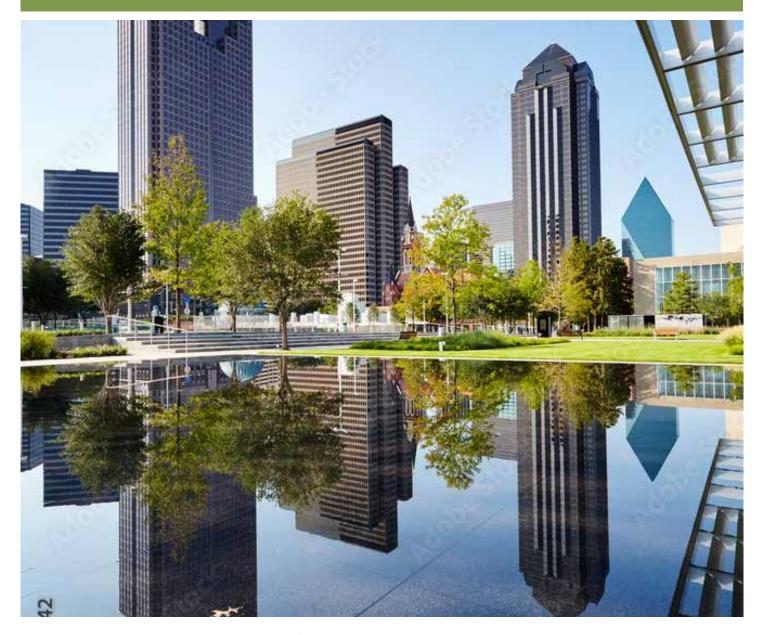
THE 30TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION OF

THE MUTUAL UNION OF THE TIV IN AMERICA, INC.

