National Development And Security In Perspective.

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A paper presented At The (Nigerian Institute of Management Chartered) North West Zone 2019 Summit Held On 3rd September At The Assembly Hall, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria.

Abstract

The paper conceived development as a continuum with no static nor predetermined end such that when the aimed paradigm is attained, it subsequently prompts the need and urge to move further for the attainment of much better, much higher and more superior level of developmental achievement so as to get things better and maintain a niche over the existing state of whatever. It examined the dimensions development within the framework of the UN Sustainable Development Goals agenda and what it takes to ensure truly national development. In like manner, national security was viewed beyond securing life and property per se, to encompass all the perspectives of what it takes to preserve a nation at large. The place of ICT in the scheme of contemporary global paradigm especially as it relates to national development and security were highlighted. It concluded that it is natural that no society nor nation will want to be associated with underdevelopment at all fronts of human endeavour. Thus, for systematic national development to be achieved, it must be supported by the security and safety of not only life and property, but should include strategic areas such as: Economy; Education and Literacy; Science and Technology; Law and Order; Politics and International Relations; Reliable and Sustainable Water Supply; Sustainable Environment and Energy Supply; Social Welfare and Empowerment; Culture and Integration; Agriculture and Animal Husbandry; Health and Sanitation; Information and Communication Technology; Road and Transportation; and Good Governance.

Introduction

Development can be conceived as the state of change, expansion, progression, growth, advancement and transformation from one stage, level, status quo or paradigm to another. Depending on the prevailing circumstance, vision, mission and goal in view, development can be evolved systematically, rationally, strategically, gradually and/or radically. Development can be said to be negative, unacceptable and undesirable when the outcome turns out from good to bad resulting from the prevailing status quo of things drifting from the state of prosperity to disparity, stagnation, non-progression and nothingness. On the other hand, development can be said to be positive when the end result shifts from bad to good, better and best leading to positive paradigm shift of the prevailing status quo being acceptable, desirable, encouraging, prosperous, progressive and exemplary. For practical approaches, when viewed within the context of dialectics, paradoxically development is a continuum with no static nor predetermined end such

that when the aimed paradigm is attained, it subsequently prompts the need and urge to move further for the attainment of much better, much higher and more superior level of developmental achievement all in the bid to get things better and maintain a niche over the existing and anticipated role models and competitors.

In another perspective, development can be viewed as a pendulum movement most often expected to oscillate from negative to positive ends rather than the other way round. It is a continuous process reflective of the desires for the prevailing circumstance, vision, mission and goals in view. Perceptively, development is better measured within the context of the levels and stages of attainment, scheduled plans, and expected outcomes are kept in focus (Mohammed, Z. : 2017a). Paradoxically, it is of interest to note that while the world is being transformed into global village through the adoption and adaption of the emerging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and indeed Could computing technology potentials, perhaps as byproduct of China-USA economic fight of the titans, China is steadily re-conquering and reintegrating the world through systematic trade and commerce hegemony and physically too, through railway net of about 70,000 km to link the country with the outside world. The strategic and systemic socio-economic approaches of China to steadily penetrate into the African sub-regions since the threshold of the 21st century is worth being brought to fore.

Dimensions of National Development

Within the framework of national setting, national development can imply strategic, systematic, gradual or radical transformation of a nation from the state of national irrelevance, inconsequential, inactiveness, redundancy, degradation, slumber, nothingness, non-progression, belatedness, and retardation to the desired state-of-the-art relevance, growth and advancement in strategic national sectors which include but not limited to the: Economy; Education and Literacy; Science and Technology; Law and Security; Politics and International Relations; Reliable and Sustainable Water Supply; Sustainable Environment and Energy Supply; Social Welfare and Empowerment; Culture and Integration; Agriculture and Animal Husbandry; Health and Sanitation; Information and Communication Technology; Road and Transportation; and Good Governance. Taking queue from the Nigerian domestic scene, lack of clean bill for national integration, development and advancement can be said to be perpetuated by the disequilibrium in the observed levels of educational and information poverty, imprisoned consciousness, general societal violence and insecurity as well as lack of defined scheduled National Development Plans to serve as guides and road maps to national development. There are evidences of deep rooted intra and inter-community, regional, cultural, ethnical and religious tensions and rivalry; conflicts and apparent dissatisfaction with the order of the day; unfair utilisation of government apparatus and agencies by political gladiators, especially those who could not make it or narrowly made at the polls to vent their anger, frustrations, disappointments and misfortunes on the members of their communities, including tempering with and bullying the legally constituted traditional settings; inappropriate use of mass media and Social Media platforms by disgruntle political drop outs and back benchers to misinform the public through different forms of hate speeches to incite and lure people to mass revolt against constituted authority; engagement in all sorts of unorthodox campaigns of calumny through unwholesome print and electronic media and social platforms to further promote mistrust for the government; and prevalence of sharp political, ethnic, religious, tribal and geographic divide in communities and societies. A majority of the population in developing countries which include Nigeria are still grappling with the

concomitant effects of poverty and ill-health; mistrust for the politicians and political office holders; lack of access to quality education and health services; rampant cases of unemployment, underemployment, and over employment; and lack of access to relevant and timely information. These unwanted state of affairs will not only lead to the emergence and perpetuation of societal insecurity, but will also bring about the relevance and timeliness of the socio-economic agenda and programmes of government. In Nigeria, there are programmes such as the N-Power, N-Creativity, Future Assured, etc. to forestall the decline in the socio-economic status of people, especially the low income earners in the rural and semi-urban areas, so that they can strategically and systematically cope with the present and catch up with the future (Mohammed, Z.; 2017b).

