OCCEN NED Newsletter 5th Issue, July - September 2024





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Editorial From the Publisher's Desk



Welcome to this edition of our newsletter, where we spotlight key conversations around democracy, governance, and civic activism in Nigeria. In this issue, we focus on the vital role that peaceful assembly, responsible leadership, and youth involvement play in shaping a better society.

AbdulrazaqAlkali's article on Respecting Citizens' Constitutional Rights to Peaceful Assembly and Association serves as a reminder of the importance of safeguarding our rights. Peaceful protests are an essential part of democratic expression, and protecting these rights is crucial for the growth of our democracy.

Jibrin Ibrahim delves into the EndBadGovernance movement and the government's complex responses. His analysis highlights the ongoing struggle between civic movements demanding change and government reactions that sometimes hinder progress. This piece invites reflection on how citizens can continue to push for better governance despite these challenges.

Mansur Muhammad Bello also explore the importance of good governance in achieving sustainable peace. Hispresentation on Strengthening Good Governance for a Peaceful and Sustainable Society in Nigeria discusses practical approaches to fostering leadership accountability and transparency. Strong institutions are the backbone of a peaceful, forward-moving nation.

The empowerment of youth in civic activism is another cornerstone of this issue. Our report on the Three-Day Training on Democracy and Civic Activism for Youth in North West Nigeria demonstrates the power of educating and mobilizing young people as active participants in democracy.

National endowment for democracy visited OCCEN in Kano, NED Africa team led by Christopher O Connor, Senior Manager for Africa and Jude Mutah, Programms Officer Africa visited OCCEN as part of their routine monitoring visit to partners in Africa, during the visit they met with OCCEN project staff and discussed implementation, impact and challenges of the project. The NED team also met with leadership of some selected civil society organizations in Kano for possible partnership.

Finally, we offer a summary of recent townhall meetings focused on peace and security in Katsina and Zamfara. These gatherings are critical for addressing local concerns and building a more peaceful society from the ground up.

This issue encourages us all to engage more actively in the democratic process. Together, we can work toward a future of peace, accountability, and good governance.

Josephine Eche Omajari Senior Program Manager OCCEN Nigeria



#EndBadGovernance movement and government's convoluted responses

By Jibrin Ibrahim

Government should stop amplifying anger through provocative acts. <u>Reissued October 2024</u>

Does it make sense to increasingly criminalise peaceful protests, portraying them as attempts to undermine state authority? Why should activists and protesters be facing charges of treason, sedition, or terrorism, for simply participating in anti-hunger demonstrations? Why should laws such as the Terrorism Prevention Act, Cyber Crime Act, and the Public Order Act be deployed to clamp down on public gatherings and expressions of dissent?

The Nigerian government is increasingly responding to protests against corruption, human rights violations, and governance failures as subversion, treason and even terrorism. This behaviour is much worse than what we saw under military rule. Protest has become redefined as a concerted effort at the unconstitutional change of government and the result is that the government is deliberately keeping narratives of subversion and coup d'état permanently on the table. Why any government would behave this way is the real question for which I have no answer. Why has this government remained in panic mode for over one year? Why is it so frightened of the right of the people to express their voices?

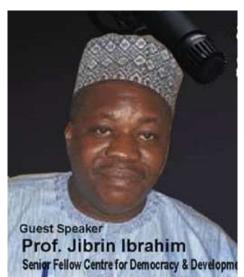
Last month, there were nationwide protests organised against bad governance, extreme hunger and the cost of living crisis we are in and the protesters have threatened to resume their action if the cost of fuel and food does not go down. What did the government do? It raised the cost of fuel on the day the Dangote Refinery started producing petrol and Nigerians were expecting the cost to go down as internal Nigerian production resumed after decades. It is as if the government is determined to fan the embers of protest and rebellion. I simply do not understand what the government thinks it is doing.

Does it make sense to increasingly criminalise peaceful protests, portraying them as attempts to undermine state authority? Why should activists and protesters be facing charges of treason, sedition, or terrorism, for simply participating in anti-hunger demonstrations?

Why should laws such as the Terrorism Prevention Act, Cyber Crime Act, and the Public Order Act be deployed to clamp down on public gatherings and expressions of dissent? If the government's thinking is that framing protests as treasonable would produce a culture of fear among the populace, it means it has not followed Nigerian history. Did Generals Babangida and Abacha not try very hard to intimidate Nigerians into silence and inaction but failed woefully? To ensure the NLC really got the message, the government has just raised the price of fuel this week from about N600 to N900. The NLC, in a statement by its president, Joe Ajaero, explained that one of the reasons for accepting N70,000 as national minimum wage, was the understanding that the pump price of petrol would not be increased, so that inflation could be kept down.

The Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) has been "well behaved" and refused to join the nationwide protests in August. What did the government do? It sent a huge detachment of heavily armed security personnel to invade the Labour House, close down a bookshop selling radical literature, and declare the President of the NLC wanted for subversion. No one understands why the NLC was targeted for extreme harassment, after it had accepted the government's solicitation not to participate in the end bad governance protests. By punishing the Congress for not protesting, I guess the NLC has now understood what the government really wants it to do.

To ensure the NLC really got the message, the government has just raised the price of fuel this week from about N600 to N900. The NLC, in a statement by its president, Joe Ajaero, explained that one of the reasons for accepting N70,000 as national minimum wage, was the understanding that the pump price of petrol would not be increased, so that inflation could be kept down. Mr Ajaero added that President Bola Tinubu, during negotiations for the minimum wage, had given the NLC two options: "either N250,000 as minimum wage (subject to the rise of pump price between N1,500 and



N2,000) and N70,000 (at old pms rate)." The NLC has publicly declared the government action to be a betrayal. Meanwhile, no official reason for the increase has been given, but the state-owned oil firm recently lamented that it could no longer sustain the price of petrol.

One month after the agreement on the new minimum wage, the new rate has not yet been implemented but, unfortunately, a new significant escalation of the cost of living crisis is occurring that would create more trauma and misery for the working class. The NLC has demanded the immediate reversal of the fuel price increase, the release of all those arrested during recent protests, and called on the government to put a halt to the indiscriminate detention of citizens. The NLC also demanded an end to policies that engender hunger and insecurity, electricity tariff hikes, and an end to what it described as the government's "culture of terror, fear, and lying." I doubt that this government is ready to listen to reason.

My advice to the government is that it needs to put on its thinking cap of enlightened selfinterest and start reducing, rather than increasing, suffering in the land. Government should stop amplifying anger through provocative acts. It should prioritise policy measures that reduce hunger and misery. May it see the light. What the government has done was to

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Report on a Three -Day Capacity Building on Democracy and Civic Activism for Youth in North West Nigeria

The three day capacity building workshop held in Kano on 5th to 7th September, 2024 entails training of youth in building their capacity to strengthen their knowledge about democracy and civic activism within their respective communities, the program organized youth from Northwestern states (Kano, Kaduna, Katsina, Jigawa, and Zamfara) of 18 to 35 years of age to engage them in topics such as Concept of Democracy, Human Right, Rule of Law, Civic



Engagement and Activism, Transparency and Accountability in a Democratic Government, Conflict Management, Civic Society Organizations, Network and Allies Building. The topics were presented by renounced people from different fields; Judiciary, Academia, Civil Society, Network and Technology Architectures. The three-day training started on Thursday 5th September, 2024 with opening remarks, self introductions by facilitators and participants, the participants selfintroduced themselves, their states and respective organization, as well as their expectations from the training which was to learn about the concept of democracy, human rights, civic engagement and activism and how to become a democracy drivers so as to bring change and progress in their communities. Topics such as Democracy and Youth Civic Engagement, Human Right, Rule of Law, were presented and discussed to strengthen their capacity on democracy and civic engagement. The

presentations ended with Q & A's, and group exercises. On the second day 6th September, the training continue with recap of day 1 followed by a presentation on Concept of Transparency and Accountability, Open Government Partnership (OGP), Civic Engagement Participation and Activism, Technology for Civic Engagement, CSO's and NGO's: Role and Differences followed by quiz and group exercises. Day three being the last day of the program, began with a recap of day two. Then a presentation on Concept of Conflict Management, Democracy Drivers Network (DDN) initiative, Networking and Allies Building. The day ended with a 15 minutes post-training evaluation, presentation of certificates, house clearing remarks by the financial officer OCCEN then group photos.







