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UPR 4th Cycle

UNCT Nigeria inputs to UN Compilation

Background

Nigeria was reviewed for the 3rd cycle of Universal Periodic Review (UPR) by the UPR Working Group on 31st November of 2018. It received 290 recommendations and supported 240 recommendations at adopting its UPR outcome at Human Rights Council 40 in March 2019 (an increase of 30% compared to the 2nd cycle).

The current process reviews the extent of fulfilment by Nigeria of its commitments to the Human Rights Council through the implementation of supported recommendations.

I. National human rights framework

Since the 3rd cycle UPR in 2018, Nigeria has not signed or ratified any additional international treaties. Two important milestones were reached in advancing children's rights in humanitarian situations; the signing of the Handover Protocol to reduce detention of children encountered by military and security forces, and the launch of the Group of Friends on Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) in 2022.

On 17 January 2019, Nigeria signed into law the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act. However, the Act is yet to be domesticated and implemented in some states across Nigeria. The National Commission for Persons with Disabilities was also been established pursuant to section 31 of the Discrimination Against Persons with Disability (Prohibition) Act. The Commission has the mandate to coordinate and implement activities that guarantee full inclusion for persons with disabilities, including the promotion and protection of their human rights.

- Cooperation with special procedures

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7 148.19 was partially implemented.

Nigeria hosted four mandate holders since the 3rd cycle UPR namely a joint visit by the Special Rapporteur on Trafficking from 3 -10 September 2018; the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary, or arbitrary executions from 19 August - 3 September 2019; Special Rapporteur on adequate housing from 13 - 23 September 2019; and the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons from 29 August - 9 September 2022.

- Acceptance of international norms

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/, 148.91 – 148.103 were not implemented.

The Federal Executive Council (FEC) of Nigeria on 26 April 2023 approved the Action Plan 2022-2026 to promote and protect human rights in Nigeria. The nature of the rights in the document includes civil and political rights; economic, social, and cultural rights; the right to peace, protected environment sustainable development; the rights of women and children; other areas of rights.

The development of Nigeria's NAP 2022-2026 began after the first NAP expired in January 2014. Consultations were initiated between the National Human Rights Commission, Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), and civil society groups, with the aim of assessing the implementation of the previous NAP and documenting lessons learnt. These

lessons formed the basis of the 2022 – 2026 NAP.

Nigeria's mechanisms for investigating human rights violations committed by security forces are patterned along the classification of laws enacted to promote, protect, and enforce human rights in Nigeria. This is well articulated in Nigeria's NAP on HR 2022 to 2026. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) have led on this by setting up standing committees across the following thematic areas: Civil Political Rights, Economic and Social Rights, Women and Children and Vulnerable groups (Persons with disabilities)

Each complaints committee is led by a council member who serves as the chairperson and two or three additional members. Likewise, the NHRC has been employing special panels to deal with peculiar cases such as the EndSARS panel and the ongoing investigation into Reuters' allegations against military operations in the Northeast (NE).

Over time, various mechanisms have been established to ensure the enforcement of these rights in court. it acknowledges the importance of establishing appropriate institutions to actively promote the gradual realization of these rights. Over time, several mechanisms have been developed for enforcing rights in court. These mechanisms include judicial review of administrative actions, originating summons and applications for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights. Considering the obligations to respect, protect and fulfil Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the government recognizes the need to establish necessary institutions to work towards the progressive realization of these rights.

In early 2023, Nigeria's immediate past National assembly approved a new Bill for the NHRC that seeks to grant operational and financial independence to the NHRC. Unfortunately, neither the immediate past nor the current president signed the Act before the assembly's term elapsed.

- The current Governing Council of the NHRC was inaugurated in August 2021 and for a five-year tenure, renewable once. The Council largely reflects the stipulated sector as provided in the Act, although there is an ongoing debate regarding the exact number of members. A major gap in the current Council is the appointment of a lawyer instead of a retired Justice of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, the Court of Appeal, or a retired Judge of the High Court of a State as stipulated in section 2, subsection 2b of the Act.

- Cooperation with special procedures

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7, 148.19 were implemented.

- Cooperation with other international mechanisms

Nigeria is taking several measures to ensure the full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). These measures include:

1. Legislative Actions: Nigeria has enacted laws and amended existing legislation to align with the principles and provisions of CEDAW. The Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act was passed in 2015, criminalizing various forms of violence against women and girls. Laws such as the Child Rights Act, and the Violence Against Women (Prohibition) Laws have also been put in place to protect women's rights and criminalize violence against women and girls.

2. **National Action Plans:** Nigeria has developed National Action Plans on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, which outline specific strategies and actions to address gender-based discrimination and promote women's rights across various sectors, including education, health, employment, and political participation.
3. **Institutional Mechanisms:** Nigeria has established institutional mechanisms to coordinate and monitor the implementation of women's rights. The National Gender Policy and Machinery provide a framework for mainstreaming gender perspectives and ensuring women's empowerment across government ministries, departments, and agencies.
4. **Awareness and Sensitisation:** Nigeria has undertaken awareness-raising campaigns and sensitisation programs to promote gender equality and eliminate discrimination against women. These efforts aim to change societal attitudes, challenge harmful cultural practices, and promote gender-responsive behaviour.
5. **Capacity Building:** Nigeria is actively engaged in capacity-building initiatives to strengthen the skills and knowledge of government officials, law enforcement agencies, and other stakeholders involved in promoting and protecting women's rights. This includes training programs on gender mainstreaming, women's empowerment, and legal frameworks.
6. **Reporting and Monitoring:** Nigeria regularly submits reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, providing updates on the progress made in implementing CEDAW. These reports undergo review, and recommendations are provided to further enhance Nigeria's efforts in eliminating discrimination against women.

Nigeria is a signatory to all the core human rights treaties and to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights, which guarantee each person the unconditional right to life. However, the death penalty has been in force and implemented in Nigeria for over 50 years. On the whole, it has been applied for several of offenses including armed robbery, murder, treason, conspiracy to commit treason, terrorism, kidnapping, instigating the invasion of Nigeria, treachery, fabricating false evidence leading to the conviction of an innocent person, aiding in the suicide of a child or lunatic; Under the Sharia Law as applied in 12 States in Nigeria it has been applied for Zina (adultery), rape, sodomy, incest, witchcraft or juju offenses.

While the right to life is guaranteed under section 33 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, challenges persist. These include the extension of the death penalty to other offences, including kidnapping in certain states, and the non-domestication of some relevant international human rights instruments like the Optional Protocol on Convention Against Torture and the AU Convention for the Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons.

Nigeria's NAP on human rights implementation plan proposes a review of the death penalty policy in Nigeria, highlighting the need for amending the legal framework, and as the corresponding actions, performance indicators and outcome indicators that require amendment.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/, 148.19 not implemented.

- **Constitutional and legislative framework**

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/, 148.58 – 148.166, 148.31 - 148.73, were partially implemented:

To cushion Nigeria's vulnerable population from the COVID-19-related shocks while ensuring that no Nigerian is left behind as the nation rebuilds, the UNCT implemented joint programmes on social protection. As a result, the National Social Protection Policy (NSPP) was revised and approved by the Federal Executive Council in December 2022. The NSPP is

designed to address the extreme deprivation and vulnerabilities faced by the poor, those on low income and the needs of those who are currently not classified as poor but require security during times of shocks and life events.

Challenges or areas where there is a need for work to be carried out:

- More work needs to be done in the implementation of the policy at the federal and state levels, with a focus on i) addressing funding constraints and exploring novel/innovative sources of funding for the NSPP programme, ii) enhancing synergies across agencies in the states and federal level in line with the SDGs to avoid fragmentation and dilution of impacts, iii) increasing awareness at the state level regarding the importance of social protection, the need to prioritize SP programmes as well as utilize available tools and technical resources for maximum results, and iv) developing a monitoring and evaluation framework with clear indicators and deliverables to track the progress and outcomes of social protection programmes in the short, medium and long term.
- First, funding constitutes a major risk for the implementation of the NSPP.

The UNCT also supported the Government of Nigeria in conducting the 2022 Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) survey, which is used to design a broader economic empowerment and poverty reduction programme to support the President's initiative of lifting 100 million people out of poverty in 10 years.

Challenges or areas where more work is needed:

- Further work is needed around the use of the MPI results to drive policy action for poverty reduction at state and federal levels – which includes: i) Use of MPI for resource allocation and aligning/embedding MPI within National/Sub-national plans ii) Developing & implementing Social Expenditure Monitor (SEM) benchmarking of UN-ESCWA – to help address the issue of tracking budgetary allocations for social programmes and expenditure; iii) sustaining political leadership/government ownership of poverty reduction policies /the policy action process; and iv) enhancing technical capacity in utilising the MPI and conducting gender-disaggregated data analysis.
- While the MPI report provides insightful data at the federal and state levels, several limitations regarding the breakdown of gender distribution across some of the four dimensions and 15 indicators. While some sex-disaggregated data were included in the education measurement, this has not been presented for other measures, including (but not limited to) the data and findings on unemployment/underemployment, household poverty, and the percentage of women in poverty broken down by regions at a more granular level. It is critical to ensure a deeper analysis of gender-disaggregated data at the State level to account for the female-headed households in policymaking, and budget decisions.
- The National Social Protection Plans in time would need to also address elements of inclusion for broader vulnerable population groups such as stateless persons, refugees, and others, found within Nigeria.

