

# **NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY**



**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

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RESTRICTED

## FOREWORD

The security of the nation remains not just the primary concern of this government but the number one and most important concern. From the beginning of time, security has always been an issue and will continue to be an issue. Indeed, the emergence, development and dynamics of organised society, and by extension the nation-state, have made issues of security more complex, necessary and urgent.

Nigeria, like most nations has a myriad of security challenges, some of which are peculiar to the country while others are cross-border or even transnational in nature. It is, however, incontestable that the insurgency waged by the Jama'atu **Ahlus Sunna Liddawati wal Jihad** (commonly known as Boko Haram), characterised by mindless violence, which undermines our freedom, way of life and sovereignty, by far remains the greatest threat to our collective security as a nation.

We equally have had security challenges in the South-South, South-East, North-West, North-Central and South-West, suggesting that no part of the country is immune to insecurity. I am, however, proud to say that no matter the form of insecurity and threat level, the commitment of this government and the robust Nigerian spirit have always triumphed.

For example in 2011, parts of this country were submerged by floods causing massive destruction and human suffering. We rose with a common accord and commitment to fight the floods. Our focus was rescue, rehabilitation and resettlement. Through the combined efforts of the National Emergency Management Agency and security forces and coordinated fund-raising campaign by the government, we were able to achieve these objectives.

Earlier this year when the nation was struck by the Ebola virus disease, not a few gave up hope on Nigeria as they were almost certain there would be a

pandemic. However, due to government's careful planning and our common resolve, the situation was speedily brought under control earning the country not only a clean bill of health but commendation from the World Health Organisation and other countries.

Although the responses of government to the floods of 2011 and the Ebola virus disease of 2014 represent the preparedness of this country to confront both natural and man-made disasters, there is need to design a comprehensive and coherent strategy that is at once implementable and responsive to our security needs and capable of giving us that critical edge. In all this, the government's most solemn promise and duty are to protect the Nigerian state and people. The National Security Strategy is an attempt to address this need. It will also serve as the nation's guide to leverage Nigeria's talents and resources to meet its obligations in pursuance of the social contract between the government and the people and between the government and its foreign partners.

Despite the current grave challenges, we have also seen great accomplishments and great promise. Working with our foreign partners and friends, we have disrupted many terrorist plans and attacks thereby saving lives and infrastructure. In spite of Boko Haram's campaign of terror, we have to a substantial degree, degraded and curtailed their capacity to launch attacks. We pay tribute to the gallantry and patriotism of our soldiers and security forces, some of whom have paid the supreme sacrifice to ensure our safety. We commend the resilience and uncommon sacrifice of individuals and communities in the conflict areas.

National Security is a collective responsibility and process of which every citizen is a part and to which they must continue to subscribe for maximum protection and common good. As we develop a culture of alertness, our states, local governments and communities, faith-based and civil society organizations, businesses and indeed every stakeholder must be partners in ensuring safety and security of our nation.

The National Security Strategy is a wake-up call on every Nigerian to develop that individual and collective consciousness and readiness to forestall, pre-empt, protect and defend the country against natural and man-made disasters. It also demands multi-sectoral, domestic and international approaches, effort and co-operation. The National Security Strategy is carefully thought-out and approaches security from a comprehensive perspective, leaving nothing to chance, yet honest enough to accept that sometimes crime will be ahead of the law. In the event of this happening, the plan envisages that our national character, robust spirit, resourcefulness and optimism shall provide the needed succour and springboard for recovery and counter-offensive to secure victory.

This administration stands ready to discharge its duties and responsibilities to the Nigerian people in fulfillment of the sacred oath of office it took. Guided by this principle, we will continue work with our citizens and friends to protect lives and property as part of the process of securing the nation.

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# CONTENTS

<b>FORE WORD</b>	i
<b>1. NIGERIA’S NATIONAL SECURITY VISION AND MISSION</b>	v
<b>2. OVERVIEW OF NIGERIA’S NATIONAL SECURITY</b>	1
<b>3. NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS</b>	3
Geo-Strategic Environment	4
<b>4. NATIONAL SECURITY THREATS</b>	7
Global Challenges	7
Terrorism	7
Transnational Organized Crimes	8
Nigeria’s Borders	8
Climate Change	8
Communal and Ethno-religious Conflicts	8
Politics and Federalism in Nigeria	9
Bad Governance	9
Poverty	9
Kidnapping	9
Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons	9
Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction	10
Illegal Migration	10
Economic Challenges	11
Financial Crimes	11
IT and Cyber Security.....	12
Natural, Man-Made and Medical Related Threats.....	13
Environmental Security.....	13
<b>5. NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY.....</b>	<b>15</b>
National Defence .....	15
Counter-Terrorism .....	16
Niger-Delta Security.....	17
Internal Security .....	18
Political Security .....	18

Economic Security .....	20
Food Security.....	22
Social Security .....	22
Gender Security .....	23
Cultural Security.....	25
Role of Traditional Institutions .....	26
Environmental Security .....	27
Education Security .....	28
Health Security .....	30
Science, Technology and Innovation .....	31
Space Technology.....	32
External Security.....	33
Foreign Policy .....	34
Cyber Security .....	36
Labour Security....	38
Transportation Security .....	39
Nuclear Security .....	41
Drug Law Enforcement .....	42
Strategic Communications .....	43
Youth Security .....	43
Crisis Management .....	44
Critical National Assets and Infrastructure .....	46
<b>6. ENSURING SUSTAINABILITY OF NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY.....</b>	<b>49</b>
Risk Management.....	49
Culture of Preparedness.....	49
<b>7. CONCLUSION.....</b>	<b>51</b>

# **1. AN OVERVIEW OF NIGERIA'S NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY**

In the past few years, Nigeria has been confronted with security challenges ranging from insurgency in the North East, militancy in the Niger-Delta, kidnapping, armed robbery sectarian conflicts, to piracy in the maritime domain and serial violence between pastoralists and crop farmers.

These have had far-reaching consequences for the nation, as in some instances lives of citizens were irrevocably altered. Every security challenge, irrespective of where it occurs, potentially puts at risk the livelihood and well-being of every citizen. Security challenges could be man-made, nature-made or a combination of both. The lives and livelihoods of the Nigerian people are continually at risk from one form of security challenge or another. This is the reality of the world in which we live today. This reality is global and not peculiar to Nigeria alone. This, however, is not to say Nigeria is not more vulnerable in certain aspects than some other nations and vice versa.

Nigeria's National Security Strategy recognizes that while the country must continue to focus on the persistent and evolving terrorist threats, it must at the same time address the full range of potential catastrophic events, including man-made and natural disasters, due to their implications for national security. The purpose of Nigeria's National Security Strategy is to guide, organize and harmonise the nation's security policies and efforts. The strategy provides a common framework on which the entire nation should focus its efforts.

In order to properly articulate government's strategy for combating these security challenges, there is need for a strategic plan in form of a document to guide security agencies in conception of ideas, formulation of policies and conduct of operations so that every single agency will be properly guided and seen to be working towards the same goal, aware that individual

agencies are part of a larger whole, which when properly coordinated would present a neat, coherent, orderly and complete system.

A National Security Strategy is required to maintain the survival of the nation through the use of economic power, diplomacy, military and political power. It encompasses a broad range of facets, all of which tie into the non-military or economic security of the nation and the values espoused by the national society. To ensure National Security, we need to possess economic security, energy security, environmental security and adequate provision for the safety and personal security of all citizens.

Over the past two to three decades, many countries around the world, especially in developing economies, equated the security of the regime in power with national security. That era was largely dominated by military power with the state using the instruments of coercion. However, since the early 1990s, there has been a gradual shift in focus from what can best be described as the soft side of security, to issues that affect the majority of the people. Such issues include shelter, transportation, food security, poverty alleviation, employment opportunities, safe environment and opportunities for self-actualization.

Without adequately taking care of the needs of the ordinary citizens, it would be difficult to rely on state power or military force, as the people, in all instances, form the core of any security strategy.

Nigeria has to take a critical look at the global environment in which the country operates today, the rapidly changing face of terrorism all over the world, as well as, other issues relating to insecurity confronting nation-states. The place of Nigeria within the international community, the strategic position of Nigeria on the African continent, particularly in the ECOWAS sub-region, especially with regard to peace and conflict resolution, need to be examined and factored into the National Security Strategy.

The National Security Strategy has limitation of time and place. The issues that are so important to the security and existence of Nigeria as a nation today may invariably change within the next few years. Therefore, there is the need to review any National Security Strategy document after a period of 5-10 years, so as to bring it up to date with the realities of the time.

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## **2. NATIONAL SECURITY VISION AND MISSION**

### **VISION**

The over-arching strategic vision is to make Nigeria a violence-free, safe, peaceful, self-reliant, prosperous and strong nation.

### **MISSION**

The inherent mission is to apply all elements of national power to ensure physical security, build individual and collective prosperity, cause national development and promote our influence in regional, continental and global affairs.

### **3. NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS**

The Federal Republic of Nigeria conceives of and defines security on a comprehensive and holistic view. Besides the traditional political and defence components, it also contains, inter alia, economic and social elements including human rights and minority rights as well as environmental elements. The Federal Republic of Nigeria treats the following traditional, closely interlinked and interdependent issues as fundamental values: peace, security, stability, sovereignty, democracy, the rule of law, freedom of enterprise and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Federal Republic of Nigeria recognises the need for the creation of an enabling environment for the full expression of the potentials of its citizenry, the development of its resources, including human capital, the preservation and promotion of its diverse cultural heritage and the forging of national identity therefrom.

Globalization, its discontents and the increase in interdependence have resulted in changes to the substance, form and content of national interest. As a consequence of the integration processes, the political and economic sovereignty of the state has been given a new substance, with a significant part of the particular national interests of the country now embedded in the framework of common interests. Nigeria's national interest can and needs to be asserted in the framework of the African Union integration which extends to politics and economy, as well as foreign, security and defence policies.

Accordingly, the Federal Republic of Nigeria considers the following as national security interests:

- i. The preservation of its sovereignty, territorial integrity and constitutional order, as well as the practice of full democracy, political pluralism, the rule of law, freedom of enterprise, human rights and fundamental freedoms;

- ii. The country's stability and its economic, social and cultural development, the unfolding of its opportunities, the all-encompassing and rapid development of its economic, technological and human resources; its advancement comparable to the level of the developed industrial nations, sustainable economic growth; the promotion of the security and prosperity of its citizens and the development of a secure environment facilitating the fulfillment of these goals in a multi-fold manner;
- iii. The preservation and generation of jobs through the enactment of legislations and prosecution of policies that engender and sustain agricultural and industrial activities, extraction/exploitation of natural resources and any other wealth-generating activity;
- iv. The promotion of social security and the enactment and promotion of laws and policies that protect the poor, the vulnerable, the unemployed as well as ensure fair, just and equitable redistribution of wealth;
- v. The maintenance of international peace and security, and the prevention and resolution of regional, inter-state and intra-state conflicts in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and standards of international law;
- vi. The observance of democratic norms and values and their promotion in Africa and beyond;
- vii. Co-operation between all international actor states, international organizations, further enhancement of co-operation in bilateral, regional and multi-lateral economic spheres; and
- viii. Constructive and functional engagement with both national and international non-state actors.

The core interests of Nigeria are security and welfare of its people; sovereignty and defence of its territorial integrity, peace, democracy, economic growth, and social justice. Other areas of national interest are sub-regional security and economic cooperation, principally through the

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). In addition, the promotion of peace, security, development, democracy, and international cooperation in Africa and the world are of vital national interest.

## **GEO-STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT**

The ever-changing international security situation exacerbated by conflicting self-interest of nations demand an informed self-assessment of the external environment. The analysis of our geo-strategic environment begins with a statement of domestic situation and perception of our position in the world. This is followed by an appreciation of the security challenges in our expanding spheres of interest in the Gulf of Guinea, the West African region, the African continent, the Common Wealth of Nations and the world at large.

With an estimated population of over 170 million people, Nigeria is undoubtedly the most populous nation in Africa, making it an authentic and courageous voice for the emancipation, freedom, dignity and universal progress of all black people across the world. With its pre-eminent position in the West African sub-region and one of the leading economies on the African continent, it continues to play a significant role in world affairs and still nurses aspirations for a leadership role on the world stage but limited by various political and socio-economic complexities.

With over 250 ethnic groups and three predominant religions (Christianity, Islam and traditional worship), religion and ethnicity often provide the platform of contestation for power thus narrowing the options for quality, productivity and social justice. This also finds expression in perennial challenges of development, divisive and destructive ethnic loyalties, religious intolerance and political fault lines.

Yet primordial sentiments cannot offer the needed focus for a productive national direction and development. The recognition of this reality makes necessary the need to forge bonds beyond tribe and religion in pursuit of

national cohesion and to make our diversity a veritable source of strength instead of weakness.

Our domestic and diaspora population have remarkable potentials for industry and socio-economic development which are yet to be optimally harnessed. The immediate consequence of this is a high rate of unemployment, conservatively put at 30 per cent. The national security strategy recognises this as a recurring problem needing an urgent and sustainable solution.

With a land mass of 910,768 sq km, 33 per cent of which is arable and imbued with conducive weather for farming, the country has clear potentials and capacity for self-sufficiency in food production and export, yet the country substantially relies on food imports. The strategy appreciates the need of food security for its teeming population as a major security issue. The new agricultural policy of government which seeks to create a synergy between local and commercial farmers is expected to address this deficit.

Nigeria is also endowed with vast onshore and offshore natural resources. With about 37 billion barrels of proven oil reserves and about 137 trillion in cubic feet of proven gas reserves in addition to more than 34 solid minerals in commercial quantities, Nigeria potentially remains the country with the greatest promise in the region. However, the transformation of these economic potentials to development has been limited by challenges, factors of conflicting political interest, policy changes, weak national innovative system, technological backwardness and perennial infrastructural deficit.

The non-exploitation of these potentials and the non-judicious use of these resources constitute a security issue. It is worth noting that segments of the populace have been drawn to acts of extreme violence, open militancy and terrorism. On the whole, Nigeria is a well-endowed and potentially great nation whose overall national security has been grossly undermined by prevailing political, socio-economic and environmental challenges. A

conscious enhancement of the capacity of the nation must therefore start from a well thought-out consistent policy.

On the external front, the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) constitutes the first strategic frontier in the national security calculations as it completely envelopes the critical maritime environment. The GoG spans 17 littoral states from Senegal in West Africa to Angola in Southern Africa and has a coastline of about 2,874nm covering an estimated area of about 574,800 sq nm. With a coastline of about 420 nautical miles (nm) and Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of 200 nm, our maritime domain of about 84,000sq nm containing strategic natural resources is located in the heart of the GoG.

