



ELECTION SECURITY MANAGEMENT FOR DIVISIONAL POLICE OFFICERS

Training Manual

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We commend Nigeria Police Force for their partnership and collaboration.

PREFACE

Deepening Nigeria's democracy requires the contributions of all stakeholders concerned with the process of electioneering. More importantly, building trust and legitimacy around elections come with huge responsibilities on government institutions especially the Nigeria Police Force (NPF). Election Security Management has become the most important aspect of building this trust and legitimacy among Nigerians and this reenforces the role of the Nigeria Police Force.

This training manual is designed to provide the necessary enlightenment and technical support to personnel of the Nigeria Police Force, especially mid-level career officers to aid decision-making as it concerns election security management in Nigeria. It is imperative to also mention that this manual is developed from years of experience of retired senior officers and foremost human rights champions in the country.

We are convinced that this manual will contribute to the improvement of election security management structure in Nigeria.

Gad Peter
Executive Director
CLEEN Foundation

FOREWORD

Nigeria's return to democracy in 1999 came with a lot of expectations both internally and externally. Learning from history, Nigeria cannot joke with this return and thus stakeholders across board must pay attention and contribute to the deepening of this democracy. The need for a trusted, credible, popularly accepted, free and fair elections in Nigeria heralds every General Election in the country since 1999 and this ultimately raises concerns about the roles of security agencies especially the Nigeria Police Force in supporting and ensuring free, fair, and credible elections in the country.

Crowd management and public order and the handling of such by the Nigeria Police has been a major discourse and this has led to several queries on the capacity and capability of the police. It is important to reiterate that Nigerians have the right to assemble or even protest without fear of intimidation or suppression based on the provisions of the Constitutions and this right must be protected by the police. This manual therefore attempts to educate and enlighten police officers on their responsibilities as it relates to respecting and sustaining the rights of Nigerians without prejudice to political affiliations.

Also, this manual took time to explore several legal frameworks intended to provide guidance for the conduct of the police as it concerns election security management in Nigeria. It explains the expectations of the law and the synonymous response of police officers in ensuring that election process in the country is free, fair, and credible to the acceptance of everyone concerned.

This manual also deals with expectations of rights-holders in a democracy while providing real-life exercises and how police officers can effectively and efficiently deal with such issues without abusing the rights of Nigerians and thereby threatening the deepening of Nigeria's democracy.

Finally, I commend the efforts of everyone that has contributed to the compilation and production of this manual and I am convinced that this will stand the test to time and provide invaluable support to election security management in Nigeria.

MODULE 1:
POLICE AND LEGAL FRAMEWORKS ON
ELECTIONS IN NIGERIA

Introduction

- In every democracy, the importance of a credible election for socio, economic and political development cannot be overemphasized.
- Prominent among the requirement for free, fair and credible elections is the legal framework which generally regulates the administration of elections
- This presentation elucidates the legal framework of elections in Nigeria and the role of the Nigerian Police in this.

Classification of Legal Instruments for Election

- **International Instrument**>>> these are protocols and conventions ratified by international communities which torch on democracy, human rights and elections.
- **Legal Instruments**>>>> these are local laws of the land that torch on the practice of democracy, human rights and elections in the country

International Instruments

- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)
- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Convention on the Political Rights of Women
- African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

- The CEDAW is an international treaty adopted in 1979 by the United Nations General Assembly.
- It is an international bill of rights for women ratified by 189 states including Nigeria.
- The treaty provides that all appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure women, have equal terms with men without any discrimination including repealing all discriminatory

provisions in their laws and enacting new provisions to guard against discrimination against women.

- States ratifying the Convention must also establish tribunals and public institutions to guarantee women effective protection against discrimination, and take steps to eliminate all forms of discrimination practiced against women by individuals, organizations, and enterprises:

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

- Rights of women promoted by the CEDAW are:
- The right to vote in all elections and be eligible for election to all publicly elected bodies.
- The right to vote in all public referenda.
- The right to hold public office and to exercise all public functions. Such rights shall be guaranteed by legislation
- The right to participate in the formulation of government policy and the implementation thereof and to hold public office and perform all public functions at all levels of government;
- The right to participate in non-governmental organizations and associations concerned with the public and political life of the country.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

- The UDHR is an international document adopted by the UNGA that enshrines the rights and freedoms of all human beings and was accepted in December 1948.
- the Declaration consists of 30 articles detailing an individual's "basic rights and fundamental freedoms" and affirming their universal character as inherent, inalienable, and applicable to all human beings.
- Although not legally binding, the contents of the UDHR have been elaborated and incorporated into subsequent international treaties, regional human rights instruments, and national constitutions and legal codes
- It is provided here that everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and also, no one may be compelled to belong to an association.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