Through the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF), the UNCT supports the Government of Nigeria on policy and regulatory reforms, business process changes, design of financial instruments and strategies for resource mobilization (from both public and private financing sources) towards meeting development priorities. Support in public finance includes technical support around enhancing federal and state revenue base, tax administration, budget processes, ease of doing business etc. Support on mobilizing private

finance include technical support in promoting private capital, impact investments and other innovative financing for SDGs, and investor convening, among others.

Challenges or areas where there is a need for work to be carried out include:

- Implementation of the design INFF actions which include: i) limited resources to holistically implement initiatives in the Nigeria INFF action plan; ii) sustaining political leadership for the implementation; and iii) ensuring a wholesome and coordinated approach in implementing the initiatives and reforms.

The UNCT supports the Nigerian Government in strengthening national and sub-national systems and institutions through technical assistance for SDG-aligned development planning at national and state levels. The UNCT is involved in SDG-aligned development planning in 15 states, and State Development Plans have been completed for five states, namely Borno, Gombe, Kwara, Ekiti, and Osun. Furthermore, the UNCT also supported the 2021-2025 National Development Plan (NDP) and the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF). Additionally, efforts have been made to embed local and state development plans within the Federal development plans. This integration allows for better monitoring and measuring of SDGs progress at the sub-national level, thereby accelerating progress towards the SDGs and fostering structural transformation.

Challenges or areas where there is a need for work to be carried out include:

- i) limited resources and weak institutional capacity for implementing, monitoring, and tracking the roadmap and strategies in the development plan; ii) strengthening linkages between relevant state and non-state actors to engender cross-cutting ownership of the plan for sustained interest in its continued implementation across successive government administrations; and iii) enacting appropriate laws / legal actions to ensure a continuity of the state development plans.

The UNCT has supported the government to enhance statistical systems to effectively measure data for improved sectoral and aggregate planning, aligned with country-level development priorities. Specifically, UNCT supports the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) in various areas. This support includes financial and technical support for strengthening the production, upgrade, and review of national statistical data by harmonising questionnaires and manuals on food security, household consumption patterns, assets, safety nets and credit produced for data collection for the Nigerian Living Standard Survey (NLSS), 2022 as well human rights-based approach to data in SDG reporting. The NBS was also supported with upgrading the e-template used by Ministries Department and Agencies (MDAs) to capture the 230 Indicators of the SDGs at the Federal Level, in addition to developing the Institutional Framework for the rebasing of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), 2022. Furthermore, Nigeria was also supported to develop a Quality Assurance Framework to enhance SDG implementation tracking progress., together with an e-template for SDG data collection to improve reporting in conformity with the SDG data bond and responsibility framework.

Challenges or areas where there is a need for work to be carried out include:

- Limited resources for more regular and updated data. For example, the latest data on monetary poverty is dated 2019, highlighting the need for more current data to effectively track progress. Additionally, there is a need to align new data with existing data for easy progress tracking. The methodology used to collect the 2019 poverty data for example differ from previous methods, making it challenging to compare and track poverty levels accurately. There is also the need to align data collection efforts with SDG indicators to ensure consistency and relevance.

The UNCT supports the government in strengthening policy, legislative and regulatory environment on inclusive insurance and disaster risk finance, This includes supporting Lagos State Government in implementing flood risk insurance cover for vulnerable urban populations affected by floods. The UNCT also supported the National Insurance Commission (NAICOM) in enhancing its capacity to develop and implement action plans to improve insurance regulations towards inclusiveness. The UNCT also provides technical assistance to enhance risk financing and works with relevant stakeholders to conduct a country risk profile for Nigeria. A detailed review of existing legal and strategic frameworks governing public financial management of climate and disaster risk is also being undertaken.

Challenges or areas where there is need for work to be carried out include:

- i) Technical and institutional capacity deficit- including low-risk management skills and fragile framework for insurance; ii) Limited risk coverage due to low demand and supply of affordable insurance coverage; iii) Improving the response and management of floods and droughts; iv) Development of safety measures for vulnerable communities; v) Improving digital data collection and open access around insurance and disaster risk information; vi) Massive shortfall of skilled professionals in the insurance industry, including lack of actuaries.

The Gender and Equal Opportunities bill is still being deliberated with various concerns from other Senate members.

Implementation ongoing of the following recommendations:

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.44.

The UNCT supported advocacy for the domestication of the VAPP Act into Law. Now domesticated in 31 States plus the FCT. Over 5,000 copies of the simplified VAPP law were distributed to increase legal literacy in the communities.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.49

The UNCT supported the development of the revised National Policy and costed Plan of Action for the Elimination of FGM in Nigeria (2021-2025) and the National Protocol on the Management of Complications from FGM.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.251

The UNCT supported development of the revised National Gender Policy (2021-2026)

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.257

The UNCT strengthened access to justice for GBV survivors, Specifically, the UNCT supported the establishment of the First DNA Forensic Lab in Nigeria dedicated to GBV prosecution and provided forensic services to **115** GBV survivors in the pursuit of justice. Efforts are underway to scale up services in the Lab.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.264

The UNCT supported the development of a manual on Integrating FGM Indicators into the Nigeria human rights treaty reporting template and looks forward to its operationalization.

The UNCT, under the UNJP Programme on the Elimination of FGM supported NHRC in the training of stakeholders on the use of the developed manual on Integrating FGM Indicators into the Nigeria's Human Rights Treaty Reporting Template at the National level and in Imo, Ebonyi, Osun, Oyo and Ekiti states. The UNCT supported the strengthening of NHRC capacity to advance a rights-based approach to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and Harmful Practices. The UNCT also supported government and law enforcement agencies, and media personnel on implementation and operationalization of laws and legal frameworks against FGM in Ekiti State.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.66

The UNCT is providing technical support to the National Human Rights Commission in developing the Framework for the Establishment of the Special Independent Investigative Panel on Human Rights Violations in Counter-Insurgency Operations in North-East Nigeria.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.63

The UNCT continues to provide technical and financial support to peace-building efforts including through the African First Ladies Peace Mission and with support of PBF funded projects in Kaduna and Katsina. Additionally, the UNCT supports capacity building of National Human Rights Commission staff on GBV, SRH and harmful practices including through local and international trainings.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.58

On 14th June 2023, President Bola Tinubu signed the Nigeria Data Protection Bill 2023 into law. The new law—which repeals the Nigeria Data Protection Regulation (NDPR)—provides a legal framework for protecting and regulating personal data in the country.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.46, 148.30

The Violence Against Persons Prohibition (VAPP) Act has been recommended for adoption and implementation in all 36 states of Nigeria. Significant progress has been made, with 34 states adopting the legislation countrywide. and girls have been adopted by 34 out of 36 states in Nigeria. The VAPP Act serves as a legal framework to hold perpetrators accountable and empower women to seek justice and support. Continued efforts are needed to ensure effective implementation and awareness of the Act nationwide.

In March 2022, the National Assembly voted against 5 Gender Bills which sought to promote gender equality through granting citizenship to foreign husbands of Nigerian women, affirmative action for women in political party administration/leadership and granting women indigeneship of their husband's state of origin. After several days of protests by women's group and civil society organisations, the National Assembly rescinded its decision on 3 out of the 5 bills -citizenship, affirmative action and indigeneship. These Bills have however not been finalized.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.54

All states recommended the adoption and implementation of the Child Rights Act. have adopted the legislation. The adoption of the Child Rights Act is a significant step towards protecting the rights and well-being of children in Nigeria. It provides a legal framework to

ensure their proper care, education, and protection from abuse and exploitation. Continued efforts are needed to encourage the remaining states to adopt and implement the Act to safeguard the rights of children nationwide.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.27

Nigeria has ratified and domesticated international and regional refugee protection instruments through the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and IDPs Act 2022 (NCFRMI Act).