The vast and largely under-policed maritime space has in recent times recorded growing domestic and transnational crimes. Additionally, the largely un-delineated international maritime boundaries in the GoG gives room for incompatible maritime claims which could lead to conflicts. Furthermore, growing insecurity in the Middle East has drawn increased global interests to the energy resources of the GoG. These factors evoke both opportunities and threats and indeed justify our national security interests in the GoG.

Similarly, the North East region of the country, a vast territory with a shared boundary with three countries (Cameroon, Chad and Niger Republic) has a history of sectarian violence and cross-border crime. It is the staging base of the Boko Haram currently waging a costly asymmetrical war on the country. The Boko Haram insurgency constitutes the most direct threat to the peace, security and sovereignty of Nigeria. Beside the Boko Haram insurgency, the North East with its unique geo-weather conditions is a potentially rich region in solid minerals, hydrocarbon and water resources (Lake Chad and other bodies of water). The relative economic, geographic and sometimes political challenges in some of the neighboring countries encourage illegal migrations, free-flow of illegal small arms and light weapons, radical indoctrination and recruitment and other cross-border crimes.

The West African region is the next theatre of our national security interests. Ethnic configurations of countries in the region show cultural affinities and historical linkages which suggest that stress in one country could be easily transmitted along the porous international boundaries. Also, many countries in the region show political and socio-economic frailties and are generally classified as Low Income Countries Under Stress (LICUS).

Indeed, some West African countries are already undergoing conflicts and are continually vulnerable to environmentally-induced disasters like drought and famine. The security problems of West Africa present a fragile state syndrome which creates room for serious transnational organized crimes and terrorism. These lapses have been exploited by Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) to sponsor terrorism in the region. Nigeria occupies a unique position in the region and has traditionally provided leadership and will continue to do so. We are, however, vulnerable to effects of conflicts and stress from other West African nations and must pay attention to the region in our national interest.

The next area of interest is the African continent which has long been a focus of our national security and diplomatic efforts. Apart from Liberia and Ethiopia, all African nations experienced colonial rule with attendant socio-political distortions and security challenges. Even with independence, Africa has been subjected to a new wave of scramble for resources and influences by extra-continental powers which constantly undermine its cohesion. Africa's marginalized past and contemporary socio-political travails occasioned by governance challenges have collectively put the continent in a state of perpetual under-development. Consequently, many African states are classified as Least Developed Countries (LCDs) and dominate the world's list of Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC).

The state of under-development in Africa manifests in extreme poverty, widespread epidemic and pandemic diseases, environmental degradation

and generally low Human Development Indices (HDIs). In these conditions, elite politics, unrepresentative governance and ethno-religious fundamentalism have plunged some African nations into protracted and debilitating armed conflicts. The vicious circle of under-development and conflicts throw up terrorist movements such as the AQIM, Al-Qaeda in East Africa and the Al-Shabab in the Horn of Africa. These groups export terrorism across Africa. As a leading Africa nation, we have responsibility for the peace, stability and development of the continent. Additionally, the economic, socio-political, environmental and physical security conditions in Africa present direct and indirect challenges to our national security interests.

On the global arena, we remain non-aligned as we were in the Cold War era and were thus spared some of the more direct impacts of the bipolar ideological struggles. In the post-cold war era, all nations of the world are generally open to factors of global opportunity and also susceptible to the insecurities there from. There are the opportunities and imperfections of the world governing institutions coupled with the opportunities and threats of the information revolution, globalization and social media impact. Added to these are the more obvious negative impacts of the global economic recession.

Furthermore, global warming and climate change has brought the world to the awareness of the inter-connectedness and fragility of global weather systems as well as the environmental dangers of unrestrained emission of Green House Gases (GHGs). In the physical security domain, the world is constantly faced with the grim dangers of terrorism, trans-national organized crimes and other traditional challenges of global peace and security arising from armed conflicts. Considered together, the geo-strategic realities of the world today present multi-dimensional security challenges to our national security interest.

China's inroad into many African countries within the last decade and its ever increasing bi-lateral and multi-lateral relationships with countries on the African continent is a testimony to its importance globally. Similarly, Nigeria is cognisant of the importance of the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa). In the not too distant future, Nigeria aspires not only to be a member of the BRICS group but to be among the 20 top economies in the world, as envisioned in our Vision 20:20/20.

## **4. NATIONAL SECURITY THREATS**

The range of security risks has increased parallel with the broader definition of security. In addition to the traditional nation-state actors, the so-called non-state actors (international organizations, transnational companies, non-governmental organizations, as well as international criminal and terrorist groups) are playing an ever-increasing role in security issues. A particular feature of the international system is the simultaneous presence of traditional security risks and of new threats that often take a global shape and scope.

The new types of challenges and threats are more multi-fold, less visible and less predictable. A typical tendency has been the blurring of the borderline between external and internal risk factors. Risk factors are manifesting themselves on global as well as on regional and internal levels, usually not separately but simultaneously, mutually reinforcing each other. The new challenges can be responded to most effectively through an integrative national strategy and co-operation in the framework of international organizations and institutions and other forms of co-operation.

### **GLOBAL CHALLENGES**

The process of globalization accelerated and brought radical changes in all areas of international relations, especially in the fields of information technology, transport, trade and finances as well as in public health. Globalization has reached a degree where, along with its advantages, new types of security risks have emerged. Cross-border crimes and other forms of threats have a great impact on the international environment and the security of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Internally, the negative effects of globalisation on the local forces of production such as weak local industries, un-competitiveness of our products and services on the world stage and rising unemployment have all but spun out new security challenges.

## **TERRORISM**

The attacks on the United States that took place on 11 September 2001 have been an unambiguous indication that global terrorism has developed into a strategic threat to security all over the world as a result of the significant increase of its logistical, financial and operational capabilities. Terrorist activities are directed at disrupting democratic, social and political institutions and at undermining the trust of societies in their governments. Terrorism has a destabilizing effect on international conditions while activities serving the purpose of organizing and supporting acts of terrorism (illegal arms trafficking, and money laundering) are undermining the functioning of states and the international system. Acts of terrorism may also contribute to the emergence of other global political, economic, commercial, internally displaced persons, refugees and health related crises.

If the United States with its military might and technological advancement could be vulnerable to such scope of attack, then no country is immune. Although terrorism universally seeks to compel its victims to do its bidding, there are variants in different parts of the world. Russia, China and other countries have at various times for various reasons also come under terrorist attacks.

Nigeria is one of the countries in Africa in which terrorism has taken root. This has taken the form of insurgency. Although different groups have emerged at different points in the country's political history and have assumed different forms, in scope, choice of targets and logistical capability, none is quite comparable with Boko Haram. Using the relatively hostile and sometimes impenetrable swathe North East as their base, the Boko Haram in the past couple of years have carried out relentless savage attacks on both soft and high profile targets in northern parts of the country. The severity of the Boko Haram insurgency is underscored by captured territories, pillage, mass abductions and indoctrination.

The effects of this terror campaign include the following:

- i. Mass displacements and migrations;
- ii. Creation of refugee populations and other forms of inhuman conditions;
- iii. Undermining of agricultural and other economic activities with potential for famine;
- iv. Destruction of infrastructure and undermining the rule of law, public safety and security, and national cohesion;
- v. Enabling crime and instability;
- vi. Exacerbating community tensions and increasing the threshold of violence;
- vii. Constituting an obstacle to development;
- viii. Diverting resources away from critical areas of need;
- ix. Creating conditions for aggravating human rights violations and abuse;
- x. Undermining investment and tourism;
- xi. Encouraging of violent response to grievances;
- xii. Contributing to the proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs);
- xiii. Entrenching fear and insecurity; and

In light of the gravity of the situation, the Boko Haram threat is considered the most potent and deserving of a comprehensive and coordinated holistic response in collaboration with contiguous neighbors and the international community in general.

## **TRANSNATIONAL ORGANISED CRIMES**

Transnational organised crimes such as terrorism, illegal oil-bunkering, crude oil theft, illegal fishing, kidnapping, hostage-taking, armed robbery, cyber-crime, smuggling, money-laundering, financial crimes, drug and human-trafficking, piracy, environmental pollution and proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) have become major security threats.

## **CRUDE OIL THEFT/ ILLEGAL BUNKERING**

The Niger Delta, the treasure trove of the country and a veritable part of the GoG manifests acts and tendencies in consistency and scope to constitute a major security concern to the well-being of the nation. These acts include crude oil theft illegal refining and piracy.

The massive degradation of the environment characterised by oil spills, cover-ups, poor mop-ups and gas flaring constitute the other part of the threat. Although government is deserving of commendation for ending militancy in the region, the national response to these threats need to be intensified.

## **NIGERIA'S BORDERS**

Nigeria's extensive borders, severely undermanned, are a major source of security threat. Nigeria's vast and inadequately policed land and maritime borders have resulted in numerous illegal border crossings and irregular migrations associated with trans-national crimes. The porous borders, among other things, aid and abet smuggling, illegal movement of arms, terrorists and other criminals.

## **CLIMATE CHANGE**

Climate change is now associated with environmental degradation, desertification and the depletion of natural resources and the occurrence of natural disasters. Climate change is responsible for the desertification that is threatening food production and further undermines government's effort at achieving national food security. Desert encroachment is partly responsible for the loss of grazing reserves and obliteration of grazing routes, thus compelling pastoralists to move through cultivable land with their livestock. This occasionally leads to clashes between farmers and herdsmen. The loss of arable land and pasture areas is threatening the economy and the nation's food security. Climate change has also contributed to excessive flooding across the country causing unquantifiable human and economic losses.

## **COMMUNAL AND ETHNO-RELIGIOUS CONFLICTS**

Communal and ethno-religious conflicts in Nigeria are a recurring phenomenon. However, in the last two decades they have acquired a frightening dimension and constitute both latent and manifest threat to the nation by way of weakening the bonds that hold the people together. These internecine conflicts have raised issues of citizenship rights, land ownership, human and gender rights and resource control which are yet to be adequately addressed. These conflicts, which have mostly been violent, have continued to escalate in virtually all the geo-political zones of the country. Such outbursts of violence will continue to create a politically-apprehensive environment and consequent insecurity.

## **PASTORALISTS/FARMERS CONFLICTS**

Conflicts between pastoralists and crop farmers are sufficiently violent and widespread enough to constitute manifest national threat. In addition to the blood -letting, these violent conflicts undermine bonds of kinship and trust built over decades. Closely linked to this is access to land and its administration. The current land policy, climate change, population growth and a growing unemployment trend put pressure on the land and are veritable sources of conflicts

## **POLITICS AND FEDERALISM IN NIGERIA**

Partisan politics in Nigeria over the decades has been characterized by electoral violence, fraud and manipulation. The electoral body INEC has tried its best to bring innovations that will generate trust and confidence of the electorate in the electoral process. The judiciary, like most other institutions of the state, is arguably perceived not sufficiently determined and free to dispense justice timeously, judiciously and judicially with the resultant effect of some disputants taking the law into their hands.

Similarly, the issue of federalism continues to generate tension in the polity. Some of the challenges of federalism in Nigeria are traceable to the hue and cry of Nigeria' colonial experience, constitutional issues (especially as they

pertain to fiscal federalism, power sharing, land administration, local government autonomy, tax powers, resource control, revenue distribution, indigeneship), military interventions and its attendant distortions in the polity, minority rights, and operation of the federal constitution.

Although there is no perfect federalism anywhere, not even in developed economies, Nigerians will continue to demand for a re-configured federalism, in the course of which there will be threats. A national security strategy that will take on board the concerns, fears as well as guarantee the rights and privileges of all the parties in the federation including minorities is a necessity.

## **GOVERNANCE**

The national security strategy takes into consideration governance deficit, weak and inefficient institutions, a combination of which creates poor service delivery and service gaps leading to shocks, infrastructure challenges, disillusionment and frustration.

The national strategy similarly takes cognizance of legislations and policies and the need for effective social delivery, provisions for citizen rights, social services, social security, guaranteeing of national prosperity, individual freedom and liberty, strong internal governance, transparency and accountability.

## **POVERTY**

Closely linked to these differences in access to good life and reward regime is the system which inevitably leads to economic disparity. The national security strategy, while upholding the principle of free enterprise, recognises the need to create a level-playing field in all endeavors for citizens and non-citizens as well as enact legislations and pursue policies that will narrow the chasm between the rich and the poor.

## **KIDNAPPING**

In the ranking of threats, kidnapping is arguably one of the newest and latest threats. It is partly attributed to the growing unemployment syndrome in the polity. Owing to the relative ease with which it is designed and executed and the huge and quick return on crime, kidnapping offers about the most attractive and fastest opportunities of getting rich. It thrives on the twin elements of fear and surprise. Today it has snowballed into a multi-billion Naira venture and constitutes a grave threat to personal security.

For example, between 2008 and 2012, a total of 2,437 kidnapping cases were reported in the country. A total of 504 cases were reported in the first Quarter of 2014. The national security strategy recognises the desperation of the perpetrators, vulnerability of victims, the limitation of security forces as well as social inequities, poor victim-support programmes and enlightenment campaigns and seeks a comprehensive strategy to tackle this threat.

## **PROLIFERATION OF SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS (SALW)**

The proliferation of small arms and light weapons (SALW) is a global phenomenon arising from conflicts across the globe. The situation was compounded by the disorderly end of the Cold War leaving multitudes of catches of arms and weapons in the open market. Presently, more than 90 countries produce various types of SALW and ammunition. It is estimated that more than 857 million SALW are in circulation today, aside from twelve (12) billion rounds of ammunition produced annually. Of these, ten (10) million SALWs are estimated to be in Africa with one million of these in Nigeria.

Peculiar to Nigeria are its civil war and its aftermath, prolonged military rule and political violence. These circumstances which helped grow the numbers of SALWs were compounded by major conflicts in West and North African

countries, notably, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Cote d'Ivoire and much more recently, Mali and Libya.

Confrontations with non-state actors and fringe elements clearly indicate that the state no longer has monopoly of instruments of coercion. Perhaps there is no better proof of this than the frequency of those confrontations and the resultant security casualties therefrom. Not a few believe the insurgency by the Boko Haram and related elements is prosecuted with such arms.

Thus the threats posed by the proliferation of SALWs are of such significance that a security strategy that contemplates the herculean task of monitoring the manufacture, flow and use of the SALWs is required. This presupposes the taking of more than cursory interest in the conflicts of Nigeria's close and distant neighbours.

