



## **NEW SIGNIS AFRICA CONSTITUTION TO MAKE CHURCH COMMUNICATION APOSTOLATE MORE VIBRANT - Fr. Ihejirika**

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### **ABUJA, NIGERIA -**

The on-going review of the Constitution of Signis Africa has been described as an effort to revitalize the association in the continent, make it compatible to the realities of the present day world, and make the Church communication apostolate in the continent more vibrant.

This assertion was made by the President of Signis Africa, Very Rev. Fr. Walter Ihejirika in his welcome address to delegates at the recent Strategic Management Meeting of the Executive Delegates of the association, held at the ultra-modern Resource Centre of the Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria (CSN), Durumi, Abuja, Nigeria. It was attended by delegates and participants from seven African countries.

According to Fr. Ihejirika, the first major assignment of the new executive of the association, which was elected into office in June last year: "is the review of the existing constitution with the intention of bringing it up to date with current realities, especially with the new Statutes of Signis which were approved by the Holy See."

Noting that the executive is poised to chart a new positive and progressive course for the association in the

continent, the President declared: “Within the one year of the election, the Executive Delegates have met physically once, and severally online. With the help of some experts in Management, they have reworked the Constitution. This meeting is an enlarged body which we hope will further assist in dotting the ‘i’s and crossing the ‘t’s in the prepared draft.”

He added: “It is also hoped that this body will assist the Executives to brainstorm and generate ideas towards drafting a clear Roadmap for Signis Africa and devising means of replicating the Signis Nigeria model in other parts of the continent.”

In his welcome address, the Director of Social Communications, Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria (CSN), Rev. Fr. Chris Anyanwu noted that the Church in Nigeria will live up to expectation in providing the needed impetus for a more vibrant communication apostolate of the Church in the continent, considering the occupation of top CEPACS and Signis Africa positions by Nigerians.

He added that with Most Rev. Bishop Emmanuel Badejo heading the Communication office of SECAM and Rev. Fr. Walter Ihejirika as the President of Signis Africa, Nigeria has been saddled with the responsibility of providing a vibrant communication apostolate for the Church in Africa; and she would not disappoint in this respect.

His words: “it is not by chance that God has given us this unique privilege to lead the rest of Africa. It is indeed a rare privilege we must accept with humility and exhibit the necessary commitment that demonstrates that we cannot afford to toy with such responsibility but must do our best to lead with good example.”

Goodwill messages were also received from Rev. Fr. Patrick Alumuku, President, Signis Nigeria; Mr. Patrick Osu, President, Catholic Media Practitioners of Nigeria (CAMPAN) and Commander C.O.C Nze, the President of Catholic Artistes and Entertainers Association of Nigeria (CAEAN).. In his message,. Fr. Alumuku described the meeting as a wake-up call for the communication outfit of the Church in Africa to be more proactive in her participation in future Signis World International Congresses.

Mr Patrick Osu stressed the need for the Church in Africa to speak with one voice on the challenges and strategies for enhancing the communication apostolate of the Church in the continent, while Commander Nze emphasized the need to promote the doctrine, teachings and values of the Church through the film industry.