

NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

VOL 8



Quarterly Newsletter

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2025



Welcome Back!

We are always excited to have you join us especially to usher in another quarter of 2025. Now in the third quarter, we can't be thankful enough to God for the progress we are making at the NIIA.

In this edition of our newsletter, you would be finding out the distinguished guests that have been paying homage to the NIIA and how new collaborations are being born in the institute-especially on how to further enhance the visibility of the Institute and even broaden the scope of our activities, within the boundaries of the NIIA Act.

So join me as I take you through the exciting events that occurred in NIIA in the third quarter of 2025 which includes the newly appointed Flag Officer Commanding of Western Naval Command and Distinguished lecture of the Executive Governor of Lagos State.

Furthermore, from the desks of Sport Diplomacy, we had a Night of Tributes for our past Nigerian sports heroes who did Nigeria proud on various stages in around the world- talking about legends in football, boxing and the likes.

Without letting it all out of the bag, sit back and enjoy our newsletter for the third quarter of 2025!

FROM THE EDITOR....



Barr. Marlyn Akpofure

PUBLIC LECTURE DELIVERED BY DR. ROBERT FLOYD, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY (CTBT)

JULY 10TH 2025

THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY (CTBT) AS A MODEL OF MULTILATERAL SUCCESS: WHAT IT MEANS FOR AFRICA, TODAY AND TOMORROW

The Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA) hosted a public lecture titled, “The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) as a Model of Multilateral Success: What it Means for Africa, Today and Tomorrow,” on Thursday, 10 July 2025. It was delivered by Dr. Robert Floyd, Executive Secretary of the CTBT, and chaired and co-chaired by erudite Professor Femi Otubanjo, and the Acting Director of Research, Associate Professor Joshua Bolarinwa respectively. The distinguished Director-General of the NIIA, Professor Eghosa Osaghae, delivered the opening remarks, emphasizing the importance of understanding the details surrounding the CTBT, especially as many people remain unaware of what the treaty entails. He reaffirmed Nigeria’s support for the global ban on nuclear testing, while also expressing the country’s interest in the peaceful use of nuclear technology, particularly in addressing national energy needs. He clarified that the public lecture was hosted by the Institute as part of its mandate in enlightening Nigerians and elucidating issues of international affairs. Dr. Floyd, starting on a melancholic note, gave an illustration of the grave dangers of the misuse of nuclear armaments, with the incident of the explosion of the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 by the US Army. He went further to provide an in-depth historical overview of the CTBT, explaining its origins, aims, and the successes it has recorded. He discussed the global monitoring systems established by the CTBT, which are capable of detecting nuclear tests conducted anywhere in the world. He explained how the organization has leveraged artificial intelligence (AI) to strengthen its analytical capabilities.

Dr. Floyd highlighted this as an example of how misinformation and disinformation on social media could lead to public confusion, underscoring the need for evidence-based communication. Therefore, character, trust, and organizational efficiency could be used to wipe out misinformation/disinformation.



The lecture concluded with a group photograph, and a visit to the General LEO Irabor Early Warning Systems Centre, marking a successful and impactful intellectual exchange on the significance of the CTBT for Africa and the broader global community.

MONTHLY WORLD REVIEW ON GLOBAL AFFAIRS 2ND EDITION

JULY 11TH 2025

The chairman of the governing council NIIA (Prof. Sir Bolaji Akinyemi) delivered his customary monthly world review on the theme “**Power and the relevance Conventions in Contemporary Global Affairs**” with the Senior Research Fellows of the NIIA in attendance. It was very expository.



In the picture: Prof Sir. A Bolaji Akinyemi, Prof Egosa Osaghae (DG,NIIA), Assoc Prof Joshua Bolarinwa(Director of Research), Dr Godwin Ichimi (Director, International Cooperation & Public Affairs)

ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE NIIA 'WALL OF FAME' MARKED BY A NIGHT TRIBUTE TO HEROES OF 1976 OLYMPICS!

JULY 28TH 2025

One year anniversary of 'Wall of Fame' - tribute to heroes of 1976 Olympics!

Exactly one year ago, Dr. Allen Onyema, Chairman of Air Peace, West Africa's biggest commercial airline, unveiled the first 'Sports Diplomacy Wall of Fame' in Africa, a monument to the unheralded heroes of the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games.