## **PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION**

The proliferation of nuclear, radiological, chemical and biological weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, the spreading of technological skills required for their production and the possibility of their use constitute grave threat. The linkage between this threat and terrorism constitute the other strategic threat to security in the West African sub region and the African continent. Although the implementation of international agreements and export control regimes hinder the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, the risk of such weapons and materials being acquired by terrorist groups and of reaching states providing support to terrorist groups has been increasing.

The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction constitutes a challenge in itself since the weapons may reach their targets in non-conventional ways. Chemical and biological weapons that are relatively easy to produce but difficult to control constitute a particularly grave threat and are more likely to be used in the context of regional conflicts and acts of international

terrorism. In addition, a number of countries are striving to acquire small or medium-range means of delivery, either independently or in collaboration with other states, and thus increase their regional role and influence. The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery primarily constitutes an increasing threat in crisis areas. The spread of missile technology indirectly jeopardizes the security of West Africa and Africa in general.

Despite the practical reality of Boko Haram, this threat remains largely latent. In spite of this, a national security strategy that involves the development of technological, biological and chemical capabilities to neutralize these threats and reduce their impact on the civilian populace and the nation's critical assets is desirable.

## **ILLEGAL MIGRATION**

Nigeria's borders are expected to remain part of African borders for the foreseeable future, which brings along the responsibility and burden of managing Africa's geo-political boundaries. Nigeria, so far mainly a transit country for people and drugs, is now more and more becoming a target country. We consider migration as a natural but complex phenomenon presenting possible economic and demographic advantages as well as carrying security risks. Both opportunities and challenges can be exploited and managed most effectively in the framework of a medium or long-term perspective of West African integration.

Tackling these security risks efficiently is not only an obligation deriving from ECOWAS membership but is also required by our own national security interests. We must not rule out the possibility that criminal organizations and terrorist groups may try to use migration channels to establish and reinforce their positions within our sub-region. Illegal migration appears first and foremost as a matter of law enforcement. Following the accession to the ECOWAS protocol on movement of people, an enhanced protection of the external borders – land borders, in particular –

will require more effective co-operation between border authorities in Nigeria and neighbouring countries.

Security issues related to migration, including illegal migration, will continue to be handled in the framework of bilateral, multilateral and international cooperation, paying special attention to the suppression of international organized crime and the prevention of acts of terrorism. We place particular emphasis on the specific aspects related to the sizeable number of Nigerians living in neighbouring countries. Beside this, a national security strategy patently Nigerian but which will be complimentary to the bilateral, multi-lateral and international co-operation is desirable because of the peculiarities of Nigeria.

## **ECONOMIC CHALLENGES**

In spite of the promise of globalisation, its discontents in developing economies, especially Nigeria cannot be ignored. The rise of oligopolies and the weakening of national governments ensure relatively little control over legislations and policies in favour of the citizenry. The other negative consequences, as stated earlier include the under production of local industries, inability of local products and services to adequately compete at the world stage, increasing vulnerabilities of government owned companies, rising unemployment etc all of which constitute one form of threat or another, but largely economic threat. From this point of view, the Nigerian economy is considered as particularly vulnerable. Not too many companies are doing well, especially in the energy sector. The country is import-dependent and has a weak and not so modern infrastructure.

A national security strategy that seeks to open up the country more cautiously, reduce and manage the risks associated with the unbridled opening up could ensure the successful transition from command and control economy to a private sector-driven economy is desirable. The rising unemployment is also a ticking time bomb that needs to be defused.

## **FINANCIAL CRIMES**

To restore its reputation, rekindle confidence and sanitize its financial system, Nigeria has set up the necessary machinery to achieve the desired objectives by creating financial crime investigating and prosecuting agencies. The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) is saddled with the responsibility of protecting the Nigerian economy and its financial institutions and systems from misuse or abuse through criminal activity such as money laundering, advance fee fraud and the financing of terrorism. Similarly, the Independent Corrupt Practices and other related Offences Commission (ICPC), monitors and evaluates financial transactions for signs of corruption, nepotism, theft and bribery. It receives and investigates leads by security agencies concerning government businesses and ensures that the actions and behavior of public officers conform to the highest standards of public morality and accountability. These instruments are very critical to mitigating the financing of terrorist organizations.

The objectives of EFCC and ICPC include the following:

- i. Promoting transparency in corporate and public sector governance in order to significantly enhance the effectiveness of public and private institutions;
- ii. Integrating anti-corruption policies in crime prevention agencies and in the criminal justice system;
- iii. Protecting Nigeria's economic system from misuse by financiers of terrorism or any other activity that could threaten the well-being and security of the nation;
- iv. Protecting Nigerian financial institutions from misuse or abuse through illicit financial transactions;
- v. Developing the capacity to identify, trace, freeze, confiscate and seize proceeds derived from terrorist activities, economic and financial crimes;
- vi. Facilitating and promoting collaboration amongst relevant economic and financial crimes prevention organizations within and outside Nigeria;

- vii. Creating enabling environment and promoting collaboration amongst relevant community based organizations, non-governmental organizations and anti-corruption integrity coalitions in information sharing; and
- viii. Improving the process for barring corrupt individuals from holding public office and corrupt businesses from the public procurement process.

The national strategy should focus on inter-agency co-operation, capacity building, self-monitoring mechanism to minimise corruption, and increase collaboration with other similar institutions world-wide.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND CYBER SECURITY**

Information technology and cyber security are a further improvement on the traditional electronic capacity and intelligence. Broad and unquestioningly reliable in the right conditions, Cyber Security has acquired a new life of its own with astonishing range of possibilities in intelligence-gathering and warfare. Not surprisingly, it is the number one choice in developed economies.

However, Nigeria's access to and use of IT are grossly limited. In order to minimise and avoid the awful consequences of long-term lags, it is urgent for Nigeria to catch up with the information and telecommunication standards of the developed world. The broadest possible familiarization with the achievements of the IT revolution and the raising of the level of education are of crucial importance that have an indirect positive impact on the economy as well as on social life and the country's ability to assert its interests.

In addition to providing the technical and intellectual conditions of an IT infrastructure, attention must also be paid to the protection of such systems and the generation of appropriate reserves. Information technologies have created numerous opportunities for the society and also increased the

dangers it is exposed to. The vulnerability and overloading of computer networks and systems, the theft of information, the spreading of viruses and disinformation all constitute factors of risk for the country.

There are five areas of major cyber threats inimical to the national security strategy. These threats have significant capability to cause considerable damage to the integrity of the country's economy. They include the following:

- i. Cyber crime;
- ii. Cyber espionage;
- iii. Cyber conflict;
- iv. Cyber terrorism; and
- v. Child online abuse and exploitation

These threats have serious implications for the nation's stability and active participation in the global cyber system. The country's readiness in securing its cyberspace requires coordinated efforts from all stakeholders at various levels of participation.

The sophistication of Nigerian based Cyber crime syndicates has made Nigeria a potential hub for launching malicious internet attacks against international information resources. The use of internet by Nigerian fraudsters to swindle foreigners through advanced fee fraud has earned Nigeria negative image. Today, cybercrime and cyber security have become, perhaps, the most critical issues on the global security agenda.

The global nature of the internet and the limitations in the direct influence of governments over modern ICT networks that are predominantly designed, built, owned and operated by the private sector serve to emphasise the complexity of the cyber security challenge facing Nigeria in the twenty-first century. It is a challenge that requires a coherent, integrated approach-led by government, but working in close partnership with the private sector-that seeks to address the strategic vulnerabilities of an increasingly hostile online environment.

## **NATURAL, MAN-MADE AND MEDICAL RELATED THREATS**

Problems appearing in the context of environmental protection and threats to civilization spreading across borders constitute some of the largest challenges to mankind. The protection of our natural resources, our natural habitat and values as well as the preservation of the environmental balance is putting an ever-increasing burden on our societies. Global problems such as the destruction of rain forests, damage to the ozone layer, the greenhouse effect and the increase of air, water and soil pollution constitute a threat to the entire planet. Natural and man-made disasters do have particularly serious impact on negligent countries and countries with limited resources.

A number of natural and man-made hazards including natural disasters, pollution and related threats from neighbouring countries constitute serious security impact for Nigeria. Environmental sources of danger have an indirect impact on the population's state of health and contribute to the appearance and spreading of dangerous epidemics and infections. The possibility of larger-scale crisis situations in the field of public health is likely to increase in the future.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY**

Our environmental threats stem from three categories of vulnerability. The first set originates from prevailing systemic defaults in our overall environmental factor management. This includes population explosion, demographic irregularities, unplanned human settlements/housing, ineffective environmental culture and inadequate management capacity. Others are poor land and water use, poor waste management, poor environmental education and general ignorance.

The second set include periodic environmentally induced human conflicts like pastoralist/farmers conflicts, conservation/development conflicts, water resource conflicts and illegal immigration due to food insecurity.

The third set arises from current and potential environmental disasters caused by natural and anthropogenic factors. This include oil pollution and gas flaring, desertification, drought, biodiversity loss, deforestation due to uncontrolled fuel wood harvest, flooding in coastal areas and inland river basins, soil erosion, degradation, loss of arable lands as well as water and air pollution. The most prominent external factor of our environmental vulnerabilities is climate change and associated global warming which causes high sea levels, ocean surges and coastal floods.

Others are desertification, marine pollution and possible bio-terrorism. These vulnerabilities collectively threaten our way of life and indeed all forms of life, sustainable development and national security. While we cannot avoid exposure to these threats, we shall apply due policy traction to improve our adaptability.

However, the positive side is that our environment can be exploited for our benefit. With the interconnectedness of global environment systems, our environment provides opportunities for political gains through globalization, international environmental movements and IPOS like the United Nations (UN), European Union (EU), World Bank (WB) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Additionally, the natural endowments comprise diverse flora and fauna, vast arable land, forest reserves and marine resources, mineral resources, water and energy resources. These endowments can be transformed for socio-economic gains through agriculture, aquaculture, extractive industries, Clean Development Mechanisms (CDMs), industrialization and trade. Furthermore, our biodiversities hold socio-economic potentials for sports, recreation and tourism. In terms of physical security, our environment presents geographical diversities for a variety of intelligence, law enforcement and military operations.

With the recurring incidence of desertification and flooding even in unlikely places, a national strategy that is at once coherent, cohesive and with a focus on harnessing existing programmes such as ecological fund,

desertification and flood control programmes for the purpose of pre-emption and prevention is in the making. The second leg of the strategy focuses on the national response capacity and reaction time to ensure safety of lives, preservation and recovery of property.

## **5. NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGIES**

### **NATIONAL DEFENCE**

The Nigerian Constitution provides for the establishment of the Armed Forces (AFN) of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for the purpose of defending Nigeria from external aggression, maintaining its territorial integrity and securing its borders from violation on land, sea and air as well as suppressing insurrection and acting in aid of civil authorities to restore order when called upon to do so by the President, subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by an Act of the National Assembly. The development and application of the AFN to achieve its constitutional roles and assigned tasks during the next few years will be moderated by certain strategic considerations. These are:

- i. The AFN will establish a Unified Command with a Joint Commander in a Unified/Joint Command Headquarters. This Command will comprise a joint Special Forces component capable of conducting a wide range of operations. However, the Nigerian Army, Navy and Air Force will continue to develop specific forces for deployment in joint operations;
- ii. The AFN will establish a functional Civil-Military Relations (CMR) system dominated by civil control, public opinion based on public aspiration for a capable military that contributes to nation-building and development;
- iii. The AFN will continue to pursue the aspiration for a consolidated technology-aided Intelligence Fusion Centre linked to the higher defence decision-making infrastructure and interfaced with all Security Agencies, related MDAs and national data-bases;
- iv. The AFN will deliberately cultivate and drive the development of a time-bound, objective-driven Military Industrial Complex (MIC) that exploits the entire human and material resources of the Nigerian nation. This is to include science technology and innovation

- system, technical capacity and resilience of the Nigerian people as well as the overall Nigerian corporate capacity;
- v. The AFN will take deliberate steps to adopt and develop core capacities and apply military diplomacy as a catalyst and multiplier to the use of force. It will exploit the opportunities for military co-operation, collaboration and alliances available in the international system in furtherance of the national interest;
  - vi. To meet the demands of contemporary and future defence and national security needs, the AFN will take deliberate steps to utilise modern ICT in all its operations; and
  - vii. The AFN shall develop a detailed defence strategy out of the National Security Strategy and shall subject this to major quadrennial reviews and minor annual performance reviews.

## **COUNTER-TERRORISM**

A Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) in the Office of the National Security Adviser was established in 2011 to focus exclusively on the emerging insurgency posed by the Boko Haram militants and other terrorist groups. The department has the overall responsibility for coordinating the National Counter Terrorism Programme. The primary responsibilities of the CTD include the development, direction and implementation of the National Counter Terrorism Strategy (NACTEST). It is also responsible for delivery of some aspects of the strategy. For instance, analysis of intelligence from other agencies by the Joint Terrorism Analysis Bureau (JTAB), strategic communication in collaboration with foreign partners for capacity building while facilitating oversight of operations by security and intelligence agencies.

The overall objective of the strategy is to ensure public safety and it revolves around five main streams Forestall, Secure, Identify, Prepare and Implement (FSIPI). The FSIPI strategy consists of the following components:

- i. Identifying: This involves ensuring that all terrorists and their sponsors are identified and brought to justice;
- ii. Preparing: This involves preparing the populace so that the consequences of terrorist incidents could be mitigated;
- iii. Forestalling: This involves preventing terrorism in Nigeria including engaging the public through sustained enlightenment/sensitization campaigns and de-radicalization programmes;
- iv. Securing: This activity involves ensuring the security of lives and property, public and key national infrastructure/services including Nigerian interest around the world;
- v. Implementing: This activity involves devising a framework to effectively mobilize and sustain a coordinated cross-governmental effort in pursuance of the National Counter Terrorism Strategy (NACTEST);

To achieve the above objectives, Nigeria will invoke both domestic and international efforts. At the national level, the government will focus on addressing issues which will diminish the ability of terrorists to operate freely in Nigeria. Priorities in this regard will involve creating and emphasizing security awareness amongst the populace, reducing the possibility and ability of terrorist groups to recruit new members or retain the support of existing ones. The government will also introduce measures that will deter potential terrorists. Properly planned and adequately resourced preventive measures, when employed, would reduce the frequency of attacks.

