

# Physically challenged, family die in Imo road crash

From **Charles Ogugbua**, Owerri

tire family was wiped out in the crash.

He said: "I extend my deepest condolences to the family, friends and the entire community of People Living With Disability in Imo State on the tragic loss of Ukarika and his entire family in the fatal accident. This is an immense tragedy that has left us all with heavy hearts.

"Ukarika was a cherished member of the community, and his contributions and resilience have left an indelible mark on our society. The loss of his life, along with that of his entire family, was a profound blow to our community. We share in your grief and want you to know that you are not alone during this difficult time."

He added: "The Government of Imo State recognises the challenges and

obstacles faced by individuals living with disabilities, and Ukarika's dedication and determination were an inspiration to us all. He embodied strength, courage and perseverance, and his absence would be deeply felt by those whose lives he touched."

According to the governor's aide, Ukarika was impactful to his community.

"As we mourn this tragic loss, let us remember the positive impact Mr. Ukarika made in his community. His legacy will continue to motivate and inspire us to create a more inclusive society where every individual, regardless of his or her abilities, is valued and respected.

"During this period of mourning, I encourage the community to come together to foster unity among us as this sad event calls for deep sober reflection.

"May the souls of Ukarika and his entire family find eternal rest, and may their memories serve as guiding light in our pursuit of a more inclusive and compassionate society," he added.

① A physically challenged Aman, Kenneth Ukarika, popularly known in Igbo as Agu otuaka, meaning (lion with one hand), his wife and children have perished in an auto crash in Owerri.

The crash occurred on Owerri -Aba Road, when they were going on family business.

Until his death, Ukarika was a member of the Imo State chapter of People Living with Disability (PLWD).

The Guardian gathered that the remains of the deceased persons have been deposited in the morgue.

Confirming the development, the Senior Special Assistant (SSA) to the Imo State Governor, Charles Ebonuma, in a statement, yesterday, expressed regrets that an en-



Ukarika