

1.7 Independence and discipline

Conference decided that:

- (i) In order to enhance greater effectiveness on the part of political parties, all members must submit to the principle of party supremacy. Elected officials on the platform of political parties must respect party decisions at all times. Activities of every party should be organized and conducted within the registered party premises and in any event, under the control and direction of the official party leadership; and
- (ii) Elected political office holders are elected based on their political parties and so political parties must not be seen as being subordinate to political office holders, especially the executive who had thus far tended to appropriate the political party organs in their individual domains.

1.8 Party systems

Conference decided that:

- (i) For continued deepening of democratic practice, the multiple party system should be sustained in accordance with extant provisions of the Constitution, such that citizens would be allowed to form political parties without any undue restrictions, subject only to their compliance with the guidelines laid down by INEC. Provisions of Section 222 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended), and Section 78 of the Electoral Act 2010 (as amended), which do not restrict the formation of political parties but only require them to be registered with PPREOC should, therefore, be sustained;
- (ii) Conference made this recommendation in 1.8(i) above on two reasons. First is because a contrary position would infringe on the rights of the individual to freedom of association as guaranteed in Chapter 4 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended). Secondly, it takes cognizance of the fact that while a two-party system may possess the inherent potential of helping the cause of unity among political operatives and by implication the nation at large, the several political parties that had existed in the

system in each democratic dispensation since the 1920s had always gravitated toward a two-party system; a process truncated at the different historical junctures by military intervention. Conference decided that the natural party evolutionary process which seems to be emerging in political parties would be more enduring if it is allowed to be self-propelling and self-regulating;

(iii) While not ruling out the possibility of emergence of candidates for elections through consensus, any such consensus agreements/decisions within the parties should still be taken through the established democratic processes of voting; and

(iv) Section 87(9) of the Electoral Act should be made to read as follows: 'Nothing in this Section shall empower any political party to choose its officials or candidates for elections except by democratic process of voting'.

1.9 Campaign finances and expenditure ceiling

Conference decided that:

- (i) The provisions of Section 225 of the Constitution and Sections 90 to 93 of the Electoral Act on donations to political parties as well as election expenses should be reviewed;
- (ii) The Political Parties Regulation and Electoral Offences Commission (PPREOC) should be vested with the powers to review the ceiling of campaign and election-related expenses from time to time;
- (iii) PPREOC should take necessary steps to implement the provisions, in order to ensure that the parties comply with the stipulations of the law and that campaign financing is properly monitored; and
- (iv) With respect to foreign funding, existing provisions should be retained and be closely monitored by PPREOC.

1.10 Code of conduct for political parties and party office holders

Conference decided that:

The Code of Conduct for Political Parties, 2013, and the Guidelines and Regulations for Political Parties, 2013 already drawn up by the Inter Party Advisory Council be enforced henceforth.

1.11 Carpet-Crossing

Recognizing that political office holders are elected on the basis of their political parties, except in so far as it relates to independent candidature, and convinced that carpet-crossing (quitting a party on which platform an elected officer was elected to join another) is a major propellant of instability in the political system, Conference noted that extant provisions in the Constitution and Electoral Act on carpet-crossing are not profound enough.

Conference therefore decided that:

- (i) Section 68(g) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended), be further amended to indicate that any elected official, executive or legislative, who carpet-cross, regardless of the reasons for such, shall automatically forfeit their seat. Such officials, are however, free to contest for the position or indeed any other position on the basis of their new political party;
- (ii) All elected political office holders whose political parties on which platforms they won the election, later merge with other political parties after the elections, should be allowed to retain their seats; and
- (iii) Any person removed from office based on decision of the Court on fraudulent election, must lose all privileges attached to that office.

5.13.2 ELECTION MANAGEMENT BODY

1. Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Composition:

In the course of screening nominees of the President for INEC positions, Senate should set aside at least two weeks to allow for public objections, if any.

2. Unbundling of INEC (Section 158)

Conference examined the issue of unbundling INEC and decided that:

- (i) INEC should be unbundled to enable it focus on its core mandate of organizing elections and delineation of constituencies; and
- (ii) In unbundling INEC, cognizance must be taken of the need to guide against further multiplication of institutions; especially against the backdrop of the legitimate apprehension of Nigerians on the increasing cost of governance in the country. Conference therefore decided on the creation of the following:
 - (i) Political Parties Regulation and Electoral Offences Commission (PPREOC) to undertake registration and monitoring of political parties; civic education; accreditation of election monitors; and prosecution of electoral offences; and
 - (ii) The establishment of a Constitutional Court, from the existing court structure.

3. Political Parties Regulation and Electoral Offenses Commission.

1. Observation

Conference observed the need to create a separate entity with the necessary powers and authority to deal with all issues concerning electoral crimes and offences, registration and regulation of political parties, accreditation and coordination of election monitors and civic education in order

to reduce incidences of impunity in the electoral process to the barest minimum.

2. Recommendations

Conference decided that there should be established a Political Parties Regulation and Electoral Offences Commission which shall be vested with the following powers:

- a. Enforcement and administration of the provisions of the Electoral Act;
- b. Investigation of all electoral frauds and related offences;
- c. Coordination, enforcement and prosecution of all electoral offences;
- d. Enforcement of the provisions of the Electoral Act, the constitution of registered political parties and any other Acts or enactments;
- e. Adoption of measures to identify, trace and prosecute political thuggery electoral fraud and other electoral offences;
- f. Facilitation of exchange of scientific and technical information with other democracies on the conduct of joint operations and training geared towards the eradication of electoral malpractice and fraudulent elections;
- g. Examination and investigation of all reported cases of electoral offences with a view to identifying electoral officers and staff of the electoral commission, individuals, corporate bodies or groups involved in the commissioning of electoral offences;
- h. Collaboration with election observers within and outside Nigeria.
- i. Registration of political parties in accordance with the provisions of the 1999 Constitution and the Electoral Act 2010 (as amended);
- j. Monitoring the organizations and operation of the political parties, including their finances;

- k. Arranging for the annual examination and auditing of the funds and accounts of political parties;
- i. Monitoring political campaigns and providing rules and regulations which shall govern the activities of political parties.

4. Advisory Opinion on Fundamental Constitutional Matters.

Conference advised that:

Section 180 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) and its equivalent provisions should be further amended to make it possible for INEC to approach the Supreme Court for interpretation of fundamental constitutional matters.

5.13.3 THE ELECTORAL PROCESS:

1. Qualification and disqualification:

Conference decided that:

- i. The minimum academic qualifications for Presidential, Governorship and National Assembly candidates should be University First Degree or its equivalent;
- ii. The minimum academic qualifications for candidates of the State House of Assembly and the Local Government Chairperson should be University First Degree or its equivalent;
- iii. The minimum academic qualifications for Local Government Councillors to be Secondary School Certificate or its equivalent; and
- iv. The case whereby INEC decides on what is suitable minimum qualification outside the regular school system should be abrogated.

Furthermore, Conference decided that:

Any person aspiring for any elective position must show evidence of up to-date payment of taxes.

This would imply an amendment to Sections 65, 106, 131, 177, and 221 to include taxation as qualification criterion. This also shall be applicable to independent candidates.

2. Method of election

Conference decided that the extant Open-Secret Ballot system makes for credible elections and should be sustained and enforced.

3. Election and modern technology

Conference decided that:

Biometric data of electorates should be captured, stored and used for election in the country. In addition, INEC should ensure that latest technology is deployed at all times in the conduct of elections as is the case in other countries.

4. Regulation of campaigns

Conference noted that the provisions of the Electoral Act, 2010(as amended) are sufficient to regulate political campaigns. Conference therefore calls on relevant agencies of government to punish infractions as provided in the law.

5. Campaign finances and expenditure ceiling for candidates

Conference decided that extant regulations in the 1999 Constitution (as amended) and the Electoral Act, 2010 (as amended) should be sustained.

6. Delineation of constituencies

Conference upheld the provisions of Section 4.3.12 in the Uwais Electoral Reform Committee Report which deals with standardization and uniformity of polling units. Conference therefore decided that:

(a) Section 42 of the Electoral Act 2010 (as amended) should be amended to provide detailed specifications, including numbers of voters per polling station and layout of a standard polling station, and adaptation of polling stations to accommodate the needs of physically-challenged voters;

(b) Polling stations should be located at institutional buildings such as schools, community centres, etc, which are centrally located. Where these are not available, INEC should set up temporary polling stations at permanent locations; and

(c) Each polling station should consist of not more than 500 voters.

7. Conduct of free and fair elections

Conference decided that:

(i) Voters' Registration should be a continuous exercise as provided for in the Electoral Act, 2010 (as amended), such that every eligible voter would be given the opportunity to register at designated INEC offices at all times;

(ii) there should be an interconnectedness between the National Identity Card and voters' registration data to ensure the credibility and integrity of the Voters Register; and

(iii) there should also be continuous voters' registration, education and sensitization.

8. Media and electioneering

Conference decided that:

The provisions on Code of Ethics enforced by the National Broadcasting Corporation and the Press Council are robust enough and

should be sustained as guide to professionalism in media involvement in political and electoral activities, including electioneering campaigns.

9. Diaspora participation in voting (Section 77(2) and 117(2))

Conference decided that:

Qualified Nigerians resident abroad should be captured in the electoral net by being allowed to register and vote in elections if they so desire. Conference, therefore, decided on amendments to the relevant sections in the 1999 Constitutions as follows:

(a) *Section 77 (2)*

“Every citizen of Nigeria, who has attained the age of eighteen years at the time of the registration of voters for purposes of elections, shall be entitled to be registered as a voter”.

(b) *Section 117 (2)*

“Every citizen of Nigeria, who has attained the age of eighteen years at the time of the registration of voters for purposes of elections, shall be entitled to be registered as a voter”.

INEC may seek to address the logistic issues thereto such that the new provisions can be given effect as soon as practicable.

5.13.4 POLITICAL DEBATES

Conference decided that:

- i) Political debates shall be part of Nigeria’s electoral process in line with global democratic traditions, culture and practices, in view of its potential to deepen of democracy in Nigeria. A body or organization

shall be accredited by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to undertake the hosting of the debate; and

- ii) That it shall be mandatory for all candidates seeking election into the office of President, Vice-President, Governor, Deputy Governor or such other offices as may be deemed appropriate at every general election to participate or attend political debates which shall be hosted prior to the date of the election.

5.13.5 DETERMINATION OF PRE-ELECTION MATTERS

(i) Section 235 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) be further amended to make it mandatory for all pre-election matters filed at the Constitutional Court to be heard and determined within 90 days from the date of filing of the action;

(ii) Appeals arising from pre-election matters should be heard and determined within 60 days from the date of filing the appeal at the Court of Appeal or the Supreme Court; and

(iii) Appeals from judgments in pre-election matters to the Court of Appeal or the Supreme Court should be filed within 21 days from the date the judgment of the lower court is delivered.

5.13.6 Determination of Post-Election Dispute

Conference decided that:

(i). Section 285 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) requiring the hearing of election petitions and delivery of judgements to be concluded within a period of 180 days should be retained;

(ii). Section 285 should be further amended to separate the time for the hearing of election petitions and the delivery of judgements. Election Petitions should be heard and concluded within 170 days, i.e. the filing of Replies and other

processes, taking of evidence and delivery of final addresses, while the writing and delivery of judgements should be concluded within a period of 10 days;

(iii). A proviso should be added to Section 385 of the Constitution to the effect that all decisions on all interlocutory matters shall be taken with the main appeal and separate appeals will not lie on interlocutory matters; and

(iv). The Evidence Act should be amended to shift the burden of proof in election matters to INEC.

5.13.7 SWEARING-IN OF ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Conference decided that:

Relevant constitutional provisions should be made to ensure that no elected official is sworn in until all litigations on the elections are concluded. This will not only get all litigants committed to an expeditious resolution of such litigations, but would also discourage election malpractice as it would have reduced considerably the gains attendant upon election rigging for somebody who did not win an election but could remain in office for months, and indeed years, during which the legal processes affirming their ineligibility to be sworn-in is determined.

5.13.8 ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY:

Civil Society organizations have also become an ever-present dimension of the Nigerian electoral process as they are usually accredited by the election management body, to observe elections, especially at the national level. It is also the case that over the years, civil society organizations have been involved in the post-election judicial process, essentially as witnesses to the conduct of free and fair elections or otherwise.

While acknowledging the foregoing, Conference expressed concerns that the place of civil society in the nation's electoral process is increasingly

being compromised by the emergence of sundry civil society organizations that are neither independent nor objective, having either been greatly compromised by government or out-rightly promoted by political parties and politicians to advance purely partisan interests.

Convinced therefore that the integrity of civil society involvement in the nation's electoral process must be restored and sustained, Conference acknowledged the robustness of extant provisions for registering and accrediting civil society organizations as election monitors by INEC through its Election Observation and Monitoring Unit. The provisions consist of the following:

- a. advertisement in several newspapers inviting domestic election observers that are registered and possess verifiable capacity and experience in election observation to apply for accreditation;
- b. accreditation of such groups that meet the requirements which are then called upon to come forward and fill additional forms with the names and passport photographs of all the observers they intend to deploy for the elections;
- c. Training and briefing of the qualified civil society organizations on their roles and responsibilities in preparation for election monitoring, including, among other things, training on the map of the States to which they are being deployed, issuance of maps of the States, documents containing the names of political parties contesting the elections, list of candidates, as well as copies of the Guidelines for Election Observation;
- d. giving to each observer an accreditation tag bearing their name and number and the serial number of the group accredited; and

- e. ensuring that each accredited observer collects their accreditation tag personally a day before the election.

In view of the importance of Civil Society to the successful conduct of elections, Conference decided that:

- (i) PPREOC should thoroughly scrutinize civil society organizations it intends to deploy as election monitors to ascertain that they are credible, truly independent and patriotic; and
- (ii) PPREOC is to also ensure strict compliance with the guidelines and Code of Conduct issued the civil society organizations accredited as election observers.

5.13.9 Role of Security Agencies in the electoral process:

Conference decided that the Police and all related agencies of government involved in election monitoring should be strengthened and well-motivated for greater effectiveness at elections. Government should make efforts to demilitarize elections.

5.13.10 Independent candidature:

Conference decided that most of the existing political parties lack internal democracy. This had also resulted in defections among members of political parties. In some cases, aspirants who had been validly nominated were denied their mandates while persons who did not seek nominations had their names forwarded to the INEC as candidates.. This has led to situations where aggrieved persons or aspirants resort to violence in the face of blatant denial of their rights.

In the context of the foregoing, Conference examined Section 221 of the 1999 Constitution as amended, which limits certain political activities to political parties, thereby prohibiting independent candidacy. It noted that

guaranteeing independent candidacy will lessen the tension that attends the nomination processes of political parties. Conference, therefore, recommends that relevant provisions of the Constitution and the Electoral Act be amended to emplace Independent Candidacy. This is however with the caveat that aspirants so inclined to run as independent candidates should only get onto the ballot on the fulfillment of certain requirements, a position substantially in agreement with the Uwais Electoral Reform Committee to wit:

That Sections 65 (2)(b), 106, 131, 177, and 221 of the 1999 Constitution; and Sections 31, 33, 37, 45, 91(8), 92, 95,99 100, 106(1)(e) of the Electoral Act should be amended to make provisions for individuals, if they so wish, to run as as independent candidates on fulfillment of the following conditions:

- a. constituency-based nomination by verifiable signatures of 10 registered voters from each Ward in the electoral constituency;
- b. payment of financial deposit to be determined from time to time by INEC. The rate of deposit should be equal to 10% of the approved election expenses for the various offices as provided in Section 93 of the Electoral Act 2006; and
- c. the candidate must meet all other conditions for eligibility stipulated in the Constitution, the Electoral Act or any other laws. **(See 2.2.5.5 and page 38 of the Report of the Electoral Reform Committee).**
- d. Conference, however, does not support the idea of refunding the financial deposit of independent candidates for whatever reason, as recommended by Uwais Committee, as this would encourage frivolous recourse to independent candidature by unserious politicians. In para. 2.11.10 of the Uwais Report, it was recommended thus, *'(b). Payment of*

financial deposit which will be subject to refund if the independent candidate scores at least 10 per cent of the total valid votes cast in that election in the constituency...'

5.13.11 Run-off Elections

Conference reviewed Section 134 of the 1999 Constitution relating to subsequent elections where no candidate emerged in the first ballot. It decided that in place of the plethora of elections that may lead to constitutional crisis and national confusion, there shall be only one subsequent run-off election where the President, among the two leading candidates, shall emerge on the second ballot based only on majority of valid votes cast at the election. Such shall be applicable to Section 179 in the case of governorship election.

5.13.12 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTORAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

1. The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended).

On the issue of proposed amendments to the electoral legal framework, Conference decided as follows:

a. All INEC Staff to be Non – partisan:

Conference decided that the provisions of Section 156 and Paragraph 14(2) (a) of the 3rd Schedule which require the Chairman and National Commissioners of INEC to be non-partisan should be extended to cover all officers of the Commission.

b. Operational Independence (Section 158):

Conference observed that INEC, like other Federal Bodies established by Section 153 of the Constitution, is not subject to the direction or control of any person or authority “in exercising its power to appoint or discipline its staff.” Conference further observed that the National Population Commission (NPC) has been given additional independence in its operations in Section 158(2). Committee decided that this should be the same with INEC. The independence of INEC should be constitutionally guaranteed in all its operations and in its management and control of the electoral process, as was the case in Decree (now Act) 17 of 1998 which first established the Commission before the 1999 Constitution. Thus, a new Subsection (3) to Section 158 should be enacted to provide as follows:

Section 158(3)

“The Independent National Electoral Commission shall not be subject to the direction or control of any other authority or person in all its operations”.

c. Notification of Vacancy:

Conference observed that the 1999 Constitution (as amended) makes no provision on notification of the death or resignation of a member of a Legislative House. Whereas the Constitution requires that vacancy arising from death or resignation of a member of a Legislative House shall be filled within 30 days of the existence of such vacancy, information of such vacancy in some cases does not get to INEC until after the period for the conduct of the election has expired. To address the

lacuna, Conference decided that Sections 68 and 109 be amended thus:

(i) Section 68 (Insert a new sub-section (4) thus):

“The President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives as the case may be, shall notify the Independent National Electoral Commission within seven (7) days of the existence of a vacancy arising from death or resignation of a member of the National Assembly”.

(ii) Section 109 (Insert a new sub-section (4) thus):

“The Speaker of the House of Assembly of a State shall notify the Independent National Electoral Commission within seven (7) days of the existence of a vacancy arising from death or resignation of a member of the State House of Assembly”.

d. Candidates should be Registered Voters:

Conference decided that every candidate who aspires to contest any election shall be a registered voter. Thus, the clause “he/she is registered to vote” should be inserted as Paragraph (c) to Sub-section (2) of Section 65 and as Paragraph (e) of Sections 106, 131 and 177.

e. Disqualification of Electoral Offenders:

Conference decided that any person convicted of an electoral offence (including registration offences, campaign finance breaches and breach of political party finance provisions) should be disqualified for a period of 10 years from the date of conviction from contesting any election or holding any party position. Thus, an amendment to the effect that “within a period of ten years before the date of the election, he/she has been convicted of an electoral offence by a court or tribunal” should

be inserted immediately after Paragraph (d) of Sections 66, 107, 137, & 182 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended).

f. Electoral offenses and punishment:

Conference decided that no candidate who has been adjudged by any court to have been fraudulent in the electoral process should not only be barred from subsequent bye elections, but indeed be disqualified to vie for any elective office or hold any party or government position for 10 years.

g. Sections 134 and 179 - Presidential and Governorship Election:

Conference decided that Sections 134 and 179 should be amended by adding the word “valid” before “votes” wherever this appears in the Sections so as to remove any ambiguity. Candidates should be elected on valid votes cast only.

2. The Electoral Act

a. Secretary of the Commission (Section 8):

Conference decided that the provisions of the Electoral Act relating to the office of the Secretary of the Commission should be amended to include a statutory tenure for the Secretary. The Secretary shall serve for a period of four years, which may be renewable for another period of four years only.

Thus, a new paragraph (c) be inserted under Sub-section (1) of Section 8 as hereunder:

Section 8 (1) (c)

“hold office for a period of 4 (four) years from the date of his/her appointment, which may be renewable for another period of 4 (four) years only.”

Marginal note of Section 8 to read: (*“Secretary and Staff of the Commission”*)

b. Section 13 (Transfer of Voters)

Conference decided that an application for transfer of registration as a voter made to the Resident Electoral Commissioner shall be accompanied by a copy of the applicant’s voter’s card not later than 60 days before the date of an election; instead of the current provision for 30 days. Thus, it is recommended that Section 13 be amended in Sub-section (2) by inserting immediately after the word ‘by’ in Line 2 the words ‘a copy of’ and also by substituting the figure ‘30’ in Line 2 with the figure ‘60’.

c. Section 18 (Issuance of Duplicate Voters’ Card)

Conference recognized that sometimes it is necessary for INEC to issue duplicate voters’ cards. Conference, therefore, decided that Section 18(1) of the Electoral Act be amended. Application should be made not less than 60 days to the election while 18(3) should remain; i.e. no duplicate should be issued less than 30 days to the election. Thus, Section 18 should be amended in Sub-section (1) by substituting the word ‘thirty’ and the figure ‘30’ in Line 2 with the word ‘sixty’ and the figure ‘60’.

d. Section 28 – Oath of Neutrality and Loyalty

Conference decided that all staff or officials of INEC partaking in any election should affirm or swear to an oath of loyalty and neutrality with an undertaking to defend their actions when called upon in any election tribunal, court or inquiry. This should apply to registration and all electoral activities (including referendum). The oath may be taken before any court of law or Commissioner for Oaths (not just High Court as is the present position). Thus, Section 28 should be amended in Sub-

section (1) by substituting the words ‘the High Court’ in Line 2 with the words ‘any court of law or Commissioner for Oaths’.

e. Section 31 (List of Candidates)

Conference decided that Subsection (6) of Section 31 be amended to make provision that where the Court finds that a candidate submitted by a political party did not meet the qualifications required for contesting the office, the court shall disqualify the candidate from contesting the election. Where, however, the person has been elected, the court shall order the person to vacate the office and the candidate with the second highest votes cast, who has met the constitutional requirements for the post, shall be declared elected. This recommendation is to avoid the waste of public funds to repeat elections consequent upon removal of disqualified candidates. The proposed new Sub-section (6) of Section 31 should read:

“(6) if the Court determines that any of the information contained in the Affidavit is false, the Court shall issue an order disqualifying the candidate from contesting the election; if already elected, the Court shall issue an order directing the person to vacate the office and the next person with highest number of votes cast and who met the requirement of the Constitution shall be declared duly elected.”

f. Presentation of Disqualified Candidate By Political Party:

Conference decided the insertion of a new Sub-section 7 of Section 31 which should read:

“(7)” Any political party that presents to the Commission the name of a candidate that does not meet the qualification stipulated in the Constitution shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be disqualified from participating in that particular election for that office.”

This is a re-instatement of Section 21 of the Electoral Act, 2002

g. Increase in Fines:

Conference decided that subsection (8) of Section 31 be amended to increase the fine imposed on a political party which submits the name of an unqualified candidate to the Commission. This is because the fine provided thereof is inadequate a deterrent. Thus, Section 31 be amended in subsection (8) by substituting for the figure “N500, 000.00” in line 3 the figure “N1, 000,000.00”

h. Section 33 – Death or Withdrawal of a Candidate

Guided by the provisions of Section 87 of the Electoral Act, 2010 (as amended) which requires candidates of political parties to emerge from democratically conducted primary elections, Conference decided that where a candidate who won a primary election and whose name was submitted to the INEC dies or withdraws from the election, the political party which nominated that candidate shall submit to the Commission the name of the candidate who scored the second highest number of votes at the Primaries as the substitute candidate. Thus, Section 33 should be amended by re-numbering the existing Section 33 as Sub-section (1) and introducing a new Sub-section (2) to read:

“(2) If the candidate whose name was submitted to the Commission dies or withdraws from the election, the political party which nominated the candidate shall forward to the Commission the name of the aspirant who scored the second highest number of votes at the primaries as the substitute candidate”.

Conference further decided that where such a dead or disqualified candidate may have emerged by consensus, fresh primaries should be held to determine the new representative of the party.

i. Section 45 (Polling Agents)

Conference observed that Section 45 allows political parties to notify the Commission of the appointment of Polling Agents in writing at least seven days before the date of the election. In order to give political parties sufficient time to sort out who their agents should be, Conference decided that the time should be extended to 14 days. Such notice shall be accompanied with two passport photographs, sample signatures as well as fingerprints of the polling agents. These will be useful for production of identification cards (ID) for the polling agents. Only those who fulfil this requirement will be accredited as Party Agents by INEC. Thus, Section 45 should be amended in Sub-section (1) by substituting for Sub-section (1) a new Sub-section (1) to read:

“45(1) Each political party may by notice in writing addressed to the Electoral Officer of the Local Government Area/Area Council, appoint a polling agent for each polling unit and collation centre in the Local Government Area/Area Council for which it has a candidate and the notice which shall set out the name and address of the polling agent must be accompanied by two passport photographs of each polling agent and sample signature as well as fingerprints of the polling agent and be given to the Electoral Officer at least 14 days before the date fixed for the election”.

j. Section 77 (Access to Polling Documents)

Conference decided that political parties and candidates should be allowed to inspect polling documents, but the Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC) should only release Certified True Copies, not the

original documents. Section 77 should be amended accordingly. Conference further recommended that in view of the number of applications and the volume of the documents required, the time within which the REC shall certify or cause certified true copies of the documents to be issued should be reviewed upward from seven days to 14 days. Thus, Section 77 should be amended in Sub-section (1) by substituting for Sub-section (1) a new Sub-section (1) to read:

“77(1)The Resident Electoral Commissioner, in a State where an election is conducted, shall, within 14 days after an application is made to him by any of the parties to an election petition, cause certified true copy of such documents to be issued to the said party.”

k. Timeline For Commencement of Pre-Election Matters

In the spirit of Section 285 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended), which makes provision for timelines for the determination of election matters, the need for timely determination of pre-election matters to reduce distractions and allow the elected officials to settle down early enough in their respective offices was emphasized. Conference therefore decided that any action challenging the conduct of primaries by a political party shall be filed within fourteen (14) days of the accrual of the cause of action. In this regard Sub-section (9) of Section 87 of the Electoral Act 2010 (as amended) should be further amended by including timelines within which a candidate shall seek redress and same should read thus:

Section 87(9)

“Notwithstanding the provisions of this Act or rules of a political party, an aspirant who complains that any of the provisions of this Act and the guidelines of a political party has not been complied with in the selection or nomination of a candidate of a political party for election,

shall within 14 days of the non-compliance complained of, apply to the Federal High Court or the High Court of a State or the High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja for redress”.

1. **Delimitation of constituencies**

The 1999 Constitution (as amended) empowers INEC to create electoral constituencies subject to the approval of the National Assembly. Conference noted that experience has shown that the National Assembly may delay consideration of the proposal as was the case when request for approval to restore suppressed Constituencies was presented to the National Assembly. Conference therefore decided that a provision be made in the Electoral Act stating that when the proposal for creation of constituencies is made to the National Assembly, the proposal shall be deemed approved if no response from the National Assembly is received by the Commission within a period of three (3) months from the date of presentation.

5.13.13 ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. In a Multi Party System, Parties that can contest Local Government Elections only, State Elections only or Federal Elections should be allowed to exist;
2. May 29th Democracy Day should be scrapped;
3. INEC should collaborate with Civil Society Organizations on civic education regarding political matters;
4. Special mandatory provision should be made to compel INEC to electronically transmit result from all the Wards upon conclusion of the counting process;
5. It should be mandatory by law for INEC to limit the numbers of voters in a polling unit to 500 and to create as many polling units as the number of registered voters in every constituency;

6. The criteria for delineation should be clearly spelt out for easy verification so that communities in need of redress and Civil Society Organizations can have verifiable facts to seek redress;
7. There should be continuous voters registration;
8. The recommendation of the Uwais report regarding the modalities for the appointment of the INEC Chairman was rejected;
9. INEC should produce Braille ballot papers.
10. All polling stations should be made accessible for persons living with disabilities (PLWDs);
11. Contestants must show full details of his/her history; and any contestant found to have embezzled money should be disqualified;
12. The age of 25 years should be the minimum age for contesting elections into the State House of Assembly; and
13. Persons to be elected/appointed youth leaders in political parties shall not be more than 35 years old.

5.14 POLITICS AND GOVERNANCE

1. GOOD GOVERNANCE

Conference noted that good governance and proper democratization are the prerequisites that can lead Nigeria to:

- (i) Develop and sustain a strong, politically stable, economically prosperous, culturally rich, socially harmonious, just and a truly federal nation.
- (ii) Build a society that:
 - a) defends and upholds the principles and practices of democracy;
 - b) respects fundamental human rights and the rule of law;
 - c) cherishes and promotes unity in diversity;
 - d) emphasises national identity and recognises merit, rather than ethnicity, favouritism and patronage;
 - e) rewards merit; and
 - f) promotes co-operation and social cohesion, thereby engendering a sense of belonging amongst the people.

- (iii) Make the country a major industrialized nation and economic power that plays a leadership role in Africa and the world.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In consideration of the foregoing, Conference prescribed some strategies which if implemented, will place the country on the path to developing a stable, democratic country, and one that is led by an objective, properly-oriented and committed leadership. The strategies required can be categorized thus:

GENERAL

- (i) We should re-orient Nigerian society along the path of honesty, probity and service to evolve into a nation with a common destiny, fear of God, respect, trust, tolerance, gender sensitivity and co-operation; to ensure honest, sincere and committed leadership, with an enlightened and empowered followership;
- (ii) The existing National Orientation Agency (NOA) should be designated the National Agency for Social Mobilisation, with similar agencies established at State and Local Governments. The re-designated agency should provide stronger framework for sustained systematic social mobilisation for enhanced citizens' participation in democracy and governance;
- (iii) Develop a stable, broad-based democratic system that is accountable and cost-effective;
- (iv) Develop an effective and efficient public service, and an effective, fair and impartial judiciary and law enforcement;
- (v) Nurture a virile, independent and responsible media, labour unions, NGOs and other institutions of civil society;
- (vi) Foster a culture of leadership by example, an effective media, and a purposeful school curricula, as well as effective instruments for instilling discipline as panacea for progress; and

- (vii) Introduce Peace Studies in school curriculum, starting from the primary level, to inculcate a positive mind-set change towards effective leadership;

LEADERSHIP

- (viii) Evolve a systematic leadership selection process to facilitate the emergence of good leaders;
- (ix) Select/elect the best people for leadership positions at all times, promote the virtues of effective reward and disciplinary system, integrity, honesty, commitment, dedication and respect for the Rule of Law; and
- (x) Institutionalise the culture of good leadership by example, and ensure the introduction of effective schools curricula as effective instruments for instilling discipline in the society.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

- (xi) Promote a stable, broad based democratic system that is inclusive, cost effective and which promotes competition, and discourages rent-seeking activities;
- (xii) Promote intensive youth development and gender empowerment programmes;
- (xiii) Use sports in the promotion of unity, peace, healthy rivalry and competition;
- (xiv) Utilize available Public Service personnel optimally and define goals and objectives for the public service;
- (xv) Armed forces and other security personnel should not be used for private purposes;
- (xvi) Ensure consensus- building in governance, guided by respect for the rule of law;
- (xvii) Ensure the continuous involvement of the civil service in policy formulation;

- (xviii) The number of ministerial appointments, Ministers, Commissioners, and Special Advisers/Assistants that constitute one of the major drains on the economy should be drastically reduced;
- (xix) All arms of government should be transparent and accountable;
- (xx) Institute an equitable devolution of powers among the tiers of government to ensure justice, fairness and even development;
- (xxi) Introduce Social Security measures for vulnerable groups such as the aged, the young the unemployed and the disabled;
- (xxii) Implement fully the federal character policy and principles for justice and equity;
- (xxiii) There should be an equitable formula for the distribution of socio-economic services, amenities and infrastructural facilities between and within the federating units;
- (xxiv) Ensure a participatory government for all segments of the society by educating people on governmental activities and their own rights and responsibilities;
- (xxv) Evolve a **20-year perspective plan** that should be subscribed to by all political parties and other stakeholders. The plan should provide for: Hospital beds per Person – **1 : 500**; Policemen per person, **1 : 400**; **90%** adult literacy rate; **95%** School enrolment of children between 5 and **15 years** of age; **60 years** life expectancy; Food for all persons; **1,000** Megawatts of electricity per **1,000,000** persons; **90%** water supply and **35%** manufacturing sector's contribution to GDP;
- (xxvi) The Budget proposal to the National Assembly should be submitted by 30th September, if a working day, and if not, on the immediately preceding working day. Similarly, the National Assembly should approve the Budget by 31st the last working day of the year; and
- (xxvii) The use of Government assets such as cars, guest houses, halls etc, for non-official duties should be prohibited and strict adherence by political office holders and public servants enforced.

JUDICIAL REFORM

- (xxviii) Restore respect for the rule of law and involve the citizens in legal reforms;
- (xxix) Modernise the Judiciary by instilling automatic recording equipment in the superior courts of records and improve competence levels of judicial officers by reviewing the qualification for appointment of judicial officers;
- (xxx) Improve the remuneration of judicial officers and create state courts of appeal and special court to handle corruption cases;
- (xxxi) Improve access of the citizens to timely and fair dispensation of justice through a review of court procedural legislation; and
- (xxxii) The present immunity clause in the Constitution for Public Office holders should be removed to make public office holders accountable.

PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM

- (xxxiii) Put in place effective incentives, disciplinary and performance management schemes both in public and private sectors to support productivity and the development of the right work ethic;
- (xxxiv) Evolve realistic and competitive remuneration and recognition schemes that would adequately motivate and encourage personnel to make a career in the public service;
- (xxxv) Strengthen institutions that enforce discipline, probity and recognition in the public service;
- (xxxvi) Reward system should be improved to encourage competence. There should be justice in remuneration of all public workers;
- (xxxvii) The future of Public Servants should be guaranteed. An effective scheme should be put in place to enable Public Servant to acquire houses on or before their retirement in order to discourage corruption while in the Service as well as to guarantee meaningful life after service; and

- (xxxviii) Government should strengthen Mortgage Institutions to empower all Public Servants and other Nigerians to own decent accommodation on owner-occupier basis.

POLICE REFORM

- (xxxix) Reform, modernise and motivate the Police Force for improved effectiveness;
- (xl) Review the command structure of the Nigeria Police such that Deputy Inspectors General of Police man the Zonal Offices and report to the Inspector General of Police, while the State Commissioners report to the Zonal DIG's; and
- (xli) Create a second level of policing.

LABOUR REFORM

- (xlii) Amend labour laws to be fair, balanced and consistent with the ratified ILO conventions on freedom of association, collective bargaining and the democratic aspiration of the country;
- (xliii) Ensure trade unions are independent and accountable to their members; and ensure continuous labour education;
- (xliii) Put in place effective labour management and conflict resolution mechanism.
- (xliv) Ensure respect for Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs) by Governments.

RELIGION

- (xlv) Religion should be removed from governance and accordingly, Government should stop the use of public funds to sponsor people on pilgrimages. Consular Services should, however, be maintained.

(xlvi) Religious education should start from the home, where such virtues as honesty, fairness, sincerity, love, integrity and respect for the rights of other persons would be instilled.

2. MECHANISMS FOR MORE INCLUSIVE AND PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY

Conference decided that there is an urgent need for new mechanisms that will engender a more inclusive participatory democracy. To achieve such a greater level of participation in our political system, Conference therefore decided that:

ACCOUNTABILITY

Electoral constituencies should demand regular meetings with their respective elected officials at the constituency level and/or draw up a performance measurement framework to which public office holders are to provide answers. Such meetings should be held on quarterly basis;

TRANSPARENCY

Citizens must organise themselves into credible interest groups/ civil society organisations (professional associations, academic unions, students' unions, labour unions, non-governmental organisations, etc.) that constantly review government policies, articulate the positions of the general population, and engage elected officials at all levels in public debates regarding the rationale and impact of their policies and programmes on the people. That periodic report of their meetings must be made public especially where challenging issues arise.

Conference further decided that salaries and allowances of public office holders should be disclosed to the public.

PREDICTABILITY

Conference agreed as follows:

- (i) Removal of the immunity clause from the 1999 Constitution (as amended) means that political and public office holders who abuse their respective offices can easily be challenged in courts; and
- (ii) The rule of law should be entrenched thereby ensuring that everybody is bound by the law no matter the status, power or wealth of the person in question.

EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP

Conference agreed that elected officials in particular at the Local Government level must possess and demonstrate excellent leadership qualities and credentials for the offices they occupy.

SEPARATING POLITICS FROM GOVERNANCE

Conference agreed that:

- (i) Political sentiments should not be a stumbling block in making political and public office holders adhere to principles of accountability, transparency, and responsible stewardship; and
- (ii) Political office holders give credence to merit and professional knowledge rather than party loyalty in making the choice of those called upon to provide services for government.

INSTITUTING FEDERALISM COMPLIANT INSTITUTIONS:

It is important for the country (both in the Constitution and in practice) to clearly spell out the power-sharing arrangements and duties among the federating units; while federalism-compliant institutions should be strengthened and supported, including (but not limited to) the items listed below:

- (a) **Independent and Impartial Judiciary:** The judiciary provides access to justice to the citizenry. To be effective, the judiciary must be independent of the control of the executive arm of government. The judiciary must be impartial, that is, the courts (at all times) must base and their decisions purely on the merit of a case not on any other consideration.
- (b) **Constitutionalism:** The existence of a constitution cannot ensure by itself good governance and public good. Rather, there are built-in mechanisms to ensure that public office holders conduct their actions in a manner that is harmonious with both the express provisions and the spirit of the constitution.

ADDRESSING POVERTY AND SOCIAL INSECURITY

Conference decided that:

- (i). The government of Nigeria revisits its salary structures; pay workers well so that they can easily meet basic obligations;
- (ii) The government at all levels should maintain a low profile in state spending so as to have more money for capital development etc;
- (iii) The political space should be expanded to accommodate more women and persons living with disabilities (PLWDs), who are often disadvantaged because of lack of financial affluence and support to compete for political positions;
- (iv) Government should enforce town planning and environment laws to discourage haphazard development of slums; and
- (v) Government should devolve power so that LGA's can adequately participate in governance to alleviate poverty in rural areas.

ENGENDERING POLITICS AND GOVERNANCE:

Conference decided that:

- (i) Government should put in place framework(s) for enhancing women's participation in politics and decision-making positions;

- (ii) Political parties should show more commitment to improving the role of women in party politics by engendering their structures, and manifestos;
- (iii) Government at all tiers should domesticate all relevant regional and international conventions and frameworks dealing with women and gender issues to which Nigeria is a signatory;
- (iv) Government should replace the Federal Character Commission with Federal Character and Equal Opportunity Commission to ensure that gender discrimination is reduced to its barest minimum;
- (v) Measures that promote work and family-life balance for both women and men with the aim of facilitating citizens' active participation in public life should be institutionalized;
- (vi) To put more value on women's health, security and safety, government should show more commitment to the enactment and/or implementation of Prohibition of Gender-Based Violence Law at both federal and state levels;
- (vii) The National Human Rights Commission should be given adequate resources and support to create and maintain a database of victims of violence; and
- (viii) Government should make the three-digit National Emergency number functional across the country.

3. PARTY POLITICS, FUNDING AND INTERNAL DEMOCRACY

Conference agreed that:

- (i) As a requirement for registration by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), a party must have a constitution stating clearly its ideology, policy and goals for the country;
- (ii) A party's constitution must provide for democratic ways of electing leaders and candidates and the process should be justiciable;
- (iii) The Committee recommends that Government should not fund any political party. Political parties should be funded through

- membership subscription, levies, donations, investment, sale of party cards and souvenirs and other fund raising activities;
- (iv) Party officials must be accountable to their members and should present regular financial reports to the relevant organs of the party who should publish them;
 - (vi).The party constitution should make provision for gender balancing in the **election** of leaders and candidates of the party;
 - (vii)An elected official who carpet-crosses from the political party that sponsored him/her to another party, before the expiration of the tenure of the office to which he/she was elected, shall loose his/her seat;
 - (viii) Inducement of voters with money/materials on Election Day should be treated as a criminal offence and perpetrators severely punished;
 - (ix) INEC and SIECs should fashion out ways to ensure that physically challenged persons – especially lepers, are registered and actually vote at elections;
 - (x) Any person who wishes to contest election must make full disclosure of source of wealth and funds. All candidates with unexplained wealth/funds should be disqualified; and
 - (xi) Political parties can be formed at local, state and national levels not only at the national level.

4. INDEPENDENT CANDIDACY

Conference decided that:

- (i) Every Nigerian who meets the specified condition in the Electoral Act should be free to contest elections as an Independent Candidate; and
- (ii). Section 221 of the 1999 Constitution should be repealed and replaced with "Every Nigerian who meets the specified condition in the Electoral Act should be free to contest any election as an INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE".