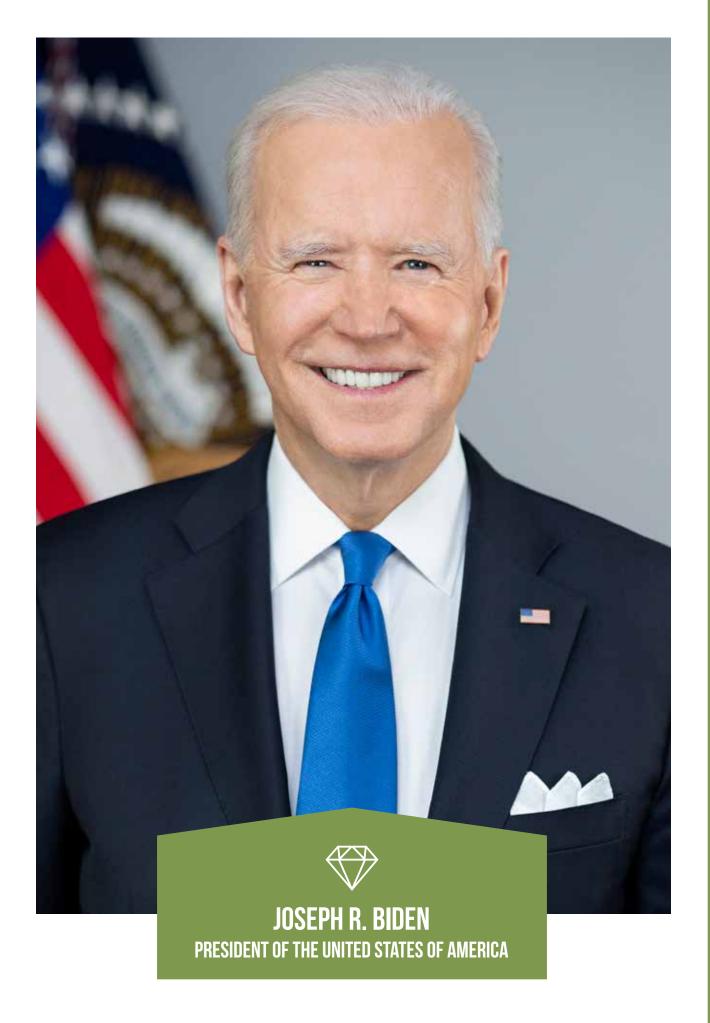
2024 MUTA CONVENTION



RETHINKING MUTA

A STRATEGIC REASSESSMENT AND ADAPTATION FOR EFFECTIVE SERVICE



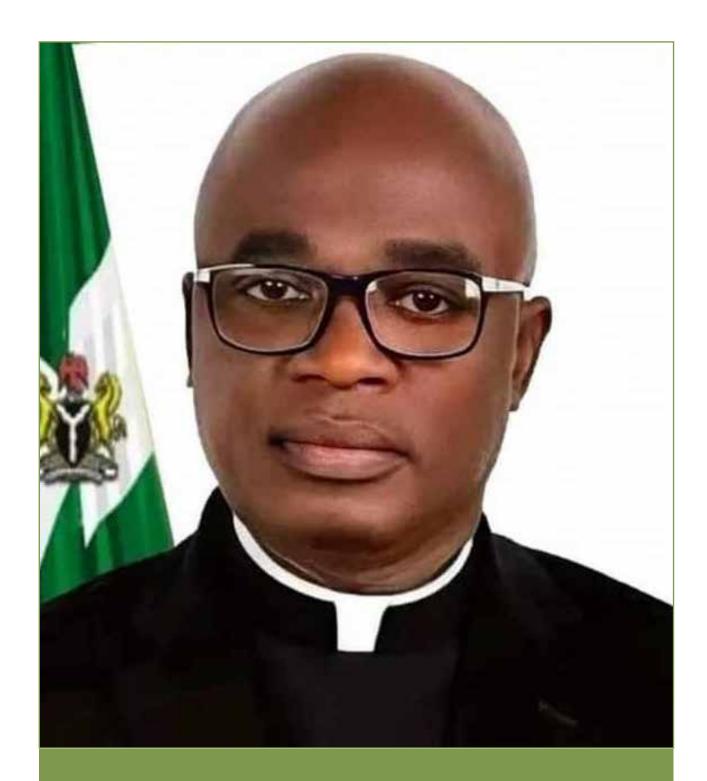








HIS ROYAL MAJESTY ORCHIVIRIGH PROF. JAMES O. AYATSE TOR TIV





HIS EXCELLENCY

REV. FR. DR. HYACINTH IORMEM ALIA
THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF BENUE STATE

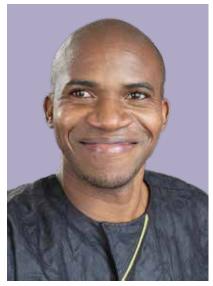
2023 - 2025 MUTA EXECUTIVE OFFICERS



AKAA DANIEL AYANGEAKAA, PH.D.
President & Chairman of Board



DAVID AGUM, PH.D.Vice President



BEEIOR ROV-IKPAH Secretary



SANDY BULA
Treasurer



RICHARD ATE AUNDE
Financial Secretary



REGINALD ORAFA
Assistant Secretary

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

MR. OTHNIEL DEGAHSON
MUTA Northeast

DR. SIMON TARPAV MUTA Southeast MRS. MSENDOO JOHN
MUTA Western

MR. DENIS T. AKAAZUA MUTA Midwest

MUTA OBJECTIVES

1

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Provide social, recreational, and cultural education to individuals in the field of employment opportunities, education, health welfare and housing to enable these individuals to become assimilated into the mainstream society.

2

HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Create a home-away-from-home for newly arriving immigrants or students from Africa and else where.

3

ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Raise funds for MUTA projects to include but not limited to members as well as when and where the need exists in the diaspora and Nigeria

4

SUSTAINABILITY

Help build a civil society in Tivland (Nigeria) by promoting voluntary, cooperative initiatives through technical assistance in agriculture, water resources, healthcare delivery systems and rehabilitation, small business development, and self-sufficiency.

5

DISASTER RELIEF

Distribute to victims, in times of disaster, donated food, clothing, medical supplies and equipment, agricultural seeds and textbooks worldwide without regard to race, nationality, creed, or political affiliation.

