

# NEWSLETTER



ICAN President, Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, Ph.D., FCA, with dignitaries at the 20th Northern Zonal Accountants' Conference in Minna



ICAN President Mallam Yahaya and his team with former Head of State, General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida, GCFR, during a courtesy visit in Minna.

## ICAN CHARTS PATH FOR ACCOUNTABILITY AND REFORM AT NORTHERN ZONAL CONFERENCE

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) has reaffirmed its commitment to accountability, ethical governance, and national reorientation as central tools for Nigeria's socio-economic transformation. This position was stated at the 20th Northern Zonal Accountants' Conference, held in Minna, Niger State, September 8th to 11th, 2025.

Declaring the conference open, the Governor of Niger State, His Excellency Mohammed Umaru Bago, commended ICAN for its consistency in promoting transparency. He invited the Institute to audit the state's financial records, positioning Niger State as a model for good governance.

ICAN University, recognition of the Accounting Technician Scheme West Africa (ATSWA) as a direct entry qualification into universities, and greater empowerment for ICAN to accredit accountancy programmes in tertiary institutions. He also highlighted the Institute's transition to e-examinations as a model for innovation.

In his remarks, Dr. Alausa commended ICAN's professionalism, confirmed its role in programme accreditation, and encouraged the Institute to reapply for ATSWA recognition. He also endorsed the e-examination system, urging ICAN to leverage data to enhance training outcomes.

## ICAN, FINANCE MINISTRY STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIP ON ECONOMIC REFORMS

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) has reaffirmed its collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Finance in advancing Nigeria's economic reform agenda.

During a courtesy visit to the Honourable Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy, Chief Adebayo Olawale Edun, ICAN President Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, Ph.D., FCA, presented the Institute's Position Paper on Navigating U.S. Tariff Shocks and Strengthening Nigeria's Export Resilience. He also highlighted ICAN-led initiatives, including the Accountability Index, Corporate Reporting Awards, forensic accounting certification with the Nigerian Police Academy, and the transition to e-examinations.

Chief Edun commended ICAN's contributions to transparency and accountability and confirmed the Ministry's sponsorship of ICAN's 55th Annual Accountants' Conference, scheduled for October 6-10, 2025, in Abuja. Both parties agreed to deepen collaboration on Nigeria's tax reforms, with ICAN providing technical expertise to support smooth implementation from January 1.

Minister of State, Dr. Doris Uzoka-Anite, CFA, urged ICAN to intensify its emphasis on ethics, stressing that members must uphold the highest professional standards.

## ICAN PRESIDENT PAYS HOMAGE TO IBB, ETSU NUPE

As part of the 20th Northern Zonal Conference, the President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN), Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, Ph.D., FCA, led a delegation on courtesy visits to former Head of State, General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida, GCFR, in Minna, and His Royal Majesty, Alhaji Yahaya Abubakar, the 13th Etsu Nupe, in Bida.

At Gen. Babangida's residence, Mallam Yahaya expressed gratitude for the former Head of State's historic support to ICAN, including his role in enhancing government subvention to the Institute and declaring open the 22nd Annual Accountants' Conference in 1992. General Babangida, in response, praised ICAN for its professionalism, noting the impact of its members in governance and national development. In Bida, the ICAN President commended the Etsu Nupe for his visionary leadership in education, healthcare, and unity. He reaffirmed ICAN's commitment to accountability through initiatives such as the ICAN Accountability Index and invited the monarch to the forthcoming 55th Annual Accountants' Conference in Abuja.

The visits reinforced ICAN's Diamond Jubilee celebrations and its commitment to partnering with Nigeria's traditional and political leaders to advance transparency and national progress.



ICAN Vice President, Queensley Sofuratu Seghosime, mni, FCA, with the ICAN team at the Jumat Service marking the Institute's 60th Anniversary Thanksgiving.



ICAN President Mallam Yahaya, Council Members, and the Honourable Minister of Finance & Coordinating Minister of the Economy, Chief Olawale Edun, after the strategic meeting last week.

## RCE's CORNER



Dear Esteemed Members,

This edition of the ICAN Newsletter highlights milestones that reflect our enduring commitment to impact, service, and national progress.

The foundation-laying of the Umar Mohammed Bago ICAN Training Centre in Minna represents more than an infrastructural investment. It is a vision for the future. Designed as a hub for training, examinations, research, and mentorship, the Centre will expand opportunities for young professionals while strengthening ICAN's role in shaping accountancy in Northern Nigeria.

