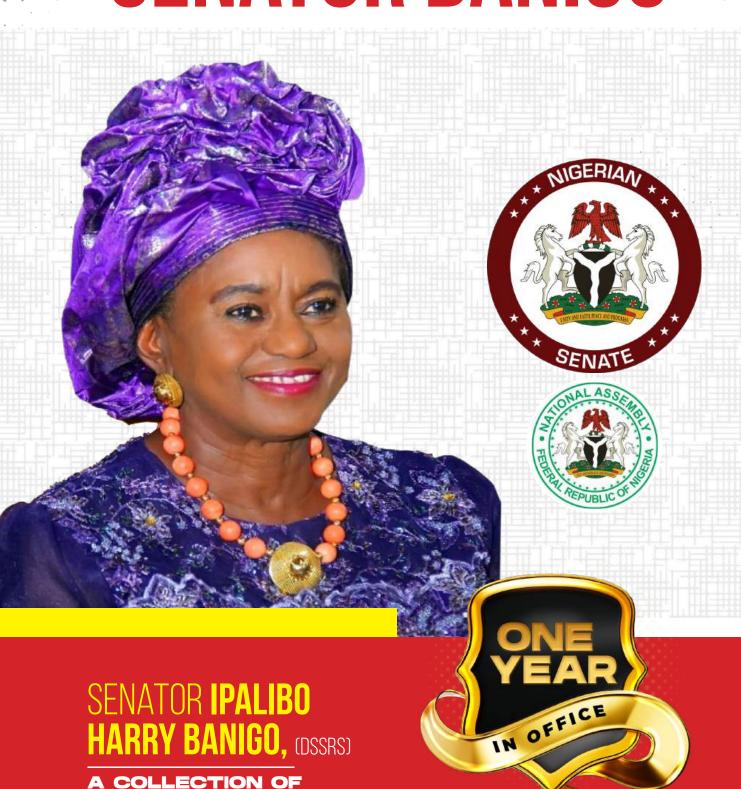
# SENATOR BANIGO



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n humble reverence and gratitude, I dedicate this year book to the Almighty God, the source of all wisdom, strength, and guidance.

As I reflect on my remarkable journey of service, I want to acknowledge God's divine hand that has guided my steps and empowered me to make a meaningful impact as the Senator representing Rivers West Senatorial District. I give thanks for Gods boundless grace that has sustained me throughout my one year in office, enabling me to embody the values of integrity, compassion, and dedication to the welfare of my constituents.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to my family for their patience, understanding, and for being my pillar of support, my sounding boards, and my biggest cheerleaders. Your love and dedication have enabled me to serve the good people of River West Senatorial District with passion and purpose.

And to my staffs as we mark this milestone of one year in office, I want to express my gratitude to each and every one of you. Thank you for your unwavering commitment, your passion for public service, and your unrelenting pursuit of excellence. You have made me proud to be your leader, and I'm honored to work alongside such a talented and compassionate team.

Once again, I celebrate my one year of service, I lift my voice in praise and thanksgiving to God for His faithfulness. May this yearbook stand as a testament to Your unfailing love and the transformative power of service rendered in Your name.

May your infinite mercy, continue to bless me with wisdom, courage, and compassion as I continue to advocate for the welfare of my constituents and the advancement of our beloved nation.

To God be the glory, now and forevermore.

**SENATOR**DR. IPALIBO HARRY BANIGO

Representing Rivers West Senatorial District

# BIOGRAPHY



Senator Dr. Ipalibo Harry Banigo

enator Dr. Ipalibo Harry Banigo is a distinguished Nigerian politician and public servant with a remarkable career spanning several decades. Born into the family of Chief Caywood Brown Harry of Obuama in Degema Local Government Area of Rivers State, she demonstrated academic excellence from an early age, earning the West African School Certificate and Higher School Certificate at Queens College, Lagos. Her academic prowess was further evident in her achievements at the University College Hospital, Ibadan, where she obtained a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, and later at Harvard University School of Public Health, where she earned a Master's Degree. She also holds diplomas in Tropical Hygiene and Dermatology from the University of London.

She has made a lasting impact through her various roles and achievements. As the Senator representing Rivers West Senatorial District, Rivers State, Chairman of the 10th Senate Committee on Health (Secondary and Tertiary) and a member of the 6th Legislature of the ECOWAS Parliament, Senator Banigo has been a strong advocate for healthcare reform and regional cooperation.

Dr. Banigo's career in public service began in the Rivers State Government Civil Service, where she held various key positions, including Registrar of Births, Senior Medical Principal, and Director Public Health Services. She made history as the first female Deputy Governor of Rivers State, breaking barriers and paving way for gender inclusion in leadership.

As a dedicated public health professional, Dr. Banigo held key positions in the Rivers State Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, including Acting Commissioner for Health and Social Welfare, Director-General, and Permanent Secretary. Her leadership led to significant improvements in healthcare delivery across the state.

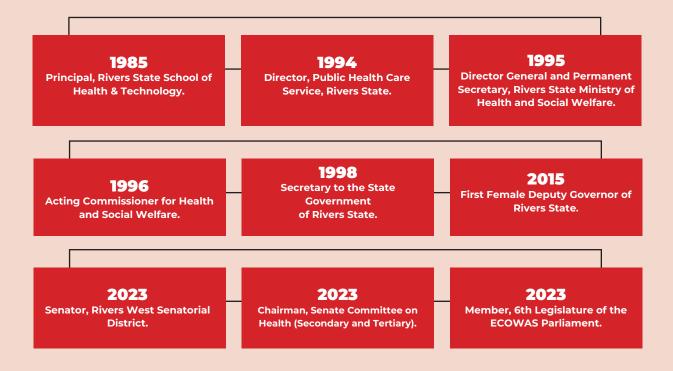
Dr. Banigo's exemplary service was recognized through her appointment as the first female Head of Civil Service of Rivers State and later as Secretary to the Rivers State Government. She spearheaded key initiatives, including serving as Chairman of the Rivers State Relief Committee and contributing to the Rivers State Hospital Management Board.

Beyond her roles in the civil service, Dr. Banigo's influence extended to national and

international arenas. She served as Project Director for the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and as an Honorary Consultant Dermatologist at the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital.

Dr. Banigo's commitment to education and healthcare is evident in her involvement with various academic and healthcare institutions, including serving on the Governing Council of the University of Calabar and the Governing Board of the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital. Her contributions were recognized internationally through her membership on the Reference Board of the Department for International Development (DFID).

Throughout her illustrious career, Dr. Banigo has embodied excellence and service, earning her the admiration and respect of colleagues and constituents alike. Her legacy as a trailblazer and visionary leader is a shining example of dedication and commitment to public service.





o transform Nigeria's healthcare landscape through legislative reforms and robust public health initiatives, ensuring accessible and quality healthcare for all citizens.



My commitment is to foaster a health care system that is equitible, sustainable, and responsive to the needs of our people, driven by passion for excellence and service.













#### Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria: Senator Banigo's Inaugural Address.

dedicate this moment to God Almighty, whose grace has empowered me to serve the wonderful people of the Rivers West Senatorial District in the Upper Legislative Chamber of the 10th National Assembly. My heartfelt gratitude goes to the incredible citizens of Rivers West for their unwavering support throughout my journey, from my historic role as the first female Deputy Governor to my current position as a Distinguished Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Over the past year, we have made significant strides towards addressing the challenges faced by our communities. I have remained steadfast in my promise to provide undivided representation, advocating tirelessly for the needs and aspirations of my constituents. We have collaborated effectively to introduce and pass legislation aimed at improving the employability and entrepreneurial opportunities for our youth, fostering their ability to positively impact their communities.

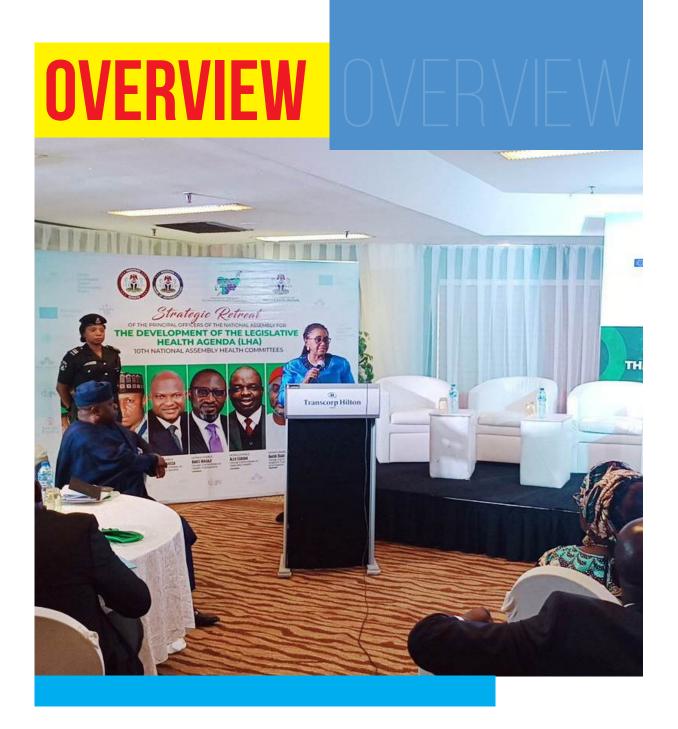
In partnership with my esteemed female colleagues in the Senate, we have championed issues related to gender equality, disabilities, youth, and children. Our collective efforts have given a voice to the voiceless and driven meaningful solutions to the forefront of national discourse.