6

CULTURAL PRESERVATION

Work toward a strengthening of social, cultural, economic and scientific ties between the Tiv people of Nigeria and the people of the United States of America by promoting the exchange of cultural, scientific, and technology-based innovations for the well-being of all.

A BRIEF HISTORY

MUTA is a tax-exempt, non-profit, non-partisan charitable organization representing the collective interest of the Tiv people of Nigeria resident in the United States of America and Canada. The organization was first incorporated in the United States in 1993. We are committed to promoting the Tiv culture in the United States of America and Canada, and supporting Tiv communities and others both in Nigeria and around the world in education, healthcare, agriculture, and disaster relief

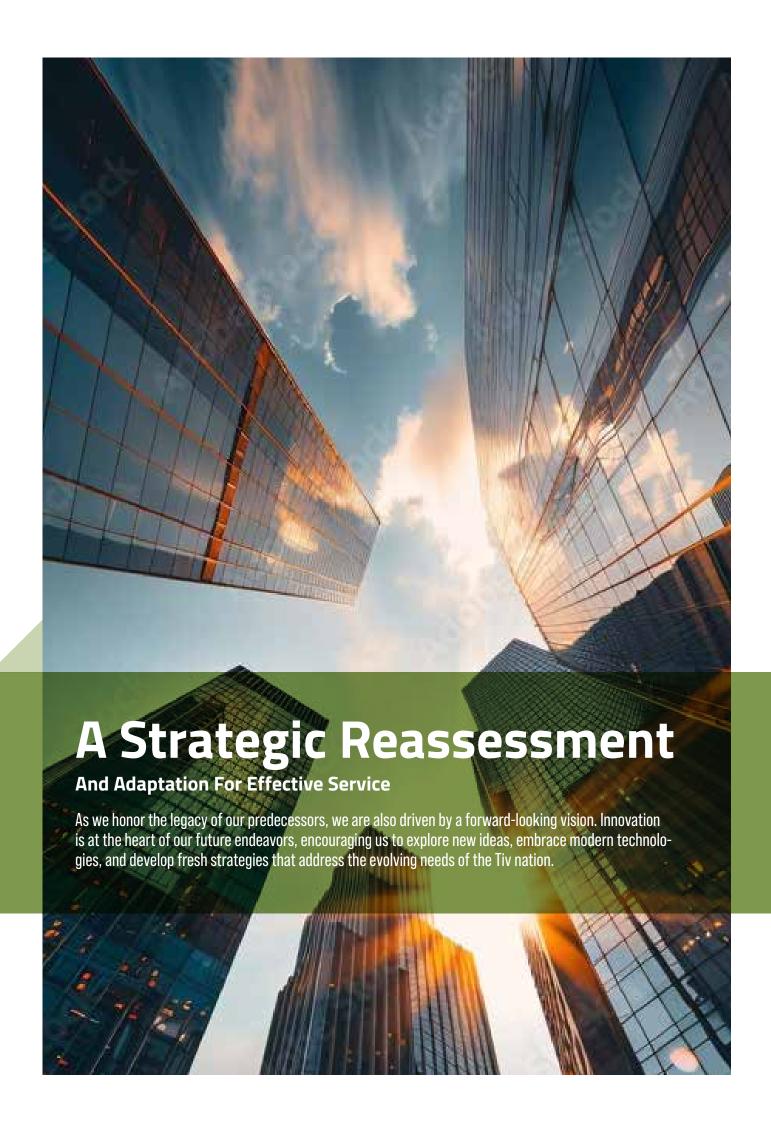
We are a nonsectarian, humanitarian, membership-supported service charitable organization whose primary objectives are listed.

OUR MISSION

MUTA seeks to create and/or support activities that will strengthen social, cultural, economic and scientific development of the TiV people of Nigeria, their members in the United States of America and elsewhere in the Diaspora, and the people of other nations by promoting the exchange of cultural, scientific and technological innovations for the benefit of the Tiv.

