

# NEWSLETTER



ICAN President, Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, PhD, FCA and Ms. Pamela Steer, FCPA, President and CEO of CPA Canada, display the MoU signed on behalf of the two Institutes.



President exchanging views with Chairman of the Presidential Committee on Economic and Financial Inclusion, Dr. Nurudeen Zauo.

## ICAN, CPA Canada Launch Reciprocal Membership Agreement

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) and Chartered Professional Accountants (CPA) Canada have signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) establishing a reciprocal membership pathway for qualified members of both bodies.

Under this historic agreement, fully certified ICAN members can apply for the prestigious Canadian CPA designation with specified exemptions. Depending on their level of post-designation experience, applicants may benefit from reduced education and practical experience requirements, making the process faster and more accessible.

The initiative not only enhances the global recognition and professional standing of ICAN members but also creates expanded career opportunities in Canada's thriving economy. It underscores both Institutes' commitment to fostering international cooperation, professional mobility, and the exchange of best practices in accounting and finance.

With the MoU now in effect, ICAN Chartered Accountants has a clearer, streamlined route to joining Canada's elite accounting professionals.

## ICAN President, Yahaya Seeks NUC's Backing for ICAN University, Course Accreditation, and ATSWA Recognition

President of the Institute, Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, Ph.D., FCA, has called on the National Universities Commission (NUC) to support three strategic initiatives aimed at deepening the quality of accounting education in Nigeria.

Speaking during a courtesy visit to the NUC Executive Secretary, Professor Abdullahi Yusufu Ribadu, on July 30, 2025, Dr. Yahaya presented ICAN's proposal to establish ICAN University—a specialised institution focused on accounting, finance, and enterprise.

He also advocated for ICAN to be granted a waiver to conduct voluntary accreditation of accounting programmes in universities, upon institutional request, as a way of complementing NUC's quality assurance mandate.

Additionally, he appealed for the reinstatement of the Accounting Technicians Scheme West Africa (ATSWA) qualification as a valid route for Direct Entry admission into Nigerian universities.

In response, Professor Ribadu welcomed the proposals and expressed NUC's openness to collaboration. He encouraged ICAN to formally write to the Commission on the ATSWA matter to facilitate consultations with JAMB. He also affirmed NUC's readiness to engage on the ICAN University proposal and reiterated strong support for recognising ATSWA as a legitimate Direct Entry pathway.

## RCE's CORNER



Dear Esteemed Members,

This edition reflects ICAN's sustained drive to shape the future of our profession through strategic partnerships, innovation, and member empowerment. Our President, Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, Ph.D., FCA, advanced high-level engagements with the National Universities Commission on three transformative initiatives—the proposed ICAN University, voluntary accreditation of accounting programmes, and ATSWA recognition for Direct Entry admission.

We strengthened ties with Kaduna State and the Presidential Committee on Economic and Financial Inclusion, championing transparency, capacity building, and inclusive growth. The landmark reciprocal membership MoU with CPA Canada expands global mobility for ICAN members, while the induction of 1,328 new AATWA members reinforces our commitment to nurturing future-ready professionals.

From celebrating academic partnerships at Babcock University to energising our districts and corporate chapters with fresh leadership, ICAN remains rooted in excellence at every level.

Warm regards,

## Governor Uba Sani Gets Commendation on Transparency and Reform

The 61st President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN), Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, Ph.D., FCA, led a delegation on a courtesy visit to the Governor of Kaduna State, Dr. Uba Sani.

Mallam Yahaya praised the Governor for his commitment to transparency, financial accountability, and progressive economic reforms. He also lauded Kaduna State's strong showing on the ICAN Accountability Index and proposed key areas of collaboration, including civil service capacity development and financial literacy outreach.



He also sought the Governor's support for the rollout of ICAN's Special Students' Project (SSP) to support aspiring young accountants.

In response, Governor Sani reaffirmed Kaduna's dedication to good governance, noting its adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), participation in the Open Government Partnership, and implementation of the Kaduna Mutual Accountability Framework (KaMAF). He announced a new executive training programme for senior accountants launching in September and pledged continued partnership with ICAN on professional development and ethics enforcement.

## ICAN TO PARTNER WITH PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INCLUSION

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) will partner with the Presidential Committee on Economic and Financial Inclusion (PreCEFI), a flagship initiative under President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda.

During a strategic meeting with the Technical Adviser to the President on Economic and Financial Inclusion, Dr. Nurudeen Zauro, ICAN President Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, Ph.D., FCA, reaffirmed the Institute's commitment to advancing inclusive economic growth.

ICAN outlined five key areas for collaboration: capacity building, advocacy for good governance, support for Small and Medium Practitioners (SMPs), digital transformation, and youth inclusion.