In order to achieve our security objectives, we will safeguard citizens, utilities and infrastructure by reducing their vulnerability to attacks. This will include strengthening border security, protecting critical national infrastructure. We will also focus on capacity building for security forces and reducing risks to transportation systems, crowded places and worship centres.

To achieve the identified objectives, we will prevent terrorist attacks against Nigeria and her interests through effective detection and investigation of threats at the earliest possible instance. We will also disrupt terrorist operations before they endanger the public and ensure the prosecution of those responsible. To achieve these objectives, we will ensure that the nation is ready to manage and minimize the consequences of a terrorist attack where it cannot be stopped and increase resilience for an immediate recovery from the aftermath of an attack. Our efforts will also include identification of potential risks from terrorism and assessing their impact especially at Key Points (KP's) and Vulnerable Points (VP's). Other activities include building capacities to respond to threats and regular evaluation of preparedness.

To achieve and implement these objectives, various elements will act together and cooperate to deal with complex threats. This will require partnerships across the public sector including the police, emergency services, local, state and federal government agencies, as well as the private sector and voluntary organizations. In summary, the nation will beef up its technological and human capacities in such areas as surveillance, monitoring, tracking, infiltration, de-radicalization, media campaigns, public education and reorientation and improve readiness for dialogue. In doing these, the government will take cognizance of international law and human rights standards.

## **SOFT APPROACH TO COUNTER TERRORISM**

In realization that military approach alone cannot adequately counter ideology-based terrorist insurgency, the government has adopted a soft approach to counter-terrorism which has resulted in the development of Nigeria's program to countering violent extremism. This programme is designed to involve local governments, state government, civil society organisations (especially faith/community based) and the private sector. The approach also involves the design and implementation of a prison-based de-

radicalisation program for convicts under the Terrorism Prevention (Amendment) Act 2011 and for suspects awaiting trial as well as an after-care component for those who might be released by courts or in the event of a government decision arising from ongoing dialogue. We are building new skills in psychology, religious dialogue and counselling, art and sport therapy, educational and vocational training through a dedicated prison team.

Our objective is to reform, rehabilitate and prepare violent extremist offenders for a possible re-entry into society. In this, we are preparing families of offenders, victims and communities to accept, forgive, provide care and support to perpetrators of terrorist acts who have laid down their arms. Similarly, we are piloting a counter-radicalization program with special emphasis on community engagement and resilience building. Through peace initiatives, community outreach, engagement with youth, women and religious groups, conflicts resolution mechanisms, early warning systems and empowering critical stakeholders, we seek to raise awareness and unite Nigerians against violent extremism. We are also working to restore communal living in our towns and cities through purpose-built community centers where our young ones can go to learn new skills, vocations, arts and sports in order to absorb the cultural diversity we are known for.

Further to this, the threat that we face has drawn our attention to the need to overhaul our educational system. We examine the question: why is Boko Haram so violently against education? The answer to that presents us with a clear direction of where the fight against violent extremism should be focused. Terrorists are afraid of critical thinking which a sound education can guarantee. It is our failure to entrench critical thinking as the core of our education that leaves our young ones vulnerable to misguided interpretation of religious texts and this is a challenge to governance.

Without an informed citizenry able to ask the right kind of questions, our society's quest for peace and security will remain elusive. It is thus a prerequisite of good governance that we fix our educational system.

Governance in times of insurgency presents a challenge to economic progress where development is arrested because of the absence of peace. Based on our understanding of the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism and global best practices that seek to address these conditions, we are working with the Governors of the six Northeastern states of Nigeria to design an economic revitalization program targeted towards the States most affected by terrorism. Working with various stakeholders, we are currently designing a regional economic revitalization plan following the President's directive in December, 2013. The regional development plan will serve as the foundation for a federal-state partnership to revitalize the region's economy through the Presidential Initiative for the North-East (PINE).

The inter-ministerial committee driving PINE has developed a short-term strategy called "the Emergency Assistance and Economic Stabilization (EA-ES) program". This program, with a 24-months' time frame, will cater to over one million people or 150,000 household. The EA-ES will provide food and non-food relief materials, medical supplies, support to the elderly, widows and malnourished children in addition to rapid and mobile medical assistance. It will also fast-track stalled federal projects in intervention-ready communities and employ 150,00 youths through its Productive Works Program.

The long-term economic transformation program of PINE will utilize the asset-based economic development approach. It will focus on the revitalization of agriculture, the repair and development of infrastructure, new ways of strengthening education, the attraction of entrepreneurs, the expansion of entrepreneurship and skills acquisition schemes, the promotion of regional trade and the promotion of good governance. PINE is establishing the framework for the coordinated action of federal, state and local governments as well as contributions of the private sector,

international donors from the private and public sectors. The Presidential Initiative for the North-East, is already mobilizing relief materials to be distributed to individuals and communities adversely affected by the violence of the insurgency.

To defeat terrorism we cannot leave anyone behind, we cannot have ungoverned spaces. Thus, everyone must act responsibly in their sphere of authority. As a federation, doing this require actions to be taken at both national and sub-national governments levels. The administration of local governments, which is closest to the people must be revamped and focused on the important issues of good governance. Local governments, working with traditional institutions, community based organizations and the police must be proactive in building community resilience and good governance.

The states have an important role to play constitutionally as well. It is time we leverage on our democratic processes to increase access to decision making for a majority of our citizens. Inclusive, non-discriminatory and participatory governance is more likely to detect discontent before it erupts. The goal of politics must be to lift our people out of poverty and provide them with the enabling environment to compete favorably. Doing exactly this may not eliminate the possibility of misguided individuals or groups rising in violence against the society but will address some of the underlying factors leading to recruitment to violent organizations.

We are confident that our governance approach to countering insurgency addresses the multiple factors that link peace, security, development, rule of law and respect for human rights. These are the right priorities and we are taking careful but sure steps to build the right foundations, the right institutions and skills that would give us the leverage to secure lives and property, and to defeat terrorism. This might take time but like most countries of the world that emerged stronger from conflicts, Nigeria is on the path to a safer ground built on the right values.

Our strategic communication strategy which is part of the soft approach to counter terrorism is outlined in another part of this document.

## **NIGER DELTA SECURITY**

The factors responsible for militancy in Niger Delta are well known. It was partly as a result of neglect of the economic development of the area which produces vital hydrocarbons on which the nation depends for its economic sustenance. While various governments have tried to solve the problems in the Niger Delta, attempts at finding solution have fallen short of desired objectives. The 2009 Amnesty Programme instituted by the government of former President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua has significantly helped to douse tension in the area.

However, Niger Delta militancy has not been completely eradicated. The fact that there are those calling for the third phase of amnesty and intermittent disruptions to oil production activities on a significant scale attest to the fact that the challenge of militancy is not totally over. Indeed, the illegal local refining and illegal bunkering, though in league with foreign interests, are considered to be an extension of this militancy. There are those who subscribe to the view that certain radical elements in the Niger-Delta are waiting for an "appropriate" time to launch their insurgency. It is important that a realistic national security strategy should not dismiss these assumptions as whimsical.

The overall objective in the Niger Delta is to ensure the safety of oil installations and personnel located in the area and to ensure that environmental degradation is either completely eliminated or reduced to the barest minimum. Another equally important objective is the rapid economic development and industrialization of the Niger Delta through programmes designed and implemented by Federal, State and Local Governments as well as the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs, community effort and private sector initiative.

## **INTERNAL SECURITY**

The goal of the Internal Security (IS) strategy is to create a safe and secure environment for the pursuit of peace, personal well-being, prosperity and

development. This calls for a concerted, proportionate, open, flexible but effective application of political, economic, social, informational, diplomatic, intelligence, law enforcement and military responses.

This approach views internal security as the responsibility of all Nigerians. However, internal security would be coordinated through the platform for inter-agency collaboration. This coordination is achieved through the Intelligence Community Committee (ICC) and the Joint Intelligence Board (JIB) established by the National Security Agencies Act (NSA Act).

The lead agency for the conduct of internal security is the Nigeria Police (NP) which has been empowered to carry out effective internal security predicated on law enforcement philosophies driven by seamless technology-enabled intelligence. However, in the event of a large scale breakdown in the management of internal security challenges, the military would be called in through an invocation of statutory provisions. Furthermore, the state security councils shall co-ordinate state-wide internal security measures. The state of internal security in Nigeria shall be measured by improved public perception of security, public confidence and trust in the security agencies particularly the Nigeria Police, drastic reduction in the incidence and statistics of crimes and all forms of insecurity.

## **POLITICAL SECURITY**

Political security is envisioned in the NSS as the freedom of the Nigerian state to rationally allocate power and resources to its constituent units and the ability to exercise this freedom in its external relations. Important factors of political security in Nigeria are the ethnic factor, structure of association or federalism, power sharing arrangements, resource generation and allocation. Other types are quality of governance, rule of law, human rights and freedom, economic freedom, environmental viability as well as social equality and stability. Challenges, risks and threats to our political security emanate singly and collectively from these elements.

Arising from the diversities of our people and our checkered colonial history, one of the recurring political challenges of our nationhood has been the need for national cohesion and unity which intermittently throws up unresolved national questions. Constant manifestations of these unresolved national questions are that agitations for political concerns are made worse by perennial governance challenges, weak political institutions, election malpractices and fraud, post-election crisis and violence as well as political intolerance. Added to these internal political risks and challenges are the possibility of violation of our sovereignty by external forces and unilateral action by foreign powers in our immediate spheres of influence.

Given the crucial nexus between political stability and economic well-being of the people, it is important that appropriate measures are taken to ensure political security. The vision of our political security is to aggregate and unify the national aspirations of all the peoples in the federation through equitable distribution of power, wholesome generation and equitable resources. In order to achieve this vision of political security, it will require the exploitation of the opportunities presented by our endowments in size, numeric strength and diversities as well as mutual interdependence of our people while deliberately overcoming identified threats. Consequently, our political security thrusts shall embody the following multi-sector responses:

- i. Nigeria as a federation aims at equitable devolution, distribution and clear definition of political power based on democratic principles;
- ii. Promote unity and national cohesion by comprehensive national dialogue;
- iii. Promote political stability based on grassroots political participation, political inclusiveness, multi-party democracy, strong democratic institutions and credible electoral process;
- iv. Promote good governance based on development, accountability, regulatory quality, due process, rule of law and human rights;
- v. Promote good governance based on zero tolerance for corruption;
- vi. Promote fiscal federalism as a politico-economic strategy;

- vii. Promote a mixed open market economy and a welfarist political system that encourages creativity and entrepreneurship in resource generation and equity in resource distribution;
- viii. Promote freedom of information as a political strategy and national orientation, de-radicalization and political education of the populace to facilitate citizens' commitment to the national security goals;
- ix. Strengthen law enforcement institutions and the judiciary in order to check political impunity and crimes and to entrench democracy;
- x. Promote national interests, particularly our political objectives in our foreign relations and our interactions with International Political Opportunity Structures (IPOS), international agencies and organizations as well as international Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs); and
- xi. Prepare and pre-position the Armed Forces of Nigeria (AFN) to support our foreign policy in furtherance of our national security goals.

The Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) shall spearhead the political security measures under a principle of common but distributed responsibility with all tiers of government. Indeed, the FGN shall employ all strategic assets to coordinate the national political security policy goals. Additionally, the National Council of States, an inter-governmental platform comprising stakeholders from the states, is empowered to advise the President on political security of the nation.

Political stability in Nigeria shall be measured by the level of public acceptance of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (CRFN), acceptable power sharing and devolution mechanism, crisis free political succession and leadership transition, conduct of free and fair elections, acceptable resource generation and distribution mechanism, national cohesion and lastly, the required freedom to take political decisions.

## **ECONOMIC SECURITY**

Economic security is inextricably linked to our overall national security vision of internal security, prosperity, development and external influence as it provides critical inputs to other security domains. It embodies our freedom and ability to pursue all policy choices to develop our economy to envisioned levels. Our strategic economic aspiration and vision as captured in the Vision 20:2020 document is to make Nigeria:

A large, strong, diversified, sustainable and competitive economy that effectively harnesses the talents and energies of its people and responsibly exploits its natural endowments to guarantee high standard of living and quality of life for Nigerians.

Nigeria's economic aspirations include making the large country enterprising with resilient population, including a resourceful diaspora, and vast natural resources that can power industrial growth in addition to a democratic dispensation that is striving to create an amenable investment climate. This policy envisages deliberate measures to exploit the inherent economic opportunities to meet constitutionally defined economic objectives and to overcome identified economic threats.

The specific economic objectives are to:

- i. Adopt economic security as a benchmark for measuring political progress and promote fiscal federalism as a politico-economic policy to ensure improved generation and equitable distribution of revenues;
- ii. Promote economic restructuring, growth and development based on liberalization, deregulation, privatization, Public Private Partnership (PPP), local content mandates, made-in Nigeria drive and special economic incentives such as production subsidies in core sectors and diversification; and

- iii. Develop a mixed economic management model that promotes macro economic growth and micro economic stability through:
  - a. A fiscal policy that expands income sources including non-oil tax base, reduce cost of governance by limiting recurrent expenditure at 40 percent or less and expands government's capital investment infrastructure;
  - b. Mixed income policy that ensures enterprise and hard work as well as guarantees minimum living standards;
  - c. Monetary policy that promotes liquidity, long term investments and expansion of budding domestic capital market;
  - d. Trade policy that promotes non-discriminatory and mutually beneficial free trade, respects international obligations while protecting/promoting competitiveness of local industries, stimulates and ensures value added exports and lastly ensures favourable balance of trade;
  - e. Exchange rate policy to stimulate local production;
  - f. Maintenance of foreign reserve and sovereign wealth fund;
  - g. Debt management policy to generate long term economic growth and development;
  - h. Deliberate policy instruments to stimulate increased food production by promoting commercial agriculture;
  - i. Industrialization policy that promotes domestic investments and Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) in energy, oil and gas, telecommunications, construction and other crucial economic sectors;
  - j. Adopt a welfarist socio-economic policy that promotes a social security system as an economic multiplier;
  - k. Promote human development in terms of education and health care as deliberate economic multipliers;
  - l. Promote the principles of environmental preservation and sustainable development as crucial inputs to the economic decision making process;

- m. Promote Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) education to stimulate production, value and rapid industrialization;
- n. Exploit opportunities of international open market systems and encourage remittances from Nigerians in the diaspora and offshore companies;
- o. Promote open and transparent citizen participation in the economic decision making process and encourage independent public monitoring of the economy and its management;
- p. Promote an independent economic intelligence think tank as an alternative source of generating economic policy pathways;
- q. Strengthen the regulatory and institutional framework for economic integrity based on due process, the rule of law, reduced bureaucracy, and reduced cost of doing business; and
- r. Eliminate inefficiencies, leakages and rent seeking activities in the economy through zero tolerance for corruption and financial crimes.