5. ANTI CORRUPTION AND ETHICS IN GOVERNANCE

Conference decided that:

- (i) The National Anti-Corruption Strategy be adopted and implemented alongside demonstrable political will to implement the strategy, and ensuring that the strategy flows down to the sub-national levels rather than focus only at the national level. Within the framework of the Strategy, there is a need for improved focus on the extractive industries and the environment sector;
- (ii) The efficiency of the anti-corruption institutions and agencies should be improved through greater funding, training and institutional autonomy to increase the possibility of detecting and punishing officials involved in corrupt acts. As sufficient funding of anti-corruption initiatives is fundamental to fulfillment of the country's commitment to combating corruption within the context of both our local and international obligations to fight corruption, a level of financial independence and adequacy in funding is needed in the fight against corruption. In this respect, operational funding for the major Anti-Corruption Agencies (ACAs) and the offices of the Auditors-General should be made a first line charge on the Consolidated Revenue Fund;
- (iii) The ACAs, particularly the EFCC and ICPC should be made proactive. Specifically, such agencies should tackle any corruption case that is in the public domain or has come to their knowledge without waiting for a petition. It shall constitute an act of misconduct, criminal negligence or dereliction of duty, with appropriate sanctions for the ACAs to refuse to act on any corruption case that has come to their knowledge. Any citizen of Nigeria shall be qualified to charge the ACA to court to compel action on a particular case of corruption or to prove misconduct, negligence or

dereliction of duty, whereupon the head of the agency shall be suspended for a period of two (2) months or forfeiting their wages for the period. Any agency head suspended three (3) times in a space of a year automatically loses his/her position;

- (iv) Whilst the President should continue to nominate candidates for the headship of the ACAs, their appointment and removal should be subject to the approval of the Senate . The heads of the ACAs should report annually to the relevant Committees of both Chambers of the National Assembly;
- (v) The office of the Attorney-General should be separated from those of the Minister and Commissioner for Justice at the Federal and State levels respectively to ensure that partisan considerations do not whittle the efforts of the Attorney-General to prosecute persons accused on corrupt practices. While the Minister of Justice or the Commissioner for Justice is the political head of the Ministry, the Attorney General should be appointed through a competitive process for a fixed term of office;
- (vi) Special Courts to handle corruption cases should be established in the light of undue prolongation in the trials and prosecution of corruption cases in the regular courts;
- (vii) A non-conviction based assets forfeiture law should be enacted with broad provisions to deal with all issues of proceeds of crimes by the anti-graft agencies and the courts;
- (viii) Information technology should be mainstreamed for improved transparency and accountability, in this respect, the replication of “I

paid a bribe” website through which citizens report corruption cases and their experiences;

- (ix) INEC should be unbundled by providing , inter alia, for the establishment of an Electoral Offences Commission (EOC);
- (x) A Legislation on ethics should be passed which will codify extant civil service regulations, guidelines, and circulars into a single Law;
- (xi) Provision should be made for rigorous home-grown research that will seek to, over time, empirically study the nature, types and effects of corruption in Nigeria as well as the orientations and attitudes of Nigerians towards corruption across different sectors, age groups and parts of the country;
- (xii) The passage of the Whistle Blowers Bill as well as the Witness Protection Bill which have been the before the National Assembly since 2012 should be fast tracked. In order to create incentives for and encourage people to expose corruption even by their superiors, the Whistle Blowers Bill should, however, have provisions for a system of reward for whistle blowers like in other jurisdictions where whistle blowers are allowed a percentage of funds recovered by their whistle blowing;
- (xiii) A revamped anti-corruption drive cascades to the sub national levels should be put in place. The suggested legislative framework should be structured in a manner that it unmistakably ‘covers the field’ and applies to all levels of government. Giving a constitutional backing to anti-corruption framework might prove an attractive option in the respect;

- (xiv) All those convicted of corruption should not enjoy pardon;
- (xv) Both paragraphs 11(3) of the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution and Section 44(2) of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act which deal with cases of lifestyles being disproportionate with the income of public officers should be amended to have application to former public office holders since, time does not run against the state in criminal cases;
- (xvi) The heads of all arms and levels of government should lead by example by setting examples of modesty to discourage Nigerians' penchant for flamboyance and conspicuous consumption . In this regard, they should reduce the size of bureaucracy associated with their offices, especially the number of Special Assistants, Senior Special Assistants, Special Advisers etc. as well as the size of their convoys, and observe speed limits;
- (xvii) Disbursement and expenditure of Committees' funds of National and State Assemblies should be strictly subjected to normal public service accounting procedures;
- (xviii) All relevant government agencies at all levels and civil society should embark on and promote massive advocacy and citizen mobilization to build a critical mass of people in the fight against corruption as it is known that increased citizen voice and demand for accountability play crucial roles in the fight against corruption;
- (xix) All asset declaration forms must be submitted to the Code of Conduct Bureau along with a certificate of value of the assets authenticated by a certified professional and such asset declaration forms must be made accessible to the public.

(xx) The Code of Conduct Bureau Establishment Act should be amended to carry out lifestyle audit of all public office holders as done in South Africa and some other countries;

(xxi) The Anti-Corruption Agencies (ACAs) should be empowered to invite anyone living above their means to explain their source of wealth. If the agencies are unsatisfied with explanations for the acquisition of such wealth, the person shall be charged to court. Upon conviction, the person shall forfeit the entire proceeds from corruption and be sentenced to half the prison term attached to the sum of money or its equivalent; and

(xxii) A special account should be opened and designated as Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF) into which all recovered proceeds of corruption shall be paid into.

6. ETHICS AND GOVERNANCE

Conference highlighted areas (drawn mainly from salient aspects of age-long civil service rules, government circulars and similar legislations in countries such as Kenya, Ghana, UK and the US) and recommended legislative intervention in the form of a Code of Ethics in governance which should complement and indeed drive the anti-corruption initiatives:

Ethical Prohibitions of General Nature

- (1). Duty of public officers to:
 - a. Carry out his/her duties and ensure that the services that he provides are provided efficiently and honestly;
 - b. Carry out his/her duties in a way that maintains public confidence in the integrity of his office;

- c. Treat the public and his/her fellow public officers with courtesy and respect;
- d. Seek to improve the standards of performance and level of professionalism in his organisation to the extent appropriate to his office;
- e. If a member of a professional body, observe the ethical and professional requirements of that body;
- f. Observe official working hours and not be absent without proper authorization or reasonable cause;
- g. Maintain an appropriate standard of dress and personal hygiene;
- h. Discharge any professional responsibilities in a professional manner; and
- i. Carry out his duties in accordance with the law.

(2). PROHIBITIONS ON USE OF PUBLIC PROPERTY

Conference decided that political office holders and public servants should:

- a. Not use or approve the use of public properties such as official cars, vehicles, aircraft, etc for personal use or partisan political purposes;
- b. Only be entitled to the use of an official car for official business and for home journeys within a reasonable distance of the location of his office;
- c. Not keep or be entitled to the use of more than the number of official cars designated or for his office taking into account security and other relevant considerations. (It is understood that there are government circulars that details the number of vehicles for each level of entitled public officer);
- d. Shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that property entrusted to his care is adequately protected and not misused or misappropriated; and

(3). CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND RELATED MATTERS.

Conference decided that a Civil Servant Shall not:

- a. Act as an agent for, or so as to further the interest of a Political Party;

- b. Indicate support for or opposition to any political party or candidate in an election;
- c. Engage in political activity that may compromise or be seen to compromise the political neutrality of his office;
- d. No public official or employee of the Executive branch may utilize any pin, emblem, logo, buttons, sticker, label, sign or insignia representative of a political party or candidate, while the said public employee or official is performing the functions of his/her work, independently of the place where the services are being rendered;
- e. No public officer or employee shall conduct religious services /activities or display religious emblems or insignia in any public office; and
- f. No public officer shall publish or notify matters for publication such as congratulatory or condolence messages to another public officer.

(4). DUTY TO REPORT:-

Conference decided that:

- a. It shall be the duty and responsibility of every person who has reason to believe that any public officer has contravened the provisions of the Code of Ethics law or any other extant law on accountability of public officials to report to an Ethics Officer to be appointed in every Department of Government who shall keep and maintain a Register for the purpose; and any person making such report shall be immune and protected from any punishment or harassment by reason only of making such report;
- b. Where the report in the preceding paragraph results in the recovery of any sum of money then the person who made the report resulting in the recovery shall be entitled to 10% of the value of the recovery; and

- c. The final point to be made here is that there is the need for Section 2 of the Constitution, especially the provisions relating to ethics and duties of citizens to be made justiciable.

7. MINORITY RIGHTS/ETHNIC NATIONALITIES

GENERAL NOTES

Conference decided that due to its sensitivity under the current political circumstances in Nigeria, the issue of secession should not be pursued under the current constitutional review exercise. However, Conference noted that what is of utmost importance in the minds of most Nigerians now is the issue of unity of purpose to pursue the growth and development of Nigeria where no individual or group of individuals is oppressed or marginalized, and where justice and peace are vigorously pursued for all citizens.

CONSTITUTIONAL AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- i). Conference took serious note of the perennial conflicts between indigenous and non-indigenous citizenship rights and freedoms and believes that these arise mainly from non-recognition of the distinction between citizenship rights and indigenous people's rights and freedoms. Consequently, Conference decided that in addition to reinforcing the recommendation on affirmative actions for ethnic and other minorities (including physically challenged and disadvantaged persons), there should be specific constitutional guarantees of the rights and freedoms of indigenous peoples which cannot be acquired, particularly as they relate to their cultural and traditional rights and practices;
- ii). Conference resolved that the Federal Government takes appropriate measures to ascertain the exact number of all ethnic nationalities and their locations in the Nigerian Federation in order, amongst other public policy uses, to ascertain the correct ethnic composition of the country so as to determine their nature and geo-political spread;

iii). Conference decided that the Federal Constitution should grant equal rights, freedoms and privileges to all Nigerian citizens in addition to their State *residential rights, freedoms and privileges*. In this regard, Nationality and Citizenship of Nigeria shall be obtained by:

- (a) Birth
- (b) Registration, and
- (c) Naturalization

iv). That, in order to protect minority and ethnic group interests from extinction because of superior pressures from other ethnic groups, and the tendency for other groups to dominate by politics of systematic ethnic cleansing, both the Federal and State Constitutions shall make the following provisions:

- (a) Recognise and give effect to the dichotomy of cultural indigene-citizens as different from non-indigene citizens in ways that the State Constitution cannot alone provide. Therefore, efforts must be made to protect minority/ethnic interests through the recognition of the dichotomy between cultural-indigenship and non-indigenship citizenship by enshrining it in the Nigerian Constitution. In this regard, the concept of ‘non-indigene citizens’ shall refer only to any person who resides in any part of the Nigerian Federation since his or her birth either of whose parents or/and whose grandparents do or did NOT belong to the particular indigenous community of his or her birth and/or residence in the Nigerian Federation before the British amalgamation of 1914. Conversely, the concept of ‘cultural indigene-citizens’ shall refer to any person who, by birth, is a native or aborigine of a particular indigenous community either of whose parents or any of whose grandparents do or did belong to the particular indigenous community before the British amalgamation of 1914. For emphasis and in accordance with international and national legislations, reference to ‘indigenous peoples and communities’ is defined as having a set of specific rights and

freedoms based on historical ties to a particular ancestral territory. While it can be argued that most groups have migrated from one point to another, there is clear evidence that prior to colonial rule, virtually all ethnic nationalities in Nigeria had ancestral territories that they laid claim to or identified with. In this wise, any arrangement that places *less* importance to this reality or threatens its sustenance must surely eventuate in creating unnecessary and avoidable tension and conflict. So, we recommend that as the Nigerian Constitution protects individual rights and freedoms, it must, based on the principles of equity and justice, also protect ethnic group rights and freedom, otherwise, some ethnic groups could go into extinction because of pressure from other ethnic groups;

(b) Recognize the unconditional rights and freedoms of every and any ethnic nationality in Nigeria that considers itself as unjustly subjected to real and perceived injustices of marginalization, domination and suppression to join their kith and kin through the instrumentality of relevant laws enacted and procedures established consistent with either 'referendum' or 'plebiscite' with their consequential 'boundary adjustments' provided such movements shall only be applicable to communities that have contiguous boundaries;

(c) Without prejudice to 4 (b) above, minority groups that wish to exist as separate state and meet the criteria for state creation shall be allowed to do so under the instrumentality of the relevant laws and procedures as part of their right to internal self-determination.

5. That civil rights, political rights and freedoms are justiciable, and that social, economic and cultural rights and freedoms are non-justiciable as currently entrenched in the Nigerian 1999 Constitution (as amended). This contradicts the African Union and United Nations standards of practice. Conference decided that

all the new people's constitutions shall reverse this injustice by making appropriate provisions for the justiciability of all constitutionally-mandated fundamental human rights and democratic freedoms. More specifically, the Nigerian Constitution shall define, defend and criminalize all acts of marginalization and discrimination against all ethnic nationalities in terms of their culture, traditions, land and other livelihood and ensure that no indigenous ethnic nationality or community is placed under 'traditional' authority that is not of their own legitimate making and ownership.

6. For the purpose of inclusiveness, that appointment to public offices shall be based on Federal and States Character and that the states shall establish their own States Character Commission.
7. A new amendment to the Constitution of the Nigerian Federation shall subscribe to the United Nations Declarations of Human Rights (1946); and it shall provide for the protection of minority rights and freedoms by ensuring:
 - (a) That constitutional definition of citizenship and citizenship rights and freedoms are in accordance with the Articles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Minorities (UN General Assembly Resolution 47/135 of the 18th December, 1992), and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of indigenous People (UN General Assembly Resolution 61/295, 107th Plenary Meeting, 13th September, 2007); and
 - (b) That United Nations Declarations on Rights of Minority and Indigenous Peoples shall be ratified and incorporated as schedules in a new Nigerian Constitution and, thereafter, mechanism for their enforcement shall be codified in laws of Nigeria.
8. The fundamental human rights and democratic freedoms provisions in the Nigerian Constitutions shall be made to reflect the true principles and tenets of federalism, and

9. Finally, the National Conference should produce a new (amendment to the) Constitution of the Federal Republic with provisions for the Fundamental Human Rights and Democratic Freedoms that will engender justice, equity and peaceful co-existence for all Nigerians; and that shall not enable the cultural and religious practices of any federating unit(s) to become the yardstick in determining what human rights and democratic freedoms shall be or mean to the rest of the country. To realize the immense human and material potentials of Nigeria and optimize its diversity or cultural plurality as well as keep our nation-state equitable, just, peaceful and strong, the democracy of the federating units need to and must be strengthened, not weakened.

8. TRADITIONAL RULERS

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1). Conference decided that the role of traditional institutions should be recognized as advisory in the Constitution.
- 2). Conference also recommends the establishment of a National Council of Traditional Rulers (NCTR).
- 3). The proposed Council should exist at the Federal level and its terms of reference should include the involvement of Traditional Rulers in matters of tradition, culture and dispute resolution.
- 4). The membership of the proposed National Council of Traditional Rulers (NCTR) should consist of:
 - a. Chairmen of the State Council of Chiefs;
 - b. Two (2) Traditional Rulers from each State including the FCT;
- 5). Traditional rulers should keep out of partisan politics.

9. CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

Conference decided that:

A. Federating Units

- (i) Nigeria adopts a true federal structure with the States operating as the federating units;
- (ii) The creation of local government councils should be done by the States as they deem necessary;
- (iii) The States by law provide for the establishment of structure, composition, finance and functions of Local Government Councils;
- (iv) Above changes will require consequential alterations or amendments of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) e.g. as regards a clear description of the roles of the federating units; and
- (v) Unelected Chairmen of Local Governments (often referred to as Transition Committee Chairmen) or such unelected representatives at the LGAs should be sanctioned by withholding their statutory allocations pending the conduct of elections into such LGAs.

B. Devolution of Political and Fiscal Powers:

Conference decided that:

- (i) To achieve true federalism in Nigeria, the legislative powers/duties of the respective tiers of government should be clearly spelt out;
- (ii) The deduction in any form of what is described as '*special funds*' from the '**Federation Account**' prior to distribution to the mentioned beneficiaries of the Account be stopped, particularly as the Supreme Court had in 2002 declared such a '*fund*' unconstitutional in A-G, Federation V. A-G, Abia State &Ors; and

- (iii) The revenue allocation formula should be reviewed such that what accrues to the central government is reduced; while making more resources available to the States for development in their rural and urban communities.

C. Judiciary in a Federal System

Conference decided that:

- (i) The principles of true federalism should apply to Nigeria's judicial system. Thus, Conference decided that the present over-centralized judicial system be restructured;
- (ii) The constitution shall clearly guarantee the independence of the judiciary, with clear statements to this effect in the Constitution;
- (iii) The funding of the judiciary shall be made a first line charge upon the Consolidated Revenue Fund for both recurrent and capital expenditure;
- (iv) The National Judicial Council should reflect the federal judicial system; and
- (v) Restructuring the Nigerian judiciary demands diligence and thoroughness.

D. Electoral Bodies and Electoral Laws

Conference decided that:

- (i) The central electoral body (INEC) shall organize and conduct credible elections for Nigeria;
- (ii) INEC shall enjoy both financial and administrative autonomy from government.

- (iii) To ensure INEC's independence, its funds/allocations shall be made a first line charge from the Consolidated Revenue Fund (i.e. for both recurrent and capital expenditures);
- (iv) In order to engender equality in political participation it is necessary to give opportunities to credible men and women through the provision for independent candidature; and
- (v) Gender issues should be mainstreamed into the political party system to further strengthen the internal democracy of political parties to ensure that the principle of gender equity and social justice are imbibed at the party level, including ensuring a gender responsive party constitution; political leadership, party manifestos and other internal

E. Police/Policing

Conference decided that:

- (i) Both the Federal and State governments should share responsibilities for security and the maintenance of law and order. Thus, Committee decided on a second tier level policing in addition to the federal police; and
- (ii) The terms of cooperation between the federal and the States on policing shall be clearly defined in the new Constitution.

F. The Rights and the Legal Status of Women

Conference decided that:

- (i) Women shall be accorded full and equal dignity and opportunities for the realisation of all the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Nigerian Constitution;
- (ii) Women shall have the right to affirmative action for the purpose of redressing the imbalances created by history, tradition and customs.

Though women in Nigeria constitute almost half of the national

population this numerical strength has never found a corresponding expression or representation in Nigeria's public life especially in elective positions. In order to accelerate gender balance in all sectors especially towards the promotion of political rights, it is imperative to upgrade the Affirmative Action policy from an executive policy to a constitutional right. In this respect, the National Gender Policy (2006) should be fully implemented, while the constitution should provide grounds to achieve at all levels at least a 35% affirmative action for women;

- (iii) The language of the Nigerian Constitution shall be gender responsive e.g. the use of 'he' or 'him' in the 1999 Constitution (as amended) be replaced with **he/she** and **him/her**; **'men and women'**; or **'any person or everyone'** – as appropriate – in the new Constitution.
- (iv) All discriminatory laws and practices against the female gender shall be removed from our statute books;
- (v) All subsidiary legislations that hold women down shall be repealed;
- (vi) Women shall have constitutional rights to property inheritance and full employment rights without discrimination;
- (vii) A woman shall be constitutionally allowed to enjoy the indigeneship of her place of origin (birth) **or** of her husband (her place of marriage);
- (viii). There shall be constitutional provisions for gender responsive labour laws, whereby work-family life balance options are adopted to allow women to balance their traditional roles (of caring for children, the elderly and the sick)with their productive roles, thereby enhancing their full potentials and optimum creativity;

- (ix). There shall be constitutional provision for women not to be subjected to any form of cultures, customs, traditions and practices that undermine the status of women, and/or that derogate women's welfare, dignity, interests, and aspirations.

G. The Rights of the Child

Conference decided that:

- (i) The Child Act of 2003 be constitutionally binding on all the federating States (only 24 of the 36 States have domesticated this Act);
- (ii) Every child shall be protected from engaging in work that constitutes a threat to his/her health, education or development;
- (iii) No child shall be deprived by any other person of medical treatment, education or any other social and economic benefit by reason of religious or other beliefs; and
- (iv) A child shall be constitutionally described as a person below the age of eighteen (18) years. It is important that conditions which contradict this in the 1999 Constitution (as amended) be removed e.g. Section 29(4) (b) which states: "any woman (*irrespective of her age*) who is married shall be deemed of full age" shall be removed from the Constitution as this, if applied means that 'child marriage' is constitutionally condoned and/or accepted.

H. Rights of the Physically-Challenged

Conference decided that:

- (i) The physically-challenged have the right to live with their families or with foster parents and to participate in economic, political, social, creative or recreational activities;

- (ii) The physically-challenged shall not be subjected to discriminatory treatment in respect of his/her fundamental rights other than that required by his/her condition or by improvement, which he/she may derive from treatment;
- (iii) If the stay of a physically-challenged in a specialised institution is inevitable, the environment and living conditions in that institution shall be as close as possible to those of the normal life of a person of his/her age; and
- (iv) The physically-challenged shall be protected against all exploitations and all treatment of a discriminatory, abusive or degrading nature.

10. IMMUNITY CLAUSE

Conference decided that:

- (i) The immunity in civil and criminal matters as enshrined in Section 308 of the Constitution for certain public officers should be removed;
- (ii) Where corruption cases are brought against these public officers, Conference decided that the investigation of these cases be done outside the ordinary criminal processes. In this case Conference recommended the establishment of the office of an Independent Grand Jury (IGJ) as follows:
 - (a) Where the allegation of misconduct relates to any form of crime as defined by any act of the National Assembly or a law of a state, that allegation must be accompanied with a sworn affidavit;
 - (b) The sworn affidavit must be presented to the Attorney General of the Federation stating that the holder of the office of President or Vice President is guilty of such a crime;
 - (c) The Attorney General of the Federation shall within Seven days of receipt of the petition appoint an Independent Grand Jury to investigate the matter. Where the Independent Grand Jury establishes a prima facie case against the President or Vice President against whom the allegation

is made, the report should be submitted to the National Assembly to commence the process of removal from office as provided in Section 143 of the Constitution;

(d) The above process should be inserted as a new provision in the Constitution Section 143 of the Constitution and should apply similarly to the provision of Section 188 dealing with the removal of State Governors and Deputy Governors;

(e) Duties of the IGJ:

(i) Initiating and conducting a thorough investigation and handling all aspects of any case referred to it by the Attorney General of the Federation with a view to proving or disproving the allegation(s); and

(ii) It shall have the powers of a Judicial Commission of Inquiry

(iii). Qualifications of the Independent Grand Jury.

Conference decided that:

The independent Grand Jury should consist of :

(a) A serving Justice of the Court of Appeal who shall be the chairman;

(b) Six other persons who in the opinion of the Attorney-General of the Federation are of unquestionable integrity, not being members of any public service, legislative house or political party; and

(c) None of the members of the Independent Grand Jury including the chairman shall be from the same state of origin or in the case of a Governor or Deputy Governor the same Senatorial district as the officer being investigated.

(iv) Conference decided that the expenses of the Independent Grand Jury should be a direct charge to the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation or of the State as the case may be.

(v) Conference decided that section 143 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) be altered as follows:

- (vi) Where the offence is of a criminal nature and notice of the allegation supported by a sworn affidavit-
- (a) is presented to the President of the Senate; and
 - (b) stating that the holder of the office of President or Vice President is guilty of a criminal offence, detailed particulars of which shall be specified, the Attorney General of the Federation shall at the request of the President of the Senate appoint an Independent Grand Jury of seven persons headed by a serving Justice of the Court of Appeal to investigate the allegation as provided in the section.
- (vii) The holder of an office whose conduct is being investigated under this subsection shall have the right to defend himself in person or be represented before the Independent Grand Jury by a legal practitioner of his own choice.
- (viii) The Independent Grand Jury appointed under this section shall
- (a) have the power of a Judicial Commission of Inquiry and exercise its functions in accordance with such procedure as may be prescribed in its instrument of appointment; and
 - (b) within three months of its appointment report its findings to each House of the National Assembly.
- (ix) Where the report of the Independent Grand Jury is that the allegation against the holder of the office has been proved, then within 7 days of the receipt of the report, each House of the National Assembly shall consider the report, and if by a resolution each House of the National Assembly supported by not less than half of all its members, the report of the Independent Grand Jury is adopted, then the holder of the office shall stand removed as from the date of the adoption of the report.
- (x) No proceeding or determination of the Panel appointed under sub-section 5 of this section or of the Independent Grand Jury appointed under sub-section 10 of this section or of the National Assembly relating thereto shall be entertained or questioned in any court of law.

(xi) In this section:

“Gross Misconduct” means a grave violation or breach of the provisions of the Constitution or a misconduct of such nature as amounts in the opinion of the National Assembly to gross misconduct. “Offence of criminal nature” means any crime as defined by any Act of the National Assembly or Law of a State.

11. MEDIA AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Conference decided that:

- (i). The provisions of Section 22 of the 1999 Constitution should be made justiciable to enable the Media discharge their constitutional obligations more effectively;
- (ii). The Freedom of Information (FOI) Act should be made accessible to the public, in order to:
 - (a) Educate the populace of its content.
 - (b) Ensure that while citizen’s access to information is not impeded in any way, the right of journalists are specifically guaranteed in the Constitution; and
 - (c) Transfer responsibility for ensuring compliance with the FOI Act from the office of the Attorney-General, to the National Human Rights Commission.
- (iii) Conference decided that a thorough review of the Nigerian Press Council is necessary Act to make it more acceptable to the Nigerian Press Organisation;
- (iv) Conference also recommended the creation of a Press Freedom and Responsibility Fund which will be contributed to by Government and the Press patronized for its operations. This fund will assist journalists to maintain professional standards and ethics, and to protect and defend press freedom and responsibility generally.
- (v) Concerning the Electronic Media, Conference decided that the NBC should be replaced with a National Broadcasting and Communications Authority/Commission, whose members shall be drawn from Media organisations and Civil Society Groups, nominated to the President by the

Media organisations, and approved by the National Assembly. This body shall be responsible for granting broadcasting licences.

In addition, the granting of Radio/Television broadcasting licences shall be patronized and the fees drastically reduced from the prohibitive ones now being charged.

- (vi). The social media have become a global phenomenon patronized by the old and young alike. However an unregulated medium can sometimes become a danger to society. There should be some kind of guidelines in the operation of the social media.

5.15 PUBLIC FINANCE

5.15.1 REVIEW OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF PREVIOUS CONFERENCES

The Belgore Committee on Review of Outstanding Issues delved into those recommendations awaiting implementation of 2005 and other previous Conferences. In order to generate views/recommendation from an informed position, Conference reviewed them along with points raised by other stakeholders. The outcome of these reviews is outlined below:

1. REVENUE ALLOCATION AND FISCAL FEDERALISM

Conference decided on two Accountants Generals as follows:

- (a) The Accountant General of the Federation to function under RMAFC;
- (b) Accountant General of the Federal Government to be responsible for Federal Government; and
- (c) the inclusion of a new section in the Constitution.

2. REVENUE MOBILIZATION ALLOCATION AND FISCAL COMMISSION

Conference decided that:

- (a) RMAFC should be autonomous in terms of composition and funding;
- (b) Strict enforcement of Section 162 of the 1999 Constitution which addresses Public Revenue, especially the distributable Pool Account.

5.15.2 RECOMMENDATION FOR POLICY GUIDELINES:

1. Remuneration of members of the National Assembly (NASS): Item 11 on page 35 of Belgore's Committee Main report of 2012 dealt with this extensively with the strong recommendation that the members' remuneration must be determined by RMAFC. The decision of Conference is that any payment or Remuneration outside what is approved by RMAFC is unconstitutional and therefore unacceptable.

2. Domestic, External Debts and Regulation of Borrowing Proposals for Increased Revenue Generation in Nigeria:

Conference decided that:

- a) Efforts should be made to bring the informal sector into the tax coverage net; and
- b) There is need to improve the institutional capacity of the tax administration machinery, particularly with regards to enforcement.

3. Measures for Sustainable Debts Management

Conference decided that:

- a) The implementation of the Strategic Plan and the utilization of analytical debt management tools;
- b) The FGN Bond market for enhanced liquidity through the continued issuance of benchmark bonds and introduction of other varieties of debt instruments such as, Securities Lending, Bond Switches and Inflation-Linked Bonds into the domestic bond market be further strengthened and deepened;
- c) Nigeria's presence in the International Capital Market (ICM) through the issuance of US\$1.00 billion Eurobond, N80 billion FGN Bonds in the form of

Global Depository Notes (GDN) and US\$100 million Nigerian Diaspora Bond be strengthened;

- d) More Nigerian corporate organizations should be encouraged to take advantage of existing sovereign benchmarks to raise long-term capital in the domestic and ICM to develop the real sector and build infrastructure projects;
- e) Institutions and processes at the sub-national level should be strengthened and procedures consolidated, to further develop the capacity of staff of States' Debt Management Offices to conduct their forward looking Debt Servicing Agreement (DSA);
- f) The Federal Government should partner with the States and the FCT to produce and report their updated quarterly debt data.

4. Tax Administration, Tax Contribution and Internally Generated Revenue:

Conference considered presentations on these matters from stake-holder institutions and decided that:

(i) On Fiscal federalism:

- (a) Tax assignment and horizontal and vertical sharing formula be reviewed;
- (b) Account management modalities to engender transparency, accountability and general good practice in operating the Joint Accounts of State and Local Governments be instituted;
- (c) Joint account management should reside with the Accountant-General of the State and membership should be drawn from Local Government Councils and relevant ministries;

- (d) The Constitution should provide appropriate sanctions if the State governments fail to remit stated amount from internal revenue of the state into the joint account;
- (e) The State's Houses of Assembly should have the responsibility for establishing the sharing formula for allocation from State Joint Accounts; and
- (f) The oversight and monitoring functions of the Local Governments should be vested on the ministry in charge of Local Governments and the State Houses of Assembly.

(ii) On The Budgetary Process:

- (a) Limited time-frame for executive arm to submit budget to ensure its passage into law by the beginning of the new financial year; and
- (b) Accountants-General at all levels must submit their audited accounts to the Public Accounts Committee within six (6) months of the financial year.

(iii) On Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA)

- (a) The Fiscal Responsibility Act should be entrenched in the Constitution to cover all the tiers of government;
- (b) The Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission should be responsible for monitoring of compliance with FRA to avoid duplication; and

- (c) The debt procurement procedure for all tiers of government should be properly spelt out to forestall debt overhang.

(iv) *On Public Finance Management*

- (a) The role of the Central Bank in public finance management should be strengthened;
- (b) It is necessary to entrench the Excess Crude Account and Sovereign Wealth Fund, which should be managed and invested by the CBN; and
- (c) The Committee should consider the inclusion of the SWF in the constitution.

(v) *On Non-Diversification and Poor Revenue Generation:*

The SWF should be enshrined in the Constitution to help address the sustenance of on-going economic reforms under the Transformation Agenda.

4.2 Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC)

Conference decided that:

- a) For equity, fairness and promotion of accountability, the Secretariat of FAAC should be housed in the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission which is independent and serves the three tiers of Government;
- b) For the effective management of the Federation Account, it is crucial to separate the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federation from the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federal Government. The Accountant-General of the Federal Government would be in-charge of the operation and management of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federal Government,

while the Accountant-General of the Federation would be in-charge of the Federation Account;

- c) All laws allowing Government Agencies to spend or retain part of their revenues should be reviewed so that the revenue generated can be accounted for and remitted into the Federation Account;
- d) All Agencies that generate revenue from our national resources (waters, airspace, etc) should remit such revenues into the Federation Account for the benefit of all tiers of Government;
- e) An Inter-Agency Committee involving the Federal Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Trade and Investment and the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission should be established to advise Mr. President on duty waivers (and tax holidays) in order to promote transparency, increased confidence in the processes and prevent loss of revenues;
- f) The fuel subsidy regime in the country conceived to benefit the poor and middle income classes has failed. Therefore, fuel subsidy should be removed while Government intensifies effort at resuscitating the existing refineries;
- g) Federal and State Governments should avoid the proliferation of appointments of political office holders such as Personal Assistant (PA's), Advisers, Special Advisers, Senior Special Advisers and Assistants, etc. Government at all levels should immediately enact a law prescribing limits of such appointments at Federal and State levels;

5.15.3 RECOMMENDATIONS ON PRODUCTIVITY

Conference decided that:

- (i) External borrowing be explored by Government provided the funds are tied to designated projects. This will reduce the pressure on lendable funds of commercial banks and lower cost of borrowing to the real sector;
- (ii) There is need to further strengthen the FGN Bond market for enhanced liquidity through continued issuance of benchmark bonds;
- (iii) The Private Sector companies should also be encouraged to take advantage of existing sovereign benchmark to raise long-term capital in the Domestic and International Capital Market (ICM) to build the real sector and enhance infrastructure;
- (iv) A long term fund should be established to encourage entrepreneurship and innovation;
- (v) Government should source for funds to complete Ajaokuta Steel project and other steel projects through Public Private Partnership (PPP);
- (vi) An Agricultural Development Fund (ADF) should be established to boost mechanized farming;
- (vii) 10% of funds from the Excess Crude Account (ECA) should be set aside for the proposed agricultural development fund.
- (viii) Debt ceiling should be placed on Government borrowing.
- (ix) Debt Monitoring Offices (DMOs) should be established in each state to monitor projects tied to borrowed funds.

5.15.4 OFFICE OF THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL

Conference noted that:

1. The current practice is that the Accountant-General of the Federation maintains the accounts of the Federation as well as that of the Federal Government. Recurring suggestions from several MDAs, professional associations and other

stakeholders, however, emphasized the need for the Federal Government to create an Office of the Accountant-General of the Federal Government.

2. Conference therefore decided that in order to enhance accountability, transparency and avoidance of mistrust between the sub-nationals, it is absolutely necessary that the office of the Accountant-General of the Federal Government be created strictly to manage the finances of the Federal Government while the office of the Accountant-General of the Federation maintains the Federation Account. Provided that the appointments shall be subject to confirmation by the Senate and for a single term of six years. Conference resolved that the recommendation is long overdue and will necessitate an amendment of the 1999 Constitution.

5.15.5 REMUNERATION OF GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONARIES

Conference decided as follows:

- (i) All functionaries of Government whose remunerations and pension are subject to approval of RMAFC must comply and enjoy only what RMAFC approves as their total remuneration;
- (ii) The budget of the RMAFC should be on first line charge. The Commission should be empowered through an amendment of the 1999 Constitution to enforce compliance and sanction defaulters, accordingly; and
- (iii) The retinue of public office holders at all tiers of Government should be drastically reduced.

5.15.6 BUDGET MIX AND BUDGETARY PROCESS

Conference decided that:

- (i) The spirit and letter of the Doctrine of Separation of Powers (which is the main attribute of our Presidential system) be **strictly** observed by the three arms of government;
- (ii) Government reverses the anomaly and maintain a budget mix of at least 60% Capital Expenditure and 40% of Recurrent Expenditure to leave substantial fund for addressing infrastructural gap, provide jobs for the unemployed and promote general economic growth and development;
- (iii) The time frame for presentation of the budget should be on or before 30th September preceding the budget year;
- (iv) Passage of the Appropriation Act by the National Assembly and the President's Assent should be concluded on or before 31st December to enable budget implementation commence with effect from 1st January; and
- (v) The Legislature should strengthen its oversight functions and the Fiscal Responsibility Commission should be fully empowered to carry out its monitoring responsibilities.

5.15.7 TAX ADMINISTRATION AND CONTRIBUTION

Conference decided that:

- (i) Designated Departments and Agencies must comply with Sec. 162(3) of the Constitution which require them to remit gross revenue in full to the Federation Account and resort to normal budget process of obtaining budget approval from the National Assembly to fund their operations.

Conference further recommended that the sections of the enabling Acts of these Departments and Agencies that allow them to retain revenues and surplus to fund their operations should be amended;

- (ii) Available fiscal incentives (i.e. tax exemptions and waivers) resulting in revenue leakages, loss and abuses, for example the use of NDCC by Customs be reviewed;
- (iii) A process for the amendment of tax laws such as Companies Income Tax and Petroleum Profits Tax 1959, which was last amended in 1979 be set in motion;
- (iv) The process of the passage of the Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB) be accelerated;
- (v) A system of transparency and accountability on judicious application of taxes to engender trust and confidence be introduced;
- (vi) Collaboration with other member bodies of Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on exchange of information for transparency in tax matters in order to help check abuses on cross-border transactions;
- (vii) Deployment of technology, including e-filing as done in advanced economies be adopted;
- (viii) Although Nigeria's Value Added Tax (VAT) rate is the lowest in Africa, upward review should be deferred for now until a more efficient mechanism for collection and assessment is put in place while all taxable individuals and organizations should be brought into the tax net;

- (ix) The National Tax Policy should be implemented without further delay;
- (x) Taxation should be appropriately classified in the Constitution under Exclusive or Concurrent List.
- (xi) Indiscriminate approval of tax waivers should be stopped.
- (xii) Government should enact an “Ill Gotten Gains Act” that will place the burden of proof of innocence on the accused.

5.15.8 SOLID MINERALS

Conference decided that:

- (i) Government should commence immediate utilization of the Solid Minerals Fund for the purpose it was designated;
- (ii) The Solid Minerals Development Fund should be increased from the present 1.68% to 5%. (Conference subsequently recommended that the Federal Government be advised to set up a Technical Committee to work out modalities for review of such matters as derivation principle, Solid Minerals Development Fund, etc.); and
- (iii) Solid Minerals and Mines should be included in the Concurrent Legislative list.

5.15.9 FUEL SUBSIDY

Conference decided that:

- (i) Federal Government shall within a period of three years from the date of approval of the report of this Conference build new refineries and repair existing ones to full capacity utilization;
- (ii) Private sector entrepreneurs who have already been granted licenses to build new refineries shall, within a period of three years from the date of

approval of the report of this Conference, build such new refineries, automatically forfeits such licenses to enable other participants who are ready and willing to build such refineries within the period of three years the opportunity to do so; and

- (iii) Upon fulfillment of the preceding conditions, the Federal Government shall be free to remove existing subsidy on petroleum products.

5.15.10 SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC)

Conference decided that:

- (i) Government should identify any overlap or conflict in the provisions of their enabling laws and harmonize them; and
- (ii) The Securities and Exchange Commission should comply with the provisions of Section 162 of the 1999 Constitution as regards remittance of their revenues to the account of the Federation.

5.15.11 REVENUE LOSSES DUE TO OIL AND GAS PIPELINE LEAKAGES AND THEFT

Conference recommended that:

- (i) There should be Deployment of commensurate security and military presence to deter, detect, apprehend and prosecute perpetrators of this heinous crime;
- (ii) Opportunities should be provided for young people to be involved in the Oil and Gas activities, as this will engender gainful employment for youths;

- (iii) Appropriate technology that will be difficult to tamper with at the loading bays should henceforth be used;
- (iv) The Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB) in the form it was originally presented to the National Assembly should be passed; and
- (v) Intelligence gathering and processing should be adopted in tracking the movement of ocean bound vessels coming in and going out of Nigeria;
- (vi) The services of reputable International Shipping Consultants that will give accurate quantity of Crude Oil loaded and movement of oil tankers be employed. This will also include training of young and patriotic Nigerians that will eventually take over the job from the consultants; and
- (vii) Replacement of aged and obsolete pipelines, some of which are over fifty years old.

5.15.12 THE NIGERIAN SOVEREIGN INVESTMENT AUTHORITY (NSIA)

Conference decided that:

- i. The idea of the Sovereign Wealth Fund should be embraced;
- ii. A minimum of fifty Percent (50%) of funds available in the Excess Crude Account at any time should be used for funding the Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority's account. Also equivalent percentage of revenue from solid minerals should be allocated for funding the Sovereign Wealth Fund; and

- iii. The Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority should be institutionalized and enshrined in the 1999 Constitution.

5.15.13 FEDERAL INLAND REVENUE SERVICE (FIRS)

Conference decided that:

- (i) Available fiscal incentives (i.e. tax exemptions and waivers) that lead to revenue leakages and abuse that result in revenue loss should be reviewed. For example in 2012 and 2013, N203.36 billion, in Companies Income Taxes and N13.56 billion in Education Tax were lost;
- (ii) The amendment of tax laws such as Companies Income Tax and Petroleum Profits Tax 1959, which was last amended in 1979 be set in motion;
- (iii) The passage of the PIB to provide support framework to PBT is essential;
- (iv) The problem of multiplicity of taxes should be addressed;
- (v) Tax Authorities at various levels shall base the taxable income of any business, organization on audited financial statement signed by licensed professional accountants;
- (vi) All functionaries of Government whose remunerations are subject to approval of RMAFC comply and enjoy only what RMAFC approved. The Commission should be empowered through Constitutional amendment to monitor compliance and sanction defaulters accordingly;

- (vii) The use of waivers, etc as a policy should conform to the established laws and exercised strictly for the benefit of our country. The indiscriminate use of waivers should be avoided;
- (viii) Conference decided that Sec. 162(3) of the Constitution requiring Government organizations to remit gross revenue in full to the Federation Account and resort to normal budget process of obtaining budget approval from the National Assembly to fund their operations should be vigorously pursued;
- (ix) There is the need to start bringing all taxable individuals and organizations into the tax net, prior to revision upward; and
- (x) Conference noted that government had established a fund for development of solid minerals which is a step in the right direction because of its revenue and employment generation potential.

5.15.14 NIGERIA MARITIME ADMINISTRATION AND SAFETY AGENCY (NIMASA)

Conference noted that NIMASA's revenue base is severely impaired as a result of various challenges which include:

- (i) Lack of adequate equipment to carry out surveillance duties in line with their statutory mandates; and
- (ii) Lack of surveillance and transparent prosecution of illegal shipping activities in Nigeria's waters;

Conference therefore decided as follows:

- (i) Government should step in and immediately correct all areas of conflict between the laws of the two agencies (NIMASA and NPA). This would strengthen collaboration and synergies;
- (ii) Government should diligently prosecute all those involved in illegal shipping activities in accordance with International Maritime Laws, especially as they involve other nations.

5.15.15 NIGERIA PORTS AUTHORITY (NPA)

Conference observed that the Agency operates under an ambiguous and unclear framework, due to:

- (i) Lack of information on the form and content of the Concessionary Agreements, and
- (ii) Information of concessionaries were not disclosed. Conference also noted that the level of remittance when compared to revenue is abysmal, though the Authority's representatives explained that a larger percentage of the revenue was to cover operating and capital expenditure.

Conference therefore decided that:

- (i) The Nigerian Ports Authority's enabling Law regarding remittance of its surplus be amended to remove any provision that contravenes Section 162 of the 1999 Constitution;
- (ii) The Concessionary Agreements be revisited to address any provision, clause(s) that are not in the interest of the nation; and

- (iii) The enabling laws of Nigerian Ports Authority and Nigerian Maritime and Safety Agency be harmonized to avoid conflict and promote collaboration and synergy.

5.15.16 REVENUE LOSSES DUE TO OIL AND GAS PIPELINE LEAKAGES AND THEFT

Conference decided as follows:

- (i) Commensurate security and military should be deployed presence to deter, detect, apprehend and prosecute perpetrators of this heinous crime;
- (ii) Opportunities should be provided for young people to be involved in the Oil and Gas activities, as this will engender gainful employment for youths;
- (iii) Appropriate technology that will be difficult to tamper with at the loading bays be put in place.
- (iv) The Petroleum Industry Bill(PIB) in the form it was originally presented to the National Assembly be passed;
- (v) Intelligence gathering and processing be adopted in tracking the movement of ocean bound vessels coming in and going out of Nigeria;
- (vi) The services of reputable International Shipping Consultants that will give accurate quantity of Crude Oil loaded and movement of oil tankers should be employed. This will also include training of young

and patriotic Nigerians that will eventually take over the job from the consultants; and

- (vii) Aged and obsolete pipelines, some of which are over fifty years old should be replaced.