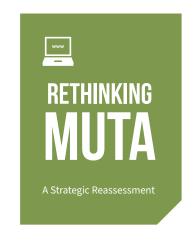
Corporate Headquarters:

135 Strandhill Road Atlanta, GA 30290 USA Phone: 1 (713) 340-9257 info@muta.org



Word From The President

Building on the Past, Innovating for the Future - history provides us with strength and identity, our innovation will lead us to new heights, ensuring that MUTA remains a vital and relevant force for positive change.





AKAA D. AYANGEAKAA, Ph.D. President & Chairman of Board

Over the past 30 years, MUTA has reached numerous milestones that highlight our dedication and commitment to the Tiv nation. From educational initiatives that have provided scholarships to young Tiv scholars like me, to community development projects that have provided resources and improved living conditions back home in Nigeria, our achievements are a testament to the collective efforts and resilience of our members. These accomplishments reflect our ability to come together as a united force, driven by a shared vision for progress and prosperity. Each milestone has not only marked a significant point in our journey but has also laid a stronger foundation for the future.

As we stand at this pivotal moment, celebrating three decades of impactful work, we look forward to a future brimming with possibilities. The challenges ahead are vast, but so are the opportunities. With the lessons learned from our past experiences and the strength gained from our achievements, MUTA is poised to embrace new innovations and strategies that will enhance our relevance and effectiveness. We envision a future where our initiatives reach even broader horizons, empowering the next generation of Tiv leaders and creating sustainable development within our community. This convention is not just a celebration of our past, but a launching pad for a future filled with potential and promise. Together, we will continue to build on our legacy and explore the boundless opportunities that lie ahead.

Celebrating 30 years of progress and unity and paying tribute to our founding members.

"Over the past 30 years, MUTA has been a beacon of hope and progress, tirelessly working to promote the welfare and unity of the Tiv people both in the diaspora and back home in Nigeria."

Esteemed MUTA Members;

His Excellency, Rev Fr. Dr. Hyacinth I Alia, The Executive Governor of Benue State; His Royal Majesty, Orchivirigh Prof. James O. I. Ayatse, Tor Tiv; Her Royal Majesty, Mrs. James I.O. Ayatse; His Excellency, Senator Dr. George Akume, Secretary to the Government of the Federation; Distinguished Senators, Hon. Members of the Federal House of Representatives, and members of Benue State House of Assembly, distinguished quests, all other protocols observed,

It is with great pleasure and immense pride that I welcome you to the 30th Annual Convention of the Mutual Union of the Tiv in America (MUTA). This year's convention marks a milestone event in our organization's history, celebrating three decades of remarkable achievements and significant contributions to the advancement and development of the Tiv nation.

Over the past 30 years, MUTA has been a beacon of hope and progress, tirelessly working to promote the welfare and unity of Tiv people both in the diaspora and back home in Nigeria. Our journey has been one of dedication, resilience, and a steadfast commitment to our community's growth and prosperity. As we gather to celebrate this momentous occasion, we also recognize the importance of looking ahead and preparing for the future.

The theme for this year's convention, "Rethinking MUTA: A Strategic Reassessment and Adaptation for Effective Service," reflects our

commitment to continuous improvement and adaptation. This theme invites us to engage in candid and constructive dialogue about the future direction of our organization. It is our hope that through this convention, we will have the opportunity to evaluate our strengths, identify our weaknesses, explore new opportunities, and address the threats facing MUTA. By doing so, we aim to enhance our impact and relevance, ensuring that MUTA continues to be a vital force for positive change.

As we reflect on our past, it is fitting that we pay tribute to our founding members and the first-generation Tiv diaspora. These pioneers laid the foundation upon which MUTA stands today. Their vision, hard work, and unwavering dedication have been instrumental in shaping our organization. This convention will feature a dedicated plenary session to honor the legacy of these illustrious Tiv sons and daughters, recognizing their outstanding contributions to advancing the mission and vision of MUTA.

