





## JOINT RESEARCH AND ALLIED INSTITUTIONS SECTOR UNIONS

c/o NASU Headquarters, Plot 557, Gidado Idris Street, Wuye District, Abuja FCT. Tel: 08065377206

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JORAISU/R/VOL.VI/89

## CIRCULAR TO ALL MEMBERS OF JORAISU ON THE MEETING WITH THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF STATE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

The meeting of the Federal Government negotiating team with the leadership of Joint Research and Allied Institution Sector Unions (JORAISU) which was presided over by the Honourable Minister of State, Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment Honourable Festus Keyamo SAN took place on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2022 at the Minister's conference room with the representatives of the various stakeholders Ministries department and agencies (MDA's).

The meeting, which was earlier scheduled to address issues namely reports of the Sub-Committees on increase in retirement age of non-academic staff and Chief Research Officers in the Research and Development Institutes (RDI's) to 65 years and 70 years respectively as well as payment of 53.37% CONRAISS Arrears. The meeting also addressed three other demands of the Unions namely, the Conditions and Scheme of Service, The National Research and Innovation Council Bill and non-skipping of CONRAISS 10.

- INCREASE IN RETIREMENT AGE: Concerning the report of the Governments/JORAISU Sub-Committee which approved the increase in retirement ages of non-academic staff of Research and Development Institutes from 60 years to 65 years and chief Research Officers from 65 years to 70 years, the report was adopted. However, on the implementation, it was agreed that the method used to get the Universities, Polytechnic and College of Education staff increase in retirement age be adopted and referred to the Ministry of Justice to do the needful.
- 2. PAYMENT OF 53.37% ARREARS ON CONRAISS: With the report of the Sub-Committee showing that some Research Institute have being paid part or whole of their arrears, it was agreed that the Presidential Initiative on Continuous Audit (PICA) be invited to the next meeting of the negotiating committee to inform the meeting why it paid seven Research Institutes leaving others unpaid.

- 3. CONDITIONS AND SCHEME OF SERVICE FOR THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTION SECTOR: it was agreed that the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation should call a meeting of Stakeholders from both Government and the Three Trade Unions (NASU), (ASURI), (SSAUTHRIAI) in the sector to a meeting to harmonise the various interests and opinion before the next meeting of the negotiating committee in two weeks' time.
- 4. NATIONAL RESEARCH INNOVATION COUNCIL BILL: The union stated that the NRIC Bill has earlier been passed thrice during the 8<sup>th</sup> Assembly but was not accented to by Mr President. The presidency advised that the Bill should be represented to the 9<sup>th</sup> Assembly and it has already gone through public hearing at the senate. The Unions then requested that the Executives put its weight behind the efforts of the Labour Union in pushing the Bill through at the National Assembly.
- 5. NON-SKIPPING OF CONRAISS 10: The Unions argued that they have being skipping of CONRAISS 10 across board in most Research and Development Institutes, stating that there is an existing National Industrial Court Judgement in favour of the Unions. The representative of the National Salaries Income and Wages Commission (NSIWS) reacting stated that the judgement had been appealed. The Minister thereafter directed that the evidence of the appeal be brought to the next meetings to determine the next line of action to take on the matter.

The next meeting was thereafter rescheduled to hold on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2022.

Meanwhile the leadership of JORAISU appreciates the resilience of the generality of the members and affirm that as the strike continues, the light at the end of the tunnel is already insight.

Comrade Peters.A. Adeyemi JP General Secretary NASU/Chairman JORAISU

Comrade Ezekiel. O. Popoola PhD

General Secretary SSAUTHRIAI

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Professor Theophilus Ndubuaku

Secretary General ASURI