48 years ago, Nigerian athletes had led athletes from 27 other African countries to protest against the practice of Apartheid in South Africa. For this, they were sent away from the Games with only a few hours to the Opening Ceremony and denied the opportunity of becoming Olympians.

In a heart-wrenching re-union of the surviving athletes, an event that resurrected 46 painful years of that 'forgotten history' was organised on July 28th 2023 by the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs, and funded entirely by Allen Onyema and Air Peace. The athletes were lavishly honored, celebrated and rewarded.

As the 2024 Paris Olympic Games go on, it is pertinent to use the first anniversary of the 'Sports Diplomacy Wall of Fame' to remind the world of the essence of the Olympics, the power of sports to impact the world, and to thank Nigerian patriots, Dr. Allen Onyema, Chairman, AirPeace Airline, and Professor Eghosa Osaghae, DG, NIIA for erecting this everlasting monument as a legacy for posterity.

On behalf of all the Nigerian Olympians of the 1976 Olympic Games and, indeed, of all generations, this is to say 'Thank you!' to all who attended.





In the picture: Amb Segun Odegbami, Dr. Allen Onyema, Pst Itua Ighodalo, bereaved family members, Yinka Davies, Enugu State Commissioner for Sports Development Mr Lloyd Ekweremadu

THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON A WORKING VISIT TO THE NIIA.

JULY 30TH 2025

The House Committee led by Rt Hon Wale Oke and his team paid a working visit to the NIIA on the 30th of July 2025. Warmly received by the Director - General Prof Eghosa Osaghae, both sessions which included input from the Directors of the Institute identified areas where the NIIA could be further enhanced and supported by the Government. The Honorable members promised to convey resolutions to the appropriate authorities.

Hopeful times at the NIIA indeed!



In this picture: DG, NIIA Prof Eghosa Osaghae, Rt Hon Wale Oke, Hon David Fouh, Hon Muktar Umar, Hon Salisu Sulieman Aguye, Assoc Prof Chinsa Ohiri, Assoc Prof Joshua Bolarinwa, Dr Beauty Dirisu, Prof Efem Ubi, Dr Godwin Ichimi.

WORLD REVIEW OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS 3RD EDITION

AUGUST 1TH 2025

The 3rd edition of the NIIA monthly world Review of Global Affairs held on Friday 1st August 2025.

After a brief tour of the Institute the Chairman of the Governing Council of the NIIA Prof. Sir A Bolaji Akinyemi who is the custodian of this series delivered yet another riveting round of thoughts on Xenophobia and its impact on Global politics.

A very engaging session, it was akin to a family meeting, as we had Interns, Corp members and friends of the Institute share innermost thoughts and being a Professor of academic excellence, Prof Akinyemi gladly responded to questions from curious minds.



COURTESY VISIT OF THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING WESTERN NAVAL COMMAND

AUGUST 14TH 2025

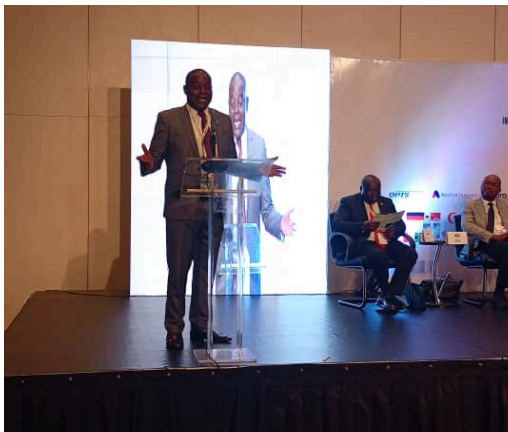
Rear Admiral Mike Oamen on the 14th of August 2025 paid a courtesy visit to the office of the Director General along side his team. After exchange of courtesies, there was also a brief Interaction with the Research fellows of the Institute on how the Nigerian Navy could play a pivotal role in Border security along the Gulf of Guinea.

Expect something big on the Gulf of Guinea soon!



DG NIIA DELIVERS KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT THE LCCI INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE AND EXPO 2025

AUGUST 26TH 2025



In this picture: DG,NIIA Prof Eghosa Osaghae, Dr. Gabriel Idahosa, Consul General in Lagos, HE. Chandramouli Kern, DG, LCCI, Dr. Mrs Chinyere Almona, FCA.