As we look to the future, our commitment to a robust legislative agenda that prioritizes sustainable good governance remains unwavering. We envision a nation where every citizen has access to opportunities that enable them to thrive and contribute to our collective prosperity.

Together, we will continue to draft and enact laws that further enhance the well-being of our people, ensuring that the Rivers West Senatorial District, and indeed all of Nigeria, can achieve its fullest potential. Thank you for your continued support and trust in our shared journey towards progress and development.



# 



igeria stands at a pivotal crossroads in the global healthcare landscape as the most populous nation in the heart of Africa. There is an urgent need to delve into effective and transformative strategies essential for bridging gaps and ensuring every citizen has access to quality healthcare. The stakes have never been higher, and the potential for a profound impact on millions of lives beckons.

Committee on Health (Secondary and Tertiary) has been marked by a relentless pursuit of impactful legislation, strategic resource mobilization, and unwavering commitment to transparency and governance. As the nation grapples with diverse challenges, from infrastructure deficits to workforce shortages, we have been exploring innovative solutions and collaborative efforts necessary to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

enactment and reinforcement of crucial laws that are pivotal to achieving a robust health system, including:

- Appropriation of N5,000,000,000 as Vulnerable Groups Fund (VGF): This will significantly enhance healthcare access and support for marginalized communities, including the elderly, persons with disabilities, and indigent populations, improving their overall well-being and quality of life.
- Electricity Act Amendment (2023): Ensuring all healthcare institutions, including hospitals and rural health centers, are eligible for subsidies from the Power Consumer Assistance Funds (PCAF), thereby guaranteeing uninterrupted power supply essential for quality healthcare delivery.
- Compulsory Treatment and Care for Victims of Gunshot Act Amendment (2017): Expanding this provision to cover all victims of accidents and emergencies, ensuring no life is left unsupported in critical moments.
- Labour Act Amendment: Strengthening maternity protection by extending maternity leave, enhancing financial benefits, and prohibiting workplace discrimination to promote gender equality and infant welfare.
- NAFDAC Act Amendment: Updating provisions for improved regulation and oversight, enhancing the safety and efficacy of drugs and food products.

In building a resilient health sector, our proactive engagement has been instrumental in mobilizing resources and galvanizing support for various healthcare-related initiatives. Such initiatives include, but are not limited to addressing pressing healthcare challenges and forging policies aimed at sustainable solutions, fostering vital partnerships with international bodies, local advocacy groups,

and government agencies, and aligning efforts for impactful healthcare policies and programs. We further moved our interventions a notch higher by participating in key discussions with the World Health Organization (WHO), the National Association of Resident Doctors, and other critical stakeholders needed to mitigate brain drain and enhance healthcare delivery. Transparency Ensuring and Effective Stewardship in our healthcare delivery are two core cornerstones of my leadership. By conducting comprehensive oversight visits to health institutions across the nation, we have been able to identify areas for improvements - for example, in the integration of traditional medicine - and ensure that public funds are utilized efficiently and transparently.

Furthermore, working with members and chairs of other committees, we have made giant strides in enhancing legislative capacity in health governance by facilitating knowledge exchange among lawmakers at national and subnational levels. Consequently, these initiatives have promoted collaboration on critical health issues and aligned priorities for sustainable healthcare development.

As we forge ahead in our quest for Universal Health Coverage, the journey will undoubtedly be fraught with challenges. Yet with our team of dedicated individuals as well as the unwavering commitment, strategic investment, and collective resolve from government, private sectors, and civil societies, the goal is within reach. We stay united in our mission to elevate Nigeria's healthcare sector to global standards. The success of this endeavor will be measured not just in statistics, but in improved health and well-being of every Nigerian, paving the way for a healthier and more prosperous future for all.

### **OVERVIEW**

# MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES



- Chairman, Senate Committee on Health (Secondary and Tertiary)
- Chairman, Joint Health Committees of the 10th National Assembly
- Vice Chairman, Committee on Women Affairs

#### A PICTORIAL OVERVIEW OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES







#### EXCERPTS FROM THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

We need every cent of our money to enter into the right coffers and be well accounted for, so we can deliver to Nigerians all that concerns Renewed Hope for this Nation.





EXCERPTS FROM THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIES

I assured the Bank of Industry, Nigeria of my commitment to the industrial sector and recognition of the vital role of the BOI in transforming our Nation's Industrial Sector. Recognizing the crucial role of legislative support, I assured BOI of the Committee's commitment to provide the necessary backing to transform Nigeria's necessary backing to transform Nigeria's industrial landscape.



















EXCERPTS FROM THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AFFAIRS I joined the Chairman, Senator Ireti Kingibe, and the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs to advocate for eliminating gender-based violence in Nigeria, marking the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, as Vice Chairman Women Affairs. #RespectHerSay

# Adhoc Committees



Senator DR. Ipalibo Harry Banigo, Member of the ADHOC Committee to Investigate the Disbursement of Loans by Development Bank of Nigeria.

he Senate, at its sitting on Wednesday, 12th July 2023, considered a motion titled "Need to Holistically Investigate the Disbursement of Loans by Development Bank of Nigeria, NIRSAL, and Related Banks to Micro, Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (MSMEs) in Nigeria from 2015 to Date" and constituted an Ad-Hoc Committee to conduct the investigation. The overall aim and objective of the Committee's assignment is to investigate the

disbursement of loans by affected government-owned development financial institutions from 2015, to determine their reach, performance, and sustainability.

#### Senator DR. Ipalibo Harry Banigo, Member of the ADHOC Committee to Investigate on ways and means.

n Monday 11th March 2024, the Senate inaugurated an adhoc committee to investigate the Ways and Means and the Anchor Borrowers Programme of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN). This committee, led by Senate President Godswill Akpabio and other senators, was established following a decision by the Senate to probe the details of these programmes. Concerns have arisen over monies allocated to state governments, manufacturers, the aviation sector, banks, and excess funding in the power sector, which have contributed to the country's escalating debt profile.



The establishment of this committee was one of the resolutions adopted by the Senate after debating the report of the National Assembly Joint Committees on Banking, Insurance and Other Financial Institutions

MEANS

The committee has a six-week mandate to scrutinize the specifics of these programmes, focusing on the allocation and utilization of funds. Their primary objective is to understand the financial dynamics and their impact on Nigeria's current debt landscape, aiming for greater transparency and accountability in financial management.

(BIOFI), Finance, National Planning, Agriculture, and Appropriation on the state of the economy.

The inauguration of this committee is seen as a crucial step towards addressing financial irregularities and ensuring the sustainable economic health of the nation. The investigation seeks to uncover how these financial mechanisms have influenced the national debt and to propose measures for improvement.

Present at the inauguration were key figures such as the Minister of Finance, Wale Edun, CBN Governor Olayemi Cardoso, Accountant General of the Federation Oluwatoyin Madein, Auditor-General of the Federation Shaakaa Chira, and Director General of the Debt Management Office (DMO) Patience Oniha. Also in attendance were representatives from beneficiary ministries, departments, and agencies, as well as institutions, state and local governments, and other stakeholders.

### MEMBERSHIP OF ECOWAS PARLIAMENT (MP)



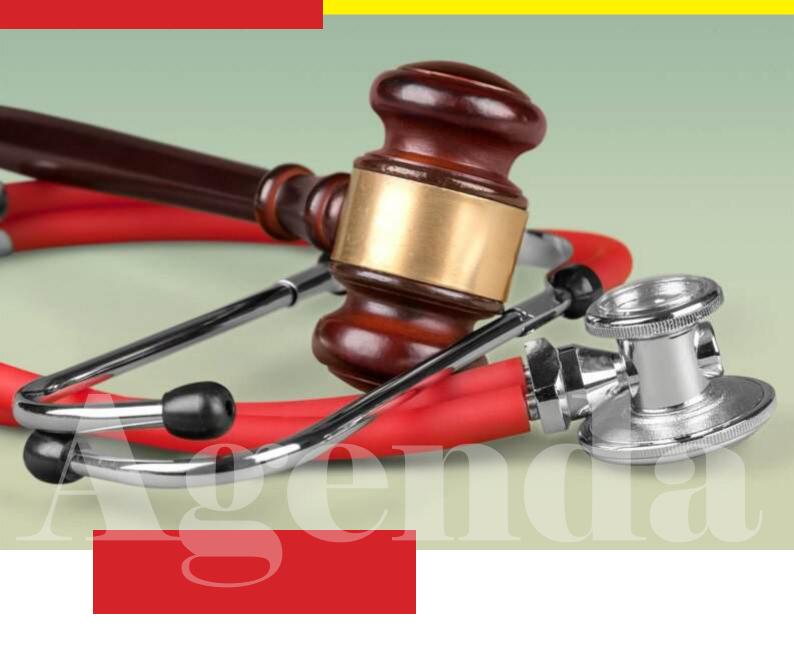












# The Legislative Health Agenda (LHA) of the 10th National Assembly

### **OVERVIEW**

## OVERVIEW

ith the appointment of the chairmen of the health committees and the expansion of the number of committees to cater for the health sector, it was important to set mechanisms in place to ensure that there is proper alignment and coordination of the legislative actions of the 10th Assembly, leveraging the platform of the Joint Health Committees.