Hitherto in Nigeria, there have been varieties of socio-economic plans and programmes such as the National Development Plans (NDP) in the 1960s and 1970s which are usually 5years plans, 7-point Agenda (2007), Vision 20-20(2010), National Industrial Revolution Plan(2014), Nigeria Integrated Infrastructure Master Plan (2014), and the Strategic Implementation Plan for Budget for Change (2016) launched by successive governments. There is also the Government Enterprise and Empowerment Programme (PEEP) and 'Trader Moni' designed to systematically overcome the challenges of poverty and foster economic development through Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) being nurtured by the Bank of Industry (BOI) and supported by the Central Bank of Nigeria(CBN). The target groups and beneficiaries of the PEEP and 'Trader Moni' nationwide are the Market women and traders, artisans and MSMEs, Enterprise Clusters/Youth and Farmers and agricultural workers. Unfortunately, some sections of the Nigerian public, especially the politicians, are suspicious of the vision, mission and objectives of the endeavours. They viewed the socio-economic plans and programmes as mere political maneuvers and white elephant projects on the grounds that a majority of such government plans and programmes were rarely met due to over politicisation and unrealistic approaches in implementation. It is within this parameter that it is hoped that the 'Nigeria's Economic Recovery and Growth Plan(ERGP)' launched in 2017 to restore Nigeria's economic status especially as it relates to employment, food security, energy, industrialisation, social investment and a 7% economic growth by the year 2020 will not be a repeat of the past gimmicks of the previous governments.

The ERGP is conceived as panacea to Nigeria's economic recession (being the first in the last 25years) occasioned by sharp fall in oil prices from about $112 per barrel in 2014 to below $50 in 2016. It is to stimulate and reinvigorate the country back to sustainable, accelerated development and restore its economic growth in the medium term spanning between 2017 and 2020 (www.templars-law.com). As part of the strategies to raise the Nigeria's non-oil sector tax to GDP ratio of 6% to 15% by 2020, the Voluntary Asset and Income Declaration Scheme (VAIDS) has been launched. The VAIDS, which is to last for one year (1st July 2017- 31st March, 2018), is a time limit opportunity in form of amnesty given by the government to defaulting taxpayers with overdue interest and penalties, an assurance not to face criminal prosecution for tax offences or be subjected to tax investigations, to regularise their tax status. To some extent it can be argued that the VAIDS project will serve as veritable catalyst for income sourcing and financing of government activities and programmes such as the ERGP, etc. as about 40 million tax payers are envisaged to be on board by the end of 2017.

In like manner, one of the contemporary attempts by the Nigerian Government to effectively promote and support development especially at the rural areas and overcome the challenges of

unending crisis and conflicts between and among the stakeholders in agricultural and animal husbandry sectors (farmers and herdsmen) is the introduction of Ruga Settlement Scheme in the second quarter of 2019. It has been temporarily suspended due to suspected adverse effects of deliberate negative politicisation and misconception of the scheme by its antagonists who were mostly some politicians and State Governors along with their cohorts. They successfully won over the sympathy of some misinformed and uninformed sections of the public fuelled by ethnic and tribal sentiments, baggage of hate speeches, deliberate misinformation and political propaganda, and promotion of fake news mostly through the social media platforms under the pretext that the scheme is a private businesses issue which Governments should not delve into; and technically, it is to serve as tactical approach to seizure of local lands and colonisation of the territories by the Federal Government. Designed to systematically overcome the challenges of socio-economic crisis and conflicts and enhancement of rural development scheme to be voluntarily bought into by whoever is interested as an individual, group, agency, etc; the Ruga Settlement Scheme seeks to settle migrant pastoral families whereby animal farmers, which include cattle herders, will be domiciled in organised place will all necessary basic facilities such as schools, hospitals, road networks, veterinary clinics, markets and manufacturing outfits for processing and value addition the meat and other animal products. The Ruga Scheme is conceived as veritable option and medium for promoting harmony among all categories of persons engaged in animal husbandry and farming. It is to curb open grazing of animals considered as source of perennial conflict, security threat and disharmony between and among animal herders, particularly the Fulanis and the local farmers. In addition, it is to boost animal production complete with the necessary value chain to increase quality and hygienic livestock beef and milk products; increased quality of feeding and access to animal care; assurance of private sector participation in commercial pasture products especially through economic investments; and a source for job creation, access to credit facilities, security for pastoral farmers and curtailing of cattle rustling.

