

**2021 WIPO National Intellectual Property Essay Competition Report**  
*Intellectual Property, SMEs and Economic Recovery in Nigeria*

**July, 2021**

**Competition Overview**

The maiden edition of the *WIPO National Intellectual Property Essay Competition* was launched on April 26, 2020, by the WIPO Nigeria Office (WNO) as part of efforts to support student engagement and research in the field of intellectual property (IP) in Nigeria.

Building on the success of the maiden edition, the Second Edition of the competition was launched by the WNO on April 19, 2021 as part of WNO's activities in celebration of the World IP Day 2021, themed: *IP and SMEs: Taking your ideas to market*<sup>1</sup>.

The essay competition invited students of tertiary institutions across Nigeria to submit essays not exceeding 1500 words on the topic "*Intellectual Property, SMEs, and Economic Recovery in Nigeria*". The objective was to provide an opportunity for students to research and learn more about the field of IP, as well as contribute to policy development in this area by exploring suggestions or ideas that could help stimulate Nigeria's economic recovery through SMEs.

By the final submission deadline of May 28, 2021, the WNO had received a total of 143 entries.<sup>1</sup> These entries emerged from students representing a total of 29 tertiary institutions across Nigeria and 19 distinct disciplines, including undergraduate and graduate students of universities as well as the Nigerian Law School.

**Planning Committee**

A planning committee, comprised of IP practitioners and a student, was set up to assist with the planning and coordination of the competition. The members of this committee were:

- a. Ms. Uzoamaka Emerole, Partner, Dentons – ACAS Law<sup>2</sup>
- b. Mr. Boluwatife Anjola, Associate, Banwo and Ighodalo<sup>3</sup>
- c. Ms. Rita Anwiri Chindah, IP Lawyer and Podcast Host #IPseries

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<sup>1</sup> The deadline for submissions was extended from May 19 to May 28 2021.

<sup>2</sup> Ms. Emerole was, at the time of appointment and planning of this competition, a Senior Associate at Dentons – ACAS Law.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Anjola was, at the time of appointment and planning of this competition, a student of the Nigerian Law School.

## Panel of Judges

The WNO appointed an independent panel of 18 expert judges to assess the entries. The Panel of Judges comprised academics, policy stakeholders, government officials, WIPO representatives, industry practitioners and emerging leaders in the IP field in Nigeria. The judges for the 2021 competition were:

- a. Ms. Mo Olumide Obidiran, *Deputy Director- General, Nigerian Association of Small Scale Industrialists*;
- b. Dr. Dan-Azumi Muhammed, *Director-General, National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP)*;
- c. Ms. Enobong Usen, *Principal Assistant Registrar, Patents and Designs Registry, Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment*;
- d. Mr. John Onyido, *Partner, SPA Ajibade & Co*;
- e. Ms. Loretta Asiedu, *Senior Counsellor, Division for Africa, WIPO*;
- f. Mr. Otu- Ekong Ukoyen, *Senior Associate, Olajide Oyewole LLP, Vice President, IP Law Association of Nigeria (IPLAN)*;
- g. Ms. Altayework Tedla Desta, *Head, Distance Learning Program, WIPO Academy*;
- h. Ms. Anne Adeleye, *Ag. Registrar, Trademarks Registry, Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment*;
- i. Dr. John Asein, *Director-General, Nigerian Copyright Commission*;
- j. Dr. Ifeoluwa Olubiyi, *Senior Lecturer, College of Law, Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti*;
- k. Professor Johnson Ekpere, *Consultant, Former Executive Secretary, Scientific, Technical and Research Commission, Organization of African Unity (OAU/STRC)*;
- l. Dr. Wale Okediran, *Secretary-General, Pan- African Writers Association, Former Member, Nigerian Federal House of Representatives*;
- m. Dr. Titilayo Adebola, *Senior Advisor, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Associate Director, Centre for Commercial Law (theme coordinator for IP Law) University of Aberdeen School of Law*;
- n. Professor Joe Kur, *Faculty of Law, Benue State University, Makurdi*;
- o. Mr. Marx Ikongbeh, *Principal/Founder, Everlaw Associates*;
- p. Ms. Martha Chikowore, *Counsellor, WIPO Academic Institutions and Executive Program*;
- q. Professor Musa Waziri, *Faculty of Law, University of Abuja*;
- r. Ambassador Tunde Mukaila Mustapha, *Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations in Geneva*.