5.15.17 PRODUCTIVITY

Ajaokuta Steel Project

Conference decided that”:

- (i) Government should adopt diplomatic option to persuade and bring back Russia and Ukraine that were part of the Soviet Union that started the project as the technology deployed to the project originally is theirs;
- (ii) Partnership or any other acceptable funding arrangement be negotiated to finance the project; and
- (iii) Government should avoid encouraging deployment of different technologies that may further introduce conflict leading to stalling the project once again.

5.16 PUBLIC SERVICE

5.16.1 CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL MATTERS

1. State of the Public Service as Documented in Previous Reports

Conference decided that:

- i. Section 158(i) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) should be reinforced to provide that, while the appointment of the Chairman and the Commissioners of the Federal Civil Service Commission is made by the

President, only seasoned and retired Civil Servants with cognate experience and integrity in Public Sector management should be appointed;

- ii. To reinforce the provision of Section 169 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended), a Civil Service Act should be enacted to provide a legal framework for the effective management, sustainable funding and coordination of the Civil Service. Such an Act, among others, should prohibit transfers into the Directorate level of the Service and prescribe mandatory training as basis for consideration for promotion to the middle management level of the service (Grade Levels 12 to 14) and directorate level (Grade Levels 15 to 17);
 - iii. Sections 171(3) and 208 (3) of the 1999 Constitution, dealing with the appointment of the Head of the Civil Service to either the Federal or State Civil Service be amended to read: "An appointment to the office of the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation shall not be made except from among serving Permanent Secretaries in the Federal Civil Service. The same principle should be applied in the appointment of the Head of the Civil Service of a State;
 - iv. It is important that at all levels, the Constitution specifies that a Permanent Secretary should be appointed from the directorate level of the relevant Civil Service, and must be a person of proven integrity who has not less than ten(10) years experience in the directorate level, having progressed from Grade level 15 to 17;
2. **Federal Character and Other Constitutional Matters:**A law should also be enacted to make it mandatory to have, at the State level, the **State Character Commission to safeguard the interests of Minority Communities.**

5.16.2 NEW CHALLENGES AND REFORMS

a) Size and Cost of Governance

Conference decided that there should be:

- i. Constitutional amendment to the provision in Section 147 (3) which requires that in conformity with the Federal Character provision in Section 14 (3) “the President shall appoint at least one Minister from each State” and replace with a provision that “the President shall appoint not more than one (1) Minister from each State”; and
- ii. Legislators at the National and State levels should function on part-time basis while their allowances should be comparable with what obtains in other arms of the Public Service. Payment of Pension, Life insurance and severance for Legislators (where they exist) should be cancelled in line with global best practices.

b) Presentation, Consideration, Passage and Presidential Assent to the Appropriation Bill

- i. Section 81 (1) of the 1999 Constitution should be amended to specify timelines for the submission and approval of the Budget by the Executive and the Legislature respectively, such that Budget Implementation can commence on 2nd of January every year. The following timelines are proposed:
 - September deadline for presentation of Appropriation Bill by the Executive to the National Assembly;
 - Consideration and Passage of the Bill by the National Assembly not later than 30th November;

- Mr. President’s assent in 30 days; and
- Section 82 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) should be deleted.

c. Performance Management in the Public Service:

A legal framework should be provided for performance management. This will be similar to the United States of America’s Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993.

5.16.3 INCENTIVE FRAMEWORK FOR PUBLIC SERVANTS, SERVICE WELFARE AND PRODUCTIVITY

- The provision of section 173 (3) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) to the effect that “Pensions shall be reviewed every five years or together with any Federal Civil Service salary review, whichever is earlier” has not been complied with after fourteen years of the effectiveness of the Constitution. This should be done immediately; and
- A new sub-section should be introduced in Section 173 of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) to compel Government to review Public Sector pay every five years to take cognizance of trends in the cost of living index.

6 Personnel Pay Management:

Conference decided that:

- a new subsection should be introduced in Section 173 of the 1999 Constitution to compel Government to review Public Sector pay every five years to take cognizance of trends in the cost-of-living index;

- (ii) The state of the art Information Storage and Retrieval System manned by well-trained professional Civil Servants should be installed in the offices of the Secretary to the Government, Head of the Civil Service and all Agencies of government such as the National Orientation Agency Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), as well as similar offices at the State level. All records in the Service should be properly archived in order to have adequate and reliable records of government activities; and
- (iii) In order to have an effective institutional memory system for the enhancement of national capability, there is a need to have a “**Talent Pool**” made up of retired directorate level officers, and Permanent Secretaries, and Heads of Service to enable the Service and the nation benefit from their in- depth knowledge and vast experience.

8. Labour Issues, Including Minimum Wage:

Conference decided that:

Item 34 of Part 1 of the Second Schedule of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) should be retained on the Exclusive Legislative List.

9. Retirement Benefits

Conference decided that:

- i. There should be strict compliance with the provisions of Section 173(3) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) which mandates the review of pension after a salary review exercise or after a five – year period, whichever is earlier. This is applicable to the old Pension System;
- ii. There should be an effort to sanitize and develop an integral register and accurate databank of pensioners in the Federal and States Civil Services

with a view to ensuring prompt payment of all pension entitlements under the Defined Benefit Scheme (Pay – As – You – Go);

- iii. There should be an effort to sanitize and develop an integral register and accurate databank of pensioners in the Federal and States Civil Services with a view to ensuring prompt payment of all pension entitlements under the Defined Benefit Scheme (Pay – As – You – Go scheme);
- iv. Free Medical Service should be available to all Nigerians above the age of sixty (60);
- v. Employers of labour should substantially increase their share of the contribution in the Contributory Pension Scheme to make beneficiaries enjoy benefits as closely as possible with retirees on the old system. This is in view of the fact that the Pay-as-You-Go scheme has a proviso for review after every 5 years or at every upward review of salaries/wages while the new system is static;
- vi. PENCOS should be encouraged to embark on Nationwide Sensitization Programme on the New Contributory Pension Scheme to enable more employers and employees buy into it;
- vii. The Bureau of Statistics should in conjunction with the Nigeria Actuarial Society conduct comprehensive investigations and provide requisite mortality tables which can then be used in the Pension Scheme computations;
- viii. More intensive efforts should be made to identify ghost pensioners, and stiffer penalties should be applied against perpetrators of fraud; and

- ix. Diligent prosecution of all cases of corruption and the creation of Special Courts for speedy prosecution of corruption cases be intensified.

10. Size and Cost of Governance

Conference decided that:

- i. The **Integrated Personnel and Payroll Information System (IPPIS)** be fully implemented to ensure payroll integrity and eliminate ghost workers in the Civil Service, Parastatals, the Legislature, the Judiciary, the Military and the Para-Military; and
- ii. While it is appreciated that the nature of Presidential system of Government necessitates the appointment of 'Special Advisers' and 'Special Assistants' to the President, the Vice President, the Governor and the Deputy Governor, its extension to Ministers, Commissioners and Local Government Chairmen should be discontinued as a cost-saving measure. These categories of political office holders should utilize the staff of their Ministries where it becomes necessary as contained in Circular Ref. No. B63833/73 of January 3, 2000.

11. Budgeting and Public Expenditure Reforms

Conference decided that:

- i. A national framework for monitoring and evaluating budget performance should be established;
- ii. Budget performance targets should be set for MDAs;
- iii. Civil Society Organisation should be encouraged to independently track implementation of programmes and projects;

- iv. Every Appropriation Bill should include key performance indicators and effective sanctions for non-performance; and
- v. New budgeting system should be evolved to deemphasize the line item.

12. **Presentation, Consideration, Passage and Presidential Assent to the Appropriation Bill**

Conference decided that:

There is a need for harmonious relationship between the Executive and Legislative Arms of Government in the overall best interest of the nation. The President and the Leadership of the National Assembly should continue to nurture a harmonious relationship based on mutual respect.

13. **Service Delivery**

Conference decided that:

- i. Every sector and agency of government should be primed for enhanced service delivery;
- ii. Government should design standards of service delivery for all agencies and provide brochures which will explain their services, procedures and standards to the general public;
- iii. Agencies should strive to ensure value for money in the delivery of services;
- iv. There should be provision for redress for citizens who are denied of effective, efficient and courteous service by agencies and/or officials; and

- v. All agencies of government should strive to be customer-driven and there should be periodic customer surveys to measure citizens' satisfaction.

14. Anti-Corruption, Accountability and Transparency

Conference decided that:

- i. Anti-corruption fight must address the root causes of corruption such as poor remuneration in the Public Service, lack of social security, degenerate value system that encourages wealth accumulation and lack of social security;
- ii. Effective steps to involve the three tiers and the three arms of government in the fight against corruption be taken;
- iii. Financial autonomy and adequate funding for anti-corruption agencies should be guaranteed;
- iv. The Public Procurement Act be fully implemented in view of the criticism that has trailed the failure to constitute the National Council on Public Procurement;
- v. Cases of corruption should be diligently prosecuted and the creation of Special Courts for the speedy determination of corruption cases should be actualized;
- vi. Lifestyle of public officers should be monitored and the provisions of the Code of Conduct Bureau enforced;
- vii. Active involvement of CSOs and the Media in the anti-corruption campaign;

- viii. Code of Conduct, Ethics and core values for Public Officers to be provided and enforced ; and
- ix. The Curriculum for Training and Capacity Building programmes should include training, cultivating, nurturing and moulding the conduct (moral and ethical character) of Public Officers and operators of the Public and Civil Service System to imbibe and have the core values of integrity, transparency, accountability, honesty, probity, hard work, humility, courtesy and humanness as desired human quality for enhancing productivity and effective, efficient and timely service delivery.

15. **Performance Management in the Public Service**

Conference decided that:

- i. Every budget should clearly indicate the performance targets and performance indicators for all MDAs;
- ii. The targets and performance indicators should be publicised in the budget document and adequately publicised so that the public can keep track of the performance of MDAs;
- iii. Performance management at the individual level should be accorded the desired emphasis and used as a tool for reward or sanctions in the public service. More specifically, promotion and career progression should be tied to continued good performance;
- iv. The phased implementation of Performance Management recommended by the Adamu Waziri Fika Presidential Committee of 2012 should be adopted; and
- v. Our Government at all levels and those who run them should begin to develop new ways of thinking about the conduct of Government business in line with

the global trend of “Reinventing Governments” to become catalytic, competitive, mission-driven, enterprising, proactive, and market oriented.

16. Capacity Building and Continuous Skill Development

Conference decided that:

- i. Training programme should be based on identified training needs, especially in information and modern technological trends to make Public Servants conversant with new developments and more effective in the delivery of services should be drawn-up. Adequate funding for training should also be provided with at least 10% of personnel cost to be set aside for the purpose;
- ii. Existing Public Service training institutions should, as a matter of urgency, be refurbished and their capacities upgraded. These include the Administrative Staff College of Nigeria (ASCON), Centre for Management Development (CMD) and the Public Service Institute of Nigeria (PSIN) which should be provided with enhanced funding for improved faculty and maintenance;
- iii. New entrants into the Public Service should be exposed to training programmes relevant to their Scheme of Service and career progression; and
- iv. In line with the provision of Public Service Rule 020806, “*Officers who fail promotion examination on three (3) consecutive attempts on the same grade and whose on the job performance has been assessed to be below average shall be required to leave the Service*”.

5.16.4 INCENTIVE FRAMEWORK FOR PUBLIC SERVANTS, SERVICE WELFARE AND PRODUCTIVITY

Conference decided that:

- i. Existing housing policy for Civil Servants should be reviewed to facilitate easy access to mortgage;
- ii. The Civil Service Staff Housing Board should be strengthened and funded to enable it cater for the housing needs of Civil Servants;
- iii. Relevant sections of the Pension Reform Act, 2004 which requires that part of the available funds from the Contributory Pension Scheme be invested in the Real Estate Sector to boost availability of mortgage should be adhered to;
- iv. The operations of the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) should, as a matter of priority, be overhauled. Contributors to the Scheme are currently left without coverage as their health requirements and those of members of their families are just not being met under the Scheme;
- v. Everyone indicted of corruption in relation to pension administration should be promptly brought to justice; and
- vi. On a general note, a Special Court should be established to handle corruption cases in order to expedite their timely disposal as a measure for stemming the high tide of corruption in our system.

5.16.5 INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE REFORMS

Conference decided that:

- i. Reforms are a continuous exercise and there is the need for them to be sustained and deepened by successive administrations;

- ii. There should be wholehearted commitment by the political and bureaucratic leadership to reforms;
- iii. There is need to ensure that reform is focused not only on management but also on leadership, and thereby encouraging the emergence of a critical mass of champion to sustain reforms;
- iv. Critical stakeholders in all sectors and tiers of Government, the Private Sector, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), should be involved in the reform process right from the reform design stage to enhance its credibility and the chances of successful implementation;
- v. Public Sector employees in the three tiers and arms of Government should be committed to reform efforts in order to create a sense of ownership.
- vi. The support of the general public, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and the Media should be enlisted in tracking the implementation of reforms;
- vii. A national system of monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of reforms should be developed.

5.16.6 PERSONNEL PAY MANAGEMENT

Conference decided that:

- i. **The Principle of Comparability** should be restored to Public Sector pay. A new study of the job content and pay structure of both the public and the private sectors should be swiftly undertaken to ensure that comparable work in the Public Sector vis-a-vis the Private Sector attracts comparable pay; and

- ii. There should also be job evaluation in the entire Public Service as a premise for harmonizing pay in the parastatals and agencies with what obtains in the Civil Service. This would not only restore relativity between the pay in the parastatals and agencies viz-a-viz that of the Civil Service, it is also capable of reducing the size of the recurrent budget.
- iii. **Labour Issues Including Minimum Wage and Retirement Age:**

Upward review of retirement age to sixty-five (65) years of age or forty (40) years of service from the present practice of sixty (60) years of age or thirty-five (35) years of service, whichever is earlier.

5.16.7 PERSONS LIVING WITH DISABILITIES

Conference decided that:

- i. Efforts should be made by governments at all levels to make all Public Offices disability-friendly by providing special access facilities for PLWD including RAMPS for wheel chairs, lifts, or special steps to higher floors, etc;
- ii. In Public Offices, special toilets should be provided for PLWD;
- iii. Ministries, Departments and Agencies should have a desk for PLWD which should be occupied by one of them to enable him/her cater adequately for PLWD; and
- iv. Governments at all levels should design Scheme of Service for Sign Language Interpreters so that employment and work of deaf persons Governments at all levels should add an allowance, equivalent to Salary Grade Level 06, to the pay of each PLWD to enable him/her employ an aide.

5.16.8 CREATION OF A SEPARATE FOREIGN SERVICE AND A SEPARATE FOREIGN SERVICE COMMISSION

Conference decided that:

- i.** A Separate Foreign Service should be created;
- ii.** The Separate Foreign Service Commission should have a Chairman and six (6) Commissioners, one from each of the six (6) geo-political zones; and
- iii.** It should be a deliberate policy for all governments to have affirmative action in the employment of PLWD in the Public Service.

5.17 SOCIAL SECTOR

5.17.1 HEALTH

- 1. Universal Health Coverage:** In recognition of the pivotal role the National Health Insurance Scheme plays in the actualization of Universal Health Coverage Conference decided the following:
 - i.** The accelerated passage of the National Health Insurance Commission Bill seeking to amend the National Health Insurance Scheme Act to amongst other provisions:
 - (a)** make it mandatory for employers of labour in the private and public sectors to subscribe to the National Health Insurance Scheme; and
 - (b)** strengthen the existing scheme by transforming it to a commission; and **(c)** provide for a dedicated pool of funds for vulnerable groups.

- ii. The systematized decentralization of the National Health Insurance Scheme to ensure the active involvement of all the three tiers of Government towards enthroning a synergistic approach to achieve Universal Health Coverage;
- iii. The expansion of the Community Based Health Insurance Scheme to cover more people in the informal sector;
- iv. Accelerated passage of the 2012 National Health Bill, which provides 2% of the Consolidated Fund of the Federation for the provision of basic health care services for Nigerians. However, to promote accountability, access to the Primary Health Care Development funds by States and Local Governments should be based on performance audit;
- v. The establishment of dedicated health funds for the provision of health care services. Sources of these funds should include taxes on products injurious to human health (tobacco and alcohol), a percentage of the GSM calls by telecom subscribers;
- vi. Trade Unions, Professional Associations and Civil Society Organizations should be committed to campaigns to promote professionalism, positive ethical conduct and team spirit amongst health workers;
- vii. Increased budgetary allocation to health of a minimum of 15% of Federal, State and Local Government budgets, in line with the 2001 Abuja declaration of African Heads of State, with a portion of the budget dedicated to Universal Health Coverage; and
- viii. The provisions of the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) should be made mandatory and not optional; consequently it should made mandatory

for every employer with more than five staff to undertake health insurance on behalf of every staff.

2. **PRIMARY HEALTHCARE**

- i. **Responsibility for Primary Healthcare:** Primary Healthcare should be the exclusive responsibility of Local Governments with the state providing monitoring, evaluation and technical support;
- ii. **Funding:** All monies meant for Local Governments, including that meant for implementation of Primary Healthcare, should be disbursed to them;
- iii. There should be full implementation of the Primary Healthcare System as enunciated in the Alma Ata Declaration of 1978;
- iv. There should be adequate training of appropriate human resource for health in Primary Healthcare Centres, including the employment of Medical Officers of Health, and other cadres of needed health personnel;
- v. Sustained public education on the benefits of health and healthcare services;
- vi. Collaboration and integration of health-related sectors such as Agriculture, Water, Works, Housing, Education etc.;
- vii. Provision of appropriate conditions of service, welfare benefits and incentives for health workers in the Primary Healthcare Centres;
- viii. Development and funding of an appropriate framework for monitoring and evaluation of Primary Healthcare services;

- ix. Provision of adequate security for Healthcare personnel;
- x. Strengthening the regulatory function of the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency, as well as Federal and States Ministries of Health.
- xi. Government should encourage the training of traditional midwives and birth attendants;
- xii. Health workers posted to rural areas should be given higher incentives than those in the urban areas;
- xiii. To avoid frequent strikes by medical personnel which often disrupt health care delivery services and lead to loss of lives, government should ensure that challenges facing the health are immediately addressed to prevent medical personnel from resorting to strike action; and
- .xv. The Government and National Medical Association (NMA) should enforce extant rules to check and monitor privately owned health facilities to ensure standard and compliance with medical ethics.

3. ***INVESTMENT IN HEALTH***

Conference decided that:

- i. Government should implement the 2001 Abuja Declaration of African Heads of Government which prescribed a minimum allocation of 15% of the national budget for health;
- ii. Public-Private Partnership in Healthcare should be encouraged and strengthened, with single digit low interest loans and incentives to encourage private investment;
- iii. Private entrepreneurs, corporations and multi-lateral agencies should be encouraged to institute foundations and legacies in advancement of health;

- iv. There is need to accelerate the passage of the 2012 National Health Bill which provides for additional funding for Primary Healthcare services;
- v. Training and production of adequate and appropriate health human resource;
- vi. Provision of adequate and standard health infrastructure including ICT and power to Primary, Secondary and Tertiary levels of Healthcare;
- vii. Taxes on products that constitute health hazards (Tobacco and Alcohol); one percent consumer tax on telecommunication services;
- viii. Enhanced coverage of National Health Insurance Scheme;
- ix. Formulation of an effective National Health Research Policy with adequate funding; and
- x. Establishment and promotion of daily immunization against Vaccine Preventable Diseases in all public and private hospitals, Health Centres, Clinics and Healthcare facilities in the country to achieve full immunization of our children.

4. EMPHASIS ON PREVENTIVE HEALTH

1. Arising from the globally acknowledged fact that ‘prevention is better than cure’ and the current high disease burden in Nigeria as a result of the rising incidence of preventable, Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), Conference decided the following:

- i. Public Health education, including specific programmes on school health and nutrition services;
- ii. Revival and enforcement of sanitary inspection and environmental health services as provided in the extant public health laws;
- iii. Legislate to prohibit installation of telecommunication masts in residential neighbourhoods and to prohibit other practices that negatively impact on health including female genital mutilation(FGM);
- iv. Enforcement of extant legislation prohibiting indiscriminate advertisements of herbal and medicinal products and services;
- v. Improved Environmental Health Services;
- vi. Policy to set aside a special day for annual health check-up at all levels of Government;
- vii. Strengthening of Disease Surveillance mechanism to enhance prevention and prompt detection of disease at Local and State levels.
- viii. Strengthening of Emergency Response Services;
- ix. Standardization and strengthening of Port Health services across all ports of entry in Nigeria, including quarantine services;
- x. Harmonization of existing Regional Public Health Laws in Nigeria;
- xi. Government should employ ICT; in particular, the Social Media to campaign for Preventive Health, provide information on reproductive health, and monitor national epidemics through electronic surveillance; and
- xii. Government should re-introduce the Sanitary Inspectors for the purpose of household health facilities in homes and public places

5. ALTERNATIVE/HERBAL MEDICINE

1.0.1.1 There are alternative and complementary forms of medicine to the orthodox institutionalized medical care which the health system duly prioritizes. Herbal medicine is a central element of these, particularly but not limited to the rural

areas. These forms of medicine have been with us before the advent of orthodox medicine from the West, which is now universally practiced;

1.0.1.2 It could be arguably stated that at least some of these have been proven to be efficacious. There are however critical elements of concern about them. These dwell squarely on: regulations, and standardization, through scientific methods of verification;

In light of the foregoing, Conference decided that there should be:

- i. Effective regulation and standardization of herbal medical practice;
- ii. Promotion of research into the development of herbal medicine;
- iii. The systematized integration of herbal and alternative medicines into health system should be vigorously pursued by the Federal and States Ministries of Health;
- iv. The Federal Ministry of Health should study and draw lessons from how countries such as South Korea, Malaysia, and particularly China with its acupuncture, bridged the gap between orthodox and herbal/alternative medicine;
- v. Institutions such as the College for Complementary and Alternative Medicines which have been established for clearer understanding of herbal and related medicine should be strengthened;
- vi. The Federal Government should dedicate special funds to support houseman-ship and residency training programmes for medical doctors; and

- vii. Government should initiate a policy that would mandate drivers of vehicles to undergo regular medical check. All Public Officers and those aspiring to Public Offices should undergo mandatory drugs, alcohol, and sanity check-up.

6. COMBATING THE SPREAD OF FAKE, ADULTERATED OR SUB-STANDARD DRUGS

Conference noted the problems associated with fake, adulterated drugs, and recommended:

- i. Closer relations should be established between NAFDAC and sister organizations in countries where drugs meant for the Nigerian market are procured from;
- ii. Regular updating of the compendium of drug manufacturing companies whose medications can be sold or used in Nigeria;
- iii. Stiffer penalties should be instituted for persons and corporate bodies that produce, sell or knowingly use fake, adulterated or sub-standard drugs, including life imprisonment in a case where fake drug is proven to be directly linked to the death of a patient;
- iv. A regular updating of a list of drugs considered sub-standard should be drawn up periodically and made available to all Healthcare facilities in the country to ensure they do not find their way into the drug distribution network;
- v. Regulatory agencies and companies involved in the importation of drugs and raw pharmaceutical materials should ensure that their ideal storage conditions are strictly adhered to, in order to maintain the potency;

- vi. There should be review of law (s) on fake drugs to incorporate life imprisonment (without pardon) for importation, distribution and sale of fake drugs; and
- vii. The Government and National Medical Association (NMA) should enforce extant rules to check and monitor privately owned health facilities to ensure standard and compliance with medical ethics.

7. ZERO TOLERANCE FOR MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE

- i. Factors that could hinder the optimal functioning of healthcare providers should be limited through the quantitative (employment) and qualitative (on-the-job-training) of human resources for health. Appropriate health infrastructure should be provided;
- ii. Ensure occupational safety and health in line with National Guidelines are provided in all health facilities;
- iii. Making SERVICOM more visible in public health facilities so that patients could avail themselves of this channel for reporting questionable service delivery;
- iv. Institution of stiffer penalties for negligence by healthcare professionals;
- v. Closer collaboration between health professional associations, their regulatory bodies and the Federal Ministry of Health towards promoting a strict sense of professionalism;

8. MEDICAL TOURISM

Conference decided that:

- i. There should be restriction of Government sponsorship of public officers for foreign medical care;

- ii. Except for exceptional cases that need referral abroad, all public officers in need of Government sponsorship for medical care should mandatorily utilize local health facilities;
- iii. These exceptional cases should be screened by a medical board made up of appropriate medical and Healthcare professionals;
- iv. The recommendations of the board should be subject to the approval of the Chief Medical Adviser to the Federal Government (Honourable Minister of Health) *except* where such exceptional cases are serious emergencies, in which instance immediate approval may be given;
- v. There is need for improvement in the quality of healthcare services in Nigeria;
- vi. There should be deliberate efforts to re-orientate the attitude of healthcare workers to patients in Nigeria;
- vii. There is need for improved political commitment to health by political office holders;
- viii. There is need to strengthen accountability processes in the various health Parastatals and agencies of Government at all levels; and
- ix. Appropriate compensation should be paid to the families of victims of medical negligence.

9. INCREASE IN CASES OF WRONG DIAGNOSIS:

There is a worrying increase in the phenomenon of wrong diagnosis which encompasses both clinical and investigative components of healthcare

services. This has in several cases led to the deaths of several Nigerians. To address these issues, Conference decided that there is need to:

- i. Ensure that there are modern equipment for diagnosis in our health facilities;
- ii. Make the constant supply of power supply in health facilities by every means possible a top notch priority in the country;
- iii. Improve on facilities for the storage of reagents;
- iv. Place great premium on capacity building for health professionals, particularly in this case for those that manage ultra-modern equipment;
- v. End the unnecessary crises in the health sector by ensuring that people keep to their areas of training and core-competence;
- vi. Institutionalize discipline, ethical and international best practice in all areas of our healthcare services; and
- vii. Ensure that public servants take responsibility for their action and those of their subordinates.

10. THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF INCESSANT STRIKES ON THE HEALTH SYSTEM

Conference decided that there should be:

- i. Promotion of teamwork and collaboration between the different professionals rooted in the principle of justice, equity, mutual respect and international best practices;

- ii. Health workers should adhere to their areas of certified professional competence and work as a team in the interest of the healthcare system;
- iii. Negotiation and agreements between Government, Unions and Associations in the health sector should be based on international best practice;
- iv. Strict adherence to existing labour laws, Public Service Rules, and Ethical Code of Conduct pertaining to industrial action is essential;
- v. All parties should respect collective bargaining agreements at all times and promote negotiations as the basis of peaceful industrial relations; and
- vi. Government should strive to improve the terms and conditions of service of public health workers.

5.17.2 EDUCATION

1. GENERAL ISSUES

Conference decided that:

- i. Federal Government should focus on tertiary education because it is capital intensive and very critical to manpower development for all facets of humans endeavour;
- ii. Government should increase funds to better equip laboratories for practical classes especially in the science based disciplines in tertiary institutions;
- iii. The 30:70 polytechnic and 40:60 universities ratio in favour of science based courses during admission should be strictly enforced;
- iv. Regular meetings with the various unions, a review of existing agreements and implementation of agreements should be undertaken to forestall frequent strikes by unions;
- v. Pro- Chancellors should be persons who can attract funds for the institutions.

- vi. Considering the carrying capacity of our institutions, JAMB results should last two years to enable the student have another trial to secure admission;
- vii. Government and unions should own up to agreements reached and Government should set up a high powered standing committee headed by a respected expert in negotiation to intervene in future potential dispute between union and government;
- viii. The quality of programmes offered in the National Open University should be strengthened to improve standards;
- ix. Government should facilitate the removal of dichotomy on polytechnic/university graduates;
- x. Government should establish a financial institution that will give loan to student from less privilege homes to attend both public and private institutions;
- xi. That the Federal State and Local Governments should as a matter of urgent public importance, establish institutions to absorb OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN (who lack the opportunity to further their education, at whatever level) under apprenticeship schemes linked up with vocational schools, adult education, mass education and other educational programmes. These schemes should be adequately funded by the Governments as the case may be and made attractive to encourage enrolment of every out-of-school child; and
- xii. Industries should be compelled to accept students on industrial attachment.

2. RESTRUCTURING THE CURRICULUM

Conference decided that there should be:

- i. Implementation of the new Basic Education Curriculum through
 - a) Recruitment, training and retention of teachers
 - b) Provision of necessary infrastructure
 - c) Provision of learning resources

Conference also decided that:

- ii. Government should ensure that the education system through the Curriculum inculcate in children at early stages, the following:
 - d) Peace

- e) Democratic principles
- f) Strength in Diversity; and
- g) Other Nigerian values

Conference further decided as follows:

- iii. The implementation of the 3-3 secondary school curriculum should be enforced to facilitate Technical and Vocational Education skills acquisition for employment;
- iv. Commercial publishers should be encouraged to produce books to support the curriculum as well as Teachers Guides;
- v. The education system through the curriculum should inculcate the spirit of enterprise, with government encouraging small and medium enterprises;
- vi. Curriculum operated by the national school system and that of private schools should be harmonized;
- vii. Exchange of ideas and resources between public and private schools should be encouraged;
- viii. Quality assurance should be strengthened at both the federal and state levels;
- ix. The already approved Teachers Salary Scale (TSS) should be maintained, protected by law and implemented with other welfare packages;
- x. The current school curriculum is overloaded and therefore the use of thematic approach should be employed in the selection of subjects for the students;
- xi. Three years pre-primary (early childhood) education provided in the National Policy on Education (NPE) and the 2005 Conference was hardly implemented before government enacted a new policy of one year pre-primary school to commence at 5 years of age. However, it is recommended that there should be a two year pre-primary school education to start from age four;
- xii. Funding and implementation of the approved National Vocational framework to improve technical and Vocational education for job opportunities. The NUC, NBTE and such other bodies should be firm and objective in the conduct of accreditation exercise in tertiary institutions;

- xiii. All teachers should be given a period to be ICT practical compliance and be rewarded and all teaching ICT computer appreciations should be introduced at all levels;
- xiv. Drug education should be included in the curriculum of our Primary and Secondary Schools;
- xv. All states in the country should be encouraged to domesticate the Child Right Act to enforce right to education;
- xvi. A state of emergency should be declared on Basic Education in Northern Nigeria;
- xvii. The teaching of History should be made mandatory in Secondary Schools to sustain our historical heritage;
- xviii. Government should as a matter of urgency declare a state of emergency in the education sector. It should therefore ensure that education gets at least 20% of budget allocation annually;
- xix. State Governments should stop withholding funds belonging to Local Government Areas but can supervise the LGAs to ensure that they prioritize primary education;
- xx. Government should discourage automatic promotion of pupils and students to new classes in primary and secondary schools;
- xxi. Religious knowledge, civic, nature studies, history and dictation should be reintroduced into the primary and secondary schools curricula;
- xxii. Those Nigerian universities should recognize and encourage e-learning programmes;
- xxiii. Government should formulate and implement a policy that would strictly limit the number of students per class in schools; and
- xxiv. Salary of teachers should be reviewed upwardly.

3. INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION

Conference decided that:

- i. State governments must strengthen their commitment to Basic Education as it represents the most important stage of socialization of the child;

- ii. State governments must regularly and promptly release their counterpart funds in order to access UBEC funds for quality education;
- iii. State Governments should be given free hand in the utilization of UBEC Intervention Funds including in areas relating to purchase of learning materials and teacher capacity development;
- iv. In line with the recognized importance of education to national development and the need to address urgent challenges of access and quality, the CRF for UBEC should be increased from 2% to 4% also for TETFund, the percentage should be from 2% to 4%. This will increase funds available through these sources by 100%;
- v. The Federal Government should support States in monitoring and developing capacity to implement Basic Education programmes;
- vi. Appointment of managers in the sector such as education secretaries, principals, provosts, rectors, vice-chancellors and related officials should be on merit. Targets should be set for them which should determine whether they can retain their positions;
- vii. Strengthen mechanisms to encourage fiscal responsibility, value for money and reduce corruption in the system;
- viii. Encourage private sector participation in education through partnerships and direct investments;
- ix. Enhance investments in capacity development of all levels of personnel in the education sector;
- x. Establish strong project implementation units in all education agencies and tertiary institutions;
- xi. Stop the double taxation of private school proprietors by the Ministry of Education and the Board of Internal Revenue to help reduce fees paid in the private schools;
- xii. Federal and State governments should continue to finance education through adequate annual budgetary provision of at least 26% funding, release of budgeted funds as first line charge and ensuring that funds released are spent with attention to prudence and value for money;

- xiii. The Universal Basic Education (UBE) programme should be extended from Junior Secondary School (JSS 3) to Senior Secondary School (SSS3);
- xiv. The teaching of History should be made mandatory in Secondary Schools to sustain our historical heritage;
- xv. The concept of “community service” should be introduced in our educational curriculum;
- xvi. A Polytechnics Commission should be established;
- xvii. Federal, State and Local Governments should establish vocational schools for out of school children; and
- xviii. Substantial funds for the provision of infrastructural and instructional facilities for library education in our institutions, departments, and in public places, should be budgeted for and made available to the public.

4. NATIONAL POLICY ON EDUCATION

Conference decided that:

- i. Primary education should be regulated and controlled by Local Governments; Secondary School by the State Governments and tertiary institutions and Unity Schools by the Federal Government except in case of special intervention;
- ii. State governments should implement policy on establishment of ECCDE Centres in all public primary schools;
- iii. Provision of relevant resources is needed to implement the policy, through:
 - a. Regularly reviewed curriculum;
 - b. Qualified teachers;
 - c. Provision of infrastructure and learning tools; and
 - d. Funding.
- iv. Inspectorate Services at Federal and State levels should be strengthened to collaborate in enhancing the standard of Basic Education;
- v. Regulatory agencies of tertiary institutions – NBTE, NCCE, and NUC should ensure that minimum standards for running courses are met to enhance quality of products of the institutions;
- vi. Pupils in primary schools must complete primary 6 and sit for the First School Leaving Certificate before being admitted into JSS 1;

- vii. Pupils must be six years in September of the year of admission to be eligible for admission into primary one to curtail the growing number of under-age pupils in our primary schools;
- viii. The UBE Act (2004) should sanctions against parents and guardians who prevent their children and wards from acquiring Basic Education should be enforced;
- ix. Encourage parents to support their children through proper care, protection, guidance and other needs to enhance their educational attainment;
- x. Implement strategies on the eradication of examination malpractice, miracle centres, secret cults, sexual harassment and other abuses in the education system should be implemented and offenders punished accordingly;
- xi. Education administrators must be empowered to perform their functions with targets set for them;
- xii. Regular review of the Education Policy in line with national needs;
- xiii. Emphasis should be placed on the teaching of history, civics and skills in schools.
- xiv. Almajiri education should be mainstreamed into the National Policy on Education for sustainability;
- xv. When establishing schools in rural areas teachers' accommodation should also be considered as important as the school;
- xvi. Monitoring and Accountability principles should be put in place to encourage successful implementation of government education programmes; and
- xvii. Federal Polytechnics and Colleges of Education should be established in each state.

a. RETURN OF MISSIONARY AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS TO THE ORIGINAL OWNERS.

Conference decided that:

- i. Government and owners of missions/private schools should dialogue to facilitate the handover of all missions and private schools to their owners;

- ii. In returning the schools, it should be ensured that they are affordable and able to serve wider variety of the public as in the original concept of mission schools;
- iii. There should be regulation of fees paid by mission and private schools;
- iv. Mission and private schools should provide assistance to the local community through scholarships and other services;
- v. Children from different denominations should not be **discriminated against** in the admission process; and
- vi. Staff of the institutions should have the option of remaining with the institution or being absorbed into government service in the case of return of the mission and private schools to their original owners.

6.0 NOMADIC EDUCATION

Conference decided that:

- i. The 2% UBEC CRF be increased to 4% and be redistributed to accommodate agencies such as nomadic education;
- ii. Technical and Vocational Education should be integrated into the Nomadic Education Curriculum to enhance the acquisition of skills;
- iii. Special incentives should be put in place to attract teachers for the nomadic schools;
- iv. More schools to accommodate more nomadic school children across the country should be built up; and
- v. Peace Education as a component of Nomadic Education should be adequately funded and implemented.

7.0 INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE ALMAJIRI (QURANIC) EDUCATION SYSTEM

Conference decided that:

- i. Federal and State Governments should collaborate to expand the Almajiri Education Programme in States with large numbers of the almajiri children;

- ii. The Federal Government should build additional Almajiri Schools to bring them up to 400 as originally planned;
- iii. A ten-year plan of sustained implementation should be put in place with a view to providing access to all children ;
- iv. Convert all Almajiri schools to normal schools and integrate Quranic education curriculum to absorb the millions of out of school children; and provide free basic education with free uniforms, books and mid-day meals for all children from Primary 1 to Junior Secondary 3.

8.0 TEACHER EDUCATION

- i. Recruit professional teachers to address challenges of teacher shortage across the Basic Education sector;
- ii. Provide incentives to encourage retention of qualified teachers;
- iii. Ensure political will to regularly and promptly pay teachers in primary and secondary schools to enhance efficiency and effectiveness;
- iv. Support the implementation of the new Teacher Education Curriculum across all;
- v. Entry qualifications for pre-service teacher training should be good and high to ensure good quality teachers, encourage competence and better professional image/prestige;
- vi. Retrain unqualified teachers to support their acquisition of skills;
- vii. Provide continuous professional development programmes for teachers.
- viii. All teachers must be registered by the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) to enhance professional development activities;
- ix. Enforce discipline among teachers, pupils and students at all levels of the education system for moral development and effectiveness; and
- x. Provide Teachers Guides for all subjects to support effective teaching.

9.0 ADULT AND NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

- i. All levels of government should make adequate provisions for adult and non-formal education;
- ii. Increase CRF to 4% and redistribute 2% CRF to cover adult and non-formal education as it addresses Basic Education requirements;
- iii. Provide incentives to attract teachers of adult education; and
- iv. Provide infrastructure and learning resources to support the growth and effectiveness of adult and non-formal education programmes.

10 SPECIAL EDUCATION

Conference decided that:

- a. Governments and other stakeholders should endorse inclusive schooling and special needs education as an integral part of our educational curriculum;
- ii. Special needs schools should be constructed in collaboration with Faith-Based Organizations and other private providers of education;
- iii. Existing Special Needs Schools should be expanded to accommodate more children with the needed Special Education equipment;
- iv. Teachers should be trained and provided with adequate incentives for special needs schools;
- v. A Special Education Commission should be Establishment cater for the comprehensive needs of Special Education;
- vi. The present 2% allocation from the 2% Intervention Fund for Special Education should be increased to 5%; and
- vii. Technical and Vocational Education should be integrated into the Special Education Curriculum.

1. TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (TVET)

Conference decided that:

- i. Government should note that TVET is the pre-requisite to a successful industrial base;
- ii. Government and the private sector should collaborate to set up more technical institutions;
- iii. Government should comprehensively fund the rehabilitation and upgrading of public TVET institutions at all levels;
- iv. Government must work to remove dichotomy relating to progression in employment as it relates to qualifications that people hold. Rather, emphasis should be on assessment of abilities and productivity;
- v. Government should support a campaign to promote TVET and its importance to the population; and
- vi. TVET should be fully integrated in all aspects of education.

2. GIRLS EDUCATION

Conference decided that:

- i. Government and non-government organizations should encourage greater enrolment, retention and completion of schools by children;
- ii. Economic incentive programmes should be provided for parents to enable them send their children to school;
- iii. Special girls schools should be constructed in order to address culture issues where parents prefer single-sex schools for their children;
- iv. Adequate security should be provided for all schools especially perimeter fencing; and
- v. Legal framework should be provided for pregnant girls, married girls and girl-mothers to access Basic Education.

5.17.3 HOUSING AND SOCIAL SECURITY

1. OVERVIEW AND GENERAL RECOMMENDATION:

Conference decided that:

- i. Given the importance of the social sector to the wellbeing of citizens and the optimal functioning of the economy, a significant step towards achieving this goal will require the enactment of a comprehensive Bill of Rights, as a Social Charter underlying the bond between government and citizens;
- ii. Such a Comprehensive Bill of Rights will include all Human Rights – Civil and Political, Social, Economic, Environmental, and Cultural rights. These should be contained in a single justiciable and enforceable chapter of the constitution;
- iii. In the present context in Nigeria this will require combining all the provisions of chapters 2 and 4 of the 1999 constitution as amended into a single chapter that will be made justiciable;
- iv. In this context, a Comprehensive Bill of Rights means a chapter of the Constitution including an exhaustive listing of all the Human rights recognized by the UN; while the Social Charter nature of such a Bill is derived from its enforceability as well as from the fact that it represents an actionable bond between citizens and their governments at all levels; and
- v. To make implementation easier the social charter should include clauses:
 - a) On progressive realization of the right; and
 - b) The requirement for Annual Progress Report by governments at various levels.

2 HOUSING: AFFORDABLE HOUSING

1. ACCESS TO LAND

Conference decided that:

- a) The conditions and criteria for calculating compensation in cases where land is taken over for public use should be reviewed.
- b) The justiceability of the Right to Housing proposed in the Bill of Rights/Social Charter as a basis to enforce Political will on the part of governments to implement progressive parts of existing policies, legislation and programs; in particular the provisions, sections, and or chapters that deal directly with Provisioning Social Housing; promoting affordable housing; and the requirements for standards and quality should be utilized.
- c) Immediate steps should be taken to establish the National Commission on Lands in accordance with the National Housing Policy.
- d) Town and rural planning policies should be in synch with the National Housing Policy.

3 ACCESS TO HOUSING FUNDS

Conference decided that:

- a) Access to mortgage and housing financing should be improved by reviewing criteria for accessing funds to ensure low interest long tenure funding regime;
- b) The Sovereign Wealth Fund [SWF] should be used as security for housing funds bonds to finance housing development;
- c) Mobilization of funds for housing development through encouragement of Diaspora investments in the sector should be intensified;
- d) Cooperative societies should be strengthened in their role and function of providing funds especially for housing development for the rural dwellers and the urban poor;
- e) Retirement benefits should be as collateral for housing loans; and
- f) Micro insurance should be active promoted to insure risks in micro finance for affordable housing for the low income earners, rural dwellers and urban poor.