The 2022 NCFRMI Act which was signed into law by the president on 27th January 2023 repeals the former NCFR Act and serves as the legal framework for implementing all international and regional refugee conventions, the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, and other treaties and conventions in relation to refugees, migrants, asylum seekers, and internally displaced persons, ratified and domesticated by Nigeria. UN support action (technical and financial) was instrumental in the realization of the following developments:

- In 2022, the incorporation of the 1954 Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons into the new NCFRMI Act, providing the legal basis for the operationalization of statelessness status determination in Nigeria. A standard operating procedure for statelessness status determination was also validated by multi stakeholders in December 2022 and is set for operationalization.
- Through advocacy related actions, Nigeria has indicated an intention to prioritize the domestication of the 1961 Convention for the Reduction of Statelessness and applicable legal reforms to address gaps that increase the potential risk of statelessness.
- In strengthening the national legal and policy frameworks for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) the Nigerian Government finalized and launched the National IDP policy in March 2022. An Action Plan for the implementation of the policy has been developed and an Executive Bill for *the domestication of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons (Domestication and Enforcement) Bill 2022*, is on course to ensure its passage into law.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.28

In 2011, the Federal Republic of Nigeria ratified the 1954 UN Convention relating to the status of Stateless persons and the 1961 UN Convention on the reduction of Statelessness. In furtherance of its commitments, the Government signed the Abidjan Declaration on the Eradication of Statelessness in ECOWAS Member States (hereinafter, Abidjan Declaration), which was adopted at the ministerial level on 25 February 2015. In accordance with Article 24 of the Abidjan Declaration, Nigeria adopted a National Action Plan (NAP) to eradicate statelessness in Nigeria in 2020. As part of its engagement on the declaration of the Global Decade and Plan of Action to End Statelessness by the year 2024, the Federal Executive Council approved the National Action Plan to Eradicate Statelessness in Nigeria in November 2020. The NAP incorporates commitments made by the Government of Nigeria at the 2019 High level Segment on Statelessness.

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/, 148.58 - 148.191, 148.47 - 148.69, 148.205 - 148.36, 148.256 - 148.51, 148.285 - 148.166, 148.191 - 148.48, 148.43 - 148.41, 148.53 - 148.24, 148.29 - 148.39, 148.69 - 148.166 have not been implemented.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/, 148.31 - 148.73 not implemented.

II. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

A. Cross cutting issues

1. Equality and non-discrimination

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/, 148.120 - 148.112 have not been implemented.

Recommendations are being implemented.

B. Development, the environment, and business and human rights

The Action Plan 2022-2026 for the promotion and protection of human rights in Nigeria has a specific chapter on Business and Human Rights in conformity with the United Nations Working Group on Business and Human Rights (UNWGBHR) for the development of a National Action Plan (NAP) on Business and Human Rights. The process for the NAP of 2022 - 2026 began with the expiration of the tenure of the first NAP in January 2014. Consultations commenced between the National Human Rights Commission and Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) as well as civil society groups, targeted at reviewing the implementation of the previous NAP and documenting the lessons learnt. These lessons learnt formed part of the development of the NAP 2022.

Recommendation - 148.92 (Ongoing)

The UNCT through the Sahel Resilience Project (SRP) continues to jointly work to design and implement programmes with the government, supporting disaster management agencies at national and state levels led by National Emergency Management Agency; NEMA, National Bureau of Statistics; (NBS), and Ministry of Humanitarian affairs and other disaster risk reduction/management institutions in Nigeria to address disaster risks and other issues associated with the adverse effects of climate change. The projects/programmes that have been successfully implemented and/or ongoing under the Sahel Resilience Project include:

- The establishment of a national disaster database and implementing risk-informed information management to support sustainable development by reducing the time lag during support for persons affected by disaster and accelerating the implementation of effective measures to mitigate the impact of climate change on vulnerable communities.
- The City Resilience Action Planning tool (City RAP), which has been implemented in partnership with UN-Habitat, seeks to enable local governments of small to intermediate-sized cities to plan and undertake practical actions to strengthen the resilience of their cities and reduce exposure to several urban settlements. One of the examples is in the Labondo settlement of Girei Local Government in Adamawa state, Northeast Nigeria, along the Sahelian belt.
- Implementing the City Resilience Action Planning tool (City RAP) in partnership with UN-Habitat. This too empowers local governments in small to intermediate sized cities to plan and implement practical actions to the resilience of their cities and reduce exposure to several urban settlements. One notable example is the implementation of City RAP in Labondo settlement, Girei Local Government Area, Adamawa state, which lie in the Sahelian belt of Northeast Nigeria.

- Supports the Government of Nigeria in reviewing environmental safety in COVID-19, including assessing waste management systems. A database of medical waste management facilities has been created for the states of Lagos, Calabar, Plateau, Gombe, Kano, and Anambra, in collaboration with Nigerian companies, through the UNDP Accelerator Lab.
- According to the UNCT's Children's Climate Risk Index (CCRI), Nigeria is considered at 'extremely high risk' of the impacts of climate change, ranking second out of 163 countries. The Children's Climate Risk Index (CCRI) was created because the climate crisis is a child rights crisis. The CCRI helps to understand and measure the likelihood of climate and environmental shocks or stresses leading to the erosion of development progress, the deepening of deprivation and/or humanitarian situations affecting children or vulnerable households and groups
- Providing support to the Government of Nigeria in reviewing environmental safety, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes an assessment of waste management systems and the creation of a database of medical waste management facilities in collaboration with Nigerian companies.

C. Human rights and counterterrorism

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/148.164, 120, 113, 119 (Ongoing)

Nigeria has demonstrated a strong commitment to addressing the challenges posed by terrorism through the enactment of counterterrorism laws, policies, and measures. Key developments in this area include:

- Passage of the Terrorism Prevention Act in 2011, followed by its Amendment Act in 2013, which formed the foundation of Nigeria's legal framework for countering terrorism.
- Development and adoption of the National Counter-Terrorism Strategy (NACTEST) in 2014, with subsequent revisions in 2016. This strategy provides a comprehensive framework for addressing terrorism and its underlying conditions.
- Establishment of the National Countering Violent Extremism Programme in 2016, accompanied by the launch of the Policy Framework and National Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in 2017. Both documents address a wide range of areas that are crucial for countering terrorism and addressing the underlying conditions that contribute to its rise.

In 2021, the UNCT supported the National Assembly in the passage of the Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) Bill. Between June and July 2021, UNCT sponsored two retreats for members of the House and Senate Committees on National Security and Intelligence, House and Senate Committees on Judicial Matters and other relevant Nigerian agencies, to conduct a line-by-line review of the draft Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) Bill. The Bill was successfully enacted into law in 2022, as the Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) Act, 2022. This Act strengthens the legal framework by introducing additional offences related to terrorism, prohibiting the financing of terrorism, and consolidating all acts relating to terrorism and related matters. It builds on the Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) Act, 2011 and Terrorism (Prevention) (Amendment) Act, 2013 and addresses the need for further improvements in preventing and responding to acts of terrorism and related offences in Nigeria

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/148.114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 107, 102, 121, 109, 110, 111, 112, 103, 105, 108, 121 and 104

On efforts to fight terrorism and violent extremism and guaranteeing respect for human rights in the fight against terrorism, including ensuring all operations by the military and security forces comply with international law and Nigeria's human rights obligations, Nigeria continues to face profound terrorism challenges. From the advent of Boko Haram in 2009 to the infamous kidnapping of the Chibok schoolgirls in 2014 and the growth of the Boko Haram splinter groups, Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) and Ansaru, Nigeria-based terrorist groups have risen to international prominence. Moreover, the terrorist threat originating in Nigeria has evolved into a transnational terrorist challenge threatening the security of civilian populations in Nigeria and its neighbouring countries, in the Lake Chad Basin region (especially Cameroon, Chad, and Niger), and the broader Sahel region.

In Nigeria, the escalation of domestic terrorist activities and military counterterrorism efforts led to the arrest and detention of thousands of people on suspicion of being associated with Boko Haram. From 2017 to 2018, the terrorism suspects were tried by the Federal High Court (FHC) in three rounds of mass trials, for offences under the Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) Act, 2011, as amended. The trials, which were prosecuted by the Federal Ministry of Justice (FMOJ), were conducted in the Wawa Military Cantonment in Kainji, and several suspects who were detained in Giwa Barracks, Maiduguri, and other detention facilities around the country, were transferred to Kainji to be tried. The first round of trials in 2017 resulted in 50 convictions, 203 discharges for want of evidence and 28 adjournments. The second round of trials in 2018 resulted in 203 convictions, 582 discharges for want of evidence and 24 adjournments, while the third round of trials resulted in 113 convictions, 97 discharges for want of evidence, 5 acquittals and 9 adjournments. Following concerns over the human rights standards of the first round of trials, the National Human Rights Commission was present during the second and third trials, to observe and report on human rights issues related to the trials.

By 2020, the FMOJ had completed the preparation of 230 case files in anticipation of another round of trials scheduled January 2020. However, the twin challenges of the security situation in the Northeast and the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic led to the FHC postponing the trials indefinitely. Although, Nigeria is initiating concrete plans to reinvigorate the trials, there are currently over 6,000 persons in detention for terrorism offences, including those whose cases were dismissed during the Kainji trials. In preparation for the next round of trials, the FMOJ prosecutors have undergone regular deployments to the Joint Investigation Center (JIC) in Northeast Nigeria, the region most affected by terrorism. In doing so, the prosecutors have reviewed over 2,000 terrorism case files and advised the JIC on specific modifications that could be made to strengthen their processes for human-rights compliant investigation and preparation of case files for the prosecution of persons suspected of terrorism offences, including sexual and gender-based violence committed by terrorist groups. Through these deployments, the FMOJ has recorded marked improvements in the quality of the evidence collected and case files prepared.