## Assessment of Entries

### *Preliminary Review*

Two main tasks were completed by the planning committee as part of the preliminary review process.

- a. First, all entries were completely anonymized for the assessment process and assigned unique competition identification numbers (WNO 001 – WNO 143). These serial

competition identification numbers were assigned in accordance with the submission timestamp of each entry.

- b. Second, an initial preliminary review of the 143 entries was carried out by the planning committee, focused on form and aimed at ensuring compliance of submissions received with the stated rules of the competition. This review resulted in the disqualification of 7 entries to the competition. A total of 136 valid entries were consequently maintained for transmission to the panel of judges for formal assessment. The studentship of contestants was verified through their student identity cards or letters from relevant authorities in the institution.

### **Judges' Assessment**

The assessment by the Panel of Judges was based on a pre-determined set of criteria which was maintained through the competition's three stages of assessment. In keeping with the competition's objectives, the equally weighted assessment criteria, was as follows:

- Author's imagination and originality (20)
- Relevance of essay to broader national, regional, and/or international developments (20)
- Author's demonstrated understanding of the field of intellectual property, and ability to link concepts and/or issues associated with IP, to ideas or suggestions expressed in essay (20)
- Grammatical accuracy, clarity of expression, flow, and thought, integrity of structural layout (20)
- Practicability and relevance of policy suggestions and/or pathways to Nigeria (20)

As noted above, a three-stage process was adopted in assessing the entries:

#### *Stage one*

For the first round of assessment, 17 out of the 18 judges were each assigned 8 serial anonymized entries, and tasked with the responsibility of identifying the top 3 entries from the 8 entries received. The top two entries from each judge's first round assessment automatically proceeded to the second stage of the competition. The third placed entry from each of the 17 judges, was assigned to the 18<sup>th</sup> judge. The 18<sup>th</sup> judge was required to assess these 17 entries and identify the top 2 entries from the 17 third place entries of the first round. The top two entries as determined by the 18<sup>th</sup> judge also proceeded to the second stage of the competition.

A total of 36 shortlisted entries therefore proceeded to stage 2 of the assessment process.

It is worth noting that even at this stage, a number of judges indicated that a majority of the entries were most engaging and educative. The 36 shortlisted essays and candidates are indicated below:

Code	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 005	2	Oluwatosin Alo	Joseph Ayo Babalola University	Law	500 level
WNO 006	1	Oluwatosin Joy Asowo	Afe Babalola University	Law	500 level
WNO 011	1	David Oluwatimilehin Adetula	University of Ibadan	Dentistry and Dental Surgery	400 level
WNO 016	2	Cassandra Nnenna Umeh	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Law	400 level
WNO 019	1	Joan Eseohe Edegba	Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma	Law	300 level
WNO 020	2	Queen Letam Nwibani	Rivers State University	Law	500 level
WNO 028	2	Rafiat Temitura Shittu	University of Lagos	Law	500 level
WNO 032	1	Dorcas Doowuese Tsebee	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Law	500 level
WNO 038 <sup>4</sup>	1	Honour Dahunsi	Adekunle Ajasin University, Ondo	Law	300 level
WNO 040	1	Florence David Ubi	University of Calabar	Law	300 level
WNO 045	1	Priscilla Okiwelu	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Law	500 level
WNO 047	2	Agnes Chisom Obeta	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Public Administration and Local Government	300 level
WNO 054	1	Oyinkansola Komolafe	University of Ibadan	Law	300 level
WNO 056	2	Ugonna Richard Obasi	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Law	400 level
WNO 061	2	Braimoh Ebnoluwa	Lagos State University	Law	300 level
WNO 066	1	Maduabuchi Kingsley Arinze	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Mechanical Engineering	500 level
WNO 072	1	Zainab Olamide Dunmoye	University of Lagos	Law	400 level
WNO 076	2	Joshua Chizoma	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Law	500 level
WNO 080	1	Favour Divine	Lagos State University	Law	300 level
WNO 082	2	Toluwani .A. Kalaro	University of Lagos	Law	500 level
WNO 088	2	Oludayo Olufowobi	University of Lagos	Law	400 level
WNO 091	1	Chimdiebere Anya-Awa	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Law	400 level
WNO 094	1	Victor Fabarebo	University of Ibadan	Law	300 level
WNO 096	2	Favour Oguntayo Morenike	Babcock University	Law	300 level
WNO 104 <sup>5</sup>	1	Abdulrahman Adebowale Adetunji	University of Ibadan	Law	500 level
WNO 109	1	Ibuchim Uzowa	Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti	Law	400 level
WNO 112	1	Vincent Ikechukwu Maduka	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Medicine and Surgery	100 level
WNO 117	2	Chioma Jane frances Ibeh	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Dentistry	400 level
WNO 118	2	Daniel Chinonso Agu	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Law	500 level
WNO 120	1	Badrudeen Lawal	Olabisi Onabanjo University	Law	500 level
WNO 126	1	Joy Osedebamen Ilobun	Afe Babalola University	Law	400 level
WNO 129	2	Sophia AjiriOghene Elutabe	Afe Babalola University	Law	500 level