A national policy to promote entrepreneurship, skills development, job creation and expanded economic opportunities is being developed. Access to capital by the weak and vulnerable yet productive segments of the society is expected to receive special attention. Adequate measures are also being taken to ensure the protection of the nation's major revenue sources and prevention of instability from these sources.

The National Economic Council (NEC) established by Section H, part 1 of the Third Schedule of the CFRN shall advise the President on economic affairs particularly in the coordination of economic planning or programmes in Nigeria. Additionally, the FGN shall employ all strategic assets to achieve the national economic policy goals. Furthermore, the states are encouraged to establish their own economic and development councils while the National Council of States, an intergovernmental platform, is empowered to periodically advise the President on the economic state of the nation.

The end state of these responses is to be measured by our ability to eliminate and endure unfavourable changes in national economic environment, improvements in energy production, economic indicators and Human Development Indices (HDIs) and optimization of extractive resource application.

## **FOOD SECURITY**

Nigeria, with a population of about 170million people, has one of the most productive physical environments for agriculture. With these strategic human and natural endowments, the country should be one of the major/ leading agricultural production countries in the world. However, owing to a myriad of challenges, Nigeria is producing less than its agricultural capacity.

The implication of the above is that the agricultural sector is not able to adequately cater to the needs of the people. Also, agriculture thrives on productive consumption of 70percent of available freshwater. There is low investment in irrigation infrastructure facilities, and raw materials for agro-allied industries. In addition there is the risk and uncertainty of seasonal rain-fed agriculture. The aim of our food security strategy is to drastically reduce all the above.

## **SOCIAL SECURITY**

Traditionally, our various societies recognize the importance of collectivism as a means of societal survival and healthy living progress. However, modern notions of society additionally admit individuality in social relations. Put together, our social security shall primarily promote the collective vitality of our society as well as protect the uniqueness and vulnerabilities of the individual. This approach devolves from the truism that social cohesion stems from the maxim: “all for one and one for all”. Consequently, our national social security envisions the application of all elements of our national power to safeguard and build the quality of our individual and

collective human resource upon which our survival and progress both at present and in the future squarely rest.

The country's social security mission is to develop policies and programs to harness the strengths of our people to leverage on our resources for collective development and attain their full potentials. This includes a national framework to prevent and deter identified or perceived threats to our way of life, ability to cause gross societal improvements, safeguard our culture, traditions, customs, mental independence and healthy generational rebirth. This national social security mission mandates that we:

- i. Promote social stability through national unity, cohesion, integration, social justice, gender equity, equitable representation, diversity, inclusiveness, equal opportunities, healthy competition and excellence as well as eliminate all forms of discrimination, favouritism and preferential treatment in our national life;
- ii. Promote welfarism as a socio-political ideology, develop National Social Security System (NSSS) to promote human dignity as well as protect and cater for the vulnerable in society including the young, unemployed, women and children, the infirmed, people with disabilities, the retired and the aged;
- iii. Adopt collective but discriminated and graduated responsibility in the funding of social security and consequently, promote appropriate public and private contributions for its implementation;
- iv. Promote a deliberate policy of socio-economic parity and to deliberately bridge the gap between the rich and the poor;
- v. Develop a National Integrated Information System(NIIS) based on home-grown, technology-aided nationwide data base;
- vi. Promote free, compulsory and development-centered education and comprehensive health care as means of improving the quality of the Nigerian citizenry to achieving the national security vision;
- vii. Adopt deliberate information, educational and lifelong orientation strategies to continuously promote our culture, national values and

- identity, exploit the social processes of globalization as well as protect the nation from foreign acculturation and subtle media attacks;
- viii. Conduct periodic strategic review and provide real time intelligence input to the national social security decision making process;
  - ix. Promote integrated community based law enforcement, justice and correctional systems that recognize the challenges of social security threats and the need to deal with them empathically but decisively; and
  - x. Promote the security and well-being of special interest groups.

The responsibility to implement social security and to respond to threats therein cut across all tiers of government through the instrumentalities of the national security strategic assets. In particular, the civil society is to include inter-religious inter-faith, inter-ethnic and community-based organizations. The overall performance improvement of our social security shall be measured by improved economic indicators and Human Development Indexes (HDI).

## **GENDER SECURITY**

The objective is to integrate gender into policy-making, build capacity and commitment of senior-level government staff involved in security policy-making on advancing gender equity, in collaboration with the civil society.

To this end, the approach would be to:

- i. Provide equal opportunities for appointment of females into senior level positions and security-sector institutions, including female representatives to highest level of governance in line with our national and international commitments and obligations;
- ii. Build the gender capacity of women through training, briefings, mentoring and other initiatives;

- iii. Promote gender awareness among security personnel towards effective management of gender issues in security;
- iv. Integrate gender issues and increase the participation of women in security-coordinating bodies;
- v. Establish mechanisms that ensure the participation of civil society in oversight of the implementation of security policies, security sector reforms processes and security-sector institutions;
- vi. Build the capacity of women's organisations on security policy issues, including advocacy and oversight;
- vii. Conduct a gender-responsive assessment of national and local-level security needs, including the different security needs and resources of men, women, girls and boys;
- viii. Allocate sufficient resources, as part of the implementation of national security policy, to effectively prevent, respond to and address the specific insecurities facing women, men, boys and girls and fund gender specific initiatives such as gender-training, especially in response to security concerns in the local communities;
- ix. Influence public policy through advocacy regarding new policies and laws on policing, intelligence, defence and national security.
- x. Promote public oversight of the development of security policies through media reports and building the capacity of journalists on security policies, gender issues and peace-building issues;
- xi. Build the gender capacity and commitment of security policy makers within the executive, legislative and political parties platforms through gender training, mentoring, information distribution and lobbying;

- xii. Enhance the capacity of civil society organisations to participate effectively in security policy-making processes, including building the technical capacity of women's organisations; and
- xiii. Develop and strengthen networks of civil society organisations, including women's organisations working on security-related issues in order for them to make robust strategic input into national security policy-making.

## **CULTURAL SECURITY**

Nigeria is one of the richest nations of the world in terms of its diverse languages, ethnic groups and cultures. Rather than its diversification being a source of disunity, the dynamics of history have shown that there has been evolving synthesis of cultures in the Nigerian experience for centuries. This needs to be articulated in the process of locating culture as an instrument of forging security strategy.

There are two areas of cultural manifestation:

- i. The tangible cultural sphere-including physical material assets such as artifacts, sculptures, archaeology, architecture, paintings, monuments, theatres galleries and cinemas promote national cohesion;
- ii. The non-tangible and spiritual domains including intellectual products, storytelling, folklore, oral performance, literature, drama, theatre, books, enlightenment, leisure and the re-enforcement of the core values of society to promote national patriotism and national pride; and
- iii. Linking these as entry points to global cultures especially with regard to influencing and interacting with the bi-lateral and multi-lateral international environment.

The objectives of Nigeria's cultural strategy include the following:

- i. Resolving the national security challenges through affirmation of Nigeria's core cultural values such as morality, integrity, patriotism, identity, cohesion and tolerance;
- ii. Projecting the international status, profile and image of Nigeria as a richly-endowed and humane nation of diverse cultures, languages, religions and ethnic groups;
- iii. Contributing to national development through diversification of the economy, wealth and employment creation using cultural resources; and
- iv. Providing cultural education that generates patriotic consciousness.

To this end, the following strategies would be pursued:

- i. Making available the finest and richest spheres of the nation's culture to Nigerians, while not closing access to valuable foreign culture;
- ii. Provision of cultural infrastructure supportive of creativity and self-actualization of the people;
- iii. Deliberate promotion by all tiers of government of skills in cultural industries such as crafts, arts, pottery, painting, sculpture, weaving and carving;
- iv. Reversing ideological and cultural manipulation as well as the revival of the history and values of Nigeria; and
- v. Enforcing and strengthening the extant laws relating to piracy and syndicated theft of Nigeria's cultural properties.

## **TRADITIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

Traditional institutions are the building blocks and foundation of modern Nigeria. They play pivotal roles in the preservation of our cultures, traditions, values, morals and beliefs. They serve as first line vanguards in handling communal conflicts and crises, thereby advancing peaceful coexistence amongst our diverse citizenry. They are also a very effective force in ensuring inter-ethnic understanding and are better placed to handle matters involving inter-ethnic relations, and inter and intra religious

relations within their various domains. As such, they are a resource for nation-building which need to be harnessed.

To this end, the following approach would be pursued:

- i. The advisory roles of the Institutions would be respected. Where broader consultations are required, these should always be with recognised fora of the traditional rulers;
- ii. Traditional rulers would be accorded specific responsibilities for security management in their domains. This involvement, devoid of partisanship, would engender active participation of traditional institutions in matters pertaining to the maintenance of peace and security in their communities, given their unique knowledge and time-tested system of information and intelligence gathering and management;
- iii. Traditional rulers, as brokers of peace, would be encouraged to deploy their traditional conflict management skills to resolve many lingering conflicts in the country, especially the resolution of boundary disputes within and outside their domains;
- iv. Traditional rulers role within local and state government security committees would be strengthened; and
- v. A workable and sustainable means to fund their key functions would be created.
- vi. Security of tenure shall be guaranteed to ensure traditional rulers give frank and sincere advice instead of being pawns.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY**

The Nigerian environment is a vast land and water mass as well as airspace with well-defined sovereign and territorial jurisdictions. Given the proven resources in our environment and its established linkages with development, the national security implications of the environment are obvious. Our environmental security will continue to embody knowledge and actions that contribute to the viability of the environment to support life,

development and tackle security challenges. Nigeria needs to consciously and actively exploit the opportunities present in our environment to overcome existing current and evolving threats.

The vision of Nigeria's environmental security recognizes the environment as a degradable national strategic resource that can be optimally applied to facilitate political stability, economic prosperity, social harmony and physical wellbeing of the nation presently and in the future. The derived mission statement from this vision is to protect and conserve the environment, prevent, deter, neutralize and mitigate it from natural and artificial conflicts, threats and damage, be they internal or external. It will also ensure exploiting environmental resources in a sustainable manner, protecting its biodiversity and preserving the environment for future generations. This mission urges us to respond to the environmental threats in a systematic and comprehensive approach. We shall therefore:

- i. Adopt environmental sustainability, adaptability, resilience and climate compatibility as political and national development strategies;
- ii. Adopt a comprehensive environmental management policy based on environmental protection, preservation and application aimed at sustainable development and long term prosperity. Environmental management will be linked to population and demographics, land use, housing, renewable energy, bio-diversity, climate change, resource and waste management including electronic waste;
- iii. Develop appropriate legal and policy framework including standards measurement and evaluation, Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations and enforcement to attain environmental security goals.
- iv. Pursue good governance to prevent or reduce the risk of conflicts, empower communities and strengthen adaptability;
- v. Promote environmental education and information to raise consciousness, awareness and stimulate activism as part of an environmental security and safety strategy;

- vi. Adopt a mixed approach to economics of environmental security by applying mandatory public provisions based on vulnerability index, voluntary private contributions in recognition of conservation as a public good as well as the application of both user-pay and polluter-pay principles;
- vii. Implement participatory technology based environmental information and intelligence, including early warnings and integrating same into the national strategic intelligence database;
- viii. Establish environmental law enforcement as a comprehensive, consolidated national endeavor under a specialized lead agency;
- ix. Adopt environmental management approaches consistent with our national interest, good neighbourliness, international obligations, conventions, protocols, principles, best practices and standards;
- x. Develop capacity to defend the nation's environmental and natural resources against internal and external threats; and
- xi. Integrate environmental pollution and disaster management mechanisms into national crisis and disaster management infrastructure.

The responsibility to preserve and protect our environment lies with all Nigerians, civil society and the three tiers of government. The FGN shall discharge its responsibilities and manage the environment through strategic national security assets. Additionally, state and local governments are encouraged to establish environmental management structures in their jurisdictions that are practicable and cost effective. Furthermore, the FGN shall strengthen the intergovernmental National Council on Environment comprising representatives from all stakeholders to advise on broad environmental policy goals and pathways as well as resolve overlapping functions across the three tiers of government.

On the whole, we shall improve our national demographics, strive to meet International Standards Organization (ISO) 14000 environmental standards series and improve our Environment Performance Index (EPI).

## **EDUCATION SECURITY**

Education is the backbone of security. A well-educated person is easier to train, adapt and less vulnerable to the vagaries of the security situation. Nigeria's education strategy is captured by various documents such as the Nigerian Constitution (1999), the National Policy on Education (1977, revised 1981, 1999 and 2004), Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and UNESCO under the Dakar Framework for Action (April 2000). The goal of the education strategy is to gain access to quality education at all levels, improve learning and teaching infrastructure and accord greater importance to science, information technology, technical, vocational education and training.

The objectives of education in Nigeria are;

- i. ensuring equal and adequate educational opportunities at all levels;
- ii. providing safe and secure physical environment which is conducive to learning in public education institutions;
- iii. developing a coherent, integrated education system that serves everybody equally, contributing to national security and development;
- iv. promoting science and technology education to maximize their contributions to national development and competitiveness in the global economy;
- v. improving the standards and quality of the educational system by establishing a robust accountability framework for all stakeholders;
- vi. achieving improvement in levels of adult literacy, especially for women, and equitable access to basic and continuing education for all adults;
- vii. expanding and improving comprehensive early childhood care and education, especially for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children; and
- viii. revamping and strengthening of the nomadic education system to enable children who would otherwise have been left out of the normal educational system to be captured.

To this end, the approach to achieving education security would be to:

- i. Provide, when practicable, free, compulsory and universal primary education, secondary education, as well as free adult literacy programme for all citizens;
- ii. Ensure a climate of safety and security in schools at all levels that guarantees secure physical environment that reflects adequate, supportive school climate, as well as emotional and psychosocial support and guidance;
- iii. Develop curricula for education and training institutions to meet the specific needs of industries and competitiveness in the development, production and delivery of goods and services;
- iv. Enhance quality in education by strengthening the competence and professional levels of teachers, improving the curriculum offerings, increasing the number of school places, providing adequate resources for curriculum delivery and increasing stakeholder involvement in the education process.
- v. Provide high quality learning resources for students and teachers that meet international standards. Schools would provide connectivity and mediated learning resources for the teachers and learners in order to enhance curricular offerings and the learning/teaching experience. School libraries and access to computer-based resources are also critical to the achievement of this objective.
- vi. Improve quality of education to include infrastructure projects, curriculum reform including the development of national assessment standards; development and acquisition of appropriate learning resources; professional development of teachers; rationalisation of teacher education; strengthening of educational

management capacity; increasing parental involvement in school activities; creating and ensuring a child-friendly/safe school environment; targeted interventions to improve literacy, numeracy and attendance; competence-based transition policy and the resulting special programmes; support to vulnerable students; and strengthening institutions.