- In addition to this, everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives
- Everyone also has the right to equal access to public service in his country.
- Also, the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government: this will shall be expressed in genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

Convention on the Political Rights of Women

- The Convention on the Political Rights of Women was approved by the United Nations General Assembly during the 409th plenary meeting in 1952 and adopted in 1953.
- The Convention's purpose is to codify a basic international standard for women's political rights.
- It holds that women shall be entitled to vote in all elections on equal terms with men, without any discrimination.
- Women shall be eligible for election to all publicly elected bodies, established by national law, on equal terms with men, without any discrimination.
- Women shall be entitled to hold public office and to exercise all public functions, established by national law, on equal terms with men, without any discrimination

African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights

- The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (the Banjul Charter) is an international human rights instrument that is intended to promote and protect human rights and basic freedoms in Africa.
- As of 2019, 53 states have ratified the Charter. It holds that:
- Every citizen shall have the right to participate freely in the government of his country, either directly or through freely chosen representatives in accordance with the provisions of the law.
- secondly, every citizen shall have the right to equal access to the public service of the country
- thirdly, every individual shall have the right of access to public property and services in strict equality of all persons before the law.

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) is a multilateral treaty that commits nations to respect the civil and political rights of individuals.
- It was adopted by UNGA Resolution 2200A (XXI) on 16 December 1966 and entered into force 23 March 1976 after its thirty-fifth ratification. It holds that:
 - Everyone shall have the right to freedom of association with others, including the right to form and join trade unions for the protection of his interests.
 - It holds also that:
 - Every citizen shall have the right and the opportunity, without any of the distinctions mentioned in article 2 and without unreasonable restrictions:
 - (a) To take part in the conduct of public affairs, directly or through freely chosen representatives;
 - (b) To vote and to be elected at genuine periodic elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret ballot, guaranteeing the free expression of the will of the electors;
 - (c) To have access, on general terms of equality, to public service in his country.

Local Laws

There are specifically two statutory legal provisions covering elections in Nigeria:

- 1999 Constitution as amended
- Electoral Act 2021
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

MODULE 2: FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND ELECTION SECURITY

Introduction

- Democracy and the Fundamental Human Rights of the People are mutually compatible.
- While democracy ought to promote the fundamental Human Rights of the people, Fundamental Human Rights of the people ought to also make democracy more practicable.
- Unfortunately, in contemporary democracy, the Fundamental Human Rights of the People are flagrantly abused.
- One of the aspects of democracy where the human rights of the people are usually abused is during elections.
- These are mostly done for the purpose of election security.
- In this section, this will be examined.

What is Election Security?

- Security is the condition of being safe, protected or prevented from danger, harm or injury.
- It can also be defined as the safety of a person, group or institution from criminal activities such as robbery, terrorism, arson and so on.
- Security is a basic need for everyone because without it, life become meaningless.
- Election security, therefore, is the act or process of keeping the conduct of election safe. In other words, it is an art of ensuring that the process of election is protected from danger of all sorts such ballot snatching, destruction of voting infrastructure, intimidation of voters etc
- Performance of election security is one of the major duties of the personnel of the NPF with assistance from other sister security agencies.
- In the performance of the duty, the fundamental human rights of the people must be observed.
- These also include the rights of the vulnerable and special people such as women, children, elderly and people living with disabilities.
- What are these fundamental human rights?

What are Fundamental Human Rights?

- These are rights accrue to all human being because they are humans. In order words, they are natural rights.
- These rights apply to all human being, whether male of female
- Whether young or old

- Whether they are Muslim or Christian
- And whatever ethnic group, language or wherever they may be living within the Nigerian state.
- The human rights are enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and they operate universally.

What these rights?

- Right to life.
- Right to freedom from torture and dignity of human person.
- Right to fair hearing.
- Right to freedom from discrimination.
- Rights to private and family life
- Right to freedom of association
- Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion
- Right to freedom of expression and the press
- Right to peaceful assembly and association
- Right to freedom of movement
- Right to buy land and own property anywhere in Nigeria
- All these rights are contained in sections 33-44 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

Role Play

- With the knowledge you have acquired on fundamental Human rights, what are some of the rights that police and other security agencies often trampled upon in the discharge of their duties on election security?
- How to safeguard human rights why enforcing election security
- NPF and other security agencies personnel should secure election with due respect of the law. For instance, the constitution, the new electoral act and other relevant laws should be well studied and understood.
- There should be no discrimination against people because of their gender, political party, religion or tribe etc.

- Anyone arrested should be told at the time of arrest, reason for his/her arrest and should be tried in the court.
- No suspect should be tortured or killed before information can be elicited.

Code of Conduct expected of a security personnel during election to uphold human rights

- Impartiality.
- Political neutrality>>> your activities must not be seen to be promoting the agenda of any political party during the election.
- You must not be drunk on duty.
- No involvement in jungle justice (like beating or killing of suspect) reprisal attack, rape robberies
- Treat information received with utmost confidentiality
- Force should only be used when it is necessary and it should be minimum depending on the situation

Conclusion

- Your job as a security personnel during election is to ensure safety of others during election.
- It is a good job and it will determine the success of the election.
- However, in the performance of your duty, you should ensure that human rights are safeguarded.
- Trampling upon human right while ensuring security of elections tarnishes the image of the NPF as well as discredit the election process.
- Therefore, the rights should be safeguarded at all time.

MODULE 3: GENDER AND ELECTION SECURITY MANAGEMENT

Introduction

- Women and men face different and varying degrees of risk in security threats.
- The consideration of gender in security risk management is very important.
- This is particularly true in the context of the management of election security.
- Within the context of election management, women constitute one of the most vulnerable group of people.
- This presentation discusses the different threat to women participation in election and what security agencies can do to promote safety of women

The concept of a women

- The concept of a woman may mean different things to different people.
- In some cultural milieus, a woman can be tagged as anyone who is weak.
- Furthermore, in some cultures, a woman can be tagged as anyone who is reproductive
- But in the context of this presentation, a woman is a female person

Threat to women participation in election

- Outbreak of violence.
- Lack of presence of security personnel
- Heavy militarization of election venue
- Slow process of voting can discourage women from voting
- Imposition of Stringent security means that may not confirm with the weakness of women

Impact

- Chance of women candidates emerging victorious is shrunk
- Voters' turnout will be poor because most of the registered voters are women
- Issues of women, children and peace and security may not take a front burning during governance.

Recommendations

- Security agencies should think about how their security policy and the decision can affect women during the election while planning.
- Display of weapons or show of force around voting areas should be discouraged because of the fear it may create in women except where it is absolutely necessary.
- What else can be done? Questions to the participants.

MODULE 4:
ELECTORAL PHASES AND THE PREVENTION OF
VIOLENCE

Introduction

- Election is important in any democratic state. This is because it is the best means by which the people choose their representative to government them in a democratic state.
- Unfortunately, while elections provide people with the opportunity to freely express their will and exercise their civil and political rights, these events also exacerbate existing tensions and the risk of human rights abuses and violations.
- Thus, election, which ought to be a peaceful affair, is always riddled with conflict and violence.
- This is particularly the case with Africa where elections are considered a do or die affair.
- In Nigeria, period of elections are considered as do or die affair by Nigerian political gladiators and their followed.
- This explains why elections are usually riddled with violent conflict in Nigeria.
- In this presentation we will explore the various phases of election and the issues that normally incite or invite violence.
- The aim is to see how violence ensuing from these phases can be prevented.

Meaning of Election

- Election is the process whereby the adult citizens choose their representative to govern them.
- Election encapsulates the mediating institutional and psychological process and anchors for citizens, as adults in an organized and routinised manner to express their choice among those who seek public political office.
- In the political realm, election is expressed as the formal display of preferences by the governed, either secretly or openly, with the aggregation of the choice collated and transformed into collective decision on who governs based on the majority of the votes cast.

Phases in the Electoral Process

- There are basically three phases in the electoral process. These are:
- Pre-election Phases>>> this is the early phase in the electoral process. At this stage, preparation are put in place towards the D-day of the election.
- Election Phase>>>> this is the period of the conduct of the action within the country
- Post-election>>>> This is the period when the elections have ended and results are announced.

Electoral Phases, Activities, Actors and Associated Violence in Nigeria

How can Violence be Prevented in Nigeria?

- The ESM should be adequately strengthened by improving on their manpower and logistics to respond to security challenges and violence that may ensue.
- The election process should be transparent. This will make the level of public trust in the election improve.
- Electoral campaigns should be seriously monitored by the ESM to make sure that clashes are prevented.

MODULE 5:
ELECTION SECURITY MANAGEMENT:
NPF AND CREDIBLE ELECTION

Introduction

- Election is the process through which people (electorate) choose the people they preferred to lead them.
- As simple as this definition sounds, an election ought to be the most peaceful activity in a democratic state. Unfortunately, this is not so.
- Election in Nigeria is riddled with conflict and violence which raise the issue of “election security”.
- The police, being the institution saddled with the constitutional duty of internal security management in Nigeria, has a major role to play in the management of election security.
- What are these roles, how should they play the roles, what challenges lie ahead in the performance of these roles and what can be done to ensure a credible 2023 elections? These will be the focus of this presentation

Contents

- Conceptual Clarification: Election Security Management (ESM) and Credible Elections
- What are the roles of Nigeria Police Force (NPF) personnel in election security management in Nigeria?
- How should these roles be performed
- Challenges in the performance of the roles
- Recommendations for effective policing for credible elections.

What is Election Security Management

- Before understanding ESM, there is a need to understand the meaning of Election Security (ES).
- Election Security, to put it simply, means the safety of the election. This may include the protection of election infrastructure, election materials, voters as well as online and offline results of the election.
- ESM, therefore, is the efforts put towards ensuring the protection and safety of election.
- To put it simply, ESM is the designated plan to guarantee safety and protection from any form of hitch or impediment that can distort or compromise the conduct of a free, fair and credible election.
- This may include efforts to protect election infrastructure, election materials, voters and results in order to prevent them from attack, manipulation or compromise.

Why is election security management important

- Due to the desperation of the Nigerian political elites who may want to win by all means possible and, in the process, bring up violence.
- To give voters the confidence to go out and vote.
- To make the elected responsible to the electorates.
- To give integrity to the electoral process.
- To make the election acceptable to the majority. An election that has integrity will be accepted by many.
- It reduces election-related litigation during and after election

What is a credible election

- A credible election is an election characterized by inclusiveness, transparency, accountability, and competitiveness from the beginning of the process to the end.
- Credible elections begin many years from the period it will be conducted. This basically has to do with planning ahead.
- Question for the participants: Can we say that outcome of litigation arising from the outcome of the election makes an election credible?

Characteristics of a credible election

- One of the most important characteristics of a credible election is that it must have the reflection of the will of the people. Article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that “the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures”.
- It should be an Inclusive participation of all. In other words, no one should be exempted. For instance, how do we ensure the participation of physically challenged people? To those denied because of their disability, the election may not be credible.
- Such an election must have the trust and confidence of the people to give it integrity. If citizens believe the electoral process is defective, dishonest, or less than free and fair, they may not accept the outcome
- Ensuring fair competition among the political parties and candidates.
- Acceptable voter turnout. The voters’ turnout in Nigeria’s election has been so poor. This has also raised issues with the credibility of Nigeria’s election. Is this the fault of the police or other security agencies?
- Periodic Election
- Universal Adult Suffrage
- One man one vote
- Transparent election

ESM Role of the NPF Personnel toward ensuring Credible Elections in Nigeria: 2023 Elections in Focus

- The NPF has the duty of ensuring internal security within the Nigerian State. Therefore, the leading role of the NPF personnel in ESM in Nigeria cannot be overemphasized.
- The role of the NPF personnel can be delineated based on the various categories of elections. Basically, there are three categories of election activities.
- Pre-election activities>>> Activities taking place before the election day such as registration, collection of voters' card, political campaigns and rallies etc
- Election Day activities>>> These are activities happening on the day of the election such as voting, vote sorting and counting and announcement of the result
- Post-election activities>>> Activities taking place after the election such as litigating result, prosecution of election offences. Etc.
- The ESM role of the NPF personnel towards ensuring credible election follows this.

Pre-election ESM role of the NPF Personnel

- Provision of security for electoral infrastructure as well as material before the day they would be used.
- Provision of security for the peaceful conduct of political rallies and processions. Towards achieving this, Section 91 (1-4) of the Electoral Act 2022 as amended, provides inter-alia for the role of the Police thus:

Subsection (1), “the Commissioner of Police in each State of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, shall provide adequate security for the proper and peaceful conduct of political rallies and processions in their respective jurisdictions and for the purpose, the Police may be supported by the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps and any other security agency of the Federal Government”.

- Subsection (2), “For the purpose of subsection (1), a person shall be deemed to be acting in pursuance of a lawful duty if he is acting in his capacity as a Police Officer or as a member of a security agency authorized to carry arms and is specifically posted to be present at that political rally or procession”.
- Subsection (3), “notwithstanding any provision in the Police Act, the Public Order Act and any regulation made there under or any other law to the contrary, the role of the

Nigeria Police Force and the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps and any other security agency of the Federal Government in political rallies, processions and meetings shall be limited to the provision of adequate security as provided in subsection (1)".

Subsection (4), "no registered Political Party in Nigeria, its aspirants or candidate shall be prevented from holding rallies, processions or meetings at any time for their constitutional political purposes and the Police shall in a consultative manner, resolve any conflict of time and venue between and amongst parties where such arises".

Election-Day ESM role of the NPF Personnel

- Provision of security for officials of the Election Management Body – the Independent National Electoral Commission, including its ad-hoc staff that is usually drawn from the National Youth Service Corps.
- Provision of security for all materials that will be used for the conduct of the elections by the Election Management Body. This duty entails the escort of these materials, alongside the EMB officials, under tight security during the distribution by the EMB.
- The security of the accredited election observers and monitors is also the mandate of the Nigeria Police Force on Election Day.
- Ensuring that there is adequate security for the electorate at the polling unit that is conducive for them to cast their ballots.
- Arrest of electoral offenders. When should the prosecution be made?
- Upon the conclusion of voting on the day of the election, personnel of the Nigeria Police Force are equally responsible for escorting the Electoral Management Body officials and the materials that were used in the election to the designated collation centre.
- The security of the collation centre, election materials, and the officials of the Electoral Management Body involved in the collation and tallying of votes is also the responsibility of the Nigeria Police Force.
- It is pertinent to also mention that personnel of the Nigeria Police Force are equally involved in the enforcement of movement restrictions, mounting or roadblocks to ensure that there is no ease of movement by thugs and other violent groups with the motive to disrupt the election process.

Post-Election ESM role of the NPF Personnel

- Investigation of Electoral Offences and Prosecution of Electoral Offenders.
- Ensuring that there is no breakdown of law and order through the prevention and management of all related electoral violence.
- Provision of security at constituted election tribunals nationwide

Challenges of NPF Personnel in ESM

- Problem of Inadequate manpower.
- Problem of logistics
- Inter-agency rivalry (between NPF and NSCDC) make the security agencies work at parallel rather than working together.
- Problem of public trust in the security architecture of Nigeria.
- Unprofessional conduct of some police officers during the election.

What can be done?

MODULE 6:
INTERAGENCY RIVALRY/COLLABORATION: PITFALLS
AND MITIGATION PLAN

Introduction

- Nigeria is one of the countries with a plethora of security agencies in the world.
- While these security agencies are supposed to work collaboratively, they often act as rivals and work in parallel to one another.
- This presentation discusses the following
- Why does such happen?
- What impact will the act have on effective security, particularly regarding election security?
- How can this be mitigated particularly concerning the security of the 2023 elections?

What is inter-agency Rivalry/Collaboration

- According to Albert (2013), inter-agency rivalry refers to a situation whereby security agencies or security agencies and other stakeholders working during the election refuse to work together for the common purpose of ensuring the security and safety during the conduct of the election.
- On the other hand, however, inter-agency collaboration refers to a situation whereby a formal working condition among the security agencies operating in a country or between the security agencies and other stakeholders working during an election is put in place to enhance them to effectively work together for the sake of public peace.
- From these definition, inter-agency collaboration/rivalry does not only have to do with the working between the security agencies/personnel but also between security agencies/personnel and other stakeholders who may not be security personnel.
- While inter-agency rivalry is condemned, inter-agency collaboration is encouraged because of its impact on national security and the development of a country.
- Unfortunately in Nigeria, the inter-agency rivalry is a major issue.

Why Inter-Agency Rivalry among Nigeria's Security Agencies?

- Duplication of role for security agencies (eg NSCDC and Police).
- Suspicion or allegation of corruption (for instance, personnel of other security agencies such as NSCDC and DSS always alleged personnel of Nigeria's police force as corrupt and therefore always prefer to handle their own cases rather than handing them over to the police for prosecution.
- Allegation of lack of prompt response to intelligence. For instance, DSS now has an operational team and therefore, they do not only source intelligence but also act on the intelligence rather than supplying it to police officers to act.
- Competition for relevance and the favour of the executive- President, Governors, Local Government chairmen etc.
- Lack of clear-cut demarcation of the role of each of the security agencies especially those whose functions overlap.
- Lack of respect for civilians by security personnel.
- Disregard for security agencies by the civilians.
- Derogatory reference to one another. For instance, police officer refers to Civil Defence officers as "guguru defence" meaning "defender of popcorn"
- What other factor is the reason for inter-agency rivalry among Nigeria's security agencies/personnel?

Impact on 2023 Election

- Inability to make use of areas of comparative advantage in the security of the Nigerian state.
- Inability to share intelligence and actionable information with one another.
- Refusal to work together with NPF as the lead security agency in the country.
- Refusal to take order from personnel of sister security agency. For instance, a police officer will hardly want to take command from civil defender even when he is a senior rank to him. So also will a soldier not want to take order from a senior police officers.
- Joint security activities involving all the security agencies will be very difficult due to rivalry. For instance, Police and NSCDC jointly have a role to monitor and protect political

parties during rallies. This may be affected by rivalry and competition among the security agencies.

Mitigation Plan

- Training all stakeholders working during an election together to let them understand why they need to work together for the purpose of the success of the election.
- There should be harmonised way of sharing intelligence among the security agencies and between security agencies and other stakeholders.

MODULE 7:
COMPLEMENTARITY VS SUSPICION: NIGERIA POLICE
FORCE AND ELECTION OBSERVERS

Introduction

- Success of election is defined by coordinated activities of many stakeholders working together harmoniously.
- The election observers, both local and international, and the security agencies are two of the numerous stakeholders.
- While these stakeholders ought to work together, the opposite has been the take in Nigeria since 1999.
- Security personnel, particularly personnel of the NPF and election observers usually see themselves with suspicious and therefore work at parallel to one another rather than working together.
- In this presentation, we shall be looking at the duties of the two stakeholders, their functions within an election, areas of possible conflict and what can be done to improve on collaboration.

Who is an Election Observer

- Election observation or monitoring involves the observation of an election by one or more independent parties, typically from another country or from a non-governmental organisation (NGO).
- According to the UN, election observation is: “the systematic, comprehensive and accurate gathering of information concerning the laws, processes and institutions related to the conduct of elections and other factors concerning the overall electoral environment; the impartial and professional analysis of such information; and the drawing of conclusions about the character of electoral processes based on the highest standards for accuracy of information and impartiality of analysis.
- The monitoring parties aim primarily to assess the conduct of an election process on the basis of national legislation and of international election standards.
- Therefore, an election observer is someone who is involved in the observation of an election as independent parties typically from another country or from a non-governmental organisation (NGO).
- Observers do not directly prevent electoral fraud, but rather record and report instances of suspicious practices.

- Election observation is not only an election-day event. It looks at the entire electoral process over a long period of time.
- The legitimacy of an election can be affected by the criticism of election observers except they are themselves seen as biased (Hyde and Marinov, 2014)

History of Election Observation

- Election monitoring began in 1857 when the European Powers monitored the 1857 plebiscite in Moldovia and Wallachia (current Romania).
- However, election observation was still uncommon until after World War II.
- Election observation activities have expanded significantly following the end of the Cold War, along with the development of international standards on the conduct of democratic elections and the process of monitoring elections by both international and domestic observing organizations.
- Over 80 percent of elections held all over the world are being monitored (Matanock, 2020). This shows that election observation is a popular activity globally

History of Election Observation in Nigeria

- Election observation may have begun in Nigeria in 1950s elections that ushered in Nigeria's independence.
- During the election, observations were only limited to British election observers.
- However, with the growth of civil society and NGOs in Nigeria, election observation has grown to become robust.
- Therefore, the activities of election observers are not only limited to international observers but also civil society and non-governmental organisations.

Why do we need election observation

- Observations allow citizens to interact with the electoral process, allowing for scrutinization and enhanced transparency of elections.
- it is a great way to learn more about politics and get involved with the procedure of elections, from a non-partisan viewpoint, enhancing one's understanding of the world around.
- It also helps to know areas of weakness of an election and work towards improving on it during the next election.
- Offer advice that can help improve the quality of the election.
- Arising from the foregoing, observation reports give legitimacy to elections, especially those that conform to national legislation and international principles.

Questions for the Participants?

- There have been reports of clashes between security agencies and election observers. What are the areas of clash between Election Observers and Security Personnel?
- Why do these areas always cause clashes?
- How can the clash be prevented to ensure complementarity rather than conflict?

MODULE 8:
**INTRODUCTION TO THE CONCEPT OF WOMEN PEACE
AND SECURITY**

Introduction

- Women, Peace and Security is one of the United Nations Resolutions.
- Specifically, it is a United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325.
- was adopted unanimously by the UN Security Council on 31 October 2000,
- The resolution acknowledged the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women and girls. It calls for the adoption of a gender perspective to consider the special needs of women and girls during the conflict, repatriation and resettlement, rehabilitation, reintegration, and post-conflict
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Understanding the Conception of Women, Peace and Security?

- This concept calls for a need to consider the special needs of women and girls during the conflict, repatriation and resettlement, rehabilitation, reintegration, and post-conflict and the role women can play in peacebuilding
- Countries of the world are now factoring this concept into their countries' national laws and policies.
- For instance, United States of America adopted the National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security when President Barack Obama signed an executive order (Executive Order 13595) on December 19, 2011

Women, Peace and Security in Nigeria

- With the increasing rate of violent conflict in Nigeria and how it mostly affects women, the adoption of Women, Peace and Security resolution is sine qua non.
- UN Women has been at the fore front of ensuring this.
- Recently, Ministry for Women Affairs also put in place committee to see to domestication of Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.
- Further efforts need to be put in place.

MODULE 9:
SYNERGY, COORDINATION AND POLICING CAPACITY
ON ELECTION SECURITY

Objective:

To highlight the relevance of a multi-stakeholder approach to election security.

Synergy and collaboration as key instrument to effective election security

Beyond the Rhetoric's of the Police as the Lead Agency on election security, the challenges that borders on inadequate personnel, logistics, funding, equipment and commitment for secured electoral processes made it unavoidable for the NPF to collaborate with other security agencies to deliver on its mandates on elections in line with the rules of the electoral management body (EMB).

On the backdrop that no single agency has the monopoly of strategy to overcome election security challenges, synergy, and cooperation among security agencies became the answer.

Through the creation and engagement(s) of Inter-Agency Consultative Committee on Elections Security (ICCES), INEC seeks to promote the effective security and overall integrity of electoral value-chain.

Inter-Agency collaboration Stakeholder Mapping.

Establishing of Coordination Mechanism(s):

Inter-agency Collaboration through;

- ② Joint Operations
- ② Intelligence Sharing
- ② Standard Operating procedure (SoP)/Rules of engagement (RoE)

(VIDEO) Soldiers Arrest 105 Armed Thugs Headed for Ekiti As PDP Hold Governorship Primary

- #JournalistsHangout #EkitiGovernorshipElection #BabajideKoladeOtitoju(VIDEO) Soldiers Arrest 105 Armed Thugs Headed for Ekiti As PDP Hold Governorship Primary

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=33-JogfHAvw>

Effective Communication & Engagement.

- Question to Participants....
- How do we effectively communicate and mutually engage the military and other security agencies on election duty ?
- How do we achieve unity of purpose (national interest) at all times?

THANK YOU!

MODULE 10:
POLICE, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND CITIZENS’
ENGAGEMENT ON ELECTION SECURITY.

Objective:

To promote capacity for effective communication.

Strategic Communication.

- According to Chris Hoover, the most important and often least understood factor that moves an organization from strategy development to implementation is strategic communication. Research has shown that “enterprises [often] fail at execution because they go straight to structural reorganization and neglect the most powerful drivers of effectiveness—decision rights and information flow.”
- Unfortunately, many government and law enforcement agencies fall into this trap and adopt tactical, short-term communication approaches when responding to their myriad constituencies.
- Strategic communication entails packaging a core message that reflects an agency’s overall strategy, values, purpose, and mission to persuade key stakeholders and enhance positioning. Active, not reactive, it establishes organizational clarity and dissuades freelance endeavors that may serve a few well, but detract from the organization’s overall direction and purpose.
- The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO’s) are saddled with the responsibilities of

In-wards vs. Out-wards communications: who needs to know what.

- The Police have a duty to educate the people on their activities with regards to election security management, by doing so, enjoy secure the cooperation of the people.
- Strategic communications is a specialized expertise, and the Police Divisional Officers does not currently have dedicated capacity with the required communications and
- technical expertise to conduct it most effectively. The United (UN) considered this very critical giving the engagement of Police on UN peace operations, and in 2018 initiated programs (workshops) that seeks to train DPO's with the strategic communication skills. With this expertise, the DPO would be able to better advise its personnel(s) on how better to relate to the host communities.

Types of Communications

- ☐ Conference
- ☐ Workshop
- ☐ Briefings
- ☐ Signals.
- ☐ Maintaining consistency in communications
- ☐ Regular sharing of intelligence is encouraged

MODULE 11:

THREAT ASSESSMENT FOR ELECTIONS SECURITY

Threat Assessment for Elections Security Basic Issues

- Security is a factor to be considered by the electoral management body (EMB) and the lead security agency-Police in all environments.
- Even those where risks of election-related physical violence are low i.e. FCT-Abuja, the level of security that is required to assure free, fair, secured, credible and integrity crowned, can only accurately be determined from conducting threat assessments of each voting operations component process within the specific election's environment.

Security Threat Assessments

The assessment would usually examine for each voting operations component process considering;

- Its vulnerability to disruption, violence, fraud, or manipulation;
- Its importance in producing a free and fair election outcome;
- Potential security threats to which it may reasonably be subjected.

The potential impact, if it is not sufficiently secure to withstand potential threats, on the election outcomes, on personal safety, on infrastructure, on other legal or societal obligations (e.g., release of legally protected personal data), or on additional election financial requirements.

In assessing the level of specific threats, it is vital to take into account the following issues, as specific to the particular election, to enable the planning of a suitable security framework.