<sup>4</sup> WNO 038 and 040 were returned by the assessing judge in a tie.

<sup>5</sup> WNO 104 and 109 were returned by the assessing judge in a tie.

WNO 137	2	Gesiye-emi Emiemokumo	Niger Delta University	Law	400 level
WNO 139	1	Moses Olanrewaju	University of Ibadan	Law	500 level
WNO 008 <sup>6</sup>	2	Samuel Olalekan Olufowose	Adekunle Ajasin University, Ondo	Law	400 level
WNO 130	1	Blessing Nwankwo	Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-ife, Osun State	Law	300 level

1st choice pick from 1 <sup>st</sup> assessment	2 <sup>nd</sup> choice pick from 1 <sup>st</sup> assessment	Entries returned by the 18 <sup>th</sup> judge
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### Stage Two

For the second assessment round, the judges were placed into six blind-groups<sup>7</sup> comprising three judges each. Each blind group was assigned six entries from the shortlisted 36 entries above. In the assignment of entries to groups, the planning committee ensured that none of the groups was assigned an essay that any of the respective group members had previously assessed; while also ensuring that the entries assigned to each blind group were based on a random combination of first and second picks from all the 18 judges in the initial judging stage (stage one). Adopting the same criteria from the previous round, the judges were required to assess the six entries.

Based on an average of the scores assigned to each entry by the three judges in each group, the top three entries of each group were determined. These top three picks of each group emerged as the 18 finalists of the competition. The overall top entry of each respective group however formed the top six essays from the competition and proceeded to stage three of the judging process. This third stage was aimed primarily at ascertaining the winners; overall winner, first and second runners up. The 18 finalists are indicated below:

Code	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 011	David Oluwatimilehin Adetula	University of Ibadan	Dentistry and Dental Surgery	400 level
WNO 019	Joan Eseohe Edegbai	Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma	Law	300 level
WNO 020	Queen Letam Nwibani	Rivers State University	Law	500 level
WNO 038	Honour Dahunsi	Adekunle Ajasin University, Ondo	Law	300 level
WNO 045	Priscilla Okiwelu	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Law	500 level
WNO 047	Agnes Chisom Obeta	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Public Administration and Local Government	300 level
WNO 054	Oyinkansola Komolafe	University of Ibadan	Law	300 level
WNO 066	Maduabuchi Kingsley Arinze	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Mechanical Engineering	500 level

<sup>6</sup> WNO 008 and 130 were returned from the third place entries assessed by the 18<sup>th</sup> judge.

<sup>7</sup> Under this grouping system, no judge is aware of the other members in their group.

