

Association of Sign Language Interpreters, Nigeria

Minutes of Meeting 14th December 2009

In attendance

Name	Role	Telephone	E-mail
Oyekale O Peter	Interpreter	080341830921	peedapet@yahoo.com
Itoha Okodukia	Member	08026735214 (text)	itoha2000@yahoo.com
Timothy Tinat	Interpreter	08029964681	timtinat@yahoo.com
Fatima Yusuf Muhd	Chairperson	08054345042	Fatimayusuff65@yahoo.com
Ajayi Oluswasegun	Interpreter	08076231650	seguntemi@yahoo.com
Teleri Jardine	Stand-in facilitator	07063527189	jphm_2072@ymail.com

Apologies were given by Jennifer Byram, Facilitator
Tel. 07061550665/ 07056369269 E-mail: jenniferbyram@hotmail.co.uk

Feedback on 5 Year Plan

The Members and Board have all been extremely busy , so haven't had time to look at it in detail, but all felt it was OK and that the need now was to prioritize the 1 year plan, which was is purpose this meeting.

VSO Volunteer Monique , who is a specialist in sign language and concerns of the deaf community gave the following feedback via e-mail (everyone attending the meeting received a printed copy of her feedback):

- By focusing on interpretation you will automatically reach the deaf on issues such as HIV and health
- Many churches do interpretation, what about mosques?
- Is the Muslim community lacking deaf teachers and interpreters?
- Here is a Hausa sign language, are there sign languages for Igbo, Yoruba and Pidgin English?
- Developing a Nigerian sing language is a very good ideas, but will it be completely new or will it be an adaptation to local circumstances?
- How are interpreters trained? Are they qualified? Is there a current register? Exam/quality control?
- Demonstration school for deaf children
 - Is there a zonal co-ordinator? Who?
 - Monique's school would be interested in playing a role
 - Monique would like to network with you, as
 - She is leading a pilot on inclusion for VSO, starting in Kaduna.
 - They have given sign language classes to parents at different levels and are thinking of training interpreters

- They have several teachers doing interpretations and would like them to be included in your courses if possible
- They can point to several new interpreters, people who come to their classes who are very good and can advocate for the deaf.

Development of 1 Year Plan

The five year plan clearly outlined the items to be completed in the first year. They are:

GOAL: Developing ASLIN as an organisation and a Nigerian sign language		
I	Outcome	Strong legal body, registered with CAC, WASLI, NNAD and RID
	Who	Legal Advisor, National Secretary
	Resources	Human resources, funding (donors, government partners)

GOAL: Developing partnerships and advocating for the rights of Deaf people		
I	Outcome	Increased partnerships with, and recognition by, government ministries, international NGOs, national NGOs and CBOs and other faith-based organisations. (such as Women's Affairs, Health, Education, Information, Human Rights Commission, NNAD, WDF, WASLI, NAPTIP, NDSF, VSO)
	Who	Legal Advisor, National Coordinator, National Press Officer, National Secretary, NNAD
	Resources	TV, radio, posters, website, handbills, funding
2	Outcome	Effective resource mobilisation, both financial and material to deliver ASLIN programmes
	Who	Board members, ASLIN members, National Coordinator, National Secretary
	Resources	Knowledge of proposal writing and report writing
3	Outcome	Raising awareness of Deaf issues and providing services for the Deaf and their families and society to minimise exclusion, with sign language services, counselling services and sign language clubs in at least 6 schools in each geopolitical zone.
	Who	National Press Officer, National Secretary, National Coordinator, NNAD
	Resources	TV, radio, posters, website, handbills, funding
4	Outcome	Raising awareness of lack of services and inclusion of Deaf people in health sector and of health issues and subsequently raising awareness

	of HIV and AIDS issues within the Deaf community
Who	National Press Officer, National Secretary, National Coordinator, NACA, NNAD
Resources	TV, radio, posters, website, handbills, funding

The meeting looked at each of these in determine

- What needs to happen in order to achieve the outcome (actions to be taken)
- Who will have responsibility for ensuring that the actions and outcomes are achieved
- When things need to happened and deadline dates.
- Further develop and discussion of plans

A 1 Year Plan, developed as a gantt chart was developed and was sent out in MS Excel with this e-mail, which can be amended and updated throughout the year. . A copy is also given at the end of this document. a copy is also shown below.

