

## **DR. MARK ABANI**

Dr. Mark Abani is the immediate past head of The Central Association of Nigerians in the United Kingdom (CANUK), an umbrella body of all Nigerian Associations in the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland. It currently represents about 45 different associations and 18 other affiliate/associate members with a take-off membership of 28,000. Its potential membership will embrace the entire estimated 1.5 Million Nigerians resident in the United Kingdom.

He is a delegate from Ebonyi State Union and is assisted by 8 leaders from other Nigerian member organisations. Dr Abani was a founding member of Abia State Union UK (1991 – 1997) and founding President (1999 – 2005) of Ebonyi State Union UK & Ireland. He has successfully delivered strategic guidance and leadership to embryonic groups and more stable community organisations. He is CEO of a charitable company.

In his day job Dr Mark Abani is currently a Senior Civil Servant in HM Revenue and Customs where he has worked in various roles from Tax Inspector, Manager, and Policy Adviser to Head of Operations, and Head of Analytics, Processes and Strategy in different parts of the department. In addition, he is a Non-Executive Director and Board Member of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) of Nigeria.

Before that he was a University lecturer, agricultural consultant and research scientist. A multiple graduate of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, he holds a PhD in Biometrical Genetics and Plant Breeding. As an award-winning mentor in the National Mentoring Consortium he has helped develop many students over the years.

He is married with 5 children (2 adopted). When he has a chance, he plays golf – badly (in his opinion).