1.0 INSTITUTIONAL AND SOCIAL FRAMEWORK:

Conference decided that:

- i. The roles and responsibilities of the different tiers of government in providing affordable housing should be clearly delineated, and coordination between and among the tiers of government strengthened and made mandatory;
- ii. The relevant policy frameworks must make stakeholder participation in designing and implementing the housing policies and programs obligatory and prescribe penalties for excluding stakeholders;
- iii. Recognizing that it is the responsibility of government to provide an enabling environment and coordinate interventions in the housing sector; government must take the lead in making affordable housing accessible to citizens in particular rural dwellers and the urban poor;
- iv. In accordance with provisions of vision 2020:20, government should invest in development of building materials sector as way of bringing down costs and ensuring access to affordable building materials;
- v. Housing Development and Financing Corporations should be established by state and Federal Governments;
- vi. A clear framework of responsibilities and roles should be agreed among stakeholders. For instance, who is to provide infrastructure, funding, coordination and management in the era of Public Private Partnership (PPP);
- vii. Policy frameworks and administrative processes should address the challenges faced by developers, and should be supportive of the goal of affordable housing rather than being inhibitive;
- viii. Local Government Councils should be involved in the provision of affordable Rural Housing Development;

- ix. There should be massive investment particularly the use of local materials for housing as a means of bringing down cost of building materials and housing in general;
- x. A comprehensive program for ensuring affordable housing, bridging the Housing deficit over a specific period of time, as well as anticipating growing future housing needs should be developed and implemented;
- xi. States and local government councils should mandatorily invest in planned rural development in particular to ensure provision of basic infrastructures in the rural areas, to stem rural urban drift and reduce cost of housing; and
- xii. The needs of the vulnerable, of senior citizens, and of people living with disability with respect to housing should be addressed by policy, legislation and practice.

2.0 SOCIAL SECURITY

1. RIGHTS OF SENIOR CITIZENS

Conference decided that Nigeria should:

- i. adopt the UN definition of the elderly as persons who are 60 years and above;
- ii. Enact legislation to enhance human rights of older persons through the development of a bill of rights for senior citizens that will be a part of the comprehensive bill of rights and social charter. This Senior Citizens Bill of Rights will establish the right of senior citizens to affordable and appropriate care, healthcare, recreational facilities, social security where relevant, appropriate nutrition, appropriate housing, and address challenges around transportation needs of the elderly among others;

- iii. Take immediate steps to develop and adopt a national policy framework on senior citizens and that will implement the Senior Citizen Bill of rights;
- iv. The Conference noted the existence of a pending bill on the establishment of a National Agency for Elderly Persons. In this regard the Conference recommended that this bill be passed urgently and assented to by the President;
- v. Senior Citizens should as a matter of urgency be accommodated and integrated into the National Health Insurance Scheme.
- vi. Health and geriatric care systems for the elderly should be strengthened by developing appropriate human resource and infrastructure;
- vii. Adequately resourced public sector-led Community-based and centred Integrated Care system for the elderly should be established;
- viii. Intergenerational solidarity through integrated programs should be strengthened;
- ix. Early preparation of the youth through the educational system to understand the challenges and benefits that come with aging and better prepare them to care for the elderly should be embraced;
- x. Government at all levels should ensure social protection and income security of older persons through the establishment of a comprehensive Social Security Fund for the Elderly, the vulnerable, the indigent, and the unemployed; and a Social Security Commission to manage the fund and social security process; and
- xi. All pensioners earning less than the approved minimum wage should be paid the equivalent of the national minimum wage (N18, 000).

1.1 ESTABLISHMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY FUND

Conference decided as follows:

- i. A Contributory Social Security fund, with Workers and businesses in both the formal and informal sectors contributing;
- ii. A designated agency or commission to manage the social security funds;

- iii. Assured Stakeholder participation;
- iv. Assured Synergy between the pension policy and Social Security Fund;
- v. Development and regular update of the Social Security Beneficiary Register to be managed by the designated body, and domiciled in the National Planning Commission;
- vi. A concerted drive to get every citizen earning an income to register to contribute to and participate in the Fund; and
- vii. The Nigerian Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) Bill currently before the National Assembly, which covers such areas as Old-Age Scheme, Employment (Work) Scheme, Unemployment Benefit, Family/Child Benefits and Medical Care Benefit among others, should be passed expeditiously.

5.17.4 UNEMPLOYED NIGERIANS (LINKED WITH POVERTY AND WEALTH CREATION)

Conference decided that as follows:

- i. Repatriate monies stolen and taken abroad to create jobs;
- ii. Encourage Diaspora investment in business development, wealth creation and employment generation;
- iii. Promote concerted public and private sector Investment in business development and the provision of enabling environment for business to grow and be profitable; thus creating jobs through an active industrialization process;
- iv. Take immediate appropriate steps towards Increase capacity utilization of industries and enterprises; through increased and sustainable power generation, reduced cost of doing business, and improved access to funds at affordable interests rates among others.

- v. Promote agriculture as a business and support small scale agro business; through for instance the encouragement of willing young persons interested in agro-business;
- vi. Create enabling environment for the informal sector to access loans for business development, by making criteria for accessing loans friendly to business development and in particular small business development;
- vii. Ensure development and implementation of Employment friendly and inclusive wealth generating economic policies and economic planning processes;
- viii. Create awareness on employment generation and business development among citizens;
- ix. Invest in basic infrastructure that supports industrial, business and agricultural development; in particular transport, storage, energy, etc;
- x. Ensure succession planning in public sector through periodic recruitment and retraining of personnel; and
- xi. Institutionalize a Social Security of 20,000 Naira [but not less than approved minimum wage] for those who are not earning an income.

5.17.5 POVERTY AND WEALTH CREATION:

Additional Recommendations on Wealth Creation

1.0 Wealth Creation

Conference decided that:

- i. Political and economic policies and legislation that promote inclusive growth, business development, and equitable distribution of wealth should be urgently designed and implemented;

- ii. Value addition through industrialization and business development should be embraced by Government at all levels;
- iii. Human resource in the country should be utilized for inclusive economic growth;
- iv. Education for human capacity development should be promoted;
- v. Cooperative society approach to business development should be promoted.

1. PENSION AND GRATUITY

a) RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE OLD SYSTEM:

Conference decided that there should be:

- i. Strict adherence to the constitutional provisions as contained in Section 173 of the 1999 constitution as amended with respect to pensions. Any violation of these provisions should be considered a constitutional breach, and should be punishable;
- ii. Appropriate annual budgetary allocation to ensure full and prompt payment of pensions;
- iii. A supplementary budget to pay in full the pension arrears in four installments, once every quarter;
- iv. Full payment without any deductions of the 53.4% pension increase approved since July 2010; and

- v. Harmonization of the pension payment for all categories of pensioners regardless of year of retirement, to close the gap between earlier and more recent retirees;

In addition to the foregoing, Conference decided that:

- vi. Records compiled during the previous Biometric Data Capture exercise, be updated and utilized in administering the pension scheme instead of embarking on another data capture exercise which will amount to wasting of resources; and
- vii. Administration of the Old pension scheme for civil servants should be removed forthwith from the office of the Head Of Service of the Federation and placed under the direct management and supervision of the Ministry Of Finance.

b) RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE NEW PENSION SYSTEM:

Conference decided that:

- i. There is an urgent need to amend the 2004 Pension Act to include a provision, to hold the pension commission responsible and prescribe penalties;
- ii. Pension payments should subsist for life, while the elderly in our society who do not benefit from any pension should be entitled to social security payments of a minimum of N50,000 monthly;
- iii. Retirement benefits for same level at retirement regardless of the interval involved should be harmonized;

- iv. Salary reviews should be reflected in calculating pension benefits across the board, in particularly reference to long time retirees. Salary increases should automatically affect retirees in both the old and new pension systems;
- v. There is need to urgently resuscitate the use of smart cards and software based on biometric data capturing to be used by pension beneficiaries as a way to combat fraud;
- vi. Government should ensure full coverage of citizens, pension fund administrators and the National Pension Commission should be obliged to begin forthwith a comprehensive program of registering the informal sector workers under the 2004 Pensions Act;
- viii. Retirees should be allowed as groups to take loans from the pension funds for business development purposes;
- ix. Given that political office holders are professionals who when they leave office return to their professions and other gainful employment, Conference recommended the immediate cessation and banning of making severance payments to political office holders at all levels; and
- xi. There should be an open and independent Judicial Commission of Inquiry into pension fraud led by a retired Chief Justice of Nigeria.

xii. INSURANCE

Conference decided that:

- i. The insurance sector should be recognized as the basic guarantor with respect to risk, of all financial transactions;
- ii. Mandatory policy of insuring risks in every transaction, including trade and investments, housing, properties, mortgage, social security etc must be introduced and enforced. In this regard there is the urgent need to review existing national policies and programs on

- Housing, Education, Social security, etc to integrate the provision of insurance services in the social sector;
- iii. There is an urgent need to develop and adopt a National Policy on Risk that will in particular factor insurance into disasters and emergencies management;
 - iv. Review and amendment of the National Emergencies Management Act be undertaken in order to integrate the provision of insurance services into it;
 - v. Amendment of the Tax Act should be undertaken to review the tax regime for the insurance sector. The amendment to the Tax Act 2007 should address the inconsistencies with the Insurance Act 2003, the insurance industry operational guidelines and statement of accounting standards;
 - vi. There is the need to expedite action on the passage of the Consolidated Insurance bill;
 - vii. All government properties and assets at all levels must be covered by insurance;
 - viii. All employers of labour must be made to cover their employees for group life and personal accident;
 - ix. Because of the frequent rates of building collapse; every building and building under construction must be insured;
 - x. There should be mandatory insurance of projects funded by development partners;
 - xi. The Commissioner of Insurance at the National Insurance Commission should also play advisory role to the Federal Government and its agencies with regards to insurance coverage;
 - xii. The insurance industry should create more awareness for greater understanding by citizens of the necessity for insurance cover; and
 - xiii. A Task Force should be established to tackle the problem of fraud and fake operators in the industry.

5.17.6 GENDER

1. Gender and Development

Conference decided that:

- i. In order to achieve social justice, it is imperative that the Nigeria Constitution conforms to global standards and International Conventions, first, in the use of the language, which distinguishes the male gender from the female gender. To achieve this, Conference recommended that the use of the masculine pronoun ‘he’ to include women, which appears in the 1999 Constitution about 235 times should be deleted as it constitutes an unequal status between men and women. The pronouns “he” “him/his” wherever they appear should be replaced with he/she, his/hers as appropriate. Conference noted that it is necessary to divest the Constitution of its masculinity and make it gender sensitive, recognizing that not only men are citizens in Nigeria but men and women in an inclusive democratic country Nigeria;
- ii. There should be specific inclusion of gender equality in the Fundamental Rights provision of the Constitution in Chapter 4 of the 1999 Constitution of Federal Republic of Nigeria by the inclusion of the term “gender” to other areas of discrimination. Section 42 (1) &(2) should be merged and read as follows:-

Section 42 (1): “A person shall not be discriminated against on grounds of ethnic group, place of origin, sex, religion political opinion, social or economic status, gender, disabilities or circumstances of birth”.

- iii. Federal Character provision should also include gender consideration. Based on the principles of democracy, inclusiveness and social justice. Section 14 (3) of the Constitution should be amended to read, after the word ‘group’, include the phrase “or from a particular gender” The text should read as follows:-

“The composition of the Government of the Federation or any of its agencies and the conduct of its affairs shall be carried out in such a manner as to reflect the federal character of Nigeria and the need to promote national unity, and also to command national loyalty, thereby ensuring that there shall be no predominance of persons from a few State or from a few ethnic or other sectional groups or from a particular gender” in that Government or in any of its agencies”.

- iv. In addition, Section 223 (b) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria should be amended to include **“Federal Character of Nigeria and gender”**; and
- v. There should be Gender mainstreaming of all laws policies and programmes for the development of the Nation.

5.17.7 DISCRIMINATION

Conference noted that:

- i. Federal Government should put into effective use, the National Policy on Women adopted in 2004 and which was replaced with the National Gender Policy in 2006;
- ii. A bill on the Abolition of all forms of Discrimination against Women in Nigeria should be moved and passed into law to address the issue of discrimination and violence against women and maltreatment of widows;

- iii. States of the Federation should be encouraged to pass laws against the maltreatment of widows and **widowers**; and
- iv. Respective relevant institutions should organize sensitization programmes, supported by government to discourage traditions that rubbish human dignity.

5.17.8 STATUS OF MARRIED WOMEN

Conference decided that there should be:

- i. Constitutional amendment and enactment of additional relevant legislations (including the National Gender Policy) to strengthen the protection of married women and prevention of child marriage;
- ii. Development of the capacity of the Nigerian Courts to apply international African and ECCOWAS instruments and Protocols in national contexts as they affect women and the girl child in the country;
- iii. Organisation of institutional mechanisms including civil society into a model capable of advancing women protection, access to opportunities and development in the country; and
- iv. Establishment of a funding and financing model capable of facilitating speedy implementation of outcomes of the National Conference on the matter and onward operation of women protection and development in the country.

4. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Conference decided that:

- i. *“The State at all levels shall put in place 35% affirmative action to ensure that women, minorities, people with disabilities and*

other marginalized groups participate and are represented in governance and other spheres of life”;

- ii. *“The affirmative action policy herein provided shall be a temporary measure to operate for not less than 10 years after which it shall be assessed to determine its continuance”;*
- iii. Section 147: to include *“No gender shall occupy less than 35% of the positions to be filled”;*
- iv. Add sub-section (c) to 223 to read *“All party list sent to INEC should reflect a minimum representation of 35% women candidates; and*
- v. The same should apply to Section 106(d)

5. POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN NIGERIA

Conference decided that:

- i. There should be equality in the sharing of political offices on the basis of quota system between competing candidates. This will enable both men and women have equal chances of control in such public offices;
- ii. The Federal Government should make it mandatory that certain public offices be allotted to women on equal basis. This will dissolve any form of discrimination against women;
- iii. Money politics should be discouraged in Nigeria while women who want to take active part in politics be encouraged to do so without any fear or favor;
- iv. The doctrine of Affirmative Action should be strengthened so that they could have considerable impacts on the political landscape of Nigeria thereby curtailing any form of discrimination against women;
- v. There should be structures put in place such as the legal funds. These structures will enable women politicians challenge any

form of electoral malpractice in Nigeria political terrain at minimal cost;

- vi. There should be stiff enforcement of laws prohibiting electoral violence; and
- vii. Government should ensuring women access to land, credit and technology.

6 GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Conference decided that:

- i. Special Courts should be established to try cases of rape. This is important to encourage victims to present themselves in court without fear of stigmatization;
- ii. The populace should be educated on the danger of the continued growth of the current high trend of violence against women in the society.
- iii. Gender-sensitivity education for law enforcement agents be put in place;
- iv. Gender Desk to be set up and made operable in police stations. This will give victims the confidentiality to open up and confide in her fellow female counterpart;
- v. Victims of violence should not shy away from going to help providers such as families, colleagues, friends and neighbours to seek informal or social support; and when this is exhausted, victims should seek formal support system through the police, medical personnel, social welfare and the law court;
- vi. In response to the seeming high rate of sexual abuse of children, the government needs to develop a National Plan of Action aimed at preventing and responding to such incidences. This includes mass sensitization programmes across the country;
- vii. Government should endeavor to enact laws and/or enforce the existing law on sexual violence in both our criminal and Penal Codes;
- viii. All state and non-state actors at all levels, such as the police, medical/health workers, the judiciary, social workers, women affairs ministries, non-governmental organizations and community based organizations should be

sensitized on response strategies to reported cases involving violence against women and rape; and

- ix. Special Courts should be established to try cases of violence against women in order to allow evidence in privacy, **ESPECIALLY CASES OF RAPE as mentioned in 4.9.2 above**. This is important to encourage victims to present themselves in court without fear of stigmatization.

5.17.9 PERSONS LIVING WITH DISABILITIES

1. GENERAL ISSUES

Conference decided thus:

- a) Special passage ways should be made for PLWDs in banks, hotels and airports where metal detectors prevent entry or exit;
- b) Separate lift carriers in high rise buildings for PLWDs to avoid injury by overcrowding;
- c) A law should be passed for compulsory assistance to persons living with disabilities by able-bodied persons while crossing the road;
- d) Provision of special overhead bridges for PLWDs;
- e) Albinos should enjoy free medical care including provision of sun glasses; and
- f) That the Electoral Act be amended to allow PLWDs (especially lepers) to exercise their voting right during elections.

2. **The Key Action Proposal:** To strengthen government institutions and organization of person with disabilities to participate in the democratic process and other development efforts in Nigeria using the Right-based Approach, this involves not charity or simple economic development, but a process of enabling and empowering those not enjoying their social/political rights to claim them. This includes being aware of their own potentials, resources and responsibility to hold government/political leaders accountable to their needs and development.

Conference therefore decided that:

- i. Government supports relevant MDAs and Disability Organizations in the formulation of a National Disability Action plan that will serve as an overarching policy statement setting the national view, direction and priorities to tackle the needs of persons with disabilities and their careers. The Action plan is to adopt an implementation –oriented approach and be the product of a process of consultation with all relevant stakeholders;
- ii. Government implements a pilot project targeting persons with Odisabilities specifically around democracy and good governance, through selected representatives of organizations of people with disabilities and other stakeholders;
- iii. Government should promote awareness on the rights of person with disabilities at the National and community levels, highlighting all forms of barriers face by PWDs around issues of Access and participation;
- iv. There should be an amendment of the current provisions of the Constitution through insertion and deleting of clauses that do not guarantee the rights and freedom of PLWDs; and
- v. Relevant provisions should be inserted into sections under Chapter 4 of the 1999 Constitution to address the gaps so exist in the constitution.

5.17.10 CHILDREN

Conference decided as follows:

- i. Domestication of the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination (CEDAW) endorsed in Nigeria since 1985;
- ii. Domestication of the Protocol on the Rights of women in Africa;
- iii. Establishment of the Ministry of Gender; and
- iv. Promulgation of Equal Opportunities laws operational in all tiers of Government.

1. Child Trafficking

Conference decided that:

- i. The public should be sensitized on the effects of child trafficking and the need to discourage the release of their children to trafficking merchants in the guise of taking them out for better living;
- ii. Victims that are rescued should be properly rehabilitated and integrated to the society through empowerment to prevent them from being (re)trafficked;
- iii. The Federal Government should make and enforce a law banning all forms of child trafficking and stipulate stiff punishment for offenders;
- iv. Labour laws and regulations should stress and monitor the compliance to the minimum wage in both public and private sectors;
- v. The Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Federal Government and transit and destination countries on human trafficking be implemented;
- vi. Laws against trafficking at the regional level, especially between English and French speaking countries be harmonized. All the countries in the region should be encouraged to enact laws to fight trafficking in persons where they have not done so;
- vii. The Child Rights Act of 2003 should be adopted and implemented in all Nigerian States; and
- viii. Anti-trafficking measures and laws should be revised so as to address all forms of trafficking as well as the protection of trafficked persons.

2. Child Labour

Conference advocated thus:

- i. The ratification and enforcement of international laws that protect children;
- ii. The passage of the Child Rights Act at the State level; and
- iii. Support for the Federal Office of Statistics (FOS) to develop child protection indicators and assessment tools which will assist with the monitoring of child labour and other child protection issues in Nigeria.

3. Girl-Child Marriage.

Conference recommended that the act of girl-child marriage should be discouraged, and that there should be a law in place stipulating that a girl-child should not be subjected to marriage.

5.18 RELIGION

5.18.1 RELIGIOUS PRIVILEGES: SPONSORSHIP OF RELIGIOUS PILGRIMAGES

a) Conference decided that the apex religious organizations in Nigeria be allowed to handle all matters relating to pilgrimage through Pilgrims Commissions duly managed by them under a law to be passed by the National Assembly which will regulate their functions and protect pilgrims.

b) In consonance with Section 10 of the Nigerian Constitution 1999, Conference decided resolved that Government, at all levels, shall not utilize public funds to sponsor any religious pilgrimages for any category of citizens and government functionaries.

c) Conference also decided that Government shall discontinue the sponsorship of official Government delegations on any pilgrimage, for the same reasons as stated above.

d) Without prejudice to (c) above, Government, in the exercise of its oversight responsibility to the citizens of Nigeria shall provide normal Consular services for the pilgrims through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the established Nigerian foreign missions in the relevant destinations.

5.18.2 DIMENSIONS OF RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION AND PREJUDICES

1. Conference identified the following dimensions that religious discrimination and prejudices take:

- i) Discrimination in granting of land for places of worship and cemeteries
- ii) Discrimination over opportunities to education
- iii) Discrimination in employment, promotion and admission
- iv) Pilgrimage sponsorship
- v) Infringement on right to Religious attire and symbols
- vi) Deprivation of access to religious studies and instructions in public educational institutions.
- vii) Religious hate speeches and sermons
- viii) Religiously partisan public policies
- ix) Discrimination against religious minorities
- x) Destruction and desecration of places of worship
- xi) Discrimination in the compensation of victims of religious violence
- xii) Unequal access to media for all religious faiths
- xiii) Forceful conversion and persecution of religious converts
- xiv) Denial of access to appropriate courts.
- xv) Discriminatory Religious holidays
- xvi) Religious discrimination in work places

2. Conference therefore recommended the following forms of redress for religious discrimination and prejudices:

- (i) Section 10 of the Constitution of Nigeria 1999 should be re-affirmed:

The Government of the Federation or of a State shall not adopt any religion as State religion.

- (ii) The provisions in Chapter II of the Constitution on the Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy shall be made justiciable;
- (iii) Independent Religious Equity Commission (RECOM) with branches in every State of the Federation should be established with the statutory mandate which inter alia includes advocacy, enforcement of constitutional religious rights such as freedom of religion, freedom to acquire land for religious purposes e.t.c. within the limits of the Constitution of Nigerian 1999;
- (iv) Building of worship places should be regulated in such a way that they are far from residential areas and major highways;
- (v) Nobody wishing to convert to any religion should be victimized or criminalized;
- (vi) Hate speeches and sermons should be criminalized; and
- (vii) Businesses of religious establishments shall be subject to taxation

5.18.3 A CASE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELIGIOUS EQUITY COMMISSION (RECOM)

Conference decided that:

- (i) There is the dire need to establish a body whose sole responsibility will be the early detection of those initial warning signals that could be exploited for instigating religious acrimony and violence amongst

various religious groups in Nigeria. These early warning signals are such conducts or speeches that tend to victimize, harass, marginalize and discriminate against persons solely on the basis of their religious beliefs and practices. Such a body should be able to investigate such cases, nip them in the bud and sanction the culprits through appropriate legal and institutional mechanisms before they are exploited by unscrupulous individuals.

(ii) Some crucial needs for the establishment of a distinct Religious Equity Commission include the facts that such a Commission will:

- 6** Monitor, investigate and prosecute cases of religious discrimination and violation;
- 7** Serve as a platform for the promotion of inter-faith unity, understanding and harmony;
- 8** Serve as a watchdog and enforcer of religious rights of all persons thereby creating confidence and trust in every Nigerian no matter their religious affiliations;
- 9** Monitor, investigate and prosecute cases of hate sermons, teachings, publications, speeches, utterances and conducts capable of inciting religious crisis;
- 10** Detect early warning signals that can trigger religious tension and nip them in the bud;
- 11** Monitor cases of religious extremism (both in ideology and in practice) and formulate counter narratives (that are balanced and tolerant) to neutralize such extremisms; and
- 12** Create awareness of the common grounds of all religions and promote the practice and sharing of such commonalities;

5.18.4 RELIGIOUS EQUITY COMMISSION AND NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

1. In view of the fact that religion plays a vital role in many aspects of our national life especially in the aspect of national security and national unity, it is highly imperative that it be singled out from other fundamental rights and given a special attention via the creation of an Equity Commission whose sole mandate will be to focus on religious rights and their promotion. This is in line with best global practices as many advanced democracies have special legal and institutional arrangements for some very sensitive aspects of their national life. Examples of such specialized agencies from other countries are presented below:

- a) In the United Kingdom, despite the existence of the UK Equal Opportunities Commission (UK-EOC), a Commission for Racial Equality (created by the Race Relations Act, 1976) which existed alongside UK-EOC for many years. This was done because at the time, issues of racial discrimination were very sensitive and crucial that it was thought necessary to create a special commission for it.
- b) In the United States, despite the existence of the US State Department Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, it has other special human rights enforcement agencies created to promote specific rights. One of such agencies is the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) which is a federal law enforcement agency that enforces laws against workplace discrimination. The EEOC investigates discrimination complaints based on an individual's race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, genetic information, and retaliation for reporting, participating in, and/or opposing a discriminatory practice.
- c) Canada has a similar arrangement to that of the United States. The Canadian Human Rights Act has long prohibited discrimination on the basis of gender,

race, ethnicity, and certain other grounds. In 1986, the Canadian government passed the Employment Equity Act which was meant to protect certain restricted vulnerable categories of persons. The Canadian Human Rights Act continues to be in force alongside the Employment Equity Act.

- d) In Australia, there are 3 different commissions addressing the issues of human rights, namely: Human Rights Commission, Anti-Discrimination Commission and Equal Opportunities Commission.

5.18.5 RESTORING NATIONAL ETHICS, CULTURE, MORALS AND CORE VALUES

Conference noted that:

Section 23 of the Constitution of Nigeria 1999, stipulates the following ethics for the nation:

- i. Discipline;
- ii. Integrity;
- iii. Dignity of Labor;
- iv. Social Justice;
- v. Religious tolerance;
- vi. Self-Reliance; and
- vii. Patriotism.

2. NATIONAL ORIENTATION AGENCY (NOA)

- a) The National Conference noted that Government already has an Agency- National Orientation Agency, saddled with the responsibility of re-orientating Nigerians to preserve and sustain national ethics and values. However, the Agency needs to be strengthened in order to perform its functions effectively.
- b) Conference therefore recommends as follows:

- i. The National Orientation Agency (NOA) Act should be amended to promote national ethics and values of Nigeria through extensive advocacy work and in collaboration with civil society organizations;
 - ii. Section 23 of the Nigerian Constitution should be amended to include: Nigeria, fully appreciating its cultural and religious diversity demands its citizens shall imbibe the core national ethics and values of honesty, freedom, democracy, human rights, equality, social justice and the rule of law;
 - iii. Section 24 of the 1999 Constitution should be amended to include in its current provisions that:
Citizens of Nigeria shall without fail, exhibit the core national values of Nigeria as encapsulated in section 23 of the Constitution";
 - iv. The NOA Board membership should be expanded to include: women, persons with disabilities and youth; and
 - v. The NOA must strongly advocate and proclaim the "dignity of labour", and have a "Do the Right Thing" campaign to promote good and orderly behaviour.
- c. The amendments proposed and the harmonized stance of NOA on core ethics and national values must be adopted and given daily relevance by the following institutions:
- i. Government (at all levels);
 - ii. Religious institutions;
 - iii. Educational institutions;
 - iv. Families;
 - v. The Media;
 - vi. Political Parties;
 - vii. Traditional institutions; and

- viii. The National Orientation Agency (NOA) should put in place a strong advocacy in collaboration with traditional institutions to promote our core values.

3. CULTURE

Conference noted that the traditional African culture of courtesy, politeness, honesty, integrity, communal interdependence, good neighbourliness, and peaceful co-existence are being rapidly eroded in Nigerian society due to our penchant for copying foreign values and life-style. Conference therefore recommends as follows:

- i. The provision of the National Policy on Education for the medium of instruction in the first 3 years of basic education should be the mother tongue or language of the immediate community should be enforced or implemented;
- ii. The learning of Nigerian history be included in primary and secondary school curricula;
- iii. The social studies curriculum should be reviewed to reflect Nigeria's cultural values of politeness, courtesy, good neighbourliness, communal interdependence, hospitality, and respect for elders, modesty in morals and in dressing; and
- iv. Excursions to traditional rulers and community Leaders should be encouraged in order to make our children show appreciation to our cultural heritage.

4. POVERTY REDUCTION

Good governance is the key to poverty alleviation in society. Conference therefore recommends as follows:

- i. Government must as a matter of urgency initiate policies and measures that shall accelerate job and wealth creation in the nation;
- ii. Efforts must be made to fund business projects at the grassroots through schemes like Micro-finance Banks and Cooperative Societies;
- iii. The flaws in these schemes that hinder access to funds by people should be removed so that more Nigerians can access funds for cottage industries and small scale ventures;
- iv. The Government should establish the payment of unemployment welfare allowances to Nigerians who lack sources of income. Such welfare allowances should be time bound and must primarily target the most vulnerable groups, people with disabilities, youth, women and men who clearly are unable to generate income;
- v. In tackling poverty in the nation, Government must distinguish between empowerment and welfare. There are Nigerian citizens that do not require welfare but require enabling environment to be empowered. For this category of people, access to funding through grass root financial institutions and cooperatives must be provided; and
- vi. Government should, as the key driver of the economy, harmonize its policies on public and private sectors to facilitate job creation. For those whose needs cannot be met by the empowerment scheme, a NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE SCHEME is hereunder proposed.

5. NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE SCHEME

It is clear to us all that these majority of Nigerians suffer many deprivations either because they have no income or they have only marginal income; they are unable to access basic necessities of life; they are isolated from hope and progress; they are locked in the Poverty Trap; or because they are broken by the little things that are sometimes taken for granted. These facts are enough to breed disorder even in the poorest or the most stoical of societies, what more of a nation that is visibly well endowed yet cyclically mismanaged. In an attempt to stem this disorder, Conference is suggesting a mechanism that may help in breaking the trap locking these desperately poor people and ease the hardships of life for them.

2. Conference considered the following facts:
 - i. On December 27th 2013, UNICEF released its official statistics on Nigeria pointing out that the situation of poverty in the country was most alarming;
 - ii. Out of the 20 indices used by UNICEF, 13 of them showed that 113 million Nigerians live on daily income of below US \$ 1.25. The indices include, nutrition, health, HIV/AIDS, education, demography, economy, women, child protection, rate of progress, adolescents, disparities by residence, disparities by house-hold wealth and early childhood development;
 - iii. This has come after a World Bank report that Nigeria's GDP in 2013 had improved to US \$282.36 billion and kept growing;
 - iv. In February 2014, Nigeria's inflation rate decelerated to 7.7% down from 8% in January. To cap it all, on 6th April 2014, Head of the National Bureau of Statistics officially announced that after rebasing, Nigeria's economy expanded by more than three-quarters to an estimated US \$488 billion (N80 trillion);

- v. Earlier in February 14th 2012, the same National Bureau of Statistics pointed out that:

"...it remains a paradox that despite the fact that Nigeria's economy is growing, the population of Nigerians living in poverty is increasing every year..... the impact of the GDP growth rate has not translated into poverty reduction."

- vi. The World Bank Report 2011 has lamented that a multiplicity of factors have technically disabled 80% percent of Nigerians from relative sufficiency to stark poverty and has virtually wiped out the Middle-class.

3. In order for the country to re-integrate the 80% of Nigerians wallowing in stark poverty, Conference proposed a scheme which has been tried elsewhere in order to free people living in extreme poverty. The scheme was commended globally and has succeeded in re-creating the middle-class in many countries such as China, Brazil and India. The programme is based on conditional cash transfers on a fortnightly or monthly basis, usually paid to families (through mothers in most cases) who must prove that their children:

- a) attend schools; and
- b) are vaccinated.

4. Nigeria can launch its **POVERTY EMANCIPATION PACKAGE (PEP)** aimed at re-integrating the extremely poor from despondency, and gradually bring them into the stream of a decent society.

5. Conference decided that the PEP can start with 12 million families (2 million from each of the 6 geo-political zones). Each family can receive grants of N5,000

fortnightly, or N10,000 monthly on conditions that can be varied and increased according to zone, but school attendance by the children of the recipients being crucial to many other needs, shall remain. The programme and its recipients shall be reviewed after every 5 years, and members of the National Youths Service Corps (NYSC) could be trained to serve as personnel to execute the PEP.

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A BILL
FOR
AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RELIGIOUS
EQUITY COMMISSION (REC) AND TO PROHIBIT ALL FORMS OF
RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION, RELIGIOUS VICTIMIZATION,
RELIGIOUS HARASSMENT,
HATE SPEECHES, AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED
THEREWITH

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

1. *Establishment of the National Religious Equity Commission*
2. *Governing Council of the Commission*
3. *Tenure of Office*
4. *Cessation of Membership*
5. *Functions of the Commission*
6. *Powers of the Commission*
7. *Legal and Prosecution Department*
8. *Prohibition of Religious Discrimination, harassment and Victimization*
9. *Inquiry into Complaints*
10. *Steps during and after inquiry*
11. *Executive Secretary of the Commission*
12. *Other staff of the Commission etc.*
13. *Staff Regulation*
14. *Conditions of Service*
15. *Pensions, Cap 346 LFN*

16. *Funds of the Commission*
17. *Power to Accept Gifts*
18. *Borrowing Powers etc.*
19. *Annual estimates accounts and audit*
20. *Annual Report*
21. *Matters not subject to jurisdiction of the Commission*
22. *Power of the Attorney General*
23. *Regulations*
24. *Interpretation*
25. *Citation*

A BILL

FOR

**AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL
RELIGIOUS EQUITY COMMISSION AND TO PROHIBIT ALL FORMS OF
RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION, RELIGIOUS VICTIMIZATION,
RELIGIOUS HARASSMENT, HATE SPEECHES, AND FOR MATTERS
CONNECTED THEREWITH**

WHEREAS considering that the United Nations Charter and several provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999, as amended, are based on the principles of the dignity and equality of all human beings and seek, among other basic objectives the promotion and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion:

AND WHEREAS, having realized the sensitive role religion plays in National Security, peace and harmony, the Federal Government wishes to promote inter-religious harmony and understanding due to the chequered history of religious intolerance in the Nigerian polity:

AND WHEREAS the Federal Government is desirous in creating an enabling environment for the peaceful coexistence of all religious beliefs within the Nigerian nation:

AND WHEREAS in furtherance of the above objectives and in its determination to provide a forum for public enlightenment and dialogue on and to limit controversy and confrontation over allegations of discriminations based on religious beliefs and identities and to check the insidious effects of religious bigotry, profiling, stereotyping, extremism and hate speeches:

Now THEREFORE THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY hereby enacts as follows:

**PART I –
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL RELIGIOUS EQUITY
COMMISSION**

**1 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL RELIGIOUS EQUITY
COMMISSION**

- (1) There is hereby established a body to be known as the National Religious Equity Commission (in this Act referred to as the "Commission").
- (2) The Commission shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

2. GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE COMMISSION

- 1) There shall be for the Commission, a Governing Council (in this Act referred to as "the Council") which shall be responsible for the discharge of the functions of the Commission.
- 2) The Council shall consist of -

- (a.) A Co-Chairman who shall be a nominee of the Nigerian Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs;
- (b.) A Co-Chairman who shall be a nominee of the Christian Association of Nigeria;
- (c.) A representative each of the following Federal Ministries, that is -
 - i. Justice;
 - ii. Police Affairs;
 - iii. Internal Affairs.
- (d.) Two representatives of the National Human Rights Commission;
- (e.) Two representatives of a registered Network of Muslim Human rights organisations in Nigeria;
- (f.) Two representatives of a registered Network of Christian Human rights organisations in Nigeria
- (g.) Two legal practitioners who shall not have less than ten years post qualification experience and each to be nominated by the Christian Association of Nigeria and the Nigerian Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs respectively;
- (h.) three representatives of the media, at least, two of whom shall be from the private sector;
- (i.) three other persons to represent faiths other than Christianity and Islam; and
- (j.) the Executive Secretary of the Commission.

3) The Co-Chairmen and members of the Commission shall be -

- (a.) persons of proven integrity;
- (b.) persons of proven record of religious tolerance and inter-faith cooperation; and
- (c.) appointed by the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, on the recommendation of the Nigerian Supreme Council for Islamic affairs and Christian Association of Nigeria and the Attorney General in the case of items (c), (d), (h), (i) and (j) .

- 4) The supplementary provisions set out in the Schedule to this Act shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Council and the other matters contained therein.

3. TENURE OF OFFICE

- 1) A member of the Council, other than the Executive Secretary, shall hold office for a term of four years and may be re-appointed for one further term of four years and no more.
- 2) A member of the Council may at any time resign his office in writing addressed to the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces and which resignation shall become effective on acceptance by the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.
- 3) Members of the Council shall be paid such allowances as may be determined by the Federal Government.

4. CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- 1) A member of the Council shall cease to hold office if -
 - (a.) he becomes of unsound mind; or
 - (b.) he becomes bankrupt or makes a compromise with his creditors; or
 - (c.) he is convicted of a felony or of any offence involving dishonesty, religious discrimination, terrorism; or
 - (d.) he is guilty of serious misconduct in relation to his duties.
- 2) A member of the Council may be removed from office by the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces if after due consultation with the heads of the Nigerian Supreme Council of Islamic Affairs and the Christian

Association of Nigeria (CAN), he is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the public that the member should remain in office.

- 3) Where a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Council, it shall be filled by the appointment of a successor to hold office for the remainder of the term of office of his predecessor, so however that the successor shall represent the same interest and shall be appointed by the President, Commander-in- Chief of the Armed Forces.

PART II – FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

5. FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission shall -

- (a.) deal with all matters relating to the protection of the fundamental human right to freedom of religion and belief as guaranteed by the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the African Charter, the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and other international treaties on human rights to which Nigeria is a signatory;
- (b.) monitor, investigate and prosecute all cases of religious discrimination, victimization and harassment and take such other actions as it may deem expedient in each circumstance;
- (c.) assist victims of religious discrimination or violations and seek appropriate redress and remedies on their behalf;
- (d.) undertake studies on all matters relating to religious rights and practices and assist the Federal Government in the formulation of appropriate policies on the guarantee of right to freedom from religious discrimination and victimization;
- (e.) Monitor and investigate all cases of religious extremism, hate speeches and utterances meant to incite religious tension and prosecute persons responsible for such hate speeches.

- (f.) Detect early warning signals of speeches or acts that can trigger religious tension and take appropriate measures to curtail such;
- (g.) Review the safeguards provided by or under the Constitution or any law for the time being enforce for the protection of religious rights and recommend measures for their effective implementation;
- (h.) review the factors, including acts of bigotry, stereotyping, religious profiling, terrorism and religious extremism that inhibit the enjoyment of the free exercise of religious rights and recommend appropriate remedial measures;
- (i.) publish regular reports on the state of religious rights protection and promotion in Nigeria;
- (j.) create awareness and promote advocacy through seminars, workshops and conferences on religious harmony and inter-faith peaceful co-existence and any other programmes;
- (k.) participate in all international activities relating to the promotion and protection of human rights especially as it relates to freedoms of religious beliefs and expressions;
- (l.) maintain a library, collect data and disseminate information and materials on inter-religious harmony and coexistence; and
- (m.) carry out all such other functions as are necessary or expedient for the performance of these functions under the Act.

6. POWERS OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission shall have power to -

- (a.) do all things which by this Act or any other enactment are required or permitted to be done by the Commission; and
- (b.) do such other things as are necessary or expedient for the performance of its functions under this Act.

7. LEGAL AND PROSECUTION DEPARTMENT

There shall be a Legal, Investigation and Prosecution Department which shall be responsible for prosecuting offences related to the violation of religious rights.

PART III-

PROHIBITED ACTS AND PROCEDURE OF INQUIRY AND REDRESS

8. PROHIBITION OF RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND VICTIMIZATION

- 1) All direct or indirect forms of religious discrimination, religious victimization, religious harassment and religiously induced hate speeches are hereby prohibited.
- 2) All complaints relating to any or all of the above prohibited acts mentioned in subsection (1) of this section shall be forwarded to the Commission by persons affected by such acts or their representatives.

9. INQUIRY INTO COMPLAINTS

The Commission while inquiring into the complaints of violations of religious rights may

- (a.) call for information or report from an individual, private or public corporations, or government agency or any other authority or organization subordinate thereto within such time as may be specified by it:-

Provided that-

- i. if the information or report is not received within the time stipulated by the Commission, it may proceed to inquire into the complaint on its own;

- ii. if, on receipt of information or report, the Commission is satisfied either that no further inquiry is required or that the required action has been initiated or taken by the concerned individual, private or public corporation, or government agency, it may not proceed with the complaint and inform the complainant accordingly;
- (b.) Without prejudice to anything contained in clause (a), if it considers necessary, having regard to the nature of the complaint, initiate an inquiry.

10. STEPS DURING AND AFTER INQUIRY

The Commission may take any of the following steps during or upon the completion of an inquiry held under this Act, namely-

- (a.) Where the inquiry discloses the commission of violation of religious rights and freedom or negligence in the prevention of violation of religious rights or abetment thereof by a private individual or public servant, it may direct the concerned individual or Government authority -
- i. To make payment of compensation or damages to the complainant or to the victim or the members of his family as the Commission may consider necessary;
 - ii. to initiate proceedings for prosecution or such other suitable action as the Commission may deem fit against the concerned person or persons;
 - iii. to take such further action as it may think fit;
- (b.) direct the concerned individual, private or public corporation, or government agency at any stage of the inquiry, for the grant of such immediate interim relief to the victim or the members of his family as the Commission may consider necessary;

PART IV – STAFF

11. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION

- 2) There shall be for the Commission an Executive Secretary, who shall be the chief executive of the Commission and be appointed by the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, on the recommendation of the Attorney-General of the Federation.
- 3) The Executive Secretary shall hold office for a term of five years in the first instance on such terms and conditions as the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, may, on the recommendation of the Attorney-General of the Federation determine, and may be reappointed for one further term of five years and no more.
- 4) Subject to such general directions as the Council may give, the Executive Secretary shall be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Commission and the implementation of the decisions of the Council.
- 5) The Executive Secretary shall perform the functions of keeping the record of proceedings and decisions of the Council and such other functions as the Council may, from time to time, direct.

