



## Management Systems Certification Policy Statement on Safeguarding Impartiality

Standards Organisation of Nigeria Management Systems Certification aims to attain the highest degree of public confidence and trust in rendering unbiased certification services.

At SON-MSC, the importance of impartiality in carrying out its management systems activities is fully understood.

Our activities are guided by the requirements of the International Standard ISO/IEC 17021.

In executing the certification process, SON-MSC ensures that personnel including external persons taking part in Certification activities, understand potential/perceived conflicts of interest.

Our policies in ensuring that impartiality is maintained when dealing with clients or potential clients include:

- Not providing management system consultancy services nor outsource audits. SON-MSC does not supply or design products or processes of the type we certify. All services provided by SON-MSC and its Parent body, SON, have been identified and reviewed for potential conflicts of interest.
- Not performing internal audits for certified clients or clients seeking certification.
- SON-MSC does not certify other certification bodies for management systems neither has it been certified by any other Certification Body.
- Personnel who have provided consultancy, internal audits, or had any relationship with a Client shall not be used for a minimum of two (2) years for certification activities.



- Personnel will not be influenced by financial, commercial, or other pressures when conducting certification activities, and will take action to address any situation that would affect impartiality. Personnel are required to disclose any potential conflicts of interest in Auditors Declaration Form as well as Audit Plans prior to implementation.
- Personnel taking part in certification activities, both internal and external are required to act impartially when executing their responsibilities.

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Director (SON-MSD)  
Standards Organisation of Nigeria