Against the backdrop of the investigation of counterterrorism offences, with UNCT's support, Nigeria established a digital forensic unit within the Borno State Police Command in Maiduguri, to overcome challenges to conducting effective counterterrorism investigations.

In 2022, the UNCT sponsored defence lawyers from the Legal Aid Council of Nigeria (LACON) to defend actions on behalf of 101 suspects who were detained on terrorism-related charges that were dismissed in 2010, 2011 and 2013. Although the charges of the detainees had been dismissed, the detainees had been held without formal federal charges for more than a decade in Kirikiri Maximum Security Prison in Lagos. Following their release through the

successful action led by LACON, the detainees were transferred to the Nigerian military and flown to Gombe to undergo the six-month Operation Safe Corridor deradicalization and vocational skills training programme run by the Nigerian government. They were released from Operation Safe Corridor in March 2023.

In January 2023, the State Government of Borno reported that over 93,000 individuals have voluntarily exited areas controlled by Boko Haram and handed themselves to authorities in Borno State. These individuals include fighters and their families, farmers and their families and others classified by the authorities as “minors, GBV victims, widows, unaccompanied and separated children”.

In response to the transnational threat posed by the insurgency, the UNCT has also facilitated the development and implementation of comprehensive prosecution, rehabilitation, and reintegration strategies in Nigeria, building on the Lake Chad Basin Regional Stabilization Strategy.

Nigeria continues to strengthen its criminal justice responses to terrorism and violent extremism. This is evidenced by the improvement in Nigeria’s ranking on the Global Terrorism Index, which measured the impact of terrorism in Nigeria as the third highest rate in the world in 2020, to the eighth highest rate in 2023.

In spite of the challenges, Nigeria continues to strengthen its criminal justice responses to terrorism and violent extremism with records of positive progress, as evidenced by Nigeria’s improved ranking on the Global Terrorism Index from the third highest rate in the world in 2020, to the eighth highest rate in 2023.

D. Rights of Specific Groups

1. Women

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/, 148.251;148.289; 148.30; 148.67; 148.69; & 148.72

Spotlight Initiative in Nigeria has made significant strides in 2022 towards eliminating violence against women and girls, addressing harmful practices, and promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Through strategic expansion of its reach to include marginalised groups such as persons with disabilities, socio-economically disadvantaged individuals, adolescent girls, and women, the program has demonstrated its commitment to inclusivity and equality. The Spotlight Initiative project provided ongoing technical support to the development and strengthening of legislative and policy frameworks. Notably, all six focus states of the Spotlight Initiative have adopted, passed, and started implementing the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) (VAPP) Act, making it the fastest bill to be passed at the sub-national level in Nigeria's history. Additionally, the Sexual Harassment Bill was also passed in 2020 and is now being implemented across the country. Furthermore, the Programme ensured that 34 states domesticated the Child Rights Act to protect women and girls from violence.

However, challenges persist in addressing sexual exploitation and abuse. A report in June 2023 highlighted a case of sexual exploitation by an INGO staff member involving a 16-year-old girl who had been subjected to abuse for over a year and had given birth to a child as a result. Additionally, "survival sex" is prevalent among families facing financial difficulties, where women and girls exchange sex for money, goods, services, or assistance. A qualitative report from a Focus Group Discussion indicated the common occurrence of this practice in IDP camps in Monguno, including GSSSS and Stadium. Disturbingly, data as of May 2023

revealed that 67% of reported rape or sexual violence cases occurred in the context of possible sexual slavery, involving survivors who were trafficked, forcibly conscripted, held against their will, abducted, or kidnapped. This underscores the urgent need for additional measures to prevent and mitigate sexual exploitation, particularly among vulnerable families in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe States.

There was an upsurge in reported cases of violence against women and girls (VAWG) following the lockdown during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. These reports triggered condemnation of VAWG across the country. Protesters took to the streets in state capitals to demand for an end to VAWG. In June 2020, state governors across Nigeria declared a State of Emergency on Sexual and Gender-based Violence. In July 2020, the Federal Government inaugurated an Inter-Ministerial Gender-Based Violence Management Committee on Eradication of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (Inter-Ministerial Committee). The mandate of the multisectoral committee is to ensure effective, comprehensive, and coordinated response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) within the country

Intensify efforts to combat gender-based violence, especially through the full implementation of the Violence against Persons (Prohibition) Act 2015 at the federal, state, and local levels

The Spotlight Initiative made significant progress last year by drafting an amendment to the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act 2015 (VAPP Act) that has passed the 2nd reading in the National Assembly and is currently at the committee level. The proposed amendment provides for the establishment of a Victim Support Fund to provide financial assistance to survivors/victims of SGBV in Nigeria. It also seeks to ensure adequate compensation for victims, addressing a gap in the existing legislation where compensation is only mentioned once. Though the Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) proffers situations for compensation, it has become pertinent that the VAPP Act stipulates clearly when victims should be awarded compensation. It is also worthy to note that the VAPP Act has been adopted and passed by all the 36 states in Nigeria.

Since 2020, the Spotlight Initiative has played a vital role in empowering survivors of gender-based violence across the project states. Over 10,000 survivors, who have endured physical, emotional, and psychological abuse, have received livelihood training. These women, often abandoned by their husbands and left to fend for themselves and their children, have been equipped with the valuable skills to enhance their employment prospects and establish their own businesses. With newfound confidence and resilience, they have achieved financial independence and continues to play a pivotal role in ending violence against women and girls.

2. Children

In Nigeria, there are ongoing collaborative efforts led by the UNCT, alongside other non-governmental organizations, to combat harmful traditional practices that violate the human rights of women and children. One notable initiative is the Joint UNICEF and UNFPA program in conjunction with the Spotlight Initiative, which is specifically focused on accelerating efforts to end Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in Nigeria. These programs aim to raise awareness, provide support services, engage community leaders, and advocate for the eradication of harmful practices. The collaborative approach involving various stakeholders is essential in strengthening efforts to alleviate these practices and protect the rights of women and children in Nigeria. Additionally, the UNCT, through the stabilization and Northwest Project have accelerated effort to address violence against women and children in the Northeast and North West contributing to the overall goal of fostering peace in these areas.

3. Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons

Nigeria is taking several measures to ensure the protection of women and children from all forms of abuse and exploitation in internally displaced persons (IDP) camps across the country. The NHRC has been spear heading and following up with cases of abuse of women and girls in several IDP camp across Nigeria since 2015. Government officials and other authorities in Nigeria have reported raped and sexually exploited women and girls displaced by the conflict with Boko Haram. Currently, there is an ongoing investigation of Reuters report - investigation is based on interviews with 33 women and girls who say they underwent forced abortions while in the custody of the Nigerian Army and many others report against Nigerian armed forces. Other actions, complemented by UN advocacy and support include:

- **Security and Law Enforcement:** The Nigerian government has increased security measures in IDP camps to prevent and respond to cases of abuse and exploitation. This includes deploying security personnel to maintain law and order and ensuring the safety of the camp residents.
- **Camp Management and Coordination:** The government, in collaboration with humanitarian organizations, is actively involved in the management and coordination of IDP camps. This includes establishing camp committees, providing basic services and facilities, and ensuring proper camp administration to create a safe and protective environment.
- **Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Response:** Efforts are being made to address gender-based violence in IDP camps. This involves setting up safe spaces for women and girls, providing medical and psychosocial support to survivors of violence, and promoting awareness and prevention of GBV through community engagement and education.
- **Child Protection:** Nigeria has established child protection mechanisms within IDP camps to safeguard children from abuse and exploitation.

The UNCT is actively involved in providing technical support to the NHRC in Nigeria. This support aims to strengthen the capacity of the NHRC to investigate cases of abuse, misconduct, and human rights violations, particularly those affecting women and children. By collaborating with the NHRC, the UNCT helps ensure that these cases are thoroughly examined, justice is delivered, and victims have access to speedy and fair legal processes. This partnership between the UNCT and the NHRC plays a crucial role in promoting human rights, upholding the principles of justice, and safeguarding the rights of individuals in Nigeria.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.120 being Implemented

The UNCT has supported the government of Nigeria in establishing standard operating procedures to maintain the civilian character of asylum recommending steps to identify, separate and demilitarize armed or ex-combatants from refugee populations. The SOP has since been adopted by the government and awaiting implementation.

Recommendations A/HRC/25/6/135.70-72 have been partially implemented.

Recommendations A/HRC/25/6/135.73-74 have been partially implemented.

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/, 148.120 - 148.112 have not been implemented.

E. Civil and political rights

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/, 148.146 - 148.148 have not been implemented.