12. OTHERS STAFF OF THE COMMISSION ETC.

- 1) The Council shall have power to appoint directly, and either on transfer or on secondment from any public service in the Federation, such number of employees as may, in the opinion of the Council, be required to assist the Commission in the discharge of any of its functions under this Act, and shall have power to pay to persons so employed such remuneration (including allowances) as the Council may, determine.
- 2) The terms and conditions of service (including terms and conditions as to remuneration, allowances, pensions, gratuities and other benefits) of the persons employed by the Commission shall be as determined by the Council from time to time.

- 3) The Council may engage such consultants and advisers as it may require for the proper and efficient discharge of the functions of the Commission.

13. STAFF REGULATION

The Commission may, subject to the provisions of this Act, make staff regulations relating generally to the conditions of service of the employees of the Commission and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, such regulations may provide for –

- (a.) the appointment, promotion and disciplinary control (including dismissal) of employees of the Commission; and
- (b.) appeals by such employees against dismissal or other disciplinary measures.

14. CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

The Commission shall, with the approval of the Attorney-General of the Federation, determine its conditions of service, including pensions and gratuities, as is appropriate for its employees.

15. PENSIONS, CAP 346 LFN

- 1) It is hereby declared that service in the Commission is a scheduled service and shall be deemed to be pensionable under the Pensions Act and, accordingly, employees of the Commission shall in respect of their service in the Commission, be entitled to pensions, gratuities and other retirement benefits as are prescribed thereunder.
- 2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, nothing in this Act shall prevent the appointment of a person to any office on terms which preclude the grant of a pension or gratuity in respect of that office.

PART V - FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

16. FUNDS OF THE COMMISSION

- 1) The Commission shall establish and maintain a fund which shall be applied towards the discharge of its functions under this Act.
- 2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund established pursuant to subsection (1) of this section -
 - (a.) such sums as may be provided by the Government of the Federation for the Commission.
 - (b.) any fees charged for services rendered by the Commission; and
 - (c.) all other sums accruing to the Commission by way of gifts, testamentary depositions, endowments and contributions from philanthropic persons and organisations or otherwise however.

17. POWER TO ACCEPT GIFTS

- 2) The Commission may accept gifts of land, money or other property on such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person or organisation making the gift.
- 3) The Commission shall not accept any gift if the conditions attached by the person or organisation making the gift are inconsistent with the functions of the Commission.

18. BORROWING POWERS ETC.

- 1) The Council may, with the consent or in accordance with any specific authority given by the Attorney-General of the Federation, borrow by way of loan or overdraft from any source approved by the Attorney-General of the Federation, such specified amount of money as may be required by the Commission for meeting its obligations and discharging its functions under this Act.

- 2) The Council may, subject to the provisions of this Act and the conditions of any trust created in respect of any property, invest all or any of its funds with consent or general authority of the Attorney-General of the Federation.
- 3) The Council may invest any surplus funds of the Commission in securities prescribed by the Trustee Investments Act or such other securities as may, from time to time, be approved by the Attorney-General of the Federation.
- 4) Subject to the provisions of the Land Use Act, and any special or general direction which the Attorney-General of the Federation may give in that behalf, the Council may acquire or lease any land required for its purpose under this Act.

19. ANNUAL ESTIMATES, ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

- 1) The Council shall cause to be prepared, not later than 30th December in each year, an estimate of the expenditure and income of the Commission during the next succeeding year and when prepared they shall be submitted, through the Attorney-General of the Federation, to the Federal Executive Council for approval.
- 2) The Council shall cause to be kept proper accounts and proper records in relation thereto and when certified by the Council such accounts shall be audited as provided in subsection (3) of this section.
- 3) The accounts of the Commission shall be audited by auditors appointed from the list of auditors and in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Auditor-General of the Federation and the fees of the auditors and the expenses for the audit generally shall be paid from the funds of the Commission.

20. ANNUAL REPORT

The Council shall not later than six months after the end of each year, submit, through the Attorney-General of the Federation, to the Federal Executive Council a report on the activities of the Commission and its administration during the immediately preceding year and shall include in the report the audited accounts of the Commission and the auditors comments thereon.

PART V – MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

21. MATTERS NOT SUBJECT TO JURISDICTION OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission shall not inquire into any matter which is pending before a Court of Records of a State or Federal Government or before the National Human Rights Commission.

22. POWER OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Attorney-General of the Federation may give to the Council such directives of a general nature with regard to the exercise by the Council of its functions under this Act;

23. REGULATIONS

The Attorney-General may make such regulations as he deems to be necessary or expedient for giving full effect to the provisions of this Act

24. INTERPRETATION

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires -

"Commission" means the National Religious Equity Commission established under Section 1 (1) of this Act.

"Council" means the Governing Council established for the Commission under Section 2 (1) of this Act.

"Harassment", means conduct or actions with the purpose or effect of violating the dignity of a person and of creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment.

"Direct discrimination" means the treatment of a person less favourably than others because of his religion or belief.

"Indirect discrimination" means practices, criteria, policies or employment rules which, when equally applied to all employees, have the effect of disadvantaging people of a particular religion or belief.

"Victimisation" means the treatment of a person less favourably for having made a complaint about religious discrimination, or having supported another person in their complaint procedure.

25. CITATION

This Bill may be cited as the National Religious Equity Commission Bill, 2014.

SCHEDULE- Section 2 (4)

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE COUNCIL, ETC

Proceedings of the Council

1. (1) Subject to this Act and section 27 of the Interpretation Act, the Council may make standing orders regulating its proceedings or those of any of its committees.

(2) The quorum of the Council shall be eleven members, including the Chairman and Co-Chairman or, in their absence, the person elected under paragraph 2(2) of this Schedule to preside, and nine other members and the quorum of any committee of the Council shall be determined by the Council.

2. (1) The Council shall meet at least once a month in each calendar year and subject thereto, the Council shall meet whenever it is summoned by the Co-Chairmen, and if the Co-Chairmen are required to do so, by notice given to them by not less than six other members, they shall summon a meeting of the Council to be held within fourteen days from the date on which the notice is given.

(2) At any meeting of the Council, Co-Chairmen shall preside but if any of both is absent, the members present at the meeting shall elect one of their number to preside at the meeting.

(3) Where the Council desires to obtain the advice of any person on a particular matter, the Council may co-opt him to the Council for such period as it thinks fit, but a person who is in attendance by virtue of this sub-paragraph shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Council and shall not count towards a quorum.

(4) The decision of the Council shall be by simple majority.

COMMITTEES

3. (1) The Council may appoint one or more committees to carry out, on behalf of the Council, such of its functions as the Council may determine.
- (2) A committee appointed under sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph shall consist of such number of persons (not necessarily members of the Council) as may be determined by the Council, and a person other than a member of the Council, shall hold office on the committee in accordance with the terms of his appointment.
- (3) A decision of a committee of the Council shall be of no effect until it is confirmed by the Council.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The Bill seeks to establish the National Religious Equity Commission to be charged, amongst other things, with the task to monitoring, investigating and prosecuting cases of religious discrimination, religious harassment and religious victimization in Nigeria.

5.19 SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND DEVELOPMENT

5.19.1 Conference was guided in its consideration on this critical areas of National development by the following:

1. Nations the world over have made significant improvements in their standard of living when they have tapped available resources of education, science and technological know-how. Science and Technology touch all spheres of life (social, economic, political etc.) and all sectors of society.

2. Some of the least - natural resource endowed countries of the world rank among the most affluent and powerful nations of the world, while the most richly endowed countries, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, are the poorest in the living conditions. The major discernable difference is Science, and Technology (S & T).

3. Science, and the technologies derived from it, form the basis of all human activity, from the houses that we live in, the food that we eat, the cars that we drive, to the electronic gadgetry in almost every home that we use to remain informed and entertained. What is common to all the highly industrialized and advanced countries of the world, is their commitment and capacity to use science and technology to socially and economically transform their society. Science and technology (S&T) is intrinsically linked to most, if not all, sectors of an economy and development, therefore, many countries have demonstrated strong political will and leadership in focusing on research & development in areas of their comparative advantages in agriculture, mining, petrochemicals, and renewable energy, for example.

4. Many of these advanced countries have gone on to devote between 2%-4% of their GDP to research and development. Between 2009 and 2013, while allocations for R&D amounted to 3% or more of the GDP in Israel, Japan Germany and South Korea, South Africa is about 1% and Nigeria's allocation of 0.47% to 0.61% of GDP came in the form of the budgets. The Nigerian figure, however, included general recurrent and capital expenditures, and actual R&D does not feature in subsequent disbursements of the allocations in that Ministry. While the federal government provides funds for research to tertiary institutions through other sources, these research efforts are mostly uncoordinated, ending up as research activities, without any development. Besides, these research efforts were too often directed towards academic publications for personal advancement, rather than economic and industrial growth.

5. One other evidence of our failure in Research and Development is the numbers of patents applied for compared to countries such as China and the USA. Between 2009 and 2011, the average number of applications for patents in those countries was

between 238,000 and 310,330. While the figure for Egypt averaged over 500 for the same period, that for Nigeria was about 45. Again, between 2006 and 2009, scientists in China published an average number of 50,376 research papers in peer reviewed journals, compared to Nigerian scientists with only 440 papers.

6. The low ranking of Nigeria in the Global Human Development index scale, 153 out of 187 countries is also related to her low acceptance of Science and Technology.

7. It can be seen that Nigeria is in this poor state because of poor political will and commitment to the use of S&T as a tool for human development and corresponding adequate funding for the sector.

8. Despite the fact that Nigeria is blessed with abundant natural resources and a large population, the national economy is characterised by:

- i. A single product economy based on sale of crude oil with no value addition;
- ii. More than 50% of the population living under \$1 a day due to poverty;
- iii. Prevailing high level of unemployment and its attendant vices; and
- iv. A very weak economic sector, lagging behind in terms of competitiveness in the rapidly changing global business environment. Since 1980, Nigeria has been struggling to build a solid base for economic development, alleviating poverty and curbing unemployment, with only little success.

9. The apparently gloomy and unredeemed situation described above derives from the poor Science and Technology base as well as the lack of proper harnessing of S&T for economic benefit.

10. Certain socio-economic features are found, from observation among the technologically driven societies, and Nigeria should hasten to adopt them in order to catch the technology train: high literacy rate, science education, healthy investment climate, sound work ethic, pro-active political leadership and self-confidence.

11. Conference observed that the Nigerian S&T sector is characterised by:

- i. Lack of stability in the organisation of S & T system in the past;
- ii. Dearth of researchers and technical personnel as well as inadequate planning in the production of such personnel;
- iii. Education and Research and Development (R&D) not demand driven towards economic development;
- iv. Lack of synergy among system components in the public and private sectors alike; in particular is the near absence of linkages between the educational sector (manpower and researchers) with productive sector or industries;
- v. Poor funding and budgeting system whereby S & T is yet to be accepted as a key driver of economic development;
- vi. A dysfunctional examination oriented educational system that places more emphasis on certificates than technical abilities;
- vii. Closed door attitude of researchers and inventors;

- viii. Oversized establishment with high expenditure profile on non-project overhead;
- ix. Fragmented and ineffective coordination;
- x. Underperforming abundant human capital; and
- xi. Reliance on external research, result and resources.

12. It is no longer enough for the nation to rely on the individual whims of a leader to pay attention to S&T or not to, as that will not sustain the sweat and toil required for high growth in the difficult task ahead.

13. The World Bank indicators of 2006, show that different levels of economic development are linked to the state of S & T in the different countries. For example South Africa, a lower middle economy has been more productive in terms of patents as well as research publications compared to Nigeria.

14. Considering many more countries the differences in the GDP per capita are certainly due to inputs in the systems of S & T measured in terms of R&D expenditure as percentage of GDP.

15. Many advanced countries devote between 2% - 4% of their GDP to R&D in S&T. Between 2009 and 2013, while allocation for R&D amounted to 3% or more of the GDP in Israel, Japan, Germany and South Korea, South Africa is about 1%, and Nigeria allocation of less than 0.5% of the GDP came in the form of budget. Nigerian figure however, included general recurrent and capital expenditure, and actual R&D is considerably less.

16. It is not surprising that Israel though a desert has been able to use S&T to push the desert away and produce agricultural produce with yields sometimes up to fifteen times as that of Nigeria. On the other hand, in Nigeria desert encroachment is the order of the day and agricultural yield is on the decline despite our good soil.

17. In the light of the foregoing and the need to give S&T the place it deserves in the new Nigerian, Conference endorsed government's Science, Technology & Innovation (ST&I), Policy (2012) with the following recommendations:

- a. In order to advance S&T development in Nigeria, there is the need to faithfully implement the National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (ST&I), 2012. In this regard, Government should establish a Presidential Council on ST&I with the responsibility for approving National ST&I strategy and ensure its successful implementation. Such a Council should be chaired by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and be composed of Heads of key ST&I related Ministries, Parastatals, NGO's, (Nigerian Academies etc) Scholars and Business Sectors. The Council will render account to the Nation through the Senate on an annual or other periodic basis. This is in order to effect mainstreaming of S&T into all sectors of the economy and overall National Coordination and accountability in the execution of projects in the S&T sector. The Council should be on the Federal Executive Bodies list in the Constitution of Federal Republic of Nigeria Section 153(1); and
- b. The executing agency of the National ST&I Policy would be the Nigerian ST&I Foundation, with responsibility for promoting, approving, funding, supervising, monitoring and reporting on the compliance of ST&I Policy within the entire economy, directing Research and Development (R&D) among public and academic institutions and supporting those in the private sector. The Foundation

will be made up of representatives of ST&I Agencies, NGO's, tertiary institutions, Commerce and Industry and Selected committed individuals.

18. The funding of ST&I Foundation for R&D will be by way of not less than a charge of 2% of the Federation Account or 2.5 % of the GDP, whichever is higher.

19. Ajaokuta Steel Rolling Mill:

A flourishing foundry and fabrication industry are a strong indication of the level of skilled workforce available in a nation. It is no wonder that 75% of the twenty largest economies in the world are among the twenty crude steel producing countries to date. Nigeria must develop the steel industry as the bedrock for industrialization. Despite the strategic role of iron and steel for technology advancement and industrialization a number of internal and external factors have stalled the development of the sector. Arising from the above submissions, the Report of the Vision 2020 National Technical Working Group on Science Technology and Innovation in Nigeria (2009) stated that “the infrastructure that should have played supporting roles to science, technology and innovation in Nigeria (namely: foundries, versatile iron and steel industry, are simply not there, The completion of the Ajaokuta Steel Project remains critical to the future of industrialization in Nigeria through science and technology.

Conference also noted that other developing countries and developing economies have developed their steel sector despite the strong international opposition. Egypt is presently the second largest producer of crude steel in Africa, second only to South Africa and is ranked 47 among the world steel producing countries. Conference therefore strongly recommends that:

- i. The Federal Government should takes full responsibility for the development of the strategic industries, especially iron and steel;
- ii. The federal government should as a matter of urgency, halt the on-going privatisation of all strategic industries such as the steel plant, Nigeria Defence Industries etc. Collaboration with the private sector may be considered after full development of these industries; and
- iii. The Federal Government should provide the sum of USD\$500 million required to complete the Ajaokuta Steel Project and the additional sum of USD\$700 million for the infrastructure required by the steel plant to fast-track the acquisition of skills in the fabrication and foundry industry.

20. Radio and Television Licence

Ownership of Radio and Television sets with which a person receives free-to-air programmes/signals of terrestrial broadcasting stations all year round carry with it a yearly financial fee. In the United Kingdom, Local Councils collect the fee and remit it to the broadcasting stations. Unfortunately, in the case of Nigeria, whilst the responsibility for collection was given to the Local Government Councils, broadcasting stations were not identified as beneficiaries.

21. Conference therefore decided that Section 1 (b) of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution which empowers Local Governments to collect Radio and TV licence should be deleted. This provision should give way to the operation and implementation of the existing amendments in Section 15 of the National Broadcasting Commission Act which allows the Broadcasting Organisations of Nigeria (BON) to collect the fees and share to public and private broadcasters who are in to free-to-air transmission.

22. Introduction of the Dual Broadcasting System in Nigeria and funding format: The term Dual Broadcasting is used to describe the co-existence of government (public)- owned stations with government subvention, and privately-owned ones in the same territory or country, legally, economically and socially.

23. Conference recommends an amendment of the National Broadcasting Act to spell out the distinctions between private and public broadcasting services and revenues as concerns their roles and sources of revenue. Accordingly, the annual average for the entire duration of advertising by public service broadcasting stations shall not exceed twenty minutes on working days. Advertising time which has not been completely used up may be made up for to a maximum of three minutes on working days. Public service broadcasting should not broadcast advertisements after 7.00 pm on Saturdays and Sundays nor on public holidays which are observed throughout the country.

24. Conference decided that adequate enabling laws be put in place to insulate media operators. The State should take effective measures to prevent and shield them from any form of attack and to ensure perpetrators are punished while victims have access to effective remedies. Also, a Special Trust Fund should be created to insulate the industry from the vagaries of the economic power of the advertisers/ government.

25. Conference further recommends an amendment to Section 39 (3) of the Copyright Act, CAP C28, Laws of the Federation, 2004 to emphatically dis-allow sole collecting society for musical works, and to provide for licensing of multiple collecting societies for musical works where there is support and request for the approval by the users of musical works such as broadcast stations.

26. Conference recommends an expansion of membership of the Governing Board of the Nigerian Copyright Commission by amending Section 35 of the Copyright Act to include at least four representatives of broadcasting stations as members of the Governing Board of the Commission.

27. Conference recommends a legislation providing that organisers of international, continental and sub-continental sporting events shall grant free access to Nigeria/Nigerians to transmit and watch (either live or delayed) any match in which Nigeria's national teams are playing against any opponent as a matter of right.

28. Conference recommends that the existing rule which imposes a levy of 2.5% on the revenue of broadcasting stations should be reviewed downward to a maximum of 1%.

i. Conference further decided that there should be two or three licensed Broadcast Signal Distributors. As result of the aggressive timelines for the transition from analogue to digital, terrestrial television broadcasting, the Broadcast Signal Distributors should be:

(a) An entity carved out of the NTA and the FRCN which utilised their existing infrastructure as government has invested heavily over the years in the broadcast industry through the NTA and FRCN and their infrastructure can be used as the backbone for the establishment of one of the Broadcast Signal Distributors; and

(b) A consortium of State and Private Broadcasters formed under the auspices of the Broadcasting Organisations of Nigeria (BON). In the same vein, these State and Private broadcasters have invested heavily in broadcast infrastructure and should be granted automatic Broadcast Signal Distributor licence on the same terms and conditions as that formed from the NTA and FRCN.

29. Government should fund incentives to guarantee the manufacturers of Set Top Boxes to site their companies in Nigeria, bearing in mind that the cost of a basic Set Top Box should not be more than N2,000 to ensure affordability. Importation of set-top boxes should be discouraged completely.

30. Seed grant should be provided for the broadcasting signal distributors for the procurement of new digital transmitters, acquisition of all digitally compliant broadcast equipment, and for human capital development.

31. The Content Service Providers would require funds to meet the challenges of the new dispensation. The funding requirements for successful switchover will involve among others the replacement of existing analogue production equipment, owned by most broadcast stations, with digital broadcast production equipment. Since digital TV allows 4-8 channels in the space of one analogue spectrum segment, this implies the quadruple of content requirements and increased production costs. This calls for capacity building and maximum utilisation of talents and strengthening of the copyright agency and personnel.

32. There should be an effective communication strategy to undertake public education to keep the public informed and prepare for the coming changes and ensure acceptance.

5.19.2 OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Conference observed that if Science and Technology is to be developed and harnessed for national development, then a formal structure and system need to be put in place:

Conference therefore recommends:

i. **Presidential Council on Science, Technology and Innovation (ST&I)**

For effective contribution and synergy in the Science and Technology (S&T) sector, which is cross-cutting, and to ensure continuity and seriousness of purpose, the Presidential Council on Science, Technology and Innovation (ST&I) 2012, as inaugurated and chaired by the President and Commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria with service-wide representation in its composition should be enshrined in the Constitution of the

Federal Republic of Nigeria. This way it will not be a matter for the like or dislike of a Commander-In-Chief.

ii. **Research and Innovation Fund**

In realization of the importance of Research and Development (R&D) to Africa's Development, the African Union (AU) Heads of State resolved in 2007 that a minimum of 1% of GDP of nations should be dedicated to R&D purposes. This figure has not even been approached yet in Nigeria, after seven years. Hence, Conference recommended that the National Research and Innovation Fund (NRIF) as stipulated in the National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (2012) should be made a centralized fund, sourced from Government special taxes, levies, and monies from R&D based Agencies, the Private Sector and International Organizations. This fund will be utilized for Science, Technology and Innovation activities, service-wide to be managed closely and transparently and monitored in line with international best practices. This Fund should also be enshrined in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

iii. **Strengthening of Science, Technology and Innovation**

Increasing and strengthening the practical base of STI in terms of quality and quantity by providing the critical mass of Science and Technology experts. In recognition of the present challenge of Nigeria's weak capability and capacity of Nigeria to produce the required S&TI to drive the economy, the Nigerian research system must strive strenuously to sustain the development of R&D capacity.

iv. **Promotion of Indigenous Science and Technology Base**

Promoting and maintaining an indigenous Science and Technology base and R&D agenda by directing efforts along identified priorities and national goals.

Furthermore, Conference directed that the Federal Government should:

- v. Direct S&T efforts along identified priorities and national goals;
- vi. Facilitate the acquisition of knowledge to adapt, utilise, replicate and diffuse technologies for growth in a virile system of innovation;
- vii. Support the establishing and strengthening of organisations, institutions and structures for effective coordination and management of S&T activities;
- viii. Provide adequate and sustainable funding for the needed infrastructure facilities for training and research and development;
- ix. Increase public awareness in S&T and their vital role in national development through all possible means, including the media;
- x. Recognize the wide gap between what Nigeria should have achieved and where she is at present in overcoming social and economic development issues. There must therefore be a deliberate strategy that R&D outputs be beneficially applied for Nigerians and others;
- xi. Recognize the linkages between professional organisations, such as the Nigerian Academy of Science and the Nigerian Academy of Engineering, on the one hand, and the S&T system in Nigeria, there should be a deliberate policy to engage these critical resources continuously to enhance the impact of the S&T on the economy;
- xii. In view of availability in Nigeria of a pool of indigenous and celebrated technologies, make a deliberate effort to ensure the uptake and development of these technologies, through deliberate policies such as:

- a. Developing strategic plan for documenting and creating a database for indigenous technology;
 - b. Evaluating and assessing the technologies and scientific principles that inform such technologies ;
 - c. Creating a favourable and enabling environment, such as capital support, soft loans and tax incentives;
 - d. Facilitating interaction between such entrepreneurs and scientists; and
 - e. Directing that S&TI be integrated into the primary and secondary education curricula.
- xiii. Promote the translation of results into actual goods and services e.g. cassava flour in bread and other products, Nicosan drug for sickle cell disease developed from local West African herbs;
- xiv. Declare an emergency on, and proceed to resuscitate such infrastructures as are considered critical and strategic to the manufacturing sector, including:
- a. Power generation, transmission and distribution;
 - b. Steel industries and machine tools industries;
 - c. National Metallurgical Development Centre; etc
- xv. Ensure that S & T permeate all strata of the economy, including the use of weights and measures, even by ordinary folks in the market place;
- xvi. Facilitate the establishment of strategic industries for the production of intermediate industrial materials, such as petro-chemicals;

- xvii. Discourage the use of foreign plants for afforestation so that the indigenous flora ecosystem is protected from disease and extinction;
- xviii. Vigorously mobilise Nigerian S&T professionals and experts in the Diaspora to play their rightful role in the national development, as successfully done in India;
- xix. Establish technology incubators in all tertiary institutions for the purpose of high technology outputs by faculties;
20. Take seriously the critical act of product branding, business development, marketing creativity and innovation, as well as granting tax incentives to Nigerian producers in order to increase product acceptability, quality, and the competitiveness of Nigerian products with imports; and
21. Mainstream Science and Technology into all sectors of our economy.

Experience should also be brought to bear especially in creating considerably new opportunities and their impact on national economies around the world as exemplified by breakthroughs in biotechnology, space research and development, ICT amongst others as flagship programmes of government. Of recent also is the emphasis on 'innovation'. While invention is the first occurrence of an idea, innovation is the first attempt to practicalise it.

5.19.3 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION, DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING

1. Conference noted that the National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (1986 & 2012) captured the need for an appropriate curriculum for Science and Technology. Similarly, the National Policy on Education (2013) highlighted Basic Science and Technology training at all levels of education. However, the

curriculum needs to be translated into practice. As stated earlier, “Curriculum is a systematic and intended packaging of competencies (i.e. knowledge, skills and attitudes that are underpinned by values) that learners should acquire through organized learning experiences both in formal and non-formal settings (UNESCO year). In particular, Conference recommends that Government should:

- a. Establish standards and policy for S &T education, and Quality Assurance units all over the country for monitoring the progress;
- b. Popularize ST&I through regular technology workshops, fairs, exhibition, S&T clubs and mass media (films, newspapers, radio, television, Internet, etc);
- c. Utilize as much as possible Nigerian STE&I personnel and institutions for services and supplement if necessary, with foreigners;
- d. Accelerate the establishment or strengthening of STE&I Ministries at the state that have not yet done so;
- e. Pursue the further development and use of local languages for the transfer of ST&I knowledge to the formal and informal sectors of the economy;
- f. Ensure a sound ST&I foundation especially at the early level of educational structure through:
 - i. Entrenchment of S&T teaching in the primary school curriculum;
 - ii. Provision of adequate teaching laboratory aids;
 - iii. Provision of well-trained and well-motivated teachers;

- iv. Introduction of gainful practical activities such as model making; hand craft, gardening and farming; and
 - v. Women should be encouraged to embrace Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education.
-
- g. Strictly enforce government policies on placement in tertiary institutions with regards to 60: 40 in conventional universities and 70:30 in polytechnics; 80: 20 in universities of technology in favour of Science;
 - h. Initiate and support continuing education programmes aimed at specific training for top level Science, Technology, Engineering and Innovation (STE&I) practising teachers, engineers and technologists;
 - i. Establish Science and Technology Colleges in each local government area of the country as a means of giving practical training in different craftsmanship towards efficiency and self-employment;
 - j. Enforce the payment of Science and Technology allowance to teachers;
 - k. Adult education should include, in addition to learning how to read and write, exposure to basic Science and Technology in their areas of endeavour;
 - l. Develop science clubs in schools;
 - m. Ensure compulsory computer education and provision of science equipment at primary education level in all school;
 - n. Platforms for science education, development and capacity building should be created by Government for private organisations for instance

banks to invest in as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR);
and

- o. Government should enhance broadband (high speed internet) access. Priority should be given to all schools in the deployment of broadband.

In particular, Conference decided that for Capacity Building to be actualized government should:

- a. Restore the core values to education; integrity, honesty, discipline, focus, commitment, and passion for learning to acquire knowledge and skills;
- b. Insist on zero tolerance for corruption, fraud, examination malpractice including dismissal of students and termination of appointment of staff with malpractice;
- c. Develop special S & T post-graduate programmes in Universities, Polytechnics and Research Institutes with the aim of forging inroads into the area of high technology,
- d. Prioritize programmes for the training of S & T personnel in tertiary institutions;
- e. Encourage scientists, engineers and technologists working outside the country to return home and contribute to the development of S & T in the country;
- f. Encourage individual initiatives for the acquisition and dissemination of existing knowledge and for the discovery of new knowledge;
- g. Provide adequate support for continuous training of academic staff in tertiary and research institutions;

- h. Strengthen curricula in technological entrepreneurship and management of technology for science and engineering students;
- i. Mainstream students in the Arts and Social Sciences to appreciate the relevance of S T&I in business as well as national development;
- j. Create special incentives for students and graduates of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education such as scholarships;
- k. Encourage and provide opportunities for the products of informal training schemes in ST&I to go for further formal training;
- l. Strengthen capacity building institutions within the military, public and private sectors of the economy;
- j. Abuja Natural History of Science Museum should be established;
- k. Facilitate on-the-job standardized training for professionals in the ST&I organizations;
- l. Promote academic-industry linkage programmes to enhance knowledge sharing through mandatory exposure of academics to industry in the design of programmes in educational institutions;
- m. Government should enforce the provision for guidance and counseling as provided for in the National Policy on Education; and
- n. The dichotomy between degrees and Higher National Diplomas should be removed.

5.19.4 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, INDIGENOUS TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS, INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

1 Investment in Research and Development (R&D)

Conference decided that:

For the judicious management of the funds that may accrue from the various sources mentioned above (multinational companies, indigenous entrepreneurs and public/private service organisations), there is the need to set up a National Science and Technology Fund (NSTF) to among other things:

- (a) participate in the capitalization of research organizations formed by public and private sectors;
- (b) grant credits on favourable terms to public and private enterprises, industrial firms or groups of firms as well as research organizations; and
- (c) grant loans to convert R& D results into industry.

2. Conference resolved that the way forward is to strengthen the basic science and technology infrastructure and modern research facilities needed to execute projects that can lead to innovation and Strengthening the capabilities of the institutions by building on their existing strengths through:

- (a) revamping and refocusing R and D activities and promoting entrepreneurial culture in our institutions;

- (b) Establishing mechanisms to manage the patentables and patents generated by researchers;
 - (c) Creation of enabling environment for effective interaction between the educational institutions, researchers, the private sector, funding agencies and government by adequately establishing Science and Technology Foundation to ensure sustainable and adequate funding;
 - (d) Institutionalization of competition amongst researchers and establishments for awards and grants; and
 - (e) Basing the funding of research projects on competition and relevance.
3. In view of the foregoing, Conference further recommends that:
- (i) Federal Government should fund science and technology development programmes up to 2% of the Federation Account. The State Governments should contribute to research by way of sponsored research projects;
 - (ii) It should be mandatory for every industry to
 - (a) Establish research units;
 - (b) Contribute money to the Science and Development Trust Fund; and
 - (c) Give scholarships to individuals and institutions to carry out research.
 - (iii) A National Science and Technology Fund (NSTF) be established. The Fund shall be managed by the Presidential Council of Science, Technology, Innovations and the Academics;

- (iv) Every industry as deemed appropriate should:
 - (a) Establish and equip an in-house research and development unit;
 - (b) Make contributions to the NSTF; and
 - (c) Give grants and endowments to individuals and institutions for R and D activities,
- (v) Philanthropic contributions to the NSTF by individuals and groups for specified R and D projects should be promoted;
- (vi) Disbursement of the National Science and Technology Fund(NSTF) based on projects proposed by relevant professional bodies should be ensured;
- (vii) Procurement of external funds by participating in bilateral and international schemes for science and technology cooperation should be intensified;
- (viii) Establishment of high risk venture capital companies should be encouraged;
- (ix) The participation of research organizations in programmes of compensated transfer of technology should be encouraged;
- (x) A viable military – industrial complex should be set up to join the Universities in delivering a sustainable development of Science and Technology Industry;

- (k) Government should make policy, making it mandatory for industries to accept Industrial Training students sent to them by their respective institutions; and
- (l) Government should encourage foreign partners to bring in the machinery they have developed to create job for our citizens. They should use our cherished raw materials to produce goods that can be exported from Nigeria.

4. **Promotion and Improvement of indigenous Technological Innovations:**

Conference decided that the promotion of indigenous technological innovation is necessary to develop a strategic plan backed by appropriate policy guidelines. The plan has to be geared towards:

- i. Documenting the technologies, including the reviving of those that have virtually gone extinct with the view to establishing a database;
- ii. Evaluating and assessing the technologies and the scientific principles that informed such technologies that ought to be rediscovered and the efficacy fully investigated by our scientists for appropriate improvements;
- iii. Creation of favourable and enabling environments by government as a rule;
- iv. Facilitating interaction between the entrepreneurs and scientists; and
- v. Providing incentives by capital support and soft loan as seed capital.

5. **Technology Business Development:**

Conference decided that relevant authorities and bodies should establish:

- (a) Technology Incubation Centers and Science and Technology parks in tertiary institutions and every state of the Federation as pilot scheme;
- (b) An Innovation clusters involving both the government and private sector based on agreed guidelines;
- (c) Innovation fund as provided by the National Research and Innovation Council;
- (d) Create efficient mechanism for the development of small and medium scale enterprises (strat-ups and fledgling);
- (e) Ensure that fundamental discoveries are transformed into applications or technological innovations;
- (f) Research and Development Centres must be well equipped, funded and trainers well-trained and motivated;
- (g) Industry linkage as a mandate of all research establishments;
- (h) Restrict to a certain extent importation of goods and services for which competencies exist in Nigerian for their production; and
- (i) Promote the commercialization of expired patents in the global domain.

5.19.5 SPACE AND NUCLEAR REGIME, FABRICATION OF BUILDING AND MACHINE TOOLS AND MILITARY TECHNOLOGY.

Fabrication of machine tools

Conference decided that:

- (i) The iron and steel industry should be developed speedily to meet the needs of the building industry.
- (ii) The Council of Registered Builders of Nigeria (CORBON) should be empowered to play her statutory roles in the building industry including:
 - a. A review of the Act establishing the Council of Registered Builder of Nigeria;
 - b. Registration of tradesmen and artisans; and
 - c. Monitoring of new scheme on Building sites,
- (iii) To further empower the Council of all registered professional bodies in the Building Industry to play their roles in this sector, the National Assembly should expedite action for the passage of:
 - a. The National Building Code Bill; and
 - b. The Local Content Bill in the Building and Construction Industry.

2. Space and Nuclear Regime:

Space technology has become a major platform for nations to fast-track development. Orbits deployed to space has led to break through in the development of satellites, understanding the environment, water resources, and even providing early warning signals where necessary. Conference therefore resolved that:

Government should demonstrate adequate commitment to the development of the space programme by allocating adequate funds to it.

3. Communication Technology

Conference decided that that the Federal Government should formulate policies to mandate:

- i) All security agencies in the country to key into the NPSCS Network for their communication needs;
- ii) Enlarge community policing where every registered security company keys into the Network for their communication needs;
- iii). All Government agencies to utilize NIGCOMSAT Ltd and Ministry of Communication Technology services;
- iv). The prohibition of indiscriminate deployment of disparate systems for security, communication need without recourse to NIGCOMSAT Ltd and Ministry of Communication Technology;
- v). Government offices and MDAs that lease satellite bandwidth from international satellite operators to as a matter of first choice to patronise NIGCOMSAT satellites thus reducing capital flight;
- f). Adequate funding of science and technology as already recommended; and
- g). Expand ground station infrastructure and launch NIGCOMSAT 2 and 3.

4. Nuclear Technology

To facilitate the development of Nigeria's nuclear capability, Conference recommended that:

- a) Government should pursue vigorous manpower development for Nuclear Technology; and

- b) Government should provide adequate funding for Nuclear Technology.

5.19.6 BIODIVERSITY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY, TRANSFER, DIFFUSION, REVERSE ENGINEERING, STANDARDIZATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE.

1. Biodiversity and Biotechnology

Conference decided that:

- a). A National Biodiversity Conservation Authority be established. State Biodiversity Board and Local Government Biodiversity Task Forces should be created;
- b). Government should discourage the use of foreign plants for afforestation, so that indigenous flora ecosystem is protected from extinction and disease;
- c). Government should fast-track the passage of the Bill establishing the National Biotechnology Development Agency into Law (NABDA);
- d). There is need to fast-track the passage of the bill on BIOSAFETY, with the inclusion of provisions to cover potentially pathogenic and deleterious microorganisms. In doing so, there is a need to ensure the independence of the Biosafety Agency to guarantee its efficacy;
- e). Biotechnology and Bio – Safety Bills should be amended to include “strict liability” provisions;
- f). Biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of bio resources should be incorporated in the school curriculum;

- g) There should be adequate and consistent funding to NABDA to enable it make the impact it should nationwide;
- h). Deliberate steps should be taken to recruit staff with required expertise, who can add value to the Agency;
- i). Clear incentives, conducive environment and staff welfare, should be maintained to ensure that staff remain productive and free of concerns which inhibit productive and innovative research and work;
- j). States should be involved in biotechnology development, as well as the private sector to cut cost and also give the students the needed relevant experience;
- k). There should be increased and improved training and retraining facilities and international exposure;
- l). An aggressive dissemination and marketing of products should be undertaken;
- m). More collaboration between the cognate ministries such as Science and Technology, Agriculture, Health, Trade and Investments, Communication Technology and Environment etc. This will help minimize duplication of efforts, unnecessary rivalry and friction; and.
- n). International development partners should be utilized and co-operation with other countries in the sub-region should be encouraged. Staff exchange where possible and desirable should be undertaken. The current blanket ban on foreign training may not be very helpful.

2. Reverse Engineering, Technology Transfer and Diffusion

Despite the obvious challenges, Nigeria can still get it right. Nigerians are quick to learn, particularly, if they think it enhances their status. Leveraging on this can produce some results.

Consequently, Conference decided that:

- i. The acquisition of technology should be the concern of government at all levels; states and local government as well as individuals and the private sector;
- ii. Agencies of government that have been established to supervise/execute one aspect of technology acquisition should be revitalized so they deliver what is expected. Prominent among these is the National office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP);
- iii. Tertiary educational institutions in the country should be required to develop a master plan for Technology Transfer with clear and specific focus on areas of excellence. More Technology Parks should be set up. Intellectual property development policies should be established which incorporate an incentive and reward system and explicitly state the sharing of royalties and other fees from Technology Transfer activities;
- iv. There should be greater collaboration between NOTAP, tertiary educational institutions, the relevant MDAs and industry;
- v. There should be greater protection of the local industry and market. The Local Content Law (2010) should be rigorously enforced and applied to other sectors;
- vi. Specific laws and guidelines should be made for Cyber-Cafe operators and Internet Service Providers to protect children from access to dangerous sites so as to make IT safe for children and young people.

Conference further recommended that the country should declare an emergency on the revitalization of infrastructure considered critical for manufacturing. These include:-

- i. Power generation, transmission and distribution;
- ii. The Ajaokuta Steel Plant; and
- iii. National Metallurgical Development Centre, Jos

3 Standardization and Quality Assurance.

Conference decided that:

- a) Agencies set up to establish standards and monitor compliance should be directly from related taxes such as import and excise duties;
- b) Regulatory agencies should license tertiary research institution and reputable private laboratories to undertake standardisation measurements on their behalf; and
- c) There should be clear political will and commitment to implement the policies which have been well crafted by the experts.

5.19.7 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

The Media and Press

Conference decided that:

- 1). The Freedom of Information Act 2010 should be amended to include the following proposals:
 - a. Attacks including murder, kidnapping, intimidation of and threats to media practitioners and others exercising their right to freedom of

expression, as well as the material destruction of communications facilities undermine independent journalism, freedom of expression and the free flow of information to the public;

b. The States are under statutory obligation to take effective measures to prevent such attacks and, when they do occur, to investigate them, to punish perpetrators and to ensure that victims have access to effective remedies;

c. States should ensure that laws relating to defamation conform to the following standards:

No one shall be found liable for true statements, opinions or statements regarding public figures which are reasonable to make in the circumstances.

d. Economic Measures: The states shall promote a general economic environment in which the media can flourish.

e. A Special Trust Fund should be created for the media in order to insulate them from the economic power of the advertisers and government as found in such countries as Sweden and Denmark.

2. Broadcasting

Conference observed that:

Across the world, radio and television licence fees form a major revenue source for the funding of broadcasting stations, particularly, public broadcasting stations. This has been demonstrated by many countries, among which are:

a) Sweden

- A mandatory licence fee is in place. When collected, the fees are used for the production and delivery of content by Swedish public broadcasters (they are not permitted to carry advertising);
- The cost of the fee is set by a government agency called Radio Service; and
- Funds collected through licence fees are distributed by the government through three ownership foundations: Swedish radio, which manages public radio; Swedish television, which manages public television; and Swedish Educational Broadcasting which oversees educational content for both public television and radio.

b) United Kingdom

- There is a mandatory licence fee paid by people who own television sets;
- The Department for Culture, Media and Sport sets the amount for the licence fee;
- These fees are used to pay for the operations and programming of the BBC's public terrestrial television channels;
- The licence fee is paid at local post office or via the internet; and

- The pooled fund is passed to the government which then allocates it to the BBC.

c) **France**

- Payment of licence fee is mandatory;
- The system provides that public broadcasting should be financed by a 50-50 split between revenues from licence fees and revenues from advertising;
- The Ministry of Culture sets the amount of the licence fee; and
- The administration of the collection of the fee is handled by the Department of Licensing for Audio-Visual Services, which is a division of the Tax Collection Authority.

d) **Japan**

- Anyone with equipment capable of receiving the content of NHK, the national broadcaster, pays a fee; and
- This fee forms the bulk of NHK's revenues.

e) **Greece**

- The licence fee is indirect but obligatory;
- It is paid through electricity bills; and
- Its proceeds are used to fund the state broadcaster.

f) **Ghana**

- The licence fee is indirect but obligatory;
- It is paid through electricity bills; and
- Its proceeds are used to fund the state broadcaster.

g. Conference therefore proposed that:

- i. Section 1 (b) of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution which empowers local governments to collect radio and television licence fees should be removed/deleted completely from the 1999 Constitution. This provision should give way to the operation and implementation of the existing amendment that was made by the Federal Government to address this dichotomy and conflict via Section 15 of the National Broadcasting Commission Act (initially promulgated as NBC Amendment Decree No.55 of 1999) which provides that:

“The Commission shall:

- (c) Collect and hold in trust for;
- (b) Disburse on behalf of; the broadcast houses such licence fees accruing from the ownership

of radio and television sets, as the Commission may prescribe”.

13 Constitutional Requirement to Recognise, Demarcate and Provide for Clear Sources of Revenue Accruable to Public and Private Stations in Nigeria be put in place. There is the need to institutionalize the policy which defined and identified the sources of revenue accruable to Public and Private Broadcasting Stations in Nigeria as contained in the Mass Communications Policy in the 1999 Constitution as a binding constitutional provision.