It was necessary to set targets and analyze the responsibilities of various committees based on the current realities in the health sector as well as the related policy thrusts of the new government.

To achieve the above target, some activities were conducted through the leadership of the Senate Committee on Health and the entire Joint Health Committees. These were as follows:

- There were initial consultations with interest groups, government authorities, the National Assembly Leadership, Development Partners, and Civil Society leaders.
- 2. A retreat was held involving the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the seven health committees of the National Assembly, the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Development, and development and technical partners who are members of the legislative network for Universal Health Coverage and WHO sponsored the retreat
- 3. Further consultations among leaders and members of the Joint Health Committees as well as technical partners.

The engagement process led to the development of the Legislative Health

Agenda for the 10th National Assembly. The LHA is a framework of objectives and specific activities identifying various issues and challenges within the health sector and the required legislative interventions to be deployed using legislative statutory functions. Previous Health Committees of the National Assembly developed their Agenda, which helped them to make important legislative contributions to health sector improvement.

These were achieved through sustained engagement of stakeholders and strategic implementation of the stated goals.

#### The Legislative Health Agenda (LHA) of the 10th National Assembly

The leadership of the Joint Health Committees has identified specific focal actions that would serve as the Legislative Health Agenda of the 10th National Assembly.

This agenda would help to shape priorities for legislative interventions, guided by strategic targets identified across thematic areas in the health sector.

At the heart of the agenda is the need to strengthen the implementation of the provisions of the National Health Act as a basis for moving the country towards Universal Health Coverage, by providing or strengthening enabling laws for government policies, improving resource mobilization, and accountability, and also promoting a learning agenda to encourage similar approaches at subnational levels.

Given Nigeria's current deplorable health profile, these focal areas are meant to improve public stewardship and performance, and by extension health outcomes.

#### LHA thematic Area Breakdown

The Legislative Health Agenda of the 10th National Assembly is themed: "Improving stewardship and accountability for universal health coverage".

It includes the following four objectives:

#### 1. ENABLING LAWS:

Enact or strengthen enabling laws that support the country's progress towards Universal Health Coverage.

#### 2. RESOURCE MOBILISATION:

Support lawful measures aimed at mobilizing and sustaining human,

financial and material resources for health through public systems as well as partnerships with private sector and development organizations.

#### 3. ACCOUNTABILITY:

Promote accountability by ensuring effective public finance management systems in the health sector.

#### 4. KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION:

Drive a learning agenda to strengthen the legislation, appropriation, and oversight functions of health committees at national and subnational levels.



**ENABLING LAWS** 









SO FAR SENATOR BANIGO'S ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN IN LINE WITH THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AGENDA OF BOTH THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH (SECONDARY AND TERTIARY) AND THE JOINT HEALTH COMMITTEE OF THE 10TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.



# Enabling Laws

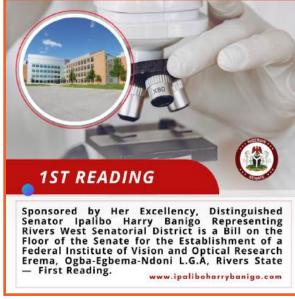
enator Ipalibo Harry Banigo, as Chairman of the Joint Senate Committee on Health, championed the enactment and reinforcement of crucial laws to advance Nigeria's journey towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Her efforts include robust advocacy for implementing key provisions of the National Health Act, enhancing communication on health-related laws with citizens and stakeholders, and prioritizing pending health legislation for swift appropriation and implementation. Notably, Senator Banigo's oversight visit to Maitama General Hospital underscored the imperative of complying with the Compulsory Treatment and Care for Victims of Gunshot Act, 2017.

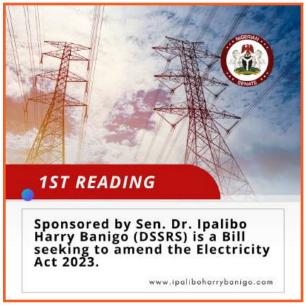
- a. National Vocational Centre at Ahoada in Rivers State.
- b. An Act to amend the Electricity Act 2023 to explicitly include hospitals, primary care centres, rural hospitals, tertiary hospitals and all other healthcare institutions as eligible beneficiaries for subsidies from the Power Consumer Assistance Funds (PCAF).
- c. An Act to amend the Compulsory Treatment and Care for Victims of Gunshot Act,2017 to provide care for all victims of accidents and Stabs and for other related matters.

- d. An Act to amend the Labour Act,2024 to strengthen maternity protection in Nigeria, providing for extended maternity leave, enhance financial benefit and prohibiting discrimination with the aim of promoting gender equality and infant welfare.
- e. A Bill for An Act to amend the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control Act, CAP.N1 LFN, 2004 and for related matters.

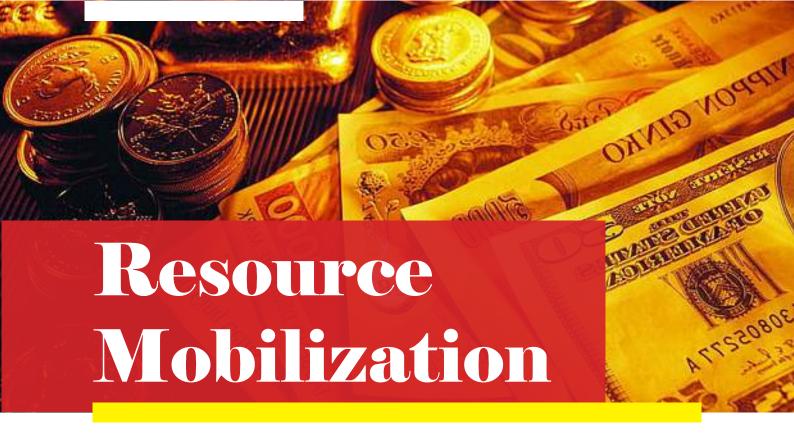








# Enabling Laws



enator Banigo's proactive engagement has been instrumental in mobilizing resources and galvanizing support for health sector initiatives. Highlights include strategic meetings with health profession registrars, collaborative efforts with resident doctors to address healthcare challenges, and contributions to policy initiatives aimed at mitigating brain drain in Africa's healthcare workforce.

#### Meetings with Health Sector Stakeholders and Organizations:

Senator Banigo has actively engaged with a spectrum of stakeholders and organizations, from international health bodies like WHO to local health advocacy groups. These interactions have fostered partnerships crucial for shaping impactful health policies and programs. As reflected below:

- a. Attended the Committee on Registrars of Health Professions (CRHP) meeting with the Optometrists & Dispensing Opticians Registrar Board of Nigeria on October 30th, 2023.
- b. Engaged with the National Association of Resident Doctors on February 1st, 2024, focusing on attaining

- universal health coverage and optimal medical training.
- c. Participated in an investigative hearing on February 6th, 2024, addressing the urgent need to end nationwide strikes by resident doctors.
- d. Held a meeting with the Registrar of the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) on March 19th, 2024.
- e. Contributed to a policy brief on April 25th, 2024, titled "Brain Drain in Africa: Bilateral Agreement on Health Workforce Migration and Mobility," in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health and WHO
- f. Participated in a meeting with IH Virology on October 30th, 2023.
- g. Engaged with the Africa Health Budget Initiative on November 3rd, 2023.
- h. Held a meeting with the NDLEA on November 3rd, 2023.
- Interacted with the Association of Reproductive and Family Health (ARFH) on November 6th, 2023.
- j. Met with the HFN Team (Healthcare Foundation of Nigeria) on November 21st, 2023.