PreCEFI, inaugurated by Vice President Senator Kashim Shettima, targets financial access for unbanked and underserved populations through public-private partnerships.

Both parties agreed to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to formalise the collaboration and drive long-term impact.

## ICAN President Graces Babcock University Ph.D. Hooding Ceremony



The enduring partnership between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) and Babcock University, Ilisan, has consistently produced high-calibre graduates, including Master's and PhD holders, exemplifying the fruitful synergy between academia and the professional community.

Reaffirming this collaboration, the 61st President and Chairman of Council of ICAN, Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, Ph.D, FCA, led a distinguished delegation to the 14th Postgraduate Doctoral Hooding Ceremony of Babcock University on July 14, 2025.

The ICAN delegation, which included the Institute's Second Deputy Vice President, Chief Oye Akinsulire, Ph.D, FCA, and the Registrar/Chief Executive, Dr. Lanre Olasunkami, FCA, attended the ceremony to celebrate academic excellence and further strengthen the relationship between ICAN and Babcock University.

As Guest of Honour, Mallam Yahaya unveiled the inaugural edition of the Babcock Business School Doctoral Book of Abstracts, marking a significant milestone in the university's academic journey.

The active presence of ICAN's leadership at the ceremony underscores the Institute's unwavering commitment to promoting educational advancement and fostering strategic partnerships within the academic community.

## Yahaya Charges New AATWA Inductees to Uphold Ethics, Innovation



The 61st President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN), Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, PhD, FCA, has urged newly inducted members of the Accounting Technicians Scheme for West Africa (AATWA) to embrace not only technical competence but also ethical conduct, innovation, and integrity in their professional pursuits.

He also implored the inductees to actively embrace emerging regulations and new technologies.

***Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, PhD, FCA presents the overall best candidate award in the March 2025 qualifying examination to Adeyemo Success Anuoluwapo at the 61st AATWA induction.***

"Let your curiosity drive you, remain dedicated, and have the courage to innovate, ensuring we set the standard for professionalism in our field", Mallam Yahaya said.

Mallam Yahaya who spoke at the 62nd AATWA Induction Ceremony at the ICAN Centre, Lagos, reminded the 1,328 inductees that their AAT qualifications is only the beginning of the journey to the accounting profession. He urged them to proceed to become chartered accountants without hesitation.

The President noted that the new inductees joined a growing community of 33,878 certified Accounting Technicians authorised to practise in West Africa under the aegis of Association of Accountancy Bodies in West Africa (ABWA).

The ceremony also celebrated top achievers, with Adeyemo Success Anuoluwapo emerging as the Overall Best Candidate in the March 2025 ATSWA qualifying examination.

**Words of Wisdom**

**Advice is seldom welcome, and those who need it most like it least....**

*Samuel Johnson*

**"Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things." .. Peter F. Drucker**

### **ICAN President Welcomes New Fidelity Bank Chapter Executives**

ICAN President, Mallam Nma Haruna Yahaya, mni, Ph.D., FCA, has commended Fidelity Bank for promoting a professional-friendly environment. He gave the commendation at the investiture of Mr. Audifax Onuoha, FCA, as the 4th Chairman of the Fidelity Bank Chapter and the conferment of Patronship on Mr. Stanley Amuchie, FCA, Executive Director at the bank, held on July 25, 2025.

He praised the immediate past Chairman, Mr. Victor Abejegah, FCA, for his impactful leadership and urged the new executives to uphold the Chapter's tradition of excellence and integrity.

Mallam Yahaya emphasised the strategic role of ICAN Chapters in professional development and highlighted key ICAN@60 reforms, including digital exams, youth engagement, and global certification pathways.

### **Ikeja District Charts a Fresh Course as New Leadership Takes the Helm**



The Investiture Ceremony of Mr. Jacob Olutayo Solanke, FCA, as the 38th Chairman of the Ikeja & District Society of ICAN was held on Friday, July 25, 2025.

The ICAN President, Mallam Haruna Yahaya, mni, Ph.D, FCA, described the district as a beacon of excellence and urged the new leadership to drive inclusive growth and uphold ICAN's core values.

*Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, mni, PhD, FCA presents the overall best candidate award in the March 2025 qualifying examination to Adeyemo Success Anuoluwapo at the 61st AATWA induction.*

He implored the executive committee to "champion the widespread adoption of sound financial practices across both the public and private sectors within Ikeja".

He assured the District of the full support of the Institute's Governing Council in providing policy direction, technical backing, and collaborative platforms to ensure the District's initiatives succeed.

### **WORDS ON MARBLE**

**Words of Wisdom**

**The measure of a man's real character is what he would do if he knew that he would never be found out.....**

*Thomas B. Macaulay*

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