14 **RELIEFS:**

Conference decided that there should be an amendment of the National Broadcasting Commission Act or the inclusion in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria provisions which define and reaffirm public and private broadcasting services, sources of their revenue/funding as it is the practice in all other parts of the world as follows:

- (a) An amendment of the National Broadcasting Act and/or the inclusion in that act provisions/amendment to spell out the distinctions between private and public broadcasting services and revenues as it concerns their roles and sources of revenue.
- (b) The NBC Act should be amended to define the sources of funding broadcasting as follows;

- (i) Public service broadcasting be funded through a mixed system of revenue accruing from radio and television sets license fee, subvention from the relevant governments, grants, donations, mass media trust fund and participation in limited commercial advertising. The annual average for the entire duration of advertising by public service broadcasting stations shall not exceed 20 minutes on working days. Advertising time which has not been completely used up may be made up for up to a maximum of 3 minutes on working days;
- (ii) Public service broadcasting stations shall not broadcast advertisement after 7 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays or on Public holidays which are observed throughout the country; and
- (iii) Collective Administration and Management of Royalties and Rights in Nigeria - Need to amend Section 39 (3) of the Copyright Act, CAP C28, Laws of the Federation, 2004 to emphatically provide for licensing of multiple collecting societies for musical works where there is support and request for the approval by the users of musical works, such as broadcast stations as well as the need to legislate against creation or approval of a sole monopoly in the collection granted to a single collecting company by the Nigerian Copyright Commission.

3. Effect of the Operation of Sole Collective Management Administration on Broadcasters in Nigeria

Conference decided as follows:

- (i) There should be an amendment to Section 39 (3) of the Copyright Act, CAP C28, Laws of the Federation, 2004 to emphatically dis-allow sole collecting society for musical works and to provide for licensing of multiple collecting societies for musical works where there is support and request for the approval by the users of musical works such as broadcast stations; and
- (ii) There should be an expansion of membership of the Governing Board of the Nigerian Copyright Commission by amending Section 35 of the Copyright Act to include at least four representatives of broadcasting stations as members of the Governing Board of the Commission.

4. Broadcast Rights to International Sporting Events.

Conference decided there should be:

- b) A legislation providing that organisers of international, continental and sub-continental sporting events shall grant free access to Nigeria/Nigerians to transmit and watch (either live or delayed) any match in which Nigeria's national teams are playing against any opponent as a matter of right;
- c) A legislation providing that organisers of international, continental and sub-continental sporting events shall grant free access to Nigeria/Nigerians to transmit and watch (either live or delayed) any match in which Nigeria's national teams are playing against any opponent as a matter of right; and
- c) Conference decided that the existing rule which imposes a levy of 2.5% on the revenue of broadcasting stations should be reviewed downward to a maximum of 1%.

5. Digitisation of Broadcasting

Conference decided that:

- i) There should be two or three licensed Broadcast Signal Distributors. As result of the aggressive timelines for the transition from analogue to digital terrestrial television broadcasting, the Broadcast Signal Distributors should be:
 - a) An entity carved out of the NTA and the FRCN which utilised their existing infrastructure as government has invested heavily over the years in the broadcast industry through the NTA and FRCN and their infrastructure can be used as the backbone for the establishment of one of the Broadcast Signal Distributors; and
 - b) A consortium of State and Private Broadcasters formed under the auspices of the Broadcasting Organisations of Nigeria (BON). In the same vein, these State and Private broadcasters have invested heavily in broadcast infrastructure and should be granted automatic Broadcast Signal Distributor licence on the same terms and conditions as that formed from the NTA and FRCN.
- ii. Government should fund incentives to guarantee that the manufacturers of Set Top Boxes locate their companies in Nigeria, bearing in mind that the cost of a basic Set Top Box should not be more than N2,000 to ensure affordability. Importation of set-top boxes should be discouraged completely;
- iii) Seed grant should be provided for the broadcasting signal distributors for the procurement of new digital transmitters, acquisition of all digitally compliant broadcast equipment, and for human capital development;

- iv) The Content Service Providers would require funds to meet the challenges of the new dispensation. The funding requirements for successful switchover will involve among others the replacement of existing analogue production equipment, owned by most broadcast stations, with digital broadcast production equipment. Since digital TV allows 4-8 channels in the space of one analogue spectrum segment, this implies the quadruple of content requirements and increased production costs. This calls for capacity building and maximum utilisation of talents and strengthening of the copyright agency and personnel; and
- v. There should be an effective communication strategy to undertake public education to keep the public informed and prepare for the coming changes and ensure acceptance.

5.19.8 INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

Conference decided that:

- (i) In recognition of the role of ICT in national development, there is need to improve national infrastructure in the sector to increase access, especially in rural areas;
- (ii) The requisite manpower in ICT should be trained to create jobs and check the level of insecurity in the country;
- (iii) ICT literacy should be pursued through the school system;
- (iv) Measures should be adopted to reduce the cost of accessing ICT tools such as computers; and
- (v) There must be improved and sustained power supply.

5.19.9 SOCIAL MEDIA NETWORKING

Conference decided that there is the need for the government to introduce a legal framework/guidelines to ensure that the activities of the social media are properly guided and streamlined to ensure that they are responsible.

5.20 TRANSPORTATION

5.20.1 THE NIGERIAN TRANSPORTATION SECTOR

General Issues:

All transport investments need to be subject to careful analysis to ensure that the benefits, net of the costs, meets appropriate investment criteria and represent value for money; while policies and plans are practical and sustainable. The Government's policy objectives should be to:

DECISIONS OF CONFERENCE

Nigeria should:

- i. Have a policy formulating body which is the Council and the National Transportation Commission (NTC) to handle implementation;
- ii. Create independent economic and safety regulation departments for the transport sector under the NTC;
- iii. Promote economic development, expand trade, and improve Nigeria's competitiveness through an efficient and affordable integrated transport network;
- iv. Increase the involvement of the private sector in the provision, maintenance, operation, and upgrading of transport infrastructure;

- v. Improve the safety, environment, security, reliability, quality, and speed of movement of goods and people, at both national and international levels;
- vi. Develop transport infrastructure that ensures environmental sustainability and internationally accepted standards; and
- vii. Create a national integrated multimodal transport network.

5.20.2 RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE:

Conference decided thus:

- i. A shift from road to rail is essential to achieve greater efficiency and lower transport costs, eventually leading to a positive impact on economic growth;
- ii. Nigeria does not have an integrated, inter-modal transport system. There is therefore, the need to invest in inter-modal linkages to integrate operations, especially between the Port–Rail–Inland Container Depot (ICD)–Road modes. The only significant inter-modal interfaces are at seaports, where cargoes are transferred between ocean going ships and road transport. The lack of operational rail links at the ports, especially in Lagos, is a significant barrier to transport efficiency;
- iii. Though the Master Plan for Integrated Transport Infrastructure provides the basis for the FGN to develop an inter-modal plan, it is the resolution of the committee that it should be subjected to further reviews and update to ensure the inclusion of allied services like the mining and agricultural sector inputs;
- iv. There are considerable potentials for the railways to recapture the market of low value, bulk commodities, container traffic and the distribution of petroleum products. The railway has, however, failed to grow its overall market share between 1996 and 2001, despite the steady growth of trade; The railways are carrying less than 1% of the total cargo throughput

recorded in Nigeria's ports (excluding crude oil). An improved modal system will not only require new investment and improved operations, but also improved inter-modal coordination, planning and better regulation to ensure balanced competition between different transport modes;

- v. The Railway Act giving exclusive participatory power to the Federal Government should be amended so as to accommodate the participation of the private sector and state governments in rail development;
- vi. Federal Government should be saddled with the responsibility of constructing rail lines to important commercial nerve centres and all state capitals while States should engage themselves with Intra-state Network and Metrolines (intra-city);
- vii. conference regrettably observed the neglect of the ancillary railway network meant to have an efficient and effective Ajaokuta Steel Plant, and calls for urgent action;
- viii. Conference identified the fact that the rolling Stock (Wagons and coaches) of our railways are in very poor condition, but noted that the Ajaokuta Steel Complex if operationalised can in concert with the Aladja Steel plant and the three inland rolling mills located at Oshogbo, Katsina and Jos produce the raw material components of the rolling stock that is modern and of international standard while reducing the prohibitive cost of building rail lines which are calculated at the procurement and delivery costs of already produced rolling stock;
- ix. Conference also of the view that instead of heaping the burden of rail development solely on the federal government, states and private sector participation would accentuate the production of industrial and bulk minerals and agricultural products and will support the transportation of petroleum products. This will in turn develop the participation of local financial agencies, local investors and State governments before the need to source for the elusive foreign direct investment. It will further reduce the country's debt profile and alienate the development of the real sector of

the economy. This will enable effective movement of goods and services across the country to ports of export. It believes that rail services can serve a useful purpose in the lifting of our petroleum and conveying of our numerous mineral resources with little or no attendant accidents;

- x. Conference was of the view that this business development model would greatly support the expansion and diversification of the rail track between Lagos and Kano, Port Harcourt – Maiduguri with branch offs to Jos and can also be used to integrate every vital part of the federation to the national rail system;
- xi. To this end Conference decided that the existing Master Plan for Integrated Transport Infrastructure or the 25 Year Strategic Vision should be modified to accommodate the inclusion of the railway system to locations with natural resources, commercial nerve centres and to state capitals that have never had railways. The rail expansion programme will have a greater economic impact on the Nigerian economy than the RMP. The revitalisation should commence simultaneously with the rehabilitation and concession of the narrow railway system;
- xii. Railway construction must also have a dualization policy to allow for mass movement of trains;
- xiii. A decision has to be made on which gauge to adopt for the expansion taking into account the transshipment costs incurred between narrow and standard gauge and the need for seamless train movements within the country. Feasibility studies should in the interim be conducted and land acquired for the proposed expansion. Linking the Federal Capital Territory to the railway system and to the three major ports must be a priority. The following routes are therefore proposed:
 - a. Links to the Ports such as One, Calabar and Tin Can;
 - b. Links to Abuja connecting the western and eastern ports;
 - c. East – West Line; and
 - d. Mines and Agricultural centres.

- xiv. Major airports should be linked to rail lines.

5.20.3 ROADS INFRASTRUCTURE

The Federal Road Maintenance Agency's (FERMA) needs to improve its services. This is because roads rehabilitated by the Agency do not last more than one season; and the quantity of work done per unit time in terms of distance covered is very limited. It should therefore be overhauled and strengthened for improved performance. The **NTC** shall accurately determine the total number of roads, give identification number to each of the roads covered and their geographical directions and finally produce a geographical road-map for Nigerian roads, and:

- a. Monitor the development and the condition of the Nigerian roads system;
- b. Establish general road development and road maintenance strategies based on the perceived needs of road users and the existing road conditions;
- c. Bring together all the main stakeholders to ensure a common approach and co-ordination between different programs affecting the needs for road development and improvement;
- d. Approve and develop uniform standards and regulations for road maintenance;
- e. Advise the Government on issues arising out of toll roads concession and toll roads' pricing;
- f. Advise the government on all matters concerning road development, improvement and maintenance;
- g. Administer, monitor and supervise the allocation of funds for road maintenance;
- h. Establishment of road user charge for maintenance of the roads;

In view of the foregoing, Conference decided that:

- i. There is urgent need to ensure adequate and efficient maintenance of the existing road network. Failure to do so imposes high costs on road users and raises the cost of rehabilitation works;
- ii. In addition to rehabilitation there is the need to check the misuse of road infrastructure due to excessive axle load;
- iii. Government should continue to fund road construction and maintenance, and attract additional funding by promoting private sector investment in the upgrade and maintenance of roads and management of tolls through PPPs. In this way, performance risk will be passed to the private sector and there will be a strong discipline for efficient delivery of services. To find the funds to meet the high cost of rehabilitation and improvement programmes:
 - a. additional sources of revenue need to be considered to fund the roads, including user charges in the form of road tolls; and
 - b. better control and more efficient use of available funds is also needed;
- iv. Conference was also of the view that Government should introduce user charges on Federal Roads, as the primary means of augmenting the budgetary allocation for road maintenance and rehabilitation;
- v. All roads and highways should be rehabilitated and maintained using technically competent construction firms and supervising engineers;
- vi. The current dualisation programme of all highways leading to the Federal Capital Territory by the Federal Government is commendable and should be hastened; and
- vii. The current government priority Road Network Development Plan is a commendable policy. The plan as contained in the Road Policy should, through necessary strategies develop all categories of the Federal Roads and be executed in phases to provide a comprehensive road network that will link all states and the six geo-political zones. Government should in this regard complete all

ongoing works and initiate the necessary process for the rehabilitation, construction, reconstruction and upgrading of the North-South, East-West federal highways in the next fifteen years to provide a comprehensive and integrated road network in the country:

a) Phase one 2015-2020

- i. Lagos-Ibadan- Ilorin- Mokwa- Suleja- Kano(north-south rehabilitation/dualisation)
- ii. Onne-Warri-Benin- Lokoja-Abuja(North/South and East/West dualisation/rehablitaion)
- iii. Enugu-Makurdi-Lafia-Akwanga(North-South rehabilitation/dualisation)
- iv. Maiduguri-Damaturu-Dutse-Kano(East-West dualisation/rehabilitation)
- v. Onne-Aba-Uyo-Calabar(East-West rehabilitation/ upgrading)
- vi. Jos-Akwanga-Abuja (dualisation/rehabilitation)
- vii. Enugu-Port Harcourt(North-South rehabilitation)
- viii. Jos – Gombe – Yola Road
- ix. Mayo Belwa – Jada – Garaye- Tongou – Jamtan Road
- x. Gombe – Biu – Yola Road
- xi. Gombe – Damboa – Maiduguri Road
- xii. Jalingo – Bali – Takum – Katsina Ala Road
- xiii. Yenagoa – Nembe – Brass Road (to serve AGIP terminal and the proposed petroleum chemical refinery).

b) Phase Two 2020-2025

- i. Lagos-Ibadan-Akure-Ife-Ajaokuta(East-West rehabilitation/upgrading)
- ii. Jalingo-Shedam –Lafia(East-West rehabilitation)
- iii. Mokwa –BirninKebbi-Sokoto

- iv. Lagos-Benin-Agbor-Asaba-Onitsha-Awka(East-West rehabilitation/upgrading)
- v. Jos-Bauchi-Gombe- Biu-Maiduguri (East-West rehabilitation)
- vi. Enugu-Abakaliki(East-West rehabilitation/upgrading)
- vii. Maiduguri-Yola- Jalingo(East-West rehabilitation)
- viii. Benin – Ore – Sagamu – Papalanto – Ilaro – Obele – Benin Republic Border;
- ix. Otta – Idiroko - Benin Republic Border;
- x. Sokoto – Badagry – Seme - Benin Republic Border;

c) Phase Three 2025-2030

- i. Sokoto-Gausau-Zaria(East-West rehabilitation/upgrading)
- ii. Maiduguri-Jalingo- Calabar (East-West rehabilitation)
- iii. Kano-Katsina-Niger border(East-West rehabilitation)
- iv. Abakaliki-Cameroun border (East-West new construction)
- v. Asaba-Owerri-Aba (North-South rehabilitation/upgrading)
- vi. Zaria-Jos(North-South rehabilitation/upgrading)
- vii. Abuja-Loko-Oturpo-Oju-Calabar,(North South, New construction)
- viii. Makurdi – Katsina-Ala – Takum – Bali – Jalingo – Yola
- ix. The completion of the Billiri Mutum Daya – Karim-Lamido – Jalingo Road in Taraba State.
- x. Construction of the Yenagoa – Oporoma – Koluama Road in Bayelsa State
- xi. Construction of Enugu – Ore – Lagos Railway Line.
- xii. Construction of coastal road from Badagry to Cross – River State.

In addition all newly constructed/rehabilitated Federal roads (Federal highway and interstate priority roads) should be maintained by the contractual firms for a period of not less than three years before handing over. Provision should be made for ring

roads and bye passes in all road networks near major cities for the purpose of decongestion.

- viii. Government, through Public Private Partnership (PPP), should hasten the provision of modern services such as Parks for trailers and tankers, Weighbridges, Rest stations, Recovery vans, Medical facilities, Security outposts etc. on the highways. Incentives should also be given to the private sector for the building of trailer parks;
- ix. Government should utilise other sources of revenue including amongst others, toll gates, vehicle tax, weighbridges and parking fees and Petroleum Tax;
- x. Government should establish a Special Bank (Transport Development Bank-TDB) to support national transport development through the provision of loan facilities to key stakeholders;
- xi. The Federal and other tiers of Government and the development partners should broaden the scope of the RAMP to transform Rural Roads in all States of the Federation. Once construction and rehabilitation are accomplished, Local Governments and benefiting communities should be responsible for their maintenance. However, we recommend that certain percentage of Petroleum taxes and weighbridge fees should be allocated to the Local Government Areas for the purpose of development and maintenance of the rural feeder roads;
- xii. Funding:
Possible sources of funding according to Conference, include:
 - a. Budget allocation from general government revenues: Due to competing needs, government allocation to the road network sub-sector over the years which has been dwindling is now grossly inadequate. Because of the social service functions of roads, government will continue to contribute to the funding;
 - b. Road User Charges: including fuel tax, vehicle registration tax, vehicle import taxes, driver licenses, road tolls and taxes on tyres, lubricants and

consumable spare parts are gaining world-wide acceptance as a source of revenue for augmenting government allocation for road maintenance and construction. This is based on the argument that those who incur costs should be responsible for paying for them. User taxes when properly designed could lead to a more rational use of road capacity and even become a technique of capacity rationing through price mechanism. Government will henceforth emphasis user charges as a means of augmenting the budgetary allocation for road maintenance and rehabilitation;

- c. Private sector funding through investment: Innovative approaches to the management and financing of the road network are emerging through private sector participants. Governments across the world are now working with the private sector not only to provide service, but to build new roads and maintain existing ones. A major way of involving the private sector in road construction and maintenance is through road toll concession with alternative routes. Under this arrangement the private entrepreneur is giving the right to construct, overhaul, maintain and operate a road over an agreed length of time. The entrepreneur recovers his money from toll charges, with alternations;
- d. Toll concession may either be through government Toll Road Authority or by private investors. Government involvement of the private sector in the maintenance of the road will be inclusive of program for:
 - i. Detailed criteria for roads to qualify as toll roads
 - ii. Preparation of the list of such roads and the potential ones that will go on toll concession
 - iii. Preparation of construction and maintenance standard for roads to be placed on toll.
 - iv. Invitation of private sector to participate in the maintenance of these roads on toll concession and the construction of new ones on a Build-Operate- Transfer basis.

- xiii. Toll Roads: Government should consider the introduction of the toll roads in Nigeria a necessity, given the heavy resources needed for maintaining the roads. This program should:
- a. Grant toll roads concessions to qualified private sector investors, who would either take over, for a certain period of time, the existing expressways, high volume highways, or, who under the Build- Operate- Transfer system would either construct a new road, or upgrade an existing one with alternative routes;
 - b. Establish government owned autonomous Toll Roads Authority in the case of roads for which there are no private sector concessionaires; and
- xiv. Government should commence work on the Nigerian section of the Trans African Highway.

5.20.4 ROADS SERVICES

State Governments should introduce well organised high capacity bus mass transit systems which the existing infrastructure can accommodate. In order to achieve this objective, Conference recommended that State Governments should:

- i. Embark on delivery services should be through the licensing of incorporated legal entities with specialised professional management teams. This implies that operators will be larger in terms of fleet size and resources, and that there will be a changing role for the unions;
- ii. Create dedicated routes for BRT in major urban areas;
- iii. Promote Cooperatives or Associations of numerous small transport operators in order to:
 - a. Assure organised and coordinated services;
 - b. Improve operators' managerial, technical and economic capacity;

- c. Facilitate the access of mass transit operators to the capital market for resources to acquire vehicles; and
 - d. Promote full private sector participation and competition in urban transit service delivery.
- iv. It is important for government to develop the required bus infrastructure such as bus stops and terminals, garages and depots. Effective road maintenance along designated bus routes will be necessary and measures taken against encroachment by markets and other users. In appropriate circumstances, Bus Rapid Transit will be the right solution and physically segregated lanes will need to be constructed;
- v. The provision of proper maintenance facilities is essential in meeting the vision and policy objectives. Vehicle suppliers may have a role to play but the extent of the role needs to be clearly understood but the onus for providing a defined level of service should also rest with the operator;
- vi. The bus operator is likely to be required to possess adequate facilities for at least preventive maintenance servicing within the premises at which it will garage its vehicles. In some cases this has become a stumbling block, because the operator is unwilling to invest in equipping premises against a route licence which might have a short duration, say five years;
- vii. Government should review and harmonise the roles and functions of highway personnel (FRSC, VIO and Security Agencies) for the purpose of effective and better coordination, supervision and enforcement and ensuring efficient performance of their functions; and
- viii. Road design standard and road worthiness of vehicles (MOT) on highways should meet international standards. Relevant agencies should review existing laws for effective implementation.

5.20.5 MARINE TRANSPORTATION: PORTS

Conference decided that the Federal Government:

- i. Reduce political interference in the ports authority and introduce reforms through legislation that will separate policy, regulation and operation, and ensure that qualified and competent management are appointed on merit devoid of political interference;
- ii. Increase inter-ports competition that should make ports more efficient and prevent diversion of cargo to neighbouring countries;
- iii. Review and update the Ports Master Plan, driven by integration between federal and state governments and the transport network, particularly rail;
- iv. Within the framework of the Ports Master Plan, fast track the development of additional ports that will have the capacity to attract large vessels and be a transit hub, such as Lekki, Badagry, Olokola, Ibaka, Agge and Ogidigben so as to encourage reduction of ship turnaround time;
- v. Reduction of ship turnaround time by improving discharge operations with more modern discharge and stacking techniques;
- vi. Improve and provide incentives such as reduction in port dues, demurrage and warehousing costs that will encourage shipping companies, importers and exporters to use underutilised ports e.g. Port Harcourt, Calabar and Warri;
- vii. Government should resuscitate rail services to and at the ports and rehabilitate those that are presently linked to railway and land transport so as to improve service delivery;
- viii. Stevedoring services must be specifically reserved for Nigerians.
- ix. Government should expedite the completion of Lokoja and Onitsha Ports projects; and
- x. Government should establish a deep seaport in Agge, Bayelsa State.

5.20.6 MARINE TRANSPORTATION: INLAND WATERWAYS

Conference decided that to improve on the Nigerian inland water transport system, Government must, as in other sectors, separate policy-making from regulation and operation. The reform of the Nigerian Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) is aimed at achieving the following objectives:

- i. Improve efficiency in the provision of marine transportation;
- ii. Assist the development of other activities reliant on inland waterways such as tourism, agriculture and rural development;
- iii. Increase the competitive edge of inland waterways as an alternative mode of transport especially in the conveyance of heavy cargo thereby increasing inter-modalism;
- iv. Dredging of the rivers/Ports, development of more Inland River ports with adequate facilities as well as convenient links to the cities and encouragement of local construction of shallow river vessels and barges designed for local needs;
- v. Development of more Inland River ports with adequate facilities as well as convenient links to the cities.
- vi. Government should encourage private sector participation through the concession of Jetties and Terminals that will attract private sector management, technology and investment in ferry ports and services;
- vii. The river bank has to be protected and if well protected, the cost of maintenance dredging will reduce and will guarantee an all year round navigation;
- viii. For effective coverage of the Nation's over 3,000 km navigable waterways, for efficient agricultural, navigational, security, social services and general economic wellbeing of the citizens, it is resolved that the sector be decentralized under the constitutional concurrent list that will spell out the areas of legislative competence of both the Federal and State Governments;
- ix. The immediate dredging of River Benue to make it an all season waterway;

- x. The dredging of the River Niger Waterways to make it navigable at all times;
and
- xi. The Federal Government should dredge all inland waterways.

5.20.7 MARINE TRANSPORTATION: SHIPPING

In view of the identified challenges in the sector, Conference resolution is for government to:

- i. Intervene in vessel acquisition and Financing by ensuring that Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) must comply with the Act;
- ii. Encourage NIMASA to facilitate access to the fund to as many Nigerian shipping Companies and ensure transparency in its activities and such shipping lines should be involved in the proposed integrated transport mode and should be given the right of first refusal in the transportation of products and services from the oil and gas sector;
- iii. Integrate the steel plants to the provision of steel and allied products for ship building and a deliberate policy tying the Naval dry dock and other ship building yards should be tied to the funding program involving local finance institutions and improvement on Manpower and Technological Development in vessels building and operations;
- iv. Facilitate full indigenous participation in the carriage of cargoes including the lifting of crude petroleum;
- v. Promote human capacity development for the manning of maritime vessels by Nigerians;
- vi. Deploy monetary and fiscal policies that adequately favour the shipping companies. This will in turn:

- a. Create an enabling environment for indigenous private shipping companies to acquire vessels;
 - b. Make a special provision for the shipping industry in the context of domestic credits and foreign exchange; and
 - c. Allow substantial tax relief and tax concessions for indigenous shipping companies.
- vii. The Cabotage Act should be reviewed to effectively achieve its set objectives; and
- viii. Nigeria should establish a National Coast Guard for effective security in Nigerian coastal waterways and to protect Nigerian's fisheries resources.

5.20.8 AVIATION SECTOR: INFRASTRUCTURE

i. Safety and Security

Conference noted that:

To comply with ICAO regulations Aeronautical Accident Investigation should be separated from Safety Regulation and established as independent body. CAA Section 29 provides for the establishment of an independent and autonomous Accident Investigation Bureau (AIB) as opposed to a government controlled body. The AIB is charged with the responsibility of the investigation of any accident or incident arising out of or in the course of air navigation occurring in or over Nigeria or to Nigerian aircraft elsewhere.

The Aeronautical Accident Investigation Division should investigate aircraft accidents within Nigeria in accidents involving Nigerian registered aircraft abroad. It should also investigate serious aviation incidents as defined by ICAO and publish monthly bulletins of accident reports and special one-off publications for serious incidents and accidents.

ii. Institutional Recommendations based on the review of the Acts

An autonomous civil aviation authority with the power to prescribe and enforce Air Navigation rules is a prerequisite to a safe aviation industry. Therefore the NCAA should have an independent and autonomous board made up of professionals from different sectors especially people with knowledge of the aviation industry and safety and security.

ICAO suggests that, subject to detailed process design for a reformed civil aviation regulatory organisation, at least the following two acts would be required to simplify the structure:

- a. Civil Aviation Act; and
- b. Aviation Security and Anti-terrorism Act

In view of the foregoing, Conference decided that:

- i. Public-Private Partnerships or Joint Ventures should be encouraged to the extent that the country can benefit from the BASA and OSA agreements it has entered into with other countries, through growing local aviation capacity to qualify for ICAO principles and standards for international flight services;
- ii. All efforts should be made to complete and on schedule the ongoing upgrade of the local international airports, especially the 5 new international airports and the 22 local airports nationwide, to the extent that the Nigerian Aviation Transport System should be celebrated as the pride of Africa;
- iii. The interest of the people living with disabilities should be incorporated in the design construction of airports and in the conduct and behaviour of airline personnel, while comparative pricing should be encouraged especially within the ECOWAS sub-region;
- iv. Development of Maintenance Repair Organisations facilities should be encouraged as their presence would greatly reduce the costs of obtaining these services abroad, which greatly impacts on the fortunes of the operations of the local airlines whose huge chunk of operational expenses is consumed by maintenance and aviation fuel;

- v. Government should endeavour to upgrade existing local Training/Re-Training Facilities and emplace the framework to develop new ones so as to compete favourably with external human resources for jobs in the Nigerian aviation sector;
- vi. Government should be serious with fight against corruption. The case of the Aviation Intervention Fund should be thoroughly investigated and offenders should be and prosecuted and punished;
- vii. National Interest and Security shall be uppermost in the minds of government officials while granting approvals, permits and rights to users of the Nigerian air space and airports. With the spate of insecurity in the country, it is imperative that appropriate checks be put in place not only to regulate air services but to ensure safety of lives;
- viii. a second Run-Way be put in place as a matter of critical urgency at the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport;
- ix. Conference was is of the opinion that instead of using the word merger which would mean the integration of the functions of the regulatory and services agencies, the agencies distinct functions should be over sighted and regulated by the FCAA who would ensure the independence of the agencies and that each agency carries their different functions in line with ICAO/SARPS for the regulatory agencies like NCAA and the demands of the services agencies like NAMA, NIMET, FAAN and NCAT; and
- x. The negotiation of Air Services Agreements with third countries in air transport should be guided largely by economic consideration and the principles of reciprocity that will ensure fair and equal opportunities.

5.20.9 AVIATION: SERVICES

a. *Promotion of Local Operators*

The Bi-lateral Air Service Agreements (BASAs) should be re-negotiated with the long term goal of encouraging local operators. The Ministry should support local operators interested in operating international routes either in form of grants or loans from the BASA pool or subsidies in fees and rates payable to Government agencies who receive part of the BASA fund. Nigeria, working with the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC), Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), the United State (US), the European Union (EU) and other favoured trading nation states, should generally seek to open up and liberalise agreements to enable airlines operate competitively.

Nigeria should also encourage private participation in the provision of aviation services so that the country can fully benefit from the BASA and OSA agreements. . The same is true of its airlines having the capacity to qualify for the ICAO principles and standards for international flight services.

b. Training

Conference decided that:

Government should not only retool and upgrade the technical and human capacity of NCAT but develop a program to encourage Nigerians pursue career opportunities in the aviation industry. This can be done by adopting the approach used in the 1960s and 1970s where young Nigerians were trained as dedicated and skilled aviation professionals.

c. Funding

Conference decided that:

- i. Government should encourage the provision of funding with low interest rates for direct aviation industry. Furthermore, an aircraft leasing company with a minimal investment of \$10 billion over the next five years should be introduced. This model, adopted by China, has grown its domestic airlines tremendously. .

- ii. Government should review all taxes and charges relating to airlines operations as follows:
 - a. Cancel import tax/duties on aircraft and spare parts;
 - b. Significant reduction of stamp duty on aircraft purchase/lease agreement;
 - c. Waiver of aircraft lease withholding tax and VAT;
 - d. Significant reduction in land charge by FAAN;
 - e. In addition government should grant a corporate tax holiday for at least 15 years; and
 - f. Government should reduce insurance premiums paid by domestic airlines by empowering Nigerian insurance companies to form a local aviation pool that is able to negotiate better rates in the international insurance market for Nigerian airlines.

d. *Airport Infrastructure*

Conference decided that:

Government should review the present airport ownership structure through: viable PPPs that can integrate the international and domestic terminals, refurbishment of existing runways and construction of new ones where necessary like the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport (NAIA) Abuja, improvement of Navigation and Landing aids, and install runway lighting at 181 in Lagos, Akanu Ibiam Airport Enugu and Port Harcourt International Airports.

e. *Building a strong and vibrant local Airline Industry*

Conference decided that:

Government should develop a policy framework that encourages foreign airlines to enter into partnerships with domestic airlines especially those that are currently operating in the country. These partnerships can be in fleet acquisition, establishment of MRO or any other aviation infrastructure

Furthermore government should review the requirements for the air lines to be designated as flag carrier. Such company must be a public limited company with individual shareholding not exceeding a maximum of 10%. Government shall then hold minority shares if public funds are to be used for the aircraft acquisition. Majority of the shares (minimum of 60%) should be held by Nigerians and available for purchase from the Nigerian Stock Exchange while 20-25% of the shares shall be reserved for technical partners where applicable.

F. Qualification and Tenure of Chief Executive Officers

Government should ensure that only qualified persons with requisite professional experiences are appointed as Ministers and Permanent Secretaries of the Aviation Ministry and into agencies like the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET) and NAMA. Furthermore, government should ensure that the appointment and removal of chief executives of the regulatory and service agencies of the aviation industry are done in line with international best practice. The appointment of all the Chief Executive Officers on acting capacity is unacceptable and should be redressed to restore the international community's confidence in our aviation industry.

g. Conference further decided that:

- (i) Change in policies should be discussed with the stakeholders and implemented in a manner that will create least disruption and instability in the industry;
- (ii) The economic regulation directorate in the NCAA should be strengthened with qualified personnel. And operation brought in line with international best practice. In this direction, the NCC should exploit its interagency relationship to the fullest; and
- (iii) Since September 2001, the world has never been the same in the context of security. Therefore it is the resolution of this Conference that adequate

security provisions should be implemented to safeguard our transportation infrastructure, in view of current security challenges in the country.

5.20.10 *PIPELINES*

Conference recommended:

- i. Linkages of the production and construction of pipelines and depots to the Ajaokuta Steel Plant, the Aladja Steel plant and the three Inland Rolling Mills in Jos, Oshogbo and Katsina; and
- ii. Deployment of modern technology that can be human signature-sensitive in securing, identifying and blocking vandalized pipelines until repairs are carried out.

5.20.11 GENERAL RESOLUTIONS ON TRANSPORTATION BY CONFERENCE

1. Anti-Corruption Measures

Conference acknowledged that the non-performance posture of contractors in the entire transportation sector and further identified corruption and embezzlement of public funds as largely responsible for this scenario. Conference advocated very stiff penalties for persons found culpable, whether contractors, consultants or government officials. These deterrent measures will safeguard the delivery of the transportation sector.

2. Non Implementation and Lack of Political Will

Conference identified the absence of political will to implement transportation policies and plans and therefore calls for a declaration of emergency in the

transportation sector as its efficiency and effectiveness will provide a platform for rapid economic and social growth of our economy.

3. Poverty Alleviation

Conference decided that:

- i. The federal government needs to provide the framework for the provision of accessible mass transit that can facilitate the realization of poverty alleviation;
- ii. The transportation sector should not only create cosmopolitan centres but must be remodelled to drive inclusive growth and creation through the linking of its services to those job creation sectors of the Nigerian economy in the rural areas like agriculture, mining, manufacturing and markets;
- iii. Conscious and sustained investment in rail transportation will transform Nigeria due to its capacity to create jobs and by implication alleviate poverty;
- iv. Government should support unprofitable PPP projects through the funding of social service projects and regulate the profitable projects to ensure that prices are kept at affordable levels and quality is maintained; and
- v. In communities situated on estuaries and River banks, bridges should be constructed to access the communities.

4. Promulgation of a New Transportation Policy

Conference decided that Government needs to review and update the draft National Transport Policy and hold a public stakeholders consultation process on the National Transport Policy that will take into account the views of key stakeholders and users of the transport system.

5. Enactment of a new Transportation Legislation

Conference decided as follows:

- i. Review the existing legislation by including all States and the private sector in the provision of transport services provided such participation is subject to the policies and guidelines of the National Transport Commission. This will allow the development of transportation infrastructure to be inclusive of rights of State governments to build intra-state transport infrastructure as well as encourage private investors to build and operate rail, ports and road infrastructure and invest in critical sectors like mines, beneficiation plants and integrated agriculture projects; and
- ii. For effective and efficient transportation system, through healthy competition and specialization for agricultural, navigational, security, social services and general economic wellbeing of the citizens, it is recommended that the sector (Railway, Port, Land, Water, Sea and Air) be listed under the Concurrent Legislative List that will spell out the areas of legislative competence of both the Federal and State Governments.

6. Transportation Planning

Conference decided that:

- i. The Transportation Master Plan should be passed into law to prevent the abuse of the plan by ministers and/or ministries.
- ii. The development of a definitive Integrated Transportation Master Plan for the sector should be based on economic analysis i.e. to determine the economic rate of return on each transport project looking at the economic impact and financial implication of such projects.

- iii. The transportation masterplan should prioritise projects based on the economic analysis above and budget constraints, examine the projects and determine the diverse range of benefits including:
 - a. Accessibility & social benefits;
 - b. Economic and growth benefits;
 - c. Decongestion benefits;
 - d. Environmental benefits;
 - e. Health and safety benefits;
 - f. Infrastructure maintenance benefits; and
 - g. Operation and maintenance benefits

Conference observed that the Transport Master Plan will also support the deployment of an Integrated Transport Infrastructure Programme that would intricately tie a fixed and appreciable percentage of steel and allied materials for use in rail lines, roads construction, air ports remodelling and boat and ship building to the Ajaokuta, Aladja, Oshogbo, Katsina and Jos steel plants and rolling mills.

5.20.12 DEVELOPMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

1. The National Transportation Council.

Conference decided that:

To improve the disjointed development of the transport sector, the existing National Transportation Council should be expanded from the current Federal Ministry of Transport and State Commissioners of Transport to include the Federal Ministries of Works and Aviation and the State Commissioners of Works, experts in the transport sector and representative of all core stakeholders therein as well as Federal and State Ministers and Commissioners of Environment, respectively. It shall be responsible for the formulation of policies governing the sector throughout Nigeria

and covering all the three tiers of government. The Council should also set and maintain standard practices and ensure the coordination of transport development in Nigeria. It should meet on quarterly basis; and any other time as the need arises. The Council is answerable to the President.

2. Funding

a. Public Sector

Conference emphasised that during the emergency period, the budget for transportation infrastructure should be put on first line charge and adequate budgetary provisions must be made.

Conference observed that Federal and State governments can decide to allocate funds from their resources such as:

- i. **Budgetary Provisions:** through capital and recurrent expenditure;
- ii. **Specific government grants:** to stimulate demand in specific sub-sectors and to address specific issues such as improved access for disabled people and school children;
- iii. **Intervention Funds:** deployed to key sectors of the economy during times of crisis or economic downturn as low-interest, repayable loans;

- iv. **Development Assistance:** to assist with projects at low rates of interest for lending;
- v. **Counterpart Funding:** contributions from states and local government to complement funding being injected by FGN in the sector, for infrastructure and goods;
- vi. **Viability Gap Funding (VGF):** to bridge the gap between financial and economic rates of return on infrastructure projects, normally as a one-off payment at the start of a project which has high socio-economic benefits but unattractive investment returns compared with alternative investment opportunities, with the advantage over on-going subsidies of being finite and quantifiable;
- vii. **Subsidies:** to provide public sector obligations for unviable projects, particularly at start-up, can have beneficial outcomes in stimulating private sector investment in those areas;
- viii. **Interest Draw Back:** operators could borrow at market rate and the interest difference approved by government will be paid to the operators. This model is operated by the CBN under its interventions in Agriculture; and
- ix. **Sure-P:** should provide more funds for mass transit, considering that its source of funds is from vehicle fuel. The funds so provided can be used for the setting up of a credit enhancement instrument, interest drawback, etc. In 2013, Sure-P provided only ₦6.1 billion for mass transit out of a budget of ₦273.522 billion, or 2.2%. In 2014 budget, at least 5% should be earmarked for mass transit.

b. Bilateral and Multilateral Agencies

Conference observed and noted the following:

- i. **Concessionary loans** for developmental projects such as transportation, agriculture, housing and so on, are available through multilateral and bilateral institutions such as the World Bank, African Development Bank, European Investment Bank, Agency France de Development, Export Import Bank of developed countries, Export Credit Agencies of countries, and so on. These loans are for tenor of up to 50 years with moratorium on principal repayments of up to 10 years;
- ii. **Non-Concessional Loan** for infrastructure projects are available mostly to private sector led projects that have high socio-economic and developmental impact. Interest rate is always around 4-10% per annum and tenor could be for up to 40 years;
- iii. **Availability of Technical Assistance and Grants** Assistance for capacity building and institutional strengthening targeted at specific institutions and programmes that would develop specific sectors, particularly in relation to building technical skills; and
- iv. **Clean Technology Fund** Such as the Climate Investment Funds (CIFs) were designed by developed and developing countries and are implemented with the multilateral development banks (MDBs) to bridge the financing and learning gap between now and the next international climate change agreement. One of these funds is the Clean Technology Fund (CFT). CFT promotes scaled-up financing for demonstration, deployment and transfer of low-carbon technologies with significant potential for long-term greenhouse emission savings. The CFT proposes to spend US\$761.80 for expansion of bus rapid transit and improved buses in Lagos, Kano and Abuja. The programme is coordinated by the Federal Ministry of Environment.

c. **Private Sector Participants**

Conference noted the existence of:

- i. *Development Finance Institutions (DFIs)*.** There are various types of financing instruments within the boutique of DFIs that could be directed at transportation projects and services in Nigeria. DFIs that have a significant presence within the Nigerian market include IFC, AFC, Proparco, AfDB, and UDBN;
- ii. *Private Sector Equity*** whereby individuals and some private organisations through Venture Capitalists, Business Angels, Capital Market and others can provide equity to start up infrastructure projects and ventures. This is usually risk capital that should ordinarily yield dividends at some point in the future. Equity investment in transportation in Nigeria is usually limited to the provision of rolling stock and easily disposable items rather than infrastructure;
- iii. *Contractual Savings Sector*** such as Pension Funds, Mutual Funds, and the Insurance Sector. Funds within this group are in excess of trillions of naira and the Government must design policies and instruments that would allow this group invest in long-term transport infrastructure assets. Government has already made a policy that allows Pension Funds to be invested in infrastructure through Infrastructure Funds;
- iv. *Export Credit Agency Facilities*** Whereby most developed countries have Export Development Agencies (ECAs) that provide credit to foreign buyers of products produced locally of up to 85% of products being financed and require an equity contribution of about 15% as well as a guarantee for the balance of 85% to be financed through the ECA. These are good for financing rolling stock and other forms of equipment for infrastructure projects;
- v. *Debt Capital Market*** which provides a good source of long term debt financing for transportation projects through the designing of specific Infrastructure Development bonds with characteristics suited to projects

being developed. These bonds could also be designed to be tax exempt as well as qualify as liquid assets on the balance sheet of commercial banks in Nigeria; and

vi. Contractor and Vendor Finance: contractors have access to financing which are typically tied to projects. Some equipment is also provided to projects through vendors that could provide some form of financing. Both sources could be explored to fund transportation services and infrastructure.

d. Other potential areas of financial support

i. Government Credit Enhancement which not necessarily cash injections but incentives that stimulate investments into projects afforded that priority;

ii. Pioneer Status for landmark transport infrastructure projects could be afforded Pioneer Status to encourage private sector investment and return on their invested capital. Pioneer Project status could be in the form of tax exemption for a certain period, waivers on import duties for equipment, provision of land for real estate development, and so on;

iii. Counterpart Funding could be provided to complement private sector funding through institutions such as the DFIs and other Donor Agencies. This counterpart funding shows a form of commitment from the beneficiary Government, it reduces the lender's exposure to the Project which makes Lenders and other Stakeholders more comfortable to invest on the Project. In private sector debt finance, counterpart funding may also be used to describe the percentage which the borrower needs to contribute in order for the balance to be financed by a lender;

iv. Asset Pledge whereby government could pledge assets as a form of security or collateral to projects which give Financial Institutions the comfort to lend to the Project; and

v. The inclusion of local financing institutions such as Nigerian Sovereign Investment Authority, BOI, NEXIM, SURE-P Natural Resources

Development Fund, SWF and local finance institutions and investors so as to guarantee retention of private local and foreign direct investment in the transport sector.

e. Public Private Partnership in Transportation

Government should leverage on the success of PPP in the ports subsector, and extend same to follow in other parts of the transportation sector.