The Political Environment

Here we consider the following;

- The commitment of each political party cum candidate to open and transparent processes.
- The relative competitive strengths/capacity of the candidates.
- The history and trajectory of leading general elections with regards to geo-political zone politicking.
- Examination of candidates and their supporters.

Conflict Zone(s)

Evident or likely conflict resolution mechanisms (discussion, negotiation, manipulation, fraud, intimidation, violence).

The level of distrust between political elites and the masses/supporters.

Threat Assessment

South-South Geo-Political Zone

- Rivers State
- Bayelsa State
- Cross River
- Awka Ibom
- Delta
- Edo State

Threats Mapping & Mitigation Plan

- Establishing the readiness of the NPF as the lead agency (Number of personnel to be deployed, training/education, equipment, payment of allowances, and inter-agency collaboration).
- Profiling of groups that are likely to trigger violence or disrupt the smooth process of the exercise.
- Conducting of security apparatus show-of strength at least 3 consecutive days to election day.
- Moping of illegal arms, restrictions of movement at the eve-of election(s) and on election day.
- Holding of town-hall meetings with critical stakeholders.
- Signing of peace accords by the political aspirants and party leaders.
- Emergency Action Plan (EAP)- kitting and strategic positioning of the Special Tactical Squad (STS), the Counter-Terrorism Unit (CTU) and the IGP-Response Team.

Syndicate Tabletop Exercise: Developing Context-based Counter-measure Plan

MODULE 12:
PUBLIC ORDER: PREVENTING AND RESPONSE TO
VIOLENCE

Definitions:

What is Public Order? Public order simply refers to the Public Order Act, that guides the conduct of public assembly in Nigeria. Chapter 382 Public Order Act, deals with the “power to regulate assemblies, meetings and processions”.

Preparations and Planning

Section 1.(1) of the Public Order Act., highlights thus; For the purpose of the proper and peaceful conduct of public assemblies, meetings and processions, and subject to section 11 of this Act, the Governor of each State is hereby empowered to direct the conduct of all assemblies, meetings and processions on public roads or places of public resort in the State and prescribe the route by which and the times at which any procession may pass.

Beyond the citizens right to peaceful assembly as enshrined in the 1999 Constitution (as Amended) trends and threats occasioned by insecurity in the recent past prompted State governors and Police hierarchy respectively to request that groups should notify the police in written ahead of any planed large assembly or processions.

General Crowd Response

Scenario's :

POLICE BRUTALITY AT #ENDSARS MEMORIAL - ARISE NEWS REPORT
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8EE3PjR9-Og>

#Endsars #Lagos #PoliceNPF In Lagos Testifies On Widespread Attacks During Endsars Protests
<https://youtu.be/BIPDHbpbk2vY>

Response to Spontaneous Civil Disturbances

Use of Force

#ChannelsTvRecap: Police Shoot Teargas At June 12 Protesters In Abuja, Lagos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z0JqR9689LU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XSRoCYszvaU>

Zakzaky Members Block And Attack Nigeria Army Chief Before Massacre

Crowd Dispersal

Crowd control is a public security practice in which large crowds are managed in order to prevent the outbreak down of law and order.

#NigeriaAt61 #NigeriaIndependence #TVCNewsPolice Fire Teargas As Protesters Hit Abuja Streets On Independence Day <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qoJDulnkMh4>

Given the Nigerian peculiarities do you think that the NPF embraces civility in crowd control?

... Mass Arrest

Suspected IPOB Members, Others Arrested Over Attacks On Police, INEC Facilities In Ebonyi
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wpKeCDZMMkE>

Why do the NPF carry mass arrest?

Mass arrest occurs when police apprehend large numbers of suspects at once, it most times occurs during raiding of criminal hideouts, brothels, rival-cult group clashes, student unrest and protests- as was with the case with the #ENDSARS2020.

Basically, some mass arrests are carried in an effort to combat gang activity. This is sometimes controversial, and often leads to lawsuits as in some cases the police end up arresting and detaining accidental passerby(s).

Altercation Between Nigerian Police Army/Police And IPOB Led By Nnamdi Kanu

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6JCWmAbrNnE>

EL ZAKZAKI PROTEST: Police, El-Zazaki supporters clash again in Abuja

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zokHuhev6Rg>

Discussions !!! Discussions!!!

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- How do we effectively communicate and mutually engage the military and other security agencies on election duty ?
- How do we achieve unity of purpose (national interest) at all times?

Critical Security Actors already engaged with the Police on workshops on election security management ahead of 2023

Office of the National Security Adviser(ONSA), Military, DSS, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Nigeria Immigration Service, Nigeria Customs Service, Nigerian Correctional Service, Federal Road Safety Corps, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, Independent Corrupt Practices Commission, and many others.

THANK YOU!

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