Respecting Citizen's Constitutional Rights to Peaceful Assembly and Association

he ongoingprotestagainsthunger and cost of living crisis across Nigeria has been forth coming considering the level of deterioration in standard of livingfaced by majority of Nigerians. The devastating inflation and poor income have put citizens in a difficult situation unable to afford the basic needs of life. This is rapidly wanning the confidence Nigerians have about political leaders considering that some political office holders are living a life of flamboyance while asking the citizens to sacrifice and endure the present economic challenges. While the federal government has introduced some measures to cushion the effects of this economic downfall, it is nowhere near enough to make the needed difference. Thus, a lot of Nigerians feltthe need to exercise their fundamental human right by protesting with the believe that such an exercise canforce the hands of thegovernment to take more effective measures that will provide succour to citizens.

It is imperative to for us all to remind ourselves that protecting the right to freedom of assembly and association is very fundamental in a democratic society as guaranteed by section 39 and 40 of the Nigerian constitution. The citizens and government have distinctive roles to play in protecting this fundamental right. It is very important for the government and security agencies to rise up to their responsibility and ensure that the right to freedom of assembly and association is enjoyed by citizens who want to and is not hampered by unnecessary restrictions, threats and violence. Cases of intimidation and shooting of protesters by security agents noticed in states like Kano, Katsina, Abuja etc is high condemnable. Likewise allowing politicians to fund counter protesters with the intention of threating genuine protesters and causing mayhem should not be tolerated.

Nonetheless the responsibilities of the government also comes with counter obligations on the part of citizens. Nigerians participating in protest must ensure that they exercised their right diligently and in accordance with the law. It isequally important that protest participants and organisers collaborate with security agencies to report people with sinister motives of intimidation, violence and looting of private businesses and public properties. Also considering the insecurity challenges in our country,protester needs to be open to suggestions and advice from security agencies regarding locations and positions



protest should take place. This could help avoid areas wherethugs will use the opportunity to cause damage and loot businesses. The looting of public items and private businesses that happened in some state particularly in Kano should be condemned by all and if such continue, it with hamper the intention and rights to freedom of assembly. Similarly, it is evident that some people have camouflage themselves within the protesters and are promoting actions and slogans against our democracy and promoting the interest undemocratic countries, with national flags of some countries been flown by these elements. This against ourdemocratic ideals and should not tolerated by protest organisers. Citizens should understand a campaign for military coup to truncate a democratically elected government is a treasonable offence.

Most importantly it is essential to draw the attention of the government for need to set up a dialogue mechanismto engage citizens by providing medium to discuss the demands fromNigerians and drawingsolutions that will help reduce the high cost of goods and servicesas wellfight the insecurity bedevilling our rural areas which has significantly hamper the food production capacity of the country. While Mr President, Alhaji Bola Ahmad Tinubu has addressed the nation, his speech was clear lacking in providing the solution Nigerians expect. The federal and state must come together and listen to cries of Nigerians and act by proffering genuine and selfless solutions that will avert consequences of lawlessness, irresponsibility and unpatriotism that thepresent situation of hardship and hungeris slowly breeding in our communities.



NED visits OCCEN in KANO





National Endowment for Democracy visited OCCEN in Kano, NED Africa team led by Christopher O Connor, Senior Manager for Africa and Jude Mutah, Programms Officer Africa visited OCCEN as part of their routine monitoring visit to partners in Africa. During the visit they met with OCCEN project staff and discussed program

implementation, impact and challenges confronting Nigeria's democracy. The team also met with leadership of some selected civil society organizations to hear their perspectives on prospects and challenges of democracy in Kano and Nigeria at large. The meeting also serve d as an opportunity for possible partnership between NED and more civil society in northern Nigeria.



Report of the townhall meeting on peace and security held on Saturday 31st August 2024 at Hayatt Regency Suites Katsina

Project Activity/Background:

This townhall aimed to foster dialogue and collaboration among key stakeholders in Katsina State to address the pressing issue of peace and security. It was organized by the Democracy Drivers Network (DDN) Katsina with support from Organization for Community Civic Engagement and Development (OCCEN) and funded by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED).

KeyActivities:

- The town hall meeting was held on August 31, 2024, bringing together a diverse group of participants, including security personnel, religious leaders, traditional institutions, government officials, civil society organizations, media representatives, and academics.
- Participants engaged in open discussions, sharing their perspectives, concerns, and recommendations for improving peace and security in the state.
- Representatives from the Police, Army, and Civil Defence Corps shared their success stories and best practices in combating insecurity as follows:
- Police: The police highlighted their success in reducing crime rates through proactive community policing initiatives and enhanced intelligence gathering.
- Army: The army shared their successes in counter-terrorism operations, disrupting insurgent networks and protecting vital infrastructure.
- Civil Defence Corps: The Civil Defence Corps outlined their efforts in promoting community vigilance, disaster preparedness, and providing crucial first aid and emergency response services.