- k. Engaged with WHO on malaria on February 22nd, 2024.
- Held a courtesy visit with Dr. Akinbode and the CAPPA Africa team to discuss the sugar-sweetened beverages (SSB) tax on February 23rd, 2024.
- m. Met with the Christian Medical and Dental Association of Nigeria on February 23rd, 2024.
- n. Engaged with the National Action on Sugar Reduction (NASR) on February 26th, 2024.
- o. Served as a guest of honour at the opening ceremony of the National Executive Council (NEC) meeting of the Nigerian Medical Association on December 14th, 2023.
- p. Participated in a meeting with

- the FCT Coalition for Sustainable Development on December 21st,
- q. Served as the special guest of honour at the Healthcare Federation of Nigeria (HFN) Annual General Conference on February 8th, 2024.
- r. Other activities including engagements with NCDC and NACA.

By actively engaging in these activities, Senator Dr. Ipalibo Harry Banigo aims to strengthen the health sector through enhanced resource mobilization, ensuring the well-being of all citizens and fostering sustainable development in the health sector.



Sen Dr. Ipalibo Banigo, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, reassures Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance, of the Joint Committee's commitment to hold implementing agencies accountable for effective utilization of funds towards achieving Universal Health Coverage and Health Security in Nigeria.

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10th Senate Committee on Health (Secondary & Tertiary) speaks on the Bilateral Agreement on Health Workforce Migration and Mobility attributed to the Brain Drain in Africa at a Policy Dialogue with the African Health Observatory Platform on Health Systems and Policies (AHOP).

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receives the Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, along with the Minister of State and CMDs, in the Senate.





# Accountability

emonstrating a commitment to transparency and governance in healthcare, Senator Banigo has led comprehensive oversight visits to prominent health institutions across Nigeria. These efforts are pivotal in ensuring effective stewardship and accountability by ensuring effective public finance management system in the health sector.

- 1. National Hospital Abuja
- 2. Federal Staff Clinic Gwarinpa
- 3. National Health Insurance Authority
- 4. Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria
- 5. National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC)
- 6. Federal Medical Centre, Abuja
- 7. National Institute for Pharmaceutical Research and Development (NIPRD)
- 8. Pharmacy Council of Nigeria
- 9. Nursing Council
- 10. University of Abuja Teaching Hospital
- 11. University of Calabar Teaching Hospital
- 12. Lagos University Teaching Hospital
- 13. University College Ibadan
- 14. Obafemi Awolowo University Teaching Hospital
- 15. Federal Teaching Hospital IdoEkiti
- 16. Federal Medical Centre Abeokuta
- 17. Federal Neuropsychiatry Hospital Aro, Abeokuta
- 18. Federal College of Alternative Medicine (FEDCAM)

# Knowledge Translation

n Her role, Senator Banigo has facilitated knowledge exchange among lawmakers at national and subnational levels, enhancing legislative capacity in health governance. Her initiatives have promoted collaboration on critical health issues and aligned priorities for sustainable healthcare development. Some of these includes:

- a. Engaging with GAVI, The Vaccine Alliance to ensure the effective implementation of vaccination programs and improve immunization coverage.
- b. Participating in high-level meetings to discuss and align health sector priorities and accountability measures.
- c. Working with global partners to advance malaria elimination efforts and implement effective malaria control strategies.
- d. Engaging with international organizations to improve care and support for individuals with haemophilia and other bleeding disorders.









# Oversight Functions





In Focus: A Glimpse into the 10th Senate Committee on Health's Oversight Visit to the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC).

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Top Story: The Chairman Senate Committee on Health, Sen. Dr. Ipalibo Harry Banigo Spearheaded the Oversight Function to the National Hospital, Abuja. Impressed by the High Sense of Duty displayed, the Chairman assured the management of its Legislative Support highlighting the Commitment to Strengthening the Nation's Healthcare System for Operational Excellence.

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During an oversight visit to the National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA), the Senate Committee on Health emphasized the need for innovative solutions to address the low enrollment rate of Citizens, which stood at 7% of the Nation's Population. It expressed its optimism in seeing NHIA doubling the enrollment number of citizens through the adoption of innovative approaches and strategies within the next year.

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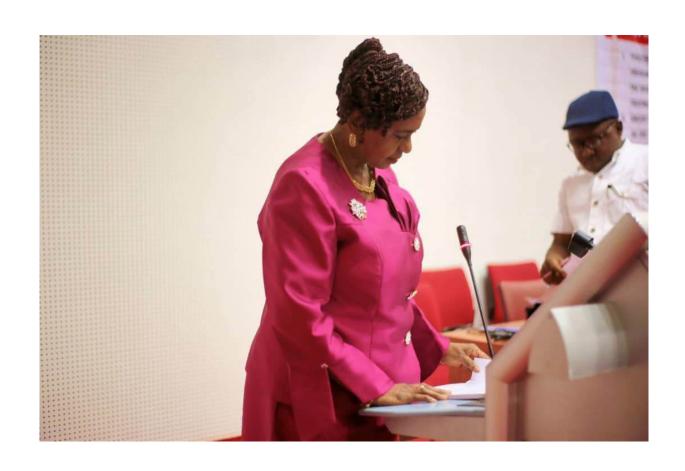


Sen. Dr Ipalibo Harry Banigo, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health (Secondary & Tertiary) along with the Vice Chairman Sen. Samaila Dahuwa Kaila in an oversight visit to the University of Calabar Teaching Hospital has observed the deplorable state of its infrastructure with a reference to its Accident and Emergency Unit; described as a Key Project begging for Urgent Completion.

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# EMPOWERING WOMEN, YOUTHS AND CHILDREN

# **WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

#### NASS News Interview, Senator Banigo narrates Her effort to empower the nation's women and children

ENATOR IPALIBO HARRY BANIGO:
I sponsored the bill because there was a need for us to address a number of issues relating to Maternity Leave and its implications for pregnant women and nursing mothers at the workplace. As a matter of fact, the Labour Act Bill, 2004 needed to be amended, because it did not provide adequate maternity leave for pregnant women and

nursing mothers at the workplace. It tended to discriminate against them in a fashion, it tended to mitigate their abilities to work in a non-exclusive environment and to make them feel that they have fair treatment on their jobs.

So for instance, the maternity leave, as we are proposing that it should be extended from six weeks to eight weeks for pregnant women, and also from six weeks to eight weeks for lactating mothers. And also, their related benefits used to be 50 per cent of their salaries to be paid to them during the course of their maternity leave, but we think that's unfair, they should be paid 100 per cent. This is because that gives them some kind of freedom, economically, so that while they are on maternity leave, they can also be a bit economically empowered.



This is a positive for Safe Motherhood Initiative because it enables them to take time off, recover from delivery, breastfeed properly, and bond very well with their newborns.

This has positive outcomes for maternal rates and infant rates, and health outcomes is very positive. So we believe that in sponsoring this bill, it addresses the issue of discrimination against pregnant women, and nursing employees in the workplace.

You know, we need to acknowledge and support the fact that our pregnant women and nursing mothers have their own unique needs in the workplace, and by supporting them, and enabling them to be able to balance their work and family responsibilities without being afraid that they will be unfairly treated, being paid half their salary, and all that, it will help to increase gender equality, it will help to increase inclusiveness in the workplace, and it will promote better working conditions all round, these are some of the reasons why I'm supporting this bill.

And also, to note that it falls in line with International Labour Standards and Nigeria being a signatory to the International Labor Organisation. It will put Nigeria on a good footing internationally that we are following the Labour rules on maternity and related benefits.

**NASSNEWS:** Thank you, ma. What is the implication

of this bill? How would this bill affect your constituency and nation?

HARRY BANIGO: Well, my constituency and the rest of the nation will be positively affected because women form a very large percentage of our population and women have the unique role of being mothers, of bearing children. Many of them also have the opportunity to contribute to the nation's economy in the various jobs that they do in the public service sector.

So, this will help to remove all those hindrances that will keep them away from wanting to be workers and be mothers at the same time. So, it engenders inclusiveness, and it also improves productivity all around, for my constituents and generally for the whole country.

**NASSNEWS:** Can you tell us the economic value of this bill?

#### SENATOR IPALIBO HARRY BANIGO:

Definitely, it will have economic value because when you provide a worker with the motivation, and the encouragement to give their best at their workplace, without fear of being discriminated against, because she's pregnant. In the current arrangement, women are discriminated against, because they receive only half of their salary. When

this happens, they will not put their best into the job, and all that. So, at the end of the day, it produces an environment for better working conditions for job satisfaction, and inclusiveness. It also removes any form of discrimination against the woman putting her best into her job, knowing that she'll be appreciated for it and that she has the opportunity to give to the nation's growth.

**NASSNEWS:** Are you optimistic that this Bill will be signed?

**SENATOR IPALIBO HARRY BANIGO:** Yes, I am very positive, we were actually targeting it for the International Women's Day. But it was on the first reading, soon after





that day, we believe a lot of people think that is the way to go and so by the time we have a second reading and we go for a public hearing, we expect that the public will come out and support this bill. No doubt, by the time it gets to the President, who is also a gender-sensitive President, He will see the need for this Bill to be assented to and made a law, to enable our women to give the best to the economy of this nation.