Nigeria has taken steps to investigate and punish those responsible for violations of human rights and international humanitarian law. It has equally failed to bring some perpetrators to book, especially kidnappers whose activities became widespread with 821 students abducted in 2021 alone. In the North-East, there has been community stakeholders including the Civilian Joint Task Force led mediation between ex-fighter(s) and victims of human rights violations. Most of the cases have not resulted in prosecutions.

The presence of ex-combatants, illicit activities, and limitations on freedom of movement due to curfews contribute to complex challenges in the many parts of Nigeria, requiring attention from stakeholders to address security concerns, protect vulnerable populations, and promote stability and well-being in the affected communities.

In 2020 following the EndSARS protests, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and states constituted judicial panel of inquiry into the abuses of Police Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) that revealed far reaching experience on police brutality and recommendations. In Abuja, the panel awarded N289 million to victims and in Lagos N410.2 million as compensation to 70 victims of police abuses, brutality, and extrajudicial killings. Erring officers were equally reprimanded. The Independent Investigative Panel led by NHRC indicted 72 police officers for various offences and recommend they be punished by the government Nigeria (28 officers were recommended for prosecution, 25 were to be dismissed, 15 are for other forms of punishment while 4 are to be demoted).

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/148.83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89 and 90 (Ongoing implementation)

The Federal Government of Nigeria signed the Electoral Bill 2022 into law on 25th February 2023. The Electoral Act 2022. The law intends to guarantee credibility, transparency, and accountability of election outcomes by introducing aggressive innovations into the conduct of elections at all tiers of government in Nigeria. Specific uniqueness of this law include granting financial independence to the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC); extension of timeframe for publication of election notice; early political parties' primaries and exclusion of political appointees from participating in party primary as voting delegates or aspirants; extension of timeframe for political party campaigns; provision for Central Electronic Voter Database; redefinition of overvoting; INEC's power to review the Returning Officer's decisions on E-day activities; and use of technology devices. The law was tested in the 2023 elections and produced outcomes never envisaged – a clear departure from recent political history in Nigeria.

UNCT, in collaboration with the development partners and the national actors, played a role in enhancing the capacities of INEC to substantially enforce the law and the judiciaries to seamlessly adjudicate on the disputes that arise therefrom. It also supported national efforts through CSOs to simplify, effectively disseminate and create mass awareness on key aspects of the law among the voting population.

The Nigeria Police Act 2020 provides for a more effective, well organized Police Force driven by the principles of transparency and accountability in its operation and management of its resources. The Act repeals the Police Act Cap. P19 2004. The Act seeks to enhance professionalism in the Police Force through the provision of increased training; and create an enduring cooperation and partnership between the Police Force and communities in

maintaining peace and combating crimes. The UNCT has been facilitating the implementation of this Act by providing technical assistance to the Office of the Chief of Staff (CoS) to the development and operationalization of the Presidential Roadmap on Police Reform which aims to transform the Nigeria Police Force to a transparent and accountable Police Force; Publish the reports about abuses committed by security forces and implement the recommendations, including the prosecution of those responsible for violence against civilians.

Nigeria is increasingly embracing transparency regarding reports of abuses especially those security forces that were hitherto treated as sensitive document. Although individual reports from the states on each of the judicial panel on police brutality were all not published but some were published and the figures from the report were made public through the office of the vice president. The Lagos State Judicial panel on police brutality on the back of the EndSARS protests was published a year after the protest. The NHRC also published its own report, but it was not made public. All the panel hearing were covered by the media. Ideally, most of the findings and recommendations were made public. Also, some civil society organisations monitored the process and documented critical processes and issues that came out of the panel.

1. Anti-Corruption

With the support of the UNCT, Nigeria adopted its first National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) in 2017 to intensify national efforts in the fight against corruption, promote good governance and ensure optimal service delivery at all levels. The NACS comprises of five concurrent pillars: i) prevention of corruption, ii) enforcement and sanctions, iii) public engagement, iv) campaign for ethical reorientation, and, v) recovery and management of proceeds of corruption. These pillars align with the recommendations of the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), to which Nigeria is a signatory.

To monitor and oversee the implementation of the NACS, a 17-person Monitoring and Evaluation Committee was inaugurated in 2018 by the Attorney General of the Federation. In 2019, the Senate Committee on Anti-Corruption and Financial Crimes conducted the first progress review of the NACS' implementation, ahead of the NACS' review of 2021, inviting Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to submit reports documenting institutional efforts to combat corruption in line with the NACS. During the review, several achievements in the implementation of the NACS were recorded. These include the establishment of an anti-corruption office in the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), the conduct of a corruption risk assessment of MDAs by the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC), the establishment of an Anti-Corruption and Transparency Unit in the Nigerian Customs Service (NCS), and the development of an integrated database system for the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) to support fairer procurement practices. The UNCT was present as an observer of the review process.

In addition, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) carried out two extensive (the largest in Africa) experience-based corruption surveys in 2016 and 2019. The survey findings not only offer crucial data to evaluate the actual impact of Nigeria's anti-corruption efforts, but also provide specific policy.

2. Prohibition of all forms of slavery

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.60 (Ongoing implementation)

Nigeria has taken significant steps to address transnational organized crime, particularly drug trafficking, with the support of the UNCT. As a transit point for heroin and cocaine intended for European, East Asian, and North American markets, Nigeria has faced increasing challenges in combating drug trafficking and the production of synthetic drugs within its borders. Since 2004, drug traffickers have increasingly been using West African countries, including Nigeria, for smuggling large amounts of cocaine from South America into Europe and North America.

Over the past decade, West Africa has evolved from being a major transit hub for drug trafficking to recording an increasingly pre-occupying number of illicit drug lab busts with Nigeria being a major player in the production of synthetic drugs. Synthetic drugs, such as methamphetamine and ecstasy (MDMA), which are highly addictive and have devastating effects on users, including psychosis, heart failure, and even death, are increasingly intercepted in the country. In the last quarter of 2021, Nigeria's Southeast region was hit by an outbreak of abuse of methamphetamine, known locally as Mkpuru Mmiri. A total of 21 clandestine laboratories have been discovered by the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) in Nigeria since 2011, including two illicit methamphetamine laboratories in 2022.

The NDLEA reports that since 2020, the fight against substance abuse and illicit drug trafficking has yielded significant results, with the arrest of 31,675 drug offenders; 5,147 of them prosecuted and convicted, while over 6.3 million kilograms of assorted drugs were seized. Since 2018, Nigeria has intensified its efforts to address drug trafficking, through the development and implementation of several policy and research documents, with the contribution and support of the UNCT. These include:

- The Drug Use in Nigeria Survey 2018 which was launched in January 2019, to strengthen evidence-based policy making.
- The second national quantification and estimation survey to assess the needs of controlled medicines, psychotropic substances, and precursors for medical and scientific purposes in Nigeria. The aim is also to ensure that Nigeria only imports what it needs for medical and scientific purposes and prevent the diversion of these substances for illicit drug production.
- A Study on Tramadol and Pharmaceutical Opioids Trafficking in West Africa, published in 2021.
- The National Drug Control Master Plan (NDCMP) 2021 – 2025 approved and launched in December 2021.
- Sentencing Guidelines for Drugs and Related Offences to ensure transparency and sentencing proportionality in the adjudication of drug offences. This was signed and adopted by the Chief Judge of the Federal High Court in February 2020.
- Nigeria Cannabis Cultivation Survey: 2019 Baseline Assessment in Six States, published in 2022.
- The amendment of the NDLEA Act, which was passed by the Senate in December last year and is currently awaiting Presidential assent.
- The Drugs Chapter of the National Organized Crime Threat Assessment (NOCTA) for Nigeria, which is scheduled to be published Q4 2023.

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/148.198. 199, 200, 201, 203, 207, 206, 210 and 204 (Ongoing Implementation)

3. Efforts to combat human trafficking

Human trafficking and irregular migration remain a topic of concern for Nigeria, as it serves as a transit and destination hub for countries in Africa, Europe, and the Middle East. The scarcity of reliable data on the patterns and scope of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, as well as an outdated strategic framework, constitute important challenges in developing an effective response. With the support of the UNCT, Nigeria has stepped up its efforts to address human trafficking through several initiatives:

- The establishment of the Judicial Resource Center (JRC) in the National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP)
- The development and implementation of the NAPTIP National Action Plan Against Human Trafficking, 2022 – 2026
- Advocacy interventions led by NAPTIP, targeting various stakeholders such as additional rulers, community leaders, schools and marketplaces across the country, to raise awareness on human trafficking.
 - Improved coordination between federal and state agencies in responding to human trafficking, exemplified by the Edo State Task Force on Human Trafficking securing seven convictions for human trafficking offenses with the support of NAPTIP. Strengthening international cooperation and coordination in investigating and prosecuting human trafficking cases. For example: The Gambia: Nigeria and the Gambia developed a memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen the links between competent authorities in both countries, to combat human trafficking. To ensure the operationalization of the MoU, Nigeria and the Gambia have jointly developed an action plan to guide the technical working committee that would oversee the implementation of the MoU.
 - Niger: Nigeria and Niger have also been working in close collaboration to strengthen the investigation and prosecution of cases of human trafficking afflicting both countries
- NAPTIP's regular engagements with diplomatic missions of European countries impacted by human trafficking in Nigeria, further strengthening international cooperation mechanisms to combat human trafficking and the smuggling of migrants.
- Successful use of mutual legal assistance in securing a conviction for human trafficking. The International Cooperation Department of the Federal Ministry of Justice deployed a liaison magistrate to support the investigation and prosecution of a Nigerian national who had fled from Italy to avoid imprisonment, following her conviction for human trafficking offences in Italy. The collaborative efforts of Nigeria and Italy resulted in an extradition from Nigeria to Italy, where the person is currently serving a prison sentence.

1. Right to life, liberty, and security of person

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.157 (Implemented)

The Nigerian Correctional Service Bill was passed into law in 2019, officially known as the Nigerian Correctional Service Act, 2019. This legislation governs the administration of prisons and non-custodial services in Nigeria. The UNCT patterned with the Nigerian Correctional Services (NCoS) to support the implementation of the new Act.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.158 (Ongoing implementation)

In Nigeria, the issue of overcrowding remains a serious problem, primarily due to prolonged pre-trial detention. Consequently, the Nigerian Correctional Service (NCoS) faces significant challenges, including unsanitary conditions that facilitate the spread of infectious diseases, inadequate vocational and recreational facilities, and security threats related to violent extremism. To address these issues, NCoS has partnered with the UNCT to promote the practical implementation of the Nelson Mandela Rules, in selected custodial centers in the Northeast. The goal is to enhance NCoS's capacity to ensure the safe, secure, and humane custody of prisoners. To this end, the UNCT has provided extensive support to the NCoS in several areas related to prison management and improving prison conditions in line with the Nelson Mandela Rules. Efforts have been made to enhance prison infrastructure, prison conditions, prison-based rehabilitation, social reintegration and security in selected custodial centres in the northeast, such as the installation of solar panel systems at the Maiduguri Maximum Security Custodial Center. The UNCT has also strengthened the NCoS's capacity in dynamic security by training 62 officers. Furthermore, the UNCT has made concerted efforts to improve water and sanitation services by drilling boreholes in selected custodial centers, thereby improving access to clean water in compliance with the Mandela Rules.

On prison-based rehabilitation, the UNCT has undertaken refurbishment work to improve prisoners access to sports, education, and vocational training at the Maiduguri Maximum Security Custodial Center. This support is also being extended to five other custodial centers in the north-east. The UNCT has additionally facilitated dialogues with the relevant stakeholders, including NHRC and the Legal Aid Council of Nigeria (LACON), to enhance the efficiency and frequency of external oversight of NCoS custodial centers.

Regarding social reintegration, in line with the Nelson Mandela Rules, the UNCT recognizes the importance of community involvement in fostering a comprehensive approach to inmate rehabilitation and reintegration. Consequently, the UNCT has organized dialogues between community leaders and the NCoS in the northeast to develop strategies that deepen community engagement in the rehabilitation and reintegration of inmates.

2. Administration of justice, including impunity and the rule of law

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.170 (Ongoing implementation)

In recent years, the number of children recruited and exploited by terrorist and violent extremist groups has increased. In 2021 alone, Boko Haram factions perpetrated 890 serious violations against children in the Lake Chad Basin region, with 63 children being recruited (mostly through abduction) in Borno State. Children are groomed, indoctrinated, used as servants, or exploited as sexual slaves, and are involved in different activities for the pursuit of the groups' criminal activities, including serving as spies and informants or being directly involved in the preparation and/or delivery of attacks. While these children are victims of serious forms of violence, and should be treated accordingly, they are often exposed to stigma and secondary victimization.

In response to this, in 2020, the UNCT established the project 'STRIVE Juvenile: Preventing and Responding to Violence against Children by Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups', a three-year initiative (January 2021 - January 2024) funded by the European Union. The project is being implemented in Indonesia, Iraq, and Nigeria, to prevent and counter violent extremism affecting children, in full respect of human rights, gender equality and international law. STRIVE Juvenile in partnership with the Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA), led a multi-stakeholder group to develop a common approach on the treatment of children associated with terrorist and violent extremist group, to ensure a whole-

of-government and whole-of-society approach for the treatment of children associated with violent extremist groups. This common approach provides the solid basis for all counterparts to work jointly and coherently on this issue.

This common approach, known as the Nigeria Call for Action, was elaborated in close consultation with a broad range of national stakeholders; officially endorsed by the Attorney General of the Federation and launched on 1 December 2022. Since its adoption, ONSA has been championing the Nigeria Call for Action and disseminating it through its partner agencies. Having this coherent framework in place is a milestone for children's rights in the country and will be a very important step towards:

- a) Understanding the phenomenon from a common perspective.
- b) Addressing multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder efforts for better serving and protecting children and society from the threats associated with terrorism and violent extremism.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.161 (Ongoing implementation)

In complementing efforts to reform the criminal justice system, Nigeria continues to invest in the training of its justice sector officials, through regular participation in UNCT led training programmes, under the various thematic areas:

- a. Counter terrorism: 7,765 criminal justice officials, including investigators, legal advisors, defence lawyers, prosecutors, and judges have been trained on a wide range of terrorism-related criminal justice issues. The training workshops are designed to strengthen the professional and technical capacity of Nigerian criminal justice officials by delivering in-depth and practically focused instruction on how to conduct effective counter-terrorism investigations and prosecutions within human rights, gender sensitive and evidence-based frameworks. By emphasizing the importance of physical and forensic evidence, these capacity building interventions respond to a practical gap in the Nigerian criminal justice system, which relies heavily on confessional evidence. Through these capacity building initiatives, Nigeria has created a pool of trainers with specialist knowledge of counter-terrorism investigations. Several previously trained Nigerian Police Force (NPF) officers, had been selected by their leadership to conduct crime scene investigation trainings in Police Colleges across Nigeria, articulating the willingness of Nigerian police training institutions to use of the pool of UNCT trained trainers within different law enforcement agencies in Nigeria, who can pass on the counterterrorism training to other law enforcement officers (more information in section 4).
- b. Transnational justice with a focus on drug trafficking: 424 law enforcement officers were trained on a range of subjects including criminal investigation, criminal intelligence, and electronic interviewing of suspects. 2,512 NDLEA officers were also supported to undertake over 33 e-learning courses on law enforcement available through the Global e-Learning programme. UNCT also developed a comprehensive law enforcement training curriculum for the NDLEA which covers modules such as criminal and intelligence-led investigation, financial investigation, Drug Demand Reduction, seizures. 52 NDLEA trainers have also been trained by UNCT on the delivery of the law enforcement curriculum. In addition, between 2017 and 2022, the UNCT aided the deployment of an ICT platform for all 52 NDLEA Commands in the country and trained 20 NDLEA core ICT staff on specialized professional IT certification courses. The UNCT also provided electronic investigative interviewing recording equipment for airports and other establishments and trained 150 officers in

the use of equipment.

- c. Ending violence against children: Key stakeholders such as prosecutors, policy makers, security agencies, and civil society representatives, have participated in training workshops conducted by STRIVE Juvenile. The objectives of these workshops include ensuring a shared understanding on the treatment of children associated with violent extremist groups, criminalization of child recruitment/punishment of perpetrators/child recruiters; and the treatment of child victims/witnesses in the counter-terrorism context. At least 154 beneficiaries have received these trainings.
- d. Conditions of detention: As the custodian of the Nelson Mandela Rules, the UNCT has over the years intensified its efforts to promote the practical application of the Rules. One notable initiative is the development of a self-paced e-learning course on the Nelson Mandela Rules. The objective of this course is to assist prison staff in acquiring a comprehensive understanding of the Rules and implementing them effectively in their daily practices. The course aims to guide correctional officers on how to contribute to the humane treatment of prisoners in a tangible manner. To firmly establish this course within the Nigerian context, a total of 47 officers of the Nigerian Correctional Service (NCoS) have completed the e-learning course, demonstrating Nigeria's commitment to the implementation of the Nelson Mandela Rules. Furthermore, the UNCT has supplied the Kaduna Staff Training College, which conducts induction trainings for approximately 300 officers each year, with computers and related accessories. This support serves to reinforce the integration of the e-learning course into the training curriculum at the college and mainstream the practical application of the Nelson Mandela Rules for improved implementation.
- e. Human trafficking: Since 2018, over 1,000 officials of the National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS), Federal Ministry of Justice (FMOJ), National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), and Nigerian Police Force (NPF), among others, have benefited from UNODC's training programmes aimed at enhancing the capacities of Nigerian criminal justice actors to investigate and prosecute human trafficking offences. Notably, prosecutors from NAPTIP and FMOJ, who have been trained in digital evidence in human trafficking investigation, have secured 68 convictions for human trafficking offences, since 2019. To respond to gaps in data collection and analysis in the area human trafficking, NAPTIP, NIS and other partners, have undergone UNCT capacity building trainings on research, data collection and analysis in the field of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. Specific capacity building activities to strengthen the cooperation of agencies in intelligence and information sharing, have also been conducted. The UNCT also developed the smuggling of migrants (SOM) Observatory as a source of reference for information for research, which is regularly used by federal and state agencies.
Additionally, to improve conditions conducive to strengthening Nigeria's criminal justice response to human trafficking, the UNCT has equipped national and state authorities (FMOJ, NAPTIP, Lagos Neighbourhood Safety Agency and the State Task Forces of Delta and Ondo) with computers, basic office equipment, as well as cyber forensic tools and training simulation equipment for NAPTIP.

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/148.159, 160 and 175 (Ongoing implementation)

Nigeria, with the support of the UNCT, continues to intensify efforts to reform the criminal justice system by strengthening of legal and institutional frameworks. Some specific initiatives include.

- Ending violence against children: Nigeria adopted the “Nigeria Call for Action”, which serves as a political declaration to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism affecting children. Through this declaration, Nigeria formally recognizes key principles for protecting children exploited by terrorist and violent extremist groups and acknowledges that children should be primarily considered and treated as victims of such crimes (more information section 2).
- Maritime crime: Nigeria developed implementation plans for the National Maritime Strategy, in leading to the Presidential approval of the Strategy and Implementation Plan in June 2022. To strengthen the international cooperation between ECOWAS member states to address maritime Crime, Nigeria supported the development and adoption of a Supplementary Act on the Conditions of Transfer of Persons Suspected of Having Committed Acts of Piracy and their Associated Property and/or Evidence among ECOWAS members states. The Act serves to facilitate the transfer of piracy suspects and the associated property and/or evidence to member states with the appropriate legal framework to ensure ‘legal finish’ with the prosecution of piracy.
- Transnational justice with a focus on drug trafficking: Nigeria has taken steps to reform its legal and policy framework related to drug control in Nigeria, including the amendment of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) Act. Within the context of strengthening institutional frameworks, the NDLEA developed the Strategic Plan for NDLEA 2022 – 2025 (more information in section 3).
- Human trafficking: Nigeria developed the National Action Plan Against Human Trafficking, 2022 – 2026. The National Action Plan provides a strong policy framework guiding the various interventions in the fight against trafficking in persons in Nigeria. More specifically, the plan establishes key objectives to be pursued, delineates strategic actions, sets priorities, identifies stakeholders’ responsibilities, identifies the resources required and establishes a monitoring and evaluation framework.
- Counterterrorism: In 2022, Nigeria enacted the Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) Act, 2022, as well as the Money Laundering (Prevention and Prohibition) Act, 2022. The Terrorism (Prevention and Prohibition) Act, 2022, builds on the Terrorism (Prevention) Act, 2011 as amended by the 2013 Act, and mitigates several human rights concerns arising from the provisions of the 2011 Act, as amended, particularly with respect to the provision allowing for the detention of terrorism suspects for a period of 90 days, with continuing renewals for same period, until conclusion of investigation and prosecution. Despite its reinforcements, the 2022 Act does not specifically provide for sexual violence as an act of terrorism, which creates a gap in supporting Nigeria to fulfil its international legal obligations to investigate and prosecute conflict related sexual violence. The Money Laundering (Prevention and Prohibition) Act, 2022, serves to strengthen Nigeria’s Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) framework.
- Anti-corruption: Nigeria enacted the Proceeds of Crime (Recovery and Management) Act in 2022.

3. Freedom of Expression and Peaceful Assembly

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/, 148.184 - 148.145 have not been implemented.

Nigeria is increasingly witnessing a clampdown on the civic space. Journalists, digital activists and the populace continue to face harassment, threats, and attacks from state authorities for peacefully expressing their opinions. For instance, on 6 January 2019, a team of armed security forces consisting of the Army, Department of State Security Service and

the police invaded the office of Daily Trust Newspapers. On 1 August 2019, Abubakar Idris (Dadiyata) a critic of Nigerian government was abducted by gunmen at home in Kaduna State. Four years after, he is yet to be found.

On 4 June 2021, the Nigerian government announced a ban on Twitter – an online social media and social networking service. The ban was lifted after seven months. On 14 July 2022, the ECOWAS Court declared that the ban was unlawful. In March 2023, the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) sanctioned 25 broadcast stations over the coverage of the 2023 elections. In May 2023, a Federal High Court in Abuja declared the ban unlawful.

F. Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/, 148.217 being implemented.

Nigeria, in collaboration with the UNCT, is actively committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and recognizes the importance of women's effective participation in achieving these goals. To ensure the inclusion and empowerment of women, Nigeria has taken proactive steps to promote women's inclusion and empowerment in the planning and implementing national strategies for the SDGs. Nigeria acknowledges that women play a crucial role in driving sustainable development and has adopted plans to ensure their effective participation in the implementation.

By integrating a gender perspective into national development plans and policies, Nigeria aims to address gender inequalities and create an enabling environment for women's active involvement. This includes promoting women's access to education, healthcare, economic opportunities, and leadership positions. Nigeria also emphasizes the importance of gender-responsive budgeting to allocate resources effectively and prioritize initiatives that promote gender equality and women's empowerment.

Through these efforts, Nigeria aims to harness the potential of women as change agents and key contributors to sustainable development. By ensuring their effective role in implementing national strategies for the SDGs, Nigeria strives for inclusive and equitable development that leaves no one behind.

1. Right to Social Security

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.211

The Government of Nigeria has put in place policy and legislative framework with the objective of strengthening social security programmes. This effort includes but not limited to:

1. The passing into law of the National Health Insurance Act (NHIA) which makes health insurance mandatory for all Nigerians
2. The Approval of the Revised National Social Protection Policy.
3. The establishment of cash transfer programme that provide cash transfer of 5,000 to poor and vulnerable HH including HH with Children
4. The establishment of National Homegrown School Feeding Programme which seek to provide food for pupil in primary 1-3

Despite the efforts, Social Protection Coverage remains low with only 11 percent of the population with one form of social protection. The comprehensiveness and effectiveness of this programmes are still low.

To address the above issue, The UNCT is supporting Government and its social partners through technical support for the revision of legal framework and ensuring social protection becomes a right for all. This support includes but not limited to

1. Formulation of a Social Protection Law
2. Support Fiscal Space Assessment to identify innovative financing mechanism
3. Supported costing and prioritization of the policy
4. Develop advocacy strategy for improved funding

2. Right to Work

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.247

The Nigeria Labour law guarantee right to work for both women and men, however the right is yet not a reality for some special group such as women, and migrant workers.

3. Right to health

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.218

As a result of UNCT's support, there has been increased access to emergency obstetric care for women in hard-to-reach areas through the establishment and maintenance of 4 Maternal Waiting Homes (MWH) in Sokoto state. 1,495 women have been served with zero maternal deaths. The UNCT also supports the states of the northeast humanitarian crisis to deliver resilient integrated healthcare services in 96 healthcare centres and service delivery points.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.219

The UNCT is working towards ensuring RI coverage in rural and remote areas are improving. Based on Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) case-based data, 66% of 12 – 23 months male and 63% of 12 – 23 months female were received at least 3 doses of RI/OPV.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.220, 148.221

The UNCT's support to Nigeria has contributed to the achievement of 57% coverage of children aged 12-23 months receiving Penta3, which serves as a proxy for routine immunization (RI) coverage, according to the 2021 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS). The administrative coverage rate stands at 78%, although the data is not disaggregated by gender.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.222

The UNCT has established strong Private Sector Financing for increased domestic resources mobilization for integrated Health services including Family Planning.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.223

The UNCT health strategy is supporting national health care infrastructure and systems in refugee hosting locations particularly at the primary health care level. This support targets both refugees and Nigerian nationals.

The UNCT has provided support for the implementation of second chance education and community safe spaces for female adolescents who have dropped out of school due to forced

or early marriage in all KDSO (Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Delta, Sokoto, and Oyo) states.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.225

The UNCT is providing support to Nigeria and relevant partners to ensure that the HIV response is people-centred. In 2020, while many countries experienced HIV service disruptions, the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and Global Fund-supported HIV programmes in Nigeria experienced significant growth and exceeded some targets. Nigeria was able to ensure not just continuity of HIV services, but also expansion of its reach, despite the country being on lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic. Existing community networks, including key population networks and social groups, were consulted to determine the best way to make sure that the services that people need were available to them in their homes, at social gatherings or through support groups.

To ensure service continuity, the National AIDS and STI Control Program (NASCP) issued a policy directive from the Minister of Health for multi-month dispensing of ART, meaning that all clinically stable patients were provided with three months of treatment at once. NASCP set up a situation room to track HIV commodity stocks. Furthermore, NASCP regularly updated the UNAIDS HIV service disruption portal with programmatic data to monitor HIV service delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic. Persons living with HIV (PLHIV) networks provided home delivery ART services for their peers who could not access health services. Community antiretroviral therapy teams (CART teams) went to hard-to-reach areas around the country as well as to areas affected by COVID-19 lockdowns. Programmes such as a minimum three-month provision of antiretroviral therapy and viral load services not only helped community-led providers to ensure that people stayed on treatment but saw a record number of PLHIV start on treatment. By the end of 2020, the majority of people on treatment were included in the multi-month dispensing programme, which had a large impact on HIV treatment retention and adherence. Through the UN Basket Fund, about 10,000 households of PLHIV were provided with cash transfers, personal protective equipment, and hygiene products to help prevent and mitigate the impact of COVID-19.

Punitive laws such as the Same-Sex Marriage Prohibition Act, human rights violations, stigma and discrimination increases the risk of HIV transmission, limit access to services, and sabotage efforts to decrease the impact of the epidemic among people from key populations. Violent arrests are still routinely carried out against key populations. One Stop Shops in Nigeria are providing prevention, care, and treatment services to key populations to reduce the transmission of HIV. Combination prevention package of services are also offered at some of these centres including HIV testing services, Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), HIV antiretroviral treatment, viral load testing, mental health, and gender-based violence services. However, the centres have limited geographical reach. There have been capacity buildings for health professionals and service providers to ensure human rights-based approaches in service delivery, including for members of key populations. Key population-friendly and key population-led organizations are also being used for service delivery across Nigeria.

In a bid to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030, the National Agency for the Control of AIDS (NACA) led the development of the National HIV and AIDS Strategic Framework 2021 – 2025. The framework is a blueprint on the country in its national response on HIV/AIDS ensuring effective implementation of sustainable HIV programme and interventions by all relevant stakeholders to achieve the common goal of ending AIDS in Nigeria by 2030.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.277

The UNCT supported vaccination campaigns across 36 states including the Federal Capital Territory to prevent vaccine preventable diseases. Outbreak responses were conducted for cVPV2, C-19, Cholera, mPOx, Diphteria, and measles.

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/, 148.219 - 148.250, 148.227 - 148.228, 148.220 -148.221, 148.225 - 148.228 not implemented.

4. Right to education

Implementation ongoing of recommendations A/HRC/40/7/148.233

Second chance education and community safe spaces are provided for female adolescent that dropped out of school as a result of forced / early marriage in all KDSO states

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.242

The UNCT has provided support for the inclusion of literacy and numeracy classes in the rehabilitation programs for survivors who have undergone fistula repair at centres in Bauchi, Kaduna, and Sokoto States.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.240

The Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs Disaster Mitigation Social Development with the support of the UNCT, developed the National Home-Grown School Feeding Policy that provides a framework for strengthening the objectives of school feeding such as improved nutrition for children, improved enrolments, retention, enhancement of local economies and linkages of the programme to small holder farmers. The UNCT has also supported the optimization of school meal menus through the SMP PLUS Tool to enhance the nutrient quality of the menus considering cost and locally available resources.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.245

The UNCT actively collaborates with various development partners to enhance the economic circumstances of women. It strives to improve women's economic conditions through coordinated efforts, fostering partnerships, and implementing joint initiatives. Furthermore, UNCT advocates for greater representation of women in decision-making positions and political leadership. By championing this cause, UNCT aims to promote gender equality, empower women, and ensure their voices are heard in shaping policies and programs that affect their lives.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.252

The UNCT's livelihood programmes provide women with increased access to financial resources and creates entrepreneurship opportunities by providing them with training, targeted support and resources to access financial services and start their own businesses. These programs promote women's economic empowerment, contribute to poverty reduction, and foster sustainable livelihoods for women.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.232

The UNCT supports public schools with teaching and learning materials aimed and improving quality of education. Additionally, the UNCT constructs classrooms and other

national education infrastructure in schools serving affected persons.

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/, 148.240 - 148.231, 148.234 - 148.238, 148.241 - 148.242, 148.239 - 148.237 not implemented.

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/, 148.254, 148.259, 148.233 not implemented.

G. Rights of specific persons or groups

1. Women

Implementation ongoing of recommendations A/HRC/40/7/148.252

The UNCT is contributing to poverty reduction by ensuring the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus is strengthened by building skills and ensuring the empowerment of women and girls, particularly young girls through digital literacy skills acquisition programme. The programme, which was first introduced in 2021, has led to the training of 90 girls in Borno state who now have the capacity to use the computer for economic gain.

Furthermore, the broader context of GBV reveals that there may be additional unreported cases due to gaps in humanitarian services. Data collected from multiple organizations supported by the UNCT highlights the following:

- Nearly all victims/survivors of GBV are female, indicating the gendered nature of the issue.
- The majority of victims/survivors are internally displaced persons, illustrating the specific vulnerabilities faced by this group.
- A significant proportion of reported cases involved child sexual abuse and early marriage, emphasizing the urgent need for targeted interventions to protect children.

These findings underscore the importance of the UNCT's support in addressing GBV, promoting protection, and providing comprehensive services to survivors in Nigeria.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.253

The UNCT continues to advocate for women's rights Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) strategies to promote transformative change and challenge prevailing social and cultural norms. In support of this cause, the UNCT facilitates women's access to finance and essential resources like seeds, fertilizers, and modern farming techniques. By empowering women in these ways, the UNCT aims to enhance their opportunities in agriculture and contribute to gender equality and economic empowerment.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/, 148.253 - 148.245, 148.259, 148.252 being implemented.

2. Children

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/148.279 being implemented.

In line with the UNCT's core mission of delivering a world where every young person's potential is fulfilled and contributing to the three transformative results of Ending Maternal death, Ending Unmet needs for family planning and Ending GBV and All Harmful Practices, the UNCT has worked to address school related gender based violence (SRGBV) as a major adolescent intervention, to not just confront sexual violence and harassment in schools, but also to equip young people with the skills to avoid and reduce violence in the wider community and their own lives in future.

Recommendations A/HRC/40/7/, 148.275 - 148.208, 148.272, 148.279 not implemented.

3. Persons with disabilities

Implementation ongoing of the following recommendations A/HRC/40/7/148.282

- Mapping of OPDs for inclusion and collaboration. Open door meeting with the resident coordinator with the OPD.
- Assessment of the UN building for accessibility of persons with disability.
- National conference on GBV for women and girls with disabilities.
- Training of disability inclusion focal persons across all UN agencies in Nigeria.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.283

The UNCT played a crucial role in enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities at the Karamajiji Primary Health Centre (PHC) located in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). This initiative is particularly significant as the community is predominantly inhabited by persons with disabilities. According to the Emirate, the community leaders have acknowledged the positive impact of this development and notes that over 500 persons, including women, girls, boys, and men, with disabilities can now access the health centre more easily.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.284

The UNCT instituted the UN Disability Inclusion TWG In furtherance agencies have taken concrete steps to mainstream disability inclusion into their work. Specifically, the co-chair of the disability inclusion TWG in the UNCT has engaged a Disability and Diversity Inclusion Analyst to ensure a proactive and robust strategy in engaging the persons with disability. This effort has resulted in the modification of a pilot health centre in Abuja for increase access and disability-friendly service provision. It has also held 3 internal trainings for staff on inclusive programming and communication. The Disability Inclusion TWG has also engaged consultants to conduct an accessibility assessment of the UN house in Nigeria and the report has been shared with the UNCT for deliberation and further action. In addition, the TWG also engaged a consultant to conduct a disability inclusion training for disability inclusion focal persons across all UN agencies in Nigeria.

4. Migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/, 148.286 not implemented.

Implementation ongoing of the following recommendations A/HRC/40/7/148.289

- The UNCT, through the Gender-Based Violence Subsector (GBVSS), in North East continues to foster collaboration among various stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), United Nations agencies, civil society organizations, and relevant government officials by facilitating coordination and collaboration among these actors, the GBVSS continues to enhance the prevention, risk mitigation and overall response to gender-based violence in the Northeast region of Nigeria, which is now expanding to other parts of the country. Part of the response also includes the active participation of survivors in periodic focus group discussions, to share the feedback on satisfaction of support received and areas for further strengthening that may be required.
- The UNCT through the GBVSS, in collaboration with the GBV Information Management System (GBVIMS) and Case Management Technical Working Group

(TWG) has developed GBV frontline social workers on GBV case management services. These frontliners work directly with GBV survivors, to provide survivor centered GBV case management services and make necessary multisectoral referrals to meet the need of GBV survivors in their implementation sites across Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe states.

- The UNCT through the GBV SS continues to collaborate with the Dignity kit technical working group, working towards ensuring the availability and distribution of essential dignity kits to address the specific needs of GBV survivors.

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/148.288

The UNCT supports implementing partner screening on PSEA and supports the PSEA inter-agency network and reporting mechanisms.

H. Death Penalty

Recommendation A/HRC/40/7/, 148.129 - 148.140, 148.137 not implemented.

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Contributions were received from the following agencies

UNODC, UNHCR, WHO, WFP, UNFPA, ILO, UNDP, UNICEF and UNAIDS.