At the 20th Northern Zonal Accountants' Conference in Minna, our President, Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, Ph.D., FCA, reaffirmed ICAN's voice on accountability and reform. Stressing that Nigeria's challenge lies not in resources but governance, he called for bold reforms, stronger institutions, and ethical renewal values that remain central to our profession.

Our engagements with the Federal Ministries of Education and Finance further underscored this role. From advocating recognition of ATSWA for university entry to pursuing the establishment of ICAN University and providing technical expertise for tax reforms, ICAN continues to drive initiatives that promote transparency, innovation, and accountability.

As we celebrate our Diamond Jubilee nationwide, we reflect on six decades of remarkable achievements and rededicate ourselves to the values of integrity, accountability, and service. Looking ahead, ICAN remains steadfast in its goal of building institutions, shaping reforms, and preparing the next generation of accountants for excellence in service to Nigeria.

**Lanre Olasunkanmi, PhD., FCA**  
**Registrar/Chief Executive**

## ICAN GIVES THANKS FOR SIX DECADES OF EXCELLENCE

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) marked its 60th Anniversary with nationwide thanksgiving services on Friday, August 29, and Sunday, August 31, 2025, reflecting both gratitude and unity across the profession.

In Abuja, members observed the commemorative Jumat Service at the Ansar-Ud-Deen Central Mosque, Aminu Kano Crescent, with the Vice President, Queensley Sofuratu Seghosime, mni, FCA, Council Members, management, and staff in attendance. On Sunday, members gathered at the Living Faith Church, Durumi, while in Lagos, the Archbishop Vining Memorial Church Cathedral, Ikeja, hosted Council Members, Past Presidents, District Societies, staff, and well-wishers. Similar services were held in ICAN districts nationwide, all echoing a common theme: thanksgiving for six decades of impact, excellence, and God's faithfulness.

In his keynote address, ICAN President, Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, Ph.D., FCA, stated that Nigeria's greatest challenge lies not in scarce resources but in weak governance and ethical lapses. He emphasised ICAN's resolve to deploy its technical expertise and the ICAN Accountability Index to strengthen financial management and rebuild public trust.

Mallam Yahaya noted Nigeria's vast opportunities: a youthful population, significant agricultural capacity, and a digital economy that contributed ₦7 trillion (14.19% of GDP) in Q1 2025. To unlock this potential, he called for bold reforms, stronger institutions, and greater investments in education, skills, and innovation.

The conference concluded with ICAN members renewing their pledge to deepen accountability and support sustainable national growth.

## ICAN FLAGS OFF UMAR MOHAMMED BAGO TRAINING CENTRE IN MINNA



**Governor Umar Mohammed Bago and ICAN President Mallam Yahaya performing the symbolic foundation-laying of the Umar Mohammed Bago ICAN Training Centre, Minna.**

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) has officially commenced construction of the Umar Mohammed Bago ICAN Training Centre in Minna, Niger State—a landmark project designed to advance professional development in the North Central region.

Speaking at the foundation-laying ceremony on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, ICAN President, Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, Ph.D., FCA, announced a ₦350 million budget, with the Niger State Government contributing half of the funding, in addition to an earlier ₦50 million support grant.

Describing the centre as more than bricks and mortar, Mallam Yahaya said: "This project is a beacon of excellence—one that will empower young people with global skills, promote transparency and governance, and secure the future of the accounting profession."

The Governor of Niger State, Umar Mohammed Bago, was commended for his vision and steadfast commitment to education and institutional growth.

When completed, the Umar Mohammed Bago ICAN House will serve as a hub for training, professional examinations, research, and mentorship, while also providing scholarships and opportunities to nurture the next generation of accountants.

## ICAN President Seeks Education Ministry's Support for Key Initiatives



**ICAN President with his delegation during a courtesy visit to the Honourable Minister of Education, Dr. Maroof Olatunji Alausa.**

The 61st President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN), Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, Ph.D., FCA, has called on the Federal Ministry of Education to support initiatives that will advance professional learning and reforms in Nigeria's education sector.

Speaking during a courtesy visit to the Honourable Minister of Education, Dr. Maroof Olatunji Alausa, Mallam Yahaya sought the Ministry's backing for the establishment of ICAN University, recognition of the Accounting Technician Scheme West Africa (ATSWA) as a direct entry qualification into universities, and greater empowerment for ICAN to accredit accountancy programmes in tertiary institutions. He also highlighted the Institute's transition to e-examinations as a model for innovation.

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### Words of Wisdom

**"Money without brains is always dangerous."....**  
**Napoleon Hill**

**"The purpose of a business is to create a customer" .....**  
**Peter F. Drucker**

**"Time is more valuable than money. You can get more money, but you cannot get more time." .....**  
**Jim Rohn**

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