Results Achieved:

- The town hall meeting raised awareness about the multifaceted challenges facing Katsina State in terms of peace and security.
- The event created a platform for open dialogue and constructive discussions among diverse stakeholders, promoting understanding and collaboration.
- Participants identified key areas requiring attention and



proposed concrete solutions for improving peace and security.

• The town hall fostered a sense of collaboration and partnership among stakeholders, setting the stage for joint efforts to address security challenges.

Way Forward/Opportunities:

- Follow up on the recommendations raised during the town hall meeting, including establishing working groups to implement proposed solutions.
- Continue to organize regular dialogue sessions and meetings to ensure ongoing collaboration and coordination among stakeholders.
- Engage communities in peacebuilding initiatives, empowering them to play an active role in promoting peace and security.

Challenges:

- Despite the diverse representation, achieving broader participation from all communities within Katsina State remains a challenge.
- Securing sustainable funding for ongoing peacebuilding initiatives and activities is essential.
- Effectively addressing the root causes of insecurity, including poverty, unemployment, and social inequalities, requires a long-term and comprehensive approach.





Gender Representation:

The town hall meeting had a noticeable gender imbalance, with 55 males and 20 females participating. This highlights the need to actively encourage and facilitate greater female participation in future discussions and initiatives related to peace and security.

Conclusion:

The town hall meeting on peace and security served as a significant platform for open dialogue, collaboration, and identifying solutions for a safer Katsina State. It highlighted the importance of involving a wide range of stakeholders, particularly women, in addressing the root causes of insecurity and promoting sustainable peace. Moving forward, sustained efforts are crucial to implement the recommendations, engage communities, and address the ongoing challenges to ensure a peaceful and secure future for Katsina State.

Communiqué:

The participants of the Katsina State Town Hall on Peace and Security, organized by the Organization for Community Civic Engagement and Development (OCCEN) and funded by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), issued the following communiqué:

- We acknowledge the critical need for collaboration and shared responsibility in achieving lasting peace and security in Katsina State.
- We commend the efforts of security agencies in combating insecurity and appreciate their willingness to share their success stories and best practices.
- We urge all stakeholders to actively participate in the implementation of the recommendations generated during the town hall meeting.
- We call for sustained dialogue and partnership among all stakeholders to ensure a safe and peaceful future for Katsina State.



From page 3 #EndBadGovernance movement and....

demonstrate a good sense of drama by declaring a Briton wanted on Monday, the same day it arraigned 10 #EndBadGovernance protesters accused of working with him to topple President Bola Tinubu's administration. The Federal High Court in Abuja issued a warrant for the arrest of a British citizen, Andrew Wynne, and two Nigerians earlier declared wanted by the Nigerian police for allegedly plotting an insurrection against Nigeria. The Nigerians also ordered to be arrested by the court are Lucky Obiyan and Abdullahi Musa. The judge, Emeka Nwite, issued the order on Tuesday, following an exparte application by the police. Mr Wynne and the two others have become key targets in President Bola Tinubu's administration's sweeping crackdown on activists and others allegedly linked to the recent #EndBadGovernance protests. The police accused Mr Wynne (also known as Andrew

Povich or Drew Povey), in a statement on Monday, of building "a network of sleeper cells to topple" the Bola Tinubu administration "and plunge the nation into chaos." His crime is that he "rented a space at Labour House, Abuja, for an 'Iva Valley Bookshop' and established 'STARS of Nations Schools' as a cover for his subversive activities."

Also, on Monday, the government arraigned 10 Nigerians who participated in the #EndBadGovernance protest in Abuja, Kano, Kaduna and other states. Part of the charges against them was that they collaborated with the 70-year-old Briton "with intent to destabilise Nigeria" and that they "called on the military to take over the government from President Bola Ahmed Tinubu." They were also accused of conspiring with Mr Wynee to plot a war against the Nigerian state. The lawyers defending the activists have however pointed out that these activists do not know each other and had never heard of Mr Wynee, so there could have been no basis for a conspiracy. Nonetheless, the judge has ordered the remand of the 10 defendants in prison till 11 September when he will deliver a ruling on their bail application.