**NASSNEWS:** Thank you so much, ma. Currently, we are in very trying times in Nigeria. Are there any words of encouragement you could give to Nigerians at this moment?

#### **SENATOR IPALIBO HARRY BANIGO:**

Yes, it is true that we are in trying times, there are trying times all over the world, not only in Nigeria. But here in Nigeria, it has been quite difficult in the last few months. Already, we can see that there is a bit of a turnaround. And we believe that that trajectory will continue to improve upwards. I would advise us Nigerians not to lose hope, I will advise us that in these vital times, to do more on our budgets, to look at how we can prioritize those things that we need for now and those things are not really top priority, you can leave them off the budget, do some bit of financial education on it. And also, we encourage our people to continue to be part of advocacy for good stewardship, and accountability in governance for all sectors of our nation's economy.

Still commemorating the spirit of International Women's Day, I am delighted to present the Labour

Act (Amendment) Bill, 2024 for its First Reading. This proposed legislation reflects my steadfast commitment as Deputy Chairman of the @NGRSenate Committee on Women Affairs.

Introduced is a bill to not only address existing inequalities but also pave the way for a more inclusive and prosperous future for all in the workplace. This legislation builds upon the principles of inclusivity and empowerment that are at the core of International Women's Day.





enator Banigo continues to serve as a dedicated advocate for equitable healthcare access and legislative reform, positioning herself as a pivotal voice for health sector advancement in Nigeria:

- a. On August 3, 2023, Senator Banigo presented a petition to the Senate on behalf of Nimi Sandra, a constituent from River West in Obuama, Degema LGA, Rivers State, regarding her unlawful dismissal.
- b. Based on her love for youths to achieve the purpose of life, Sen. Banigo has trained several youths in oil and gas training at Charkin Maritime Academy. The training includes:
  - Rigging Inspection
  - Quality Assurance Quality Control (QAQC)
  - Welding
  - Welding Inspection
  - Non-destructive Testing
  - Crane Operations
  - Health Safety and Environment (HSE) 1, 2 & 3.

- c. Support Micro Enterprise Empowerment for Youths and Women trained to boost the micro and medium enterprises of her constitutes with the distribution of work materials to aid business. These items distributed include:
  - 1. Laptops
  - 2. Sewing Machines
  - 3. Refrigerators
  - 4. Grinding Machines In collaboration with Redemption Ministries, youths in the Orashi region, which comprises Ahoada East, Ahoada West, Ogba-Egbema-Ndoni, and Abua/Odual LGAs, are currently undergoing training in solar and electrical installation.

Currently ongoing are concluded plans to train youths in the agricultural value chain and highly specialized training in oil, gas, and marine services.

By weaving together these elements, Senator Ipalibo Harry Banigo is actively shaping a legislative framework that supports universal health coverage and fosters a healthier, more resilient Nigeria within her 1st year in office.











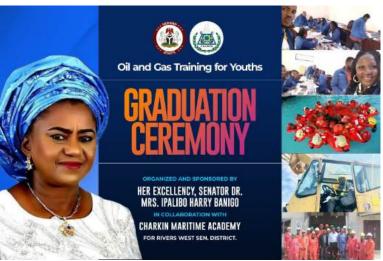


























n a bid to impact lives, provide succor to the less privileged, and enhance Destiny recovery for the Youths, Women, and the Vulnerable in Society; Senator Banigo founded an NGO, CAYWOOD BROWN FOUNDATION in 2008 in Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

The NGO provides an advocacy platform for the Girl Child as well as yearly Skill Acquisition and Empowerment Programs for Youths. So far, The Skill training Programs have provided succor and given a sense of divine direction to thousands of people in the State including Muslim faithful in Rivers State.

It is pertinent to note that thousands of Beneficiaries across Nigeria who passed through the various Empowerment Outreaches by Her Excellency are today not only gainfully employed but are now employers of Labour.

Some of the Beneficiaries of the Skill Acquisition Programs were financially empowered and provided with Starter Packs, while others were assisted in securing job placement with some Corporate Organizations and the State Government. Indeed, the Physically challenged persons are also beneficiaries of her kind gestures.

Among the Skills Programs sponsored by Sen Banigo yearly are Boat Making, Fashion Design, Shoe Making, Heir Dressing, Painting, Cosmetology, ICT, Digital Economy Training, Photography, Videography, Film Production and Training in Musical Equipment.



# gratulatory



### FEDERAL MINISTRY OF HEALTH & SOCIAL WELFARE

Office of the Permanent Secretary
Pederal Secretary Complex, Phase III, Africa's Selfs Way,
PM.B. 043 Chris Made. Freelit published the page. Poderal Sacretanal Complex, Phase III, And P.M.B. 963 Corti Aluja. Emelli poligiji Webalki: www.basilh.cov.n

PS/FMOH/885/Vol. IV/ 446

26th June, 2024

Sen.Dr (Mrs) Ipalibo Harry Banigo osse Rivers West Senatorial District, Rivers State Chairman Committee on Health.
Suite 1.15. Senate Wing,
National Assembly Complex, Three Arms Zonc,
Abuja.

# CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

I wish to warmly congratulate you, your Excellency on your remarkable achievement as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and, Member of the ECOWAS Parliament, within your first year in office. Your exceptional leadership as Chairman Senate Committee on Health is truly admirable.

- As an internationally respected Medical expert, your profound 2. As an internationally respected Medical expert, your protound understanding of international health dynamics has unique equipped you to prioritize Nigeria's healthcare sector. Your unwavering dedication and ardent fight for healthcare reforms are extremely inspiring. I am grateful to God that Nigeria has a strong woman like you in the Senate to championing for universal healthcare coverage for all Nigerians. I salute you once again, my distinguished securitor.
- 3. Once again, I congratulate you on this significant milestone







### FEDERAL MINISTRY OF HEALTH & SOCIAL WELFARE

Office of the Honourable Minister of State
Federal Sequence Complex, Phase III, Ahmed Sob Wey,
P.M.S. 615 Gard Abigs. Email: https://doi.org/ Washin.com/profiles.org/

HMSH & SW/NASS/SWM/06

20th June, 2024

Sen, Dr. (Mrs) Isalibo Harry Boniso, 55685 Rivers West Senatorial District, Rivers State
Chairman Committee on Health
Suite 1.15, Senate Wing, National Assembly Complex. Three Arms Zone, Abujo.

My deal Austinguished Senator

GOODWILL MESSAGE

My warm compliments.

- It is my pleasure to felicitate with you as you mark your one-year antiversary as the Senator representing Rivers West Senatorial District, Rivers State, Chairman Senate Committee on Health and Member of the ECOWAS
- Your wealth of experience is evident in your service and I send my worm. greetings as you present an Anniversary Yearbook to commemorate your excellent stewardship to the Nation.
- Please accept my hearty congratulations and best wishes.



Dr. Tunji Alausa Hanourable Minister of State



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL/CEO

NHIA/DG/064/XX/86

June 19, 2024

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Senator (Dr) Ipalibo Harry Banigo Senate Committee on Health (Secondary & Terliary)
National Assembly Complex
Three Arms Zones

Dear Distinguished Scrator, CONGRATULATORY LETTER

As you mark your one year in office as a Senetor of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, I consider it a privilege to congratuate you on the significant impact you have made in such a short time. Your commitment to public service, and ability to engage in constructive deliberations and champion vital issues, have established you as a beacon of progress and a voice for the people

- 2. Your visionary approach to handling legislative matters and advocacy for key legislative actions clearly demonstrates an unwavering commitment to Universal Health Coverage (UHC), and the transformation of Nigeria's health sector. Through your outstanding efforts, you have embodied the sessence of effective and responsive leadership which has ignited hope and gamered widespread admiration.
- 3. As you embark on the next phase of the legislative journey, I pray that you will continue to be a catalyst for progress and a source of inspiration to your constituents and the health sector. I extend my heartful congretulations to you and express my earnest anticipation of continued impactful achievements in the service of our nation.

Please, accept the assurances of my esteemed regards.





Plot 297, P.O.W. Maferni Crescent, Off Solomon Lar Way, Utake District, Abuja P.M.S. 400, Garté-Abuja, Tel: 08059015854, 08059282008 www.nbls.gov.na



### NATIONAL AGENCY FOR FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND CONTROL

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LAGOS LIAISON OFFICE Plot 1, Isolo Industrial Layo Oshodi - Apapa Expresswa Isolo, Lagos State Nigeria Tel: +234-906-000-7693

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

Senator Dr Ipalibo Harry Banigo.

e on Health Three Arms Zone, Abuja Federal Capital Territory.

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DISTINGUISHED SENATOR, DR. IPALIBO H. BANIGO, CHAIRMAN, SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH.