Challenges to systematic national development and security are abound. They include but not limited to:

(a) Corruption in all sectors of the economy. This can perhaps be said to be perpetrated by: lack deliberate policy on naming and shamming those engaged in corruptive practices and encouraging and honouring in-corruptive ones; lack of effective synergy between and among security agencies, anticorruption agencies, judiciary and men of the Bar and Bench to track, apprehend and prosecute corrupt individuals and organisations; non effective measures to close existing legislative loopholes, strengthen the weak areas of judicial systems; effective enforcement of asset declaration by public (including private) office holder; lack of assured and realistically implementable sanctions by professional bodies, especially against members such as civil servants, lawyers, bankers, brokers, public officials, teachers, engineers, architects, town planners, etc and others involved in facilitating corrupt practices in public and private arena; over financial spending in party politics and electioneering processes leading to uncontrolled spending and voter inducement by politicians which trends to threaten the consolidation of true democracy; lack of integrity, accountability and transparency of stewardship of officers in both public and private establishments to ensure good governance. According to Paul Kagame, anti-corruption crusade of African countries should be reframed in positive terms as a struggle for transparency, public integrity and accountability (Ronlad Mutum: 2019).

(b) Smuggling and importation of consumable items that are or can be locally produced. These activities certainly are inimical to national development as they dampen and demean local products; discourage indigenous economic growth initiatives; encourage capital flight; reduce the country to the status of being dumping grounds for foreign products; increase in unemployment level; and destroy efforts to enhance local socio-economic growth potentials regardless of the type of interventions to stimulate local production of whatever. Hence the need to revisit sale of foreign exchange on official window to economic saboteurs, have strategic plans for revival and setting up of domestic production outlets, and also save the country from being dumping arena. According to Sunday (2019), the World Bank disclosed the cost of smuggling in Nigeria is worth $5billion annually. That about N1.5trillion worth of goods are being smuggled into the annually through the neighbouring countries to Nigeria. He added that, Alico Dangote commented at a round table talk that what is killing the country most is smuggling and that it is what killed most of the country's economic policies. In effect, it can be submitted that the smugglers and dumpers are indeed economic saboteurs of the country as they exploit the porous nature of the Nigerian borders controls, especially the foot paths and motor-able roads in the hinterlands. The saboteurs need to be effectively monitored and controlled to contain their excesses especially through reinvigoration of the Nigerian Customs Service anti-smuggling operations; enforcement of policy on strict non-access opportunities to foreign exchange on official regime; closure and blocking of the accounts of established culprits by the Central bank of Nigeria (CBN) on grounds of economic saboteur; and review of the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) protocols on inter boarder free entry and exit of goods and people to curtail the menaces of goods dumpers and undocumented cross boarder of foreign nationals and infiltrators.

(c) Cyber crimes, money laundering and identity theft. The fraudsters mostly employ whatever ICT skills and acumen they possess to tactfully defraud individuals, small and large business outfits, institutions, orgainsations and governments of their hard earned financial resources through various online fraud schemes which include but not limited to Business Email Compromise (BEC) fraud, romance scam, phishing, cloning, etc. The cyber criminal networks conspirators, through their sophisticated financial schemes to protect themselves or their businesses from becoming unsuspecting victims, usually transfer funds fraudulently obtained to other fraudulent bank accounts. They sometimes wire funds to other bank accounts under their control directly through banking institutions. On the alternative, when stolen funds were withdrawn in cash, they use illicit money exchangers to move the funds overseas to avoid transferring the fund directly through banking institution. A case in point of recent is the celebrated massive fraud and money laundering cartel of international cyber and money laundering criminals discovered by the Federal Bureau for Investigation (FBI) in the United States of America (http://w.w.w.dailyadvent.com/politics/2019/08/23).

(d) Over stretching and fatiguing of security personnel. There is apparent myriad of fronts of security threats and challenges theatre ranging from insurgency challenges in the North East of Nigeria; militancy challenges in the Niger Delta regions of the South-South of Nigeria; Cattle rustling, kidnapping and banditry in the North West and North Central part of Nigeria; armed robbery, banditry and cultism in the South West of Nigeria; and other types of criminality which include but not limited to thievery, house bugling, fire and flood disasters; etc. Effective and efficient checkmating of the incriminating incidents and threats around the nation are being hampered by incapacitation of the security personnel due to apparent security control and prevention fatigue and systematic thinning of the personnel share size due to over deployment of

the available personnel to secure private individuals, government functionaries, political officers and appointees, officials of public and private establishments, etc. which is estimated to be over 30% of the national security work force. The inadequacy of the state-of-the art weaponries and relevant ICT devices, deficient training of the officers and men of the security force in contemporary warfare and intelligent gathering and utilisation skills, the unbecoming attitudes and characteristics of the security personnel inform of security compromise, non-commitment to duty and responsibility, collusions to commit/support acts of criminalities, etc. are other vital factors of concern in the scheme of security and safety of the nation for steady development and advancement of the country in fronts of human endeavours.

Essentially, the United Nations Organisation (UNO) 'Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs: 2030)' also referred to as 'The Global Goals', centred on 17 goals. The Goals comprised of: Eradication of Poverty, Eradication of Hunger, Provision of facilities for Good Health, Availability of Quality Education, Assurance of Gender Equality, Provision of Clean Water and Sanitation, Availability of Renewable Energy, Assurance of Good Jobs and Economic Growth, Promotion of Innovation and Infrastructure provision, Reduced Inequalities, Availability of Sustainable Cities and Communities, Responsible Consumption, Support for Climate Change, Protection of Life Below Water, Protection of Life on Land, Maintenance of Peace and Justice, and Assured Partnership For The Goals (https://sustainabledevelopment .un.org/sdgs). To a large extent, it could be said that the SDGs are essential ingredients for ensuring national security and systematic development. An assessment of the tenants of the SDGs point to critical issues related to societal security and development, the wellbeing of People and Planet, and assured Prosperity, Peace and Partnership around the globe which, if not properly managed, could be inimical to successful breakthrough in any development agenda of which societal security is a factor at all levels of human endeavours.