WNO 076	Joshua Chizoma	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Law	500 level
WNO 088	Oludayo Olufowobi	University of Lagos	Law	400 level
WNO 091	Chimdiebere Anya- Awa	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Law	400 level
WNO 094	Victor Fabarebo	University of Ibadan	Law	300 level
WNO 104 <sup>8</sup>	Abdulrahman Adebawale Adetunji	University of Ibadan	Law	500 level
WNO 117	Chioma Janefrances Ibeh	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Dentistry	400 level
WNO 120	Badrudeen Lawal	Olabisi Onabanjo University	Law	500 level
WNO 137	Gesiye-emi Emiemokumo	Niger Delta University	Law	400 level
WNO 139	Moses Olanrewaju	University of Ibadan	Law	500 level
WNO 130	Blessing Nwankwo	Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile- ife, Osun State	Law	300 level

**Top Pick entries from each group**

### *Stage three*

To ascertain the winner of the competition, the top six entries were reassigned to all 18 judges for a final assessment. Once again, this was based on the same criteria established from the outset. At the end of the third assessment process, using a weighted average of scores allocated to each entry by the participating judges, the Panel of Judges returned an overall winner and two first runners up (due to a tie). The representation of the stage three assessment is indicated below.

<b>Code</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Total Score</b>	<b>Average</b>
WNO 054	Oyinkansola Komolafe	1038	86.5
WNO 091	Chimdiebere Anya- Awa	1016	84.6
WNO 038	Honour Dahunsi	1016	84.6
WNO 020	Queen Letam Nwibani	1003	83.5
WNO 130	Blessing Nwankwo	995	82.9
WNO 120	Badrudeen Lawal	974	81.2

### *Ratification of results*

A final meeting was thereafter held on July 27, 2021 by the Panel of Judges to review and confirm the results of the competition. In the final meeting of the judges, the Panel of Judges in a

<sup>8</sup> WNO 104 and 109 were returned by the assessing judge in a tie.

unanimous decision ratified all results of the competition and returned the winners of the competition as follows:

1. Ms. Oyinkansola Komolafe, University of Ibadan – Overall Winner
2. Ms. Chimdiebere Anya-Awa, University of Nigeria – First runner up
3. Ms. Honour Dahunsi, Adekunle Ajasin University – First runner up

It is worth reiterating that the judges concluded their assignments, including their final determinations, without knowing the identities nor affiliations whatsoever of the winners and finalists.

### **Originality and Creativity**

As part of the recommendation of the Panel of Judges within their final ratification meeting, the judges reserved special commendation for contestant WNO-091 (Ms. Chimdiebere Anya-Awa) due to the impressive originality and creativity demonstrated in the submission. While no special award was assigned for this, the Panel of Judges moved a motion to have a special mention made of this candidate's exceptional creativity.

### **Winners Announcement**

On July 29, 2021 the WNO announced the results at a webinar which was focused on "[Effective Communication in Writing](#)". A special presentation was made by Mr. Tolu Ogunlesi, a Nigerian Journalist and Special Assistant to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, H.E. Muhammadu Buhari on Digital and New Media. Competition and judges' feedback were shared with attendees of the webinar. Additionally, a detailed breakdown of the competition and assessment processes and timelines were shared by Mr. Oluwatobiloba Moody, Counsellor, WIPO Nigeria Office and Ms. Victoria Onyeagbako, Intern, WIPO Nigeria Office.

The well-attended webinar was organized by the WNO to expose the students to writing tips and styles with the ultimate goal of strengthening the capacity of students to engage in creative writing.

The announcement of the winners and finalists was made by Ambassador Tunde Mukaila Mustapha, Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations in Geneva and Ms. Susan Chioma Omeh, the overall winner of the 2020 edition of the WIPO National IP Essay Competition.

### **Prizes**

In line with the mandate of the WNO as well as the objectives of the competition, the winners and 15 finalists from the competition will all benefit from competition prizes primarily focused on capacity building and professional development. Each of the 15 finalists and winners received:

- A Certificate of Achievement signed by the WIPO Director General, Mr. Daren Tang.