I am delighted to extend my profound congratulations to you on your one-year anniversary as Chairman, Senate Committee on Health and member of the ECOWAS Parliament.

Your leadership, dedication, and unwavering commitment to enhancing healthcare services in our dear nation and by extension, your valuable contributions and representation at the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Parliament are truly transformative.

Since your assumption of office, your strategic vision and tireless efforts in enacting quality health bills and strong support to National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) in attending her regulatory mandate have significantly improved the quality and accessibility of healthcare services in the

As we reflect on the remarkable milestone achievements of your committee in the past one year, we implore your passion for enacting a sustainable healthcare bill that will improve the healthcare system of our country

On behalf of myself, the entire management and staff of NAFDAC, I wish you and the committee under your

Congratulations once again on this significant milestone.

Prof. Moji Christianah Adeyeye, FAS Director General/CEO





# MEDICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (MWAN)

olov, Off Aguyi kransi Street, N evoxos:@gmail.com 🍓 www

18th June, 2024

Distinguished Senator Ipalibo Harry Banigo Chairman, Senate Committee on Health

### Goodwill Message from the Medical Women's Association of Nigeria (MWAN)

On behalf of the Medical Women's Association of Nigeria, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to you Distinguished Senator Ipalibo Harry Banigo on the successful completion of a re in office as the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health.

Your unwayering dedication, visionary leadership, and commitment to improving the health sector Tour unwavering uchains, visionally readership, and comministent of improving the health section have been truly inspiring. Under your stewardship, significant strides have been made towards enhancing healthcare delivery, ensuring better health outcomes, and advocating for the payment of full salary to all working females during maternity leave and the overall well-being all Nigerians.

As an accomplished medical professional and a distinguished public servant, your efforts have not only elevated the standards of healthcare but also underscored the importance of health in national development. Your exemplary service is a testament to the positive impact that dedicated and compassionate leadership can have on society.

We are proud to celebrate your achievements and are confident that your continued efforts will lead to even greater advancements in our healthcare system. The Medical Women's Association of Nigeria looks forward to ongoing collaboration and support as we collectively strive for a healthier and more prosperous nation.

Once again, congratulations on a successful year. We wish you continued success and fulfillment in vour esteemed role

Prof Rosemary Ogu

National President

Vertillen

Dr. Vetty Agala National Coordinator

MWAN NATIONAL OFFICERS 202

BOARD OF YRUSTEES: Dr Elemie Chana, (Choirmon) South South, Prof Hadica Galadansi: North West, Dr. Rechi Oglosagus South East, Dr. Reyce Barber: North Coulted Dr. Esther Malant, North Case, Prof Adenthe Grange: South West



# Senator Dr Ipalibo Harry Banigo The Chairman Senate Committee on Health

ie Chairman Senate Commit iree Arms Zone ouja Federal Capital Territory

Congratulations to the Distinguished Senator (Dr) Ipalibo Harry Banigo

Gatefield congratulates Distinguished Senator Dr. Ipalibo Harry Banigo on a successful first year as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and member of the ECOWAS Parliament. Your visionary leadership has provided a clear direction for meeting the health demands of Nigerian citizens and facilitating relevant legislative provisions to support accountable health service delivery.

We celebrate your commitment to improving Nigeria's health sector and advancing healthcare services in the country. Your concern for Nigerian citizens is evident in your support of favourable policies that will uplift the nation through the improved capacity of health service providers and upgrading of health institutions across the country.

Today, Gatefield joins other stakeholders to congratulate you, Distinguished Senator, on this one-year milestone and the tangible impact that has already been recorded. We wish you even more success in the coming years.



Omei Bongos-Ikwue Senior Health Communications, Program and Advocacy Specialist For Gatefield











19 June 2024

### Senator Dr Ipalibo Harry Banigo,

The Chairman,

Senate Committee on Health,

Three Arms Zone, Federal Capital Territory,

Abuja.

Dear Distinguished Senator,

### Congratulations to the People's Senator, Distinguished Senator (Dr.) Ipalibo H. Banigo (Chairman, Senate Committee on Health)

We are delighted to share in the joy of your one-year anniversary as the Chairman, Senate Committee on Health in the 10th Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

You have not only distinguished yourself with meritorious service to the people of Rivers West Senatorial district but to the country. Your impactful work has elevated legislative agenda on health, environment, and other critical issues where you have diligently represented the voices of the people.

We are proud of your immense achievements and commitment to the true values and tenets of democracy in Nigeria and through your works in the ECOWAS parliament.

Nigerians are indeed grateful to have you in this strategic position that has engendered improved health outcomes in our country.

Congratulations, Distinguished Senator (Dr.) Ipalibo Harry Banigo

Akinbode Oluwafemi,



Executive Director, CAPPA Wow! It's one year anniversary in office with this uncommon monumental achievements? What will happen to the Rivers West senatorial District 4 years down the line can only be imagined. Thanks for the matured, experienced and quality representation you are giving us on floor of the upper chamber of the National Assembly. Thanks for your studied and motherly approach to topical issues. You're indeed uncommon. Congratulations Your Excellency the Distinguished Senator of our time and many thanks for all you've done, You're doing and you will do for us. I commit you to the Almighty God for more wisdom, strength and protection. Congratulations once again ma for an impactful one year in office.

### KINGDOM MANDATE COORDINATOR AHOADA EAST.



# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY OUR AMIABLE CHAIRMAN.

Your strategic vision, unwavering commitment and managerial prowess are undoubtedly a testament to your quality leadership. Your passion for excellence and forward-thinking approach has made the committee to standout in the 10th Senate. Your one year of purposeful leadership shows the Nigerian Health Sector can attain the global standards. May God continue to give you the strength and wisdom in the discharge of this responsibility.

PLEASEACCEPTMYHEARTFELTCONGRATULATIONS

# SIGNED DISTINGUISHED SENATOR DR SAMAILA DAHUWA KAILA Deputy chairman, Senate Committee on Health



Dear Distinguished Senator Dr. Ipalibo Harry Banigo, On behalf of the Institute of Human Virology Nigeria - International Research Centre of Excellence (IHVN-IRCE), we extend our heartfelt congratulations on your first anniversary as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and member of the ECOWAS Parliament. Your warm welcome to the IHVN-IRCE SPEED Project, contributions, support of legislative reforms, and health policy advocacy in Nigeria in the last one year have proven invaluable and commendable

for the improvement of population health. While we felicitate with you on this august and joyous occasion, we look forward to more years of great achievements and success. Warm regards,

MRS. OGHOME EMEMBO Principal Investigator-SPEED Project IHVN-IRCE



# RECOGNITION OF AN IMPACTFUL ONE YEAR IN OFFICE

Warm Salutations from the executive, extended Executive and entire Congress of the Nigerian Association of Resident Doctors. On this momentous occasion of marking one year in office, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to you ma for the giant strides achieved. You have not just been a teacher, mentor and leader to us, but a mother championing the course for better welfare for all healthcare workers and prosperity in the healthcare sector. Your dedication, leadership, and unwavering commitment to excellence have been

instrumental in achieving remarkable progress and success over the past year for not just the association (as evident by the impact of our scientific conference in January) but the entire healthcare sector. Through your vision and tireless efforts, you have not only met challenges head-on but also transformed them into opportunities for growth and development. Your leadership has inspired and united us, fostering a sense of purpose and collaboration between associations and government institutions within the health sector. As we celebrate this significant milestone, we look forward to continued success and even greater achievements in the years to come. May your journey ahead be filled with prosperity, innovation, and lasting positive impact.

Congratulations on this well-deserved success, and here's to many more fruitful years in office!

Please accept the Assurance of our highest regards.

# DELE ABDULLAHI O. PRESIDENT Nigerian Association Of Resident Doctors











As we mark the first anniversary of your tenure as a representative of the people of Rivers West Senatorial District, health workers, and Nigerians in General, we consider it an immense privilege to bring this heartwarming congratulatory message to you. Your dedication and commitment to the betterment of our nation have been truly inspiring, and it is only fitting that we acknowledge and appreciate your tireless efforts. Since assuming office, you have been a beacon of hope and a voice for the people.

Your unwavering commitment to serving the interests of your constituents has been evident in her tireless advocacy for policies and initiatives aimed at improving their lives, thereby showing you to be a true and patriotic servant of the people. You consistently engage with them, listen to their concerns, organize outreach programs, provide training and job opportunities, and stimulate the household and economic growth of your constituents.

As the Chair of the Joint Health Committees of the 10th National Assembly, you have also developed new ways of carrying out legislative actions in the health sector. As we congratulate you on your first anniversary as a Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, we wish to reaffirm our support for your continued efforts to build a brighter future for our nation.

# **Prof. Chima Onoka**



Congratulatory Message to Distinguished Senator Dr. Ipalibo Harry Banigo, DSSR as she marks one year in office as a Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Your Excellency, you are indeed a rare gem, an Amazon who has brought developmental strides to the sector and your constituents within the space of one year.