The United Nation Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) remarked that the negative consequences of land degradation and competition over access to land and water due to growing population with growing demands on resources, coupled with climate change and reduction of available resources triggered more bloody conflicts in Nigerian than the celebrated Boko Haram insurgency as more lives and properties have been lost in such conflicts (News Agency of Nigeria: 2019). Another case of land degradation worthy of note of systematic deforestation of the Amazon forest in Brazil under the pretext of the zeal to boost farming and animal grazing capability and with attendant excessive lumbering of trees to make ends meet. Of recent is the ravaging of the forest by fire around August, 2019. This incident has already caused diplomatic crisis between the country and Europe as the forest is a critical factor in the ecosystem of the region. In fact, the issue is one of the agenda of the 2019 G7 meeting held in France. When viewed critically, it can be argued that the Nigerian government's ERGP is an indirect interpretation and application of the tenants of the SDGs (ERGP; 2017). To this end, it can be argued that the extent of the successes of any security and developmental agenda and strategy for any region, nation and society will largely depend upon the extent to which people are: a) free from the shackles of poverty and hunger; b) assured of good health, nutrition, quality education, socio-economic empowerment and inclusiveness; c) being free from the bondage of gender and social inequality; d) being able to cohabitate in prosperous planet/environment with secured and sustained water supply and sanitation, economic growth, assured security, vista of employment opportunities and innovations, planned consumption and production patterns, and reliable agenda for climate change, forestation and reduction of biodiversity loss; e) and being free to promote

and support peaceful co-existence, partnerships, justice and accountability within and outside their community, society, nation and globally (Mohammed, Z, :2017b).

The domineering factor in the attainment of any measure of success in national and sectorial security and development endeavours aimed at coping with the present and future challenges and expectations is the human factor (people) who by their nature and characteristics have the requisite capacity and ability to conceptualise, do and undo anything to meet up to expectation or otherwise. It is the humans/people as the role players and stakeholders that initiate, nurture, strategise, implement, support, promote, domesticate, sustain or vitiate efforts aimed at achieving global, national and societal security and development agenda. In effect, it beholds that those vested with the responsibility of executing development programmes at every stage and level are exposed to varieties of appropriate and strategic information, information resources, sources, and services relevant to the development vision, mission and expectations in focus. In effect, it can thus be argued that the extent to which the role players and stakeholders in security and development agenda in any national or societal settings have access to relevant information and services can effectively influence the extent of the successes to be achieved in and at every level and stage of development efforts. Hence, the ultimate need for effective and efficient provision and access to relevant and suitable information systems, resources and services, regardless of the type, format and package, to facilitate their timely access and utilisation to meet up with the security and development expectations and also cope with the existing and anticipated challenges ahead should be of paramount necessity and importance.

National Security and Safety

Security can be conceived as an act of protection of whatever from being in an unwanted situation. The dimension of security goes beyond protection per se to include prevention, preservation, conservation, precaution and safety of whatever. The basic aim of security of any sort is to ensure an unconditional existence, relevance and availability of whatever in the desired condition. With the context of national development, security should be conceived beyond that of securing life and property to encompass all the 17 tenants of SDG of the UN. It is normal and ethical that whatever it is we are associate with in one way or the other as primary, secondary and tertiary stakeholders to effective meet up with the goals of the SDG irrespective of the prevailing circumstance must, as a policy, be jealously: protected from any form of negative threat, embarrassment and challenges; prevented from any type of harm and calamity; preserved to retain its originality, essence and relevance; conserved from any form of unwelcome intrusion, destruction and deterioration for assured elongation of lifespan and existence; placed under state of precaution to avoid unnecessary distraction, falling apart and disintegration into nothingness and irrelevance; and be safeguarded for assured safety, orderliness and availability. Thus, plans, strategies, moves, actions and activities in whatever form that shall result into negative state of whatever and also constitute challenge for steady realisation of stated vision, mission, goals and objectives of whatever shall be considered as security threat. Viewed within the paradigm of national development, security encompasses protection, prevention, preservation, conservation, precaution and safety of all factors of production and dispositions necessary for steady growth, development and advancement of a nation across all aspects of human endeavours. National security should cover strategic areas such as: Economy; Education and Literacy; Science and Technology; Law and Order; Politics and International Relations; Reliable and Sustainable Water Supply; Sustainable Environment and Energy Supply; Social Welfare and Empowerment;

Culture and Integration; Agriculture and Animal Husbandry; Health and Sanitation; Information and Communication Technology; Road and Transportation; and Good Governance. According to Kachikwu Ibe, Nigeria has been deprived of $300bn oil investment due to insecurity and policy somersault (Kayode, E.L. :2019).