THE LAGOS SUB FORUM SYMPOSIUM

AUGUST 27TH 2025

The year 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of victory in the War of Resistance and the World Anti-Fascist War. To deepen and broaden public understanding of the history of the war and the significance of its victory, and to foster patriotism and nationalism, the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA) and the Chinese Consulate General in Lagos co-hosted the Lagos Sub-Forum on Wednesday, 27 August 2025. The forum, which featured a colorful and detailed exhibition, drew several notable participants, particularly Prof. Bolaji Akinyemi CFR (Chairman, NIIA Governing Council), Prof. Eghosa Osaghae (Director-General, NIIA), Ms. Yan Yuqing (Consul General, The Peoples Republic of China in Lagos), members of the academia and research fellows of the Institute.



Prof. Eghosa Osaghae, who delivered the welcome remarks, expressed the delight of the Institute in hosting the forum. He mentioned that there was a debate about the continued effectiveness of the UN and so, the world is expecting a new perspective. The World War II, which in some quarters is referred to as the European war, is called the Anti-Fascist war in China while commending them for identifying with the global south. Corroborating the DG of NIIA, Prof. Sir Bolaji Akinyemi CFR, remarked that while the West calls the war, World War II, third world countries call it the European war and China calls it the anti-fascist war. According to him, whatever it was, it was a war where millions of lives were lost. Ms. Yan Yuqing, in her opening speech highlighted that the event marked the 80th year of the Chinese people's victory over the war. The war was the largest and most devastating in human history as it led to economic loss totaling up to 4million US dollars. She opined that peace is never granted; it is earned through sacrifice and so, China has earned the respect of peace-loving people around the world.

At the plenary sessions chaired by Prof. Sir Bolaji Akinyemi, the DG, NIIA discussed the topic, 'Optimizing Global Governance for the Global South'. He emphasized the need for reforms in the United Nations to ensure the inclusion of developing countries in global governance. He further highlighted that Africa's participation in global governance is low with the obviously western dominated global order.

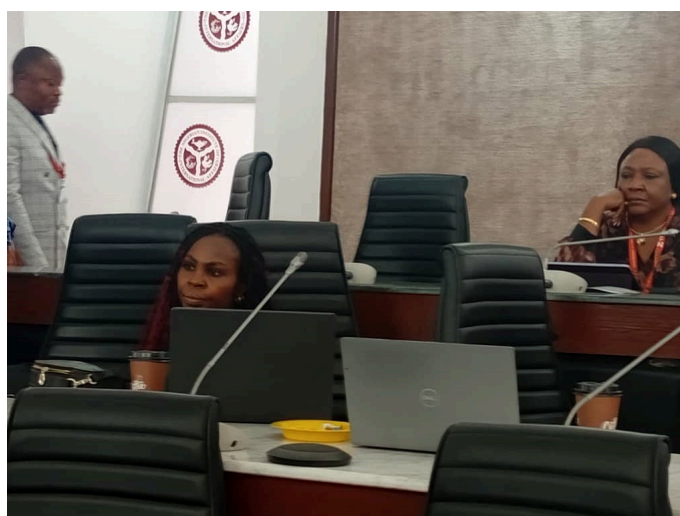


In this picture: Consul General, Peoples Republic of China in Lagos Ms. Yan Yuqing, Prof Sir A. Bolaji Akinyemi, DG, NIIA, Prof Femi Otubanjo, Prof Efem Ubi, Dr Adesuwa Erediauwa

G20 AND THE REFORM OF GLOBAL FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE LOCATING AFRICA'S PRIORITIES.

SEPTEMBER 3RD-4TH 2025

In the high-level panel on 'Debt, trade and financial sovereignty', it was emphasized that Africa's voice in global financial governance must shift from representation to influence. While the continent now has a permanent seat at the G20 table through the African Union, true impact will depend on how well we align this visibility with strategic priorities; debt sustainability, fair climate finance, equitable trade rules, and reform of global financial institutions to reflect today's economic realities. The conversation was not just about inclusion; it's about agency ensuring that global frameworks empower African economies to industrialize, trade competitively, and attract sustainable investment and as the global financial architecture evolves, Africa must not only participate but shape it with coherence, collaboration, and clear policy direction.



