

Role of Trade Associations on Entrepreneurial Development in Nigeria's Road Transport Industry

P. C. Ugboaja^{1#}, C. Onyemechi^{2*}, E. A. Ejem¹ and W. I. Ukpere³

¹*Department of Transport Management Technology, Federal University of Technology,
Owerri, Imo State, Nigeria*

*Telephone: #<+234 (0) 8037207696>, *<+234 (0) 8063928094>;*

*E-mail: #<gibengr@yahoo.com>, *<c_onyemechi@yahoo.com>*

²*Department of Maritime Management Technology, Federal University of Technology,
Owerri, Imo State, Nigeria*

Telephone: +234 (0) 8035448661, E-mail: willejem@yahoo.com

³*Department of Industrial Psychology and People Management, Faculty of Management,
University of Johannesburg, South Africa*

E-mail: wiukpere@uj.ac.za

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ABSTRACT The purpose of this paper is to substantiate the major roles of trade associations on entrepreneurial development in Nigeria's Road Transport Industry. This paper offers an analytical assessment of the contribution of trade associations. To do this, a survey research method was adopted for the study and questionnaires were used as data collection method. A random sample of one hundred and forty four (144) trade associations in Nigeria's road transport industry were selected for the study out of a population of two hundred and twenty- four (224) trade associations with seven hundred and twenty (720) respondents. For completeness, a sample of six hundred and fifty- seven (657) related organizations (infinite population) were included in the study. A total of one thousand, three hundred and seventy seven (1377) questionnaires were used for the study. The data collected were measured in 5-point Likert scale with a hypothesized mean of 3.00. The data analysis revealed that trade associations practiced pro-competitive and anti-competitive roles with overall mean score of 1.9516 and 4.0824 respectively. The test of hypothesis using two sample z-tests indicated that the z-calculated value for differences in the two mean scores was 130.6724 with a significance (one-tail) probability of less than 0.0001 which is less than the critical value of 0.05. Consequently, it was concluded that the extent of practice of anti-competitive roles was significantly higher than the extent of practice of pro-competitive roles by the trade associations in Nigeria's road transport industry. This study also found that major roles of trade associations on entrepreneurial development in Nigeria's Road Transport Industry were anti-competitive while pro-competitive roles were considered to be minor roles of the trade associations.