Discussion of Year One Plans

Partnerships

NNAD	<p>ASLIN and NNAD have been working together (holding meetings, seminars and workshops) however ASLIN would like to formalize the partnership, requesting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NNAD recognize the role of interpreters in trying to break the communication gap • NNAD use interpreters at their events and meetings • Continuing to build a deeper understanding of each other through building upon the communication and events already undertaken
Human Rights Commission	<p>The aim of the partnership request will be to obtain a letter from the commission, acknowledging/endorsing the work of ASLIN in promoting the social well being of the deaf community through ASLINs work with various organizations.</p> <p>This letter will give backing to the organization if any problems arise in the relationship with NNAD, who sometimes treats ASLIN with suspicion. However the letter can only be obtained after ASLIN has been registered legally.</p>
Women’s Affairs	<p>The Dpt for Women’s Affairs have responsibility in the area of disability and the aim of the partnership with them will be to obtain a letter of recommendation acknowledging ASLINs work supporting the deaf community.</p>

Resource Mobilization

This was to large an area to cover in a two hour meeting and so it was thought best to hold a one day meeting in January to develop a Resource Mobilization Strategy looking at:

- What resources (finance and material)are needed and amount?
- What the resources are for?

- What impact they will have?
- When do you need them?
- Who will you approach, when , who will make the approach and how?

Raising awareness of deaf issues and service provision (within the education sector)

The primary focus for year one will be the planning and laying the ground for the Sign Language Clubs with primary schools, secondary schools and medical schools, with members comprising of teachers, parents, guardians, students. The aim will be to have 6 clubs in 6 schools, in each zone. The purpose of the clubs will be to

- Create awareness amongst the general public of sign language
- The teach sign language

Before the clubs can get up and running a minimum of 6 sign language interpreters need to be identified (who are willing to run a club), 6 schools will also need to be identified and permission obtained from the Ministry of Education.

The development of the clubs will involve:

- Running a workshop to develop initial interest in sign language and to see which schools and members of the community would like to be involved. Ideally the State Ministry of Education would attend.
- Obtain instructional materials
- Develop ideas on how the club will be organized, run, funded and impetus maintained so that the club become a long term project.

Raising awareness of lack of services and inclusion within the health sector

There were many issues arising here, but the primary concerns were:

- The mode of communication used in government and other organizations health campaigns, since they often exclude the deaf community, meaning that important health messages do not reach them.
- Lack of interpreters in hospitals, which is resulting in the deaf community effectively being denied access to health care.

There are an estimated 5 million deaf people in Nigeria, with an estimated 75% having become deaf as a result of health conditions such as meningitis, measles, fever and pre-natal conditions. In order to ensure communication accessible in health campaigns it was decided that the following organizations/people should be targeted:

- Minister of Information (ASLIN already have access to the minister)
- Director General of Nigerian Television Authority (ASLIN already have access to the minister)
- National Agency for the control of AIDS
- Planned Parenthood Federation of Nigeria (reproductive health issues)
- Ministry of Health

It was further agreed that the primary request of these organizations would be the all TV/verbal use sign language so that the deaf community can access the information being given out.

ASLIN Work plan 2010

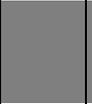
Last updated: 14th Dec 09

Relationship Line 

Deadline 

Progress: Complete, On track, Behind

TASK	PERSON	2010												PROGRESS
		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	
PROGRESS MEETINGS	Members & Board													
STRONG, REGISTERED LEGAL BODY														
CAC Registration														
Collect forms, give to lawyer for completion and submission	Chairperson & Lawyer			★										
Follow-up with lawyer	Chairperson			★				★						
NNAD: Follow up letter sent	Chairperson													
WASLI: Complete form & follow up	Chairperson						★							
RID: Complete form & follow up	Chairperson						★							
TASK	PERSON	2010												PROGRESS

RAISING AWARENESS OF DEAF ISSUES & PROVIDING SERVICES FOR THE DEAF (EDUCATION SECTOR)	Secretary? Zonal co-ordinators Zonal co-ordinators Zonal co-ordinators Zonal co-ordinators Board & Zonal Co-ordinators													
TASK	PERSON	2010												PROGRESS
		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	
RAISING AWARENESS OF LACK OF SERVICES & INCLUSION IN HEALTH SECTOR	Secretary? Secretary? & Zonal co-ordinators													

<p>Ministries of Information & Health, National Agency for Control of AIDS, Planned Parenthood Federation of Nigeria, NTA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Letter on inclusive modes of communications used in health campaigns - Meeting on inclusive modes of communications used in health campaigns - Follow up 	<p>Secretary? & Zonal co- ordinators</p> <p>Secretary? & Zonal co- ordinators</p>				<div style="background-color: gray; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	<div style="background-color: gray; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>									
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