In closing, I extend my sincere gratitude to all our members, the host community, and friends who have made this convention possible. Your commitment and support are the bedrock of our success. Let us seize this opportunity to celebrate our past achievements, engage in meaningful discussions, and chart a new course for the future of MUTA.

Welcome to the 30th Annual MUTA Convention. Together, let us continue to build a stronger, more vibrant, and united Tiv community.

THE TIV PEOPLE OF NIGERIA

The Tiv people are the fourth largest ethnic group in the Federal Republic of Nigeria, trailing the Hausa/Fulani, Ibo, and Yoruba. Conservative estimates place the Tiv population at over 5 million. Nigeria boasts of a population of over 140 million spread among 350 ethnic groups. The Tiv people are indigenous to Benue, Nasarawa, and Taraba states. They occupy a land mass of over 100,000 square miles, and are spread globally.

Historically, the Tiv people originated from the south-central Africa with over 20 generations recorded from Tiv himself to the present. Although time has obscured the exact dates of the landmarks that make Tiv history, colonial historians made efforts to tally times with significant events that make the history of a nation factual. For example, evangelical historians have revealed that the migration of Tiv from the southern part of Central Africa began around 1800. By 1850 Tiv descendants were seen in large numbers in the south of what we now know as River Benue. Although a number of historians have given conflicting accounts of the migration of Tiv, two schools

of thought are always presented. One account is that about 200 years ago, the Tiv people commenced the migration from the Sonkwalla Hills. It would appear through historical records that these hills can be located some kilometers south-east of Udam from Gboko, the seat of the Tiv kingdom. Another account locates Swem Hill, also said to be migration point of the Tiv, about seventy kilometers further south-east from Sonkwalla Hills and goes further to assert that Tiv moved from there to Binda Hill. This conflict now stands as a challenge to the present generation of Tiv historians who are now saddled with the task of authenticating for future generations of Tiv.

From their modest beginnings, the Tiv people of Nigeria have made significant strides, and have entrenched themselves into the mainstream of Nigeria life. Tiv sons and daughters dot all parts of the world, and have made significant strides in all fields of human endeavor. The Tiv people now boast of producing the greatest concentration of well-educated Nigerians of any other ethnic groups.



TIV MUSIC AND DANCE



There are many types of dances in Tivland with fewer or several found in some clans. Popular Tiv dances include: Swange, Ijov-mbakugh, Ingyough, Kpingi, Takera, Dasenda, Hinga, Tsuwe-tsele, Ibyumev, Anger, Girinya, Haagedege, as well as the Kwagh-hir art form.



AYATUTU KA UNO? KA SE! AYATUTU KA UNO? KA SE!!

With a population of more than 7 million, the Tiv people are the fourth largest ethnic group in the Federal Republic of Nigeria

USA ANTHEM

Oh say can we see, by the dawn's early light, what so proudly we hailed, at the twilight's last gleaning.

Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight, O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming.

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in the air, gave proof through the night that our flag was still there,

O say does that Star-spangled Banner yet wave,

O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.

NIGERIA ANTHEM

Nigeria, we hail thee,
Our own dear native land,
Though tribes and tongues
May differ in brotherhood we
Stand, Nigerians all, and proud
To serve our sovereign
Motherland.

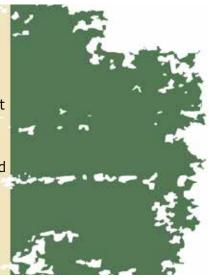
Our flag shall be a symbol
That truth and justice reign,
In peace or battle honour'd,
And this we count as gain,
To hand on to our children
A banner without stain.

O God of all creation,
Grant this our one request.
Help us to build a nation
Where no man is oppressed,
And so with peace and plenty
Nigeria may be blessed.

NIGERIA'S NATIONAL PLEDGE



I pledge to Nigeria,
my country
To be faithful, loyal and honest
To serve Nigeria with all
my strength
To defend her unity and uphold
Her honour and glory
So help me God.