You possess exceptional traits of selflessness, dedication to work and commitment to the work of God and humanity. I am influenced by

your modesty and kind heartedness. The 10th Senate no doubts made the right choice in putting a round peg in a round hole by appointing you the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health (Secondary and Tertiary). You already set the ball rolling through engagements with stakeholders in the sector and proper representation. Your constituency Rivers West Senatorial District, the good people of Rivers State, the Senate, the National Assembly and indeed the entire country is blessed to have an asset like you.

Barr. Mrs. Fortune Ihua-Maduenyi PhD
Direct/Clerk, Senate Committee on Health (Secondary & Tertiary)



Congratulations on an incredible first year in office, our esteemed Senator. You have earned and truly deserve all the accolades from your constituents in Riverswest, Rivers State, and Nigeria as a whole. We are proud of you and pray for even greater heights and achievements in the future.

**Barr. Mrs. Irene Ominike Odibaba** Senior Legislative Aide



Hearty Congratulations to our Kingdom Mandate Principal, Her Excellency Senator Dr. Ipalibo Harry Banigo, Chairman of the 10th Senate Committee on Health. Your Excellency, may this first year as Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria mark the beginning of even greater opportunities for you to serve humanity, as your life continues to fulfill the scriptures. We are blessed to have you as the chosen representative of the people of Rivers West Senatorial District and Nigeria at large. Thank you for the privilege of serving you. May your legacy continue to inspire and uplift our nation. I extend my deepest gratitude for your dedication and compassion towards our youth through your numerous endeavours.

**Abiye Alambo Briggs** Legislative Aide



Congratulations most Distinguished Senator Ipalibo Harry Banigo. Happy anniversary on your first year in office! Indeed this shows that God's Grace is on you and for your outstanding leadership not just in the public office but also in God's vineyard. This is a remarkable milestone and a testament to your tireless efforts and dedication to serving your constituents. Here's to many more years of public service and continued success! Congratulations again on this achievement.

Best wishes Your Excellency.

**Peterson Awajiiroiso Enente** Legislative Assistant



Congratulations to our amiable Senator, Distinguished Sen. Dr Ipalibo Harry Banigo DSSRS; and the Kingdom Mandate Team, on your proactive one year in office.

We thank God for His Sufficient Grace to perform the Kingdom Mandate Mantra for justice, peace and joy to the land.

**Soala Dasimaka** Personal Assistant



Happy 1st anniversary as the Senator representing Rivers West Senatorial District! I am grateful for your tireless efforts and dedication towards Your Constituents, Rivers State, the Health Sector, and Nigeria. May God guide and strengthen you to continue working towards a brighter future. May your leadership be marked by wisdom, compassion, and integrity, and may your voice be a beacon of hope for the marginalized. Congratulations, my Most Distinguished Senator, and may God bless you abundantly in Jesus' name, Amen!

# John Idorenyin Ekop Secretary



As you mark your One Year in office as Senator of the Fed. Republic of Nigeria, I sincerely thank God for your uncommon achievements so far. Your dedication and hard work over the years have not gone unnoticed. Your Passion, leadership Prowess and commitment to Excellence are inspiring.

Thank you for all you do for us as a legislative team and being a source of inspiration to me. May the Lord bless and keep you strong and healthy in Jesus name.

Wishing you more fruitful years ahead.

Precious Abia
Press Secretary (Former)



The Distinguished Her Excellency Senator Dr. Mrs. Ipalibo Harry Banigo, Congratulations to you ma on this momentous occasion of your first year in office. Your passion for public service, coupled with your expertise and genuine care for the well-being of others is exceptional. May your next years be filled with even more accomplishments, victories, and opportunities to make a positive difference in the lives of those you represent. Warm regards and best wishes for continued success.

Mr Onyekachi Chukwu Emeka













































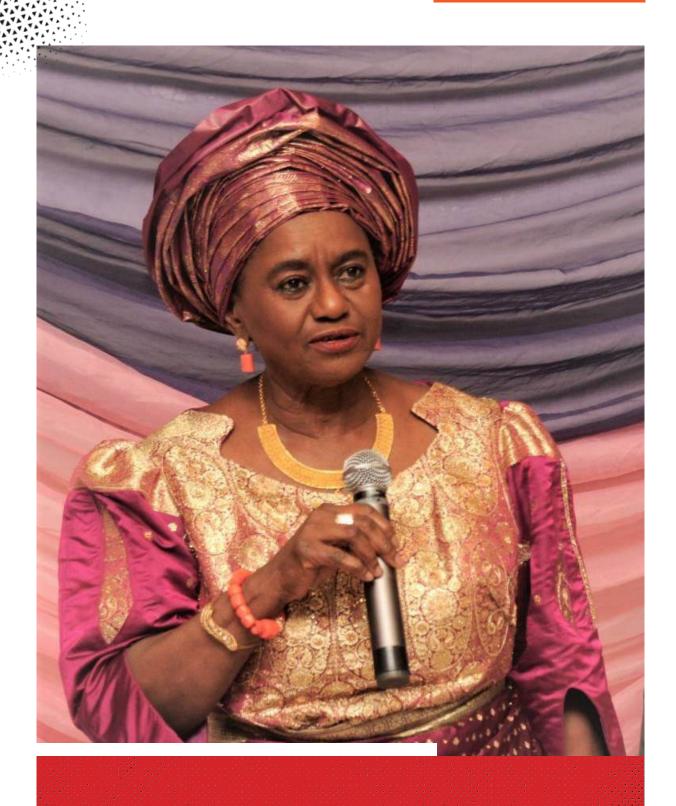




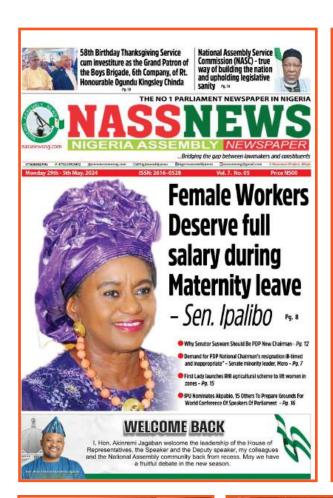








# Appendices





during Maternity leave – Senator Ipalibo stor Ipalibo Harry Banigo, former deputy governor of the oil-rich Rivers State currently os as the senator representing Rivers West Senatorial District in the 10th National Assem-Ipalibo, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, speaks with NASSNEWS on her lative activities and national issues







Legislature of the ECOWAS Parliament.



Sen. Dr. Ipalibo Harry Banigo remains steadfast in her commitment to boosting economic activities in the nation. Building upon her legacy as the former Deputy Governor of Rivers State. Sen. Banigo tirelessly empowers countless youths in the Rivers West Senatorial District through small and medium-scale enterprises. Her unwavering dedication inspires hope and drives sustainable development, especially among marginalized groups such as women, youths, persons with disabilities, and the less privileged.

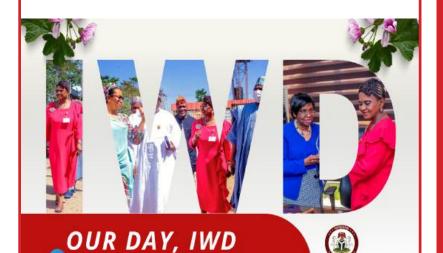


At the Ministerial Roundtable Meeting on Rethinking Malaria Elimination in Nigeria, Senator Ipalibo Harry Banigo, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health (Secondary and Tertiary), reaffirmed the dedication of the Joint Committee on Health of the 10th National Assembly to combating Malaria as a critical component in its Legislative Health Agenda recognizing Malaria's significant impact on Healthcare Expenditures.

NTA INTERVIEW

Senator Dr. Ipalibo Harry Banigo, Chairman of the 10th Senate Committee on Health (Secondary & Tertary) and Vice Chairman of the Senate Committee on Women Affairs, Representing Rivers West Senatorial District, Rivers State, highlights the significance of International Women's Day in an Exclusive Interview segment on 'Gender's Parliament' with the NTA. Senator Dr. Ipalibo underscored the importance of International Women's Day as a platform for Celebrating the Remarkable Achievements of Women in various spheres, including education, cultural, social endeavors, economics, and politics among others.





