

## Benefits of Membership

This is one of the requirements for the continued validity of membership of the Institute; and is essentially meant to keep members abreast of current trends in the world of chemistry, as well as provide technical information aimed at professional career enhancement of members. The frequency of such programmes is as determined by the Governing Council.

### Access to Information

It is generally agreed that information is power. ICCON empowers its members through the provision of relevant knowledge which can come in the following forms:

(i) ICCON Publications. These include magazines, pamphlets, flyers etc. The magazine, "Chartered Chemist", carries chemistry-related feature articles of societal interest as well as information on the activities and programmes of the Institute. The pamphlets, flyers etc give specialized information like the Institute's corporate profile, vision, mandates, MCPD literature, special lectures and other presentations etc. It is pertinent to note that most ICCON publications are availed to registered (up-to-date) members FREE!

(ii) ICCON Website. The Institute has upgraded its website to serve as an interface with the outside world. General information about ICCON can be accessed via the site, [www.iccon.org.ng](http://www.iccon.org.ng). Members and non-members alike are required to do a "site registration" on their maiden visit to the website, in order to have access to "public view" sections of the site. However, it is noteworthy that the ICCON website has "restricted" sections which can only be accessed by registered members upon confirmation of such members by the site administrator. Enquiries can also be made by sending an e-mail to [info@iccon.org.ng](mailto:info@iccon.org.ng).

(iii) E-library. The electronic library (or e-library) is a specialized reference library that can be employed in the sourcing of chemical literature for both information and research purposes. A special feature of the ICCON E-library is its linkage (i.e. web-link) to international chemistry sites like "INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY (IUPAC)," "ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY," "INTERNATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE AVAILABILITY OF SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS (INASP)," "PROGRAMME FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF RESEARCH INFORMATION (PERI)" etc. This facility is one of the "restricted" sections of the site and can only be accessed by duly registered members.

Member can register with ICCON e-library to have access to our subscription EBSCO database such as ACADEMIC SOURCE COMPLETE, ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLETE, DYNAMED, GREENFILE LISTA etc.

The conditions for subscription to the library are determined by the Institute from time to time.

### Professional Recognition / Protection

As a body established by law, the statutory mandates of ICCON, in addition to regulating the professional practice of chemists, include the provision of professional "shield" for its members. ICCON thus seeks to protect the interests of registered chemists in corporate organizations, in the public service as well as in private practice. This protection may be in terms of the welfare of chemical personnel in various forms of employment, career enhancement etc. The Institute also seeks recognition for its members in the comity of professionals.

Members of the Institute enjoy the privilege of carrying ICCON appellations after their names [FICCON, MICCON and FICCON (H)] according to their category of membership; this makes for easy recognition among members as well as in distinguishing members from non-members.

## Economic Empowerment / Career Development

Part of the mandates of ICCON is the promotion of chemical-based micro Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (MSMEs) and self-reliant activities by the organization of seminars / workshops on skills acquisition programmes for chemists and non-chemists alike. This would contribute immensely towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the targets of the Federal Government's National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS).

Furthermore, ICCON is gradually building up a network of corporate membership. Part of the aim of this partnership (i.e. apart from ensuring that chemistry-related operations in such corporate organizations conform to professionally ethical standards), is to set up a job bank in liaison with the Human Capital Development Departments of the organizations concerned. This aims at providing employment for professional chemists.

## Access to the Professional Community

Membership of ICCON cuts across chemists in different spheres of practice (the academia, industries, research institutes, public service, private entrepreneurship etc) nationwide. Hence, the Institute provides a forum for interaction with other chemists, either directly or remotely.

The fora for interaction, apart from the aforementioned MCPD programmes, include gatherings of social nature where chemists can meet, exchange ideas, make new contacts and interact generally.

## Subsidized ICCON Services

Members of the Institute enjoy subsidized rates for ICCON products and / or services such as literature, workshop materials, ICCON publications, professional trainings, online facilities, consultancy services etc.

## Synergy with Other Bodies

ICCON synergizes with other regulatory bodies like the Institute of Public Analysts of Nigeria (IPAN), Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON), Association of Professional Bodies of Nigeria (APBN) etc. This implies a greater scope of outreach as well as enhanced access to information, which by extension is availed to ICCON membership where necessary.