Going by the serial pockets of violence, carnage and other aspects of criminalities and criminal acts being reported and commented upon on the pages of newspapers, magazines and social media platforms, it can be assumed that the Nigerian nation is unsafe, unsecured and is effectively under the siege of armed robbers, kidnappers, cattle rustlers, bandits, terrorists, hoodlums, and other types of criminals. Though there is yet to be publically and officially acclaimed credible evidence-based proof on who could have been the sponsors of such incessant criminalities by the security agents and agencies, such negative media narratives are disturbing, scaring and heart breaking to whoever is willing and ready to engage in any meaningful socio-economic and developmental venture in the country. It is important and necessary that criminals of different shades are kept out of business through whatever means possible including media interventional contributions. Thus, there should be constructive partnership between security operatives, the media and indeed the public to bring to an end and demystify criminalities and criminal acts in the country. Celebrated cases of criminal acts should be thoroughly verified and de-marketed by the media so that the perpetrators do not get cheap popularity and fame, thereby become additive to their criminal acts. Security lapses should not be tolerated in any security setting at all levels. Security officials should be motivated systematically while the officers who gallantly performed their duties and responsibilities diligently especially by preventing crimes and apprehending criminals should be honoured and commensurately rewarded.

The extent which it can be said that the security systems and services provided to facilitate and ensure steady national development and advancement in all sectors of a nation and society is relevant and satisfactory, is largely dependent upon: the extent to which the authorities concerned effectively respond to the provision of the requisite human and material resources and facilities needed to achieve the desired mission and goals for progressive and stable society ; the extent to which the security personnel are digitally literate and fluent, the security facilities and systems in use are ICT/ digitally compliant and the personnel are committed, willing, able and ready to adopt and adapt the application of ICT in the discharge of their duties and responsibilities; the extent to which the national security formations and agencies are willing, ready and able to effectively collaborate among themselves and with other relevant international outfits especially in the areas of intelligent information gathering, access and utilisation as well as in the areas of securing state-of -the-art potent security devices and enabling facilities to boost their security capabilities and readiness; the extent to which the security personnel are ready, willing and able to collaborate with the stakeholders in local communities and other relevant bodies especially as it relates to intelligent information gathering, access and utilisation; the extent to which the security and safety needs of the citizenry are being effectively satisfied and kept in focus continually; the nature and type of security information management and services policy adopted; the nature and type of information and general security and safety policy and protocol adopted; type, nature and extent of cooperation and collaboration with other related information services provision agencies and establishments particularly as it relates to information resources and services sharing endeavours and projects; the type, nature and extent of the security and safety cooperation and collaboration arrangement and protocol with other relevant security and safety agencies and institutions; the quantum of the financial resources

available to cope with the challenges of varied aspects of security threats and safety; the natural tendencies and socio-cultural orientations of the security staff and societal benefactors ; the effects and impacts of shared peer group influence and empathy on the security staff and societal beneficiaries; the level of the economic disposition of the security staff, community and society stakeholders; the type and feature of the security and safety mechanisms and devices adopted and employed; and the extent to which the security agencies and personnel are committed, willing, capable and able to effectively senergise between and among themselves, regardless of the difference of their formations, to collectively provide requisite security and safety support and services effectively and efficiently using the available limited resources and facilities to meet up to expectations satisfactorily and ceaselessly.

ICT in National Development and Security

It is a fact that the world has been turned into global village due to effective and efficient exploitation of the potentials of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in all sectors of human endeavours 24/7 operations regime. Conceptually, ICT can be viewed as the computer-based and other allied automated ICT systems and devices employed to acquire, generate, process, store and transmit information and data. The ICTs are generically considered as technologies used for collecting, storing, editing, retrieving, securing and passing on (transfer) or communicating information and data in different forms within an environment, between and among given environments. In another perspective, ICTs can be conceived to include telecommunication technologies such as satellite systems, radio and television, telephony and digital technologies such as information networks, computer hardware and software, digital network, and the Internet. By and large, ICTs can generally be conceived as automated and virtual products (including software applications) and services that facilitate information generation, identification, location, storage, retrieval, dissemination, access and utilisation. Some of the early ICTs include: television, radio, telephone, still camera and slide projectors. Whereas, the contemporary ICTs include digital devices such as: cabled television news networks, digitised radio and television sets, computers and tablets sets, digital camera and projectors as well as satellite and wireless systems such as Global System for Mobile communications (GSM)/Smart phones, Wi-Fi, , the Internet, Local Area and Wide Area Networks, and e-information resources (Mohammed,Z.:2017b).