THE TIV SONG Mnder Yough oooh Jagusadi vaa kaa On mba Tser Agben due sha tembe Igakyor hembe ayem Mrumun Yough oooh Jagusadi vaa kaa <u>On mba Tser Agben due sha tembe Igakyor</u> I hembe ave Begha ande sha ihyande ve, inyaregh ki bogh ki kum er ka ura yo Ndyar yough yo yough o On begha hungwa ihongo nomso or due sha tembe Igakyor I hembe ayem **VERSION II** Yo oooo ageba ga vaa akar (2X) On mba Tiv cii dzua due sha tembe yarkor hembe Yo oooo ageba ga vaa akar On mba Tiv cii dzua due sha tembe yarkor hembe Begha ande sha ihande ve Inyaregh ki bough ki kume er ka wura yo, Ndyar yough, yough oo Wan begha hile ihongo nomsor Due sha tembe yarkor hembe ayeme! REPEAT

ABOUT NIGERIA

The Federal Republic of Nigeria, situated in Western Africa, is bordered by Niger to the north, Chad and Cameroon to the east, the Gulf of Guinea to the south, and Benin to the west. With an estimated population of approximately 229.3 million people as of July 2024, Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa and accounts for about 2.8% of the world's total population. The country spans a landmass of about 923,768 square kilometers (356,669 square miles), making it one of the largest nations on the continent by area. The name "Nigeria" is derived from its major river, the Niger. Abuja serves as the capital, while Lagos, the largest city, is a major economic hub.

Historically, the region now known as Nigeria was composed of various ethnically-based kingdoms and states. By 1906, it was brought under British colonial rule. Nigeria gained its independence on October 1, 1960. Post-independence, the country faced significant ethnic tensions, notably among the Yoruba in the southwest, the Ibo in the southeast, and the Hausa and Fulani in the north. These tensions culminated in a military rule period from 1966 to 1979. Notably, from 1967 to 1970, the southeastern region attempted to secede by forming the Republic of Biafra, but this secession effort was ultimately unsuccessful.

A brief return to civilian rule occurred between 1979 and 1983, ending with a military coup. In 1999, Nigeria transitioned to a new era of civilian governance with the election of President Olusegun Obasanjo. Currently, Bola Tinubu serves as the president of Nigeria, having assumed office on May 29, 2023. The governor of Benue State is Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia, who also assumed office on May 29, 2023, bringing a wealth of experience and commitment to progressive governance. This extensive historical and demographic overview highlights Nigeria's complex journey from colonial rule to its current status as a leading African nation, rich in cultural diversity and economic potential.

CONVENTION THEME

RETHINKING MUTA

A STRATEGIC REASSESSMENT AND ADAPTATION FOR EFFECTIVE SERVICE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2024

10:00 AM - 05:00 PM Guests arrival, check in and

registration

05:00 PM - 06:00 PM MUTA Executive Committee

Meeting

06:00 PM - 11:45 PM Welcome Reception

9333 Rockmount Drive,

Dallas, TX 75243 (469) 474 8133





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WE WISH MUTA A SUCCESSFUL CONVENTION.

- DR. EMMANUEL AND DR. BETTY KAJOH





ENROLMENT PROGRESS







PRE-SCHOOL



PRIMARY 1-6

OUR LEARNING SPACES ARE
NEAT, DISINFECTED REGULARLY AND
COVID -19 COMPLIANT



ENQUIRIES: 08104231156, 08035400040, 08164246877

ADDRESS: No. 7 Gabriel Suswam Road, after Dunamis Church, Nyorgyungu, Makurdi

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 2024

07:00 AM - 08:00 AMWelcome Breakfast and Networking

08:00 AM - 08:45 AM Registration Desk Open: Sales of Annual Fundraising & Gala tickets

Tickets: \$55.00 per admission

09:30 AM - 12:30 PM PLENARY SESSION I - OPENING CEREMONY

Chair: Mrs Miriam Tivzenda

Opening Prayer (5 minutes)
 Dr. Simon Tarpav

Anthems [USA and Nigeria]
 Ms. Shaana Michelle Aunde

The Tiv Song (5 minutes)
 Mr. Joseph Unongo

· A minute silence for the dearly departed

09:50 AM Welcome address by Convention Chair/host: **Dr Moses Asom**

10:00 AM Opening Remarks by MUTA President: **Akaa Daniel Ayangeakaa**, **Ph.D.**

