

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD (IRB)

NIMR-Institutional Review Board has remained a pacesetter and in the fore front of providing support to research and other ethics committees in the country. The Director General, Professor Babatunde Salako, approved the reconstitution of the new NIMR-IRB and inaugurated it on the 1st Sept., 2016. The Board consists of seventeen (17) members including eight (8) old members yet to complete their term and eight (8) newly nominated members who were to serve on the board. Dr. Oliver Ezechi, Obstetrician

Gynaecologist and Public health expert remains the Board Chairman and Mrs. Olayemi Nwogbe an Information Scientist a Member/Administrative Secretary. The Secretariat consists of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary and two administrative support staff (Desk Officers). The Secretariat coordinates the activities of the Board as well as ensure timely processing of submitted protocols. All protocols are submitted to the Secretariat in both hard and soft copies. However, electronic submission only is allowed for

persons residing outside Lagos or Nigeria

Research Protocols

A total of sixty six (66) proposals were submitted to IRB in the year 2018. Of the submitted protocols, forty-six (46) were approved and twenty (20) were at different stages of approval process. The research protocols were of four categories;

- NIMR staff protocols
- Non NIMR staff (individuals) protocols
- NGO/CSO and multinational organizations protocols
- Students from various universities and polytechnics.

Meetings and Conferences

The board participated in a number of meetings and conferences in the year 2018.

Collaborations

- The Board was involved in a number of collaborative activities with the following organization and bodies;
- New HIV Vaccine and Microbicides Advocacy Society (NHVMAS),
- South African Research Ethics Training Initiatives (SARETI),
- West African Bioethics Training Programme (WABTP)
- National Health Research Ethics Committee (NHREC}
- WATERS, Senegal
- Federal Medical Centre (FMC) Ebutte-Metta.

Work Plans

- Capacity-building for members of the Board and researchers
- Training for Secretariat staff
- Computerization of administrative/secretariat procedures
- Increase awareness on ethics of research and good research practice for stakeholders
- Renovation of IRB Secretariat

Way forward

- Renovation and equipment of the IRB Secretariat
- Automation of the IRB process
- Training and Retraining of IRB staff and members