5.20.13 CONCLUSION

It is the view of this Conference that considering the role of transportation in the effective functioning of many other sectors of the economy, it is imperative that the overall objectives set for the sector should be such that the quality, cost, and quantity of service provided by different modes namely road, rail, inland waterways, shipping and airlines is optimized through development models that ensure that:

- i. The different transport modes are effectively integrated;
- ii. There should be an appropriate balance between public and private provision of transportation, particularly in urban areas;
- iii. Investment should be prioritised to maximize economic returns with emphasis on safety;
- iv. User charges take into account both the benefits and affordability to users, and create a level playing field between different providers and transport modes;
- v. Transport provision, and its costs provide choice for users, and the transportation of freight;
- vi. Costs imposed by borrowing to invest be fair and appropriate where transport costs are subsidised, this should be in response to specific market failings or for quantifiable social benefit; and

vii. The procurement of private sector contracts be based on fair and transparent competition, and decisions on the roles of public and private parties based on value for money.

From the foregoing, Conference believes that resolving the perennial challenges of our transportation sector would require the integration of transport with national development priorities through the deployment of appropriate funding and financing mechanism that would enhance the delivery of efficient and effective transportation operations that would protect our economy and encourage inclusive growth.

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CHAPTER SIX:

6.0 CONSTITUTIONAL, LEGAL AND POLICY MODALITIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

6.1 AGRICULTURE AND WATER RESOURCES

6.1.1 Constitutional Matters

S/N	RESOLUTIONS	RELEVANT SECTIONS	OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES
1	<p>Strengthen the provisions of the Water Decree 101 of 1993 through a review of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) to include the definition of access to water resources, the establishment of water protection zones, regulation on raw water abstraction and sanctions for water misuse, pollution, and punishment for those who sabotage assets and frustrate efforts to provide water for all. The amendments should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Access to safe and adequate water as a Fundamental Human Right.ii. Trans-boundary waters should be placed on the Exclusive Legislative List (Interstate waters are already on the Exclusive Legislative List).iii. Water for domestic, commercial, industrial, irrigation, power and other uses should be placed on the concurrent list.iv. Set specific standards and limits for the various uses of water –domestic, commercial, industrial, fisheries and other agricultural uses to prevent water pollution and also fix penalties for non-compliance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Chapter IIb. Chapter IVc. Second Schedule, Part I and II	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Ensure safe and adequate water supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. The Presidencyb. National Assemblyc. States' Houses of Assembly

6.1.2 Policy Issues

S/N	RESOLUTIONS	PROPOSED/ EXISTING POLICIES	OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Link agricultural policy frameworks to the global policy dynamics to attract foreign investors and aids/grants. b. Leverage on Research and Development to drive agricultural production. c. Create intersect oral linkages to facilitate access to finance and input service delivery in agricultural production d. Develop Agricultural Trade policy to encourage agricultural exports and discourage importation e. Provide infrastructure as part of general rural development effort. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Nigerian Agricultural Policy b. Agricultural Transformation Agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Streamline and harmonise Federal Government participation in agriculture development to emphasize agricultural research and development, intersect oral linkages, implementation of policies and programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Presidency b. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development c. Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade & Investment d. Federal Ministry of Finance e. Central Bank of Nigeria f. State Ministries of Agriculture g. State Ministries of Industries h. State Ministries of Finance
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All forms of extension work should be devolved to the States Governments. b. Facilitate the revitalization of skills-acquisition/agricultural-training centers in each senatorial district in the country. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nigerian Agricultural Policy Agricultural Transformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Encourage States to focus on all extension services in Agricultural 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Review and rationalize all isolated institutions and programmes set up to generate employment or create wealth that are working at cross purposes or duplicating each other's functions in order to create an umbrella National Scheme to pursue common objectives. d. Encourage private sector participants as agric-equipment vendors, through soft loans, tax exemptions, duty-waivers, etc. e. Source and import rugged, small scale equipment for sale to those newly trained mechanized farmers. f. Facilitate access to farmlands for young farmers even on renewable-term basis, until they are able to acquire their own land. 	Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> production. b. To encourage Productivity in agricultural Sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development c. Federal Ministry of Finance d. States' Ministries of Agriculture
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Link all the Federal Agriculture-related Research Centres/Institutes with the Faculties of Agriculture in the Federal Universities close to such Centres. b. Re-engineer and re-focus the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria. c. Support the development of a farmers-led Commodity Marketing Board and demand-driven marketing organizations for the commodity crops, viz: Cotton, Groundnuts, Cocoa and Oil Palm. d. Such marketing organizations should be promoted by the Federal Government, (even if private sector-driven or, better still, be left entirely to the private sector) on strictly demand-driven basis or to inter-state regional economic groupings. e. Strengthen effective operational connectivity with the States in the service delivery of the current subsidy regime and 	National Agricultural Research and Development Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Enhance the role of Agricultural Research and Development in Agricultural production, commodity boards, and managing input supply and agricultural subsidy. b. Replace government distribution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development b. States' Ministries of Agriculture c. Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria d. Research Institutes under the Federal Ministry of Agriculture e. National Universities Commission f. Federal Universities g. State Universities

	<p>management mechanism that has been put in place by the current policy drive, so as to ensure sustainability.</p> <p>f. Imbibe and assimilate the culture of patience and discipline in the implementation and sustainability of policies and programmes.</p>		<p>system with private sector system utilizing input vouchers</p> <p>c. To promote productivity and effectiveness.</p>	<p>and Colleges of Agriculture</p>
4.	<p>a. Undertake soil survey operations in a systematic manner, such that year after year contiguous Local Government Areas and/or States should be surveyed with the aim of eventually having the entire country covered by semi-detailed and eventually detailed soil surveys.</p> <p>b. Carry out extensive enlightenment campaigns on the use of soil survey information for improved control of erosion, desertification and flood, in English and in local languages throughout the country, using electronic and print media as well as agricultural extension agents.</p> <p>c. Conduct extensive needs assessment of soil and water laboratories available in the country so as to systematically upgrade at least two laboratories in each political zone in the country.</p> <p>d. Consult and compensate land owners irrespective of purposes for which land is acquired.</p>		<p>a. Efficient and effective use of Agricultural land resources to increased agricultural production</p> <p>b. To provide friendly soil maps for states</p> <p>c. To promote effective dissemination of information to stem erosion, desertification and flood</p> <p>d. To make available country wide soil testing locations</p> <p>e. To reduce tension arising</p>	<p>a. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development</p> <p>b. States' Ministries of Agriculture</p> <p>c. Research Institutes under the Federal Ministry of Agriculture</p> <p>d. Federal Ministry of Water Resources</p> <p>e. State Ministries of Water Resources</p> <p>f. Federal Ministry of Works</p> <p>g. State Ministries of Work</p>

			from farm land acquisition	
5.	<p>a. Intensify manpower development and training programmes on the management, operation and maintenance of the different components of large scale irrigation schemes (surface/non-pressurised and pressurised).</p> <p>b. Adopt the current draft National Irrigation and Drainage Policy which provides the essential guidance necessary for irrigation farming.</p> <p>c. Develop a formal structure and institutional framework for cooperation between all irrigation stakeholders at all levels.</p> <p>d. Determine a practical fee structure to ensure appropriate financial returns that will ensure the availability of funds for proper maintenance and improvement of completed irrigation systems.</p> <p>e. Undertake a diligent and holistic study of all the large dams in the country to determine their state and to take immediate action where maintenance or repair is required.</p>	National Water Conservation and Irrigation Policy	Using irrigation system to revolutionize all year round agricultural production	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development</p> <p>c. Federal Ministry of Water Resources</p> <p>d. River Basins Development Authorities</p>
6.	<p>a. Recognise the synergy between climate change and irrigation in the Agricultural Policy of Nigeria and the Agricultural Transformation Agenda.</p> <p>b. Synchronise the National Irrigation and Drainage Policy, the Agricultural Policy of Nigeria and Agriculture Transformation Agenda to articulate a clear and joint Blueprint or Action Plan.</p> <p>c. Exploit the role of irrigation schemes in the ecosystem restoration, to provide irrigated grazing lands and reduce community clashes and insurgency.</p>	National Adaptation Strategy and Plan of Action on Climate Change in Nigeria (NASCPA – CCN).	Address climate change issues in agricultural production	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development</p> <p>c. Federal Ministry of Environment</p> <p>d. Nigeria Meteorological Agency</p>

	<p>d. Review and adopt the National Adaptation Strategy and Plan of Action on Climate Change in Nigeria (NASCPA – CCN).</p> <p>e. Introduce species of trees/crops that are adapted to deserts and minimum water.</p>			
7.	<p>a. Encourage private sector participants as agric-equipment vendors through soft loans, tax exemptions, duty-waivers, etc., to source and import rugged, small scale equipment for sale to those newly trained mechanized farmers</p>	<p>a. Fiscal Strategy Paper</p> <p>b. National Tax Policy</p>	Using tax policy to encourage agriculture production	<p>a. Federal Ministry of Finance</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Agriculture</p>
8.	<p>a. Establish a strong institution akin to the defunct Federal Agricultural Coordinating Unit (FACU) in the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development that will effectively coordinate and monitor the contribution of other agencies to agricultural development, as well as make informed contributions to the budget and resource allocation of relevant Institutions/Ministries to agriculture.</p>	Nigerian Agricultural Policy	Ensuring proper sectoral coordination for the agriculture production.	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development</p>
9.	<p>a. Develop a formal structure and institutional framework for cooperation between all irrigation stakeholders at all levels.</p>	National Policy on River Basin Authority Development	Effective management of irrigation systems for improved agricultural productivity	<p>a. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Water Resources</p>
10.	<p>a. Establish a well-structured promotion of the institutions and incentives supporting interventions such as:</p> <p>i. Commodity trading exchanges which allow spot and forward sales as well as crops being used as collateral</p>	Nigerian Agricultural Policy		<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development</p> <p>c. Federal Ministry of</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Marketing boards or corporations iii. Government (Federal/State) guarantee scheme for cash crops, especially those for export b. Expedite the establishment of the necessary policy and legislative frameworks to make them a reality in the short term. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, Trade & Investment d. Federal Ministry of Finance e. Central Bank of Nigeria f. Securities & Exchange Commission
11.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Promote research and development of indigenous and appropriate agricultural machinery, taking into consideration the culture and traditions of the people. b. Introduce policies for the protection of local entrepreneurs, and timelines for transfer to the use of local technology. c. Promote mechanised agriculture at all levels using appropriate technology and mechanical power as well as the use of cooperatives. d. Revive farm settlements. e. Develop a policy to provide basic infrastructure in all areas of agricultural mechanisation. f. Reflect and support engineering input and engineering professionals involved in government policies relating to agriculture in Nigeria. g. The National Agricultural Land Development Agency and the River Basin Development Authorities should cooperate and return the farmlands in all their catchment areas lying waste. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Nigerian Agricultural Policy b. National Science and Technology Policy 	Adopt mechanised farming to ensure sustainable agriculture for domestic consumption and exports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Presidency b. State Governments c. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development d. Federal Ministry of Science & Technology e. Research and Development Institutes. f. Other relevant MDAs

	<p>h. Emphasize Horticulture as part of Agricultural production for income generation both internally and for foreign exchange earnings;</p> <p>i. Government Policy should enhance the availability of improved seedlings for Agricultural and Horticultural purposes, for increase in food production and income generation.</p>			
12.	<p>a. Adequate funding should be devoted to biotechnological research, especially those that do not involve cross-species genetic manipulations.</p> <p>b. Public participation when applications to introduce GMOs are being considered.</p> <p>c. Specify clearly how large-scale field trials would be contained and regulated to avoid contamination of surroundings or farms.</p> <p>d. Specify criteria for risk assessment and such assessments must be carried out in Nigeria and not offshore.</p> <p>e. The implementation of the precautionary principle that entitles our government to decide against approval or for restriction in cases of incomplete or controversial knowledge.</p>	National Biotechnology and Biodiversity Policy	Effective use of Biotechnology to improve agricultural production	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Science & Technology</p> <p>c. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development</p> <p>d. National Biotechnology Development Agency</p>
13.	<p>a. Complement the incentive policy for nomadic education with an enforcement mechanism that would require nomadic households to register for Government services in their locations of choice for access to services (including veterinary services).</p> <p>b. Incorporate relevant elements of the culture of agricultural practitioners to policies regulating and promoting</p>	<p>a. National Policy on Nomadic Education</p> <p>b. National Policy on Grazing Reserve</p> <p>c. National Policy on</p>	Using modern technique and policy linkages to enhance livestock production activities and crop production to	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Ministry of Culture and Tourism</p> <p>c. National Institute for Conflict Resolution</p> <p>d. National Insurance</p>

<p>agricultural practices in order to enhance ease of implementation.</p> <p>c. Phase out cattle routes and grazing reserves in the long term to lay emphasis on ranching.</p> <p>d. Bring cattle rustling under control by better policing because it is a disincentive to ranching. In the meantime, States which have large livestock populations should endeavour to maintain grazing reserves.</p> <p>e. The traditional institutions should be primarily responsible for the Conflict Resolution between the Herdsmen and Farmers, and also their respective Associations. Where resolutions failed, then the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Centre should be their last resort.</p> <p>f. Ensure humane handling of animals being transported to and from markets. Fine for any act of cruelty to livestock, should be impose.</p> <p>g. Establish comprehensive private-public contributory poultry insurance for the subsector, coupled with appropriate investment guarantee and credit guarantee schemes.</p> <p>h. Enhance inter-seasonal and inter-year food price stability for sustainable food security. This will encourage double seasonal cropping in the semi-arid regions as well as the effective use of existing and future irrigation systems in other parts of the country.</p> <p>i. Revive the strategic grains and food reserve programmes.</p> <p>j. Provide support for the development of fruits, vegetables, cash crops, grains and livestock as well as fisheries processing and packaging industries at all levels.</p>	<p>Development Finance</p>	<p>achieve price stability</p>	<p>Commission</p> <p>e. Central Bank of Nigeria</p> <p>f. National Planning Commission</p> <p>g. Federal Ministry of Education</p> <p>h. Federal Ministry of Power</p> <p>i. Nigeria Police Force</p> <p>j. Multi-Door Courts</p> <p>k. Transmission Company of Nigeria</p> <p>l. Traditional institutions</p> <p>m. Federal Ministry of Agriculture</p>
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	<p>k. Promote patronage and consumption of locally produced food and value added products over similar imported products.</p> <p>l. Provide access roads to farming communities in the hinterlands to reduce handling and transportation damages and consequential losses in agricultural produce.</p> <p>m. Stabilize and provide electric power so as to ensure prompt and long term storage and processing. Economic produce storage and processing cannot be realized under a system dependent on self-generation of power.</p> <p>n. Promote research in control of post-harvest losses by upgrading and funding existing institutions and centres involved in such research and activities to ensure year round agricultural produce.</p> <p>o. Construct silos for grain farmers; compartmentalised cold rooms for fish farmers; and other types of appropriate storage and preservative facilities at appropriate strategic area across the Country, to attract token from farmers as encouragement to produce to their maximum capacity.</p> <p>p. Put in place special incentives and agricultural loan facilities for agricultural produce processing industry across the country.</p>			
14.	<p>a. Consider private sector participation in the regulatory framework which will open up new financing opportunities.</p> <p>b. The various draft policies with regard to the water sector are comprehensive and need to be updated, finalised and implemented to give direction to efforts to effectively develop and manage activities in the sector.</p>	<p>a. Water Resource Management and Conservation Policy</p> <p>b. National Public Private Partnership</p>	<p>Effective management of water resources through the River Basin Development Authorities</p>	<p>a. Federal Ministry of Water Resources</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Finance</p> <p>c. Bureau for Public Enterprises</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. The policies need to fully integrate all stakeholders in a holistic institutional management framework. d. Increase Investment in infrastructure and in implementation of policies in this sector (new projects and the completion of abandoned projects.) e. Address financing shortfalls for water infrastructure projects through financing alternatives (as distinct from Government funding) and income generation. Public Private Partnerships (PPP) are a viable means. f. Restore dried up lakes and rivers as this will have consequences on the environment through the restoration of ecosystems, and facilitate the return of cordial relationships between affected communities. g. Set specific standards and limits for the various uses of water –domestic, commercial, industrial, fisheries and other agricultural uses for water to prevent pollution and also fix penalties for non-compliance. h. Embark on manpower development at every level in the water sector to counteract the effects of low capacity and ensure that the water mandate is executed. i. Adapt and localise imported technology through the active participation of Research Institutes. j. Expose farmers to export opportunities. k. Institute an immediate organizational and management audit to facilitate and overhaul of all their systems for more efficient operations. l. The resuscitation of the Lake Chad itself should urgently be initiated in a form of “Save Lake Chad” which the 	<p>(PPP) Policy</p> <p>c. Infrastructure Concession Policy</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission e. Nigeria Export Promotion Council f. River Basins Development Authorities g. Nigeria Integrated Water Resources Management Commission h. Research and Development Institutes i. Lake Chad Basin Commission j. River Basin Development Authorities k. Central Bank of Nigeria l. Federal Ministry of Agriculture
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	<p>government should do in collaboration with other members of the Lake Chad Basin Commission.</p> <p>m. Commercialise not privatise River Basin Development Authorities to combine the need for income generation with social obligations to local communities and farmers.</p> <p>n. The Federal Ministry of Water Resources as the supervising ministry should work out an implementation time table for commercialisation that should not exceed 12 months.</p> <p>o. Incorporate the role of River Basin Development Authorities in supporting agricultural production through irrigation, available water bodies and hydropower in the Agricultural Policy of Nigeria and the Agricultural Transformation Agenda.</p> <p>p. Ensure that River Basin Development Authorities are an obvious choice to support the management of completed irrigation systems within their catchment areas, without prejudice to the proposed Irrigation Management Authorities proposed in the National Water Resources Bill.</p> <p>q. Phase the projects undertaken by River Basin Development Authorities which must be realistic. Public Private Partnerships should provide an alternative to Government funding and will make projects attractive to financial institutions.</p> <p>r. Recruit new staff and train existing staff to fill the gaps created by the retired and retiring staff.</p> <p>s. Revitalize the multipurpose dams already constructed to ensure full utilization of the hydro power facilities available and the development of the irrigation command areas.</p> <p>t. Ensure that National Agricultural Policy targets establishing</p>			
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	<p>fertilizer plants in Nigeria to meet World Bank and FAO standards of fertilizer utilization (kg/hectare) to achieve agricultural production for domestic and international markets.</p> <p>u. Initiate concrete action (in mobilizing the required resources in conjunction with international donors) towards the realization of the Inter-Basin Water Transfer from the Congo River Basin to Lake Chad so as to avert any impending humanitarian catastrophe in the already socially dislocated and economically traumatized region of the country.</p>			
15.	<p>a. Refocus Agricultural courses and programmes in Agricultural Institutions with greater practical emphasis to enable graduates of such Institutions become drivers of the agricultural programmes.</p> <p>b. Recruit and train relevant personnel to fill the existing capacity and skills gaps especially in agricultural extension, soil surveys, land evaluation, hydrogeology/hydrology, biotechnology, agricultural mechanisation, irrigation, drainage etc.</p> <p>c. Research Institutes and Universities should undertake research directed at developing the sector. Such research efforts should be coordinated by designated centres of excellence. Long term goals of our research thrust should be aimed at developing local technologies that are sustainable and adaptable for local manpower usage.</p> <p>d. Domesticating information and knowledge transfer in local languages. Such knowledge should also be transmitted in a way that takes cognisance of, and takes advantage of local</p>	<p>a. National Science and Technology Development Policy</p> <p>b. National Policy on Education</p>	Using Strategic human resources development to energize agricultural production and export.	<p>a. Federal Ministry of Education</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development</p> <p>c. National Universities Commission</p> <p>d. Research and Development Institutes</p> <p>e. Federal Ministry of Information</p>

	<p>culture. This is particularly important for the local women farmers and cattle herdsman.</p> <p>e. Accelerate the implementation of the Youth Employment in Agriculture Program (YEAP) as designed by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in 2012 and launched by the President in 2013.</p> <p>f. Change existing traditional land practices through the enforcement of the Constitutional provision on ownership of property, to increase land ownership by women and female participation in the sector as well as engender greater commitment to farming.</p> <p>g. Enact a policy prohibiting any educational institution (Primary or Secondary) from using farm work as a disciplinary measure.</p> <p>h. Revive the Unified Agricultural Extension System (UAES), which is based on visiting and training farmers. The area to be covered should include crops and livestock production, agro – forestry, fisheries, soil and water conservation practice and animal traction.</p>			
16.	<p>a. Declare Agriculture and Water Resources development a national emergency sector with a massive infusion of funds. The funds dedicated to this sector should be optimally managed for maximum effect.</p> <p>b. Emphasise Research and Development, training, technology transfer and scholarships in the new levels of funding to attract the best brains, build up the required scientific manpower capacities critical to translate policies to realities.</p> <p>c. States Governments should establish grazing zones and improved livestock production systems to reduce communal</p>	<p>a. National Grazing Reserve Policy</p> <p>b. Nigerian Science and Technology Policy</p> <p>c. Fiscal Strategy Paper</p>	<p>Emphasis the role sustainable funding, subsidies and insurance in Agricultural Development.</p>	<p>a. Federal Ministry of Water Resources</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development</p> <p>c. Central Bank of Nigeria</p>

	<p>clashes.</p> <p>d. Use a <u>percentage of tax</u> revenues to directly fund the agro and water resources sectors. This can be in the form of the introduction of a dedicated tax regime.</p> <p>e. Dedicate a <u>designated percentage</u> of the budget to women farmers in the local communities; labour saving technology should be funded to allow them more on-farm time.</p> <p>f. Provide affirmative finance for women in the form of a specified proportion of all bank lending to agriculture being made available to women.</p> <p>g. Allocate 30% of the National Resources Fund to the development of the Agricultural sector; whilst an additional 20% of the Fund should be used for the development of Water Resources and the development of mechanized Deep Sea Fishing as a major foreign exchange earner.</p> <p>h. Encourage private sector funding by creating the enabling environment.</p> <p>i. Provide and manage adequate subsidies for agriculture in a manner that directly reaches target beneficiaries and eliminates corruption.</p> <p>j. Sensitise and mobilise farmers to take advantage of the existing insurance framework to insure their crops and livestock.</p> <p>k. Put in place low interest, single digit, long tenure loans and micro credit to support commercial transformation and profitability of small scale agriculture, including enabling access to micro insurance tailored to the need of small scale agriculture.</p>			
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	<p>l. Give lower or free interest loan and 50% subsidy in all farm improvement and inputs to persons living with disabilities.</p> <p>m. Provide incentives to piggery farming, grasscutter farming, rabbit farming, snail farming and mushroom farming.</p>			
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6.1.3 Statutes

S/N	RESOLUTIONS	PROPOSED/ EXISTING STATUTES	OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENTATION AGENCIES
1.	<p>a. Establish an Agricultural Pricing Policy Board by Law to provide remunerative prices to farmers for their products, to stabilize prices and income for the farmers, to make the prices of the Nigerian agricultural products competitive to promote exports, and to ensure that imported agricultural products do not have price advantages over local commodities.</p> <p>b. Promulgate an Agricultural Trade Policy Law to promote agricultural exports and discourage importation.</p> <p>c. Establish a National Agricultural Programme Coordinating Agency. The Agency is to:</p> <p>i. Provide technical support to the States in planning agricultural programmes,</p> <p>ii. Monitoring special intervention programmes of the Federal Government,</p> <p>iii. Assist States to carry out periodic evaluation and impact assessment of State and Federal Government programmes,</p> <p>iv. Collate and disseminate national agricultural data,</p> <p>v. Ensure proper information flow between the Federal and</p>	<p>a. Customs and Excise Management Act</p> <p>b. Agricultural Pricing Policy Board Bill</p> <p>c. Agricultural Trade Policy Bill</p> <p>d. National Agricultural Programme Coordinating Agency Bill</p>	<p>Agriculture output prices are made competitive in domestic and international markets to encourage farmers.</p>	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. National Assembly</p> <p>c. Federal Ministry of Justice</p> <p>d. Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development</p> <p>e. Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment</p>

	State Governments in order to facilitate corrective measures where necessary; and vi. Coordinate donor assisted programmes as well as providing implementation support for such programmes.			
2.	Pass the Bill for the establishment of the Nigerian Soil Science Institute which is currently before the National Assembly.	Nigerian Soil Science Institute Bill	Soil development for agricultural productivity	National Assembly
3.	<p>a. Expedite action on the passage of the Biosafety Bill to regulate trans-boundary movement of genetically modified agricultural products and encourage development of improved varieties and breeds under ethical research environment.</p> <p>i. Review the Biosafety Bill to include the following:</p> <p>ii. Public participation when applications to introduce GMOs are being considered.</p> <p>iii. Specify clearly how large-scale field trials would be contained and regulated to avoid contamination of surroundings or farms.</p> <p>iv. Besides Environmental NGOs, Farmers Organizations should be represented on the Governing Board.</p> <p>v. Criteria for risk assessment and such assessments must be carried out in Nigeria and not offshore.</p> <p>vi. Liability and Redress bearing in mind that this is a key part to implementing the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety adopted in October 2010.</p> <p>vii. The implementation of the precautionary principle that entitles our government to decide against approval or for</p>	Biosafety Bill	Explore the use of biotechnology for improved agricultural productivity	National Assembly

	restriction in cases of incomplete or controversial knowledge.			
4.	<p>a. Enact a law for Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM), as it will enable the sector to generate income through a system of water bills, rates and tariffs and enabling laws.</p> <p>b. Establish a National Water Commission to:</p> <p>i. Maintain a comprehensive database on water sources and usage to aid overall planning</p> <p>ii. Manage inter-sectoral linkages</p> <p>iii. Ensure sectoral allocation of water</p> <p>iv. Manage trans-boundary rivers and lakes which can affect our access to water and create political tensions</p> <p>v. Embark on dredging for accessibility of water generally and for Agricultural purposes, as well as Sand filling for land recovery to enhance other uses, including Agriculture.</p> <p>vi. Define the role of River Basin Development Authorities and integrate them into water sector operations because of their interface with Federal, State, Local Governments and farming communities.</p>	<p>a. <i>Enabling law to establish the Nigeria Integrated Water Resources Management Commission awaiting Presidential Assent</i></p> <p>b. National Water Commission Bill</p>		<p>The Presidency</p> <p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. National Assembly</p>

6.2 CITIZENSHIP, IMMIGRATION AND RELATED MATTERS

6.2.1 Constitutional Matters

S/N	RESOLUTIONS	RELEVANT SECTIONS	OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENTATION AGENCIES
1.	Amend Section 153 (1) of the 1999 of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to make the National Identity Management Commission a Federal Executive Body	Section 153(1)	Institutionalize nationality	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly
2.	Census should remain in the Exclusive Legislative List. Amend part 1, item 8 to read: " <i>census enumeration of Nigerians</i> ". Maintenance of machinery for data should be in the Concurrent List.	Part 1, Item 8, Second Schedule	To enable States make an input into the National Database.	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly
3.	The National enumeration exercise should remain the responsibility of the Federal Government	Part 1, Second Schedule and NPC Act	To enable States make an input into the National Database.	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly
4.	The Integrated National Database should be included in the Concurrent Legislative List.	Part 2, Second Schedule	Enhance credibility of National Database	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly
5.	Amendment of section 26 (2) (a) to read " <i>any person who is or has been</i>	Section 26(a)	To ensure citizenship of spouses or former spouses of Nigeria.	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of

	<i>married to a citizen of Nigeria”</i>			Assembly
6.	Section 29 (4) (b) should be repealed in view of the provision of Section 29 (4) (a).	Section 29 (4) (b)	To ensure that the definition of fullage is anyone that is 18 years and above	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly
7.	Constitutional amendment to make the provisions on socio-economic rights in Chapter II of the Constitution justiciable.	Chapter II	To enforce Socio – economic rights and to promote patriotic citizenship.	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly
8.	Section 45(1) should be amended to include Section 42 and read as follows: <i>“Nothing in section 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, and 42 of this constitution shall invalidate any law that is reasonably justifiable in a democratic society ...”</i>	Section 45	To ensure that derogatory clauses pertaining to the exercise of fundamental human rights are contained in the same section of the Constitution.	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly
9.	Section 147 (3) should be amended to read as follows: <i>“Any appointment under subsection (2) of this section by the President shall be in conformity with the provisions of section 14 (3) of this Constitution. Provided that in giving effect to the provisions aforesaid the President shall appoint at least one Minister from each State.”</i>	Section 147	Delete requirement of integrity in appointment of Ministers.	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly

10.	Expansion of a duty on citizens to embrace national loyalty. Section 42 (2) should be amended to read thus: <i>“A person shall not be discriminated against on grounds of ethnic group, place of origin, sex, religion political opinion, social or economic status, disabilities or circumstances of birth”.</i>	Section 42	To re-enforce constitutional provisions against all forms of discrimination.	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly
11.	Insert Section 42 (3) after Section 42 (1) & (2) to place a duty on citizens to embrace national loyalty above sectional or ethnic loyalties and read as follows: <i>“Every Nigerian citizen shall adhere to the ideology of national patriotism above sectional or ethnic interest.”</i>		To place a duty of citizens to embrace national loyalty above sectional or ethnic loyalties.	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly
12.	Amendment of section 25 to entrench gender equality.	Section 25	To allow a Nigerian woman to enjoy the rights vested on all Nigerians either at her place of origin or that of her husband.	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly
13.	Delete Section 6 (6) (c) of the Constitution.	Section 6(6)(c)	To grant access to court with respect to Chapter II as a necessary step towards the actualisation of the fundamental objectives and directive principles of State policy.	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly

14.	<p>Adopt and amend Item No. 26, Page 28 of the <i>Report of the Presidential Committee on Review of Outstanding Issues from Recent Constitutional Conferences (The Justice Alfa Belgore Report)</i>, with a caveat to read</p> <p><i>“On the matter of Indigeneship, the Committee recommends that the current Constitutional position should be maintained but that a new provision should be inserted into the Constitution to read: “The right of any Nigerian citizen to be resident or domiciled in any part of Nigeria shall not be abridged. Such a resident shall enjoy all rights, privileges and facilities in the place of his/her choice, provided that such a person meets his/her basic civic obligations which persons in that area are subject to.</i></p> <p><i>A person born in a State or who marries an indigene of a State acquires automatic residence status in the State.”</i></p>		To ensure that a citizen of Nigeria is not discriminated against in any part of Nigeria where he/she decides to reside.	
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6.2.2 Policy Issues

S/N	RESOLUTIONS	PROPOSED/ EXISTING POLICIES	OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENTATION AGENCIES
1.	National law and policy should be guided by United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).	United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples	Enhance the recognition of Right of Indigenous People	a. The Presidency b. Federal Ministry of Justice
2.	Strengthen national institutions to prohibit and punish criminal conduct which target, kill or destroy lives and property on the basis of place of origin, belief, religion or circumstance.	Criminal Justice System	To discourage discrimination and violent crimes associated thereto.	a. The Presidency b. National Assembly c. States Houses of Assembly d. Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation e. Federal Ministry of Justice f. Proposed Religious Equity Commission
3.	Strengthen the Criminal Justice System across the country to prosecute and punish “hate crimes” or “specially-aggravated crimes” which has now formed part of criminal jurisprudence.	a. Criminal Procedure Code b. Criminal Code c. Penal Code	a. To eradicate crimes in that category. b. To prohibit and punish criminal conduct which target, kill or destroy based on religious discrimination	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly c. Federal Ministry of Justice

4.	The teaching of indigenous languages for the first three (3) years of primary education should be made mandatory.	National Policy on Education	Promote Indigenous Languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Federal Ministry of Education b. States Ministries of Education c. Universal Basic Education Commission d. States Universal Basic Education Board
5.	Strengthen border control.		Prevention of unlawful entry of persons, goods and services into Nigeria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Federal Ministry of Interior b. Nigeria Immigration Service c. Other relevant security agencies
6.	Extend the implementation of the 'Transit Code' system to all other borders outside the North-Eastern part of Nigeria.	Customs & Excise Management Act	Prevention of smuggling of cars arms and drugs into the Country.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Federal Ministry of Interior b. Nigeria Customs Service c. Nigeria Immigration Service
7.	Take full advantage of the ECOWAS Protocol on Free Movement of Persons	ECOWAS Protocol	Enhance national economic growth and movement of persons and prevent inherent threats to national security by criminal and illegal immigrants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Federal Ministry of Interior b. Ministry of Foreign Affairs c. Nigeria Immigration Service d. Nigeria Custom Service
8.	Construct and maintain federal and states road network.	National Transport Policy	Ensure smooth movement of persons, goods and services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Federal Ministry of Works b. States' Ministries of Works c. Federal Roads Maintenance

				Agency d. Nigeria Emergency Management Agency
9.	<p>a. Federal Road Safety Commission should ensure that road users obey rules/regulations on safe driving.</p> <p>b. Federal Road Safety Commission should be well funded and provided with modern technology for improving on its performance.</p>	Grand Strategy for National Security	Ensure safe driving	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Road Safety Commission</p>
10.	<p>Ensure that government and affected stakeholders promote modernisation of pastoralists/nomadic livelihood through the following means:</p> <p>i. Design and implement an integrated development and livelihoods modernisation program, to address the issue of settling nomadic herdsmen into settled communities based on established cattle ranches with fodder development technologies, and including abattoirs, processors and other businesses along the livestock value chain.</p> <p>ii. Federal and State Governments to fund the integrated development and modernisation program in States where such settlements are allowed and established.</p> <p>iii. Administer the integrated development</p>	Nigerian Agricultural Policy	Acculturation/acclimation of herdsmen in settling down to designated grazing reserves and encourage less nomadic lifestyles.	<p>a. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development</p> <p>b. States' Ministries of Agriculture</p>

	program within a period of 5 to 10 years after which such settlements should have become self-sustaining with the full integration of the nomadic herdsmen community into modern Nigeria political economy.			
11.	Officers and men of the Nigerian Immigration Service should be more imbued by a sense of patriotism in the area of aliens taking advantage of our borders to gain entry for subversive activities.	National Border Security Policy	Ensuring that aliens do not take advantage of our porous borders.	a. Federal Ministry of Interior b. Nigeria Immigration Service c. Nigeria Customs Service
12.	Commit more resources into building border fences across the nation;	National Border Security Policy	Strengthening border control for national security.	a. Federal Ministry of Interior b. Nigeria Immigration Service c. Federal Ministry of Works
13.	Involve border communities in the policing of Nigerian borders.	National Border Security Policy	Enhance border policing in border control.	a. Federal Ministry of Interior b. Nigeria Immigration Services c. Nigeria Customs Services
14.	Adopt a regional approach to the management of Nigerian borders.	National Border Security Policy	Establish cooperation with neighbouring states for National Security	a. Ministry of Foreign Affairs b. Federal Ministry of Interior
15.	Install the Public Key Directory (PKD) Infrastructure.		Enables authentication of passports presented at the point of entry	a. Federal Ministry of Interior b. Nigeria Immigration Services

16.	Revive collapsed industries in Nigeria.	National Industrial Master Plan	Prevent forced migration of labour and improving national security.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade & Investment b. States' Ministries of Industry
17.	Fund and equip the National Population Commission, National Identity Management Commission and National Bureau of Statistics with modern technology.		To achieve accurate census figures and Integrated Database for Nigeria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Presidency b. Office of Secretary to the Government of the Federation c. Federal Ministry of Finance
18.	Ensure the strengthening of the country's land, air and sea borders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Grand Strategy for National Security b. National Aviation Policy c. National Maritime Policy 	Fortifying the borders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ministry of Defence b. Nigeria Army c. Nigeria Navy d. Nigeria Air Force e. Nigeria Immigration Service f. Nigeria Customs Service
19.	Reform, retrain and provide kits for the Nigeria Immigration Service for better effectiveness in managing our land borders.	National Immigration Policy	NIS reform to enable effective and efficient boarder control.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Federal Ministry of Interior b. Nigeria Immigration Service
20.	Create "Border Guards" or "Border Corps" within the Nigeria Immigration Service.		Ensure that the capacity of this unit is built for full combat operations/border control.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Federal Ministry of Interior b. Nigeria Immigration Service
21.	Ensure that the Nigeria Immigration Service recruits at least 10,000 persons yearly within	Grand Strategy for National Security	Enhance the effectiveness of the Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Federal Ministry of Interior

	the next five years because the Service was found to be under-staffed.			b. Nigeria Immigration Service
22.	There is the need for increased intra-agency collaboration between the Nigeria Immigration Service and other security agencies.	Grand Strategy on National Security	Enhance more effective policing of Nigerian borders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Office of the National Security Adviser b. Ministry of Defence c. Federal Ministry of Interior d. Nigeria Police e. Nigeria Army f. Nigeria Navy g. Nigeria Air Force h. Department of State Security i. National Intelligence Agency j. National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration k. National Drug Law Enforcement Agency l. Nigeria Customs Service m. Other relevant security agencies
23.	Map the identified illegal routes and create control posts for them.		Manning of illegal routes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ministry of Defence b. Nigeria Army c. Nigeria Immigration Service

24.	Ensure community policing of the borders.		Redirection of attitudes of members of the border communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ministry of Defence b. Nigeria Army c. Nigeria Police d. Nigeria Immigration Service e. Border Communities
25.	Construct border plazas which should be equipped with radars, sensors as well as cargo and document scanners.		Border Policing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ministry of Defence b. Nigeria Army c. Nigeria Police d. Nigeria Immigration Service
26.	Capacity building and motivation for border patrol personnel.		Border Policing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ministry of Defence b. Nigeria Army c. Nigeria Police d. Nigeria Immigration Service
27.	Manage Nigerian borders through a three(3)-pronged approach encompassing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the existing surveillance approach; ii. community approach; and iii. cross regional approach (the Sahel and Gulf of Guinea dimensions) 		Border Policing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ministry of Defence b. Nigeria Army c. Nigeria Police d. Nigeria Immigration Service e. Other relevant security agencies
28.	Partner with Civil Society Groups and NGOs through the NIS to carry out advocacy at all border communities.		To build confidence and patriotism.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Federal Ministry of Interior b. Nigeria Immigration Service

29.	Place more emphasis on prevention of disasters in the management of ecological funds.		Prevention of ecological disasters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Presidency b. Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation c. Ecological Fund Office
30.	Monitor those seeking refugee or asylum status in Nigeria more carefully in this age of asymmetric conflict and international terrorism.		Asylum Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ministry of Foreign Affairs b. Nigeria Immigration Service c. National Intelligence Agency d. Department of State Security e. Nigeria Police (INTERPOL) f. National Commission for Refugees g. Other relevant security agencies
31.	Ensure that those being granted asylum in Nigeria are properly investigated and are found not to be related to any agents of destabilization. This kind of vetting should involve the Interpol.		Asylum Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ministry of Foreign Affairs b. Nigeria Immigration Service c. National Intelligence Agency d. Department of State Security e. Nigeria Police (INTERPOL) f. National Commission for Refugees
32.	Properly document refugees and asylum seekers and properly monitor those granted		Asylum Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ministry of Foreign Affairs

	temporary or permanent stay in Nigeria to prevent them from fronting for other troublesome groups across the globe.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Federal Ministry of Justice c. Nigeria Immigration Service d. National Intelligence Agency e. Department of State Security f. Nigeria Police (INTERPOL) g. National Commission for Refugees h. Other relevant security agencies
33.	Return refugees to their countries immediately the causes of their movement to Nigeria have been dealt with.		Asylum Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Federal Ministry of Justice b. Ministry of Interior c. National Commission for Refugees
34.	Tap more creatively into international resources which abound for managing refugees.		Asylum Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. National Commission for Refugees
35.	Increase the facilities for managing natural disasters.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Preventing anything that could cause man-made human displacement b. Natural disaster management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Presidency b. National Emergency Management Agency c. States Emergency Management Agencies
36.	National Emergency Management Agency and States' Emergency Management Agencies and related agencies should be properly		To enable a prompt response to needs of IDPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Presidency b. Federal Ministry of Finance

	resourced			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. States' Ministries of Finance d. National Emergency Management Agency e. States' Emergency Management Agencies
37.	Ensure collated credible and disaggregated data on the numbers, location and conditions of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in order to design effective policies and programmes.		To design effective policies and programmes for IDPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Federal Ministry of Interior b. National Emergency Management Agency c. States Emergency Management Agencies
38.	Develop training programmes for government officials, including camp administrators, military and police on the Guiding Principle of internal displacement		Ensure that they are aware of the rights and needs of the displaced and their official duties to protect and assist them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Presidency b. National Emergency Management Agency c. States' Emergency Management Agencies
39.	Engage displaced persons in consultation to build upon their skills in the design of assistance programmes which will facilitate their effective rehabilitation and reintegration.		Ensuring effective response, rehabilitation and reintegration of IDPs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Presidency b. National Emergency Management Agency c. States' Emergency Management Agencies
40.	Support recovery efforts of affected persons including bringing perpetrators of man-made displacement of persons to justice.		Support for Displaced Citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Presidency b. Federal Ministry of Justice c. National Emergency Management Agency

				d. States' Emergency Management Agencies
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6.2.3 Statutes

S/N	RESOLUTIONS	PROPOSED/ EXISTING STATUTES	OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENTATION AGENCIES
1.	Enact laws to criminalise any attempt by census officials or members of the public to inflate or distort in anyway, the outcome of the enumeration of people and households in Nigeria by reviewing the penalties contained in the Act.	National Population Commission (NPC) Act, Part V (Offences and Penalties), Sections 18 - 25	To prevent/discourage the distortion or attempted distortion or inflation of a census outcome.	a. The Presidency b. Federal Ministry of Justice c. National Assembly
2.	Introduce a Bill guaranteeing the granting of special immigrant status with full residential rights to non -Nigerian spouses of citizens of Nigeria who do not wish to acquire Nigerian Citizenship.	Special Immigrant Status Bill	Granting of residency rights to spouses of Nigerian citizens	a. The Presidency b. Federal Ministry of Justice c. National Assembly
3.	Precede the national census exercise with the development of a full scale integrated national database which will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Registration of all settlements (including cities, towns, villages, hamlets, farmsteads, nomadic fishermen and herdsman). ii. Registration of all households. 	National Population Commission Act	Ensure accurate and comprehensive collation and registration data for National census.	a. The Presidency b. Ministry of Justice c. National Assembly d. National Population Commission e. Nigeria Identity Management Commission