One of the advances in ICT readiness in Nigeria is the presence of the Nigeria Communication Satellite (NICOMSAT) established and launched through financial and technical support from the Chinese Government. It is viewed as critical infrastructure for secured communication; to bridge digital; and for digital and financial inclusion for the large rural Nigeria. It saves the country from over dependence on Galaxy Backbone which has been depending on foreign satellite to provide Internet services to the Nigerian Government which, in a way, encourages capital flight. Hence the need to strengthen its capacity and capability. In spite of the issues of costs and other technicalities being experienced by some Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), with the full operation and implementation of the Regulatory Guidelines for Nigerian Content in ICT in line with the provisions of the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) Act 2007, the hitherto sizeable component of the Federal Government data assets such as the Financial Management Information System (GIFMIS),Integrated Tax System (ITAS), Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System (IPPIS) and Treasury Single Account (TSA) hosted outside the country are currently being

hosted substantially in Nigeria. The Data Centres and Could Service Providers operating in Nigeria are to comply with the requirements of information security management, global best practices, standards and the NITDA's directives on quality consumer services. Similarly, the Data Hosting Service Providers are to register their competencies and capabilities in line with the requirements of the Guidelines for Nigerian Content Development in ICT to ensure adequate oversight and compliance with all necessary standards to protect the data of Nigerians and Governments especially by the NITDA compliance monitoring activities to avoid all forms of sanctions. For instance, as a strategy to encourage girls to discover new innovative ways of utilising ICT to provide solutions to pressing challenges in attaining SDGs 1-8 in their communities, the Federal Ministry of Communications organised Empowerment Competition for public and private secondary schools in addition to ICT Career Fair, ICT Innovation and Entrepreneurship and Career Guidance in ICT (Istifanus, M.F.:2019).

Indeed, the cloud computing technology has facilitated the effective conservation, preservation and security of information resources and sources as they can be digitised and uploaded on to the Internet and other reliable digital systems such as online digital repositories and networks to be retrieved and accessed whenever and wherever. For instance, smart phones and other smart devices are store houses and reservoirs of sensitive data and information about their owners, families, public and private businesses interactions and other financial and non financial transactions and contacts details. The ICT-based Treasury Single Account (TSA) policy being operated on 24/7 regime by the Federal Government, for example, enables it to have more effective and efficient control of its resources and assets, improve its liquidity position, enhance revenue collect, block financial leakages, eliminate all forms of misdemeanor in cash handling and breads transparency in financial management, etc. It is envisaged that Nigeria is in the threshold of embracing the 5G bandwidth network technology for faster and efficient Internet services in the country. To this end, the NCC is on the verge of auditing the Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) to determine their level of compliance with the regulation on the registration of Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) cards. According to Zakariyya, A. (2019), when similar exercise was conducted in 2015 on the MNOs to determine their levels of compliance with the regulations on registering SIM, about 5.2 million SIM cards were not properly registered by the MTN Nigeria Communication Limited. It led to the imposition of N1.04trilion fine on the mobile operator before it was eventually reduced to N330bn after some court processes intervention. He added that, the 2G, 3G or 4G technology, due to their relative importance, they will not be discarded by the NCC even when the 5G network is on board. To this end , it can be submitted that Nigeria has met 30% broadband penetration milestone.

However, a critical assessment of the level of effective and efficient adoption and exploitation of the potentials of the state-of-the-art ICTs for security and safety purposes to enhance national development especially in developing countries, point to the fact that they are systematically being affected by variety of challenges which include but not limited to: costs of computer hard ware and software acquisitions; costs of systems upgrades; systems malfunction and costs of maintenance; heavy online access traffic jam especially on popular networks and websites; information overload on thematic topical issues and search; lack of sustained sources of electric power supply; the administrators', operators' and users' phobia for technology applications, especially the computers; the state of non receptiveness and readiness of the security personnel to effectively adopt and adapt ICTs to tackle insecurity challenges which include tracking of stolen vehicles, home burgling, hacking of sites and portal etc; physical challenges to ICT

systems usage especially when charging them; preponderance of unsolicited advertisements on the Internet sites; costs of Internet and related computer networks connectivity; dwindling budgetary allocations for ICT systems and services maintenance, access and utilisation; inadequacies of bandwidth network coverage; obsolence of ICT devices in use; Internet and online information search difficulties and frustrations; administrators', operators' and users' bankruptcy in information and computer literacy and fluency; inadequate and sometimes absence of technical support from systems suppliers due to non-renewal of systems maintenance agreement contract; deliberate collusion between and among internal and external systems antagonists to sabotage the smooth operations of the ICT systems and devices; lack of adequate genuine systems and devices spare parts; inadequate expert technicians; unforeseen human errors and inequities; inadequacy of time to effectively access and utilise the ICT systems, devices and services due to the users' personal pressing commitments and engagements; environmental and other natural disasters; non-compliance with the terms of contractual agreements between ICT facilities and service providers and clients; oversubscription of inadequately available computer systems and bandwidth due to over populated existing and anticipated clientele especially in educational and training establishments where practical hands-on teaching, learning and familiarisation with the technologies' potentials in the face of limitations of time is of essence.

