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PUBLIC STATEMENT

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Subject: *Clarification on Transitional Arrangements for Graduating Students and Institutions on the Enforcement of the Federal Government's NERD Compliance Directive*

The National Secretariat of the Nigeria Education Repository and Databank (NERD) extends its warm congratulations to all graduating students across Nigeria's universities, polytechnics, and colleges of education — including those who have been awaiting mobilisation for the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC). You represent the promise of our nation, and your academic journey marks a critical contribution to national development.

Over the past week, the NERD Secretariat has held a series of consultative meetings with relevant government bodies and prospective Corps members in light of the recent directive by the Federal Government of Nigeria mandating full institutional and graduate compliance with the NERD Policy and Clearance Framework, effective **6th October 2025**.

Following these deliberations, and in recognition of the unique circumstances of those graduating within the current transitional window, the following clarifications are being made:

1. Transitional Arrangements for Batch C 2025 Prospective Corps Members

NERD, in collaboration with the NYSC and other relevant agencies, has agreed to relax stringent measures for the **2025 Batch C** prospective Corps members. This decision recognises that these students fall within the **transitional period** and their mobilisation processes had started before the deadline set by the new Federal Government directive.

Accordingly, this category of graduates shall not be disadvantaged by the new enforcement phase.

2. Scope of the Current Enforcement

The **mandatory NERD compliance** applies to all graduating students preparing for NYSC mobilisation **AFTER** the Federal Government's enforcement date of **6th October 2025**. This implies any batches of NYSC from circa January/February 2026.

Essentially, those who: were already undergoing service prior to this date (6th of October 2025), were in NYSC orientation camps as of that date, or were already being mobilized by the NYSC through its institution processes as of the 6th of October 2025 - shall be deemed to fall within the **pre-enforcement or transitional bracket** and are therefore exempt from the immediate NERD compliance clearance conditions of the Federal Government.

3. Implementation framework

A. NERD will continue to work closely with the NYSC to ensure that all students in this transitional group (Batch C 2025) can seamlessly register on the NYSC portal as soon as it reopens, irrespective of the current status of their institutional submissions.

B. This clarification applies to all Nigerian students in all Nigerian tertiary institutions — regardless of type.

C. This clarification aligns fully with the directive contained in the NERD compliance circular issued by the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, HE Senator George Akume CON, dated 8th August 2025, the provisions for the NERD pre-digitisation period approved by the Federal Executive Council in the NERD National Policy, and the NERD Declaration of Effectiveness, marking the beginning of full national digital credential compliance.

4. Institutional Action Points

To ensure a smooth transition and full readiness for subsequent mobilisation batches, we implore all students who will be participating in the NYSC scheme in 2026 to make early efforts to enrol in the portal of NERD before the time. Unlike the present effort, the portal will be available for an extensive period of time, with schedules catering to the peculiarity of each branch and tier of higher education. Staging servers will also be provided outside the enrolment period.

For further enquiries or clarification, please contact:
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