10:15 AM Remarks by Host City - Irving: Mayor Pro Tem - John Block

10:30 AM **Keynote Address**

Speaker: Professor James Tar' Gire

Title: MUTA at 30: How Far We Have Come And The Journey Ahead

11:10 AM Remarks by Senator Dr. George Akume, CON, SGF Nigeria

11:30 AM Address by HRM, Orchivirigh Prof. James Ortese Ayatse, Tor Tiv 12:00 AM Address by Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Alia, Governor of Benue State

12:30 AM **Group Photo**

12:30 PM - 02:00 PM Lunch Break - Hospitality Room

02:00 PM - 04:50 PM PLENARY SESSION II - REASSESSING FOR EFFECTIVE SERVICE

Chair: Mr. Jim Gwer

Panel Discussion: Formation of MUTA & the Legacy of Founders

Panelists: Prof. Mku Ityokumbul, Prof. Agber Dimah, Dr. David Diwa, Prof. Joseph Orban, Ashi Nyamor, Mrs. Miriam Tivzenda

Duration: 60 Minutes **Moderator:** Dr. David Agum Aboko

Strategic Discussion on the Future of MUTA

Topics: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats

Panelists: Mnena Gaadi, Dr. Aver Yakubu, Dr. Brian Baja, Dr. Adom Kyaagba mni,

Dr. Verse Shom, Dr. Uvirkaa Akumaga

Duration: 110 Minutes Moderator: Jennifer Rumumter OluFemi

04:50 PM - 05:00 PM Coffee Break

05:00 PM - 06:00 PM THE CEPHAS TARZER BUSINESS FORUM

Moderator: Mnena Gaadi

Presenter and Discussion Leader: Dr. Amos Ajo **Topic:** Business opportunities and wealth creation

07:30 PM - 11:45 PM ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER AND GALA

Masters of Ceremony: Mrs. Janet Abunku & Dr. Brian Baja

Supported MUTA Causes: Health, Education, Women, & Investments.

Awards and Recognition

CONGRATULATIONS!!

The Mutual Union of the Tiv in America

is proud to honor and congratulate this year's doctoral graduates

Dr. Erdoo Mongol-Aga

Missouri University of Sci. & Tech. Geology and Geophysics

Dr. Dominique Mbachie,

Walden University Public Health

Rev Fr. Dr. Mathew Ma

St. Louis University
Public Health Management

Dr. Mimi Adom-Byrd

Walden University
Healthcare Administration

Dr. Aver Yakubu

St. Louis University Health Management & Policy

Dr. Betty N. Ukera-Kajoh

Walden University Education Technology

Dr. Tersoo Charles Gwaza

Indiana University of Pennsylvania Safety Sciences

Dr. Saaniyol Ityokumbul

Tennessee Technological University Thermal Fluid & Energy Engineering



SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 2024

06:00 AM - 08:45 AM Breakfast and Networking

09:00 AM - 12:00 PM MUTA BUSINESS MEETING

Chair: Dr. Akaa Daniel Ayangeakaa **Time keeper:** Dr. David Agum

- State of the Union Address Dr. Akaa D. Ayangeakaa, President
- Financial Report Ms. Sandy Bula & Mr. Richard Aunde
- Minutes Mr. Beeior Rov-Ikpah & Reginald Orafa

Committee Reports:

