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APIN PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES ANNOUNCES EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TRANSITION; APPOINTS DR JAY OSI SAMUELS AS NEW CEO

ABUJA, NIGERIA – October 6, 2026 – APIN Public Health Initiatives, a leading non-governmental organisation dedicated to providing prevention, care, and treatment services for public health diseases, today announces a transition in its executive leadership.

Effective October 1, 2026, former Deputy CEO - Programs, Dr Jay Osi Samuels, assumed the role of Chief Executive Officer, succeeding APIN's pioneer CEO of 18 years, Professor Prosper Okonkwo. During his distinguished tenure, Professor Okonkwo helped shape APIN into the premier public health organisation it is today. Under his visionary leadership, the organisation significantly expanded its impact, driving critical health interventions and strengthening health systems across Nigeria and beyond.

While stepping down from day-to-day executive duties, Professor Okonkwo will retain his existing seat on APIN's Board of Directors and serve as Executive Advisor. Through his ongoing board membership, he will support a seamless leadership transition and ensure the organisation continues to benefit from his wealth of experience and strategic wisdom.

"Leading APIN as CEO has been the privilege of my career, and I am incredibly proud of what our team has accomplished. I look forward to continuing my service as an Executive Advisor and Board Member with immense confidence in Dr Jay Osi Samuels and the executive team"

- **Prof. Prosper Okonkwo**

Stepping into the role of CEO, Dr Jay Osi Samuels brings his exceptional programmatic expertise, strategic networks and deep institutional knowledge spanning more than three decades. Having served comprehensively as Deputy CEO - Programs, he is uniquely positioned to lead APIN's next chapter of organisational growth, ensuring continuity and sustained impact across all programmatic interventions.

"More than two decades ago, I began my public health journey as an APIN Fellow. Today, I am deeply honoured to begin a new chapter as Chief Executive Officer of APIN Public Health Initiatives. For me, this is more than a new position. It is a homecoming. I believe APIN's next chapter must be about transformation. We must build on our history while developing the capabilities required for the future."

- **Dr Jay Osi Samuels**

To further strengthen structural capacity and align with evolving strategic priorities, APIN also announced the following executive appointments:

- **Mr Niyi Olaofin**, formerly the Deputy CEO - Operations, transitioned into the newly structured role of **Chief Operations Officer (COO)**.
- **Dr Ifeyinwa Onwuatuelo** was appointed the new **Deputy CEO - Programs**.

These leadership appointments reflect APIN's deliberate commitment to sustainable governance, operational resilience, and excellence in public health service delivery. The outgoing and incoming executives have collaborated closely over the past several months to guarantee a smooth operational handover.

For more information about APIN Public Health Initiatives and its executive leadership team, please visit www.apin.org.ng.

About APIN Public Health Initiatives

APIN Public Health Initiatives is a leading non-governmental organisation dedicated to designing, implementing, and scaling sustainable public health solutions across Nigeria. Building on over 25 years of technical excellence, APIN partners closely with Federal and State governments, donor agencies, implementing organisations and local communities to strengthen health systems across integrated clinical care, strategic information, laboratory services & diagnostics, logistics & supply chain management, and research.

Driven by data-led innovation and a commitment to health equity, APIN delivers high-impact programmes targeting HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria, non-communicable diseases, and maternal-child health while building frontline health workforce capacity and strengthening disease surveillance to advance sustainable health outcomes nationwide.

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