representing more than 100 universities, colleges, polytechnics, research institutes, and industries.

Sub-themes covered included microbial bio-innovations for pharmaceuticals and healthcare, plant microbiomes in sustainable agriculture, OMICS sciences and synthetic biology, industrial microbiology, microbial roles in ecosystem restoration, and innovations in food safety.

A pre-conference workshop on “Application of Bioinformatics and Computational Biology in Microbiology” trained participants in modern microbial sequencing technologies, data mining, and phylogenetics.

Key highlights of the conference include:

- I. Calls for greater investment in microbial biotechnology and entrepreneurial microbiology to drive public health and economic growth.
- II. Advocacy for harnessing plant microbiomes to achieve food security and climate-smart agriculture.
- III. Emphasis on industrial applications of microbes in biofuels, fermentation, and waste management to boost Nigeria’s economy.
- IV. Recognition of the role of microbes in ecosystem restoration and bioremediation.
- V. Recommendations for adopting innovative food safety technologies to reduce foodborne diseases.

The conference was chaired by Emeritus Professor Ekanem Ikpi Braide (former President, Nigerian Academy of Sciences; other dignitaries include: the Deputy Senate President, Distinguished Senator Jibrin Barau, represented by Professor Bashir Fagge; the Honourable Commissioner for Education, Cross River State, Senator Professor Stephen Odey, Vice Chancellor University of Cross River State, Professor Francisca Bassey; Vice Chancellor Kogi State University Kabba Prof K.I. T Eniola; Vice Chancellor Sokoto State University Professor M.B Yerima and Prof. Auwalu Uba, former Vice Chancellor, Bauchi State University, Gadau.

The Society reaffirmed its commitment to fostering collaboration among academia, industry, and government towards translating microbial research into real-life solutions that benefit society.

The NSM expressed appreciation to the Management of the University of Cross River State for hosting the conference, as well as to its partners, speakers, sponsors, and participants.

The participants enjoined all Nigerians to break the barriers of corruption, ethnicity, religion and political sentiments that hinder development. The Conference reaffirmed that microbial innovations and entrepreneurial microbiology are indispensable pathways for advancing public health, achieving food security, restoring ecosystems, and fostering economic prosperity in Nigeria and beyond.

September 19, 2025, Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria.