

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



NATIONAL
HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION

PREFACE



In the year 2016, the Commission continued to build on its past achievements. The UNHCR and NHRC Protection Monitoring Project which began in 2015, was reviewed and the number of monitors were increased in order to escalate monitoring of the violations faced by IDPs and the affected communities as a result of the insurgency in the North East.

Monitors were strengthened with tools to ensure a protective environment. Training activities were also held for relevant actors on human rights standards in the management of IDPs.

In the year under review, the Commission in partnership with development partners and NGOs embarked on a lot of activities geared towards the promotion and protection of human rights. Some of the major activities were- Training of Military Personnel and Students of Army Ordinance School Ojo, Lagos, NHRC/Nigeria Military Dialogue on Human Rights, Launch and Public Presentation of the 'End Electoral Impunity' 2007/2011 Report, Audit of Prisons and Police Detention Centres, Training on International Humanitarian Law (IHL), NHRC Rules of Procedure & Complaints Treatment Skills, Legal Clinic on Unlawful Arrest and Detention, amongst others.

In line with its mandate to monitor, promote and protect the rights of Nigerians, the Commission held some public inquiries such as that on the clash between the Nigerian Army and Islamic Movement of Nigeria (Shiites) in Zaria, Kaduna State. As a result of increasing trend of complaints received from affected communities on Oil Spills and Environmental Pollution in Edo, Delta, Cross River, Rivers and Bayelsa States, the Commission set – up a panel of inquiry to investigate the complaints on oil spill and environmental pollution. However, pending court cases by the alleged violators, challenging the powers of the Commission to constitute such a panel stalled progress of the panel. The outcome of the court cases would provide opportunity for the Commission to demonstrate her powers to deal with all cases relating to human rights as well as seek appropriate on behalf of victims.

The Special Investigative Panel on Alleged Killings by the Military in Tarok communities of Plateau and Benue States is still ongoing. Concluding sittings have been scheduled after which the report and recommendations would follow.

In the year under review, the Commission in order to enhance public awareness intensified its media activities and human rights education, through advocacy visits and courtesy calls to relevant stakeholders, as well as engaged the print and electronic media on a more robust reporting strategy such as advocacy visit to the Commission by Maud De Boer Buquicchio, UN Special Rapporteur on the sale of Children, Child Pornography and Child Prostitution, visit by Director Nigeria Air Force Directorate of Civil Military Relations Air Commodore Afam Chukwu, visit on the Executive Governor of Plateau State by NHRC Delegation led by the Executive Secretary amongst others.

The Commemoration of the 2016 International Human Rights Day was marked with a Road Walk in Abuja as well as in the zonal and state offices of the Commission. The Theme of the celebrations was “Stand Up For Someone’s Right Today”.

In 2016, the sum of One Billion, Two Hundred and Ten Million Naira was released for the Commission’s programmes/activities by the Government. There were also funding support from some development partners for specific activities, such as Ford Foundation supported project on End Electoral Impunity Project titled’ Fair Trial and the Right to Effective Participation in Government – An Independent Review of Evidence of Violation of the Rights to participate in Government and Fair Trial Through the Election of petition Process in Nigeria, Open Society Initiative for West Africa(OSIWA) supported training of staff on NHRC Rules of Procedure & Complaints Treatment Skills among others.

On the 8th of December 2016, the 5 year term of Prof. Bem Angwe as Executive Secretary of the Commission came to an end, and the Secretary to the Government of the Federal, directed the most Senior Director in the Commission, to take charge of the Commission until the President appoints a Substantive Executive Secretary for the Commission. Mrs. Oti Anukpe Ovrawah, Director,

Human Rights Institute took charge of the affairs of the Commission on the 8th of December, 2016.

The year 2016 was challenging but the Commission was able to record some major mile stones in the promotion, protection and enforcement of human rights.

Oti Anukpe Ovrawah(Mrs.)
Ag. Executive Secretary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Annual Report is pursuant to Section 17 of the National Human Rights Commission (Amendment) Act which obligates the National Human Rights Commission to, not later than 6 months after the end of each year; submit to the President and the National Assembly, a report on the activities of the Commission. The report contains Nine Chapters enumerating some key activities of the Commission.

The establishment of the Commission aims at promotion, protection and enforcement of human rights in Nigeria, as well as creating an enabling environment for extra judicial recognition and advancement of human rights as enshrined in the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the African Charter on Human and people's Rights and other International human instruments to which Nigeria is a party. The functions and mandate of NHRC to promote, protect and enforce human rights are realized through the operations of the Commission's various departments and units.

Chapter one of this report highlights the mandate, structure, powers and functions of the Commission, as well as the departments and units of the Commission in 2016.

Chapter Two focuses on collaborative engagements between the National Human Rights Commission and other organizations. In order to realize improved human rights standards in Nigeria, the need for multi-sectoral collaboration need not be over emphasized. Accordingly, for effective discharge of her mandate, the Commission partners with local and international organizations working in the area of the promotion and protection of human rights. This includes various Community and Faith Based Organizations as well as other Civil Society Organizations, Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government, as well as the Diplomatic Community.

In the year under review, the NHRC carried out a number of media activities, paid courtesy calls, as well as paid advocacy visits to relevant stakeholders in order to enhance public awareness about the Commission and her work. Chapter three of

this report focuses on such Media Activities, courtesy calls and advocacy visits aimed at enhanced human rights promotion in Nigeria.

Chapter Four of the report throws light on Promotional and Outreach activities carried out by the National Human Rights Commission in the year under review. In order to increase visibility and accessibility to the Commission, various promotional and outreach activities were carried out in 2016 in the course of discharging the Commission's mandate. Such activities include: briefings on the Nigeria Army / Islamic Movement (Shittes) Clash in Zaria, Kaduna State, Meetings with Inter – Agency Committee on Internally Displaced Persons in the Federal Capital Territory, Inauguration of a Committee on Oil Spillage and Environmental Pollution in the Niger Delta to carry out on-the spot assessment of human rights impact of such spillages and related environmental violations. The Chapter highlights many more promotional and outreach activities.

Chapter Five illustrates the Commission's International Engagements. Nigeria is a member of various regional and international bodies such as United Nations, African Union and ECOWAS; and participates in the activities of these bodies. The National Human Rights Commission therefore participates in international trainings, workshops and conferences in line with provisions of Section 5(h) of the NHRC Amendment Act (2010) which obligates her to partake in such manner as deemed appropriate. Participation in such fora aims at building the capacity of employees in the promotion, protection and enforcement of human rights through application of knowledge and skills acquired in discharging the Commission's mandate.

On commencement of operations by the National Human Rights Commission in 1997, the Commission had six Zonal Offices. These offices were located in each of the six geo-political zones of Nigeria as follows:

- ❖ North East – Maiduguri
- ❖ North West – Kano
- ❖ North Central – Jos
- ❖ North West – Lagos

- ❖ South East – Enugu
- ❖ South South – Port Harcourt

The six zonal offices at inception were however deemed inadequate because each zone comprises of at least five states. Many people at the communities in various parts of the country in need of the Commission's services could not access such services due to challenge of distance between the states and the zonal office locations. There was therefore the necessity to create more offices in order to increase visibility and accessibility of the Commission's services to all persons in Nigeria. Therefore, more offices were created across the six zones of the federation. Currently, the Commission has 23 zonal and state field offices. Notwithstanding the increase in the number of operational offices, the Commission acknowledges the imperative of establishing more field offices in Local Government Areas. The NHRC looks forward to further increase in the number of field offices especially as visibility and accessibility are important yardsticks set by the Paris Principles for measuring effectiveness of National Human Rights Institutions. The desirable increase in the number of field offices of the Commission is however subject to availability of funds. The Commission is therefore hopeful that increased funding and partnerships would improve visibility and accessibility of her services to many more persons in Nigeria. Activities of the National Human Rights Commission in 2016, disaggregated across the existing 23 Field Offices, are captured in Chapter Six of this report.

Chapter Seven of the 2016 Annual Report of the commission is dedicated to 'Human Rights Protection and Complaints Management' Mechanism of the Commission. In consonance with Section 6(j) of the National Human Rights Commission Act 1995 as amended, the Commission receives and investigates complaints of alleged violations of human rights and makes appropriate determination as may be deemed necessary based on facts of each case. In discharging this task, the Commission receives and treats complaints on human rights violations or abuses from individuals, group of persons, or communities for redress. Besides receiving complaints from the public, the Commission also

proactively takes up investigation of cases of human rights violations/ abuses on its own (Suo Moto) and is empowered to make enforceable awards based on her findings.

It is noteworthy that not all complaints received are admissible in the Commission. Accordingly, the standard guidelines for the management of all complaints received by the Commission are contained in relevant sections of NHRC Standing Order and Rules of Procedure (STORP) adopted by the Governing Council of the Commission in 2013. All complaints received by the Commission are subjected to the Admissibility Test to ascertain their admissibility or inadmissibility. The admissible complaints are assigned to investigation officers for further investigation and treatment for appropriate redress while inadmissible complaints may be referred to relevant agencies for consideration.

The Commission received a total of One Million and Ninety Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred and Nineteen (1,099,919) Complaints in 2016. One Million, Four Hundred and Thirty (1,000,430) were admissible complaints while Ninety Nine Thousand, Four Hundred and Eighty Nine complaints were inadmissible. Out of this number of received complaints, Four Hundred and Eighty Nine Thousand, Two Hundred and Nineteen (489, 219) have been concluded while Five Hundred and Eleven Thousand, Two Hundred and Eleven (511,211) complaints are pending. This chapter of the report provides more details on management of complaints in the year under review.

Chapter 8 of the report throws light on activities carried out by the UNHCR / NHRC in furtherance of the Protection Monitoring Project in some of the project States: Adamawa, Bauchi, Benue, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe.

In 2015, United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and National Human Rights Commission commenced Protection Monitoring in the North – East, North – Central, and Federal Capital Territory (FCT). The states in these zones are affected by heavy fighting between Boko Haram sect and Nigerian Military. The affected core ten states include Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba, Yobe, Adamawa, Benue, Nasarawa, Jos, and Federal Capital Territory (FCT). This

project was initiated in the context of Protection Sector Working Group Strategy (PSWGS) under the co – Leadership of NHRC and UNHCR. The overall goal of the project was to gain a first hand , comprehensive and reliable picture of protection issues, such as security from violence and exploitation, while increasing the self – reliance of most vulnerable and displaced families by providing Protection Monitoring in the camps . Security and Protection Monitoring both identify and strengthen community-based protection mechanisms in order to get a complete picture of protection issues in order to be able to quickly respond to such issues and improve advocacy on the rights of IDPs. Protection Monitoring further involves the time-sensitive reporting of individual protection cases through an alert system for rapid response to cases of human rights abuses. As a follow up on the project, both organizations evaluated the project implementation so far and agreed on the need to improve on the project in 2016. Further Protection Monitoring activities were therefore identified for implementation in 2016 aimed at consolidating the gains realized on the project since commencement in 2015 such as to timely identify critical protection needs and to reduce risks and abuses as well as to ensure prompt response and prevention of further deterioration of humanitarian and human rights standards in the project State.

Chapter 9 of the report focuses on the Financial Report of the Commission and reflects the Commission’s finances in the year under review. Notably the major source of funding of the National Human Rights Commission has been the Federal Government, with some support from Development Partners. The NHRC Amendment Act provides that the funds of the Commission be charged to the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation. While acknowledging some improvement in funding for the NHRC, it is however noteworthy to remark that the Commission is still faced with funding gaps and challenges in the course of carrying out various activities. Considering the fact that many activities carried out by the Commission are capital intensive requiring huge funding, the need for further improved funding becomes imperative - for timely and effective discharge of her mandate.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This publication was compiled from the activities of the Commission in 2016, submitted to the Commission headquarters by Department/Units, Zonal offices and State offices. It is an overview of the events undertaken by the Commission in 2016.

Our appreciation goes to the Director, Human Rights Institute Department, Mrs. Oti Anukpe Ovwah for continuously going through the various drafts of the report and coordinating the activities of the various teams that made this report a reality.

Further appreciation also goes to the under mentioned staff whose supportive input and creative contributions facilitated the completion of this report.

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Worthy of mention is the Annual Report Team which comprised of staff of the Human Rights Institute Department (HRI) who met continuously for weeks to review the information here presented. These include the following staff:

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Special appreciation goes to Professor Bem Angwe, Executive Secretary of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) for his support and for steering the activities of the Commission in the year reviewed.

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TABLE OF CONTENT

I. PREFACE	i
II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	iv
IV. ACKNOWLEDGMENT	ix
V. TABLE OF CONTENT	xi

CHAPTER ONE

MANDATE, STRUCTURE, DEPARTMENTS AND UNITS

1.0	Mandate and Structure	1
1.1	Functions and Powers of the Commission	1
1.1a	Functions	2
1.1b	Powers	4
1.2	Departments and Units	6
1.2.0	Introduction	6
1.2.1	Office of the Executive Secretary	6
1.2.2	Departments	6
1.2.2.1	Human Resource Management (HRM)	6
1.2.2.2	Human Rights Institute (HRI)	7
1.2.2.3	Conflict Prevention Ethics and Good Governance (CEGG)	7
1.2.2.4	Legal Services and Enforcement (LS&E)	7
1.2.2.5	Protection and Investigation (P&I)	7
1.2.2.6	Monitoring Department	7
1.2.2.7	Finance and Account (F&A)	8
1.2.2.8	Human Rights Education and Promotion (HRE&P)	8
1.2.2.9	Planning, Statistics and Documentation (PS&D)	8
1.2.2.10	Corporate Affairs and External Linkages	8
1.3	Units	9

1.3.1	Reform Co-Ordination & Service Improvement Department	9
1.3.2	Media Relations Unit	9
1.3.3	Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Freedom of Information (FOI) Unit	9
1.3.4	Field Offices (FO)	9
1.3.5	Focal Areas (FA)	10
1.3.6	Public Interest Litigation (PIL)	10
1.3.7	Audit (A)	10
1.3.8	Procurement	10
1.3.9	Law, Policy Review and Legislative Liaison	11
1.3.10	Budget	11
1.3.11	Council Secretariat	11
1.3.12	Complaints Registry	11

CHAPTER TWO

CO – OPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

2.0	Introduction	12
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CHAPTER THREE

MEDIA ACTIVITIES/COURTESY VISITS

3.0	Introduction	17
3.1	Media Activities	17
3.2	Courtesy Visits	24

CHAPTER FOUR

PROMOTIONAL/OUTREACH/CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

4.0	Introduction	34
	Photo Speak	56

CHAPTER FIVE

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

5.0	Introduction	66
5.1	Highlights of Some Activities	66

CHAPTER SIX

ACTIVITIES OF STATE OFFICES

6.0	Introduction	77
6.1	Akwalbom State Office – Uyo	77
6.2	Anambra State Office – Awka	78
6.3	Benue State Office – Makurdi	80
6.4	North – East Zonal Office – Maiduguri, Borno State	83
6.5	Cross – River State Office – Calabar	85
6.6	Edo State Office – Benin – City	86
6.7	South East Zonal Office – Enugu	87
6.8	Gombe State Office – Gombe	90
6.9	Imo State Office – Owerri	94
6.10	Kaduna State Office – Kaduna	100
6.11	Katstina State Office	101
6.12	Kwara State Office – Ilorin	106
6.13	South – West – Zonal Office – Lagos	107
6.14	Nasarawa State Office – Lafia	109
6.15	Niger State Office – Niger	111
6.16	Osun State Office – Oshogbo	112
6.17	North Central Zone Office (NCZ) Jos, Plateau State	113
6.18	South – South Zonal Office – Port – Harcourt, Rivers State	117

CHAPTER SEVEN

HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION AND COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENTS

7.0	Introduction	119
7.1	Complaints Management Process	119
7.2	Receipt of Complaints 2016	120
7.3	Complaints Status 2016	122
7.4	Classification of Complaints 2016	123
7.5	Receipt of Complaints 1996 - 2016	126
7.6	Treatment of Complaints 1996 - 2016	127
7.7	Summary of Complaints 1996 - 2016	128
7.8	Trend of Complaints 1996 - 2016	130
7.9	Classification of Complaints	132

CHAPTER EIGHT

NHRC/UNHCR INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS MONITORING - PROJECT SUMMARY REPORT

8.0	Introduction	140
8.1	Training for IDPs Monitors	141
8.2	Partnership/Networking	143
8.2.1	Adamawa State	143
8.2.2	Bauchi State	143
8.2.3	Benue State	144
8.2.4	Gombe State	144
8.2.5	Taraba State	144
8.3	Project Achievements Highlighted State By State	145
8.3.1	Adamawa State	145
8.3.2	Bauchi State	146

8.3.3	Benue State	146
8.3.4	Gombe State	147
8.3.5	Taraba State	147
8.3.6	Yobe State	147
8.4	Protection Sites Visited	148
8.4.1	Adamawa State	148
8.4.2	Bauchi State	149
8.4.3	Benue State	149
8.4.4	Gombe State	150
8.4.5	Taraba State	150
8.4.6	Yobe State	151
8.5	Breakdown of Protection Issues, Referrals, and Follow - up Cases Recorded in the six States Covered by the IDPs Monitoring Project	152
8.5.1	Adamawa State	152
8.5.2	Bauchi State	154
8.5.3	Benue State	154
8.5.4	Gombe State	155
8.5.5	Taraba State	155
8.5.6	Yobe State	156
8.6	Referral	156
8.6.1	Adamawa State	156
8.6.2	Bauchi State	157
8.6.3	Benue State	157
8.6.4	Gombe State	157
8.6.5	Taraba State	157

8.6.6 Yobe State	157
8.7 Challenges	157
8.8 Recommendations	160

CHAPTER NINE

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

9.0 Introduction	162
9.1 Summary of Receipt, Expenditure and Balance for the Year 2016	163
9.2 Donations	163
9.3 Special Project	164
9.4 Domiciliary	165
Appendix I Zonal and State Offices E-mail contact details	166
Appendix II Abbreviations	167
Appendix III Organogram	172

CHAPTER ONE

MANDATE, STRUCTURE, DEPARTMENTS AND UNITS

1.0 MANDATE AND STRUCTURE

The World Conference on Human Rights, in 1993, institutionalized the roles of National Human Rights Institutions with the aim of promoting and protecting human rights. The World Conference, though advisory in nature, noted the importance of NHRI's and their roles of remedying human rights violations, and disseminating of human rights information and education.

The Commission was established by the National Human Rights Commission Act 1995 but began operations in 1996. This Act was reviewed due to some inadequacies and amended in 2010 through an Act of the parliament. The Amendment Act was passed by the National Assembly in 2010, and signed by the President in 2011 as the National Human Rights Commission Amendment Act 2010. The Amendment Act provides the Commission with greater autonomy, expanded powers and functions. Details of the functions and powers of the Commission as contained in the Act are discussed in this chapter.

1.1 FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE COMMISSION

The National Human Rights Commission Act 1995 as amended expands the functions and Powers of the Commission and confers the Commission with the independence to carry out these additional responsibilities. It also grants the Commission financial autonomy. The Preamble to the Act provides for the following:-

- i. Independence in the conduct of the affairs of the Commission.
- ii. The funds of the Commission to be a direct charge on the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation.
- iii. The establishment of the Human Rights Fund and
- iv. The recognition and enforcement of the awards and recommendations of the Commission as decisions of the High Court.

1.1a FUNCTIONS:

The functions of the Commission as provided in the Act are as follows:

- a) Deal with all matters relating to the promotion and protection of human rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights and other International and Regional Instruments on human rights to which Nigeria is a party.
- b) Monitor and investigate all alleged cases of human rights violations in Nigeria and make appropriate recommendations to the Federal Government for the prosecution and such other actions as it may deem expedient in each circumstance;
- c) Assist victims of human rights violations and seek appropriate redress and remedies on their behalf.
- d) Undertake studies on all matters pertaining to human rights and assist the Federal, State and Local Governments where it considers appropriate to do so in the formulation of appropriate policies on the guarantee of human rights.
- e) Publish and submit, from time to time, to the President, National assembly, Judiciary, State and Local Governments, reports on the state of human rights promotion and protection in Nigeria.
- f) Organize local and international seminars and conferences on human rights issues for public enlightenment.
- g) Liaise and cooperate, in such manner as it considers appropriate, with Local and international organizations on human rights with the purpose of advancing the promotion and protection of human rights.
- h) Participate in such manner as it considers appropriate in all international activities relating to the promotion and protection of human rights.

- i) Maintain a library, collate data and disseminate information and materials on human rights generally.
- j) Receive and investigate complaints concerning violations of human rights and make appropriate determination as may be deemed necessary in each circumstance.
- k) Examine any existing legislation, administrative provisions and proposed bills or bye-laws for the purpose of ascertaining whether such enactments or proposed bills or bye-laws are consistent with human rights norms.
- l) Prepare and publish, in such manner as the Commission considers appropriate, guidelines for the avoidance of acts or practices with respect to the functions and powers of the Commission under this Act.
- m) Promote an understanding of public discussions of human rights issues in Nigeria.
- n) Undertake research and educational programmes and such other programmes for promoting and protecting human rights and co-ordinate any such programmes on behalf of the Federal, State or Local Government on its own initiative when so requested by the Federal, State or local Government and report concerning the enactment of legislation on matters relating to human rights.
- o) On its own initiative or when requested by the Federal, State or Local Government, report on actions that should be taken by the Federal, State or local Government to comply with the provisions of any relevant international human rights instrument.
- p) Refer any matter of human rights violation requiring prosecution to the Attorney General of the Federation or State as the case may be.
- q) Where it considers it appropriate to do so, act as a conciliator between parties to a complaint.
- r) Where it considers it appropriate, with the leave of the court hearing the proceedings and subject to any condition imposed by the court, intervene in any proceeding that involves human rights issues.
- s) Carry out all such other functions as are necessary or expedient for the performance of these functions under the Act.

1.1b POWERS

1. The Commission shall have power to:

- a) Conduct its investigations and inquiries in such manner as it considers appropriate.
- b) Institute any civil action on any matter it deems fit in relation to the exercise of its functions under this Act.
- c) Appoint any person, whether or not such person is in the public service, to act as an interpreter in any matter brought before it and to translate any such book, paper or writing produced to it.
- d) Visit prisons, Police cells and other places of detention in order to ascertain the conditions thereof and make recommendations to the appropriate authorities.
- e) Make determination as to the damages or compensation payable in relation to any violation of human rights where it deems this necessary in the circumstances of the case.
- f) Cooperate with and consult with other agencies and organizations, governmental and non-governmental, as it may deem appropriate; and
- g) Do such other things as are incidental, necessary, conducive or expedient for the performance of its functions under this Act.

2. Whenever it appears to the Chairman upon information and after such inquiry as he shall think necessary, that there is reasonable cause to suspect that in any place there is an evidence of the commission of any offence under this Act, he may by written order direct an officer of the Commission to obtain a court order to:

- a) Enter upon any land or premises or by any agent or agents duly authorized in writing for any purpose which, in the opinion of the Council is material to the functions of the Commission, and in particular, for the purpose of obtaining evidence or information or of inspecting or taking copies of any document required by, or which may be of assistance to the Commission and for safeguarding any such document or property which in the opinion of

the Council ought to be safeguarded for any purpose of its investigations or proceedings;

- b) Summon and interrogate any person, body or authority to appear before it for the purpose of public inquiry aimed at the resolution of a complaint of human rights violations;
- c) Issue a warrant to compel the attendance of any person who, after having been summoned to attend, fails, refuses or neglects to do so and does not excuse such failure, refusal or neglect to the satisfaction of the Commission;
- d) Compel any person, body or authority who, in its opinion, has any information relating to any matter under its investigation to furnish it with any information or produce any document or other evidence which is in his or her custody and which relates to any matter being investigated; and
- e) Compel the attendance of witnesses to produce evidence before it.

3. In exercising its functions and powers under this Act, the Commission shall not be subject to the direction or control of any other authority or person.

4. It is an offence for any person, body or authority to:-

- a) Refuse to provide evidence, including documentary evidence, to the Commission in response to a written request to do so;
- b) Obstruct or do anything to prevent any member of the Council or an employee of the Commission from the lawful exercise of any of the functions conferred on the Commission by this Act;
- c) Punish, intimidate, harass or discriminate against any person for cooperating with the Commission in the exercise of its functions under this Act; or
- d) Refuse to comply with lawful directives, determination, decision or finding of the Commission.

5. A person who commits an offence under subsection (4) of this section is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of 6 months or to a fine of N100,000.00 or to both such imprisonment and fine,”

1.2 DEPARTMENTS AND UNITS

1.2.0 INTRODUCTION

The functions and mandate of the Commission to promote, protect and enforce human rights are realized through the operations of the Commission's various departments and units. In the year under review, there were a total number of 23 departments and units. However, by the 20th of December, 2016, there were some restructuring in the Commission.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Freedom of Information (FOI) units were merged to become part of the Human Rights Institute department while Public Interest Litigation unit was merged with Legal Services and Enforcement Department. Similarly, the Call Centre was merged with the Complaint Registry Unit, and the Directorate of Focal Areas was scrapped and staff there were re-deployed to other departments.

1.2.1 OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Office of the Executive Secretary is headed by the Executive Secretary who functions as the Chief Executive Officer and oversees the day to day administration of the Commission. The Executive Secretary is also a member and Secretary of the Governing Council of the Commission as well as the link between the Management and the Council. The implementation of the Council's decisions is coordinated by the Executive Secretary through the Council Secretariat.

1.2.2 DEPARTMENTS

1.2.2.1 HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (HRM)

The Human Resources Management Department deals with administrative and establishment matters of the Commission. These include: recruitment, appointment, promotion, training, and discipline and staff welfare, amongst others.

1.2.2.2 HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTE (HRI)

The Human Rights Institute carries out the following functions: Human Rights Training for specific target groups such as Military, Police, and other Law Enforcement Agencies, Legislators, Judicial officers, Religious leaders among others. Some other functions of the Human Rights Institute of the Commission include human rights research, facilitation of workshops, seminars and conferences on human rights amongst others.

1.2.2.3 CONFLICT PREVENTION, ETHICS AND GOOD GOVERNANCE (CEGG)

The Conflict Prevention, Ethics and Good Governance department deals with issues relating to conflict management, civil service ethics and good governance. The Department liaises with other relevant organizations to highlight early warning signs and conflict prevention strategies aimed at reduction of conflict in Nigeria and advancement of Human Rights.

1.2.2.4 LEGAL SERVICES AND ENFORCEMENT (LS&E)

The department provides legal services to victims of human rights violations/abuses. The department also represents the Commission on any human rights matter in court as well as makes recommendations to the Governing Council for approval of awards, compensations and damages to victims of human rights violations/abuses.

1.2.2.5 PROTECTION AND INVESTIGATION (P&I)

The Protection and Investigation department is responsible for investigation of all alleged complaints of human rights violations reported to the Commission. In the course of this, investigation officers' conduct fact-finding so as to verify the claims or allegations. This process facilitates and determines further actions that may be taken in order to redress the complaints.

1.2.2.6 MONITORING DEPARTMENT

The department has the responsibility to monitor the trend and state of human rights, and to publish report on state of human rights in Nigeria. More so, it

coordinates monitoring of prisons, police cells and other detention facilities in order to ascertain the conditions of the facilities vis -a -vis human rights standards.

1.2.2.7 FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS (F&A)

The Finance and Accounts Department oversees all financial transactions of the Commission. In carrying out this responsibility the department ensures compliance with all the financial rules and guidelines in place for disbursement of funds and provision of receipts.

1.2.2.8 HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION AND PROMOTION (HRE&P)

The Human Rights Education and Promotion Department deals with the promotion of human rights through sensitization and awareness programmes. In carrying out this responsibility, the department carries out various outreach initiatives to communities, schools, motor parks, market places among others, targeting various populations. The overall aim of these activities is to improve the level of human rights awareness in Nigeria.

1.2.2.9 PLANNING, STATISTICS AND DOCUMENTATION (PS&D)

The Planning, Statistics and Documentation department has the responsibility of coordinating the annual work plan of the Commission which is derived from respective work plans/activities of various departments/units. The department also collates statistical data on complaints received by the Commission, disaggregated. The department also has a task to document activities of various units, departments and field offices of NHRC.

1.2.2.10 CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND EXTERNAL LINKAGES

The Corporate Affairs and External Linkages department is responsible for liaison between the Commission and other government agencies, institutions, non-governmental organizations, donor agencies and diplomatic community.

1.3 UNITS

1.3.1 REFORM CO-ORDINATION & SERVICE IMPROVEMENT DEPARTMENT

The unit is saddled with the responsibility of ensuring discharge of the Commission's mandate in an effective and satisfactory manner to the public.

Members of the public (complainants) are encouraged to complain to the Director Reform Co-Ordination & Service Improvement Department in instances of unsatisfactory handling of complaints. It is also the responsibility of the Reform Co-Ordination & Service Improvement Department Unit to ensure that various departments, units and field offices discharged their duties effectively in order to realize the overall mandate of the Commission.

1.3.2 MEDIA RELATIONS UNIT

The Media Relations Unit was created in 2016 to publicize programmes of the Commission and act as the point of contact for media houses and other media representatives. The unit is responsible for maintaining the image of the Commission, as well as disseminating information to media houses. The core mandate of the unit is networking with the media and other stakeholders in promoting the work of the Commission.

1.3.3 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI)

The Information and Communication Technology Unit provides Information and Communication Technology services to the Commission such as management and maintenance of the Commission's website, internet services, maintenance and repairs of computers, software installation amongst others. The unit also disseminates information about the NHRC on the Commission's website for the public in addition to ensuring the implementation and enforcement of Freedom of information Act within and outside the Commission.

1.3.4 FIELD OFFICES (FO)

In order to improve visibility of the Commission and make her services accessible to the public, the NHRC has established twenty Three (23) offices in various zones

and states of the federation. The Field Offices Unit oversees activities of these Zonal and State Offices. In carrying out this responsibility the unit monitors projects and operations of the field offices to ensure effective realization of the NHRC mandate.

See Appendix I for list of NHRC field offices.

1.3.5 FOCAL AREAS (FA)

The Focal Areas unit coordinates the activities of the NHRC in line with various thematic areas of focus of the Commission so as to actualize the Commission's mandate. Some of these thematic areas of focus include the following:

- i. Vulnerable Communities (including Disabilities, the Elderly, Children, Persons Living with HIV/AIDS, Widowhood and Albinism)
- ii. Impunity and Access to Justice (including Administrative Justice, Enforcement; and Rule of Law)
- iii. Gender (including all aspects of Human Rights of women and girl child, Maternal Mortality; and Violence Against Women)

1.3.6 PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION (PIL)

The Public Interest Litigation Unit was established to address Class action or public interest issues for instance where a class of the community has pecuniary or some interests. In carrying out this responsibility the unit initiates legal actions in a law court for enforcement of the rights of the public interest affected.

1.3.7 AUDIT (A)

The Internal Audit unit checks all the financial activities of the Commission in order to ensure financial discipline and adhere to financial guidelines and regulations.

1.3.8 PROCUREMENT

The Procurement Unit is saddled with the responsibility of overseeing the Commission's procurement processes. In carrying out this responsibility, the unit

ensures that the Commission's procurement complies with the relevant procurement laws.

1.3.9 LAW, POLICY REVIEW AND LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

The unit was created pursuant to section 5k of NHRC Act, 1995 as Amended which vests the Commission with powers to "examine any existing legislation, administrative provisions and proposed bills and bye-laws for the purpose of ascertaining whether such enactments or proposed bills or bye-laws are consistent with human rights norms".

1.3.10 BUDGET

The Unit prepares the annual budget of the Commission and liaises with budget Office of the Federation and Office of the Accountant General of the Federation on budgetary matters.

1.3.11 COUNCIL SECRETARIAT

The Council Secretariat is the administrative link between the Governing Council, the Office of the Executive Secretary and the Management of the Commission.

1.3.12 COMPLAINTS REGISTRY

The Complaints Registry is responsible for managing complainants' files and monitoring of complaints as well as tracking the actions taken on the complaints. The Complaints Registry also has a call centre at the Headquarters Office, Abuja with the following lines; 08077091123, 08077091124 and 08077091126.

See Appendix III for the NHRC Organogram

CHAPTER TWO

CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

2.0 INTRODUCTION

In furtherance of her mandate, the Commission partners with other organizations working in the area of the promotion and protection of human rights. In order to enhance human rights standards in Nigeria, the need for multi-sectoral collaboration need not be over emphasized. In the year under review, the Commission partnered with various Civil Society Organizations, Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), the Diplomatic Community in identifying and implementing programmes in the area of human rights as highlighted below:

❖ 15th March, 2016 - 3rd National Human Rights Commission/Nigerian Military Dialogue on Human Rights:

The Commission in collaboration with the Nigerian Military organized a Dialogue on Human Rights.

The objectives were to mainstream human rights into military operations and provide a platform for exchange of ideas between the Commission and Military on how best to address complaints of human rights violations against military personnel. The dialogue was held in NHRC Auditorium Headquarters, Abuja.

The participants were drawn from relevant stakeholders such as the Federal Ministry of Defense, Federal Ministry of Justice, Office of the National Security Adviser, Defense Staff, Naval Staff, Air Staff, Office of the President, Office of the Vice President, Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Human Rights Agenda Network, Nigerian Bar Association, and the Media amongst others.

❖ 25th March, 2016 - The 2016 Enugu Women Empowerment Conference:

The Commission in collaboration with the National Youth Assembly of Nigeria (NYAN) in Enugu organized the 2016 Enugu Women Empowerment Conference.

The objectives were to enhance women economic welfare and improve their capacity to effectively contribute to national development and poverty alleviation in Enugu State. It also aimed at mainstreaming gender through capacity building to reduce abuse and violence against women.

The conference was held at Enugu House of Assembly Conference Hall. The participants included representatives of different women organizations, Town Union, Trade Associations, Catholic Women Organization, Anglican Mothers Union, Ogbete Food Stuff Association, Obegu Chicken Sellers Association, Ugwuaji Women Union amongst others.

❖ 14th - 15th June, 2016 - Training of Staff on NHRC Rules of Procedure & Complaints Treatment Skills:

The National Human Rights Commission in collaboration with the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) organized two days training on NHRC Rules of Procedure & Complaints Treatment Skills for NHRC State Offices Staff.

The objectives of the training include the following:

- To strengthen the capacity of NHRC state offices staff to provide effective response to complaints of human rights violation/abuse.
- To skill up the capacity of the staff of the National Human Rights Commission on Rules of Procedure and Complaints Treatment

Thirty seven (37) participants were drawn from the National Human Rights Commissions Zonal and State Offices, The resource persons were Mrs. Oti Ovwah, Director Human Rights Institute, Mr. Abdul – Wahab Oyedokun, Assistant Director, Office of the Executive Secretary, Mr. Z .O Senbanjo, Retired NHRC Director of Legal Services and Mr. A . A Yakubu, Director Protection and Investigation. The training was held at NHRC Headquarters Auditorium Abuja.

❖ 11th August, 2016 - Launch and Public Presentation of the ‘End Electoral Impunity’ 2007/2011 Report:

The Commission with support from Ford Foundation, Open Society Initiative for West Africa OSIWA and Network of National Human Rights Institutions in Africa

(NNHRI-WA), launched a public presentation of phase 1, final report of the End Electoral Impunity Project titled: 'Fair Trial and the Right to Effective participation in Government – An Independent Review of Evidence of Violation of the Rights to participate in Government and Fair Trial Through the Election of petition Process in Nigeria.

The objectives of the project include the following:

- To compile and examine evidence of indictments for infraction(s) available from judicial records on Election Petitions.
- To mobilize public consciousness against electoral impunity in Nigeria.
- To expose those who have been found to violate these rights and putting such evidence in the public domain;
- To ensure that this evidence is brought to the attention of the relevant authorities with a demand for action or, if they fail to do so, a credible threat of independent action;
- To provide tools for citizens' increasing monitoring of electoral and judicial accountability as essential foundations for the effective protection of human rights;
- To provide basis for informed public advocacy for electoral and judicial accountability;
- To contribute to a more credible National Human Rights Commission as an institution for both governance and accountability in Nigeria.

Participants were drawn from key stakeholders such as Independent National Electoral Commission, Public Complaint Commission, Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission, the Diplomatic community, Media and various Political Parties among others. The programme was held at NHRC Headquarters Auditorium Abuja.

❖ **31st August, 2016 - Legal Clinic on Unlawful Arrest and Detention:**

The National Human Rights Commission in collaboration with the Concerned Youth Empowerment Association (CYOEN) of Nigeria organized a sensitization

programme titled Legal Clinic on Unlawful Arrest and Detention. The objectives of the programme included the following:

- To address the issue of unlawful arrest and detention as it affects the enjoyment of freedom of movement as a human right.
- To enlighten the Youth, Market Women and the general public in the Durumi Area of FCT on their rights as well as on how to be law abiding citizens.

Participants were members of the public, staff of the National Human Rights Commission and officers of the Nigerian Police Force, Durumi Police Station among others.

The programme was held at Durumi Secondary School, Durumi 11, Abuja.

❖ 5th - 7th October, 2016: International Humanitarian Law(IHL) training for NHRC staff by International Committee of the Red Cross:

The National Human Rights Commission in partnership with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) organized three days training for staff of the Commission on International Humanitarian Law.

The Objective of the training was to familiarize staff of the Commission with Basics of International Humanitarian Law and its application in Armed Conflicts.

The training covered the following areas:

- Overview of the ICRC operations in Nigeria
- The basics of International Humanitarian Law
- Classification of Armed Conflicts
- The Relationship between International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Human Rights Law (IHRL)
- International Displacement Legal Framework and Obligation to protect and assist IDPs
- Responding to the needs of IDPs in non-International Armed Conflicts
- Detention in Armed Conflicts

- Best practices on arrest and detention for Law Enforcement Agencies
- ICRC Detention Visits Operational Modalities
- Video/Understanding Health Care in Danger in Nigeria
- Sexual Violation in Armed Conflicts
- International Legal Protection for Victims of Sexual Violence in Nigeria
- Missing Persons and Armed Conflicts
- Rules Relating to Missing Persons in Armed Conflicts
- The Management of Human Remains in Armed Conflicts and Other Situation of Violation

The training was held at the NHRC Headquarters Auditorium Abuja.

CHAPTER THREE

MEDIA ACTIVITIES/ COURTESY VISITS

3.0 INTRODUCTION

The core function of the Commission relates to promotion, protection and enforcement of human rights in Nigeria. In the year under review, the NHRC carried out a number of media activities, paid courtesy calls, as well as paid advocacy visits to relevant stakeholders in order to enhance public awareness about the Commission and her work.

Some media activities carried out by the Commission in the year under review are reflected in the table below:

3.1 MEDIA ACTIVITIES

S/N	DATE	ACTIVITY/EVENTS	OBJECTIVES
1	6 th January 2016	Desmims Independent TV hosted NHRC Kaduna State Office in a TV Programme on Public Enlightenment on Human Rights.	To create awareness on Human Rights.
2	1 st February 2016	Radio programme by Radio Benue, Makurdi which focused on Rights of the Youth hosted on the Radio platform "Youth Circuit".	To create public awareness on rights of the youth as well as their duties and obligations to society.
3	5 th February 2016	NHRC Osun State Office featured on a live Programme 'Issue of the Moment' on	❖ To raise consciousness on the issue of extra judicial

		Broadcasting Corporation of Oyo State, Ibadan.	<p>killing perpetrated by the military.</p> <p>❖ To discuss the claim by the Amnesty International of gross human rights violation by the military in the fight against insurgency.</p>
4	8 th February 2016	NHRC Jos Office featured on Highland 101.5 FM Radio to sensitize the public on Female Genital Mutilation and its linkage to Human Rights.	To sensitize the public on Female Genital Mutilation as a human rights issue.
5	3 rd March 2016	Osun State Office of the Commission featured in a Television interview on Osun State broadcasting corporation Oke-Baale, Osogbo.	To enlighten the public on how to seek redress through the Commission whenever human rights are violated.
6	8 th March 2016	The Akwa Ibom State Office of the Commission granted Telephone interview on Inspiration FM, Uyo during the 2016 Women's day celebration.	To promote gender parity and raise consciousness on rights of women
7	8 th March 2016	The NHRC Zonal Office Enugu State participated in a Phone in FRCN Radio Programme on the Challenges of Customary Practices on Women's Rights.	To enlighten the public on rights of women.

8	11 th March 2016	The NHRC Ekiti State Office featured on a media chat on Ekiti State Television (EK-TV) Program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To educate and sensitize the public on the need for them to be aware of their human rights. ❖ To enlighten the public on Powers and Functions of the Commission. ❖ To enlighten the public on how to access the free services of the Commission
9	12 th March 2016	The NHRC Gombe State Office featured on Progress FM Radio to sensitize the public on Human Rights issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To educate and sensitize the public on the need for them to be aware of their human rights. ❖ To enlighten the public on Powers and Functions of the Commission. ❖ To enlighten the public on how to access the free services of the Commission
10	20 th March 2016	Radio interview by NHRC Kwara office on Royal FM.	To sensitize and raise awareness on Human Rights issues.
11	10 th April	NHRC Kwara State Office	To sensitize the public and

	2016	featured on Kwara State Television for Human Rights sensitization.	raise awareness on Human Rights issues.
12	16 th April 2016	Radio phone-In programme by NHRC Maiduguri office in Hausa language Titled Yanchika garkuwanka on Peace FM Maiduguri.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To sensitize the public about human rights. ❖ To educate the public on how to assess the free services of the Commission.
13	27 th April 2016	NHRC Nassarawa State Office Featured on NTA Lafia.	To discuss issues in focus as it relates to rape, child abuse and violence against women and the rights of the girl child in Nasarawa State.
14	16 th May 2016	Nigeria Television Authority (NTA), Osogbo- Media chat with Osun State Coordinator, of the Commission.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To educate and sensitize the public on the need for them to be aware of their human rights. ❖ To enlighten the public on Powers and Functions of the Commission. ❖ To enlighten the public on how to access the free services of the Commission.
15	18 th May 2016	NHRC Lagos State Office featured on Eko FM Radio Talk Show which focused on Child	❖ To enlighten the public on the prevailing instances of

		Protection.	<p>child abuse in the society.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To educate the public on various legal and social interventions that are available to protect the child in the home and society at large.
16	19 th May 2016	NHRC Uyo Office granted interview to NTA Uyo which focused on the state of Prisons in Akwa Ibom State and their level of compliance with international Human Rights Standards.	To raise awareness on the state of Prison condition in the state for possible intervention by relevant authorities.
17	25 th May 2016	NHRC Katsina State Office featured in a Phone-in-Programme on Katsina television which focused on Child Protection in Commemoration of 2016 World Children's Day.	To create awareness on Rights of the Child as well as highlight responsibilities of children as contained in the Child Rights Act (2003).
18	1 st July 2016	NHRC Benue State Office featured on Harvest FM Radio programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To educate and sensitize the public on the need for them to be aware of their human rights. ❖ To enlighten the public on Powers and Functions of the Commission.

			❖ To enlighten the public on how to access the free services of the Commission.
19	12 th July 2016	NHRC North Central Zonal Office, Jos featured on Rhythm FM Radio programme which focused on Dangers of Domestic Violence.	To create awareness on human rights issues in relation to domestic violence.
21	5 th & 19 th August 2016	NHRC Katsina State Office featured on Katsina State Radio in a radio phone-in hausa programme tagged “DOMIN IYALINMU”.	To create awareness on rights and responsibilities of women and children in their respective households.
22	31 st August 2016	NHRC Osun State Office featured on a Radio programme - Rave FM 91.7 Osogbo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To educate and sensitize the public on the need for them to be aware of their human rights. ❖ To enlighten the public on Powers and Functions of the Commission. ❖ To enlighten the public on how to access the free services of the Commission.
23	9 th	NHRC North Central Zonal	To raise awareness on

	September 2016	Office, Jos featured on Tincity 104.3 FM Radio programme which focused on <i>Knowing your Rights: Rights of IDPs</i> .	Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons.
24	3 rd October 2016	NHRC South East Zonal Office participated in FRCN Radio programme which focused on Torture, Inhuman/Degrading Treatment and Punishment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To raise awareness about the Convention Against Torture. ❖ To bring about reduction in the use of torture by Law Enforcement Agencies.
25	8 th & 9 th December 2016	NHRC Benue State Office featured on Harvest FM Radio Programme and NTA Makurdi.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To educate and sensitize the public on the need for them to be aware of their human rights. ❖ To enlighten the public on Powers and Functions of the Commission. ❖ To enlighten the public on how to access the free services of the Commission.
26	10 th October	TV Program on NTA by NHRC Jos office; know your Rights:	To create awareness on legal implications of

	2016	Abortion Issues: Child.	abortion in Nigeria.
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3.2 COURTESY VISITS

In the year under review, there were courtesy and advocacy visits between the Commission and other stakeholders in the field of human rights.

The overall goal of such visits was to strengthen the relationship between the Commission and key stakeholders in order to advance human rights promotion, protection and enforcement in Nigeria.

Some of such visits and courtesy calls are listed below:

DATE	ACTIVITY/EVENTS	OBJECTIVES
18 th January 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC Kwara state office by the Association of People Living with Disabilities (PWDs).	To elicit cooperation of the Commission in advancing rights of Persons With Disabilities.
18 th January 2016	Advocacy visit to the Commission by Maud De Boer Buquicchio, UN Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Pornography and Child Prostitution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To discuss the measures taken or expected to be taken to support women and children who have escaped or liberated from Boko Haram ❖ To provide advice and recommendations to the authorities
21 st January 2016	Visit to the Motor Park Union by the NHRC Gombe State Office.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To enlighten the union of human rights concerns in traffic issues such as: dangers of over speeding,

		<p>overloading, driving under the influence of alcohol, drugs etc and the implications of these on right to life and related human rights.</p> <p>❖ To enlighten the motorists about the NHRC and her free services.</p>
21 st January 2016	Courtesy visit to the Deputy Comptroller, Nigeria Prison Services, Osun State by NHRC Osun office.	To strengthen partnership with the Commission in order to improve prison conditions and respect for rights of detainees and inmates.
26 th January 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC headquarters by Ambassador Stephen Nolan of US Department of State.	To open discussion on how to strengthen security and human rights in Nigeria.
31 st January 2016	Courtesy visit by the NHRC Jos office to the Attorney General of Plateau State.	To partner and to explore areas of collaboration on human rights issues.
1 st February 2016	Courtesy call on the Executive Secretary Prof. Bem Angwe by the Coalition of Nigerian Muslim Women.	To create awareness on the forth coming annual world hijab day 6/2/2016 with the theme <i>“hijab my beautiful cover, my instrument of beautiful conduct”</i> .
16 th February 2016	Courtesy call on the Attorney General of Benue State by NHRC Benue State Office.	To partner with the Attorney General and to strengthen already existing synergy and advocate for quick criminal trials for accused persons.

17 th February 2016	Courtesy visit by Director, Nigeria Air Force Directorate of Civil Military Relations Air Commodore Afam Chukwu to the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe.	To explore areas of mutual cooperation between the Commission and the Nigerian Air Force in support of National Security Operations.
22 nd February 2016	Courtesy call to the Commissioner of Police Enugu State by the Zonal Coordinator and staff of NHRC South East Zonal Office, Enugu.	To seek the cooperation of the Commissioner of Police, Enugu State in ensuring that officers in the Command comply with human rights standards in their operations.
22 nd February 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe by the Executive of the University of Abuja Law Clinic	To inform the Commission of the activities of the Law Clinic as well as to identify with the Commission.
24 th February 2016	Courtesy visit to the Commission by Qin Jian, the Ambassador of China to Nigeria	To elicit collaboration with the Commission on human rights issues
2 nd March 2016	Courtesy visit by NHRC Jos Office to the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Plateau State.	To liaise with the NYSC authority on the need to collaborate with them on Human Rights issues.
3 rd March 2016	Courtesy call by Tudun KuKu, Youth Development Association to NHRC Kaduna State Office.	To establish a relationship and elicit collaboration with the Commission.
26 th April 2016	Advocacy visit by the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe to Special Anti- Robbery Squad (SARS) FCT-Abuja	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To ensure compliance with UN Minimum Standards Rules on detention facilities ❖ To ensure compliance with human rights

		standards in their operations.
4 th May 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe by an NGO- the Compassionate Women of Faith	To elicit collaboration with NHRC on gender issues and women empowerment.
4 th May 2016	Advocacy visit by the NHRC Lagos Office to the Commissioner of Police, Lagos State.	To seek the cooperation of the Commissioner of Police, Lagos State in ensuring that officers in the Command comply with human rights standards in their operations.
5 th May 2016	Courtesy call by Isa Wali Empowerment Initiative to NHRC Kaduna Office.	To collaborate with the Commission in creating Human Rights clinics in Kaduna.
10 th May 2016	Courtesy visit by NHRC Jos Office to DPOs of the following Divisional Police Formations in Plateau State: Nasarawa Division Police HQ. Angwan-Rogo Div. Police HQ. Rantya Div. Police HQ. Anglo-Jos Div. Police HQ. Bukuru Div. Police HQ.	To strengthen existing working relationship between the Police Divisions and the Commission.
19 th May 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe by the Abuja Environmental Protection Board	To interface with NHRC and explore work together for the good of the people.
31 st May 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe by students of the	❖ To establish collaboration with NHRC ❖ To know the functions and

	Federal College of Education, Zaria.	mandate of the commission ❖ To be enlightened on various human rights issues.
2 nd June 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe by an NGO- Africa Centre for Corporate Responsibility.	To collaborate with the Commission to develop the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights.
2 nd June 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe by an NGO - Global Rights.	To discuss possible ways of collaborating with the Commission as it relates to the protection and promotion of human rights.
3 rd June 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe by the National Council of Women Societies of Nigeria.	To sign the memorandum of understanding between the Commission and National Council for Women Societies to improve promotion and protection of women's rights.
7 th June 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe by the Save Benue Farmers.	To dialogue and find ways of collaboration with the NHRC on finding solutions to the herds men/farmers crisis in Nigeria.
7 th June 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe by the Kwande Sisters Foundation.	To collaborate with the Commission on issues of children and women in IDP camps.
9 th June	Courtesy call by FIDA to NHRC	❖ To collaborate in

2016		Kaduna State Office.	<p>improving level of Human Rights awareness in Kaduna state</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To explore partnership in handling special cases in court.
10 th June 2016		Courtesy call on Rukuba Military Cantonment, Jos by NHRC Jos Office.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To enlighten the military officers about the NHRC and her mandate. ❖ To draw attention on complaints against torture with the view to improving human rights compliance by the officers.
19 th June 2016		Courtesy visit by NHRC North Central Zonal Office, Jos to the State Security Service (SSS) Headquarters Plateau state, Jos.	To strengthen existing working relationship between the NHRC, NCZ and the SSS.
22 nd June 2016		Courtesy visit to Federal Road Safety Corps' Sector Commander Osun State Command, Osogbo by NHRC Osun State Office.	To improve relationship with FRSC in the state especially, regarding training and sensitization of FRSC staff on human rights compliance.
23 th June 2016		Courtesy visit by NYSC(Legal Aid Community Development Service Group) to the NHRC North Central Zonal Office, Jos.	To render Pro bono legal services to indigent members of the society.
28 th June 2016		Courtesy visit to UBEC by a delegation from NHRC led by the Executive Secretary.	To seek collaboration on the rights of children to access Universal Basic Education.

11 th July 2016	Courtesy visit to the Commissioner of Police by NHRC Calabar State Office.	To seek collaboration of the NPF in the promotion and protection of human rights in the state.
29 th July 2016	Courtesy call on the Executive Governor of Plateau State by the NHRC delegation led by the Executive Secretary.	To inform the Governor about the Commission's decision to conduct an inquiry into the extra judicial killings that had taken place in Wase Local Government area of Plateau state the previous year and to request for the cooperation of the government to enable the panel of inquiry carry out its duty optimally.
2 nd August 2016	Courtesy visit by NHRC North Central Zonal Office, Jos to the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN), Jos, Plateau State.	To solicit partnership of NAN in carrying out human rights enlightenment and sensitization.
18 th August 2016	Courtesy visit to the Minister of FCT, Muhammed Bello led by the Executive Secretary.	To discuss the alleged relocation of shops at the Wuye Market and proffer solution to the issue in order to reach a consensus, prevent displacement and its consequences.
26 th August 2016	Courtesy visit to the Commission by Prof. Citaloka Benyani the UN Special Rapporteur on IDPs.	To collaborate with the Commission in addressing comprehensively the challenges of IDPs in Nigeria.
29 th August 2016	Courtesy visit by Field Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to NHRC North Central Zonal Office, Jos.	To explore areas of collaboration with the NHRC.

30 th August 2016	Courtesy visit to the Attorney General & Commissioner of Justice Cross River State by NHRC State Office Calabar.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To sensitize him on the activities of the NHRC in the state ❖ To seek his assistance to get response from the state government and its agencies on the cases of alleged human rights abuses which the state and its agencies is yet to respond to.
30 th August 2016	Courtesy visit by the NHRC Calabar State Office to the Vice Chancellor, University of Calabar, Cross River State.	To seek the assistance of the institution in the promotion and protection of human rights in the school.
31 st August 2016	Courtesy visit by the NHRC Calabar State Office to Federal Radio Cooperation of Nigeria.	To seek their assistance in airing the Commission's promotional activities through the media.
6 th September 2016	Courtesy visit by a delegation of the Commission led by the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe to the Attorney-General of Enugu State.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To discuss the decongestion of Enugu Prison. ❖ To speed-up pending cases in court.
6 th September 2016	Courtesy visit to the Executive Governor of Enugu State by a delegation led by the Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe including representative of the Chairman of Senate Committee on Human Rights, distinguished Senator Chuka Utazi and House Committee Chairman on	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To notify the governor of the aim of their visit - to ascertain prison(s) conditions in the state. ❖ To solicit partnership in improving human rights standards in the state.

	Human Rights, Honorable Edward Pwajok Gyang.	
8 th September 2016	Courtesy visit by the Nigerian Prison Service Plateau State Command to NHRC North Central Zonal Office, Jos.	To strengthen existing relationship between the two institutions.
8 th September 2016	Courtesy call by the NHRC North Central Zonal Office, Jos on the Director General, Plateau State Peace Building Agency.	To explore possible areas of collaboration with the Agency in furtherance of mandate of NHRC.
4 th October 2016	Courtesy visit by Society for Life Changer and Good Parental Care (SoLife) - an NGO to NHRC Osun State Office.	To solicit support of the Commission in the area of Gender Based Violence (GBV) among Women with Disabilities in Osun State.
6 th October 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe by the Deputy Ombudsman of the Republic of Gambia	To explore ways of collaboration in the field of Human Rights.
10 th October 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe by Universal Peace Federation- an NGO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To know the Commission's functions and mandate. ❖ To request for partnership with the Commission.
11 th October 2016	Courtesy visit by the Kathy Life Builder Foundation- an NGO- to the NHRC North Central Zonal Office, Jos.	To partner with the NHRC in the area of protection of the rights of the vulnerable – widows, the aged, orphans, the sick amongst others in society.
11 th October	Courtesy visit to the NHRC	❖ To brief the Commission

2016	Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe by the President of Human Rights Club, Ahmadu Bello University Zaria	<p>on the activities and achievements of the ABU Human Rights club.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To explore partnership with the Commission on proposed activities of the club. ❖ To collect IEC materials for their library.
10 th November 2016	Courtesy visit by the NHRC North Central Zonal Office, Jos to the Commissioner of Police, Plateau State Command.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To strengthen existing relationship between NHRC, NCZ and the Plateau State Police Command. ❖ To ascertain how the Police Command is handling two murder cases before it, on which complaints have been brought to the Commission.
1 st December 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe by a delegation from Citizen Advocacy for Social and Economic Rights - an NGO-led by Mr. Frank Tietie.	To seek collaboration on the provision of adequate security during the upcoming Bayelsa re-run Gubernatorial election scheduled to take place in Amasoma- Southern Ijaw.
5 th December 2016	Courtesy visit to the NHRC Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe by Mission Political Counselor (USA Embassy)	To explore ways of partnership with the Commission on discharging her mandate.

CHAPTER FOUR

PROMOTIONAL/OUTREACH /CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

4.0 INTRODUCTION

In order to increase visibility and accessibility of the Commission in the discharge of her mandate, the Commission carried out various promotional and outreach activities in the year under review. Some of these activities are reported on this chapter. They include the following:

❖ **January 12th, 2016 – NHRC/ House of Representatives Briefing on the Nigeria Army / Islamic Movement (Shittes) Clash in Zaria, Kaduna State.**

On the 12th of January, 2016, the Executive Secretary of the Commission, Prof. Bem Angwe, attended a briefing meeting organized by members of the House of Representative on the Army/ Shittes clash which has been an issue of national concern.

The briefing was prompted by the clash between the Nigeria Army and the Islamic Movement of Nigeria in Kaduna state which resulted in various degrees of human rights violations. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss with National Human Rights Commission and other stakeholders on the way forward meant to prevent a reoccurrence as well as to ensure that culpable persons are brought to justice. Participants at the meeting were Ministry of Justice, Media and National Human Rights Commission, among others. The meeting took place at the National Assembly Complex.

❖ **January 19th, 2016 – NHRC begins Investigation into the Nigeria Army / Shittes Clash in Kaduna State.**

On the 19th January, 2016 NHRC commenced investigation into the clash between the Nigeria Army / Islamic Movement of Nigeria (Shittes) in Zaria, Kaduna State to conduct fact finding on the cause(s) of the clash, determine human rights issues

involved and make appropriate recommendations to the government with a view to holding perpetrators of human rights violations in the clash accountable.

Membership of the Special Investigation Panel were as follows:

- Anthony Ojukwu , Esq - Chairman
- Abdulrahman A. Yakubu, - Member
- Rabi Auwalu, Esq - Member
- Halilu Adamu, Esq - Member
- Babangida Labaran - Member
- Kabiru Elayo, Esq - Member

Terms of reference of the Special Panel were as follows:

- To identify any human rights violations that may have occurred during the clash
- To find out the immediate and remote causes of the violations
- To find out those responsible or culpable for the violations
- To recommend appropriate remedies for victims of the violations
- To ascertain the number of deaths that occurred and properties destroyed
- To make recommendations for prevention of future violations
- To take such other steps as may be necessary or expedient in achieving the Panel's Terms of Reference

The Special Investigation Panel obtained memos from the following stakeholders during sitting: The Nigerian Army, Members of Islamic Movement (IMN) Nigeria, Council of Ulmars -Kaduna State Branch, Nigeria Police Force, Department of State Security, Kaduna State amongst others.

The Panel also visited some stakeholders to obtain information from them on the incident. They include Military Depot Commandant, Zaria, Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital Shika, Zaria, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps amongst others.

At the end of the investigation, the Panel came up with some key findings and general recommendations listed below:

The immediate cause of the Incident of 12th December, 2015 was the blockade of the public highway by members of the Islamic Movement of Nigeria (IMN).

- There were violation of the following rights:
 - (a)The right to life of persons who died during the incident
 - (b)The right to freedom of movement

The Panel made the following specific recommendations, which include:

- The National Orientation Agency (NOA) in collaboration with the Directorate of Civil Military Relations of the Nigerian Army and other security agencies should organize constant dialogues between security agencies and the religious groups within their areas of operation.
- Public enlightenment, sensitization, advocacy and information dissemination programmes, as well as education of the populace on their civic responsibilities should be embarked upon by Federal Ministry of information, NAO, NHRC, and other relevant organization including CSO and FBOs amongst others.
- The persons who lost their lives unjustifiably during the incident, including members of the armed forces, are entitled to compensation from the Federal Government.

❖ February 8th, 2016 – Inauguration of Committee on Strengthening of State Institutions and Other Mechanisms for Publication, Circulation and Sensitization on Laws in Nigeria.

NHRC recognizes the importance of laws as effective instruments for the advancement of human rights. Consequently, the Commission inaugurated the above Committee in NHRC auditorium.

The Committee had the following Terms of Reference:

- a) To identify institutional gaps in the regular publication and effective circulation and sensitization of citizens on federal and state laws.
- b) To identify and engage existing institutions exercising statutory mandates in the publication of laws, copy rights, library services, media relations and orientation on effective means to ensure realization of the Committee's objectives.
- c) To recommend measures to strengthen prompt gazette, publication and circulation of all laws enacted in Nigeria.

The Committee members include the following:

- Professor Yemi Akinseye George (SAN) - Chairman
- Professor Ernest Ojukwu (SAN) - Member
- Professor Jumai Audi - Member
- Wahab Oyedokun - Secretary

❖ February 11th, 2016 – NHRC 2016 Budget Defence with Senate Committee Members on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters.

The Executive Secretary of the Commission, Prof. Bem Angwe was at the National Assembly Complex to defend the 2016 Budgetary Allocation of the Commission. The invitation was at the instance of the Senate Committee Members on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters.

❖ February 16th, 2016 - Protest by Internally Displaced Persons from Sunshine Estate, FCT.

The Executive Secretary of the Commission, Prof. Bem Angwe, on the 16th of February, 2016 addressed Protesters from Sunshine Estate, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Camp, FCT. The protesters, who were about 100, were at the Commission to allege the arrest of their leaders, Chlkure Lawan and 3 others in

the camp by Officers of Nigeria Army. The arrest was prompted by a leadership crisis in the camp.

The Executive Secretary while addressing them applauded them for advancing a civil approach in handling this matter. He also advised them to be law abiding and to desist from taking laws into their hands. He promised to investigate the petition and get to the relevant authorities.

❖ **February 18th, 2016 - NHRC Meeting with Inter - Agency Committee on IDPs in Federal Capital Territory (FCT).**

The meeting between the Executive Secretary and the Inter-Agency Committee on IDPs took place at the NHRC Council Chambers on the 18th of February, 2016. The meeting focused on the plight of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the various camps existing in FCT, as well as to tackle the challenges identified as they affect them. The Committee on IDPs also submitted its report to the Commission.

Participants at the meeting included, Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS), Directorate of State Security Services (DSS), National Emergency Agency (NEMA), Nigeria Police, Nigeria Civil Defense and Security and Civil Defense Corps (NCDSC), Civil Society Organizations amongst others.

❖ **February 22nd, 2016 – NHRC Inauguration of A 5 – Man Committee on Oil Spillage and Environmental Pollution in the Niger Delta.**

In line with the Mandate of the Commission to monitor, promote and protect the rights of Nigerians and following the increasing trend of complaints received from affected communities on Oil Spills and Environmental pollution in Edo, Delta, Cross River, Rivers, and Bayelsa states respectively. The Commission set – up a Panel of inquiry to investigate all complaints on Oil Spill and Environmental Pollution.

The Committee had the following Terms of Reference:

- To consider all Complaints received by the Commission on oil spillage and similar activities causing pollution of the environment.

- To invite memoranda from members of the public on any action, inaction, omission, negligence leading to such oil spillage, and the effective cleanup of such pollution or spillage, nonpayment or wrongful payment of compensation.
- To find out persons or companies responsible for any acts of alleged environmental pollution or degradation as complained.
- To make recommendations as a measure to prevent further acts of oil spillage, non-effective cleanup of oil spillage, environmental pollution or otherwise as stated in these terms of reference.
- To make recommendations as to damages for victims of any violations resulting from the findings of the environmental panel and;
- Any other matters that may be relevant to the successful conclusion of the assignment.

Members of the Panel were:

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| • Oti Ovrawah | D (HRI) | -Chairperson |
| • Tony Ojukwu | D (Monitoring) | -Member |
| • A. A Yakubu | D (P&I) | -Member |
| • Nduka Ezenwugo | AD (P&I) | -Member |
| • Saka Azimazi | AD(FA) | -Secretary |
| • Yemisi Akhile | CLO (P&I) | -Asst. Secretary |

❖ February 25th, 2016 – NHRC Inaugurates Special Investigation Panel on Hate Speeches and Electoral Violation.

The participation of Human Rights Commission in election exercise is derived from its mandate as contained in the Enabling Act of the Commission. The focus of the Commission in election monitoring exercise is on the activities and conducts of law enforcement officers on elections duties in particular and the conduct of the elections in general.

During 2015 general elections, the Commission observed the rise in hate speeches as worrisome and capable of truncating democracy and good governance in the

country. Hate speeches dominated the campaign preceding the elections. Politicians engaged in wild, untrue, and malicious allegations against opponents, capable of causing tension during and after elections.

In view of the above, National Human Rights Commission inaugurated a special Investigation Panel on Hate Speech and Electoral Violence. The panel was constituted to verify information on violations of human rights and other incidences related thereto with a view to hold culpable persons accountable.

Members of the Panel were:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| • Oti Ovrawah, D (HRI) | - | Chairperson |
| • Tony Ojukwu, D (Monitoring) | - | Project Coordinator/Member |
| • A.A Yakubu D (P&I) | - | Member |
| • Saka Azimazi AD(FA) | - | Secretary |

The following were the Terms of Reference:

- To investigate all Complaints/petitions received by the Commission on election related violence during the 2015 general elections.
- Examine complaints against persons or organizations responsible for such election related violence.
- To make recommendations for holding accountable all persons or organizations found culpable for such election related violence.
- Undertake any other or further task related to or necessarily incidental to the foregoing.

❖ March 3rd, 2016 – Ekiti State House of Assembly Law Makers Petition to NHRC.

Law Makers from Ekiti House Assembly submitted to the Commission a petition against the State Security Services (SSS) over alleged invasion of the State House of Assembly and unlawful arrest of four of its members by the security agents. The aim of the petition was to seek redress for its aggrieved members.

Ekiti State House of Assembly Members led by Honorable Adewumi Olusegun (Deputy Speaker) and Honorable Dr. Samuel Omotosho (Chairman House Committee on Health) visited the Commission to submit a petition against the Directorate of State Security Services (DSS) over the alleged illegal invasion of the State House of Assembly and unlawful arrest of four members on the 5th of March, 2016 in Ekiti State.

The names of the four arrested members were as follows:

- Honourable Afolabi Akanni Representing Efon
- Honourable Sina Animasaun Representing Ekiti West 11
- Honourable Musa Arogudabe Representing Ado 11
- Honourable Badejo Anifowose Representing Mobi 1

The Executive Secretary while responding to the aggrieved members advised them to be calm and law abiding, he assured them that the Commission will investigate the petition before it and make public its findings.

The meeting took place in the Governing Council Chambers at the Headquarters Office in Abuja.

❖ March 15th, 2016 – 3rd National Human Rights Commission/Nigeria Military Dialogue on Human Rights.

The intervention of the Nigeria Military since 2015 in curbing insurgency and maintaining peace in the North-East and other parts of the country has been commendable compared with efforts of the previous years. Conversely, due to public outcry by civilians, the indicting Report by Amnesty International and complaints/ allegations of human rights violations received by the National Human Rights Commission against Nigeria Military.

The Commission having established and maintained partnership with the Nigeria Military organizes periodic interface with the Military on human rights

The 3rd NHRC/Nigeria Military Dialogue on Human Rights was held on the 15th of March, 2016 at the NHRC auditorium with the following objectives:

- To update on the review of complaints and allegations of human rights violations received by NHRC against the Nigeria Military including the report of Amnesty International.
- To discuss on modalities for planning a High Level Round –Table on Administration of the Military Justice System.
- To present Report on meeting with the Prosecutor, International Criminal Justice System.
- To update on the establishment of Human Rights Desk by the Nigeria Army.

Participants at the meeting included Nigeria Police, National Civil Defense Corps (NCDSC), and National Orientation Agency (NOA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Human rights Agenda Network, CSOs, amongst others.

❖ 17th - 18th March, 2016- Inaugural Hearing on Oil Spillage and Environmental Pollution in Niger Delta.

As a follow- up to the inauguration, the Panel commenced its inaugural sitting and presented the Terms of Reference of the Panel to both the respondents and alleged violators from Edo, Cross River , Delta, Rivers and Bayelsa states.

There were thirty seven (37) on going complaints before the Panel out of which twenty seven were being contested in court, with the panel left with ten (10) complaints before it. The sitting took place at Federal High Court Uyo, Akwa-Ibom State.

The Terms of Reference of the Panel were as follows:

- To consider all complaints on oil spillage and similar activities of oil pollution of the environment.
- To invite memoranda from members of the public on any action, inaction, omission, negligence leading to such oil spillage, non-effective cleanup of such pollution or spillage, nonpayment or wrongful payment of compensation.

- To find out persons responsible for any acts of alleged environmental or degradation as complained.
- To make recommendations as to measures to prevent further acts of oil spillage, non-effective clean- up of oil spillage, environmental pollution or otherwise as stated in these terms of reference.
- To make recommendations as to damages for victims of any violations resulting from the findings of the investigation panel.
- Any other matters that may be relevant to the successful conclusion of the assignment.

❖ **April 5th, 2016 – Christian Association of Nigeria, Benue Chapter Visit to the Commission.**

Due to the unending clashes between farmers and herdsmen in Benue state resulting in insecurity, loss of lives and property; a delegation of Christian Association of Nigeria Benue State Chapter, led by Rev. Akpen Leva visited the Commission and had a meeting with the Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe. The discussion was to seek the intervention of the Commission in intervening to protect them from the further attacks as well as to submit a petition on the incessant killings of farmers in Benue State by alleged herdsmen. The Executive Secretary in his remarks encouraged them to remain peaceful and assured them that the Commission would investigate the matter and contact the relevant authorities.

❖ **April 7th, 2016 – NHRC Meeting with Members of an NGO - Children Oriented Project for Internally Displaced Children.**

The meeting between the Executive Secretary and a delegation of Children Oriented Project (NGO) for Internally Displaced Children took place in the Council Chambers in Abuja. The meeting was on how to partner with the Commission in seeking ways to address some human rights challenges affecting children in the Internally Displaced Persons camps. The outcome of the meeting included the promise made by the organization to build a school for internally displaced children in the camp.

❖ April 26th, 2016 – Visit to Special Anti –Robbery Squad (SARS) Abuja.

In line with the Commission's mandate to visit all places of detention in Nigeria and ensure that its operations are in compliance with United Nations Minimum Standards Rules for the Treatment of Persons in Detention.

A Team of NHRC Monitors led by Mr. Tony Ojukwu (Director Monitoring Department) with Mr. A. A Yakubu (Director Protection/Investigation) and staff of both departments visited Office of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad in Abuja to conduct an Audit on the detention facility. The visit became necessary due to several complaints received by the Commission against the Office of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) on allegations of human rights violations and sometimes extra-judicial killings

The NHRC team was received by ACP Okon Okon - Assistant Commissioner of Police - in Charge of Criminal Investigation Departments.

The following were some of the observations of the NHRC Monitoring team:

THE CELLS:

The lock up at time of the visit was 180 inmates. There were six cells, three on both sides of the facility. Five cells were for the male suspects while one cell was for female detainees. However, at the time of the visit there were no female detainees or minors. It was discovered that besides the six cells, they had two smaller cells reserved for detained personnel who were involved in crime and are undergoing investigations such as Police Officers, military and paramilitary officers amongst others. At the time of visit, the cells were well ventilated and in good condition. There were however inadequate beddings and blankets. Out of the six cells only four were occupied. Each cell had over twenty detainees with some lying on the bare floor.

INTERACTION WITH SARS OFFICE HEADQUARTERS, ABUJA

During the interaction, Mr. Tony Ojukwu Director of Monitoring Department stated that the Commission was in the detention centre to address two issues.

First was to discuss the conditions and attitudes of SARS Officers in the treatment of detainees and to advocate for improvement. Secondly, to share International Minimum Standards for the Treatment of Detainees as recommended. Mr. Ojukwu further stated that the Commission was not there to condemn but rather to interact with them on way forward. He advised them that Pre- trial Detention should be the last resort. Similarly, he reminded them that the Inspector General of Police emphasizes on thorough investigation of suspects before detention. He emphasized that the Commission will support a system where laid down principles and procedures are complied with and that officers should comply human rights standards in handling suspects and detainees.

Furthermore, the Director also commented on the need to allow suspects have access to their families and lawyers. He reminded them of the constitutional presumption of innocence of accused persons until proven guilty by a competent court.

In addition he observed that places of detention should be gazetted and that there should be classification of inmates in line with international best practices. He also mentioned that the Nigerian Constitution specifies the time limit for which a suspect should be detained and charged to court. He encouraged them to always adhere to these standards.

ACP Okon Okon, in his response stated that the Nigerian Red Cross Society has been of assistance providing beddings, blankets, drugs, uniforms amongst others. He further stated that they had three categories of suspects namely, Homicide, Car theft, and Armed Robbery. He stressed that SARS tries to adhere to the rules.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Some of the recommendations were as follows:

- Suspects should not be deprived of access to justice. They should be assisted with legal representation for fair hearing. NBA, Legal Aid Council

and other stakeholders should work in synergy to see that there is speedy access to justice regularly.

- Periodic visits should be carried out by the judges in collaboration with NBA, Legal Aid Council and other relevant stakeholders. Also, more courts should be established and judges deployed in order to speed up the cases to decongest the cells.
- Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanism should be encouraged in order to reduce the work load of Judges.
- Welfare of Officers: The Offices were in a dilapidated state, therefore in need of renovation. It was also observed that the office equipment in use were obsolete and some non-functional. There is therefore need for provision of modern office equipment and repair of those that were non-functional for better service delivery.

❖ **April 27th, 2016 – Visit of Danish Ambassador to National Human Rights Commission.**

The Danish Ambassador, Mr. Gutterman held a meeting with the Executive Secretary of the Commission Prof. Bem Angwe. The purpose of the meeting was to seek possible ways of collaboration with the Commission in the promotion, protection and enforcement of human rights in Nigeria. This became necessary due to the various human rights challenges facing the country such as insurgency, farmers/ herdsman clashes, Militancy, kidnapping, communal clashes amongst others.

❖ **May 17th, 2016 – NHRC In – House Training on Human Rights Programmes for staff.**

Capacity building is a core component of the Commission's activities by which staff are constantly engaged in training and re- training for job enhancement and efficiency.

In 2016, the Human Rights Institute Department held five editions of Step – Down Trainings on human rights for staff. The trainings focused on sharing knowledge/ skills acquired during international and local human rights courses, conferences,

and workshops at which some staff participated, representing the Commission. The trainings were held in the following months: May, June, July, August and September.

The Step - Down Training initiative of the Commission has the following objectives:

- To strengthen the capacity of staff on human rights issues
- To improve Public-Speaking skills of staff
- To expose staff to the use of Power – Point in making presentations
- To encourage sharing of knowledge by staff who attended human rights courses/ training locally or internationally with staff who have not attended.

A total of 300 staff was trained on different human right themes in 2016 accordingly.

The 1st edition of the step-down featured the following topics:

- 8th Conference of State – Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability (New- York), USA 2015 by Hamza Jamilah (Chief Legal Officer) and Ugonna Valarie (Principal Legal Officers)
- 21ST Biennial Meeting of the Society for Menstrual Circle Research (Right to Reproductive Health), Boston, USA 2015 by IHEME Richmond (Asst. Director)
- Capacity Building Programme on Early Marriage ; Sexual Violence and Conflict (Rawanda) 2015 by Kabiru Alhassan (Senior Legal Officer)
- Right to Development in Africa (South Africa) 2015 by Abubakar Aisha (Chief Legal Officer) and Dala Yahcit (Assistant Chief Legal Officer)

❖ **21st June, 2016 - In – House Training on Human Rights Programme for staff.**

The 2nd Edition of the in – house training on human rights programme for staff was as follows:

- Advance Human Rights Course: Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria(South- Africa) by Aghware Cordelia (CLO) and Ihuoma Chimdindu (CLO).
- Rights of Women in Prison- UN Standards (USA) 2015 by Nkechi Edoga (CAO) and Gbakaan Juliet (SAO).
- NANHRI/RWI Blended Learning: Foundation Course for African NHRLS 2015 Face to Face Training Workshop(Kenya) by Jando Mimi (SLO) and Tilley – Gyado Ayanbanke (RO) .
- Annual General Meeting: International Coordination Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion of Human Rights (Geneva) 2015 by Isabel Tule (SLO).

❖ **26th July, 2016 – In – House Training on Human Rights Programme for staff.**

The 3rd edition of the In – House - Step - Down Training for staff was on the following topics:

- Training Course in Public Procurement (USA) 2015 by Judith Asomugha (SAO).
- Training Course for National Human Rights Institutions on International Human Rights Mechanisms (Geneva) 2015 by Rosemary Igboyi (ACLO).
- Righting Wrongs: Ombusman, Justice and Public Service (United Kingdom) 2015 by Folusola Olakunle (IO).

❖ **15th September, 2016 - 4th Edition of In –House Training on Human Rights Programmes for staff.**

The 4th edition of the In – House Training featured the following:

- 35th Annual International Human Rights Training Programme (IHRTTP)Canada 2015 by Morphy Okwa (ADM)
- Research and Training Programme: National University of Public Service (Hungary) 2015 by Jennifer Agah (CLO) and Mercy Okezie (SLO).

❖ **May 19th, 2016 - Meeting with the Representative of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.**

The Executive Secretary of the Commission, Prof. Bem Angwe, held a meeting with Mr. Andrea Ori, Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. The meeting which took place at the Council Chambers was aimed at exploring ways of strengthening partnership with the Commission in order to deepen protection initiatives in the area of population issues.

❖ **23rd – 27th May, 2016 – Special Investigation Panel on Oil Spillage and Environmental Pollution.**

The 2nd Sitting of the Panel on Oil Spillage and Environmental Pollution in the Niger Delta took place from 23rd to 27th May, 2016. The Panel was issued with court orders; arising from some of the alleged violators who were contesting the legality of the Commissions Panels in handling such matters.

The Sitting was held at the Federal High Court Uyo, Akwa – Ibom State.

❖ **23rd – 31st May, 2016 – Training and Research on Human Rights Awareness for Children/Youth in FCT.**

The Commission carried out a training and research project on Human Rights Awareness for Children/Youth in FCT at the Government Secondary School Garki, Federal Capital Territory (FCT). This project was part of Commission's activities in the promotion and protection of human rights in Nigeria.

A total of two hundred and fifty (250) secondary school students and fifty (50) teachers were trained on the project.

The aim of the project was to ascertain the level of human rights awareness among Secondary School Students, as well as to sensitize both the students and teachers on human rights principles and norms.

❖ **May 31st, 2016 – Federal College of Education Zaria, Kaduna State Visit to the Commission.**

The Commission played host to students of Federal College of Education Zaria, Kaduna State. They were received in the NHRC, auditorium. The objective of the visit was to familiarize the students with the mandate, operations and activities of the NHRC. Staff were drawn from departments and units of the Commission to educate the visiting students on the various programmes for better understanding of the activities of the Commission. One hundred and fifty students (150) received human rights education and were given Instructional Educational and Communication materials (IEC)

❖ **June 1st, 2016 – Meeting with Senior Special Adviser to the President (SSA) on Disability Matters.**

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is committed towards ensuring an all-inclusive society where persons enjoy human rights irrespective of class, status, age, colour, disability or any other circumstance. In view of this, the Commission held a meeting with Mr. Mohammed Monguno, Senior Special Adviser (SSA) to the President on Disability Matters at the Council Chambers. The SSA commended the Commission for upholding the rights of persons with disabilities. The Executive Secretary, Prof. Bem Angwe while responding to them reiterated the fact that persons with disability have rights and pledged that the Commission will continue to protect the rights of all persons regardless of any physical challenges.

❖ **20th – 25th June, 2016 - Follow- Up on Special Investigation Panel on Oil Spillage and Environmental Pollution.**

The 3rd Sitting was carried out from 20th to 25th June, 2016. The Sitting witnessed more suits/ Court Orders procured by the Alleged Violators who were challenging the powers of the Panel constituted by the National Human Rights Commission to hear complaints on environmental issues.

Since Hearing Notices on the Panel Sitting had already been sent out, the panel continued sitting on the complaints against which there were no Court Actions

despite the pending matters in Court against the Special Investigation Panel on the legality of the National Human Rights Commission Panel to investigate such matters.

❖ 25th - 29th July, 2016 - Panel of Inquiry on Oil Spillage and Environmental Pollution in Niger Delta.

The 4th Sitting of the Special Panel held from 25th – 29th July, 2016. During the sitting the number of court suits challenging the powers of the Commission to constitute a panel on the subject had increased.

Having sent out Hearing Notices to both complainants and alleged violators, the Panel continued sitting and considered other matters that were not pending in court. The fact of pending cases in court obviously stalled development and progress in the task of the panel.

Therefore the Commission suspended further inquiry pending the outcome of the matters in court. The Court cases would provide opportunity for the Commission to demonstrate her powers to deal with all cases pertaining to human rights and to seek redress on behalf of victims of violations.

❖ 19th August, 2016 – Inauguration of Special Panel of Investigation on Alleged Killing of Prison Inmates at Abakiliki Prison.

The Commission constituted a Special Panel to investigate the alleged killing of Inmates at the Abakiliki Prison in Ebonyi State by security agents

The panel had the following terms of reference:

- To ascertain the number of persons killed or injured during the incident
- To find out the immediate and remote causes of the incident
- To enquire into the human rights issues involved in the cases of persons with mental illness allegedly locked up at the prison
- To find out the nature of human rights violations that occurred during the incident and the persons responsible for the violations
- To enquire into the condition of Women with Children in the prison

- To make appropriate recommendations in the circumstances to remedy the violations and prevent future occurrence
- To carry out any other actions necessary for the achievement of the above terms of reference.

The memberships of the panel were as follows:

- Tony Ojukwu D (Monitoring) - Chairman
- Lambert Oparah DD (P&I) - Member
- Emmanuel Akaa AD (I) - Member
- Uche Nwokocha DD (I) - Secretary

The investigation is still on-going.

❖ **26th August, 2016 – Meeting with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees’ Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs.**

The Executive Secretary of the Commission presided at a meeting with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Nigeria. The meeting took place at NHRC auditorium and was intended to interface with the Commission and Civil Society Organizations in a constructive engagement as an avenue to obtain direct and first- hand information on the conditions of IDPs. The UN Special Rapporteur sort to be updated on the challenges confronting the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the country and how it can assist the Commission to provide basic human rights protection for displaced persons

Participants include, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Media, Nigeria Police, Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution -CLEEN, Civil Society Organizations amongst others.

❖ **September 5th, 2016 Flag - Off of 2016 Prison Audit - South East Nigeria**

The Commission, led by the Executive Secretary Prof. Bem Angwe, flagged off the Prison Audit in the South- Eastern states of Anambra, Enugu, Ebonyi, and Imo respectively. The prison audit was conducted in the following cities namely Awka

in Anambra State, Nsukka in Enugu state, Abakiliki in Ebony State and Owerri in Imo State. The activity was in compliance with the Commission's mandate to:

- Ensure that prisons operate in compliance with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners as well as other domestic and regional instruments.
- Ensure standardization of prison records.
- Proffer solutions to the current spate of jailbreaks in prisons across the country.
- Sensitize the prison officials on proper classification and documentation of prisoners' information as provided in the Standard Minimum Rules for the treatment of prisoners.
- Facilitate ease of policy and legal reforms in Nigeria Prisons.
- Identify barriers of Access to Justice in order to promote better laws and policy- making processes.
- Sensitize the detainees of their human rights.

❖ **6th September, 2016 – NHRC Meeting with Global Clusters Mission Members from Geneva.**

The meeting with Global Clusters Mission and Prof. Bem Angwe, the Executive Secretary of the Commission took place at the Council Chambers of the Commission. The meeting sought to consolidate the cordial working relationship between the Commission and Global Clusters Mission in Nigeria. The objective of the visit was to have an interface with staff of the Commission as part of their consultation with national and international bodies in Nigeria on humanitarian issues, such as insurgency, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), kidnapping, Herdsmen attacks amongst others.

❖ **19th September, 2016 – On the Spot Monitoring of Wuye Model Market, FCT, Abuja.**

The Monitoring department of the Commission embarked on a fact finding visit to Wuye Model Market, FCT, Abuja. The visit sought to investigate

allegations by shop owners over the violation to their rights to own shops by the market authority, after payments. Mr. Tony Ojukwu, (Director Monitoring) who led the visit, while addressing both parties assured them that the Commission will further investigate the matter and come up with its findings meant to ensure redress.

❖ **13th October, 2016 - 5th Edition of the In – House Step – Down Training for staff.**

The 5th edition of the in – house training presentation for staff was on the following:

- Challenging Gender Inequality, Rights Roles and Responsibilities (South-Africa) by Mr. Lambert Oparah (DDP&I)
- The Mandate and Procedure of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (New York) by Ms. Aver Gavar (DL)

❖ **26th October, 2016 – Educational Visit by Students of the Department of Conflict Management and Peace Studies, Plateau State Polytechnic, Barkin Ladi.**

The Commission, as a way of advancing human rights education in schools, hosted a delegation of students of the Department of Conflict Management and Peace Studies Jos, Plateau State Polytechnic. The interactive meeting which took place in the Commission’s auditorium exposed the students to human rights education strategies, activities of the Commission as well as international human rights best practices and techniques for peace, conflict management and resolution.

❖ **29TH – 30th November, 2016 – Human Rights Training Programme for Officers and Students of Army Ordinance School Ojo, Lagos.**

A Human Rights Training for Officers and Students of Army Ordinance School Ojo, Lagos State was organized by the Commission. The training was prompted by public outcry on human rights abuses by the Military in the North –Eastern States of the country and the indicting report of Amnesty International against the

military. The theme of the training was “Building Capacity on Human Rights for Improved Operational Efficiency in the Nigeria Army”.

A total of hundred and fifty (150) officers and students benefited from the human rights training.

The objectives of the training were the following:

- To build the capacity of participating Military Personnel and Students on Human Rights
- To underscore the place of human rights and humanitarian law in military and Joint Task Force Operations
- To strengthen the cordial relationship between the NHRC and the Army Ordinance School Ojo, Lagos

❖ **December 10th, 2016 – International Human Rights Day Commemoration**

Yearly, the world observes 10th December as the International Human Rights Day. The 2016 human rights day was marked with a Road Walk, which involved a cross section of human rights stakeholders such as Embassy of Switzerland, Canadian High Commission, Nigeria Police, Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps, and Civil Society Organizations amongst others.

The Theme of the International Human Rights Day was “Stand Up For Someone’s Right Today”.

PHOTO SPEAK



Stakeholders meeting on the assessment of the state of IDPs in Nigeria held at the NHRC Auditorium on 18th February, 2016.



Courtesy visit by the Executive of the University of Abuja Law Clinic on 22nd of February, 2016 .

PHOTO SPEAK



Sitting of Special Investigation Panel on Oil Spill and Environmental Pollution at Federal High Court Uyo, Akwa Ibom State held on 17th and 18th March, 2016.



The Director, Human Rights Institute, Mrs. Oti A. Ovwah and HRI Team at the training and research on human rights awareness for children/youth in FCT, held at Government Secondary School Garki On 23rd - 31st May 2016

PHOTO SPEAK



Prof. Bem Angwe, Mr. Wahab Oyedokun and Mrs. Ngozi O. Okore at the National Summit on Gender mainstreaming on imperative of ethics and privileges in gender mainstreaming in public service in Nigeria held on May 23rd – 26th, 2016 at Tinapa Lake side hotel, Calabar, Cross River State.



Mr. Z.O. Senbanjo and some staff of NHRC at the NHRC/ OSIWA supported training of state office staff on NHRC Rules of Procedure and Complaints Treatment Skills held on 14th – 15th June, 2016 at NHRC Auditorium, Abuja.

PHOTO SPEAK



Inauguration of panel of inquiry to investigate allegations of Genocide and Destruction of Property of Tarok community in Wase LGA of Plateau state held at the NHRC Auditorium on 20th July, 2016.



Launch and presentation of the End Electoral Impunity 2007/2011 report held on 11th August, 2016 at the NHRC Auditorium.

PHOTO SPEAK



Executive Secretary, NHRC and the FCT Commissioner of Police visit Wuye Ultra Model Market on 17th August, 2016.



Executive Secretary NHRC and management team paid a courtesy visit to FCT Minister, Alhaji Muhammad Musa Bello on 18th August, 2016.

PHOTO SPEAK



Network of National Human Rights Institutions in West Africa (NNHRI-WA) held its Annual General Meeting to present its annual report on the state of human rights in their various institutions on 29th August, 2016 at the NHRC.



NHRC marks 2016 United Nations International Day of the disappeared/missing persons at the NHRC Auditorium on 30th August, 2016.

PHOTO SPEAK



Executive Secretary of National Human Rights Commission, Prof. Bem Angwe on a visit to Enugu Prison on 7th September, 2016.



The Nigerian Navy led by Commodore Abdul Adamu visited NHRC to respond to the summons by the Commission on alleged violations on 9th September, 2016.

PHOTO SPEAK



ES NHRC receives report from the Chairman of the Special Investigation Panel (SIP) Mr. Tony Ojukwu on the clash between the Nigerian Army and members of the Islamic Movement in Nigeria on 12th – 14th September, 2016.



Public presentation of a road map to foster Civil- Military relations in Nigeria held at the NHRC Auditorium on 11th October, 2016.

PHOTO SPEAK



Prof. Bem Angwe and NHRC Human Rights Institute Training Team during a human rights training session for military personnel and students at Army Ordinance School, Ojo Lagos held on 29th – 30th November, 2016.



NHRC Awareness Walk to mark 2016 International Human Rights Day.

PHOTO SPEAK



The Executive Secretary of NHRC Prof. Bem Angwe with some Human Rights stakeholders on the commemoration of 2016 International Human Rights Day.

CHAPTER FIVE

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

5.0 INTRODUCTION

Nigeria is a member of various regional and international bodies such as the United Nations and African Union amongst others; and participates in the activities of these bodies.

The National Human Rights Commission Amendment Act 2010, in Section 5(h), enables the Commission to participate in such manner as it considers appropriate in all international activities relating to the promotion and protection of human rights. This provision enables the Commission's participation in international trainings, workshops and conferences which aim at boosting the capacity of employees in the promotion and protection of human rights; as well as integrating the recent knowledge and best practices from such events in the Commission's work.

This chapter highlights the Commission's participation in international programmes.

5.1 HIGHLIGHTS OF SOME ACTIVITIES

The table below highlights the international activities in which the Commission participated in 2016

S/N	DATE	PROGRAM	VENUE	NHRC PARTICIPANT(S)	AIMS/OBJECTIVES
1	4 th to 8 th January 2016	Good Office Visit/Courtesy Visit	Banjul, Gambia	Prof. Angwe Bem Executive Secretary NHRC,	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To strategize on establishment of a National Human Rights Institution in

					<p>Gambia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To educate participants on basic knowledge of Human Rights and its application in the course of their work.
2	2 nd - 4 th February 2016	International meeting on the Global Action Against Mass Atrocity Crimes (GAAMAC11)	Manila, Philippines	Mr. Lambert Oparah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To convene a meeting of interested government representatives and relevant Civil Society Organizations and other stakeholders in order to identify their current needs and challenges in atrocity prevention. • To strengthen their capacities through peer exchange and learning in this field.

3	12 th to 13 th February 2016	22 nd Edition of Casablanca International Book Fair	Morocco	Prof. Angwe Bem, Executive Secretary NHRC	To promote Human Rights Education and expand reading culture.
4	2 nd - 5 th March 2016	African Regional Seminar on Finding Practical Solutions for Addressing Violence and Discrimination based on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression (SOGIE)	Johannesburg, South Africa	Prof. Angwe Bem, Executive Secretary NHRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To dialogue on ensuring compliance with the adopted Resolution 275 as well as the relevant treaty obligations. • To enhance efforts to raise awareness, build networks and strengthen partnerships. • To act as catalysts for positive policy and legislation.
5	14 th - 24 th March 2016	60 th Session of the United Nations (UN)Commission on the Status of Women(CSW)	New York	Mrs. Okoroanyanwu Victoria and Mrs. Gavar Aver Rebekah-Suki	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To deliberate on pertinent issues that promote gender equality and women empowerment • To identify the key enabling conditions for

					<p>gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide concrete guidance on how to translate the commitments and gains from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. • To review progress in the implementation of agreed conclusion from the fifty-seven Session (2013) on 'The Elimination and Prevention of all Forms of Violence Against Women and Girls'.
6	20 th - 23 rd March	31 st Regular Session of the	Geneva, Switzerland	Prof Angwe Bem, Executive	To discuss global human rights issues

	2016	Human Rights Council, Geneva		Secretary NHRC Hon Edward Pwajok, Mrs. Ifeoma Nwakama and Miss Isabel Tule	such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Human rights mainstreaming ii. Preventing and countering violent extremism. iii. Cultural rights. iv. Democracy and Good governance. v. Business and human rights. vi. Indigenous Persons and Human Rights Defenders.
7	20 th - 23 rd March 2016	Network of National Human Rights Institutions in Africa Meeting and 29 th Session of the International Coordinating Committee (ICC) General Meeting	Geneva, Switzerland	Prof Angwe Bem, , Executive Secretary NHRC Hon Edward Pwajok, Mrs. Ifeoma Nwakama and Miss Isabel Tule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To share experience and best practices in the role that NHRIs can and should play in addressing the challenges. • To push for Human Rights Based Approach to Sustainable Development and strengthen the realization of

					<p>human rights through the SDGs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore pathways for the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GHANRI) and Regional NHRIs to work together and partner, including OHCHR and UNDP to support NHRIs to build their capacities to respond to the opportunities and challenges involved. • To identify the role of NHRIs in addressing the challenges resulting from conflicts, massive displacement, intolerance, racisms, xenophobia, hate
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					speech and states responses thereto.
8	29 th - 31 st March 2016	Nigeria-United States Bi-National Commission (NUSBNC) Meeting	Washington D.C, USA	Prof. Angwe Bem Executive Secretary NHRC, Mrs. Haastrup Yetunde Christianah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To flag off bilateral Co-operation on the entire African Continent. • To expand mutual co-operation across and strengthen institutions of government • To collaborate or build partnerships for tangible and measurable progress on issues critical to our shared future. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To underscore the need to strengthen and revitalize the Bi-National Commission in order to spur

					<p>joint action on key issues such as Security Co-operation, Economic Growth and Development, Good Governance and Democracy.</p> <p>NHRC made presentations on human rights, good governance and partnership with the security agencies as well as her role during the 2015 electoral process.</p>
9	6 th - 20 th April 2016	58 th Ordinary session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights(ACHPR)	Banjul, Gambia	Mr. Oyedokun A. Wahab Mrs. Gladys Plangnan Baba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify challenges affecting promotion and protection of human rights in Africa. • To discuss issues concerning Nigeria on allegations by some NGOs on

					same sex marriage.
10	10 th - 18 th July 2016	Exhibition At The African Union(AU) Summit	Kigali, Republic of Rwanda	Prof. Angwe Bem, Executive Secretary NHRC, Mr. Ladan Muhammad Nasir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To create a strong prosperous and integrated Africa, driven by her own people and capable of taking her rightful place in the world stage. • To launch the AU passport, a flagship project of Africa's Agenda 2063 in order to facilitate free movement of persons, goods and services around the continent to foster intra-Africa trade, integration and socio-economic development.
11	4 th - 9 th October 2016	Observation of Legislative Elections	Morocco	Prof. Angwe Bem, Executive Secretary NHRC	To observe and monitor the legislative elections.
12	21 st October	59 th Ordinary	Banjul,	Prof. Angwe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To strengthen

	to 4 th November 2016	Session of African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights(ACHPR)	Gambia	Bem Executive Secretary NHRC, Mrs. Oti Anukpe Ovrawah	<p>the rights of Women in Africa.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To discuss the status of the Commission's relationship and co-operation with NHRIs and NGOs. • To present update on level of submission of State Parties Periodic Reports. • To make observations on the following documents: • Draft Joint General Comment on Child Marriage and African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child • Concluding observations on the Periodic Reports of Burkina Faso
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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Principles and Operational Standards for Policing of Assemblies by law Enforcement Officials in Africa. • Draft Guidelines on Freedom of Association and Assembly in Africa.
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CHAPTER SIX

ACTIVITIES OF STATE OFFICES

6.0 INTRODUCTION

At inception, the Commission had six zonal offices located in each of the six geopolitical zones. This was inadequate as many people in various parts of the country in need of the Commission's services could not access same due to long distances. Therefore there was need to create more offices in order to increase visibility and accessibility of the Commission's services to all and sundry.

The Commission currently has twenty three field offices including States and Zonal offices in various parts of Nigeria.

This Chapter highlights activities of these offices, in the year under review, aimed at discharging the mandate of the Commission. The activities include the following:

6.1 AKWA IBOM STATE OFFICE - UYO

❖ 15th July, 2016 – Human Rights Sensitization at the Palace of the Village Head of Ewet, Uyo.

In order to increase visibility of the Commission and human rights awareness, the NHRC Akwa Ibom State Office, led by the State Coordinator, carried out a human rights enlightenment activity in Ewet, Uyo Community. The event was organized by the Ewet Community/Police Relations Committee.

During the activity there were presentations which focused on:

- Meaning of human rights
- Mandate and functions of the Commission
- Activities of the Commission in the State
- How to lodge complaints of human rights infringement in the Commission

There were also questions and answers session during which grey areas were clarified.

The event was held at Palace of the Village Head Ewet, Uyo.

❖ **3rd August, 2016 – Human Rights Sensitization of Daughters of Akwa Ibom State Association.**

In line with the Mandate of the Commission, the NHRC Akwa Ibom State Office carried out a human rights enlightenment activity to the Executive Committee, Daughters of Akwa Ibom State Association. The activity was organized by the Daughters of Akwa Ibom State Association in their quest to familiarize members of the Association with workings of the Commission.

During the activity the following areas were covered:

- Meaning of human rights
- Mandate and functions of the Commission
- Activities of the Commission in the State
- How to lodge complaints of human rights infringement in the Commission

The event was held at the Cooperative Hall of Daughters of Akwa Ibom State Association.

6.2 ANAMBRA STATE OFFICE- AWKA

❖ **5TH September, 2016 - Visit to Awka and Onitsha Prisons.**

The NHRC Anambra State Office carried out prison audit exercise to Awka and Onitsha prisons.

The objectives of the exercise were:

- To gauge the level of human rights compliance in the prisons.
- To advance the rights of inmates and prison officials.
- To ascertain how prison officials treat inmates.

- To check prison conditions.
- To make appropriate recommendations to the Federal Government based on findings in order to address the challenges.

During the Prison Audit, the Executive Secretary of the Commission, Prof. Bem Angwe, in his opening remarks, addressed some of the issues affecting prison administration in the country and gave his commitment that NHRC would work towards intervening in some of these pressing issues in discharge of our mandate.

He thereafter flagged off the 2016 Prison Audit and inspected the prison premises and cells. Some of the inmates were interviewed. In the course of interview, it was discovered that some of the detainees were remanded for offences unknown to law, example “Intimidation”. Prof. Bem Angwe promised to bring such unwarranted detention to the attention of the Ministry of Justice for redress.

❖ **23rd September, 2016 - Workshop on Baseline Survey: Discrimination Against Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) in Imo and Anambra State.**

The NHRC Anambra State Office participated in a workshop organized by Widows and Orphans Empowerment Organization, an NGO. The workshop was held at Head of Service Conference Hall, Awka, Anambra State.

The objective of the workshop was to increase stakeholders’ knowledge and understanding about the plight of Orphans and Vulnerable Children in order to engender policy/legislative response and programming.

Other participating agencies were Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Ministry of Health, Justice Development and Peace Commission (JDPC) and relevant Civil Society Organizations.

6.3 BENUE STATE OFFICE- MAKURDI

❖ 7th April, 2016 - Participation in the Community Mental Health Programme Meeting.

NHRC Benue State Office participated in the meeting organized by Methodist Church in partnership with Benue State Ministry of Health and Federal Medical Centre Makurdi.

The objective of the meeting was to draw attention to rising incidence of mental sickness and abuse of the mentally sick in the State with a view to developing effective strategies to improve care for this category of the vulnerable population.

The event took place at Hallydays Hotel Resort Makurdi.

❖ 19th April, 2016 - Presentation of a Draft Bill on the Administration of Criminal Justice Law.

NHRC Benue State Office participated in the programme organized by an NGO- Justice and Rights Initiative Makurdi.

The aim was to facilitate the quick passage of the Administration of Criminal Justice Bill in Benue State.

There were over 20 organizations in attendance including Benue State Ministry of Justice, FIDA Benue State, Legal Aid Council Makurdi, FBOs, CSOs among others.

The event was held at Benue State House of Assembly.

❖ 8th June, 2016 - Planning Meeting for the Commemoration of World Blood Donor Day 2016.

The Benue State Office of the Commission participated in a preparatory meeting convened by the Free Health Care Charitable Organization (NGO). The meeting was to brainstorm on activities to be carried in commemoration of World Blood Donor Day 2016.

The aim of the World Blood Donor Day includes to promote awareness about safe blood transfusion as well as to encourage non-remunerative blood donation, and guard against transfusion transmissible diseases.

The programme was held at IBB Square, Makurdi.

❖ **14th June, 2016 - World Blood Donor Day Anniversary Celebration (2016).**

The Benue State Office of the Commission participated in the World Blood Donor Day Anniversary organized by Free Health Care Charitable Organization.

The aim of the programme includes the following:

- To raise awareness on the need for safe blood and blood products.
- To appreciate voluntary blood donors and underscore their roles in saving lives.
- To highlight the dangers of unsafe blood transfusion.
- To encourage members of the public to freely donate blood and highlight the benefits of doing so.

The programme was held at IBB Square, Makurdi.

❖ **6th July, 2016 - Monitoring of Protest by National Union of Benue State Students (NUBESS).**

The NHRC Benue State Office monitored the demonstration by the National Union of Benue State Students (NUBESS). The students had protested to the Police 'A' Division Makurdi against impounding of the Students' Union bus by the Police. The essence of the Commission's monitoring of the protest was to ensure that both the Police and students adhered to acceptable standards of protests in line with the right to demonstrate which is a component of rights to freedom of assembly and expression-which are human rights.

The protest began from the School premises to the Police 'A' Division Makurdi.

❖ 14th July, 2016 - Meeting of Policy, Advocacy and Gender Technical Working Group.

NHRC Benue State Office participated in the meeting organized by Benue State Agency for the Control of AIDS (BENSACA). The meeting was of the Technical Working Group on Policy, Advocacy and Gender.

The aim of the meeting was to deliberate on improving gender mainstreaming in HIV/AIDS programming in the State.

The meeting was held at BENSACA Secretariat Makurdi.

❖ 17th July, 2016 - Distribution of 500 Copies of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights Booklet in Vernacular Tiv Language.

In order to improve the level of human rights knowledge, the Commission translated the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to local languages such as Hausa, Igbo, Yoruba Efik, Ibibio, Tiv among others.

NHRC Benue State Office handed over 500 copies of the Tiv version of Universal Declaration of Human Rights to NKST Church leaders in Makurdi for distribution among their congregation.

This was done to improve public human rights awareness in local dialect.

❖ 20th - 25th September, 2016 - Distribution of Human Rights Information, Education and Communication Materials.

The NHRC Benue State Office participated in the human rights sensitization programme organized by the NYSC Legal Aid Community Development Service Group Makurdi.

During the activity, the Group distributed the Commission's IEC materials including fliers, pamphlets and similar documents to various institutions such as the Nigerian Prison, Central Bank of Nigeria Entrepreneurship Development Centre, Akiga Conference Centre, Royal Choice hotel, Modern Market, Wurukum Market, Makurdi among others.

This aim was to improve awareness on human rights as well as the Mandate of NHRC.

❖ **10th December, 2016 - International Human Rights Day Celebration.**

The theme for 2016 international Human Rights Day was ‘Stand up for someone’s right today’.

The NHRC Benue State Office carried out the following activities to mark the day:

Radio and Television Interview- The State coordinator granted interviews on the two media stations in Makurdi (Radio Nigeria Harvest FM, & NTA Makurdi). The interviews were done separately on the 8th and 9th December, 2016 to further enlighten the Benue populace about human rights as well as seeking redress when their rights are violated.

Road Walk round Makurdi Metropolis – The State Office of the Commission in collaboration with Initiative for Leadership Transformation, Entrepreneurship Advancement and Community Development (ILEAD) organized a road walk on the 9th December, 2016. This was done to sensitize/create awareness to the people on human rights.

Celebrity Charity Concert- There was a Celebrity Charity Concert on 10th December, 2016 to round off activities for the 2016 human rights day celebration at the Aper Aku Stadium Makurdi.

The aim of the Celebrity Charity Concert was to draw attention to the plight of the Nigerian Child, using that medium.

6.4 NORTH-EAST ZONAL OFFICE – MAIDUGURI, BORNO STATE

❖ **1st February, 2016 – Training On Protection Mainstreaming for Stakeholders in Borno State.**

The NHRC North-East Zonal Office Maiduguri participated in a training workshop organized by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) Field Office in Maiduguri. The training was for Strategic Development and Coalition Building which targeted CSOs, NHRC and Judicial actors from Borno State.

The objectives of the training were:

- To appreciate and recognize the relevance of protection mainstreaming in humanitarian operations.
- To enable stakeholders hold strategic discuss around human rights abuses and strengthen efforts to establish inter-organizational partnerships in order to identify and address current and emerging human rights issues.
- To incorporate protection principles and promote meaningful access, safety and dignity in humanitarian aid.

The workshop took place at the International Rescue Committee (IRC) Field Office, Maiduguri.

❖ 12th and 13th April, 2016 – Workshop on Durable Solutions for Internal Displacement, Challenges and Way Forward.

The NHRC Northeast Zonal Office, Maiduguri participated in the workshop held at Desert View Hotel, Maiduguri. The

- The objectives of the programme which was organized by Norwagian Refugee Council includes the following:
- To build capacity of participants to appreciate the concept of durable solutions.
- To contextualize the concept of durable solutions in the North East, Nigeria.
- To establish a common understanding on the agreed criteria for determining durable solutions.
- To show clear linkages among different sectors and demonstrate how they all complement each other in realizing durable solutions for internal displacement.
- To show the essence of land, housing and shelter related issues in realizing durable solutions.

The following organizations were in attendance: Ministry of Resettlement Rehabilitation Return and Reintegration, FIDA, NBA, Ministry of Justice and some other Civil Society Organizations.

❖ **26th May, 2016 – Training of Trainers (TOT) on Camp Coordination and Camp Management for Stakeholders.**

The staff of NHRC Northeast Zonal Office Maiduguri attended the TOT programme organized by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).

The aim of the training was to train participants on Camp Coordination and Camp Management as well as expose them to the principles of adult learning and how to apply such principles in designing and running training sessions in camp.

The workshop took place at Barwee Hotel, Maiduguri.

6.5 CROSS-RIVER STATE OFFICE-CALABAR

❖ **22nd February, 2016- Meeting on the 2014 Violence Against Children in Nigeria Survey.**

NHRC Cross River State Office participated in a meeting organized by UNICEF, to review the response from the 2014 survey on Violence Against Children (VAC). The program was held at Danic Hotel Ltd, Calabar, Cross River State. Organizations in attendance were Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Faith Based Organizations from Christian, Muslim and Traditional perspectives.

The objective of the meeting was to study responses from the survey in order to strengthen measures to curb violence against children.

❖ **8TH March, 2016- Sensitization on Child Rights Promotion and Protection in the State.**

NHRC Cross River State Office carried out sensitization on Child Rights in two schools located in Calabar Cross River State. The schools were Marian Road Primary and State Housing Secondary Schools, Calabar.

About One Hundred and Seventy (170) teachers and students benefited from the enlightenment programme in both schools.

The aim of the sensitization was to raise awareness of the teachers and students on basic human rights.

❖ **18th May, 2016- Human Rights Sensitization in some Organizations.**

NHRC Cross River State Office organized human rights sensitization program in Export Processing Zone (EPZ) and Dozie Oil, Calabar.

The aim of the sensitization was to improve knowledge of human rights among the staff of the organizations. About Twenty Five (25) staff of EPZ participated in the enlightenment programme while about 45 staff from Dozie Oil benefited from the sensitization.

❖ **9th June, 2016 - Sensitization of Custom Officers on Human Rights.**

NHRC, Cross River State Office, Calabar organized a human rights enlightenment programme for the personnel of Nigerian Customs and Excise Cross River State Command. The activity was held at the Custom Area Command, Calabar.

The sensitization was organized in order to improve the level of human rights understanding by staff of the Customs in the command with a view to enhancing their operations.

The sensitization was held at Custom Area Controller, Calabar. Ten focal officers of the Customs from the Command benefited from the exercise.

6.6 EDO STATE OFFICE- BENIN-CITY

❖ **5th July, 2016 - Election Violence.**

The NHRC Edo State Office participated in the program organized by CLEEN Foundation on election violence, held at Vichi Gates Hotel, Benin City, Edo State.

The aim was to identify politically volatile areas in Edo state in order to beef up security in those areas and provide warning signals.

Some participating agencies were INEC, Edo State Civil Society Organizations, Nigeria Police Force, Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps amongst others.

❖ **15th July, 2016- 3rd Quarterly Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting on HIV/AIDS Prevention.**

Edo State Agency for the Control of AIDS (SACA) organized a meeting on HIV/AIDS for relevant stakeholders. The meeting held at the Edo SACA Conference Hall, Benin City. The objective of the meeting was to evolve standard ways of addressing HIV related stigmatization and discrimination against Persons Living With or Affected by HIV/AIDS.

Some participating agencies were Nigerian Medical Associations Edo State chapter, Ministry of Health and Civil Society Organizations working in the area of HIV/AIDS.

❖ **20th August, 2016- Benefit of Equal Partnership between Men and Women in Election: Legal Provisions on Equality.**

The NHRC Edo State Office participated in a programme organized by the National Democratic Institute and African Women Empowerment. The activity was held at the Edo Broadcasting Studio, Benin-City.

The overall objective of the programme was to sensitize the general public on the need for peaceful elections

Participating organizations were Nigeria Police Force, Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps, Violence Against Women in Elections (VAWE) and other CSOs.

6.7 SOUTH EAST ZONAL OFFICE-ENUGU

❖ **25th February, 2016- Stakeholders Input and Contributions on Child Rights Cooperative Project**

The Commission attended a programme organized by Aflatoun Child's Rights Cooperative (ACRC), held at Ministry of Justice Enugu. The objectives of the programme were

- To build the capacity of Teachers on Child Rights issues.
- To empower Child Rights Advocates with knowledge and necessary skills to enable them lobby for passage of Child Right's Act into law in Enugu State
- To empower children with knowledge and entrepreneurial capabilities

❖ **25th March, 2016 - Meeting on Women Empowerment in Enugu State.**

The NHRC, South East Zonal Office, participated in a meeting organized by National Youth Assembly of Nigeria (NYAN) at Enugu State House of Assembly conference hall.

The objectives of the meeting include the following:

- To enhance women economic welfare and the capacity to effectively contribute to national development and poverty alleviation in Enugu
- To promote gender mainstreaming through capacity building in order to reduce the vulnerability of women against violence and abuse as well as to seek appropriate redress in the face of such.

❖ **26th May, 2016 -Enlightenment of Officers and Men of Nigerian Police Force Ebonyi State by Human Rights Volunteer Corps and NHRC, South East Zonal Office, Enugu.**

In partnership with the Human Rights Volunteer Corps, NHRC Enugu Zonal Office organized a human rights sensitization program for the Police of Ebonyi State Command. The venue of the programme was at Ebonyi State Police Command Headquarters, Abakaliki.

The aim of the program was to educate officers and men of Nigerian Police Force on human rights issues in order to enhance their operations.

❖ **19th July, 2016- Stakeholders Interaction on Violence Against Women and Young Persons**

The South East Zonal Office Enugu participated in a stakeholder's interactive forum organized by Women AID Collective (WACOL). The event which focused on

issues of Violence Against Women and Young Persons was held at Dannic Hotel, Enugu.

The interactive session centered on promotion and protection of women and young persons' rights, gender, reproductive rights, human rights, democracy and good governance.

❖ **5th August, 2016 - Stakeholders Meeting on Child Protection.**

The NHRC South East Zonal Office Enugu participated in the meeting organized by LYNX-Nigeria. The aim of the meeting was to enlighten the Teachers and Students on child rights issues as provided in the UN Convention on Rights of the Child and in the Child Rights Act which has been adopted in the state as Child Rights Law.

The meeting was held at Godfrey Okoye University Secondary School, Thinkers Corner, Enugu State.

❖ **6TH - 8th September, 2016 - Prison Audit.**

The NHRC South East Zonal Office Enugu carried out Prison Audit in the South East. The following Prisons were visited:

- i. Enugu Prison
- ii. Abakaliki Prison and
- iii. Nsukka Prison

The prisons visits focused on the following:

- To discuss the decongestion of Enugu Prison in order to speed-up cases that are pending in court.
- To assess the prison conditions: condition of the inmates and prisons facilities.
- To know the number of convicts and awaiting trial persons (both male and female).
- To know the capacity of the prison in order to determine the level of congestion.

The delegation which was led by the Executive Secretary of the Commission Prof. Bem Angwe, consisted of the following:

Senator Chukwuka Utazi who represented the Senate Committee on Human Rights,

Hon. Edward Gyang Pwajok, the House of Representatives Committee Chairman on Human Rights.

Mr. Mike Omeri, former Director General of National Orientation Agency (NOA).

❖ 21st September, 2016 - Training on Documentation, Torture and other Inhuman/Degrading Treatment.

The NHRC, South East Zonal Office, participated in a programme organized by the Amnesty International at Musa Yar'Adua Center, Abuja. The objective of the training was to train participants on investigation, monitoring and documentation of torture cases.

During the training, testimonies were taken from survivors of torture and relatives of victims of torture by SARs in Enugu and Anambra States.

Some alleged torturers (Police Men) were in attendance and they tried to explain why they torture suspects. However, the point was made that torture is prohibited and is referred to as a non-derogable human right, i.e. under no circumstance is torture permissible. This is in line with provisions of the Convention Against Torture.

6.8 GOMBE STATE OFFICE- GOMBE

❖ 21st January, 2016- Sensitization/Awareness to Nigerian Union of Road Transport Workers in Gombe and Distribution of NHRC Publications.

Staff of NHRC Gombe State Office carried out a Sensitization/Awareness campaign to the leadership of the Road Transport Union as well as distributed the Commission's Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials to them. The activity was held at Dadin Kowa Motor Park.

The aim was to sensitize the Union on human rights issues in the transport business such as overloading as it touches on right to life and the essence of manifest in tracking family members in the event of accident.

❖ **27th January, 2016- Training on Responding to the Humanitarian Crises in Northern Nigeria.**

NHRC Gombe State Office participated in a program aimed at strengthening capacities to respond to humanitarian needs arising from the crises in the North East. The programme which was organized by Mercy Corps, Nigeria was held at Ministry of Women Affairs & Social Welfare Hall, Gombe.

The objective of the program was to empower people and communities to cope with the unfolding crises in the region. It was resolved that a multi-sectoral and comprehensive approach would be required to address the conflicts, particularly the concerns of Internally Displaced Persons and affected Communities under control of the military and other security forces.

❖ **16th February, 2016- Human Rights Capacity Building for Nigeria Police Force, Tumfure Police Station, Gombe.**

NHRC Gombe State Office organized a capacity building session for the Officers and Men of Nigeria Police Force, Tumfure Police Divisional Station, Gombe. The event held at the Police Station.

The objective of the capacity building was to improve the level of appreciation of human rights standards by the Police in order to mainstream same in their operations.

❖ **26th February, 2016 - Promoting Women Engagement in Peace and Security in Northern Nigeria and Inauguration of State Program Steering Committee.**

Staff of NHRC Gombe State Office participated in a program organized by the UN Women and UNICEF, which took place at Maidugu Hotel Gombe.

The objectives of the program were:

- To promote women engagement in peace building and conflict management processes at all level.
- To advocate in favor of increased number of women elected or appointed in regard to peace and security issues

Some organizations in attendance were FCID, Nigeria Force, CLEEN Foundation amongst others.

❖ **21st April, 2016- One Day Sensitization Workshop on Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Nigeria**

NHRC Gombe State Office participated in the workshop organized by Force Criminal Intelligence and Investigation Department (FCID) of the Nigeria Police Force in partnership with CLEEN Foundation. The workshop which focused on Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Nigeria took place at Maidugu Guest Palace Hotel, Gombe.

The objective of the workshop was to strengthen measures to prohibit all forms of Violence Against Persons in private or public life as well as to provide maximum protection and effective remedies for victims; and ensure that offenders are brought to justice.

❖ **26th April, 2016- Meeting on Child Labor Policy and National Action Plan**

NHRC Gombe State Office participated in a meeting organized by the Federal Ministry of Labor and Productivity. The aim of meeting was to draw attention on rising incidence of child abuse in the State with the view to reducing the trend. Concerns were raised on issues such as child labor, hawking and hard labor.

The meeting was held at the office of the State Controller, Ministry of Labour and Productivity, Gombe State.

❖ **17th May, 2016- One Day Workshop on Rights of Women and the Girl Child**

Staff of NHRC Gombe State Office participated in a workshop organized by coalition of NGOs in Gombe State, working in the area of women and the girl child.

The objectives of the meeting were as follows:

- To draw attention to the plight of women and the girl child in society
- To enlighten stakeholders on the Child Rights Act as well as peculiar rights of women
- To mobilize support for protection of the girl child
- To advance rights of women.

The event took place at Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Gombe.

❖ **20th May, 2016-Workshop for the Establishment of a Referral Pathway in Gombe State**

Staff of NHRC Gombe State Office participated in a workshop organized by Mercy Corps and Action AID. The objective of the workshop was to respond to the health needs of women and girls in conflict environments, especially in the face of various communities ridden with crises in Nigeria. The event also drew attention to Gender Based Violence in conflict situations. Participants were encouraged to take advantage of the referral system to redress such issues. Membership of the referral system consists of medical personnel, primary health care workers, NGOs working in the area of protection of women, among others. The meeting was held at Gombe Jewel Suites Hotel.

6.9 IMO STATE OFFICE-OWERRI

❖ Sensitization Workshops against Oil Theft and Pipeline Vandalization in the Oil Producing Communities of Imo and Abia States.

The NHRC Imo State Office participated in the workshops organized by Centre for Law Enforcement Education in Nigeria (CLEEN) Foundation. The workshops were part of the initiative to combat pipeline vandalism in the two States which began in 2015 and continued through 2016.

The objectives of the workshops were:

- To promote good relationship between oil companies and their host communities.
- To reduce human rights abuses by security agents attached to the oil companies.
- To encourage collective effort in the fight against oil theft and pipeline vandalism.
- To build the capacity of community members on human rights and how to track and channel reports of human rights abuses.
- To support a small committee of community leaders and stakeholders to follow up on incidents in their localities.

The workshops took place in the following locations on the dates indicated:

- i. Oguta Local Government Secretariat Oguta, Imo State-19th January, 2016.
- ii. Owaza Town hall, Owaza Ukwa West L.G.A. Abia State -20th January, 2016.
- iii. Palace of HRH Eze Dr. Cyracuse Nwokoma, Umuokanne Ohaji in Ohaji-Egbema L.G.A., Imo State- 21st January, 2016.
- iv. Umuorie Town Hall, Umuorie, Ukwa West L.G.A., Abia State – 22nd January, 2016.
- v. Owaza Town hall, Owaza Ukwa West L.G.A. Abia State – 26th April, 2016
- vi. Umuorie Town Hall, Umuorie, Ukwa West L.G.A., Abia State – 28th April, 2016.

❖ **23rd March, 2016- Capacity Building of Imo State Police Command on Human Rights.**

The NHRC, Imo State Office participated in a programme organized by Crime Victims Foundation (CVF). The event was aimed at training the officers and men of Imo State Police Command on human rights and rule of law for better policing. This is against the background of role of the Police in protection of lives and properties.

During the event, the Commission made presentations which covered the following areas:

- Meaning of human rights.
- Human rights issues in arrest, detention amongst others.
- Fair hearing-issues in policing.
- Use of force and fire arms.
- Investigation standards vis-a-viz torture.

The overall aim of the presentations was to mainstream human rights standards in police operations.

The event was held at Police Officers Mess, off Okigwe Road Owerri, Imo State.

❖ **14th April, 2016-Stakeholders Meeting with Imo State Police Community Relations Committee (PCRC).**

The NHRC Imo State Office participated at a stakeholders meeting organized by Police Community Relations Committee. The aim of the meeting was to brainstorm on improvement of relationship between the Police and various communities in Imo State.

During the meeting, representatives of the Commission sensitized the PCRC members and Police Officers from the Divisional Commands on the Mandate of the Commission as well as on the Commission's Complaints Treatment Mechanism among other human rights issues.

The event was held at Police Officers Mess, off Okigwe Road Owerri, Imo State.

❖ **14th June, 2016 - Participation in Imo State Jail Delivery.**

The NHRC, Imo State Office participated in the jail delivery activity in Owerri Prison carried out by Chief Judge of Imo State, Hon. Justice Pascal O. Nnadi.

The jail delivery activity was conducted with the aim of decongesting the prison and to facilitate accelerated hearing for inmates that have over stayed the required number of years for their sentence had they been convicted.

During the exercise, the Chief Judge released five (5) detainees from prison while four (4) others were granted bail with different bail conditions. The Comptroller of Prisons, Imo State Mr. Isaac Amaliri who received the delegation also partook in the activity.

According to the Comptroller, whereas the capacity of the prison is 584, the lockup as at the time of visit was 2,228, therefore overstretching the facilities. He further stated that those on Awaiting Trial far out-numbered the inmates serving their prison terms. He made the point that the prevailing situation poses serious health and security challenges. Accordingly, he underscored the urgent need to decongest the prison.

❖ **17th August, 2016 - Meeting of Imo State Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting Technical Committee.**

The NHRC Imo State Office participated in a meeting organized by Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development with the support of United Nations Children's Education Fund (UNICEF). The meeting which focused on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting held at Star Arrival Hotel, New Owerri, Imo State.

The objectives of the meeting were the following:

- To recap on the earlier meeting held on the 14th December, 2015 on development of Action Plan.
- To present report of the Base Line Survey on Female Genital Mutilation/cutting.
- To determine next steps.

There were about twenty five organizations in attendance including Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Nigerian Medical Association, Nigerian Bar Association, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Justice, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF, National Orientation Agency, Civil Society Organizations among others.

❖ **8th September, 2016 -Prison Audit in Imo State, Prison Owerri.**

NHRC Imo State Office carried out a Prison Audit exercise in Imo State Prison, Owerri. The objectives of the exercise were:

- To assess the facilities in the prison.
- To assess the welfare of the inmates.
- To assess the welfare of the prison officials.
- To ascertain the prison conditions.

Although the prison capacity is 548, at the time of the visit, the lock-up was 2305 made up of 2258 males and 47 females. The number of people on Awaiting Trial were 2145 while the number of convicts was 160.

Some of these findings were made during the visit:

- **Prison condition:** Ventilation is very poor. The female inmates are not provided with sanitary towels and soap, the inmates have water cistern as toilet facility but these are grossly inadequate and very dirty. Beds are not only inadequate, but also without beddings; they sleep on beds with no mattresses and bed sheets. The odour coming from the cells are unpleasant and unbearable. The drainage system (gutters) are dirty and smelling badly.
- **Office Accommodation and Facilities:** Office Accommodation and Facilities in use by prison officials were obsolete and inadequate. The officers are working in crowded rooms thereby making it difficult for them to work optimally. They do not have residential accommodation (barracks).
- **Children in Prison Custody:** There were minors in the prison mingling with adult inmates.

- **Welfare issues:** Some inmates had health issues bordering on HIV, TB, diabetes, malaria, scabies and so on. The prison has visiting doctors who consults with the inmates 2 or 3 times a week. The facility has a dispensary which serves the needs of the inmates. Serious cases are referred to the Federal Medical Centre, Owerri. Electricity supply to the prison is from Enugu Electricity Distribution Company. The source of water is bore hole drilled within the prison yard.
- **Vocational Facilities:** The prison has some vocational facilities for brick-laying, tailoring, shoe-making and furniture-making.

❖ **19th September, 2016 - Launch of the Campaign against Female Genital Mutilation and Cutting (FGM/C) in Imo State-Presentation of State Technical Committee on FGM/C**

NHRC Imo State Office participated in a programme organized by the United Nations Population Fund/ State Technical Committee (UNFPA/STC) on Female Genital Mutilation and Cutting.

The aims of the programme were as follows:

- To brainstorm on the practice of FGM/C.
- To draw attention to dangers of FGM/C.
- To come up with a strategic plan/structure on how to eradicate the practice in the State.
- To inaugurate, Community and L.G.A. Ambassadors to be involved in the campaign against FGM/C in Imo State.

The event took place at Imo International Conference Centre (IICC), Owerri.

❖ **28th September, 2016 - Dissemination of Findings on the Baseline Survey of Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Imo State.**

NHRC Imo State Office participated in the programme organized by Widows and Orphans Empowerment Organization (WEWE) Project.

The aim of the activity was to widen stakeholders' knowledge and understanding about the acuteness of the plight of orphans and other vulnerable children in the State, in order to engender policies and programmes that are knowledge and evidence based.

The event held at Art Nouveau Event Centre, Port Harcourt Road Owerri, Imo State.

❖ **28th September, 2016 - Stakeholders' Monthly Meeting on Child Protection.**

NHRC Imo State Office participated at the periodic stakeholders' meeting organized by Child Protection Network (CPN).

The objectives of the meeting were as follows:

- To determine how to engage with the Comptroller of Prisons, Imo state, pertaining to children in prison custody in the State.
- To write a letter to the Comptroller of Prison demanding detailed list of all children in prison custody in the State.
- To strategize on courtesy visit to the Governor's wife, Commissioner of Health as well as Commissioner of Women Affairs and Social Development.

The event took place at Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Imo State.

❖ **27th October, 2016- School Human Rights Sensitization.**

In line with the mandate of the Commission, to improve human right knowledge, NHRC Imo State Office has designed to embark on human rights sensitization to schools in Owerri metropolis, Imo State. This has become necessary as a result of the rising spate of violence, cultism and other social vices among students in Secondary Schools in the State.

The sensitization took place at Emmanuel College Owerri. During the event, presentations were made on:

- Meaning of human rights.
- Mandate and functions of the Commission.
- Activities of the Commission in the State.
- How to lodge complaints of human rights abuse in the Commission.

6.10 KADUNA STATE OFFICE- KADUNA

❖ 12th - 13th January, 2016- Meeting on Adoption and Implementation of Gender and Equal Opportunity Model Law and Violence Against Persons Prohibition Law in Kaduna State.

The NHRC Kaduna State office participated in a meeting organized by the Women's Rights Advancement and Protection Agency (WRAPA), which took place at Bafra Hotels Kaduna. The objective was to adopt and implement Gender and Equality Opportunities Law as well as Violence Against Person's Law in Kaduna State.

❖ 8th February, 2016- Aflatoun Child Rights Cooperatives Stakeholders Meeting.

The Commission attended a one day stakeholder's meeting organized by the Linking Youth of Nigeria through Exchange (LYNX) Nigeria, held at the Ministry of Education, Kaduna. The objective was to identify secondary schools in Kaduna to be taught Child Rights, Social and Financial Education.

❖ 12th April, 2016- Aflatoun Child Rights Training Camp.

NHRC Kaduna State office participated in the Train the Trainers workshop organized by the LYNX Nigeria. The venue was at the National Teacher's Institute. It was to teach selected teachers and students on Child Rights and Responsibilities in Nigeria. The beneficiaries are expected to step-down the training for multiplier effect.

❖ **16th August, 2016- Civil-Military Relation Road Map Review Workshop.**

Staff of Kaduna State Office of the Commission participated in a workshop organized by CLEEN Foundation, held at African Continental Hotel Kaduna. The aim was to do a final validation of the roadmap on Civil- Military Relations in Nigeria.

The participants were the Military, The Nigeria Police Force, Interfaith Mediation, Ministry of Justice Kaduna State, News Agency of Nigeria, Leadership Newspapers amongst others.

6.11 KATSINA STATE OFFICE

❖ **6th - 12th January, 2016 - Girl Child Holiday Camp Programme.**

The NHRC Katsina State Office participated in a Girl Child Holiday Camp programme organized by the Department of Girl Child Education and Child Development, Governor's Office Katsina State.

During the activity, the State Coordinator made a presentation on human rights. In course of the presentation, the coordinator highlighted basic provisions of the Child Rights Act such as rights of the Child to protection, survival and development; as well as responsibilities of the child. Furthermore, he drew attention to challenges and vulnerabilities faced by the girl child and the need for strengthen measures to protect the girl child from molestation and abuse in society.

The programme took place at NYSC Multi-purpose Youth Centre, Permanent Orientation Camp, Katsina, Katsina State.

❖ **18th - 21st January, 2016 - Awareness Programme on Plight of Orphans and Vulnerable Children.**

The NHRC Katsina State Office participated in an Awareness Programme organized by Community Information and Advocacy Initiative (CIAI) Katsina State.

The objective of the programme was to highlight the challenges faced by less privileged children in society with a view to improving their living conditions. During the programme, a Child Protection Committee (CPC) was established in various districts to serve as a liaison between the organizing agency and the communities for prompt intervention on issues of child abuse.

The activity was held at the Jibia Babba Primary School, Jibia and District Head Palace Daddara, Jibia L.G.A.

❖ 28th January, 2016 – Stakeholders’ Meeting for the Resuscitation of Children's Parliament in Katsina State.

The NHRC Katsina State Office participated in a meeting organized by the Save the Children International (SCI) and Child Protection Network (CPN). The focus of the programme was to revive the Katsina State Children’s Parliament which has been inactive for some time now. The overall goal of the revival is to inculcate in the children required knowledge and skills for participation in governance both at the local, state and federal level in future.

This meeting took place at the Dialogue Computer Conference Hall Bayajidda Road, GRA, Katsina, Katsina State. Other participating organizations were Katsina State Ministry of Information, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, National Orientation Agency, International Federation of Female Lawyers amongst others.

❖ 23rd – 24th February, 2016 – Women Empowerment Programme.

NHRC Katsina State Office participated in a Women Empowerment Programme organized by the Community Information and Advocacy Initiative.

The aim of the activity was to empower the less privileged widows living with their children in rural areas through establishing or improving small scale businesses for them. During the programme, the sum of Five Thousand Naira (N5,000.00) was given to Forty (40) beneficiaries.

The activity took place at the District Head Palace Jibia, Jibia Local Gov’t Area.

❖ 12th – 15th April, 2016 – Nigeria’s 15th Year Anniversary Commemoration of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1325.

The NHRC Katsina State Office participated in an Anniversary Ceremony in commemoration of Nigeria’s 15th year of adoption of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 which provides for women’s involvement in peace and security issues. The ceremony was organized by the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Katsina State.

A communiqué was adopted at the conference which highlighted the high level of challenges faced by women and children in Northern Nigeria, worsened by insurgency in the North East.

The event was held at the Conference Hall, Katsina State Secretariat Complex, Katsina State.

❖ 12th April, 2016 – Courtesy Visit/ Reception of the President, Police Officers Wives Association (POWA).

The NHRC Katsina State Office organized a Reception for the President, Police Officers Wives Association (POWA), Mrs. Agharese Arase.

The objectives of the visit were:

- To promote cordial relationship between the Commission and POWA
- To enhance promotion and protection of the rights of women generally and Police Officers Wives in particular.
- To enhance their engagement in peace and security initiatives, for the safety of their lives more especially in the North.

This reception took place at the NHRC Katsina State Office, Katsina.

❖ 28th April, 2016 – Stakeholders’ Meeting for the Enhancement of Children’s Basic Livelihood.

The NHRC Katsina State Office participated in a stakeholders’ meeting for the enhancement of children’s basic livelihood in Katsina State. The meeting was

organized by the Department of Girl Child Education and Child Development, Governor's Office.

The goal of the meeting was to strategize on improvement of basic livelihood options for boys and girls through promotion of education and capacity building in order to realize their life aspirations using a three (3) pillar approach: Prevention, Protection and Empowerment.

The meeting was held at the Maryam Babangida Children's Park, Katsina, Katsina State.

❖ **6th May, 2016 – An Interactive Dialogue with Relevant Stakeholders on Administration of Justice System.**

The NHRC Katsina State Office participated in a Bar and Bench interactive forum with relevant stakeholders in Administration of Justice System in the State.

Key issues were deliberated upon such as arrest, investigation, arraignment, prosecution, speedy trial and prompt judgment. The goal of the activity was to brainstorm on improvement of justice delivery system in the state as well as to promote and protect the rights of persons involved in criminal trials.

The meeting was held at the Katsina High Court Complex, Katsina State.

❖ **10th – 11th May, 2016 – Training and Capacity Development Programme.**

The NHRC Katsina State Office participated in the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) Training and Capacity Development programme for UNICEF Implementing Partners (IP's) in Katsina State. The training programme was organized by UNICEF Katsina field office at the Conference Hall Liyafa Palace Hotel Katsina. The training was aimed at understanding the (HACT) process and a review of key areas of weakness observed during Micro Assessment and spot checks by UNICEF implementing partners.

❖ 31st May, 2016 – Reception of the Country Director, Pan-African Development Education and Advocacy Programme (PADEAP).

The NHRC Katsina State Office received the Country Director, Pan-African Development Education and Advocacy Programme (PADEAP), Nigeria, Mrs. Tominke Olaniyan on an official visit. The essence of the visit was to interact with the Commission on the prevalence of Child Marriage and strategies that will improve the lives of women and girls who had early marriage in the State.

The event was organized by PADEAP at the NHRC Katsina State Office.

❖ 17th June, 2016 – An Interactive Session with Children in Commemoration of Day of the African Child, 2016.

NHRC Katsina State Office held a meeting with children to mark the Day of the African Child. The essence of the meeting was to interact with children (students) on issues of Rights of the Child.

The meeting was organized by the Department of Girl Child Education & Child Development, Governor's Office. The event was held at Government Day Secondary School Kofar Yan Daka, Katsina State.

❖ 11th July, 2016 – Visit to Katsina State Remand Home, Rafukka.

The NHRC Katsina State Office visited Katsina State Remand Home, Rafukka Quarters, Kofar, Sauri Road, near Government College, Katsina. The purpose of the visit was to evaluate the living conditions as well as identify other human rights issues in the home in order to take appropriate action based on the findings.

A total number of Forty-Seven (47) children, who were in conflict with the law, were seen in the Remand Home when the delegation visited.

The Home was in hygienic sanitary condition at the time of the visit, the rooms were not congested as the children were accommodated four in a room.

Most of the children were “awaiting trial”, based on different degree of allegations against them.

PRISON VISIT

❖ 29th March, 2016 – Prison Visit to Katsina Central Prison.

The NHRC Katsina State Office was part of delegation of the State Chief Judge who carried out a visit to Katsina Central Prison, Unguwar Yari quarters, Katsina State.

The visit was organized by the State Judiciary in order to evaluate the prison and living conditions of the inmates and detainees.

During the visit, it was observed that whereas the capacity of the prison which was built in 1918 was 237, the lock-up (number of inmates/ detainees) was 1140, which meant that the prison was congested.

In the course of review of case files of inmates, 56 inmates were granted bail conditionally while 76 were granted bail unconditionally on health grounds or degree of offences.

The Chief Judge gave his commitment on fast-tracking trial cases before the court for prompt justice delivery in order to decongest the prison facilities.

The delegation also paid a follow up visit to the prison on 28th July and 8th September, 2016. During the visit of 28th July, 56 inmates were granted bail conditionally while 94 inmates were granted bail unconditionally. On 8th September, 76 were granted bail conditionally while 104 were granted bail unconditionally.

6.12 KWARA STATE OFFICE – ILORIN

❖ 15th February, 2016 – Meeting with the Department of Petroleum Regulatory Agency

The NHRC Kwara State Office participated in a meeting with Department of Petroleum Regulatory Agency. The meeting was held against the background of

regular demonstrations or protest by the public arising from illegal hike in pump prices of petrol. Such hike causes untold hardship on the populace due to increase in other commodities and cost of living generally with various human rights implications.

The aim of the meeting was therefore to proffer solutions to this trend.

The meeting was held at Department of Petroleum Regulatory Agency Hall, Ilorin, Kwara State.

❖ **6th July, 2016 – Workshop on a Rights of the Child.**

The Commission organized workshops at some selected schools Ilorin using their halls. The workshops were tailored toward educating the students on the rights of child at the under listed schools with the following participants:

Government Secondary School, Ilorin Metropolis Kwara State-80 students
St Anthony Secondary School, Ilorin Metropolis, Kwara State-70 students

6.13 SOUTH-WEST ZONAL OFFICE – LAGOS

❖ **Human Rights Enlightenment in some Schools in Lagos State**

In line with the Commission's mandate, NHRC South West Zonal Office Lagos carried out human rights sensitization in some schools in the state. The purpose of the activity was to improve the level of human rights knowledge amongst the students as well as enlighten them on activities and mandate of National Human Rights Commission. Beneficiaries were also sensitized on how to lodge complaints in the Commission in case of Human rights infringement.

The following schools were covered on the dates indicated:

- 19th May, 2016 -Moonlight College, Wowo Street, Olodi Apapa.
- 2nd June, 2016 -Refiner's School, Golden Park Estate, Sangotedo, Lekki.
- 7th July, 2016 -Dabitos Academy, Ola Yinka Street, Ilasamaja Mushin.
- 8th July, 2016 -Karmel College, Old Akure Road, Obawole, Iju Agege.

- 11th July, 2016 -Bosworth College International, Club Road, Ewu Town, Lagos.
- 22nd July, 2016 -Ekum College, Iganmu Road, Amukoko Apapa, Lagos.

❖ **January – June, 2016 – Police Station Monitoring/ Interview of Detainees.**

The NHRC South West Zonal Office, Lagos participated in the Legal Advice and Monitoring Project organized by Justice for All/ Department for International Development (DFID).

The aim of the project was to monitor police stations, interview detained persons found in the cells, with a view to proffering legal advice when needed and ensuring that the rights of inmates are not infringed.

The Police stations covered during the project include:

- Area A, Lion Building Divisional headquarters, Lagos Island.
- Area D, Mushin Divisional Headquarters.
- Area F, Ikeja GRA Divisional Headquarters.
- Area H, Bariga Divisional Headquarters.
- Area J, Ajiwe Ajah Divisional Headquarters.
- Area K, Isashi Headquarters.
- Area M, Idimu Divisional Headquarters.
- Area N, Ikorodu Divisional Headquarters and
- Area G, Pen Cinema Divisional Headquarters.

❖ **20th June, 2016–Training for Lawyers and Paralegals.**

The NHRC South West Zonal Office, Lagos facilitated the training which took place at 'Definite Destiny Hotel, Ikeja. The training focused on building capacity of the lawyers and paralegals on monitoring detention centers. It was organized by Justice for All/Department for International Development.

6.14 NASARAWA STATE OFFICE-LAFIA

❖ **19th January, 2016 - Meeting with the Honorable Commissioner, Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development (MWASD), Nasarawa State.**

The Commission held a strategic meeting with the Honourable Commissioner at the MWASD premises, Nasarawa State.

The objectives of the meeting were:

- To discuss the line of action of the Child Rights Implementation Committee (CRIC), with regards to the alleged rape of minors in Nasarawa State.
- To brain storm on the proposed courtesy call on the Emir of Lafia and the Commissioner of Police on Child Rights issues.

❖ **3rd March, 2016-Quarterly Meeting of the Technical Working Group (TWG) on Vulnerable Children (VC).**

The NHRC Nasarawa State office attended a meeting organized by the MWASD on vulnerable children, held at State Planning Commission.

The objectives of the meeting were:

- To review the activities of the previous quarter.
- To draw a plan of action for the quarter.
- To constitute sub-committees to draw up action plans for the quarter.

❖ **4th March, 2016 - Human Rights Sensitization Workshop.**

A sensitization programme on human rights was organized by Nasarawa State office at the Central Pilot Primary School Keana L.G.A. Nasarawa State. This was at the instance of Hon Mohammed Ogoshi Onowa. It was aimed at sensitizing the people on their rights to education and other human rights as well as highlighting the mandate and functions of the Commission.

❖ **4th March, 2016-Criminal Justice Committee Meeting.**

Nasarawa State Judiciary organized a meeting on Criminal Justice and staff of the NHRC Nasarawa State Office participated. The meeting took place at the Office of the Chief Judge of Nasarawa State.

The objectives of the meeting were:

- To discuss the security of the State.
- To discuss the delay/decongestion of criminal cases in court.
- To discuss the congestion of detainees at police cells.
- To set up a committee on the adoption of the Criminal Justice Administration Act, 2015 in the State.

❖ **17th March, 2016 - Vulnerable Children Technical Working Group Sub-Committee Meeting.**

National Human Rights Commission Nasarawa Office organized a sub-committee meeting on vulnerable children at NHRC Shendam Road, Lafia, Nasarawa State. The aims of the meeting were:

- Meeting of the sub-committee on Child Rights and Policies.
- To consider the Action Plan for the quarter.

Other organizations in attendance include Legal Aid Council, Nigeria Police Force, Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN), UNICEF, Ministry of Finance among others.

❖ **9th May, 2016- Quarterly State Child Rights Implementation Committee Meeting**

Staff of the NHRC Nasarawa State Office attended a meeting organized by Sustainable Mechanism for Improving Livelihood and Household Empowerment (SMILE) and MWASD, which took place at the Planning Commission, Shendam Road, Lafia Nasarawa State.

The objectives were:

- To review progress after last meeting.
- To brain storm on other innovative strategies by the Child Rights Implementation Committee (CRIC) to become more functional.
- To plan for next quarter activities.

❖ **8th - 10th May, 2016 - Prison Audit with Chief Judge of Nasarawa State.**

NHRC Nasarawa State Office staff were part of the delegation of the State Chief Judge's visit to Lafia Prison, Wamba Prison, Keffi Prison and Nasarawa Prison.

The objectives of the visit were:

- To carry out an audit of the inmates awaiting trial.
- To release from custody, prison inmates who were unjustly detained.
- To release those whose detention have been for a longer period than the maximum term of imprisonment prescribed for such an offence.

6.15 NIGER STATE OFFICE – NIGER

❖ **28th October, 2016 – Enlightenment on Disability Issues - Leprosy.**

The NHRC Niger State Office participated in an enlightenment programme organized by the Leprosy Mission, Nigeria.

The objectives of the programme include:

- To foster collaboration among participating agencies to protect the rights of people with disabilities and people living with leprosy.
- To encourage reportage of violations against this vulnerable population.

The activity was held at Brighter Suites Minna.

Other organizations that participated include Niger State Ministry for Gender and Social Development, Joint Association of Persons with Disabilities among others.

6.16 OSUN STATE OFFICE-OSHOGBO

❖ 21st September, 2016: One- Day Workshop on Social Development.

NHRC Osun State Office participated in the workshop organized by Justice, Development and Peace Makers Centre. The event was held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Hall, opposite Anthony Udofia Model College, Oke-Fia, Oshogbo.

Objectives of the workshop were as follows:

- To discuss issues affecting Global Peace in contemporary times.
- To underscore the role of government agencies, NGOs and individuals in contributing to World Peace.
- To sensitize the participants on Mandate of National Human Rights Commission.

Participating Organizations in the workshop included the following: NHRC, Nigeria Peace Corps, Nigeria Bar Association, Federal Road Safety Corps, and Representatives of Persons with Disabilities.

❖ 13th December, 2016- Interactive Session on “Democracy, Social and Economic Rights in Nigeria-How Far?”.

NHRC Osun State Office participated in a workshop organized by Justice Development and Peace Makers Centre Osogbo. The event was held at Sacred Heart Catholic Hall, Oke-fia Oshogbo, Osun State.

The objective of the activity was to appraise level of realization of economic, social and cultural rights in Nigeria, and progress of the current democratic dispensation in advancing those rights.

During the event, the State Coordinator highlighted the following:

- NHRC as the agent by which rights of the citizens are being Promoted, Protected and Enforced.
- The mandate and the powers of the Commission in realization of Democracy, Social and Economic Rights

- Showcasing the activities of the NHRC so far in Osun State

The following organizations were in attendance: The Nigeria Police Force, The Nigerian Prison Service, Peace Corps, Nigeria Bar Association, Civil Society Organizations and the Media.

6.17 NORTH CENTRAL ZONAL OFFICE (NCZ) JOS, PLATEAU STATE

❖ 5th February, 2016 - Enlightenment Campaign on Gender and Equal Opportunity Law.

The North Central Zonal Office of the Commission participated in the enlightenment Campaign on Gender and Equal Opportunity Law organized by the Community Based Development CBD/NGO forum that was held at Angwan Rukuba, Jos.

The enlightenment became necessary due to prevalence of sexual and gender based violence in society. The aim of the campaign was therefore to create awareness on existence of the law against sexual and Gender Based Violence.

The Nigeria Police Force, Child Protection Network (CPN), and other relevant NGOs were in attendance.

❖ 10th February, 2016 - Workshop on Human Trafficking.

NHRC North Central Zonal Office, Jos participated in the workshop which was organized by an NGO, Youth Empowerment.

Research has shown that Nigeria is a source, transit and destination country for trafficked persons including for forced labour and prostitution.

The aim of the workshop was therefore to create awareness about the antics of human traffickers as well as dangers of human trafficking in order to reduce vulnerability.

The workshop was organized at the University of Jos Multi-Purpose Auditorium.

❖ **22nd February, 2016 – Human Rights Lecture to Officers of the Operation Safe Haven.**

In discharge of her mandate, the NHRC North Central Zonal Office Jos provided technical expertise during the one day Capacity Building Program on Human Rights, organized by the Special Task Force (STF). The activity held at STF headquarters Jos. The objective of the program was to sensitize officers of Operation Safe Haven on compliance with human rights standards in their operations.

❖ **8th March, 2016 - International Women's Day Celebration – 2016.**

As part of activities to mark the 2016 International Women's Day celebration, the North Central Office, Jos participated in the Awareness Walk organized by Christian Rural Development Association of Nigeria (CRUDAN) and Christian Women for Excellence in Nigeria (CWEENS).

At the end of the walk, the Commission's representatives also sensitized the participants on human rights including drawing attention to the socio-economic and cultural plight of women.

Many Civil Society Organizations and individuals participated.

❖ **16th March, 2016- Conference on Gender Awareness and Violence against Women and Children in Plateau State.**

The NHRC North Central Zonal office participated in the conference on gender awareness and Violence Against Women and Children organized by the Youth Corps Members in Plateau State.

The overall goal was to draw attention of Security Agencies and the public to the spate of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), especially sexual violation and abuse of minors in the State.

Against the background of the rising spate of Sexual and Gender Based Violence as well as the abuse of minors in the State, it became necessary to have the

awareness interface which was aimed at raising consciousness about the social problem which has grievous human rights implications.

During the activity, the Commission's representatives made presentations on human rights, mandate and functions of the Commission. Participants were urged to report cases of Gender Based Violence, sexual molestation or abuse of minors to the Commission for intervention.

The activity was held at CRUDAN headquarters, Jos.

❖ **10th June, 2016 - Town Hall Meeting on Domestic Violence.**

The NHRC Jos office attended a meeting organized by the Christian Women for Excellence in Nigeria (CWEENS) at the Rhythm FM, Jos. The objective of the meeting was to explore ways to address the plights of women in respect of domestic and other forms of Gender Based Violence.

During the meeting, participants were sensitized on how to lodge complaints of domestic/gender based violence or related issues to the Commission.

❖ **22nd June, 2016 - The State Child Rights Implementation Committee Meeting.**

The NHRC North Central Zonal Office, Jos participated in a meeting organized by Child Rights Implementation Committee (CRIC), Plateau State. The essence of meeting was to review the level of implementation of Child Rights Law in the State by the Implementation Committee at the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development Jos.

Some resolutions at the meeting include the following:

- Strengthening of adult formal and informal education – in the absence of Mass Literacy Programme in the State.
- Inclusion of representative of the coalition of orphanages, in the Child Rights Implementation Committee (CRIC).

Ministry of Women Affairs and the Child Protection Network were in attendance among others.

❖ **2nd September, 2016 - Preparatory Meeting on Launch of “End Violence Against Children” in Plateau State.**

NHRC North Central Zonal Office Participated in the meeting which was organized by UNICEF. The purpose of the meeting was to set the stage for launching of ‘End Violence Against Children’ Project in Plateau State.

The aim of the project is to draw attention to the rising incidence of Violence Against Children in Plateau State, with a view to reducing the trend and eventually putting an end to it.

The organizations that participated include the following: NTA, Ministry of Information, the Standard Newspapers, Child Protection Network, Ministry Women Affairs and Social Development, Ministry of Justice among others.

❖ **29th September, 2016 - One Day Stakeholders Forum on Promoting Girl Child Education and Gender Equality.**

The NHRC Zonal Office, Jos participated in a One Day Stakeholders Forum organized by the Societal Social (SOS) at Azi Nyako Youth Centre, Dadin-kowa Jos. The aim of the forum was to bridge the gap between the boy and girl child education as well as promote gender equality.

The meeting agreed on the following:

- To advocate for making girl child education in the State free or subsidized
- To urge cooperate bodies to consider sponsorship of girls who have distinguished themselves in academics; as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility
- To encourage wealthy community members to offer financial or any other kind of assistance within their means to help the girl child acquire education

- To improve awareness on the importance of education and encourage parents to sponsor their daughters through school, while guiding against unwanted pregnancy and other social vices

❖ **10th October, 2016 - Know Your Rights: Abortion.**

NHRC North Central Zonal Jos office participated in a programme organized by NTA Jos, on Know Your Rights. The subject matter was 'Abortion'.

The objectives include the following:

- To create awareness on the legal regime of abortion in Nigeria
- To clarify whether women in Nigeria have a right to abort
- To discuss if a doctor is allowed to perform abortion on a rape victim, resulting in pregnancy

During the interaction, it was highlighted that the focus was on victims of rape vis-à-vis their right to abortion. It was underscored that Nigerian women can only abort legally if the life of the rape victim is threatened.

6.18 SOUTH – SOUTH ZONAL OFFICE – PORT-HARCOURT, RIVERS STATE

❖ **27th January, 2016 – Human Rights Capacity Building for Nigeria Army.**

In line with the Commission's mandate the NHRC South-South Zonal Office, carried out a human rights sensitization activity in the Nigerian Army, 2 Brigade Port Harcourt. During the session which was organized by Nigerian Army, 2 Brigade, staff of the Commission made presentations which highlighted basic human rights norms and principles, mandate and functions of NHRC and the Commission's activities in the South-South zone.

The purpose of the activity was to integrate human rights standards in military operations and improve community relations. The event was held at Joint Officers' Mess, Port Harcourt Barracks, Rivers State.

❖ **23rd August, 2016 – Workshop on Civil-Military Relation.**

The NHRC South-South Zonal Office participated in the workshop organized by Citizen Trust Advocacy and Development Center.

The main purpose of the workshop was to identify ways of strengthening Civil-Military relations. This became necessary against the background of periodic harassment, altercation and brutality of civilians by the military.

Organizations in attendance were the Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Army, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, National Orientation Agency, NGOs and CBOs.

The following issues were raised:

- Lack of effective communication strategy and structure between the Military and civil populace.
- Review of National Curriculum on Civic Education to include Civil/Military relations at all levels of education.
- The need for Civil/Military relations training for all ranks.

The following recommendations were made:

- i. Ministry of Defence to establish Ombusman on complaints response unit in all security services to address complaints by civilians.
- ii. Convening regular Civil/Military fora
- iii. Integrating Civil Military Education in the curriculum of all levels of education.

The workshop was held at Aldgate Congress Hotel.

CHAPTER SEVEN

HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION AND COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT

7.0 INTRODUCTION

Section 6(j) of the National Human Rights Commission Act 1995 as amended, enjoined the Commission to “receive and investigate complaints concerning violations of human rights and make appropriate determination as may be deemed necessary in each circumstances”. In pursuance to the above, the Commission receives and treats complaints on human rights violations/ abuses from individuals, group of persons, corporate organizations amongst others in order to protect the rights of the victims. It is imperative to note that the Commission proactively takes up investigation on cases of human rights violations/ abuses on its own (Suo Moto) in order to protect the rights of the people.

However, the Commission administers and treats only complaints with human rights issues. Complaints without human rights issues are classified as inadmissible and thus referred to relevant agencies with the mandate to handle such complaints for intervention. The protection and Investigation Department of the Commission is saddled with the responsibility to handle complaints in the Commission.

This chapter of the report deals with the receipt and management of complaints in the year under review.

7.1 COMPLAINT MANGEMENT PROCESS

The standard guidelines for the management of all complaints received by the Commission are contained in relevant sections of NHRC Standing Order and Rules of Procedure (STORP) adopted by the Governing Council of the Commission in 2013. All complaints received by the Commission are subjected to the Rules of Admissibility Test to ascertain their admissibility. The admissible complaints are assigned to investigation officers for further investigation and treatment for appropriate redress.

7.2 RECEIPT OF COMPLAINTS 2016

In the year under review, the Commission received One Million and Ninety Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred and Nineteen (1,099,919) complaints. The number of complaints received within the year was increased tremendously compare with the yearly complaints received in the Commission since its inception. The increased number of complaints received may be attributed to the following:

- ❖ Increased number of field offices of the Commission located across various parts of the country.
- ❖ Public Inquiry complaints over oil spillage in South- South Nigeria, resulting from activities of oil companies.
- ❖ Increased awareness and human rights creation

Notably the project highlighted above made the Commission more visible and elicited various complaints. The Oil Spillage project elicited over five hundred groups and community complaints.

All complaints received by the Commission were subjected to the Admissibility Test to ascertain that they contain required elements of human rights abuses/violations. In 2016, a total number of One Million, Four Hundred and Thirty (1,000,430) complaints received by the Commission were admissible while Ninety Nine Thousand, Four Hundred and Eighty Nine (99,489) complaints were inadmissible.

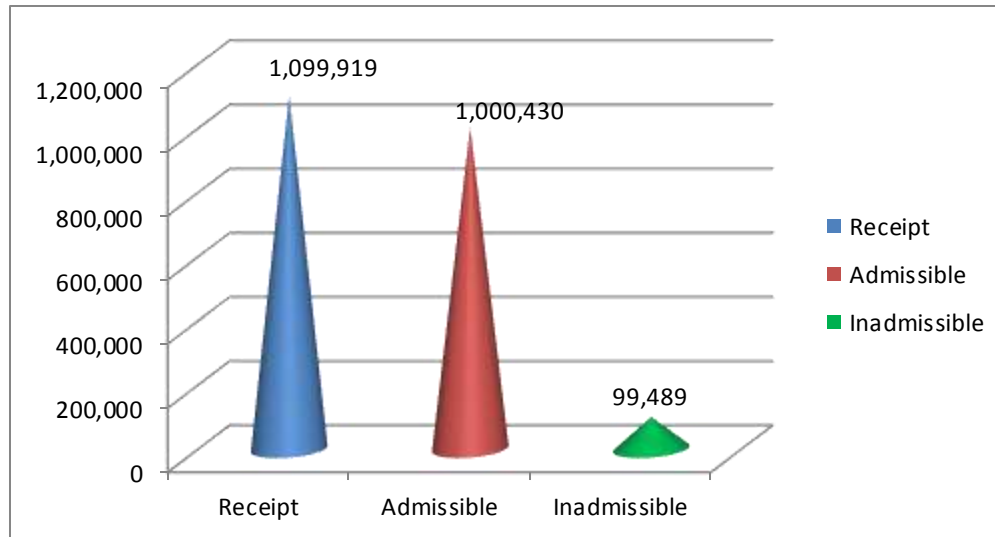
The breakdown of the number of complaints received in the year under review and their Admissibility Status is reflected in the table below:

Table 7.2.1: RECEIPT OF COMPLAINTS 2016

Year	Receipt	Admissible	Inadmissible
2016	1,099,919	1,000,430	99,489
%		91%	9%

The chart below further illustrates the receipt and admissibility of complaints in 2016.

Figure 7.2.2: RECEIPT OF COMPLAINTS 2016



The graph above indicates an upward trend in the number of complaints received in the year under review in comparison with 2015.

In 2015, the Commission received a total number of Four Hundred and Thirty Three Thousand, Eight hundred and Sixty Five (433,865) complaints while a total number of One Million and Ninety Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred and Nineteen (1,099,919) complaints were received in 2016. However, in both 2015 and 2016 the level of admissible complaints was much higher than the Inadmissible ones. This indicates that the public is much more aware of the type of complaints to bring to the Commission.

A total number of One Million, Four Hundred and Thirty (1,000,430) complaints representing 91% of total complaints received in the year under review were admissible while only Ninety Nine Thousand, Four Hundred and Eighty Nine (99,489) complaints representing 9% of the total complaints were inadmissible.

7.3 COMPLAINTS STATUS 2016

In the year under review, the Commission investigated and concluded a total number of Four hundred and Eighty Nine Thousand, Two Hundred and Nineteen complaints out of a total number of One Million and Four Hundred and Thirty (1,000,430) admissible complaints that passed admissibility test as spelt out in the Standing Order and Rules of Procedure of the National Human Rights Commission of Nigeria. A total of Five Hundred and Eleven Thousand, Two Hundred and Eleven complaints were pending. The bulk of pending complaints in the year 2016 were complaints received by the Panel of Inquiry over Oil Spillage Resulting from Activities of Oil Companies in the South-South Nigeria. The public inquiry was set up by the Commission to consider all complaints received on Oil Spillage and similar activities causing pollution of the environment and affecting other human rights. The alleged violators in the complaint (affected oil companies) went to court to challenge the powers of the Commission to embark on the investigation. Therefore, the complaints have been pending awaiting determination of the courts.

Table 7.3.1: COMPLAINTS STATUS 2016

Year	Admissible	Concluded	Pending
2016	1,000,430	489,219	511,211
%		49%	51%

Figure 7.3.2: COMPLAINTS STATUS 2016

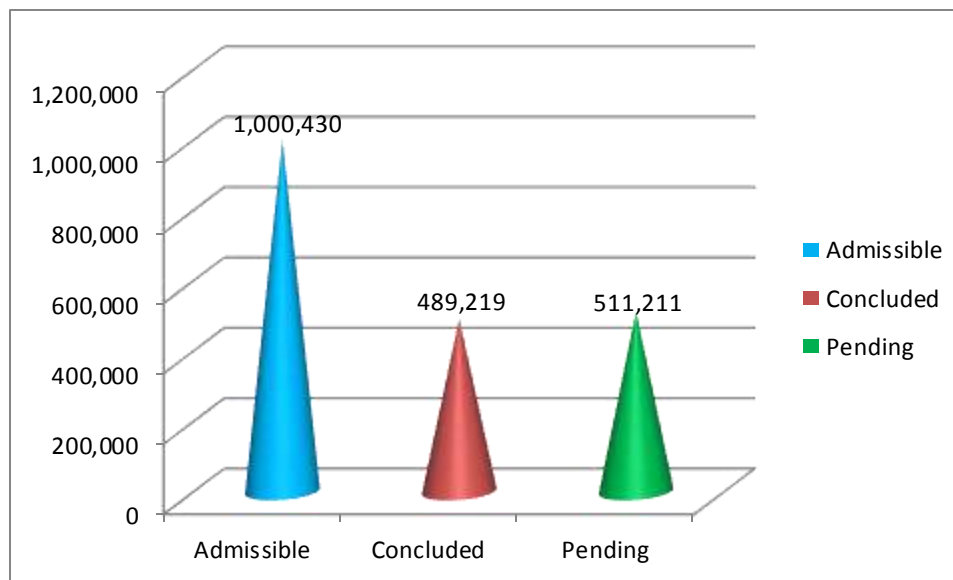


Figure 7.3.2 above further illustrates complaints status in 2016. The chart indicates that One Million, Four Hundred and Thirty (1,000,430) complaints were admissible. Four Hundred and Eighty Nine Thousand, Two Hundred and Nineteen complaints were investigated and closed in the year under review while a total number of Five Hundred and Eleven Thousand, Two Hundred and Eleven complaints were pending as shown in figure 7.3.2 above.

7.4: CLASSIFICATION OF COMPLAINTS 2016

Complaints received in the Commission are disaggregated based on NHRC Thematic Areas of Focus. Table 7.4.1 illustrates the classification of the complaints and degree of occurrence of each type of violation/abuse in the year under review.