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. Registration of buildings. iv. Update and sustenance of birth registration. v. Update and sustenance of death registration. vi. Registered information or data of citizens and immigrants in Nigeria. vii. Language, tribe and religion. 			
4.	<p>The Integrated Database should include the records of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Nigerian Communication Commission (which should provide telephone registration information). ii. The Federal Road Safety Corps (which should provide information on drivers licences). iii. State Ministries of Health (which should provide information on births and deaths). iv. Universal Basic Education Board (which should provide information on school enrolment figures). v. The Immigration Service (which should provide information on passport holders, and aliens coming in and out of the country). vi. Other relevant bodies including Banks, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Identity Management Commission Act 	Collation of accurate and comprehensive data in national database.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. National Assembly b. National Identity Management Commission (NIMC)

	<p>Federal and State Civil Service Commissions, Trade Unions and Associations, employers of labour as well as Traditional Institutions etc, should feed the Integrated National Database with information.</p> <p>vii. All tiers of Government, i.e. Federal, States and Local Governments should maintain data base and be involved in collating data for the Integrated National Database.</p>			
5.	Enact laws to uphold the rights of IDPs, taking into account the Guiding Principles.	Internally Displaced Persons Bill	Development of legal standards in line with international obligations.	National Assembly

6.3 CIVIL SOCIETY, LABOUR, YOUTH AND SPORTS

6.3.1 Constitutional Issues

S/N	RESOLUTIONS	RELEVANT SECTIONS	OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENTATION AGENCIES
1.	Merge Chapter II and IV of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended) thus making Chapter Two justiciable under our law.	a. Chapter II, Sections 13 – 24 b. Chapter IV, Sections 33 – 46	To ensure Nigerians benefit from the fundamental obligations, functions and duties of Government	a. National Assembly b. States' Houses of Assembly
2.	The African Charter on Human and People Rights domesticated as part of Nigerian law be incorporated into the Constitution.	a. Chapter II, Sections 13 – 24 b. Chapter IV, Sections 33 – 46	To ensure Nigerians benefit from the fundamental obligations, functions and duties of Government	a. National Assembly b. States' Houses of Assembly
3.	Strengthen the Federal and State Judicial Service Commissions.	Third Schedule part 1, Section 153, Item E, Paragraph E	To secure a strong and independent judiciary	a. The Presidency b. National Assembly c. Federal Judicial Service Commission d. State Governments e. States' Houses of Assembly f. States' Judicial Service Commissions

4.	Participatory Budgeting should be entrenched in our Constitution, to cause the citizens to participate in deciding how they are governed, including choosing projects they want in the Appropriation Laws and the contractors who will execute these projects.	Section 80 (3)	Encourage popular or people's active participation in government and achieve optimal reduction in corruption.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Presidency b. National Assembly c. States Houses of Assembly
5.	Retain the National Minimum Wage on the Exclusive Legislative List.	Second Schedule, Part 1	To secure the National Minimum Wage from political manipulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly
6.	Retain Labour and unionism on the Exclusive Legislative List.	Second Schedule, Part 1	To promote right of unionization and collective bargaining.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly
7.	To sustain minority rights and allay their fears towards building a just, free, stable, equitable, peaceful and strong nation all the executive and strategic positions in all tiers of government rotate among all the zones or states or ethnic nations making up Nigeria, senatorial districts or Local Government making up a Local Government.	Chapter IV	To provide for equal participation in governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly

6.3.2 Policy Issues

S/N	RESOLUTIONS	PROPOSED/EXISTING POLICIES	OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENTATION AGENCIES
1.	Allocate 30% to Education in Annual Appropriation Laws of our Government at all the tiers from Federal to Local Government.	Annual Appropriation Act	To revive our educational sector and build a strong nation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Presidency b. National Assembly c. Federal Ministry of Education d. Federal Ministry of Finance e. Budget Office of the Federation
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Reserve 15 percent of employment places in public and private sectors of the economy for persons with disabilities and ensure that they are given jobs that match their qualifications. b. Ratify and implement ILO Convention No. 159 by developing a National Policy on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities to ensure smoother entry to the labour market. c. Provide reasonable accommodation in work places according to Article 2 of the United Nations Convention on the Right of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) 	<p>ILO Convention No 159 for vocational rehabilitation and employment of persons with Disabilities</p> <p>Housing for persons with Disabilities</p>	To promote affordable housing for persons with disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Presidency b. National Assembly c. Federal Ministry of Justice d. Federal Ministry of Labour & Productivity e. All Ministries, Departments and Agencies

	which Nigeria had signed and ratified.			
3.	<p>a. Regulations guaranteeing casual workers permanent employment after working for six months, irrespective of the number of contracts making up the period should be enacted.</p> <p>b. Put in place policies which extend labour and social protection to domestic workers.</p>	Casual Workers Regularization Policy	Regularization of casual workers to permanent employment	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Labour & Productivity</p>
4.	<p>a. Workers should not be denied the right of unionisation. Strikes are legitimate instruments of enforcing workers rights and negotiations within the framework of collective bargaining.</p> <p>b. The Pan-National Character of Labour Unions which has played an important role in national development should not be compromised by balkanizing labour and trade unionism.</p>	Labour and Trade Union Policy	To promote right of unionization and collective bargaining	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. All State Governments</p> <p>c. All Local Government Areas</p>
5.	Establish a Labour and Employment Exchange or Job Centres in major cities throughout the Federation	Labour and Employment Exchange Policy	To assist and identify unemployed youth with requisite skills.	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Labour & Productivity</p>
6.	<p>a. Revive and develop domestic industries through the enactment of fundamental policies to provide incentives to and protect domestic industries.</p> <p>b. Promote added value to local raw</p>	<p>a. National Industrial Policy</p> <p>b. Roadmap for Electric Power Sector Reform</p> <p>c. National Agricultural Policy</p>	To create sustainable employment, skill acquisition and promote Entrepreneurship	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade & Investment</p>

	<p>materials.</p> <p>c. Fix the power sector to enable industries thrive</p> <p>d. Encourage and protect farmers to produce raw materials for industry. This can be done through guaranteed markets for agricultural produce.</p>			<p>c. State Ministries of Industry, Commerce & Trade</p> <p>d. Federal Ministry of Power</p> <p>e. Abuja Securities Commodities Exchange</p>
7.	<p>a. Full implementation of the 2nd National Youth Policy and the Nigerian Youth Employment Action Plan (NYEAP).</p> <p>b. Provide adequate funding and proper supervision of relevant government Agencies, MDAs on Youth development programmes</p> <p>c. Value reorientation in the country; A general public enlightenment that admonishes the citizenry to noble values such as honesty, dignity of labour, love for country and fellow human beings and the fear of God should be pursued.</p> <p>d. Provide an intervention fund as a matter of priority, to revitalize skill acquisition, vocational training centers, which are lying fallow across the country.</p> <p>e. Streamline the youth development programmes and the conduct of NEEDS assessment programme to determine the type of skills different categories of youth</p>	National Youth Policy and Development	<p>a. To ensure youth development and empowerment through skills acquisition, entrepreneurial trainings and access to loans for SMEs.</p> <p>b. To abrogate the dichotomy between B.Sc and HND holders</p> <p>c. To harmonize government agencies on youth development</p> <p>d. To ensure inclusiveness for persons living with disabilities</p>	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Youth Development</p> <p>c. Federal Ministry of Education</p> <p>d. Federal Ministry of Communication Technology</p> <p>e. Federal Ministry of Information</p> <p>f. Central Bank of Nigeria</p> <p>g. National Youth Service Corps</p> <p>h. National Board for Technical Education</p> <p>i. Universal Basic Education</p>

	<p>require.</p> <p>f. Harmonization of all Youth Development Programs, projects and initiatives into one comprehensive programme supervised by the Federal Ministry of Youth Development.</p> <p>g. 30% affirmative action to involve the youths in decision making positions.</p> <p>h. Revival of vocational schools and provision of disability-friendly gadgets to facilitate learning.</p> <p>i. There should be effective monitoring of the various empowerment programmes to ascertain the level of impact the programmes have and if really it is empowering the youths.</p> <p>j. Teaching of life skills at secondary school level to prepare the youth for coping in the society. The curriculum should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Healthy living styles/sex education ii. Managing time, money and self iii. Effective communication skills iv. Information Communication Technology(ICT) v. Leadership training vi. An understanding of Nigeria and its 			<p>Commission</p> <p>j. National Orientation Agency</p> <p>k. Office of the Millennium Development Goals</p>
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	<p>peoples</p> <p>vii. Introduction to total quality concept</p> <p>viii. Civic responsibilities</p> <p>ix. Agricultural Orientation</p> <p>k. Review of educational policies to include practical application of theories such that the discrimination between B.Sc. and HND qualifications will become a thing of the past.</p> <p>l. Revival of vocational schools and emphasis on development of entrepreneurial skills to enable youth have access to credible means of livelihood, and thus rise above untoward engagements.</p> <p>m. Active collaboration of relevant Government agencies in youth development with other stakeholders such as the National Youth Council; Youth Parliament; Civil Society Organizations as well as other countries in youth related research in a bid to further deepen and share knowledge for enhanced policy development.</p> <p>n. Making the school environment accessible (or user-friendly) to those living with disabilities.</p> <p>o. The NYSC Scheme to be repositioned for relevant Youth empowerment. The one</p>			
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	<p>year time tenure should be split into three phases as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. One month of orientation ii. Six months of primary assignment, integration and industrial exposure. iii. Five months of vocational and entrepreneurial skills acquisition <p>p. Stakeholders particularly states and local governments should play their supportive role of providing logistics and accommodation (some states are already doing so) for youth corps members.</p>			
8.	<p>Pension for those retired under the old pension system should be placed on first line charge.</p>	<p>Pension Policy</p>	<p>To ensure prompt payment of pension and encourage human resource development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Presidency b. National Assembly c. National Pension Commission
9.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Overhaul existing skills acquisition programmes to make them more functional and effective through the revival of Vocational and Technical Education/schools. b. Strengthen the Industrial Training Fund to provide effective linkage between Educational Institutions and Industries. Give adequate financial support to the ITF to support the establishment of Skill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Entrepreneurship Development and Skill Acquisition Policy b. Industrial Training Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To create sustainable employment, skill acquisition and promote Entrepreneurship b. To provide funding for Education by ITF. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Presidency b. Federal Ministry of Labour & Productivity c. Federal Ministry of Education d. Federal Ministry of Finance e. Central Bank of

	<p>acquisition centres across the country.</p> <p>c. Fund skills acquisition projects through revolving loans for their take-off.</p>			<p>Nigeria</p> <p>f. National Directorate of Employment</p> <p>g. Industrial Training Fund</p>
10.	<p>Revive and strengthen the Labour Inspectorate Division of the Federal Ministry of Labour & Productivity.</p>	<p>Labour and Industrial Policy</p>	<p>To restore the Inspectorate Division of the Ministry</p>	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Labour & Productivity</p>
11.	<p>a. Create an unbiased structure negating nepotism, ethnocentrism and corruption in the sports sector.</p> <p>b. Ample spread of sporting and practice facilities in all the 774 local government areas (LGAs) of the country.</p> <p>c. Consolidate a befitting, competent, willing and well compensated leadership across the over Forty Four (44) Sporting Federations.</p> <p>d. Adequate and prompt funding of all sports should be seen and attended to as a priority.</p> <p>e. There is a need for maximum compliance with global regulations and collaborations. The practice whereby one strong sporting event can adopt other weaker and non-sponsored events- like</p>	<p>a. National Sports Policy</p> <p>b. National Public-Private Partnerships Policy</p>	<p>To ensure adequate funding for sports as well as promote sports development, equality and specialization.</p>	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Youth Development</p> <p>c. National Sports Commission</p>

	<p>football teams adopting hockey, basketball or table tennis).</p> <p>f. Sports should be inclusive of all Nigerians, irrespective of gender, age, religion, tribe, ability or disability.</p> <p>g. There should be a mechanism for motivating and monitoring of the Corporate Social Responsibility budgets for sports sponsorship to spread ensure over all sports, instead of only football.</p> <p>h. Early identification of prospective talents and consequential multiplication of training facilities across the nation should be encouraged, to complement and consolidate harvested talents.</p> <p>i. Specialization should be encouraged based on natural resources and physical features, for example, swimming at the Riverine areas and Polo in the North and other areas where there are established cultural festivals in Wrestling, Boxing, Fishing and Boat Regatta etc.</p> <p>j. Sports Endowment Fund should be encouraged to allow further investment in sports to encourage the local production of sporting equipment.</p> <p>k. All sports federations should be based in Abuja for effective coordination monitoring and efficiency.</p>			
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	<p>l. Government at all levels should stop indiscriminate conversion of sporting arenas into residential or other uses.</p> <p>m. In each state of the federation, a body to be known as State Collegiate Athletics Association and at the federal level, a National Collegiate Athletics Association should be established for the purpose of organizing sporting activities among Secondary Schools in the states and among Universities at the federal Level respectively.</p> <p>n. The Federal Government should take immediate physical possession of the about 147 hectares of land in Afuze Village of Owan East Local Government, Edo State, to set up a Campus of the National Institute of Sports, which will serve as a Zonal Laboratory, equipped with state of the art facilities for camping and training to ensure the overall development of sports in Nigeria.</p>			
12.	<p>a. Formulate a National Mentoring Policy to be managed by the Human Resources Department.</p> <p>The Policy, when established, will promote the attachment of newly employed persons to Directors and Assistant Directors in both Public and</p>	National Mentoring Policy	To promote the ethics of mentorship	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Ministry of Labour and Productivity</p> <p>c. National Directorate of Employment</p> <p>d. Securities & Exchange</p>

	Private Sectors. The Policy should also require all companies quoted on the Nigerian Stock Exchange, as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), to accept a specified number of unemployed youths under a 6-month mentoring programme each year.			Commission e. Nigeria Stock Exchange
13.	Youths should be trained as mediators with a view to building a National Peace Builders Corps of Nigeria	National Peace Builders Corps Policy	To grow the ranks of peace ambassadors particularly, among the youth	a. Ministry of Youth Development b. National Orientation Agency

6.3.3 Statutes

S/N	RESOLUTIONS	PROPOSED/NEW STATUTES	OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENTATION AGENCIES
1.	a. Establish a self- regulatory Commission for civil society activities whose membership shall be civil society activists to regulate the conduct and activities of civil society organizations in Nigeria. The Commission shall be known as “Civil Society Regulatory Commission (CSRC)”. Its functions shall be to: i. Register Non-government organizations in Nigeria. ii. Sanction CSOs that abuse the ethics or rules of the	Civil Society Regulatory Commission Bill	To have an effective civil society to perform their watch dog roles in the society and effectively check against impunity, promote transparency and accountability in public governance	a. The Presidency b. National Assembly

	<p>Commission.</p> <p>iii. Propose Grants on behalf of Non-government organizations to the National Assembly and make them available for the CSO's access to do their work to the society.</p> <p>iv. Statutory funds to be known as Civil Society Grants/Funds be annually appropriated by the National Assembly. The Fund/Grant shall be managed by the Civil Society Regulatory Commission.</p>			
2.	<p>a. Establish a National Jobs Creation Agency through the merger of the National Directorate for Employment (NDE), the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN), the YOUWIN Department, the Community Services, Women and Youth Employment Project (CSWYE) and graduate Internship scheme SURE-P.</p> <p>b. The agency will receive and review applications against a set of criteria and eligibility factors. The funding will be allocated on a competitive basis.</p> <p>c. The agency's activities will be governed by three committees: Advisory, Investment and Technical Evaluation Committees:</p> <p>i. The Advisory Committee will be responsible for providing advice on the job creation strategy to the government</p> <p>ii. The Investment Committee will have responsibility for the approval of funding</p>	National Jobs Creation Agency Bill	To create coordinated employment agencies for Nigerian Youth and people.	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. National Assembly</p>

	<p>applications. The Investment Committee shall be independent of the management of the agency.</p> <p>iii. The Technical Evaluation Committee shall be responsible for technical assessment of proposals and recommendations to the Investment Committee.</p>			
3.	Make it mandatory for all employers of labour to provide First Aid Corridors in their workplaces.	Labour Act	To create sustainable employment, skill acquisition and promote Entrepreneurship	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Labour & Productivity</p> <p>c. Federal Ministry of Justice</p> <p>d. National Assembly</p>
4.	The National Child Rights Act should be strengthened and made applicable to all the states that have not domesticated it.	Child Rights Act	To make the child Right Act applicable in all States	States Houses of Assembly
5.	Enact a law which extend labour and social protection to domestic workers. Such law should regulate working hours, pay, maternity protection and other conditions of work.	Protection of Domestic Workers Bill	To extend labour and social protection to domestic workers.	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. National Assembly</p>
6.	Any group of workers that remain on strike for more than four (4) weeks shall not be entitled to and shall not be paid salaries for the period of strike exceeding four weeks.	<p>a. Labour Act</p> <p>b. Trade Union Act</p>	To minimize strike actions	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. National Assembly</p>
7.	a. Give legal backing to the 2 nd National Youth Policy and the Nigerian Youth Employment Action Plan	a. National Youth	a. To ensure youth development and	a. The Presidency

	<p>(NYEAP) aid in their implementation.</p> <p>b. Create an Agency backed by law to be saddled with the responsibility of drawing up policy framework and work plan for Youth development. The Agency shall facilitate the enactment of a law to fund and regulate the activities of the National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN) and its affiliates without undermining its independence.</p> <p>c. Create the National Youth Development Fund to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Administer Start-up Enterprise Development Programme ii. Safeguard the use of loans obtained by young entrepreneurs. iii. Monitor repayment of loans <p>d. Reposition the NYSC Scheme for relevant Youth empowerment. The one year time tenure should be split into three phases as follows;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. One month of orientation ii. Six months of primary assignment, integration and industrial exposure. iii. Five months of vocational and entrepreneurial skills acquisition. 	<p>Development Bill</p> <p>b. National Youth Development Agency Bill</p> <p>c. National Youth Development Fund Bill</p>	<p>empowerment through skills acquisition, entrepreneurial trainings and access to loans for SMEs.</p> <p>b. To abrogate the dichotomy between B. Sc and HND holders</p> <p>c. To harmonize government agencies on youth development</p> <p>d. To ensure inclusiveness for persons living with disabilities</p>	<p>b. National Assembly</p>
8.	<p>a. The 2004 Pension Act should be amended to raise the minimum contribution of employer to 15% and clearly state the continuous existence of gratuity.</p> <p>b. The statutory provision or the periodic review of</p>	<p>a. Pension Reform Act No 2 of 2004 Cap P4LFN 2004</p> <p>b. Penal and Criminal</p>	<p>To increase the minimum contribution of employers and review Pension Reforms</p>	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Justice</p> <p>c. National Assembly</p>

	pensions should be adhered to c. Relevant legislation should be made to prescribe life imprisonment for those found to have stolen money meant for pensioners and public funds.	Code Acts c. Criminal Justice Policy		
9.	Enact a law to provide for life imprisonment with hard labour for any person convicted of rape and sodomy, and death penalty for the rape of a minor.	a. The Criminal Code Act Cap C.38LFN 2004. b. The Penal Code Act. c. Criminal Justice Policy	a. To amend the Criminal Code Act to provide for life imprisonment, death penalty and other serious offences b. To amend the Penal Code Act to provide for life imprisonment, culpable homicide punishable with death and other serious offences	a. The Presidency b. Federal Ministry of Justice c. National Assembly
10.	Set up a National Commission for Nigerians in Diaspora that will take care of the issues affecting this category of the population.	National Commission for Nigerians in Diaspora Bill	To adequately cater for the welfare and security of Nigerians in Diaspora	a. The Presidency b. Federal Ministry of Justice c. National Assembly
11.	Enact laws to criminalize child labour and the use of children to solicit for alms.	a. The Criminal Code Act, Cap C.38LFN 2004	To protect children from abuse and other related problems	a. The Presidency b. Federal Ministry of

		b. The Penal Code Act c. Child Rights Act		Justice c. National Assembly
12.	a. The National Assembly should expedite the passage of the National Sports Commission Bill b. The National Sports Commission should not be managed by a Sole Administrator as currently practiced. Rather, it should be run by members of the governing Board comprising heads of sports agencies.	National Sports Commission Bill	To deal with sports administration in Nigeria	a. The Presidency b. National Assembly
13.	Enactment of a Civil Society Consultation Act which will among other things:- i. Formalize some level of civic power around the three tiers of government in Nigeria ii. Smoothen the loose ends between citizen rights to participate in governance and actual participation itself iii. Make it mandatory for government to put in place structures and programs for consulting and dialoguing with citizen organizations iv. Define the level of civil society representation and participation in public regulatory bodies v. Provide in clear terms, the way in which government must involve civil society in drawing up the budget and implementing it vi. Provide for Annual General Assembly between government and civil society or Annual National	a. Section 40 b. Chapter III c. Civil Society Consultation Act	To enact an Act to guide Civil Society functions, operations and activities as well as promote participatory democracy	a. The Presidency b. Federal Ministry of Justice c. National Assembly

	<p>Conference between civil society and government</p> <p>vii. Provide for Town Hall Meetings between Civil Society and Chairmen of Local Councils</p> <p>viii. Provide for periodic evaluation of both official and unofficial spaces of citizen participation in governance. This will be with a view of reinforcing both models and getting the best out of them.</p>			
14.	<p>a. Expedite the passage of the National Sports Commission Bill. The National Sports Commission should not be managed by a Sole Administrator as presently done. Rather, it should be run by members of the governing Board comprising Heads of sports agencies.</p> <p>b. The Director-General for the National Sports Commission should be on a tenure basis and shall be appointed from outside the Civil Service.</p> <p>c. The Commission should have nine (9) External Members, with the Minister in charge of Sports as the 10th Member and Chairman of the Commission.</p> <p>d. Ensure that the law backing the establishment and operations of the National Sports Commission incorporates Conference Resolutions before passage into law by the National Assembly.</p>	National Sports Commission Bill	<p>a. To ensure transparency, accountability and efficiency in sports administration in the country.</p> <p>b. To ensure adequate funding for sports as well as promote sports development, equality and specialization.</p>	<p>a. The Presidency</p> <p>b. Federal Ministry of Justice</p> <p>c. National Assembly</p>
15.	<p>Amendment of relevant Statutes to provide that:</p> <p><i>Judicial officers convicted or found guilty of corruption and perversion of justice be liable to 50 years imprisonment and loss of all official entitlements</i></p>	a. The Criminal Code Act, Cap C.38LFN 2004	To secure a strong independent and incorruptible judiciary.	National Assembly

	<i>including gratuities and pensions and all ill-gotten gains without an option of fine.</i>	b. The Penal Code Act		
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6.4 DEVOLUTION OF POWER

6.4.1 Constitutional Issues

S/N	RESOLUTIONS	RELEVANT SECTIONS	OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENTATION AGENCY
1.	<p><u>Exclusive Legislative List</u></p> <p>i. Banks, Banking, bills of exchange and promissory notes, Currency, coinage and Legal tender and Exchange control should be merged, amended and be retained in the Exclusive Legislative List.</p> <p>ii. Census, including the establishment and maintenance of machinery for continuous and universal registration of births and deaths throughout Nigeria should be moved from the Exclusive Legislative List to the Concurrent Legislative List.</p> <p>iii. Citizenship, Naturalization and aliens, Deportation of persons</p>	<p>Part 1</p> <p>Items 6, 15, & 24 of the 2nd Schedule</p> <p>Item 8 of the 2nd Schedule</p> <p>Items 9, 18, 30 and 42 of</p>	<p>These items have always been in the Exclusive Legislative List in all previous Constitutions of the country and it ensures balance of power between the arms of government.</p> <p>The items merged are similar</p>	<p>i. The Presidency</p> <p>ii. The National Assembly</p> <p>iii. State Governments</p> <p>iv. States Houses of Assembly</p>

	<p>who are not citizens of Nigeria, Immigration into and emigration from Nigeria and Passports and visas should merged and amended to read: <i>“Citizenship, naturalization, immigration and emigration, passport, aliens, and deportation of persons who are not citizens of Nigeria”</i>. The items (as amended) should be retained in the Exclusive Legislative List</p> <p>iv. Construction, alteration and maintenance of such roads as may be declared by the National Assembly to be Federal Trunk Roads should be amended to read: ‘Federal Trunk Roads’ and retained in the Exclusive Legislative List.</p> <p>v. Copyright should be moved from the Exclusive Legislative List to the Concurrent Legislative List.</p> <p>vi. Customs and excise duties and Export duties should be merged and amended to read: ‘Customs, Excise and Export Duties, and retained in the</p>	<p>the 2nd Schedule</p> <p>Item 11 of the 2nd Schedule</p> <p>Item 13 of the 2nd Schedule</p> <p>Items 16 and 25 of the 2nd Schedule</p>	<p>and could come under a single legislation</p> <p>The items are all related and therefore did not see any compelling reason to keep them separated</p>	
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	<p>Exclusive Legislative List.</p> <p>vii. Defence should be retained in the Exclusive Legislative List</p> <p>viii. Citizenship, Naturalization and aliens, Deportation of persons who are not citizens of Nigeria, Immigration into and emigration from Nigeria and Passports and visas should be merged, amended and retained in the Exclusive Legislative List.</p> <p>ix. "Election to the offices of President and Vice-President or Governor and Deputy Governor and any other office to which a person may be elected under this Constitution, excluding election to a local government council or any office in such council" should be amended and retained in the Exclusive Legislative List.</p> <p>x. Evidence, fingerprints, identification and criminal records be retained in the Exclusive Legislative List.</p>	<p>Item 17 of the 2nd Schedule</p> <p>Items 9, 18, 30 and 42 of the 2nd Schedule</p> <p>Item 22 of the 2nd Schedule</p> <p>Items 23 and 28 of the 2nd Schedule</p>	<p>The overriding need to bring all the other mineral resources of the country, hitherto undeveloped into mainstream development by activating National Strategic Plan for exploitation of all minerals so as to boost their contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The amendment of this items would also enable the federal government set up or create a special fund that would ensure the realization of the above mentioned goal</p>	
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	<p>the Concurrent Legislative List.</p> <p>xiv. Trade and Commerce, and in particular:</p> <p>a. “Trade and commerce between Nigeria and other countries including import of commodities into and export of commodities from Nigeria” should be retained in the Exclusive Legislative List, while “<i>trade and commerce between the states</i>” should be moved to the Concurrent Legislative List.</p> <p>e. Control of the prices of goods and commodities designated by the National Assembly as essential goods or commodities; should be moved to the Concurrent Legislative List.</p> <p>f. Registration of business names should be moved to the Concurrent List.</p>	<p>Item 55 of the 2nd Schedule</p> <p>Item 62(a) of the 2nd schedule</p> <p>Item 62(e) of the 2nd Schedule</p> <p>Item 62(f) of the 2nd Schedule</p>	<p>This is informed by the need to liberalise trade among States and by the recognition of the current trend among many states that are already building economic and commercial relationships with one another, and the fact that there already exists interstate enterprises that bind many States together.</p>	
2	<p><u>Concurrent Legislative List</u></p> <p>i. The division of public revenue: (i) between the Federal Government and the States</p>	<p>Item A Part II of the 2nd Schedule</p>		<p>i. The Presidency</p> <p>ii. The National Assembly</p>

	<p>should be moved from the Concurrent Legislative List to the Exclusive Legislative list.</p> <p>(ii) among the States of the Federation should be moved from the Concurrent Legislative List to the Exclusive Legislative list.</p> <p>(iii) among the local government councils in the States should be moved to Residual Legislative List.</p> <p>(b) grants or loans from and the imposition of charges upon the Consolidated Revenue Fund or any other public funds of the Federation or for the imposition of charges upon the revenue and assets of the Federation for any purpose notwithstanding that it relates to a matter with respect to which the National Assembly is not empowered to make laws should be retained in the Concurrent Legislative List but amended to read: <i>“Grants or loans from and the imposition of charges upon the Consolidated Revenue Fund or any other public funds of the</i></p>			<p>iii. State Governments</p> <p>iv. States Houses of Assembly</p>
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	<p><i>Federation or for the imposition of charges upon the revenue and assets of the Federation for any purpose notwithstanding that it relates to a matter with respect to which the State House of Assembly is not empowered to make laws”</i></p> <p>ii. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, any House of Assembly may make provisions for grants or loans from and the imposition of charges upon any of the public funds of that State or the imposition of charges upon the revenue and assets of that State for any purpose notwithstanding that it relates to a matter with respect to which the National Assembly is empowered to make laws should be amended to read: <i>“Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, any House of Assembly may make provisions for grants or loans from and the imposition of charges upon any of the public funds of that Federal/State or the imposition of charges upon the revenue</i></p>			
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	<p><i>and assets of that Federal/State for any purpose notwithstanding that it relates to a matter with respect to which the National Assembly is empowered to make laws”, and be retained in the Concurrent Legislative List.</i></p> <p>iii. The National Assembly may make laws for the Federation or any part thereof with respect to-</p> <p>(a) the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity to areas not covered by a national grid system within that State should be retained in the Concurrent Legislative List but to be amended to read: <i>“The generation, transmission and distribution of electricity within that State”.</i></p>			
3.	Conference recommends that all other provisions in the 2 nd Schedule be retained.	2 nd Schedule		v.
4.	<p><u>Fiscal Federalism</u></p> <p>i. Creation of the office of the “Accountant-General (Director-General) of the</p>	Section 162(3)	To ensure transparency and accountability in the management of the federation account as distinct of federal	<p>i. The Presidency</p> <p>ii. National Assembly</p> <p>iii. States Houses of</p>

	<p>Federation” as a distinct and separate office from the Office of the “Accountant General of the Federal Government”.</p> <p>ii. The functions of both offices shall be clearly outlined and demarcated.</p> <p>iii. Any name could be designated to the Offices provided that their functions are clearly spelt out.</p> <p>iv. The Office of Accountant General (Director-General) of the Federation shall oversee the accruals of revenue into and disbursement from the Federation Account as and when due; and shall administer these funds as required by the Constitution, while the office of the Accountant General of the Federal Government shall oversee the accounts of the Federal Government.</p> <p>v. The power of the Federal Government under section 162(3) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) to prescribe the terms and</p>		government	Assembly
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	<p>manner of sharing national revenue (Federation Account) shall be exercised through the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission, which shall consult the Federal and State governments before presenting a draft Bill on the matter to the National Assembly for enactment into law.</p>			
5.	<p><u>Revenue Sharing (Vertical Allocation)</u></p> <p>Review of the sharing of the funds accruing to the Federation Account among the tiers of government.</p> <p>Conference resolved that Government should set up a Technical Committee to determine the appropriate percentages on all matters relating to revenue sharing.</p>	Section 162	To ensure equity in the distribution of State funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Presidency ii. Revenue Mobilization and Fiscal Commission iii. National Assembly iv. State Governments v. Local Governments
6.	<p><u>Sharing Formula (Horizontal Allocation)</u></p> <p>Review of the sharing formula on the basis of allocation of revenue to States using some principles of</p>	Section 162	<p>To ensure accelerated development of all parts of the country.</p> <p>To enhance economic, infrastructural and human</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Presidency ii. Revenue Mobilization and Fiscal Commission

	<p>equality of states, population, land mass and terrain, social development factors (i.e. education, health, and water supply), and Internally Generated Revenue.</p> <p>Conference recommends that Government should set up a Technical Committee to determine the appropriate percentages on all matters relating to revenue sharing.</p>		<p>development in the country.</p>	<p>iii. National Assembly</p> <p>iv. States' Governments</p> <p>v. Local Governments</p>
7.	<p><u>Resource Control</u></p> <p>Conference recognized the need to review the percentage of revenue allocation to States producing oil (and other resources)</p> <p>Conference noted that assigning percentages for the increase in derivation principle require some technical details and considerations and therefore recommends that Government should set up a Technical Committee to determine the appropriate percentage on the issue and advise government accordingly.</p>	<p>Section 162</p>	<p>The development of States from which oil and other mineral resources are derived.</p>	<p>i. The Presidency</p> <p>ii. Revenue Mobilization and Fiscal Commission</p> <p>iii. National Assembly</p> <p>iv. States' Governments</p> <p>v. Local Governments</p>
8.	<p><u>Special Intervention Funds</u></p> <p>a. Reconstruction and</p>		<p>To reconstruct and rehabilitate areas affected by problems of</p>	<p>i. The Presidency</p>

	<p>rehabilitation of areas affected by problems of insurgency and internal conflicts; and</p> <p>b. Diversification of the Nigerian economy by fast tracking the development of the solid minerals sector.</p> <p>Conference noted that setting up Special Intervention Funds to address issues of reconstruction and rehabilitation of areas ravaged by insurgency and internal conflicts as well as solid minerals development, require some technical details and considerations and therefore recommends that Government should set up a Technical Committee to determine the appropriate percentages on the two issues and advise government accordingly.</p>	<p>Section 162</p>	<p>insurgency and internal conflicts.</p> <p>To facilitate the rapid development of other mineral resources in every State of the Federation.</p>	<p>ii. Revenue Mobilization and Fiscal Commission</p> <p>iii. National Assembly</p> <p>iv. States' Governments</p> <p>v. Local Governments</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>i. There should be a constitutional provision for the establishment of a Special Fund for the development of mineral resources in the country.</p> <p>ii. A competent body should be established to administer the</p>		<p>To create a Special Fund for the Development of Mineral Resources.</p>	<p>i. Presidency</p> <p>ii. National Assembly</p> <p>iii. State Houses of Assembly</p>

	Fund according to guidelines that shall be specified by the National Assembly.			
10.	The Sovereign Wealth Fund currently operating as Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority (NSIA), 2011, be enshrined in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.		To strengthen the Sovereign Wealth Fund.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Presidency ii. National Assembly iii. State Houses of Assembly

6.4.3 Statutes

S/N	RESOLUTIONS	PROPOSED/EXISTING STATUTES	OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENTATION AGENCIES
1.	<p><u>Revenue Sharing (Vertical Allocation)</u></p> <p>Review of the sharing of the funds accruing to the Federation Account among the tiers of government.</p> <p>Conference resolved that Government should set up a Technical Committee to determine the appropriate percentages on all matters relating to revenue sharing.</p>	Allocation of Revenue (Federation, etc.) Act	To ensure equity in the distribution of State funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Presidency ii. Revenue Mobilization and Fiscal Commission iii. National Assembly iv. State Governments v. Local Governments
2	<u>Sharing Formula (Horizontal</u>		To ensure accelerated development of all parts of the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Presidency

	<p><u>Allocation)</u></p> <p>Review of the sharing formula on the basis of allocation of revenue to States using some principles of equality of states, population, land mass and terrain, social development factors (i.e. education, health, and water supply), and Internally Generated Revenue.</p> <p>Conference recommends that Government should set up a Technical Committee to determine the appropriate percentages on all matters relating to revenue sharing.</p>	Allocation of Revenue (Federation, etc.) Act	<p>country.</p> <p>To enhance economic, infrastructural and human development in the country.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Revenue Mobilization and Fiscal Commission iii. National Assembly iv. States' Governments v. Local Governments
3.	<p><u>Resource Control</u></p> <p>Conference recognized the need to review the percentage of revenue allocation to States producing oil (and other resources)</p> <p>Conference noted that assigning percentages for the increase in derivation principle require some technical details and considerations and therefore recommends that Government should set up a Technical Committee to determine the appropriate percentage on the issue and advise government accordingly.</p>	Allocation of Revenue (Federation, etc.) Act	<p>The development of States from which oil and other mineral resources are derived.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Presidency ii. National Assembly iii. State Houses of Assembly

<p>4.</p>	<p><u>Special Intervention Funds</u></p> <p>a. Reconstruction and rehabilitation of areas affected by problems of insurgency and internal conflicts; and</p> <p>b. Diversification of the Nigerian economy by fast tracking the development of the solid minerals sector.</p> <p>Conference noted that setting up Special Intervention Funds to address issues of reconstruction and rehabilitation of areas ravaged by insurgency and internal conflicts as well as solid minerals development, require some technical details and considerations and therefore recommends that Government should set up a Technical Committee to determine the appropriate percentages on the two issues and advise government accordingly.</p>	<p>Allocation of Revenue (Federation, etc.) Act</p>	<p>To reconstruct and rehabilitate areas affected by problems of insurgency and internal conflicts.</p> <p>To facilitate the rapid development of other mineral resources in every State of the Federation.</p>	<p>Presidency</p>
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6.5 ECONOMY, TRADE AND INVESTMENT

6.5.1 Constitutional Issues

S/N	RESOLUTIONS	RELEVANT SECTIONS	OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENTATION AGENCIES
1.	Make Socio-Economic Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy justiciable	Section 16 (1) (a-d)	To make the economic objectives of Chapter II obligatory rather than optional	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly
2.	Amend authorisation of expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund to indicate that: i. Appropriation Bill (Federal and State) must be accompanied by an underlying Medium Term Plan and Plan Compatibility Statement detailing deviations from previous plans with justifications. ii. The enactment of a National Revenue Act every year prior to the Appropriation Act.	Section 81	To rekindle the plan-budget link which has been absent in recent past, to prevent plan and budget indiscipline, and regulate spending of excess revenue.	a. National Assembly b. States House of Assembly
3.	Amend the Constitution to clearly specify taxes/levies to be collected by each tier of Government.		For the clarification of taxes/levies due to each tier of Government	a. National Assembly b. States Houses of Assembly
5.	Remove the provision on restriction of legal proceedings (immunity clause).	Section 308	To enhance transparency, accountability by bringing those managing the economy to justice	a. National Assembly b. States House of Assembly

6.	Make constitutional provision for the Sovereign Wealth Fund (SWF) and legalise the Excess Crude Accounts (ECA).			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. National Assembly b. State Houses of Assembly
7.	Make Socio–Economic Rights justiciable.	Chapter 2 (Sections 14-22)	To legalise the enforcement of socio-economic rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. National Assembly b. States House of Assembly
8.	The budgets of anti-corruption and regulative agencies should be made first line charges.		To guarantee independence of all agencies in anti-corruption crusade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Economic Crime and Fiscal Commission b. Independent Corrupt Practices Commission c. Code of Conduct Bureau d. Security and Exchange Commission e. National Deposit Insurance Commission f. The Chief Justice of the Federation g. Accountant- General of the Federation h. Auditor- General of the Federation

6.5.2 Policy Matters

S/N	RESOLUTIONS	PROPOSED/ EXISTING POLICIES	OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENTATION AGENCIES
1.	Convert the National Planning Commission to Federal Ministry of Planning and Economic Development with the Vice President as Minister of Planning and Economic Development		To ensure an institutional arrangement for effective plan-budget link	a. The Presidency b. National Assembly
2.	Return the Budget Office of the Federation to the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development		To ensure an institutional arrangement for effective plan-budget link.	The Presidency
3.	Invest in the people, science and technology.	National Policy on Science and Technology		a. Federal Ministry of Science and Technology b. Ministry of Education
4.	Invest in social, institutional and economic infrastructure		To achieve good governance	a. The Presidency b. Relevant MDAs
5.	Nurture, support and promote development of world class indigenous private sector operators, organizations and institutions to get them to be able and ready to partner with their foreign counterparts to their mutual benefits and complementary to national development	Economic Development Policy	Capacity building to enable partnership with foreign counterparts and compete globally	a. Federal Ministry of National Planning Commission

	agenda			b. Organized Private Sector
6.	Invest in direct productive activities necessary to shift the frontiers of development opportunities by getting things started in given areas while at the same time taking steps to encourage the indigenous private sector, in partnership with their foreign counterparts where and when necessary, to take over such activities at the earliest possible time.	Economic Development Policy	To fast track the growth of the nation's economy	a. The Presidency b. Relevant MDAs
7.	Create and strengthen institutions and mechanisms to provide the needed linkages and partnerships between knowledge providers (Educational Institutions and Research Institutes) with the productive sector as a whole and industries in particular.	National Policy on Education	Advancing the frontiers of knowledge between knowledge providers and the productive sector with a view to improving the economy	a. Federal Ministry of Education b. Research Agencies
8.	Government should as a matter of policy, ensure, that prior to approval of market places, there should be in the minimum, toilet facilities and conveniences with portable water, as well as equipped crèches and day care centers within the market vicinity. These facilities should be provided by government and the manufacturers whose goods are distributed in the market in a Public Private Partnership arrangement.	National Policy on Environment	To create an environment free from diseases and conducive for business	a. Relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies b. Organized Private Sector c. State Governments d. Local Governments
9.	Nigeria should not enter into any partnership/trade agreement that could be detrimental to the current efforts at industrializing the country, especially ECOWAS-EU European Partnership Agreement. Nigeria should also renew its trade agreement with	Nigeria Foreign Policy	To secure domestic economy and comply with diplomatic obligations	a. The Presidency b. Ministry of Foreign Affairs c. Ministry of Interior

	ECOWAS Common External Tariff and the World Trade Organization.			d. Federal Ministry of Justice
10.	Publish Treaties and Agreements	All Treaties and Agreements	To achieve transparency and encourage public scrutiny and debate.	a. The Presidency b. Ministry of Foreign Affairs c. National Planning Commission
11.	Hold consultations with all relevant stakeholders of manufacturing and agro-businesses enterprises.	Agriculture Policy Manufacturing Policy	Promote agricultural investment and increase revenue	a. Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development b. Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade & Investment c. Federal Ministry of Finance
12.	Revive the Tariff Review Board	Economic Investment Policy	Enhance revenue collection	a. The Presidency b. Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade & Investment
13.	Remove all impediments to the revival of the Iron and steel and petrochemical industries and fund Research & Development into possible petrol chemical uses for Nigeria's major agricultural products.	National Agricultural Policy	Promotion of alternative uses for agricultural products	a. Federal Ministry of Finance b. Ministry of Mines & Steel
14.	Promote large scale mechanised farming in areas where Nigeria has comparative and competitive advantage	National Agricultural Policy	To achieve food security	a. The Presidency b. Federal Ministry of