MTN PROGRAM EXCURSION

September 4th 2025

The NIIA hosted Fellows from the MTN Nigeria Media Innovation Programme of the MTN Foundation. As is with the culture at the Institute, the Director General received them and had very robust discussions on South Africa/ Nigeria Relations.



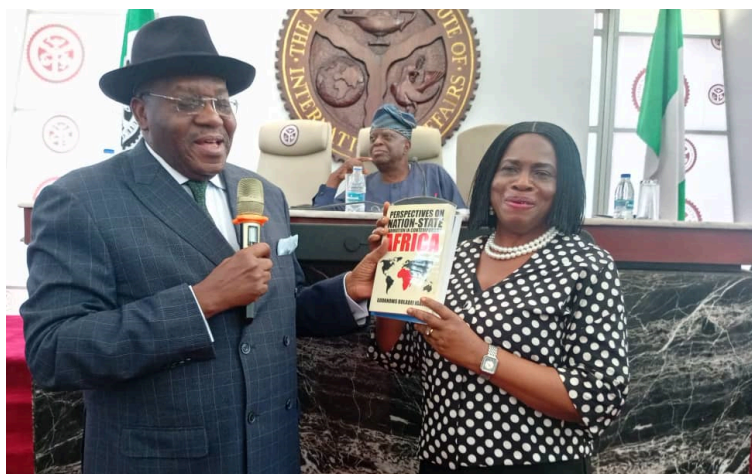
In this picture: Prof Eghosa Osaghae, Mr. Peter Jolayemi, Marlyn Akpofure, Mr. Funso Aina, Miss Amarachi Ubani and excos of the cohort.

1ST FOREIGN POLICY LECTURE SERIES 2025

SEPTEMBER 10TH 2025

On Tuesday, 10 September 2025, the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA) hosted its first Foreign Policy Lecture Series. The event featured several notable participants, both physically and virtually. Distinguished attendees at the lecture were the Director-General of the NIIA, Prof. Eghosa Osaghae, the guest lecturer, Ambassador Dr. Godknows Igali, Ike Nwachukwu, a Nigerian elder statesman, some retired career ambassadors, representatives from the South African Consulate General, dignitaries of Pan Niger Delta Forum (PANDEF) and the Ijaw National Congress, members of staff of NIIA, among others. In his welcome address, Prof. Osaghae, acknowledged Prof Bolaji Akinyemi, Chairman, NIIA Governing Council, as the initiator of the Foreign Policy Lecture Series. He noted that the Institute sought to benefit from the wealth of experience that Ambassador Igali had to share. He remarked that Africa was rising, the world was changing, and that the lecture was aimed at answering the crucial question: What next steps should Nigeria take to become a better nation?

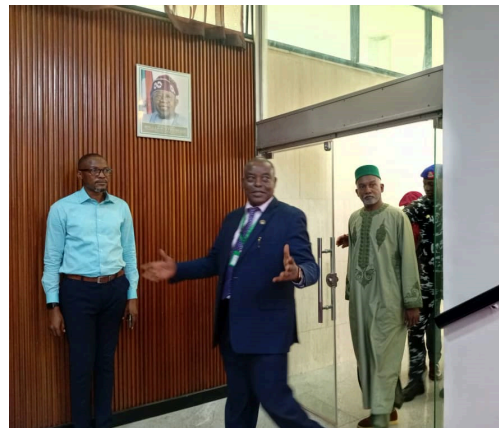




In this picture: Dg, NIIA, Amb Godknows Igali, Amb Olusegun Akinsanya, Mr. Magnus Onyibe, Dr Beauty Dirisu, Dr. Godwin Ichimi, Gen Ike Nwachukwu, Marlyn Akpofure.

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PAYS A WORKING VISIT TO THE NIIA

September 12th 2025





The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, H.E Amb Yusuf Tuggar along with some Directors from the Ministry, were at the NIIA on a working visit. While at it, the DG, NIIA Prof Eghosa Osaghae took the Foreign Minister on a tour around the Institute briefing him on projects that have been completed as well as those that are on going projects.