- vii. Promote collaboration and support through locally and internationally-funded projects and programmes as well as build partnerships with donors, private sector partners and communities.
- viii. Provide framework for accountability and effective management at all levels in order to ensure the appropriate use of resources to achieve its strategic objectives.
- ix. Ensure that all children, particularly girls, those in difficult circumstances and those belonging to ethnic minorities have access to and complete free and compulsory primary education of good quality;
- x. Ensure that the learning needs of all young people and adults are met through equitable access to appropriate learning and life skills programmes;
- xi. Eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education, and achieve gender equality in education, ensure girls' full and equal access to basic education of good quality;
- xii. Improve all aspects of the quality of education and ensuring excellence in achievement of measurable learning outcomes, especially in literacy, numeracy and essential life skills;
- xiii. Attract and retain well-qualified, certified and licensed teachers to fill the requirements of all educational institutions at all levels of the system;

- xiv. Strengthen Nigeria's technological and scientific base by revamping technical, vocational, and entrepreneurial education and making optimal use of information and communication technologies to meet the economy's manpower needs;
- xv. Re-establish and enforce guidelines for educational standards and education quality assurance; and
- xvi. Enhance the competence and performance of teachers, education manager and other education personnel through quality pre-service training, continuous development programmes and motivation.

## **HEALTH SECURITY**

The over-arching goal of the health security strategy is to establish a comprehensive health care system based on primary health care that is promotive, protective, preventive, restorative and rehabilitative to every citizen of the country. The objective is to deliver health services that are affordable, freely available, easily accessible and acceptable within the available resources so that individuals and communities are assured of productivity, social well-being and good standard of living. The strategic objective is to strengthen the national health system to enable it provide effective, efficient, quality, accessible and affordable health services that will improve the health status of Nigerians.

To this end, the approach would be to:

- i. Create and sustain an enabling environment for the delivery of quality health care and development in Nigeria;
- ii. Revitalize integrated service delivery towards a qualitative, equitable and sustainable healthcare;
- iii. Address the human resources for health needs in order to ensure its availability as well as ensure equity and quality of health care;

- iv. Ensure that adequate and sustainable funds are available and allocated for accessible, affordable, efficient and equitable health care provision at local, state and federal levels;
- v. Provide an effective National Health Management Information System (NHMIS) by all the governments of the federation to be used as a management tool, including monitoring and evaluation for informed decision making at all levels;
- vi. Attain effective community participation and responsibility in health development;
- vii. Enhance harmonized implementation of essential health services in line with national health policy goals; and
- viii. Utilize research to generate knowledge to inform policy in order to achieve nationally and internationally health-related development goals.
- ix. Provide healthcare to the citizenry especially, the vulnerable through National Health Insurance Policy.

## **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

Science, Technology and Innovation is globally recognized as the key driver for societal improvement, economic growth and national development. Accordingly, at various times, government has emplaced measures to expand our capability and capacity in STI. This is manifest in policy formulation and the establishment of institutional frameworks for STI implementation. In terms of technology-centred programmes, a significant measure was the establishment of the 6-3-3-4 system of education and associated curriculum. The overall focus in all these efforts has been to develop institutional capacity, basic infrastructure and requisite human capacity.

The inevitable truth is that national security and development are more effectively driven by an active STI base. Indeed, nations of the world are fast migrating from resource dominated economies to knowledge driven ones and a virile STI system provides the enabling environment and the impetus for

overall national development and security. We cannot afford to be different. This NSS therefore envisions an STI system that will drive our national security goals for economic well-being, national development, physical security and external influence. This vision mandates the comprehensive application of all our national endowments to the elevation of STI in Nigeria.

The specific government policy responses are to:

- i. Elevate STI as a national political strategy and consequently develop a veritable platform for coordination of the nation's STI system and its adaptation to support the national security goals;
- ii. Develop STI policy that encourages local initiatives, aggressive R and D, backward technological integration, reverse engineering and Local content mandates. It enables the country to focus on five key deliverables namely massive food production, value addition in agriculture, manufacturing, industrialization and construction in core economic sectors, military and space research as well as general applications like recreation;
- iii. Adopt a mixed approach to funding STI by adapting 3 per cent of the annual budget of MDAs for R and D and creating special economic incentives for long term corporate investments and industrial applications of indigenous STIs;
- iv. Promote human capacity building in STI through Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education, mandatory Research and Development partnerships between all Nigerian based companies including multinational's and local universities/research institutions and cultivation of resource persons locally and in the diaspora;
- v. Promote STI culture in government business and in society through widespread diffusion and application of STI in national development. In addition promote made in Nigeria goods and services;
- vi. Develop a comprehensive national STI database;
- vii. Apply bilateral and international engagement (including third party collaborations) to develop, acquire, and transfer adaptable

- technologies from abroad as well as promote international exchange programmes in STEM education;
- viii. Develop legal framework and law enforcement capacity to protect individual and corporate intellectual property rights of Nigeria in STI; and
  - ix. Develop strategic focus on STI in the attainment of internal security, defence objectives through human and material capacity development, international collaborations and acquisitions.

The strategic refocusing of STI in the polity requires prioritization by all tiers of government. The FGN shall discharge its leading role in STI development using strategic national security assets. It shall also establish an STI foundation as an independent non-governmental custodian of STI initiatives and progress in Nigeria. National progress in STI shall be measured by improved parameters like R and D Index, KEI and generally by improved HDIs.

## **SPACE TECHNOLOGY**

In a globalized world, the significance and security of the outer space is of strategic importance to Nigeria's national interest given that Nigeria already has communication satellites and other interests to be protected in outer space. Nigeria is very much concerned about the peaceful and non-military use of the outer space as well as the need to remove or destroy all forms of debris which currently litter the outer space. Nigeria is a signatory to many conventions on the peaceful use of the outer space. As a result, the country is committed to the various treaties on outer space and will continue to partner with like-minded countries to ensure that the outer space is kept out of the arms race as well as deployment of nuclear armament.

The approach is to enhance NSS through space technology by committing more funds to research at Nigeria's universities and by ensuring that Nigeria's signs all UN resolutions designed to ensure peaceful uses of the space as well as taking advantage of available opportunities through

launching of various types of satellites into space to aid communications, scientific research, weather forecast, and other scientific and peaceful uses of space.

## **EXTERNAL SECURITY**

One of the enduring truisms of the international system is that states are in perpetual competition in their pursuit of national interest and this could sometimes lead to conflicts. Added to this traditional risk is the security challenge posed by non-state actors that may undermine the security of nations. Our external security embodies our capability to defend our territory from invasion, deter military aggression and project force when absolutely necessary. It represents our ability to use military force or the threat thereof to guarantee all other national policy choices to preserve the national interest and meet our foreign policy obligations. Inviolability of our territorial integrity and the preservation of both our sovereignty and political independence shall be the top priorities of our external security.

At the moment, there is a low risk of a conventional military invasion of Nigeria by another state but we must remain eternally vigilant to the possibility of physical violation of our sovereignty, territorial integrity and other such scenarios. What is more likely, however, are attacks on our border communities due to unresolved water, land and resource disputes. Other likely threats are arms buildup and unsolicited foreign military presence in our sphere of interests, violent manifestation of trans-national crimes and the spread of international terrorism. Furthermore, we constantly face threats to our strategic and peripheral national interests and threats to our obligations to international peace and security arising from protracted civil wars and international conflicts.

In addition to these likely external threats, there is the ever-present threat of violent implosion arising from various internal security situations of a military nature. The bright side of our external security is that we have a

patriotic and tested military that has experience in internal security, defence and Peace Support Operations (PSO) duties. Although the AFN is currently being transformed, it has shown historical adaptability to change. It, therefore, has the potential to meet the military requirements for Nigeria's external security challenges.

Nigeria's vision of external security strategy requires the application of all elements of power, including the military, to;

- i. Develop proactive military alliances, defence pacts, military cooperation agreements, common security protocols and Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) in furtherance of our external security objectives in our expanding spheres of interest;
- ii. Apply economic diplomacy as a viable external security strategy;
- iii. Develop a National Information Security Strategy (NISS) to protect the credibility of information from physical and electronic threats;
- iv. Expand the capacity of Nigeria's embassies to support national defence intelligence and general information gathering;
- v. Develop a Military Industrial Complex (MIC) as a deliberate economic and external security strategy;
- vi. Develop a network technology-aided information and intelligence system for military action against external threats to border security, aviation security and maritime security; and
- vii. Develop a domestic legal and law enforcement framework for the implementation of international law to promote our external security.

## **FOREIGN POLICY**

One of the hallmarks of the sovereignty and independence of a nation is the vibrancy of its foreign policy and its integration with the overall national interests. Foreign policy often manifests three important components namely: the domestic environment impulses, relations with the external environment as well as national aspirations in the international arena. Nigeria's foreign policy has gone through many cycles of highs and lows.

However, from post-colonial conservatism, to the golden era of Nigeria foreign policy in the Murtala Muhammed regime and back to our pariah status before the 4<sup>th</sup> Republic, our foreign policy has shown certain fluctuations. These include reactionary symptoms, occasional misalignment with the domestic aspiration, and discerning extraneous influence in our external relations as well as many other inconsistencies.

These foreign policy flaws are underlined by certain factors, inherent risks and challenges which include domestic political instability and recurring questions of politics, economic underdevelopment dependencies, lack of domestic socio-political cohesion, uncertainties in the articulation, definition and propagation of the national interests as well as politicization of diplomacy. Others are occasional misperceptions of our foreign policy thrusts within the ECOWAS region and the African continent, hostile posturing of foreign powers within our contiguous neighbours and spheres of interest, and lastly an attitude of external paternalism and unrealistic projections.

It is against this background that this NSS envisions our foreign policy as deliberate policy goals derived from the interaction of our internal and external environment to drive our national security and development aspirations as well as our obligations to international peace and security. Although this vision betrays a self-first approach, we cannot afford in today's world to treat foreign policy as a zero-sum game. We shall, therefore, conduct our foreign policy to ensure mutual benefits with our partners without being disadvantaged. This vision will be driven by realism, reciprocity, bilateralism, multilateralism, regionalism and constructive engagement even with those nations that do not agree with us. The derived mission of this NSS is to deploy all elements of our national power to attain our foreign policy vision.

Our foreign policy security strategy shall embody the following specific approaches:

- i. Develop and promote foreign relations based on the following common security paradigms with our contiguous neighbours, constructive engagement with all nations in furtherance of our national security objectives, national interests and international obligations; respect and non-interference in the internal affairs of our neighbours and other nations; application of the principles of reciprocity, bilateralism, regionalism, multilateralism and informed self-interests on issues of globalization;
- ii. Conduct our foreign policy mainly to secure economic and other benefits for Nigeria and rationalize our foreign missions to optimize their professionalism and viable contributions to our domestic aspirations;
- iii. Adoption of an open, participatory engagement with the Nigerian public on foreign policy issues and initiatives;
- iv. Optimize our comparative national advantages to promote our national image, culture and competitiveness abroad;
- v. Stimulate public information and discourse on our foreign policy initiatives;
- vi. Conduct periodic reviews of foreign policy goals based on scenario analysis of our national interests in various spheres of interest;
- vii. Develop domestic legal framework for the enforcement of international conventions, protocols, treaties, agreements and obligations acceded to or made by Nigeria;
- viii. Adopt a policy of non-aggression with our neighbours but ensure preparedness to defend our national interest by all means; and
- ix. Contribute to international peace and security by humanitarian intervention and Peace Support Operations (PSOs) in conflict situations around the world subject to the attainment of our national interests.

The Nigerian foreign policy goals shall be pursued with deliberate vigour by the FGN using the national strategic assets. Additionally, there is already a

Presidential Advisory Council on Foreign Policy to advise the President on foreign policy goals and pathways. This Council usually reflects all shades of the national strategic security assets. On the whole, the performance of our foreign policy shall be measured by increased Nigerian influence in the international arena, improved security in Nigeria and in our contiguous spheres of interests, political stability, improved prosperity and development, improved HDIs and improved Nigerian image.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND CYBER SECURITY**

Protecting Critical Information Infrastructure and cyberspace is a shared responsibility that can best be accomplished through collaboration between government at all levels and the private sector which owns and operates most of the infrastructure. Stakeholders include government, industry, all participants who develop, own, provide, manage, service and use information networks, international organizations such as ITU, IMPACT and citizens. An effective and sustainable security will be enhanced by collaboration among owners and operators of these systems.

The National Cyber Security Strategy defines the nation's readiness to safeguard and prepare the whole Nation in advance for global economic competitiveness in cyberspace. It also addresses willingness to empower the nation in building a comprehensive, coherent, structural and procedural capability at strategic and tactical levels in mitigating cyber risks.

The critical success factor of NCSS is hinged on comprehensive mobilization, engagement and coordination of critical components towards securing our presence in cyberspace and protecting critical information infrastructures. The direction of the policy of government on cyber security is in agreement with regional and global direction on securing cyberspace.

The paramount focus of the cyber security strategy is addressing our cyber risk exposure, protection of our national critical information infrastructure, exploiting cyberspace opportunities for national security and economic

goals. The enthronement of a trusted cyber community remains a paramount focus of the National Cyber Security Strategy.

The multi-dimensional nature of the evolving security threats is moving the current National Security Strategy beyond the traditional scope. The nature of the current security threats such as cybercrime, violence, conflict and terrorism increasingly exploits the openness and borderless nature of cyberspace. This constitutes a threat to our growing dependence on cyberspace.

Government is leading a coherent national response towards reducing the impact and escalation of cyber threats in a manner that safeguards the nation's presence and guarantees trust and confidence in our connected economy. The Strategy aims to set out a national roadmap with various coordinated mechanisms, harness implementation framework and actions that will guarantee attainment of the National vision, mission and goals on cyber security as captured in the National Cyber Security Policy.