- A WIPO Academy Scholarship to undertake any of the Distance Learning Courses of their Choice
- An internship or fellowship opportunity with local partners and/or government agencies.
- An executive IP mentoring session with WIPO
- An invitation to participate in the WIPO National IP Study Tour
- WIPO Resources

The first runners up will each additionally receive a WIPO Academy Scholarship to participate in the WIPO Summer School in South Africa. The overall competition winner, in addition to having her essay published in the WIPO Magazine will also receive a scholarship to participate in the WIPO Academy's blended learning Advanced International Certificate Course on Intellectual Property Asset Management (AICC).

### **Appreciation**

The WIPO Nigeria Office extends its sincere gratitude to all participants for elevating the standards of the competition through their brilliant essays. The immense support received in the planning and execution of this competition from the members of the Planning Committee, and the members of the Panel of Judges are deeply appreciated. Particular thanks to the Office of the Director General, the Office of the Deputy Director General (RNDS); the Office of the Deputy Director General (CCIS) and the Director, WIPO Awards; the [WIPO Academy](#); the News and Media Division, and, the Information and Digital Outreach Division.

Special gratitude also goes to the following law firms that have graciously agreed to provide IP-based internship learning opportunities within their firms to the winners and finalists of the competition.

- [Banwo & Ighodalo](#)
- [Aluko & Oyebo](#)
- [Dentons- ACAS Law](#)
- [Stillwaters Law Firm](#)
- [Olajide Oyewole LLP](#) (A member of the DLA Piper Africa)
- [Jackson, Etti & Edu](#)
- [O. Kayode & Co.](#)
- [G.O. Sodipo & Co.](#)
- [Omaplex Law Firm](#)
- [Infusion Lawyers](#)
- [Aelex Law Firm](#)
- [G. Elias & Co.](#)
- [Olaniwun Ajayi LP](#)

Special thanks also to the [Young Innovations Leaders Fellowship](#) for offering four Young Innovations Leadership (YIL) Scholar Award to the competition winners/finalists.

Finally, special thanks to the Nigerian Copyright Commission for the internship support provided with the internship placement for one of the finalists within the Commission.



### Quotes

“The WIPO National Intellectual Property Essay Competition could not have come at a better time than now when the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic are being felt globally and across all business sectors. Whilst in normal circumstances, intellectual property rights (IPR) holders are granted protection over their intellectual property (IP) against third party use, the pandemic has created an unprecedented situation whereby IPR holders are not being favorably enumerated for their works by content users. The Pan African Writers Association (PAWA) as the umbrella body of all National Writers Associations will support WIPO in its efforts to adequately remunerate writers and creative artists by publicizing this very important project”.

- *Dr. Wale Okediran, Secretary – General, Pan- African Writers Association.*

“Nigerian SMEs have largely remained untouched by the benefits of intellectual property rights protection. Part of the blame lies with IP professionals who have not been conditioned to cater to this delicate market. That is why I am excited about the WIPO National Intellectual Property Essay Competition 2021. I see it raising a new breed of IP Professionals to mend this breach”.

- *Mr. Marx Ikongbeh, Principal, Everlaw Associates*

“The WIPO National IP Essay Competition is a laudable attempt to raise awareness for intellectual property rights protection in Nigeria. It presents a unique opportunity for participants of the competition to enhance their knowledge of intellectual property, recognize the relevant roles SMEs can play in Nigeria’s economic development and proffer recommendations on how best they can protect and exploit their IP rights. It is a rare privilege to be invited to contribute to the success of this project and I am delighted to be associated with this undertaking”.

- *Mr. John Onyido, Partner, SPA Ajibade & Co.*

“This World IP Day Essay Competition contributes greatly to raising awareness about IP among students. It makes them excited about IP and gives them a challenge to look forward to annually. I encourage every qualified person to participate as there is a lot to gain from it”.

- *Dr. Ifeoluwa Olubiyi, Senior Lecturer, College of Law, Afe Babalola University, Ado- Ekiti*

“The maiden edition of the essay competition has ignited the interest of students in intellectual property as a subject that affects real life issues. Bearing in mind the place of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) as the lynchpin of most economies and considering the demographic trend in the creative and innovation sectors, this year’s topic would enable the younger ones contribute to policy making. Their recommendations should help us achieve better use of IP to maximize the returns on intellectual investment and grow our SMEs”.