My advice to the government is that it needs to put on its thinking cap of enlightened selfinterest and start reducing, rather than increasing, suffering in the land. Government should stop amplifying anger through provocative acts. It should prioritise policy measures that reduce hunger and misery. May it see the light.

A professor of Political Science and development consultant/expert,

<u>Jibrin Ibrahim</u> is a Senior Fellow of the Centre for Democracy and Development, and Chair of the Editorial Board of <u>PREMIUM TIMES</u>.



Strengthening Good Governance for a Peaceful and Sustainable Society in Nigeria: A Pragmatic Approach

Mansur Muhammad Bello

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A paper presented at a Town Hall meeting on Governance, Peace, and Security organised by Zamfara State Democracy Drivers Network and the Organisation for Community and Civic Engagement on Wednesday, 28th August 2024 at Karma Guest Inn, Gusau.

Introduction

Good governance is essential for the development and safety of any nation. For Nigeria, a country with a rich cultural heritage and diverse population, the challenge of ensuring safety through public governance is critical. As Africa's most populous country, Nigeria faces various issues, such as insecurity, corruption, poor service delivery, poverty inequality, and ethnic tensions, which undermine its development and stability. These socioeconomic challenges are caused by failure in governance (Van de Walle, 2016). In this regard, this paper raises the question of why governance fails in Nigeria and what strategies are needed to enhance governance to ensure safety and sustainable development in Nigeria. In response to this intriguing question, the paper is divided into four sections: Operationalisation of good governance, reasons why governance fails in a country, and possible strategies for overcoming governance failure.

Operationalisation of Good Governance

The term "good governance" is commonly used to address development issues around the world. It is often used by organizations like the UN to promote an ideal way to govern a society. Similarly, the concept of good governance is frequently utilized as a strategy for public sector reforms (Osborne, 2010; Rhodes, 1996).

In general, governance is characterised by eight major features: it is participatory, consensus-oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive, and follows the rule of law.

However, for the purpose of this paper, I will use a specific definition of good governance, making it easier to assess the quality of governance in Nigeria.

"Good governance" pragmatically means an improvement in public service provision and the overall well-being of citizens. It encompasses community safety, income and living conditions, health and well-being, and access to basic services such as education and infrastructure like road networks.

The main point of this operationalisation is that good governance should not be judged solely based on principles set

by supranational governments like the UN. Instead, it should be judged based on the improvement in public outcomes, such as public safety, income levels, and access to basic services like education and healthcare.



3.0. Reasons why Governance fails

There are numerous reasons to explain the failure of governance, especially in the area of public service delivery, such as public safety, access to education, and healthcare services. Corruption and poor leadership are commonly cited as the main drivers of bad governance in many African states. While recognising these systemic governance issues, I refer to Van de Walle (2016) to outline practical and measurable factors contributing to governance failure.

- 1. Failure by ignorance: This is when citizens perceive failure in public service delivery, while those responsible for delivering the service do not recognise this failure or potential for failure and therefore do not take action to improve service delivery.
- 2. Failure by rigidity: This is when policymakers and



professionals know what is going on, but they seem unable to act. The rigidity is caused by bureaucratic red tape, and over-centralisation (command and control techniques).

- 3. *Failure by failed intervention*: This is when wrong solutions are applied or when a solution is applied to the wrong problem.
- Failure by neglect: This occurs due to disinterest by policymakers or professionals in the service involved. This can be caused by unwillingness to challenge the status quo and political differences.
- 5. *Failure by design*: This is when organisations deliberately design their services in such a way that service levels are deficient. For example, when the demand for services is high but resources are scarce.
- 6. *Failure by association*: This is when well-functioning public services are perceived to fail because of their status or social identity.

Consequently, we should try to assess the failure of governance in terms of its intended outcomes and what leads to its failure. For example, what causes the problem of insecurity, out-ofschool children, and poverty among others to linger? It is by ignorance? it is by rigidity? It is by failed interventions. It is by neglect, design or by association. Of course, some might argue that governance failure in Nigeria is a combination of all these failures highlighted by Van de Walle (2016). However, governance failure might depend on the service areas and actors involved.

Strategies for overcoming governance failure

Recovering from governance failure is not a silver bullet approach. It encompasses different contextual approaches. However, I propose some possible strategies that could turn around governance failure in Nigeria.