Education - Prof. James Tar' Gire **Health Fair** - Dr. Orduen Abunku

Welfare Committee - Mrs. Awashima Tor'Agbidye

Economic Empowerment - Mr. Jim Gwer **Strategic Engagement** - Prof. Joseph Zume

AOB - Member Benefits, Long Range Plan, Investment, Non-Members

Charting a New Course for MUTA

- Summary of Key Discussions and Resolutions

12:00 PM - 01:00 PM Lunch Break - Hospitality Room

01:00 PM - 02:00 PM YOUTH FORUM - Engaging Youth in MUTA's Mission

Moderators: Fanen Dimah and Ngohile Yakubu

- Youth-Led Discussions

- Strategies for Greater Youth Involvement

02:00 PM - 02:15 PM Coffee Break

02:15 PM - 04:15 PM WOMEN FORUM

Chair: Mrs. Rachel ljir

Time Keeper: Ms Nguhemen Tilly Atedze

TIV WOMEN IN AMERICA

04:15 PM - 04:30 PM Coffee Break

04:30 PM - 06:30 PM PLENARY SESSION III - Health and Education Outreach

Chair: Reginald Orafa

Presenters:

1. Prof. Tor Iorapuu, Vice Chancellor, Benue State University (20 min)

2. Dr Orduen Abunku & Esther Rov-lkpah - MUTA Health Outreach (20 min)

3. Dr. Raymond Asemakaha, MD BIPC - Diaspora Village (20 min)

4. Dr. Olawale Olabiyi & Ms. Myna Shegog - Hospitals for Humanity (20 min)

08:00 PM - 11:30 PM TRADITIONAL NIGHT - Dinner and Entertainment

Master of Ceremony: Terngu Ornguze

Venue: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Dallas - DFW Airport North

Awards and Recognition:

Performances: Fanen Dimah & Tersoo Shinku

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 2024

06:00 AM - 08:45 AM Breakfast and Networking

08:30 AM - 09:45 AM MEDITATION AND WORSHIP

Chair: Dr. Simon Tarpav

Sunday Service Leader: Pastor Sesugh John Kume

09:50 AM - 11:30 AM Closing Ceremony - MUTA EXCO

DALLAS LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Dr. Moses Asom Dr. Joe Adom Kyaagba Mr. Richard Ate Aunde Ms. Thamal Kadoon Agule Ms. Joy Igbe Mr. Timothy Ornguze Mr. Terngu Orguze Mr. Henry Ikowe

IN MEMORIAM



Capt. Zacchaeus Akighir



Cephas Tarzer



Esther I. Shimrumun Yakobu

2024 MUTA SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

Buruku: Paula Doowuese Abaagu Airforce Institute of Technology, Mechatronics Engineering

Gboko: Terungwa Sylvester Atoo Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University Agricultural & Environmental Engineering

Guma: Tersur Josiah Igba Benue State University, Makurdi. Medicine and Surgery

Gwer East: Jeremiah T. Ahemba Bayero University Kano Medicine and Surgery

Gwer West: Samson M. Ioryoosu University of Jos, Jos Medicine and Surgery

Katsina Ala: Bemdoo R. Kwaghwen Bayero university Kano Nursing

Konshisha: lorkosu S. Terungwa University of Jos, Jos Medical Laboratory Science Medical

Kwande: Agber Jonathan Bunde Federal University Gashua Chemistry **Logo**: Ngutor Isaac Mai Ahmadu Bello University Veterinary Medicine

Makurdi: Joshua Terwase Igbawua University of Maiduguri Medical Laboratory Science

Tarka: Terdoo Juliet Yainjoh Joseph Sarwuan Tarkaa University Electrical And Electronics Engineering

Ukum: Wandoo Jacinta Terkimbi University of Jos, Jos Veterinary Medicine

Ushongo: Aondongu T. Iortyom University of Calabar Dentistry and Dental Surgery

Vandeikya: Esther Ayima Udugh Bingham university Pharmacy

Nasarawa: Wilson A. Utume University of Jos Medical Laboratory Science

Taraba: Dooshima Ellen Ukuna Federal University of Health Sciences Azare, Dentistry

MUTA EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- Prof. James Tar' Gire Chairman
- Prof. Aondover Tarhule
- Prof. Joseph Zume

- Dr. Akaa Daniel Ayangeakaa
- Dr. David Agum
- Dr. Dooyum Uyeh

NOTES