As the world celebrates International Women's Day, Senator Dr. Ipalibo Harry Banigo, Chairman Senate Committee on Health and Vice Chairman Women Affairs of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, representing Rivers West Senatorial District, Rivers State in the National Assembly, joins in felicitating with women across the Nation. In a statement, Sen. Banigo praised the resilience and dedication of women in both domestic and public spheres, recognizing their invaluable contributions as homemakers and caregivers. The Distinguished Senator called for collective efforts to acknowledge and appreciate the unique strengths and qualities that acknowledge and appreciate the unique strengths and qualities that women bring to society. She emphasized the importance of including women in all aspects of social, economic, cultural, and political practices, underscoring the need to address outdated norms and customs that undermine the entitlements and rights of women.

www.ipaliboharrybanigo.com

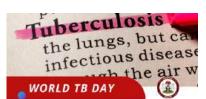


World Kidney Day 2024: The Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health (Secondary and Tertiary) today observes World Kidney Day. Sen. Dr. Ipalibo Harry Banigo emphasized the importance of Kidney Health and reaffirmed the Nation's dedication to combating Chronic Kidney Diseases (CKD) and ensuring Kidney Health for all; Highlighting key initiatives from the 2024 Appropriation Act.

www.ipaliboharrybanigo.com



As the world observes World Oral Health Day today, I urge the public to prioritize regular Dental check-ups and adopt healthy Oral Hygiene practices towards achieving Universal Health Coverage. It is crucial to underscore that Oral Health is closely linked to our overall well-being, emphasizing the need to maintain good Oral Health to Committee on Health (Secondary and Tertiary), it pleases me to inform the public that the 2024 Appropriation Act ensures affordable, accessible, and quality Dental Care services across the 5 geopolitical zones, ensuring Access to Dental Care for all.



As Chairman of the 10th Senate Committee on Health (Secondary and Tertiory), I emphasize the crucial role of good hygiene precities in combating the spread of the committee of the spread of the spread of this infectious disease, heightened awareness and proactive measures are urgently needed, I call on the Nation's Health Institutions, Parastatais, and Agencies to uphold the Highest Service Delivery Standards in TB prevention. Citizens are urged to prioritize preventive measures, emphasizing Home and Environmental Hygiene. Appropriation Act ensures the provisions for National Tuberculosis Prevalence Surveys, collaboration with partners, and specialized referral hospitals and training facilities; combating TB.

www.ipalibahariybanigo.com





Acknowledging the urgent need for healthcare sector reform to enhance quality healthcare delivery nationwide, the Senate Committee on Health commits to revitalizing the nation's health facilities and improving emergency preparedness and response.



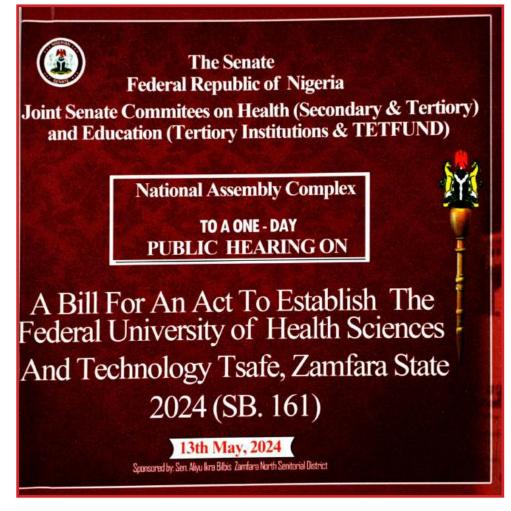
Find this insightful interview of Her Excellency Senator Dr. Ipalibo Harry Banigo with NASS News and many more updates on her website. In this interview, Senator Banigo shares her reflections on the comparison between civil service and politics. Drawing from her vast experience, she elaborates and offers valuable insights, that motivate and inspire the youths. She discusses the NAFDAC Act Amendment Bill 2024 sponsored, by providing more insights into its objectives and the direct benefits it holds for the nation and her constituents.



Senator Ipalibo Harry Banigo, Vice Chairman of the Senate Committee on Women Affairs, Joins forces with the Chairman, Senator Ireti Kingibe, and the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs to advocate for the elimination of gender-based violence in Nigeria, marking the international Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. #RespectHerSay









- Appeal Court upholds Sen. Banigo election victory (30th September, 2023).
- Banigo felicitates with President Tinubu's constituents (1st October, 2023).
- Sen. Banigo hails tribunal judgement on Gov. Fubara's Victory (2nd October, 2023).
- Sen. Banigo demands sanctions against health givers on rejection of gunshot victims in medical facilities (4th October, 2023).
- Sen. Banigo calls for an insight on Pro-health Taxes (5th October, 2023).
- Sen. Banigo identifies drug addiction, poor governance as Catalysts for mental health disorder (10th October, 2023).
- Banigo felicitates with the Girl-Child; advocates dismantling of obnoxious traditional practices against the girl-child (11th October, 2023).
- Sen. Banigo drums better life for Rural Women (15th October, 2023).
- Sen. Banigo calls for transparency and public accountability in the health sector (16th October, 2023).
- Polio eradication, Dr. Banigo sets benchmark (24th October, 2023).

- Sen. Banigo seeks amendment on Electricity bill (7th November, 2023).
- World Diabetes Day: Sen. Banigo calls for collaborative efforts to fight the scourge (14th November, 2023).
- Sen. Banigo bags Platinum Award of Niger Delta (21st November, 2023).
- Sen. Banigo wants Bank of Industry (BOI) to support more women and youth in small & medium scale (SMEs) (24th November, 2023).
- Sen. Banigo demands an end to gender violence (25th November, 2023)
- 10th National Assembly Committee on Health to sanction violators of healthcare services (28th November, 2023).
- Sen. Banigo doles out cash palliatives to elderly (18th December, 2023).
- Senate Committee on Health inspects four Federal Hospitals and Agencies in Abuja (22nd February, 2024).
- World Kidney Day; Sen. Banigo highlights key achievement in the fight against the scourge (14th March, 2024).
- World Oral Health Day; Dr. Banigo harps on early checkups (20th March, 2023).
- World Tuberculosis Day: Dr. Banigo harps on good hygiene (24th March,
   2023).
- Banigo empowers more youths in Rivers State (29th March, 2024).
- Sen. Banigo decries Malaria prevalence. (24th April, 2024).
- World Immunization Week: Dr Banigo calls for Collaboration with relevant stakeholders including Teachers & traditional rulers (26th April, 2024).
- Female workers deserve full salary during maternity.



A One-Day Public Hearing organised by the joint Senate Committee on Health (Secondary and Tertiary) and Education (Tertiary Institutions and TetFund) on a Bill for an Act to Establish the Federal University of Health Sciences and Technology Tsafe, Zamfara State.

• The 10th Senate Committee on Health (Secondary and Tertiary) will continue to enact laws, especially health laws, to meet the health demands of citizens. This was necessitated by Nigerian's growing population, emerging diseases and the dire need for development of both manpower, infrastructure and intellect.

Policy Dialogue (PD) on the Bilateral Agreement on Health Workforce Migration and Mobility, attributed to the Brain Drain in Africa via the African Health Observatory Platform

 There is need to facilitate the inclusion of relevant legislative provisions, including adequate mobilization and resource allocation, to support an effective accountability framework. Meeting with the World Health Organisation Director (WHO) for Global Malaria Programme, Dr. Daniel Ngamije with partners, the Roll Back Malaria (RBM), Africa leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA), National Malaria Elimination Programme (NMEP), the Federal Ministry of Health and Team.

• The 10th Senate Committee on Health Secondary and Tertiary will work with the Federal Ministry of Health and other agencies to encourage local manufacturing medicaments. We will increase coordination amongst stakeholders in other related sectors, such as education and environment, to increase efforts towards the control and elimination of malaria.

# At the 2024 National Executive Council (NEC) Meeting of the Nigerian Association of Resident Doctors (NARD) in Abuja.

• The challenges and complex issues in the health sector require a multifaceted approach, including comprehensive assessment, stakeholder engagement, evidence-based problem-solving, and robust implementation strategies.

# At the World Health Organization - Inter-parliamentary High-level Conference in Accra, Ghana

• There is a need for the legislature to create a robust legislative framework that strengthens Universal Health Coverage, enhances health security and preparedness; and ensures diligent oversight of health fund allocation.

# At the Strategic Retreat of the Principal Officers of the National Assembly for the development of the Legislative Health Agenda (LHA) of the 10th National Assembly Health Committees.

• The core objective of this Retreat is to further enlighten the principal officers of the National Assembly on the critical challenges in Nigeria's health sector and the efforts towards improving health outcomes and attaining Universal Health Coverage and Resilience.

# Meeting with GAVI, The Vaccine Alliance

• For us, immunization is key because we all know that prevention is far cheaper than treatment or cure. We want to get back to the time we have universal child immunization coverage which is 80% coverage.

# Oversight visit to the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN)

This oversight visit underscores the importance of enhancing funding mechanisms
and expanding capacity in medical education to meet the growing needs of our
healthcare sector, of which we remain committed to supporting the MDCN and
other regulatory bodies to ensure that our health sector achieves our mandate for
Universal Health Coverage.

# Oversight Visit to the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC)

We are committed to working with NAFDAC and other stakeholders to ensure that
we make the most of our natural resources, improve the use of alternative medicines,
and ultimately provide better healthcare for our people.