Table 7.4.1: CLASSIFICATION OF COMPLAINTS 2016

COMPLAINT	NATURE OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED	TOTAL
WOMEN/GENDER RIGHTS	Abandonment	13367
	Sexual Violence	50
	Domestic Violence	24688
	Reproductive Rights	1
	Harmful Cultural Practices	965
	Gender based Discriminations	12
	Women Trafficking	1
	Inheritance	5598
	Forceful Marriage	33
	Denial of Access to Children	33775
RIGHTS OF THE CHILD	Right to Education	31
	Right to survival and development	33001
	Child Labour (Commercial/Formal Sector)	98
	Child Marriage	9
	Child Trafficking	4
	Sexual Abuse	68
	Child Abandonment	3884
	Other Child Abuses	17653
	Child Custody	5294
CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS	Unlawful Arrest and Detention	326
	Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment	2544
	Torture	41
	Extra-Judicial Killing	285
	Access to Justice	74
	Appeal for Prerogative of Mercy	21

	Enforced Disappearance	42
	Participation in Political Affairs	1
	Rights to Freedom of Religion, Thought and Conscience	38544
	Rights to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly/Association	9
	Threat to Life	317
	Unfair Hearing	7
	Disobedience of Court Hearing	15
	Delay in Hearing	13
ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ISSUES	Land and Landed Properties	78,416
	Rights to Education	25
	Right to Health	3
	Right to Food	8854
	Right to Shelter	11
	Right to Private and Family Life	3477
	Labour Rights	2037
	Wrongful Termination and dismissal from employment	11081
	Non - Payment of Benefits/Entitlements	4236
DISCRIMINATION	Ethnic Discrimination	
	Religious Discrimination	33,019
	Medical Condition	
	Disability	2
	Others	3111
Environmental Rights		539933
Ethnic/ Religious/Communal Crises		33440

Protection Of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)	1245
International Matters	5
Others	136,782
Complaint Related Calls	63471
Grand Total	1,099,919

7.5 RECEIPT OF COMPLAINTS 1996 - 2016

The Commission was established by the National Human Rights Commission Act 1995. However, the Commission commenced operation in 1996. The Commission has been receiving and treating complaints on violations of human rights from inception to date. In the first year of its operation, the Commission received only a total number of Forty One (41) Complaints.

Due to more visibility resulting from media advocacy(printed and electronic), sensitization, creation of more State Offices, enlightenment/awareness creation, and various outreach programmes, the Commission recorded a great increase in the volume of complaints received - One Million, Ninety Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred and Nineteen (1,099,919) in the year under review.

Thus, the Commission has received a total number of One Million, Six Hundred and Forty Seven Thousand, Three Hundred and Ninety Two (1,647,392) complaints from inception to date.

The receipt of complaints from 1996 to 2016 is as shown in table 7.5.1 below.

Table 7.5.1 RECEIPT OF COMPLAINTS FROM 1996 - 2016

Total Complaints Received	Admissible	Inadmissible
1,647,392	1,431,392	216,000
%	87%	13%

The data in table 7.5.1 further illustrated the receipt of complaints from 1996 to 2016.

Figure 7.5.2: RECEIPT OF COMPLAINTS FROM 1996 - 2016

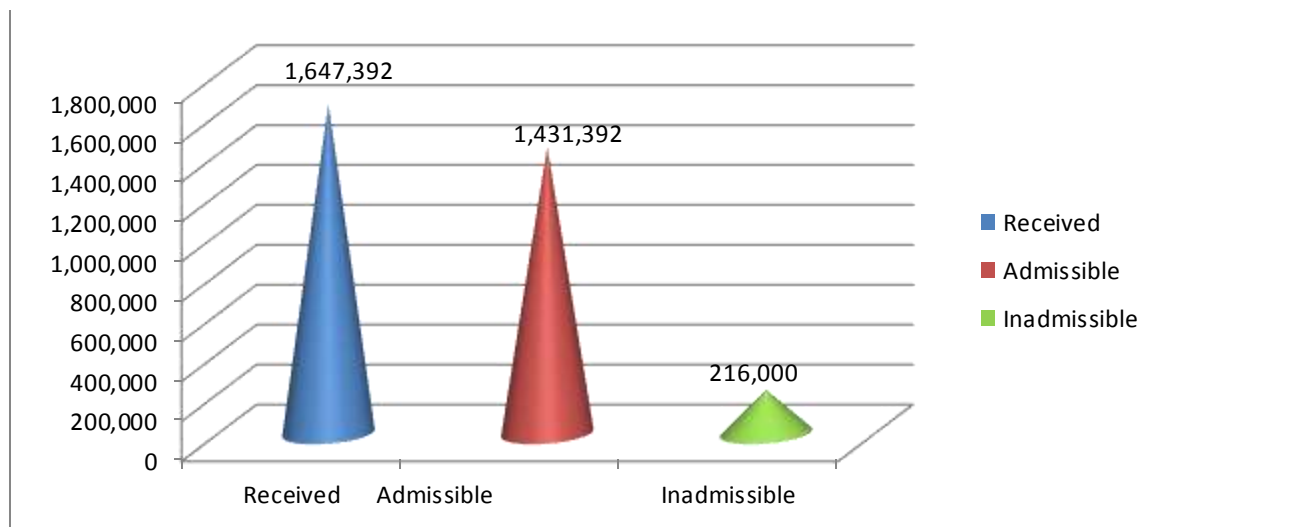


Figure 7.5.2 above shows that 87% of complaints received by the Commission since inception were admissible while only 13% of the complaints were inadmissible.

This could be attributed to the understanding of the mandate and powers of the Commission by the populace.

7.6: TREATMENT OF COMPLAINTS 1996 - 2016

The Commission was established to create an enabling environment for the promotion, protection and extra judicial recognition and enforcement of human rights in Nigeria. It is against this background that the victims of human rights violations/abuses lodge complaints to the Commission in order to seek redress/remedy. The Commission has administered, treated and concluded a total number of One Million, Four Hundred and Thirty One Thousand, Three Hundred and Ninety Two (1,431,392) complaints at different times over the period of years from 1996 to 2016.

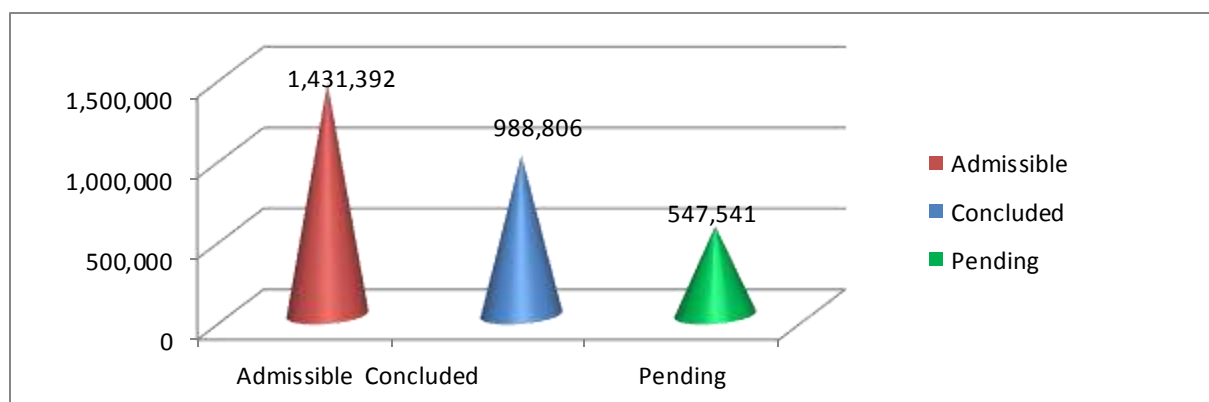
However, Five Hundred and Forty Seven Thousand, Five Hundred and Forty One complaints were not completed within the year they were reported but were at different stages of investigation thus the pending complaints were carried over to the subsequent year for conclusion. The treatment of complaints from 1996 to 2016 is as shown in table 7.6.1 below.

TABLE 7.6.1: TREATMENT OF COMPLAINTS 1996 - 2016

Admissible	Concluded	Pending
1,431,392	988,806	547,541
%	69%	31%

The graphical illustration of treatment of complaints is as shown in figure 5 below.

Figure 7.6.2: TREATMENT OF COMPLAINTS 1996 - 2016



7.7: SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS 1996 - 2016

In discharging her human rights protection mandate, the National Human Rights Commission has adopted several complaint treatment measures aimed at dealing with such complaints effectively. All the approaches adopted so far have been in the best interest of the complainants/victims of human rights violation/abuses.

Currently, the standard guidelines for the treatment of all complaints received by the Commission are contained in the NHRC Standing Order and Rules of Procedure (STORP) which was adopted by the Governing Council of the Commission in 2013.

Summary of complaints from 1996-2016 is as shown in the table below:

TABLE 7.7.1: SUMMARY OF TREATMENT OF COMPLAINTS 1996 - 2016

Year	Total Received	Admissible	Inadmissible	Concluded	Pending
1996	41	29	12	28	1
1997	114	85	29	73	12
1998	221	133	88	89	44
1999	343	135	208	100	35
2000	559	286	273	95	191
2001	557	377	180	143	234
2002	421	356	65	114	242
2003	432	388	44	122	266
2004	287	271	16	92	179
2005	551	476	75	319	157
2006	514	416	98	258	158
2007	574	235	31	151	84
2008	1300	1423	185	1133	290
2009	1061	1040	21	750	290
2010	6967	6700	267	4000	2700
2011	19210	18060	1150	15403	2657
2012	22542	21373	3187	18188	3185
2013	26,067	24,198	1869	19,806	4392
2014	31,847	28,974	2,686	24,339	4,635
2015	433865	430962	2903	414384	16578
2016	1,099,919	1,000,430	99,489	489,219	511,211
Total	1,647,392	1,431,392	216,000	988,806	547,541

The table above shows the summary of complaints in the Commission from 1996 to 2016.

7.8 TREND OF COMPLAINTS 1996 - 2016

The trend of complaints in the Commission has not been steady on either upward or downward direction. There has been fluctuation in the receipt of complaints by the Commission over the years.

In 1996, the Commission received a total number of Forty One (41) complaints. Between 1996 and 2000, there was an upward trend in the number of complaints received by the Commission. In 2001 there was a drop in the number of complaints received by the Commission. However, since 2009 till date, there has been an upsurge in the number of complaints received by the Commission as indicated in the table below.

In 2016, the Commission received One Million and Ninety Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred and Nineteen (1,099,919) complaints. This may be attributed to a number of factors which include the following:

- Increased visibility of the Commission and more accessibility of her free services by the public as a result of creation of many State offices across various parts of the country.
- Human rights awareness creation and enlightenment through both printed and electronic media amongst others.

The details of complaints received over the years have been expressed in percentage for ease of reference, understanding and comparative analysis.

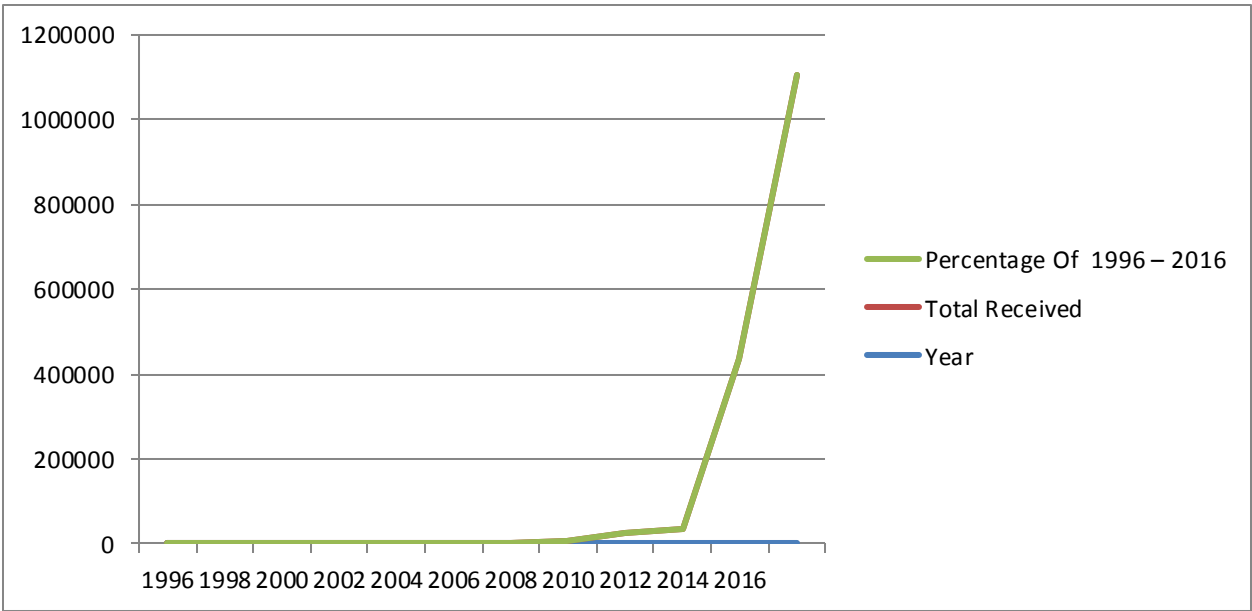
The trend of complaints from 1996 to 2016 is illustrated in table 7.8.1.

TABLE 7.8.1: TREND OF COMPLAINTS 1996 - 2016

Year	Total Received	Percentage Of Total Complaints Received From 1996 – 2016
1996	41	0.003
1997	114	0.007
1998	221	0.014
1999	343	0.021
2000	559	0.034
2001	557	0.034
2002	421	0.026
2003	432	0.026
2004	287	0.018
2005	551	0.034
2006	514	0.031
2007	574	0.035
2008	1300	0.079
2009	1061	0.064
2010	6967	0.423
2011	19210	1.166
2012	22542	1.368
2013	26067	1.582
2014	31847	1.933
2015	433865	26.336
2016	1,099,919	66.767
Total	1,647,392	100

Figure 7.8.2 below further illustrated the trend of complaints 1996 – 2016.

Figure 7.8.2: TREND OF COMPLAINT 1996 – 2016



7.9 CLASSIFICATION OF COMPLAINTS

Over the years, the Commission adopted a method of disaggregation of complaints based on Thematic Areas of Focus for easy processing and statistical analysis.

The classification is as shown in table 7.9.1.

TABLE 7.9.1: CLASSIFICATION OF COMPLAINTS

YEAR	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	TOTAL
Abandonment																		1088	1944	1391	13367	2152
Sexual Violence																		498	599	1055	50	2152
Domestic Violence			4	3	9	11	32	32	58	27	62	100	30	325	2560	2656	2240	2340	1311	24688	9507	
Reproductive Rights																		45	51	1015	1	1111
Harmful Cultural Practices																		23	32	1091	965	1146
Gender Based Discriminations																		122	188	430	12	740
Women Trafficking																		42	708	14	1	764
Inheritance																		2017	2677	30668	5598	35362

Forceful Marriage																		52	61	29	33	142
Denial of Access to Children																		2416	2625	10078	33775	15119
Right to survival and development																		2926	3015	177	33001	6118
Child Labour (Commercial/ Formal Sector)																		75	75	10	98	160
Child Marriage																		4	9	3	9	16
Child Trafficking																		6	8	14	4	28
Sexual Abuse																		238	254	48	68	540
Other Child Abuses																		1832	1899	262	3884	3993
Child Custody																		1605	1820	4292	17653	7717
Unlawful Arrest and Detention	12	30	47	42	82	71	62	51	43	102	81	47	125	71	479	2560	3462	404	562	3322	5294	9252

Cruel, inhuman and Degrading Treatment	3	20	39	24	53	68	20	25	36	42	49	23	111	62	724	1350	1920	348	398	5240	326	9340
Torture														32	679	28	310	178	192	40	2544	1459
Extra-Judicial Killing		6	6	8	17	20	11	6	5	13	7	7	22	9	200	6	27	297	301	175	285	1143
Access to Justice																		188	190	82	74	460
Appeal for Prerogative of Mercy	3	9	9	5	8	8	10	11	4	2	2	2	0	4	5	350	300	15	19	1	21	767
Enforced Disappearance																		16	17	21	42	54
Participation in Political Affairs																		35	49	2	1	86
Rights to Freedom of Religion, Thought and Conscience											66					222	85	81	97	15	38544	566

Rights to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly/Association																		53	72	6	9	131
Land and Landed Properties				14	0	26	19	27	4	11	20	30	59	50	102	430	610	746	878	184	138440	3210
Threat to life							82	48	21	35	33	48	107	123	365	86	103	1461	1720	955	317	5076
Unfair Hearing	3	8	18	2	8	4	2	7	2	10	4	4	10	21	71	12	15	16	19	17	7	253
Women /Gender Abandonment																		1088	1944		3884	3032
Child Abandonment				1	10	16	20	3	15	30	67	43	109	76	850	2300	2250	154	182	449	13367	4505
Dismissal/Wrongful Termination of Appointment	7	18	53	178	224	195	81	89	43	73	48	31	103	93	1321	3200	3323	1687	1920	1971	11081	14658

Non Payment of Benefit	2	6	15	24	61	66	64	56	61	76	94	67	238	192	818	1780	2313	1079	1200	302294	4236	308731
Delay in Hearing of Cases	3	8	18	2	8	4	2	7	2	10	4	4	10	21	71	12	15	2	5	25	13	233
Disobedience to Court Order	2	3	7	14	13	15	10	4	3	4	2	2	8	13	7	7	449	19	17	86	15	688
Labour Rights														15	23	12	201	427	685	400	2203	3680
Right to Education																		161	47	59	31	267
Right to Health																		16	51	19	3	86
Right to Food																		0	5	11	8854	16
Right to Shelter																		37	41	29	11	107
Right to Private and Family Life																		37	48	16	3477	101
Ethnic Discrimination																		0	4	3		11
Religious Discrimination																		6	9	20	33019	25

Medical Condition																		21	29	4		54
Disability																		24	32	5	2	61
Environmental rights	2	3	6	0	8	3	16	7	0	1	2	1	31	12	9	780	804	13	17	3533	1039933	5248
Ethnic/religious/communal crises				1	4	6	2	2	0	0	2	0	0	12	2	1200	1255	5	10	285	33440	1706
Protection of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)																		0	5	34,600	1245	34605
International matters	2	0	3	2	0	0	2	0	0	1	3	9	2	5	7	5	7	11	17	1	5	77
Complaint Related Calls																		1616	2609	28039	463471	32264
Others	5	11	14	27	62	48	9	66	28	93	73	198	275	1408	980	1356	0	1685	620	5	172782	4169

Total	41	114	221	343	559	557	421	434	287	551	514	574	1300	2228	6967	19,210	21,373	26,067	31,847	433865	1,099,919	1,647,392
% 100	0.0003	0.0007	0.0014	0.0021	0.0034	0.0034	0.0026	0.0026	0.0018	0.0034	0.0031	0.0035	0.0079	0.0064	0.423	1.166	1.368	1.582	1.933	26.336	66.767	100

CHAPTER EIGHT

NHRC/UNHCR INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS MONITORING - PROJECT SUMMARY REPORT

8.0 INTRODUCTION

This Chapter contains a brief report on the IDPs Monitoring Project implemented by the Commission with support of the UNHCR. It covers activities in six States of Adamawa, Bauchi, Benue, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe held between July to December 2016.

Further to the UNHCR and NHRC Protection Monitoring Project established in 2015, there was a continuing need to ensure systems remain in place, to timely identify critical protection needs and to reduce risks and abuses as well as to ensure response and prevention of further abuses in the project States.

Both organizations therefore evaluated the project implementation so far and agreed on the need to improve on the project in 2016.

Protection monitoring aims to identify protection risks and abuses in communities in order to prioritize interventions and provide a timely response to the vulnerable populations affected. The response mechanisms adopted seek to reduce the violations faced by IDPs and affected communities and to provide UNHCR and partners with tools that can ensure a protective environment.

The community based protection component seeks to promote community participation and strengthen protection capacities within the communities through community mobilization, dialogue/assessments and capacity building.

Protection monitoring will also help institute a system of 'protection by presence,' whereby information gap on risks or threats facing targeted IDPs, returnee-populations and vulnerable host communities will be addressed. Protection Monitoring and multi-sectoral assistance will equally reduce frequent occurrences

of grave human rights violations against these populations and affected Communities.

The UNHCR/NHRC Protection Project therefore focused on two main pillars of intervention in 2016 viz:

To carryout Awareness-Raising, Sensitization and Training activities for relevant actors on human rights standards in management of IDPs.

To scale-up Community Level Protection Monitoring in the six Project States.

8.1 TRAINING FOR IDPs MONITORS

Monitors drawn from the six Project States were trained for the second phase of the Project in Makurdi, Benue State on the 8th and 9th July 2016. Over 45 monitors were trained. The number of Monitors was however increased to sixty in the course of the implementation of the project due to request from the field for more hands to cope with the magnitude of the assignment and the vast areas to be covered.

After the training, monitors were deployed to their various States of assignment and monitoring/reporting of protection issues commenced immediately.

Reports compiled by various monitors on weekly basis were harmonized by the State Supervisors and forwarded to the Report Task Team in NHRC Headquarters Abuja for a final harmonization and onward submission to UNHCR.

Below is a State by State summary analysis of reports received from all the six States between July and December 2016 as well as composition of the Protection Monitoring Team and areas covered by the project.

ADAMAWA STATE

The Adamawa Protection Monitoring team comprised of 9 Protection Monitors and a Supervisor covering a total of 12 Local Government Areas.

These LGAs include Yola North, Yola South, Mubi North, Mubi South, Fufere, Song, Michika, Madagali, Hong, Maiha, Gombi and Girei.

BAUCHI STATE:

Bauchi State had ten (10) Monitors inclusive of a Supervisor. They covered 16 LGAs namely: Ganjuwa, Darazo, Bogoro and Tafawa Balewa, Bauchi, Toro, Dass, Alkaleri, Shira, Kirfi, Itas Gadau, Giade, Katagum and Nisau, Gamgwa and Zaki.

BENUE STATE:

Initially 5 (Five) IDPs monitors were deployed to Benue State including the Supervisor. The IDPs monitors were trained and deployed to seven (7) Local Government Areas in Benue State namely: Guma, Agatu, Logo, Tarka, Ukum, Buruku and Makurdi. However due to the vast terrain of these Local Government Areas and the need to improve on information gathering on daily basis, the monitors were increased from 5 to 10.

GOMBE STATE:

In Gombe State, ten monitors inclusive of a supervisor were deployed to monitor, refer and report the protection issues observed in the IDP camps. The areas covered were Shongom, Akko, Gombe, Billiri, Kwami, Nafada, Yamaltu Debba, Funakaye and Kaltungo LGAs.

TARABA STATE:

10 monitors worked under the IDPs Monitoring Project in Taraba State. The areas covered were Jalingo, Ardo Kola, Ibi and Donga, Takum, Bali, Gasol and Wukari LGAs.

YOBE STATE:

Ten monitors were deployed to cover the following LGAs in Yobe State for the period covered by the project: Bade, Karasuwa, Damaturu, Geidam, Fune, Gujba, Machina, Nangere, Yunusari, Potiskum, Gulani, Nguru and Tarmuna.

8.2 PARTNERSHIPS/NETWORKING:

During the Protection Monitoring exercise, the monitors in all six States worked closely with the UNHCR field Office, UNICEF, IOM, IRC, DSS, Police, Red Cross, SEMA, NEMA, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Vigilante, IDPs leaders, Community Leaders and local partners in monitoring, referrals, distribution and other forms of assistance.

AWARENESS CREATION ACTIVITIES

8.2.1 ADAMAWA STATE:

The Adamawa State Protection Monitoring Team held 41 Awareness Raising sessions during which a total of 3772 persons were sensitized on Human Rights and Protection Issues as shown in the table below:

NUMBER OF BOYS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF GIRLS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF MEN SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF WOMEN SENSITIZED	TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS SENSITIZED
618	541	1369	1244	3772

8.2.2 BAUCHI STATE:

A total number of 2271 people were sensitized on Human Rights and Protection Issues during the awareness creation as shown in the table below:

NUMBER OF BOYS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF GIRLS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF MEN SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF WOMEN SENSITIZED	TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS SENSITIZED
603	649	464	555	2271

8.2.3 BENUE STATE:

Awareness raising sessions on Human Rights and Protection Issues were carried out in the following Five LGAs: Adoka, Otukpo, Daudu in Guma, Anyiin in Logo, Agan, North Bank in Makurdi and Tiortyu in Tarkaa.

NUMBER OF BOYS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF GIRLS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF MEN SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF WOMEN SENSITIZED	TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS SENSITIZED
416	501	1060	1475	3452

8.2.4 GOMBE STATE:

The table below shows the number of persons sensitized on Human Rights and Protection Issues during the exercise:

NUMBER OF BOYS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF GIRLS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF MEN SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF WOMEN SENSITIZED	TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS SENSITIZED
2171	1510	682	855	4,618

8.2.5 TARABA STATE:

Awareness raising sessions on Human Rights and Protection Issues were carried out in 5 LGAs in Taraba State. A total of 4675 persons were sensitized on the following topics:

- Human Rights and the need for peaceful coexistence with host Community.
- Host Community and Traditional Ruler: The right of IDPs and need for peaceful coexistence with IDP's.
- IDPs: Human Rights, SGBV Child Protection and the need for peaceful coexistence with IDP's.

- Female IDPs: SGBV and the importance of quick reporting
- Children: Childs rights.

NUMBER OF BOYS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF GIRLS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF MEN SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF WOMEN SENSITIZED	TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS SENSITIZED
727	1618	1618	1902	4675

Jalingo LGA: Gulum, Sabon Gari 1, Sabon Gari11, Murtai and others. **Ardo Kola:** Sunkani, Mulum Camp, Atc Kofar, Tashan Nyam Mayo Ranewo. **Ibi and Donga LGA:** Catholic Church, Islamiya Primary School, Gidan Waya, Ungwan Kpegi and others.

Takum LGA, Bali, Gasol and Wukari LGA: Ungwan Logo, Aske Govt Lodge, Sansani Kusum, Kangana, Tiv Council, Mai Duniya, Catholic Church, Pangari 1, Pangari 11, ungwan Abuja, Kasuwan Daban, and several other sites.

8.3 PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS HIGHLIGHTED STATE BY STATE:

8.3.1 ADAMAWA

1. Timely and professional Protection Monitoring interventions.
2. Identifying IDPs in host communities, informal settlement and non-government camps.
3. Establishment of efficient referral mechanism with the DSS, IRC, NEMA, SEMA, Police, Red Cross, UNICEF, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Women Affairs among others.

Cases referred include SGBV, Child labor, health issues, security incidence, education and WASH.

4. Participation in vulnerability assessment with the UNHCR

5. Participation in Protection Sector Working Group (PSWG) meetings
6. Participation in distributions of essentials to IDPs/returnees
7. Raising awareness level about the Commission during sensitizations /courtesy calls and educating the public on the mandate of the Commission.
8. Establishment of 35 Protection Action Groups (PAG) within the areas of coverage.

8.3.2 BAUCHI STATE:

By virtue of the work carried out by the Monitors, the IDPs became aware of their rights. They also knew where and to whom complaints bordering on rights violation should be forwarded to.

The presence and activities of the Monitors enhanced the State Government assistance to the IDPs. In Toro LGA, for instance, the State Government gave out pieces of farm lands to the IDPs to commence farming activities.

8.3.3 BENUE STATE:

A sense of belonging was created among the IDPs due to the frequent visit and reporting of their conditions by IDPs Monitors.

Even though inadequate, humanitarian assistance in form of relief materials and other vital services have been rendered to the IDPs to ameliorate their suffering.

Increased awareness of obligations and responsibilities of Government/Key Agencies in relation to the plights of IDPs.

Useful data has been collated and disseminated on IDPs situation. There is however need for improvement in data gathering and use of such collated data for programing in this area.

8.3.4 GOMBE STATE:

Awareness was created on various needs of different categories of persons within the IDPs population: the pregnant and breast feeding mothers, the sick, the out of school children, the elderly, Persons With Disabilities, the girl child, among others. Accordingly, humanitarian actors, relevant government agencies, CSOs, FBOs and other stake holders are better informed on specific needs of these disaggregated groups.

