



EDITORIAL

We have decided to release this third issue of Volume 42 on this first day of November 2023 (01/11/2023) in order to soothe the overstretched anticipation of authors who just cannot wait to see their articles published in a “*brand new*” Nigerian Journal of Technology. I say “*brand new*” in the sense that this will be our first publication since our Journal was accepted for indexing in Scopus by the Elsevier Content Selection and Advisory Board (CSAB).

Indeed, it has been a very long *trek* to Scopus indexing. This arduous task did not start with the present Editorial Team – it started in 1975 when the first issue was published with only seven articles, thus laying the foundation for the intellectual clearing house that NIJOTECH has now become. Though it started as a print only Journal with chequered publication history in the early days, it has maintained an unbroken publication record in the past twenty-three years (2000 – date). Another important milestone which provided the launch pad for Scopus indexing was the transition from print only to online publishing in 2012 with Prof. J. C. Agunwamba as Editor-in-Chief and Prof E. S. Obe as Editor. As a result of this laudable move, the visibility and popularity of NIJOTECH rapidly assumed an upward trajectory both in Nigeria and beyond.

The first attempt to secure indexing in the Scopus database was made in June 2019, followed by a second attempt in April 2022. So, when on the eve of 2022 we started preparing for yet another application, the Editorial Team went into overdrive mode just to ensure that no stone was left unturned in achieving this critical milestone. It also became obvious that we needed to overhaul and upgrade the Journal website as well as the content. The first green light came when in June 2023, we were upgraded from 1-star to 2-star on a scale of 3 by the Journal Publishing Practices Standards (JPPS) Framework on the premise that the Journal had recorded significant improvements. After almost one year of relentless efforts, we finally dared to start the application again in August 2023 – for the third strenuous time. We submitted the application on August 4, 2023 and went back to work. One thing was sure – whether we were accepted for indexing or not, we were determined to keep pushing our beloved Journal to the next level.

Then on September 30th September 2023, the long *trek* to Scopus indexing was relieved. It was announced in a terse email from Elsevier CSAB – “***Congratulations, your Nigerian Journal of Technology has been accepted for Scopus***”. There were a few other things, but this was the most important message.

Before I wrap up this editorial, there is need to bring clarity to the implication of this milestone for both the Journal and authors. The most frequently asked question has been “will the indexing cover all back issues”? We thought it wise to pass on the question to Elsevier for a reliable answer. While waiting for a response, I decided to do a bit of research and then I learnt that if a journal is accepted for indexing at the first application, then coverage will include all articles published in the Journal minus four years from the year of indexing. This means that if a journal is accepted for indexing in 2023, coverage will start with all articles published from 2019. However, if a journal has been declined before, then this rule will not apply. For more details visit [CP-Scopus-FAQs-EXTRNL.pdf \(widen.net\)](#). My email to Elsevier was finally replied yesterday stating that coverage for NIJOTECH will cover all articles published in 2023 and forward. I am also sure that authors would like concrete evidence that our Journal has been accepted for indexing in Scopus. One evidence is the Scopus title suggestion tracker - <https://suggestor.step.scopus.com/progressTracker/?trackingID=87AEB0D2DB8706F3> and the second is the list of accepted titles on Scopus website - <https://www.elsevier.com/?a=91122>. But the most heartwarming of all is that all articles published in 2023 have been added to authors’ Scopus profile by Elsevier. Once indexing process is complete, we shall be animating our CiteScore on our website.

On a final note, we would like our authors and readers to note that Scopus indexing is not and has never been our destination. We are on the long haul to excellence. Hence, we will keep pushing boundaries and exploring new frontiers. We will soon roll out our new guide for authors which we expect that authors will adhere strictly to. Once again, ***congratulations*** and thank you for your continued support. Enjoy your reading.

Prof. Chidozie Charles Nnaji

Editor-in-Chief

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