Therefore, the strategy is aimed at achieving the following specific objectives:

- i. A comprehensive cyber crime legislation and cyber-threat counter measures that are nationally adaptable, regionally and globally relevant in the context of securing the nation's cyberspace;
- ii. Provision of measures that protect critical information infrastructure as well as reducing our national vulnerabilities through cyber security assurance framework;
- iii. Articulating an effective computer emergency response capability;
- iv. Creating national mechanisms on capacity building, public awareness and skills empowerment which are necessary to help strengthen our capability so as to respond promptly and effectively to cyber-attacks;
- v. Developing a trusted mechanism for engaging national multi-stakeholder and international partners towards collectively addressing cyber threats;

- vi. Deterring and protecting government from all forms of cyber-attacks.
- vii. Coordinating cyber security initiatives at all levels of government in the country;
- viii. Building national capabilities against cyber threats with coherent cooperation through public-private partnership and multi-stakeholder engagement;
- ix. Promoting national vision on cyber security through awareness, partnership and shared responsibilities in a trusted community of stakeholders; and
- x. Promoting coordination, cooperation and collaboration of regional and global stakeholders on cyber security.

The strategy is further aligned with National Security Strategy and other relevant government documents most especially National ICT policy and National broadband plan. It defines the basis for a coordinated national and globally compatible framework for action, cooperation and approach to protecting national critical information infrastructure against cyber threats. The scope of the national cyber security strategy covers the areas of national priorities as well as general framework for partnership and international multi-stakeholder cooperation on cyber security.

The NCSS approach involves coordination of the nation's cyber security constituents and public-private partnership which are consistent with the objectives and the guiding principles encapsulated in the National Cyber Security Policy. The implementation of the provision of the strategy will be coordinated through the Office of National Security Adviser in collaboration with other relevant government agencies. The central coordination model will operate in synergy with federated structures toward achieving comprehensive measures on cyber security. Central coordination model is adopted in line with international best practices and as recommended in the global framework for cooperation on cyber security.

## **LABOUR SECURITY**

The goal of the Labour Security Strategy is to create job opportunities for Nigerians and enhance labour productivity. The strategic objectives are the creation of high quality job opportunities through improving the business environment to allow inflow of investments, enhanced efficiency and productivity and promote industrial peace and harmony. Other objectives include:

- i. Formulating appropriate implementation framework, structure and governance for productivity improvement (skill development and productivity enhancement schemes);
- ii. Strengthening the social security and safety nets;
- iii. Improving occupational safety and health protection of the workforce;
- iv. promoting the development of SMEs and enhancing their survival rates; and
- v. Improving the efficiency of Labour Market Information System (LMIS);
- vi. Strengthening Labour Advisory Council;
- vii. Enacting Labour- friendly legislations and policies;
- viii. Maintaining integrity and building trust with labour by honouring/implementing agreements entered into with Labour without creating negative economic impact for the nation.
- ix. Facilitate the organisation of the Informal Sector.

To this end, the approach would focus on the following:

- i. Encouraging State Governments to establish job service centres in all state capitals to provide employment information to job seekers;
- ii. Creating the enabling environment for business development and growth through reducing administrative procedures and cost;

- iii. Implementing the local content policy in all sectors of the economy;
- iv. Bridging the infrastructure gap;
- v. Strengthening the institutions that promote employment generation such as NDE, NAPEP and SMEDAN;
- vi. Formulating and enforcing labour laws and standards;
- vii. Creating a critical mass of entrepreneurs that could generate employment;
- viii. Creating labour market information system to collect and analyse labour data on entrepreneurs and enterprises nation-wide;
- ix. Establishing a credit guarantee scheme and promoting joint venture and cooperative;
- x. Reviewing of the Nigeria Investment Promotion Act to sharpen its impact;
- xi. Strengthening the institutional framework for promotion of SMEs ;
- xii. Strengthening the entrepreneurship development programme at all levels of education
- xiii. Strengthening SMEDAN to coordinate and enhance entrepreneurship skill development;
- xiv. Strengthening existing institutions responsible for skill acquisition and training;
- xv. Strengthening national training skills systems and institution;
- xvi. Creating more vocational institutions;
- xvii. Formalizing the informal economy to boost employment generation;

- xviii. Simplifying enterprise registration procedures;
- xix. Conducting awareness campaigns for the informal sector operators;
- xx. Creating incentives for SMEs such as tax rebate and other benefits to be derived from formalizing their businesses and provision of micro-finance opportunities to attract their registration;
- xxi. Improving access to credit and other financial intermediation;
- xxii. Encouraging governments at all levels, OPS and NGOs to provide skills to upgrade informal operators;
- xxiii. Encouraging cooperative society development;
- xxiv. Intensifying training and skill upgrading;
- xxv. Sensitizing States to develop a data bank for SMEs and report on their performance annually;
- xxvi. Promoting value-chain development of products in agriculture; and
- xxvii. Enhancing industrial peace and harmony, and protecting of workers through the promotion of social dialogue, strengthening alternative dispute resolution measures, promoting improvement in working conditions in accordance with the international human rights standards, developing techno-entrepreneurs park and incubation centres, providing incentive regime, and strengthening labour administration and compliance to labour standard.

## **TRANSPORTATION SECURITY**

Transportation is a part of the key national infrastructure that plays a significant role in the realisation of national objectives and grand strategy in social, economic, political and military spheres. The most common forms of transportation in the country are air, water, railways and road. With a total of 180,549km of road network, road transportation accounts for about 80

per cent of the national transport needs. Although these roads provide the vital connections between rural and urban economic activities in the country, there is a huge inadequate integration between road transportation and other modes of transportation.

The implications are huge for all the sectors of the economy. Accordingly, the national strategy is to develop a functional integrative transportation system capable of responding to the needs of the country at both peace and challenging times. This involves developing air, water, rail and road transportation capability that is not only unique to national needs but project national power.

However, with specific reference to road transportation, Nigeria is committed to ensuring security of activities performed through the use of road transportation and responding effectively to security challenges such as insurgency, kidnapping, armed robbery and other vices. The goal is to create safe and secure roads in Nigeria.

To this end, the approach is for the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) to:

- i. Conduct continuous road audit nationwide for enhanced safety;
- ii. Ensure effective management of the issuance of drivers licenses and maintenance of its national data-base;
- iii. Develop and maintain a data bank for all registered vehicles nationwide with owners' bio-data; and
- iv. Maintain a record of all transport unions, motor parks and fleet operatives in the country.

## **AVIATION SECURITY**

The Aviation sector will increasingly become a high value target for terrorists, saboteurs and unscrupulous elements who would want to propagate fear and insecurity. Central to aviation facilities are the nation's airports, which are gateways through which a large number of people pass on a daily basis. This traffic, therefore, presupposes that the airports

present potential targets for unlawful trespass, terrorism, sabotage and other associated vices. Similarly, the usually high concentrations of people within and around the airports as well as the large number of passengers on aircrafts present attraction for terrorist attacks and hijacking attempts.

The main stakeholders in the aviation sector include the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA), the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) and the Nigerian Air Force (NAF). Others are the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS), the National Agency for Food and Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Nigerian Police Force (NPF), Nigerian Customs Service (NCS) and the State Security Service (SSS). These agencies are principally concerned with civil aviation and their aggregated vision is to guarantee the safety of our airspace, its users and the security of airport facilities.

The approach to aviation national security strategy is to ensure that personnel handling different aspects of aviation security are well trained and professional in their duties and that current and up-to-date equipment are purchased, installed and maintained in order to ensure the country complies with International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) stipulations and standards. Given the current global security challenges in the aviation sector it is of prime importance that the national security strategy also dwells on co-ordination and cohesion of the agencies and personnel in the sector.

## **MARITIME SECURITY**

Nigeria's coastline is about 420nm (777.8km) long. Under the United Nations Convention on Laws of the Sea (UNCLOS), Nigeria lays sovereign claim to territorial sea of 12 nautical miles (nm) and an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of 200nm. These claims translate into about 5,040sq nm of territorial waters and 8,400sqnm of EEZ. Thus, Nigeria places priority on the security of its maritime environment given the vast living and non-living

resources available within it. From the economic standpoint, about 70% of all Nigeria's resources, including oil, are within its maritime environment.

Nigeria presently has six major operational ports, namely Lagos, Tin Can, Warri, Onne, Port Harcourt and Calabar. It is from these ports that all maritime security agencies operate. There are equally four naval bases in close proximity to these ports. In spite of all this, our maritime security is in need of upgrade. It also requires streamlining of unnecessary overlap of the roles and responsibilities of all maritime safety and security agencies, the use of maritime domain awareness tools, management of resources, environmental management control capability and capacity for the enforcement and management of maritime laws and regulations, and availability of reliable and sustainable database.

The major maritime safety and security entities responsible for maritime security include the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Nigerian Navy (NN) and the Nigerian Air force (NAF). Other monitoring agencies include the Nigeria Custom Service (NCS), Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS), National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), and National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA). A national security strategy that defines which of these agencies plays the commanding and co-ordinating role is desirable and necessary.

## **NUCLEAR SECURITY STRATEGY**

The goal of the nuclear security strategy is to develop strategic initiatives in the power sector to facilitate the utilization of alternative energy resources including nuclear, with a view to reducing the country's reliance on gas-fired power plants and ensuring security of power supply. The objective is to lay an enduring foundation for the building of a world-class institution for the development and peaceful deployment of nuclear technology in all its ramifications for national energy self-sufficiency in conformity with

international best practices. It is also to develop a sustainable framework imbued with the fundamental elements of a high safety and security culture for the peaceful application of nuclear science and technology for the socio-economic development of Nigeria.

To this end, the approach is to:

- i. Adhere to legally-binding and non-binding international instruments relevant to nuclear security and safety;
- ii. Ensure that national legislative and regulatory frameworks include provisions for nuclear security;
- iii. Implement nuclear security regulations, requirements, associated procedures, and law enforcement systems and measures;
- iv. Define domestic threats and assess their vulnerability with respect to nuclear and other radioactive materials in the country;
- v. Establish and maintain appropriate and effective physical protection measures for nuclear material and facilities in order to prevent unauthorized removal and sabotage;
- vi. Establish and maintain appropriate and effective physical protection measures for radioactive sources and other radioactive materials in use, storage and manufacture in order to prevent unauthorized removal and sabotage;
- vii. Establish and maintain appropriate and effective physical protection measures for transporting nuclear and other radioactive materials;
- viii. Establish a national programme for developing and maintaining appropriate and effective systems for detecting, deterring, preventing and combating illicit trafficking in nuclear and other radiological materials;
- ix. Search, locate, identify and secure orphan and legacy radioactive sources;

- x. Establish a national response system for responding to criminal acts or any unauthorized act with nuclear security implications involving nuclear or other radioactive materials that are out of regulatory control;
- xi. Establish and maintain national capability to provide technical support to frontline detection capabilities and to categorize and characterize suspected radioactive material;
- xii. Participate in international information exchange and co-operation for nuclear security events;
- xiii. Develop a National Nuclear Security Human Resources Development (NNSHRD) Programme with emphasis on knowledge management and preservation;
- xiv. Establish and maintain a nuclear security culture;
- xv. Protect sensitive nuclear security information;
- xvi. Establish personnel trustworthiness programmes to prevent and protect the nation against insider threats;
- xvii. Promote and facilitate bilateral and multilateral co-operation for combating illicit trafficking across borders; and
- xviii. Ensure that all Agencies within the country that are relevant to nuclear security co-operate in order to harness our national effort.

## **DRUG LAW SECURITY STRATEGY**

The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) has the responsibility to enforce drug laws against cultivation, processing, sale, trafficking and use of hard drugs with powers to investigate persons suspected to have dealings in drugs and other related matters. The mandate of the agency also includes the detection, prevention, and control of illicit

supply, distribution, sale and use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances with a view to making Nigeria a drug-free country.

NDLEA will continue to maintain high professional standards in the training and operations of the agency. Nigeria has been de-listed from the list of non-complying countries many years ago. There will continue to be zero tolerance for drug trafficking and drug related activities across our borders and within the country to ensure a secure and safe society free of the harmful effects of drugs and other psychotropic substances

To this end, the approach to the drug law national security strategy is to:

- i. Strengthen capabilities of security agencies to identify and target links between drug-trafficking and other national security threats as well as focus on areas where illicit drug trade has converged or may converge with other threats;
- ii. Disrupt the flow of drugs into the country by building co-ordinated bilateral and multilateral partnerships with other countries;
- iii. Organize regular training/re-training programmes to meet modern techniques of detecting the ever-changing strategy of drug traffickers;
- iv. Develop support programmes for drug victims; and
- v. Help identify alternative sources of livelihood for those involved in drug business, especially the cultivators.

The national security strategy is to consider illegal drug cultivation, processing, possession, sale and trafficking as:

- 1) Dangerous to the well-being of the nation and the people;
- 2) Harmful and destructive to the image and reputation of the country; and
- 3) A veritable source of funding terrorism and other criminal acts.

In light of the above, the NSS on the one hand is to strengthen education and enlightenment programmes of NDLEA and to enhance their capacity to detect, forestall, arrest, prosecute or sanction on the other.

## **STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Nigeria has experienced war which was fought under conditions that were quite different from what we have today. It was a war fought between large bodies of men and machinery across terrain that could be captured and held. Today, war is indeed different. The State faces challenges from small groups of well armed, violent fanatics who emerge from their hiding place among the population, commit gruesome attacks on unarmed innocent civilians and melt away to where they came from. Such groups cannot win militarily. But they can make life very difficult for the communities which they terrorise and yet depend on - like parasites - for their survival. This is a psychological war. The principal weapon of the terrorist is not the gun, but fear. What they do with their guns and machetes is designed to communicate ruthlessness, to inspire terror among civilians, and to persuade the State to give into their demands.

Insurgents rely on media to communicate their purpose and effects. They have at their disposal all the new communications weaponry of the digital era. They are not required to play by any rules. That is why communications is so vital in this fight against insurgency. It is one area where Nigeria must do and learn more if we are to beat these terrorists at their own game. The essence of strategic communications is strategizing on how best to use communications to defeat insurgency in our society.

The objectives of Strategic Communications are as follows:

- i. Providing the framework for the organization, processing and dissemination of information to influence the citizens and change their behaviour positively towards securing unity, cohesion and development;
- ii. Promoting national core values;

- iii. Preserving Nigeria's corporate existence and image, both internally and externally;
- iv. Transmitting information to the people promptly and accurately;
- v. Mobilizing the citizens in support of national security and defence; and
- vi. Influencing public opinion positively towards national interests.