8.3.5 TARABA STATE:

Following the strong presence of the IDPs monitors in Taraba, some NGOs keyed into the IDPs monitoring project. Notable amongst them is David Sabo Kente Foundation (DSK) which accepted to provide medical treatment for IDPs free of any financial charges.

Based on a tip off, the monitors were able to intervene timely, by calling on NAPTIP who were able to contain a case of children who were to be kidnapped and used as sex workers.

Formation of 10 CPAG (Community Protection Action Group) across the LGAs in the course of the exercise.

8.3.6 YOBE STATE:

Through prompt and efficient referrals, interventions were made on behalf of IDPs such as:

- Identification of protection issues and appropriate referrals.
- Where there were cases of detention/arbitrary arrests, the IDPs Monitors visited the detention centers and successfully negotiated with the officers for the release on bail of the detained IDPs.
- All Sexual and Gender Based Violence cases were appropriately referred and followed up accordingly.
- Thorough follow-up on all cases were carried out.

8.4 PROTECTION SITES VISITED

8.4.1 ADAMAWA STATE:

A total of 98 Protection Sites were visited in the 12 Local Government Areas covered and 3772 persons were sensitized on Human Rights and Protection Issues. The protection sites visited were:

YOLA NORTH LGA

Gwadabawa, Jambutu Nyakore, Damilu, PW Kofare 1, Malkohi, St. Theresa's Catholic Church camp, Doubeli.

YOLA SOUTH LGA

Shagari Phase 1, Sabon Pegi Shagari, Sanda, Malkohi informal settlement, EYN camp, Lakare, Bachure, Yolde Pate, Sangere, Namtari, Ngurore, Rumde Jabbe, Mbamba, EYN Camp, Wuro Jabbe, Saminaka.

FUFORE LGA

Sabon Gari, Wuro Kurore Fufore IDP camp.

GIREI LGA

Sangere, Damare, Modere, Takkande, Dagri.

GOMBI LGA

Tashan Margi, Samiyan Paskare, Hong Road, LCCN Cathedral, Hawan Idi, Behind Local Government Secretariat.

MAIHA LGA

Panjauda, Mayo Nguli, Maiha Gari, Primary Health Care Centre, Local Government General Hospital.

MUBI SOUTH LGA

Gipalma, Chandal, Anguwan Gude, Lamurde, Mazuwa, Nasara.

MUBI NORTH LGA

Barama, Lokwa, Police Roundabout.

MADAGALI LGA

Shuwa, Mararaban Jatau, Gwaba, Bakin Dutse, Gar Gulak, Kaya, Kubu, Anguwan Mission, Bakin Kasuwa, Kuda Thliza.

MICHIKA LGA

Wotu, Yasukule, Michika h2, Central, Moda, Hayin Kogi/Bilabili, Jedil, GSS Michika, Anguwan General Hospital, Yaskule, Anguwan Kashu, Anguwan Margi.

HONG LGA

Fadama Lake, Damare, Mayo Lupe, Anguwan Betso, Anguwan Buroba/Maraban Mubi, COE Junction, Wuro Bokki, Tabu, Waja, Wuro Dole, Sabon Pegi, Mararaba, Kwarhi, Mararaban Pella.

SONG LGA

Anguwan Michika, Burawo, Dirma, Anguwan Nene, Loko Central, Loko West, Loko North, Mboi Sabon Gari, Murke, State Lowcost, Mbilla, Dumne.

8.4.2 BAUCHI:

A total of 123 protection monitoring sites in all the LGAs in Bauchi State were visited. Some of the sites visited include:

Majiya Itas, Dadau, Gwaltukwa Dass, Kuletu Dass, Bazali Dass, Bununu South, Gabarin, Dango, Dawashi, Nahuta, Guda, Tumfafi, Jajere, Kwajalaye, Tofu, Jaka road, Yana, Nasarawa-Misau, Kurba, Water Board, Jahunfadan, Bayak Bauchi, Kagadama, Tsarkinkuduss-Bogoro, Nazuma Bos, Ajiyari-Darazo, Shettimah Mustapha Estate and others.

8.4.3 BENUE STATE:

Protection Monitoring visits were carried out in the following Local Government Areas:

GUMA LGA: Abinsi, Daudu shelter project, Agasha, Gbajimba.

UKUM: Vaatse.

AGATU LGA: Obaaji.

TARKA LGA: Tiortyu, Uanhur, Mobile Barracks.

OTUKPO LGA: Adoka.

BURUKU: Uangbaaye, Tangahar.

LOGO LGA.

8.4.4 GOMBE STATE:

Protection Monitoring visits were carried out in the following Local Government Areas:

Malayina, Nasarawa, Kombia, Arawa, Bolari, Dudun Wada, Yerwa gana, Gabuka, Wuroshie, Hammadukefi, Bomola, Libiya, Bogo, Barunde, Arawa 2, Tumfure, Kumo, Manawachi, ziringaza, Bajoga.

8.4.5 TARABA STATE:

Protection Monitoring visits were carried out in the Camps located in the following communities within the Local Government Areas indicated below:

Jalingo LGA:

Gulum, Sabon Gari 1, Sabon Gari 11, Murtai and others.

Ardo Kola LGA:

Sunkani, Mulum Camp, Atc Kofar, Tashan Nyam Mayo Ranewo.

Ibi and Donga LGA:

Catholic Church, Islamiya Primary School, Gidan Waya, Ungwan Kpegi and others.

Takum LGA:

Bali, Gasol

Wukari LGA:

Ungwan Logo, Aske Govt Lodge, Sansani Kusum, Kangana, Tiv Council, Mai Duniya, Catholic Church, Pangari 1, Pangari 11, ungwan Abuja, Kasuwan Daban, and several other sites.

NUMBER OF SESSIONS	NUMBER OF BOYS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF GIRLS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF MEN SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF WOMEN SENSITIZED	TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS SENSITIZED
199	3189	4055	3724	6253	21,813

Community outreach sessions carried out by Taraba State :

NUMBER OF SESSIONS	NUMBER OF BOYS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF GIRLS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF MEN SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF WOMEN SENSITIZED	TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS SENSITIZED
25	284	184	228	254	950

Community meeting consultation carried out by Taraba State:

NUMBER OF SESSIONS	NUMBER OF BOYS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF GIRLS SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF MEN SENSITIZED	NUMBER OF WOMEN SENSITIZED	TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS SENSITIZED
25	162	121	212	109	604

8.4.6 YOBE STATE:

Protection Monitoring visits were carried out in the following Local Government Areas:

Kukareta and Kaseisa (unofficial camps), Gujba and Bulani (two most affected areas by insurgency), Geidam, Yunusari, Mompomari, among several other sites.

8.5 BREAKDOWN OF PROTECTION ISSUES, REFERRALS AND FOLLOW-UP CASES RECORDED IN THE SIX STATES COVERED BY THE IDPs MONITORING PROJECT.

8.5.1 ADAMAWA STATE:

PROTECTION ISSUES	NUMBER OF CASES
Health: (Access to health facilities and healthcare, Cost of medical care, Presence of qualified health workers and emergency services, Availability of drugs)	27 (There were 27 complaints in this area)
Nutrition: (Frequency and quality/variety of food provided)	22 (22 IDPs had complaints related to this)
Education: (Availability of teaching materials, Availability of teachers, school structure, enrolment)	18 (18 IDPs had complaints in this area)
Female headed households	47 (47 Homes were headed by females)
Access to Water /Sanitation	23 (23 cases in relation to water and sanitation—either no water at all or the source was polluted among other issues)
Discrimination	17 (there were about 17 complaints by the IDPs against the host communities bordering on discrimination—for example not being allowed to have access to water, discrimination in the distribution of relief materials among others)
Hygiene Promotion	18 (Monitors carried out sensitization in the camps on hygiene promotion –

	this was done about 18 times)
Child Protection: (Unaccompanied and Separated Children, Child Labor, Child headed household, Children associated with armed forces/armed groups, OVC and out of school children)	148 (There were 148 issues bordering on child protection as highlighted)
Tension between IDPs and Host Communities	5 (There were 5 recorded instances of conflicts between the host communities and IDPs in the project State)
Economic empowerment/livelihood	There were recommendations from both monitors on the field and the Report Task Team on the need to economically empower the IDPs
Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)	13 (13 SGBV cases were reported such as rape)
Lack of access to Basic Services/Documentation	17 (17 cases of bordering on shelter, education, health)
Women Protection and Empowerment	53 (Outreach sessions on women protection empowerment were carried out)
Psychosocial Distress and Support Mechanisms	5 (5 cases of mental health issues were reported)
IDPs Willingness to Return to Areas of Origin	98 (98 IDPs were willing to return to their communities)
Harassment by JTF/security operatives	13 (13 IDPs reported cases of harassment by JTF/Security operatives)
Arbitrary arrests and detention	2 (2 Arbitrary arrests and detention cases were reported)
Fraudulent practices against the IDPs	11 (11 cases of extortion by fraudsters for the purpose of issuing

	accommodation to IDPs in informal camps)
Missing persons/family separations	63 (63 cases of Missing persons/family separations were reported)
Property disputes	2(2 cases of Property disputes were reported)
Fulani herdsmen attacks/security incidence	7 (7 Fulani herdsmen attacks/security incidences were reported)
Persons with disability	8 (8 Persons with disability were in the camp)

8.5.2 BAUCHI STATE:

INCIDENTS	NO.	REFERRALS
Single parenthood	228	
Pregnant women	184	
Disabilities	99	
Lactating mothers	210	
Separated children	16	
Sick	231	
		249

8.5.3 BENUE STATE:

TYPE OF CASES	NUMBER OF REFERRALS	AGENCIES TO WHICH CASES WERE REFERRED TO
Child Protection Cases	473	Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development
Security incidence - arbitrary arrest by JTF, attacks by herds men	6,678	9 Cases were referred to NHRC. Others were referred to SEMA, Hospitals and the

among others		Police.
Forced Displacement	11,542	SEMA
Lack of Access to Social Services(Health)	980	Ministry of Health, Benue State
Food/water/shelter	9196	SEMA
Discrimination	206	NHRC, Benue Office
Single Parent Household	301	Ministry Of Women Affairs and Social Development

8.5.4 GOMBE STATE:

PROTECTION ISSUES RECORDED	NUMBER
Female headed household	2,127
Single parenthood	147
Separated children	15
Unaccompanied children	2
Returnees	4
Lactating (Breastfeeding) mothers	14
Pregnant women	7
Ill health	6
Disability	1

8.5.5 TARABA STATE:

CASES	NUMBER	REFERRALS TO APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
SGBV	4	4
Child Protection Cases	445	445
Security Incidents	20	20
Access to Basic Services	248	248

8.5.6 YOBE STATE:

INCIDENT TYPE	NUMBER	NO. REFERRED	FOLLOW- UP
Discrimination	9	9	9
SGBV	37	37	6
Denial of humanitarian assistance	33	33	33
Killing	28	28	0
Forced Displacement	29	29	29
Lack of access to social services	69	69	69
Abduction	17	17	0
Child labor	10	10	10
Property dispute	1	1	1
Security Incidence	4	4	0
Arbitrary arrests/Detention	2	2	2
TOTAL	239	239	159

8.6 REFERRALS:

8.6.1 ADAMAWA STATE:

A total number of 16 referrals were made to the appropriate bodies as follows:

- 9 SGBV cases referred to IRC.
- 2 cases on education referred to UNICEF and ADSUBEB.
- 3 security cases referred to DSS,
- 1 case of WASH (Toilet) referred to IRC
- 1 WASH (water) case referred to ICRC.

Referral was also made to UNHCR for the provision of Non Food Items (NFIs) to EYN Church camp and 100 makeshift accommodations (shelter) to Malkohi informal settlement.

8.6.2 BAUCHI STATE:

In Bauchi, cases were referred to different designated bodies such as IDPs Local Supervisors, Local and State Government Social Welfare Officers, UNHRC, SEMA among others.

8.6.3 BENUE STATE:

Humanitarian protection needs of the IDPs were referred to relevant Government and Non-Governmental Agencies for intervention.

In Benue State, cases were referred to different designated bodies such as Benue State Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Services, State Ministry of Health, National Human Rights Commission, UNHRC, SEMA among others.

8.6.4 GOMBE STATE:

In Gombe State, cases were referred to different designated bodies such as Gombe Specialist Hospital, State Ministry of Education, UNHRC, SEMA among others.

8.6.5 TARABA STATE:

The Protection Sector Working Group in Taraba was composed of several State level inter agency actors. They were all involved in emergency preparedness and response. All referrals were made to the PSGW where they were promptly referred to the relevant agencies.

8.6.6 YOBE STATE:

Protection issues were referred to appropriate agencies saddled with the responsibility of handling issues within its purview.

8.7 CHALLENGES

The following are the challenges faced during the course of the project:

- Reluctance of victims to open up and report SGBV cases.
- Justification of child labor by parents on cultural and economic grounds.

- Slow or no response to referrals by partners/agencies.
- Reluctance in assisting IDPs outside the camps (70% of assistance go to camps).
- High expectations by IDPs/returnees.
- Transportation/Communication difficulties: Some locations were not accessible with vehicles. Transportation difficulties were faced in various states particularly in suburbs or rural communities due to bad roads, inadequate number of vehicles and high cost of transportation among other reasons. Similarly communication gap created as a result of poor telecommunication system or lack of network coverage also disrupted scheduled appointments with the local people, thereby, hampering effective monitoring.
- Most IDPs and returnees were psychologically traumatized.
- Absence of a project office in some project locations such as Bauchi State was a major challenge to effective Supervision. There was difficulty in accessing venues for collation of reports and convening Monthly meetings.
- Some local leaders and IDPs expected financial/non-financial aid before giving information or responding to interviews.
- The duration of the entire project was rather short and not much could be achieved, especially with limited number of monitors covering 2 or more LGAs.
- The absence of convenient working tools, especially for the Supervisors, who had to type, edit, and send reports to the projects head office in Abuja was another challenge confronting effective discharge of responsibilities.
- Concentration of aid and humanitarian assistance to formal camps while seemingly ignoring IDPs in informal settlements was also a challenge.
- Inadequate intervention by State and Local Governments due to lack of funds or non-prioritization of IDP projects.
- The vast distance between one Local Government and another posed some challenge to the Supervisors in view of mobility.
- Non-Governmental Organizations do not seem to have fully embraced intervention in this area as core thereby leaving the burden to Government

Agencies, who unfortunately, do not have the capacity to bear the burden alone. There is need to improve on current poor humanitarian response from State and Federal agencies on the plight of the IDPs.

- Unwillingness on the part of the IDPs to give to the monitors, vital information, that will ultimately alleviate their sufferings.
- Most IDPs suspicion that the entire monitoring project may be fraudulent, owing to its monotonous nature and the fact that immediate assistance from the monitors appears not to be in sight.
- Non recognition of informal IDPs settlements by Government in some States compounds the sufferings of the IDPs in such settlements. Some of these concerns include non-provision of security personnel, absence or inadequate humanitarian assistance, inadequate social welfare facilities among others.
- Alleged pockets of reports were made on the diversion of relief materials by Government Officials.
- Security challenges.
- Lack of quick response from partners whenever a case is referred to them by Monitors.
- Paucity of number of monitors vis-a -viz the vast areas covered.
- Slow or lack of cooperation among protection agencies at the state levels
- Discrimination in the area of relief materials and leadership positions in the camp existed between IDPs and returnees from neighboring countries to the Camps.
- Sexual harassment from security personnel in Madagali, Adamawa State especially in Gulak and Shuwa.
- Drought in Madagali, Adamawa State.

8.8 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are key recommendations which should improve the IDPs Protection Monitoring Project. They include:

- Partners/Agencies should be prompt in responding to referrals
- Empowerment programs should be introduced such as agricultural support and skill acquisition for the IDPs and returnees so that they can meet their basic needs. Grants or loans could also be useful to enable them commence small scale businesses.
- The Monitors should work closely with communities to identify appropriate services in ensuring the safety and security of women and girls in the camps/ settlement and the host communities-to reduce their vulnerability to sexual molestation.
- The project should enhance advocacy mechanisms with authorities and partners on key protection issues and concerns of vulnerable groups.
- There is need for engagement with communities to improve social cohesion and enhance peaceful co-existence between IDPs and host communities.
- The donor and implementing partners of the project should support the strengthening of Protection Action Groups established to prevent and respond to Human Rights violations and address communal/community issues.
- The project partners should improve on the successes recorded and ensure their sustainability.
- Monitors should be given periodic training on Sexual and Gender Based Violence, Psychosocial Support, Trafficking in Persons, Report writing and related issues in management of IDPs.

- There is need to build an efficient feedback mechanism between the IDPs and monitors in order to ensure timely intervention on the issues and concerns raised.
- There is need for the project to develop a better and stronger frame work through which government agencies and other players in the field of IDPs protection can be engaged.
- There is need for UNHCR and the project partners to carry out extensive advocacy directed towards cooperate organizations, philanthropists and relevant NGOs to elicit their interest/ support for in reducing the plight of the IDPs. This will also lessen the burden on the Government.
- Provision of adequate infrastructure at the Daudu Shelter Project, Benue State.
- While appreciating Governments efforts at curbing incessant attacks that lead to displacement, the Government is urged to further intensify efforts in combating the activities of terror groups which cause displacement.
- Profiling of IDPs should be carried out for the purposes of identification rationing and distribution of relief materials, security considerations among others.
- Due to the trauma experienced by the IDPs, there is need for them to constantly undergo counseling and other forms of psychosocial therapy.
- There is need for acceptance/peaceful coexistence between IDPs and host communities. Traditional rulers or Community leaders hosting IDPs have a role to play in actualizing this.
- Due to the experiences encountered on the field (some of them traumatizing)it is therefore, recommended that monitors be given some form of counseling and psychosocial capacity building in order to prepare them for the task ahead.
- It is recommended that the IDPs monitoring project be extended beyond 2016. This is because the protection issues facing IDPs are yet to be abated.

CHAPTER NINE

FINANCIAL REPORT

9.0 INTRODUCTION

The Finance and Accounts Department is a core department of the Commission charged with the following responsibilities:

- Receipt of budgetary and extra budgetary allocation on behalf of the Commission.
- Receipt of all funds/donations on behalf of the Commission.
- Payments to staff, contractors and other beneficiaries on behalf of the Commission.
- Liaison with banks and other financial institutions on behalf of the Commission.
- Recording of all financial transactions of the Commission.
- Preparation of financial reports.
- Liaison with statutory and regulatory authorities on behalf of the Commission such as:-
 - i. The External Auditors
 - ii. The Auditor General's office;
 - iii. The Accountant General of the Federation;

In the year 2016 the Commission successfully hosted auditors and inspectors from the various regulatory agencies as well as undertook budget preparation and defence exercises.

The financial receipts and expenses of the Commission for the year 2016 are summarized in the table below. Notably, the sources of the fund reflected below are from the Federal Government of Nigeria:

9.1 SUMMARY OF RECEIPT, EXPENDITURE AND BALANCE FOR THE YEAR 2016.

S/No.	Expenditure Head (₦)	Account Code	Amount Released (₦)	Amount Expended (₦)	Balance as at 31 st December 2016 (₦)	Per (%).of expenditure
1.	Personnel	31030201	847,287,769.49	847,287,769.49	NIL	100%
2.	Overhead	31030202	258,229,850.00	258,229,850.00	NIL	100%
3.	Capital	31030203	104,482,380.51	104,482,160.81	219.70	99.99%
			1,210,000,000	1,209,999,780.30	219.70	99.99%

The above analysis explains that out of ₦1,210,000,000 released, only ₦1,209,999,780.30 was expended leaving a total balance of ₦219.70.

Therefore the entire budget performance for the year 2016 was 99.99%.

9.2 DONATIONS

Financial support, as shown in the table below, were received from Donor Agencies:

Expenditure Head	Account Codes	Amount Released (₦)	Amount Expended (₦)	Balances as at 31 st December 2016 (₦)
FORD FOUNDATION	31030209	4,611,808.00	3,109,552.50	1,502,255.50
OSIWA	31030214	3,596,586.86	3,590,715.00	5,871.86
UNDP	31030212	3,532,813.97	3,056,300.00	476,513.97

Note: - The above donor funds were mopped up in 2015 by Federal Government of Nigeria through Treasury Single Account (TSA) but were released in the year 2016.

9.3 SPECIAL PROJECT

Expenditure Head	Amount Released (₦)	Amount Expended (₦)	Balance as at 31 st December 2016 (₦)
Constituency Project	1,641,654,519.39	1,020,049,577.39	621,604,942.00
UNHCR	119,501,863.99	117,297,782.50	2,204,081.49

Note:

(A) The Constituency Project fund of N1,641,654,519.39 constitute the following cash balance as at 2015 =N89,732,354.81

(ii) 2015 3 rd /4 th quarter Project	=N909,309,278.00
(iii) 2014 Constituency Project	=N9,690,855.00
(iv) 2016 Constituency Project	=N625,066,667.00
(v) 50% Returned Fund Wrongly paid in 2015	=N7,855,364.58

(B) The UNHCR Project of N119,501,863.99 constitute the following:

Actual Allocation for 2016	=N95,957,775.04
Mopped up fund later Released	=N21,459,588.95
Counterpart funding by NHRC	=N1,984,500.00
Received from Statutory A/C as unspent bal.	N100,000.00

9.4 DOMICILIARY

Expenditure Head	Amount Released (\$)	Amount Expended (\$)	Balance as at 31 st December 2016 (\$)
DONOR1 MISCELLANEOUS	19,021.14	-	\$19,021.14
MAC ARTHUR FOUNDATION	100,000.00	-	\$100,000.00
FORD FOUNDATION	50,047.02	-	\$50,047.02

Notes:

The above domiciliary funds were mopped in the year 2015 and released in December 2016.

4) The Commission has an Internally Generated Revenue to the tune of ₦2,444,000.00 being Contractor's Registration fee and CTC fees.

APPENDIX I

ZONAL AND STATE OFFICES E-MAIL CONTACT DETAILS

STATE AND ZONAL OFFICES

ZONAL OFFICE

1. South West (Lagos)
2. South East (Enugu)
3. South South (Port Harcourt)
4. North East (Maiduguri)
5. North Central (Jos)
6. North West (Kano)
7. Abuja Metropolitan Office

EMAIL ADDRESS

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nhrcsszo@yahoo.com
nhrcnez@gmail.com
nhrcjos@yahoo.com
nhrcwz@gmail.com
amonhrc@gmail.com

STATE OFFICES

1. Nassarawa, Lafia
2. Benue, Makurdi
3. Anambra, Awka
4. Gombe, Gombe
5. Edo, Benin
6. Kaduna, Kaduna
7. Niger, Minna
8. Katsina, Katsina
9. Kwara, Ilorin
10. Cross-River, Calabar
11. Adamawa, Yola
12. Ekiti, Ado Ekiti
13. Akwa Ibom, Uyo
14. Sokoto, Sokoto
15. Imo, Owerri
16. Osun
17. Ondo

EMAIL ADDRESS

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nhrcgombe@gmail.com
nhrcedo@gmail.com
nhrckaduna@gmail.com
nhrccminna@gmail.com
nhrckastina@gmail.com
nhrckwara@gmail.com
nhrccalabar@yahoo.com
nhrcadamawa@gmail.com
nhrcekiti@gmail.com
nhrcakwaibom@gmail.com
nhracsokoto@gmail.com
nhrcimo@gmail.com
osunhumanrights14@yahoo.com
nhrc.ondo@gmail.com

APPENDIX II

ABBREVIATIONS

ACHPR - African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights

ACP – Assistant Commissioner of Police

ACRC – Aflatoun Child’s Rights

AU – African Union

BENSACA – Benue State Agency for the Control of Aids

CBD – Community Based Development

CEGG – Conflict Prevention, Ethics and Good Governance

CIAI – Community Information and Advocacy Initiative

CLEEN – Centre for Law Enforcement Education in Nigeria

CPAG – Community Protection Action Group

CPC – Child Protection Committee

CPN – Child Protection Network

CRIC – Child Right Implementation Committee

CRUDAN – Christian Woman for Excellence in Nigeria

CSOs – Civil Society Organization

CSW – Commission on the Status of Women

CUF – Crime Victims Foundation

CWEENS – Christian Women for Excellence in Nigeria

CYONEN – Concerned youth Empowerment Association of Nigeria

DFID – Directorate for International Development

EK – TV – Ekiti State Television

EPZ – Export Processing Zone

F&A – Finance and Accounts

FA – Focal Area

FBO – Faith Based Association

FCID – Force Criminal Investigation Department

FCT – Federal Capital Territory

FGM/C – Female Gender Mutilation and Cutting

FIDA – Federation of Women Layers Association

FO – Field Offices

FOI – Freedom of Information

FOMWAN – Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria

FRCN – Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria

GBV – Gender Based Violence

GANHRI – Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions

HER & P – Human Rights Education and Protection

HRI – Human Rights Institute

HRM – Human Resources Management

ICC – International Coordinating Committee

ICT – Information and Communication Technology

ICRC – International Committee of the Red Cross

IEC – Instructional Educational Communication Materials

IHL – International Humanitarian Law

IHRL – International Humanitarian Rights Law

ILED – Initiative for Leadership Transformation, Entrepreneurship, Advancement and Community Development

IMN – Islamic Movement of Nigeria

INEC – Independent National Electoral Commission

IRC – International Rescue Committee

JDPC – Justice Development and Peace Commission

JTF – Joint Task Force

MDAs – Ministries, Developments and Agencies

MWASD – Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development

NA – Nigerian Army

NANHRI – Network of African National Human Rights Institutions

NBA – Nigeria Bar Association

NEMA – National Emergency Management Agency

NGO – Non-Governmental Organization

NHRIs – National Human Rights Institutions

NOA – National Orientation Agency

NSCDC – Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps

NUSBNC – Nigeria-United States Bi-National Commission

NYSC – National Youth Service Corps

OHCHR – Office of the United National High Commissioner for Human Rights

OSIWA – Open Society Initiative for West Africa

OVC – Orphans and Vulnerable Children

P & I – Protection and Protection

PADEAP – Pan-African Development Education Programme

PAG – Protection Action Group

POWA – Police Officers Wives Association

PS & D – Planning, Statistics and Documentation

SAN – Senior Advocate of Nigeria

SARS – Special Anti-Robbery Squad

SDGs – Sustainable Development Goals

SEMA – State Emergency Management Agency

SGBV – Sexual and Gender Based Violence

SOGIE – Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression

SSS – State Security Service

TWG – Technical Working Group

UBEC – Universal Basic Education Commission

UN – United Nations

UNFPA – United Nations Children’s Education Fund

UNDP – United Nations Development Programme

UNHCR – United Nations Higher Commissioner for Refugees

VAC – Violence Against Children

VAWE – Violence Against Women in Election

WACOL - Women's Aid Collective

WEWE – Widows and Orphans Empowerment Organization

WRAPA - Women's Rights Advancement and Protection Agency

ORGANOGRAM**NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**