**COMMONWEALTH YOUTH COMMEMORATE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE (IDSDP).**

As a way of advocating for the use of Sport as a tool for development and peace, the Commonwealth Youth Sport for Development and Peace (CYSDP) Working Group of the Commonwealth Secretariat hosted a day event in commemoration of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP), with the theme ‘Positive Youth Development through Sport’.

The event which took place at the University of Ibadan had in attendance Mr. Al-Hassan Yakmut of the Commonwealth Advisory Board on Sport (CABOS) and Former Director-General National Sports Commission; Prof. Olutayo Adesina, Director General Studies Programme, University of Ibadan; Prof. Chinedum Babalola, the Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Ibadan and Dr (Mrs) Olukemi Akinyemi of the University of Ibadan Youth Friendly Centre.

In line with this year IDSDP theme ‘I play for SDG’, Speakers at the event advocated for the use of Sport in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in pursuit of the fulfillment of Goal 17 of the SDG.

The Keynote Speaker at the event Mr. Al-Hassan Yakmut expanded on the instrumentality of Sports in positive youth development physiologically, psychologically, biologically and sociologically, and it values to the society. In his words, He noted that the problem with Nigeria is youth engagement and not just employment. Emphasizing that sport massage peace, he gave instances of conflicting groups and estranged internally Displaced People (IDP) socializing and uniting via engagement in sports.

Prof. Babalola spoke on the relevance of Sports to health and wellbeing, especially in preventive therapy of some chronic non-communicable diseases. Prof. Adesina further stressed the importance of sports to physical wellbeing.

The use of Sports and games easing psychological stress and the activities of the University’s Youth Friendly Centre were the highlights of Dr. Akinyemi’s speech.

In his Advocacy message, Pharm. John Oluwadero who serves as the Africa Regional Representative of Commonwealth Youth Sport for Development and Peace (CYSDP) Working Group, called for extensive and intensive promotion of the use of Sport for Development and peace.

The event witnessed a working group session from which a Communique was developed on the advocacy and the promotion of the use of Sport towards development and peace.

The event is organized through the support of the University of Ibadan, by the Africa Regional Representative of CYSDP in collaboration with Better Nigeria Initiative (BNI), One African Child (OAC), All-Nigeria United Nations Students and Youth Association (ANUNSA), Pharmaceutical Association of Nigeria Students (PANS), Alexandra Brown Hall, University of Ibadan Students’ Union.

Prior to the event, the CYSDP Team on Monday 4th April, paid a courtesy visit to Prof. Idowu Olayinka, Vice Chancellor University of Ibadan as a way of advocating for the use of Sport for development and peace.