

Mrs. Ekhomu becomes ASIS Africa boss

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Saturday, March 19, 2011

The Sun Publishing

The Managing Director of Trans-World Security, Chief (Mrs.) Victoria Ekhomu, CPP has been appointed the Senior Regional Vice-President (Africa) of the American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS International) – the world’s largest professional security body with over 37,000 members worldwide.

Announcing the appointment in Arlington, Virginia USA, the President of ASIS International. Mr. Raymond T. O’Hara, CPP said that Mrs. Ekhomu is an effective volunteer leader who would move the organization to greater heights in Africa.

Mrs. Ekhomu is the first Nigerian and first African woman to hold this lofty position. From 2008-2010, she served as the Regional Vice-President in charge of West and Central African. She earlier served ASIS International as Assistant Regional Vice-President 2006-2007 and Chairman of the Nigeria Chapter 2004-2005.

Born on Dec. 18, 1958, Mrs. Ekhomu holds the Master’s degree in Public Administration from the University of Pittsburgh, USA (1986) and BA degree from the University of Lagos (1979). She equally holds an Advanced Management Program Certificate from the Lagos Business School (2001).

Victoria is the Executive Vice-President of the School of Management and Security, Lagos. A Trustee of the Association of Industrial Security and Safety Operators of Nigeria (AISSON), she also serves as a Trustee of the Nigeria Chapter of the International Foundation for Protection Officers (IFPO).

A physical security expert, Mrs. Ekhomu regularly makes presentations at international Security Seminars and workshops. In 2010, she organized the ASIS African Security Conference in Lagos.

Mrs. Ekhomu is the president of the Lagos Chapter of the St. Maria Goretti Old Girls Association and the former Vice-President of the AMP 12 Class of the Lagos Business School.

In 1999, she received the ASIS Nigeria Chapter Most Valuable Professional (MVP) award. She is married to hearthrob, Dr. Ona Ekhomu and has five children and a grandson.

Mrs. Victoria Ekhomu can best be described as a woman in a man's world as she has to beat all the odds to compete with the men in the business of security. To her security is more about common sense than brutality. Despite the challenges that come with being in a man's world, she firmly believes that this should not take her away from her traditional role as a homemaker. Her journey into the security world came to her by faith.

Immediately after her service with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN), her parents insisted that she returned to Benin. "I came back and took up the job as teacher, two years later I got married. I then travelled to USA with my husband while I enrolled for my Master's degree in Public Administration. As a student, I started working for my husband who was into security consultancy and he insisted that I should join him.

That I did and found it very interesting, as I had to base my research on security matters". Her certificate is equal to the one owned by men, the highest they can get in any part of the world, which is CPP. She equally has the knowledge. "I have the knowledge and I can do better. In the area of intimidation, you have to expect it. You know that when you are a woman, you have to be five times better than a man to be respected by the male folk. If you are good, they will definitely fall in line and work

with you”. She believes that women are better managers than men.

She said: “When a woman would finally become the Inspector General of Police or the head in security affairs in Nigeria, you would witness changes and improvement. Women are very objective; they are fearless while men are mostly political. When they find it difficult to influence the woman, people will fall in line”.