- *Mr. John Asein, Director- General, Nigerian Copyright Commission*

“The annual WIPO essay competition is a veritable means of involving youths in IP development and economic recovery in Nigeria. I am delighted to be part of this noble venture”.

- *Amb. Tunde Mustapha, Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations in Geneva.*

“The need for our graduates to be well informed of our political economy cannot be overemphasized. The WIPO National IP Essay Competition on IP, SME’s and Economic Recovery in Nigeria is just apt and relevant at this material time of our development. The second aspect is to raise genuine awareness on the importance of IP and its relation to the general economic performance and I think this topic encapsulates all. It is therefore my pleasure to be part of this”.

- *Prof. Kazim Waziri, Faculty of Law, University of Abuja*

“This year's WIPO National IP Essay Competition focuses on how SME's can explore intellectual property as a means for repositioning the country's economy by paying attention to the things that need to be done before taking their ideas to the market. I am looking forward to the contributions from the participants on the topic for this year and also their contribution to intellectual property advocacy and research”.

- *Ms. Rita Anwiri Chindah, IP Lawyer and Podcast Host*

“Being a judge at the maiden WIPO Nigeria National Essay Competition in 2020 and having returned as part of the Planning Committee this year 2021 is a true pleasure! I continue to be amazed by the enthusiasm displayed by our Nigerian students, their eagerness to participate in competitions such as this, which not only provides them with a huge learning experience, but the opportunity of demonstrating their understanding of the chosen topic, readiness to research and contribute to the growth and development of Intellectual Property”.

- *Ms. Uzoamaka Emerole, Partner, Dentons- ACAS Law*

“The WIPO National Intellectual Property (IP) Essay Competition offers a unique opportunity to gain insight into the level of understanding of IP among students in Nigeria. The Essay Competition is therefore extremely important. I must express my appreciation to WIPO for its vision and interest in promoting IP awareness and education in Nigeria. Finally, I wish all participants the best of luck”.

- *Mr. Otu- Ekong Ukoyen, Senior Associate, Olajide Oyewole LP; Vice President, IP Law Association of Nigeria*

“I am highly delighted to be associated with the 2021 WIPO Nigeria Office Essay competition, which is aimed at creating and sustaining the awareness on Intellectual Property among the Nigerian youths. This is indeed a vital step towards facilitating the strategic evolution of a critical mass of IP knowledgeable Nigerian youths that will engender economic diversification anchored on robust Intellectual Property Rights exploitation. I look forward to the gains of this competition on the Nigerian economy and overwhelmingly endorse/recommend it to all eligible Nigerian youths”.

- *Dr. Ibrahim Dan-Azumi, Director General, National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP)*

"The WIPO National Intellectual Property Essay Competition offers students the opportunity to interrogate topical intellectual property themes that affect everyday life in Nigeria. As creativity and innovation are essential for the growth of national economies, I encourage participants to undertake rigorous research in intellectual property law and propose informed recommendations suited to Nigeria."

- *Dr Titilayo Adebola, Theme Coordinator for Intellectual Property Law, University of Aberdeen.*

"The essays were structured and the writings were concise with good references. The students showed understanding by clearly discussing the importance of intellectual property, SMEs and their contribution to economic recovery. To the students, 'Don't study to earn, study to learn. What you learn today is what you will become tomorrow.' Congratulations to all the students who submitted their essays".

- *Ms. Martha Chikowore, Counsellor, WIPO Academic Institutions and Executive Program*

The entries I received ranged from those with minimal knowledge of small and medium scale enterprises (SMSEs), Intellectual Property (IP) and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) to those with excellent cognitive knowledge and relationship between them. The spread is however commendable. The last batch of six was, however, more outstanding as you will observe from the scores. I suggest that this competition be institutionalized as an annual WIPO event in Nigeria. Finally, many thanks to WIPO for the valuable exposure to participants' level of knowledge of IP, IPR and their relevance to an important sector of the Nigeria's economy.

- *Prof. Johnson Ekpere, Consultant, Former Executive Secretary, Scientific, Technical and Research Commission, Organization of African Unity (OAU/STRC)*