- Implementing Reforms in Public Service Delivery: Effective public service delivery is a hallmark of good governance. In Nigeria, public services such as healthcare, education and
- Page 4 security are often plagued with so many types of governance failure. This can be achieved by reducing bureaucratic processes, strengthening the capacity and autonomy of public service professionals, clear performance metrics for ease of accountability and prudent utilisation of public resources. Additionally, leveraging technology in governance can offer innovative solutions for improved service delivery such as security in Nigeria. Innovative strategies such as the use of technology for surveillance and tracking purposes, data collection and analytics can help detect and prevent criminal activities.
 - 2. Promoting co-creation and co-production initiatives: The quality of governance should not be limited to political participation and public participation that are passive. Co-



creation and co-production are participatory governance mechanisms that allow citizens as service users as well as community members to actively contribute ideas, resources and expertise to policymaking and service delivery. This can have the potential to overcome service failure by tapping directly into the insights and ideas of those affected by the services.

- 3. Simplifying the accountability and transparency of public service systems: Some service areas like the security services have complex accountability metrics. For example, who is to blame when there is a failure in security governance between the Federal Government and State Governments?
- 4. Local government autonomy: Administrative, political and financial autonomy for LGAs is a prerequisite for Nigeria to recover from governance failure. Most of the challenges we face are local and can best be handled by the local authorities. Thus, only if LGAs are regarded as functional units of government, we should continue to lose direction in governance.

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COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF A ONE-DAY TOWN HALL MEETING ORGANIZED BY THE ZAMFARA STATE DEMOCRACY DRIVERS NETWORK AND THE ORGANIZATION FOR COMMUNITY CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN COLLABORATION WITH THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY, HELD AT KARMA HOTEL, GUSAU, ON WEDNESDAY, 28TH AUGUST, 2024

INTRODUCTION

The Zamfara State Democracy Drivers Network and the Organization for Community Civic Engagement, in collaboration with the National Endowment for Democracy, convened a one-day town hall meeting on the 28th of August, 2024, at Karma Hotel, Gusau. The meeting was attended by key stakeholders, including representatives from the Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, the Nigeria Police Force, Zamfara State Command, and members of voluntary uniform organizations such as the Scout Association of Nigeria, Peace Corps of Nigeria, Man O' War, and the National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN).



The objective of this stakeholder engagement was to deliberate on the intersection of governance, peace, and security in Zamfara State. Dr. Mansur Muhammad Bello delivered a keynote presentation titled "Strengthening Good Governance for a Peaceful and Sustainable Society in Nigeria," where he highlighted the critical indicators and outcomes of good governance, the consequences of governance failures, and strategies for reforming public service delivery.

Also, the representative Commissioner of the Nigeria Police Force presented a paper on "Collaborative Effort between the Police and the Community," which focused on community policing, partnership building, and the challenges faced by security agencies in the state.

In his goodwill message, the representative of the Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs emphasized the State Government's ongoing efforts in recruiting Community Protection Guards and collaborating with security agencies to address the insecurity in the state.

These presentations elicited significant contributions from stakeholders, who commended the State Government for its youth recruitment initiative into the Community Protection Guards and acknowledged the efforts of the Nigerian Police Force and other security agencies in securing Zamfara state.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Following extensive deliberations, the following recommendations were unanimously agreed upon:

1. The State Government and security agencies are urged to prioritize collaboration with non-conventional uniform organizations within the state to strengthen vigilance, particularly at the grassroots level.

2. The State Government and security agencies should intensify efforts to raise awareness of security consciousness among the populace.

3. Stakeholders recognized that Nigeria's security agencies possess the necessary training, manpower, and resources to combat crime and criminality effectively. Therefore, they called for the political will of those in positions of authority to decisively address the insecurity in the state.

4. Recognizing the crucial role of youth in resolving insecurity, stakeholders advocated for the active involvement of youth organizations in the state in the planning and execution of security management initiatives, in line with the Youth, Peace, and Security National Action Plan and the National Youth Policy.

5. There is a need for strengthened coordination among stakeholders in the state, with a recommendation for the establishment of a monthly security meeting to enhance information sharing and strategic collaboration.

CONCLUSION

The collective resolve of all stakeholders is for the government, security agencies and communities to work in synergy towards achieving sustainable peace and security in Zamfara State. The recommendations outlined herein are expected to guide future actions and policy decisions aimed at fostering a secure and peaceful environment for all citizens.





This publication has been produced with the funding support from

