

Goodwill Message by the President of the Society for Gastroenterology and Hepatology in Nigeria

In June 2007, in the garden city of Port-Harcourt, history was made, when the Association for the Study of the Liver in Nigeria (ASLIN) and the Nigerian Chapter of the West African Society of Gastroenterologists (WASOG) held a back to back conference of the two bodies and forged a merger to form a brand new Society.

The New Society was named the Society for Gastroenterology and Hepatology in Nigeria (SOGHIN). A draft constitution for the new Society was subsequently considered, fine-tuned and adopted by the delegates two years earlier/later in Benin-City.

One other major decision taken at the Port-Harcourt meeting was the need to float a Journal as an official organ of the nascent Society. An Editor-in-Chief and an Editorial Committee were constituted with a mandate to come up with a draft proposal on the modus operandi of the Journal. The Committee under the able and dynamic leadership of Dr. I.A. Otegbayo soon came up with a proposal which was considered and fine-tuned by the Executive Committee of the Society before presentation to the Annual Delegates Meeting in June 2009 in Benin-City.

The Journal has now become a reality through the handwork and dedication of the Editorial Committee and with an initial take-off grant provided by the Executive Committee of SOGHIN.

The Journal provides a veritable medium for members and non-members to publish original research works in the areas of the biology and diseases of the gastrointestinal tract, the liver, the biliary tract, the pancreas, the peritoneum and the spleen mainly in humans but also in experimental animal models.

The Journal, as an official organ of SOGHIN, which is an affiliate body of the World Gastroenterology Organization (WGO), will also provide information on relevant conferences, workshops and seminars in the relevant specialties taking place not only locally in Nigeria but globally.

I commend the untiring efforts of the Editor-in-Chief and his team for bringing our Society's great dream to a delightful reality.

SOGHIN, with the support, moral and financial, of its members, individual and corporate, is committed to not only ensuring sustainability of this journal but also the enhancement of its quality and widening the horizon of its readership and acceptability.

May the Journal attain and surpass the purpose and targets for which it has been established, to the greater glory of God and for the benefit of humanity.

Long Live the Nigerian Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology and Long Live SOGHIN!
God bless us all as we patronize this new-born Journal.

Professor B.I. Bojuwoye
President, SOGHIN