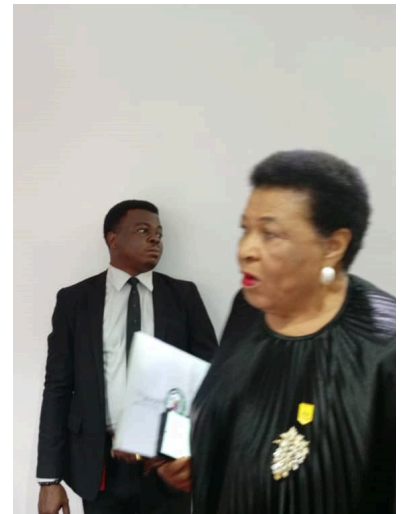
In this picture: Amb Yusuf Tuggar, OON, Prof Eghosa Osaghae, Prof Femi Otubanjo, Dr. Godwin Ichimi, Dr Beauty Dirisu, Assoc Prof Joshua Bolarinwa, Prof Efem Ubi, Dr. Tola Illesanmi, Dr. Adesuwa Erediauwa, Mrs Helen Onwuasor, Mr. Peter Jolayemi

FIRST NIIA DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES 2025

SEPTEMBER 16TH 2025



On the 16th of September 2025, the Governor of Lagos State paid an official visit to the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA) as part of the Institute's Distinguished Lecture Series. The programme commenced with the Nigerian national anthem, after which the moderator, Ms. Amarachi Ubani, MNIIA, welcomed participants with a brief introduction. She then invited the Director-General of the NIIA, Professor Eghosa Osaghae, to deliver his opening remarks.



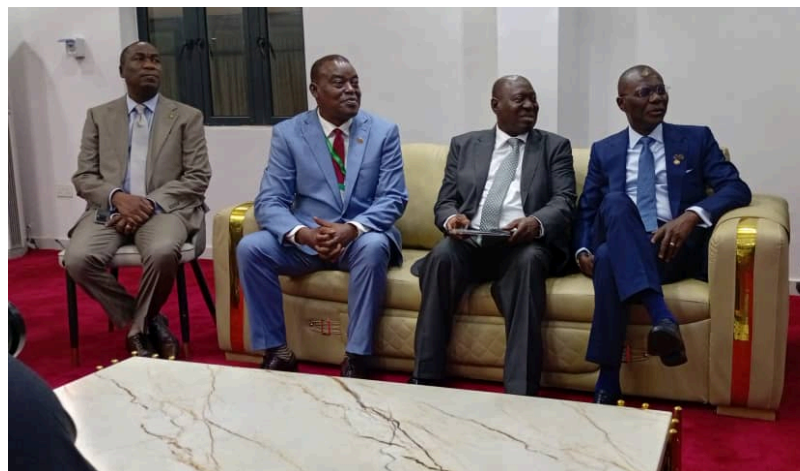
The Governor described the theme as both inspiring and timely, noting that Lagos and Nigeria are inseparably linked. He stressed that Nigeria's future cannot be imagined without Lagos, given the state's role as the nation's commercial and cultural hub. Quoting Malcolm X "The future belongs to those who prepare for it today" he argued that Nigeria must begin to strategically position itself as a global power. As the world's most populous Black nation, he urged Nigerians to boldly envision and work towards a future of greatness by 2030, with Lagos at the forefront.

In this picture: DG, NIIA Prof Eghosa Osaghae, HE. Babajide Sanwo Olu, HE, Dr. Ajoritsedere Awosika, Marlyn Akpofure, Dr. Phillipa Inyang, Mrs Helen Onwuasor



Drawing inspiration from President John F. Kennedy's call for bold aspirations, the Governor urged Nigerians to adopt a forward-looking mindset. He emphasized the need to transition from oil dependency to renewable energy, to confront adversity with resilience, and to remain united in purpose. He described Lagos as one of the world's most resilient cities, embodying Nigeria's survival of civil war, terrorism, and other crises.

Looking ahead to 2030, he envisioned Lagos as a transformed global city marked by world-class infrastructure, green-powered architecture, advanced transport systems, and sustainable development. He called for collective effort, urging Nigerians to work together to realize this bold future.



FINALLY...

The Governor's lecture ended with questions asked, recommendations, suggestions, and clarifications being made. The NIIA conferred Fellowship of the Institute upon Mr. Governor and presented him with gifts.

We may now refer to Mr. Governor as a Fellow of the NIIA.(FNIIA)



THANK YOU FOR KEEPING UP!

Stay connected with NIIA for updates and insights into Nigeria's evolving international landscape

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