The ultimate need for any type of security and safety in any situation and place is better appreciated when viewed from the perspectives of demand and supply. This is especially apt in the paradigm of scarce (limited) resources and facilities in the face of unlimited and multifaceted demands of people, communities and societies to satisfy their intrinsic and generic needs and expectations. It is a necessity to secure, safeguard and preserve the available scarce resources and facilities at hand to cope with the multitudes of societal needs and demands. Generally, regardless of the type and nature of the setting of an organisation, establishment, institution and society, the major threats to effective security and safety needed for national development and advancement, especially to facilitate effective access and utilisation of relevant factors of production, include but not limited to: (a)the unflinching commitment of the management of the establishment especially as it relates to manifestations of non commitment to funding and provision of the necessary human and material resources such as enabling environment, equipments, facilities and information systems, resources and services; (b) the human factors with respect to carelessness and other types of negative attitudes of both the staff and beneficiaries of projects and programmes translated in the form of lack of commitment to the actualisation of the vision, mission, goals and objectives of the venture. This often result into thievery, collusion and collaboration between and among the staff and beneficiaries to commit different types of crimes and prejudices; (c) ecological factors translated in form of extent of suitability and vulnerability or otherwise of the internal and external environmental atmosphere and habitation of the location of the venture, programmes and the required resources, systems and service needed to succeed;(d) civil and trade wars, terrorism, militancy and banditry;(e) magnitude, dimensions and effects of hate speeches and fake news; (f) socio-political, cultural, ethnic and religious conflict and crisis; etc. The concomitant effects and impacts of the aforementioned challenges on both the humans and material resources needed for developmental strides have to be taken into consideration.

The need for sustained and effective community, societal, national and global security is evident in the United Nations Organisation (UNO) 17 'Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs: 2030)' agenda centred on: Eradication of Poverty; Eradication of Hunger; Provision of facilities for

Good Health; Availability of Quality Education; Assurance of Gender Equality; Provision of Clean Water and Sanitation; Availability of Renewable Energy; Assurance of Good Jobs and Economic Growth; Promotion of Innovation and Infrastructure provision; Reduced Inequalities; Availability of Sustainable Cities and Communities; Responsible Consumption; Support for Climate Change; Protection of Life Below Water; Protection of Life on Land; Maintenance of Peace and Justice; and Assured Partnership For The Goals (https://sustainabledevelopment .un.org/sdgs). It is instructive and fundamental to note that, Nigeria is a country with diverse cultures, traditions and languages spoken by its over 180 million peoples with over 70% of them as youth of 35years and below. Majority of the Nigerians are still peasants, mostly living in the rural areas of the 774 Local Government Areas (LGAs) and are lacking in good quality of life. It has been argued that Nigeria is ranked low in human development, half the population are poor, unemployment is on the rise, while human inclusion in government, economy and businesses is low (www.sustainableconvos.com). Certainly, this is far less than ideal situation as majority of the population are living under poverty and squalor. A majority of the population are unlettered, particularly in the official language (English). The population of those who could read and write at least in some Nigerian languages such as Hausa, Kanuri, Fulfulde, Yoruba, Igbo, Ajami, etc. and Arabic are comparatively insignificant to make meaningful impact on the society. Thus, they have to rely more on the oral traditions of communication and access to information to have some sense of direction for inclusion in the schemes of things for quality life.

The foregoing narratives call for review of the nation's security and safety architecture, engagement approaches and strategies of the officers and men of the security sectors with the view to elicit and promote their sense of belonging, commitments, loyalty, and promotion of synergy between and among the different cadres and structures of the national security outfits. According to Adesina Akinwumi, the African Development Bank (AfDB) has invested $1bn on African Small and Medium Economies (SMEs), others (Zakariyya, A. M.:2019). In a similar development, at a roundtable convened by the United Nations Food and Agriculture (FAO), African and Non-Regional Donors pledged to donate $17million to replenish the African Solidarity Trust Fund (ASTF) aimed to provide food security and elimination of rural poverty on the African continent (Zakariyya, A.M.:2019). Thus, as the current levels of socio-economic growth are not adequate to generate jobs for millions of unemployed Africans, there is the need for the African countries to regionally integrate (e.g. the African Continent Free Trade Area-AfCFTA) as well as do away with bilateral tariffs and non-tariff barriers including keeping the rules of origin simple to stimulate the desired developmental growth, say, between 4% and 7% to overturn the tide against poverty and unemployment in the continent. To this end, the African leaders have to device ways and means of implementing the protocols of the AfCFTA effectively so as to develop their respective economies and evolve viable options for creation of job opportunities to accommodate the teaming young, dynamic and hardworking populations in unemployment squadron in their domains. By July,2019, with the exception of Eritrea, the remaining 54 of the 55 African countries have signed the AfCFTA pact which has to come into effect by 30th May, 2019 as the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063 fully supported by the United Nations (UN). Time will tell the extent to which the AfCTA pact will steadily stimulate socio economic growth of Africa.

From security and development perspectives, a cursory assessment of the state of the Nigerian nation reveals the conflicting diversity of the composition of the country and the observed inequality in access to all the good things of life especially as it relates to quality education,

health care, welfare and other dividends of democracy from government programmes and activities. The inequalities tend to continuously have some adverse effect on the collective national unity and commitment, integration, cohesion, diffusion, security, progress and advancement of the country economically; politically; culturally; socially, scientifically and technologically. It has been observed that some fundamental factors inducing societal insecurity and also inhibiting any meaningful development particularly in a majority of the rural and semi-urban areas in the country such that people rarely have access to the good things of life and indeed quality information include but not limited to: a) level literacy in the official language of communication; b) geographical dispersion of the communities and localities; c) level of information literacy which can simply be translate as unawareness of where, when and how to access and utilise quality and reliable information; d) increasing level of socio-economic and political poverty divide; e) near absence of reliable , affordable and quality sources of health and education; f) dilapidation of transport and communication facilities such as good road networks and telecommunication infrastructure; g) poor state of habitat and environment such as rising tide of dilapidated and affordable houses, poor and unreliable sources of water and energy supply and environmental pollution as by-products of modernisation; h) seasonal and unreliable sources of income; i) socio-political and cultural crisis and conflicts; j) increasing state of insecurity; k) and rising tide of unemployment and underemployment; etc (Mohammed, Z.:2017b).