To this end, the approach would be to:

- i. Mobilise mass media (radio, television, newspaper, magazine, film/home movies, etc.);
- ii. Deploy traditional media (announcement at community levels, folktales/folklores, music, drama, sports, drums, gongs, etc.);
- iii. Provide information education and communication materials (pamphlets, posters, video clips, fact sheets, etc.);
- iv. Mobilise social media;
- v. Provide feedback channels; and
- vi. Establish and strengthen civic education in schools.

In order to effectively achieve the above, it is vital to improve, build, maintain and secure communication support infrastructure.

## **YOUTH SECURITY**

The goal of the national youth security strategy is to develop and empower the youths to be innovative, and employed, in order to ensure their full participation in the development process of the nation. The major objectives include:

- i) the development and improvement of entrepreneurial skills and competencies with a view to increasing employment opportunities for youth;
- ii) strengthening of youth participation in decision making process at the local, state and national levels of governance; enhancing the

- prevention of HIV/AIDS among youth and provision of care and support for young people living with and affected by the disease;
- iii) strengthening family systems, institutional and legal framework for youth development; and
  - iv) promoting national unity through social integration of youth and facilitating socio-economic development.

To this end, the strategy is to:

- i. Strengthen vocational and technical education for talent and skills development for the youth. This will be achieved through increase in the number of technical and vocational schools and provision of adequate equipment for the schools as well as massive training for the tutors;
- ii. Establish and fund mass employment-based programmes and projects such as agriculture, construction, infrastructure etc. in order to boost youth development. In this regard, the collaboration of the private sector will be solicited in order to guarantee the absorption of the youths once trained;
- iii. Encourage and develop leadership potentials in the youths through the establishment of functional leadership and development centres in all local government areas;
- iv. Ensure the effective collaboration between government and NGOs, Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Faith Based Organizations (FBOs) and other relevant agencies to reduce the prevalence of HIV/AIDS, drug abuse, cultism and other vices among young people. This will involve the collaboration with donor agencies and civil society organizations to accelerate HIV/AIDS prevention and further empowerment of NACA, SACA and LACA to function effectively and efficiently as well as engagement of family, traditional institutions, NGOs, and CBOs in reducing cultism, drug abuse and other vices among youths;

- v. Implement the National Youth Policy and the domestication of international conventions on young persons. This will be accomplished through the establishment of an independent, national monitoring and evaluation committee to ensure full implementation of the policy and domestication of the conventions;
- vi. Develop an institutional framework for family and community life education to enhance the well-being of the youth. This will be achieved through the active participation of family, community, traditional rulers, faith-based organizations and community-based organizations in promoting family and community life-long education; and
- vii. Upgrade facilities for effective mobilization of corps members and resuscitation of the NYSC pilot farms and empowerment of corps volunteers under the war against poverty programme;
- viii. Ease up access to seed/development capital;
- ix. Create an enabling environment for the youth to creatively and imaginatively express themselves.

The overall strategy is to make the youths believe in themselves and in their nation as well as crystallise into veritable sources of innovation, competitiveness and growth.

## **CRISIS MANAGEMENT**

The responsibility for crisis management shall lie with the relevant tiers of government until such responsibility is transferred to a higher authority or the declaration of a national emergency in accordance with S 305 (1) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (CFRN). The FGN shall discharge its responsibilities in a national crisis through a Presidential Crisis Management Team (PCIT) established for that purpose. The team shall work under the NSDM infrastructure and in close liaison with national strategic security agencies, particularly NEMA and other stakeholders for

that purpose. The performance of our national crisis management mechanisms shall be measured by adequate public warning, timeliness in crisis response, efficiency in organizational role play, effectiveness of mitigation measures, recovery rate and public perception of the safety and security situation after every crisis.

Crisis management traditionally embodies planned and ad-hoc measures to mitigate emergencies and disasters. National crises comes in various forms and include natural and man-made events such as natural disasters, large scale environmental pollution, aviation accidents, industrial accidents, epidemics, civil disturbances and acts of terrorism. These occurrences threaten the security and safety of our people and their way of life. Likewise our institutions, CSIs and the wellbeing of the state are often precipitated by a critical trigger incident.

Crisis management has largely been within the framework of National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and multi-stakeholders responses. However, recent events have indicated that this crisis management architecture and its operational capabilities have not fully met the needs of national security. The focus now is on capacity building for national resilience through cross sector coordination, training, skill acquisition and scenario testing. Consequently, our current and future effectiveness will depend on quickly identifying evolving crises and developing resilience of the civil population to manage crises along with NEMA and other key players in order recover as quickly as possible.

The objectives of this National Crisis Management Strategy (NCMS) are to:

- i. Coordinate information within state agencies in all tiers of government and non-governmental organizations with a view to preventing crises;
  - ii. Establish an effective management structure to respond to a threatened or actual crisis;
  - iii. Apply a multi-sector government approach to manage national crisis;
- and

- iv. Build national resilience capacity to manage and recover from crisis with minimal damage and disruptions to the people and the state.

This NCMS shall be guided by certain crises management principles. These are timeliness in reporting, effective communications, establishment of focused objectives, unified crisis management command and control, multitasking and flexibility of remedial options and the overriding need to reduce time pressure.

The specific crises management policy responses are to develop a periodically updated crisis management contingency plan that incorporates the following:

- i. Establishment of a continuous environmental scanning, early detection and scenario building crisis;
- ii. Initiation of periodic PAWS;
- iii. Establishment of an integrated and continuous crisis monitoring system;
- iv. Establishment of a case specific crisis intervention teams at the Federal level interfaced with similar teams at other tiers of government;
- v. Establishment of a viable multi-disciplinary national crisis response organization, unified command and control of inter-agency crisis management effort with common inter-operable communications and operational platforms;
- vi. Creating common interagency training, management and reporting procedures, in addition to capacity building for specialized crisis management;
- vii. Applying full scale crisis management from containment, response, de-escalation to recovery;
- viii. Promoting a political policy of collective but discriminated responsibility towards crisis management in line with the tenets of our federalism. Consequently, all tiers of government shall be encouraged to develop viable crisis management structures;

- ix. Developing mandatory public and private contributory National Emergency Management Fund for non-compensatory management of national crisis;
- x. Building public resilience and adaptability through appropriate education on civic responsibilities and duties during crisis, orientation, mobilization, simulation and emergency drills;
- xi. Cultivating public support by the provision of timely and accurate information during the management and recovery from national crisis.
- xii. Develop and deploy technology aided capability to scan, monitor and assess intelligence for effective national crisis management;
- xiii. Developing appropriate legal framework for national crisis management, including mandatory civic responsibilities as well as top priority expropriation and due payment for the use of public and private assets for national crisis management; and
- xiv. Developing appropriate national framework and platform for coordinating international aid, assistance and efforts in national crisis management in Nigeria.

## **CRITICAL NATIONAL ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Critical national assets and infrastructure in Nigeria are those assets and infrastructure, physical or virtual, private or public, which are so vital to the nation, that their incapacitation or destruction will have significant effect on national security or public perception of safety. Infrastructure and services such as telecommunications, power supply, transportation systems, port facilities, water supply facilities, energy and such others are essential to the economic and social well-being of the country. The criticality of an asset depends on the extent of impact that its damage or disruption will have on Nigeria's ability to employ its elements of power political, economic, military, social, information and communication.

In the larger strategy document, we have identified four key groups for the protection of Critical National Assets and Infrastructure (CNAI) involving the federal, state, local governments and the private sector.

The key objectives of Nigeria's CNAI protection include:

- i. The identification, classification and prioritization of all Critical National Assets and Infrastructure;
- ii. Determining appropriate levels of protection required for each CNAI or group of CNAI's;
- iii. Enhancing the resilience of CNAI's to hazards;
- iv. Minimizing the effect of attacks or disasters on CNAIs;
- v. Defining the roles and responsibilities of agencies and organizations and establishing protocols for effective coordination at all levels;
- vi. Improving synergy among all relevant security agencies/stakeholders to ensure provision of adequate security of CNAIs; and
- vii. A risk and critical matrix showing the classification of CNAIs including the above-listed would aid a more pragmatic response system.

The following represent the strategies for the protection of Critical National Assets and Infrastructure:

- i. The assessment of critical assets has already been completed. A nation-wide survey of critical assets and infrastructure was undertaken, grading risk associated with each CNAI and the development of a range of options to avoid, transfer, reduce or share those risks. CNAI's were grouped according to their criticality and classified according to the level of protection to be accorded. This process must be on a routine basis and regular reviews are required to keep abreast of both physical and virtual changes, and the inter-dependence between infrastructure types;
- ii. In order to improve the resilience of infrastructure and essential services against disruption from natural disasters and terrorist attacks, adequate physical measures, such as perimeter fencing, alarm systems and effective access control mechanisms must be in place. In addition, well trained, motivated, efficient and loyal security forces will be deployed to complement physical security and enforce

access controls along with robust processes and procedures for proportionate response and recovery from hazards. A response plan must be in place and periodic drills/exercises should be undertaken to evaluate these plans;

- iii. Institutional arrangements shall be put in place to coordinate the activities of the Federal Government with those of states and local governments. National Crisis Management Centre (NCMC) will be established in ONSA, to coordinate CNAI protection, policy development and ensure implementation and liaison across all levels of government and industry. The NCMC shall be manned by personnel from security and emergency management agencies, intelligence communities, the armed forces as well as staff of other organizations as may be considered necessary. States and local governments must set up corresponding structures that will liaise with the structures at national level to coordinate activities and request for assistance, where necessary. A robust response system and co-ordination should be in place between NCMC and respective field designations;
- iv. Each group of stakeholders will be encouraged to implement a working plan for the protection of CNAI in alignment with this strategy. Governments and business entities in each sector will collaborate to define and identify critical infrastructure and gain better understanding of interdependencies and how this might affect business continuity planning. Governments will identify critical physical and information infrastructure relevant to their jurisdictions and peculiar operations. They will assist the industrial sector to understand the threat and consequences of variables in their risk assessments. The security, law enforcement and emergency management agencies will adopt CNAI protection as part of their planning, training, exercise activities in order to contribute to improving awareness. The NCMC will ensure that information gets to the relevant agency in the right format and in sufficient time for action to be taken. This will be facilitated by an effective, secure and reliable communications system that will enable the continuous monitoring of

events and assessment of their impact on critical national assets. Furthermore, a Geographical Information System (GIS)-based decision support tool that can be used by all agencies to manage the protection of CNAI will be developed. All stakeholders will be remotely linked and have access to this tool to enhance CNAI protection. An active integrated multi-layered protection system is required for the protection of our critical assets. This is to ensure an efficient and effective preventive and containment solution to general insecurity in the nation. The initiative must always be with the nation and not the adversary.

## **6. ENSURING SUSTAINABILITY OF NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY**

Preventing and disrupting terrorist attacks, protecting the Nigerian people, critical infrastructure, key resources and responding to and recovering from those incidents that do occur are enduring security responsibilities. In order to help fulfill these responsibilities over the long term, we will continue to strengthen the principles, systems, structures and institutions that cut across regional security spheres and support our activities to secure the country. Ultimately, this will help ensure the success of our strategy to secure the nation.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The assessment and management of risk underlies the full spectrum of our national security activities, including decisions about when, where, and how to invest in resources that eliminate, control or mitigate risks. In the face of multiple and diverse catastrophic possibilities, we accept that risk – a function of threats, vulnerabilities, and consequences – is a permanent condition.

We must apply a risk-based framework across all our security efforts in order to identify and assess potential hazards (including their downstream effects), determine what levels of relative risk are acceptable, and prioritize and allocate resources among all agencies that contribute to national security, both public and private, to prevent, protect against, and respond to and recover from all manner of incidents. A disciplined approach to managing risk will help to achieve overall effectiveness and efficiency in securing Nigeria. In order to develop this discipline, we as a nation must organize and help nurture the profession of risk management by adopting common risk analysis, principles and standards as well as a professional lexicon.

## **CULTURE OF PREPAREDNESS**

The entire Nation shares common responsibilities for national security. In order to help prepare the nation to carry out these responsibilities, we will continue to foster a culture of preparedness that permeates all levels of our society from individual citizens, businesses and non-profit organizations to federal, state, local governments, communities, officials and other forms of authorities.

This culture rests on two principles. The first principle of our culture of preparedness is a shared acknowledgement that creating a prepared nation will be an enduring challenge. As individual citizens, we must guard against complacency and as a society we must balance the sense of optimism that is fundamental to the Nigerian character with a sober recognition that future catastrophes will occur. The certainty of future calamities should inform and motivate our preparedness and we will continue to emphasize the responsibility of the entire nation to be flexible and ready to cope with a broad range of challenges.

The second principle is the importance of individual and collective initiative to counter fundamental biases toward reactive responses and approaches. Our culture, therefore, must encourage and reward innovation and new ways of thinking as well as better align authority and responsibility so that those who are responsible for a mission or task have the authority to act.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

Nigeria's National Security Strategy is intrinsically linked to the political, economic, social and strategic transformation of the West African sub-region and the whole of Africa, through the African Union, as well as the rest of the world. When tensions arise, Nigeria must be a part of the response stability, especially in Africa.

The changing international environment is very significant for Nigeria's national security strategy. It demands that the country focuses on her ability to influence emerging risks and capitalize on opportunities. The changing environment will also require consistent and creative bilateral engagement to reinforce Nigeria's efforts in multilateral relations. There is, therefore, need to forge stronger partnerships with countries in the West African sub-region. The security strategy emphasize the need for insightful intelligence and need for collaboration in all spheres. More than any other activity of government, national security must integrate with domestic policies. There is need for an effective continuum starting from the welfare of the people through favourable business environment and good governance up to the international arena. More than ever, effective national security is about integrated responses to complex challenges both at home and abroad.

Innovation becomes important as terrorism, insurgency, cross border crimes, kidnapping, smuggling, illegal bunkering, financial crime, maritime insecurity, pastoralists and farmers conflicts, digital and cyber related threats as well as attacks on critical national infrastructures are growing and changing rapidly. Nigeria needs to ensure that defence against these security challenges keep pace.

Nigeria's pursuit of innovation will build on solid pillars of national security. The country needs to build a strong armed forces, collecting and assessing intelligence. There is need to strengthen security sector reforms especially

within the Nigeria Police Force to ensure effective law enforcement and resilient communities. The current security challenges of terrorism and insurgency have to be effectively fought and won. Other nations have faced similar challenges and succeeded.

This National Security Strategy is designed to chart the way forward by outlining the threats confronting our country. It is also a mechanism that is required to fight terrorism so that Nigeria will become a peaceful, dependable, strong, reliable and prosperous country where everyone lives in peace with their neighbours and work together harmoniously for the progress and economic development of the country.