The apparent negative effects of degrading ecology, socio-economic and political adversities on the Nigerian nation and indeed on other types of national settings can be systematically traced to lack of easy access to: quality education, impressive ecology, vibrant health care and welfare services, assured socio-economic inputs and outlets, timely and relevant information and other good things of life. The shortcomings have continuously evolved into the emerging varieties of unethical, uncultured, anti- progress and anti-socio-political and economic vices and acts. The iniquities are more often than not translated into all shades of insecurity inform of: lack of respect for constituted authorities and elders; corruption and corruptive tendencies and practices; ethno-cultural and religious crisis and conflicts; political prostitution and conflicts; kidnapping and banditry; thievery and thuggery; insurgency and religious bigotry; economic sabotage which include treasury looting, oil bunkering and pipeline vandalism; human trafficking and body parts sales; social prostitution and sex machining; all types of child abuses including rape; all shades of unacceptable social contract insincerity and apprehensions; and youth restiveness and hooliganism-'Sara Suka, Dabbanci , Sakarchi , Shakiyanchi, Iskanchi and Tsageranci'; political jingoism; money laundering; Business Email Compromise (BEC); romance scam; cyber terrorism and crimes in form of Hacking, Phishing, Virus attacks on individual computer sets and networks, Kill switch to disable malware, Shadow Broker hacking, Ransomware-laden email, Malicious malware attachments, WannaCry and WanaCryptor 2.0 and WCry delivered via emails to spread bugs around; etc.

Consequent upon the continued prevalence of unpalatable circumstances in all the nooks and cronies of the country has adversely affected the varying genuine efforts to ensure effective national security, development and advancement of the country in all human endeavours closely tied to all round development of the individuals, communities, societies and the nation at large. By and large, in order to tolerantly stay safe from multitudes security threats especially as it relates to cybercrimes and terrorism, organisations, institutions and other stakeholders should have realistic and implementable policy, contingent plans and strategies on: patching viruses and

backing up files at regular intervals especially on daily and weekly bases; regular updating of security software patches; ensuring running anti-virus software all the times especially on introduction of foreign products; backing up data in multiple locations, including offline operations; avoidance of opening unknown email attachments and/or clicking on links in spam emails; and quick reporting of fraudulent actions and activities to relevant quotas for immediate remedy.

Concluding Remarks and The Way Forward

It is natural that no society nor nation will want to be associated with underdevelopment at all fronts of human endeavour. In like manner, for systematic national development to be achieved, it must be supported by the security and safety of not only life and property, but should include strategic areas such as: Economy; Education and Literacy; Science and Technology; Law and Order; Politics and International Relations; Reliable and Sustainable Water Supply; Sustainable Environment and Energy Supply; Social Welfare and Empowerment; Culture and Integration; Agriculture and Animal Husbandry; Health and Sanitation; Information and Communication Technology; Road and Transportation; and Good Governance.

Efforts for the restoration of land by both the Government and the public should be the responsibility of both the Governments and the public supported by reviewed land tenure system at some levels of concessions to stimulate and mobilise private business investments into the scheme. The land restoration scheme will not only promote peaceful co-existence and security among people, but should also provide opportunities for people to generate their income and live their own lives; and reduce incidences of forced migration especially by the migrant pastorates and farmers who could have remained to use their wealth of experiences to contribute to the socio-economic development and security of their communities and the nation at large.

In order to drastically reduce the frustrations of people caught in insecurity debacle, the National and State Emergency Management Agencies (NEMA/SEMA) should streamline their operations to provide needed safe heavens and succor/relief to the displaced persons in the rehabilitation camps. The camps will also serve as security buffer to the resident returnees caught in the insurgent, banditry and other criminality cross fire. The contributions of the affected people, who are mostly engaged in one type of viable economic activity or the other, are equally needed to contribute to the systemic development of the society and the nation at large.

There is the need for the Federal, State and local security agencies , particularly the frontline states suffering from the aftermath of the ravages of banditry, cattle rustling and other types of insecurity challenges, to develop short and long term strategic defense plans for immediate implementation. To this effect, there should be deliberate effort by the State Governments to liaise with, and support the Federal Government to provide the requisite facilities and logistics, which should include vehicles, weaponries and forward operations bases, to enhance the operations of the military and other security agents so as to effectively and efficiently curtail the menace of bandits and the likes in criminality.

It is a fact that the cyber criminals are continually perfecting their criminal acts in different dimensions and shades. Hence, in addition to establishing Internet Industry Code of Practice to build robust framework for sensitisation activities on cyber space for telecommunication consumers, it is necessary that the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) collaborates

with other relevant agencies and stakeholders in cyber crime prevention to secure Nigeria cyber space, safeguard the data and information of existing and prospective customers and demean the menace of cybercrime activities in the country.

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