Session 3: Key Elements of National Security Strategy 1

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there is need to design a comprehensive and coherent strategy that is at once implementable and responsive to our society needs and capable of giving us critical edge. In all this, the government’s most solemn promise and duty agrees to protect the Nigerian State and people. The National Security Strategy is an attempt to address this need. It will also serve as the nation’s guide to leverage Nigeria’s talents and resources to meet its obligations in pursuance of the social contract between the government and the people and between the government and its foreign partners.

Dr Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCFR - Former President, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of Nigeria. – Forward National Security Strategy 2014
Agenda

• The Rational for Crafting a National Security Strategy.
• National Values and Interest, and How they are Reflected in the National Security Strategy.
• Definition of National Security in the Context of a National Security Strategy and how it is informed by Nigeria’s stated National Values and Interests.
• Steps followed to Priorities Security Threats and Opportunities.
• How Data and Intelligence collected to Identify Security Threats and Methods used to Prioritize them.
• How Actual and Anticipated Threats are Considered in Nigeria’s National Security Strategy.
Nigeria’s founding fathers represented by the Sir Ahmadu Bello, Dr Nnamdi Azikiwe and Chief Obafemi Awolowo had envisioned a Nigeria united in diversity and using its abundant human and natural resources for fast and rapid development, enhancing of a resourceful and prosperous people, living in peace and unity with its regional and global space.
Early Military Regimes of Nigeria 1966 - 1979

Ironsì

Gowon

Murtala

Obasanjo
Nigeria’s Strategic Centers of Excellence

Nigerian Institute of International Affairs

National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, Kuru (NIPSS)

Intelect Defence College Nigeria
...the aggregation of the security interests of all individuals, communities, ethnic groups, political entities and institutions, which inhabit the territory of our great country, Nigeria....the primary objective of national security...was to...strengthen the Federal Republic of Nigeria, to advance her interest and objectives, to contain instability, control crime, eliminate corruption, enhance genuine development, progress and growth, improve the welfare and wellbeing and quality of life of every citizen.
Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA) and its specific tasking to the supervision and coordination of the national security governance process. This proclamation was to further the importance of the ONSA and the National Security Adviser (NSA); then under the leadership of Lt Gen Mohammed Aliyu Gusau (Rtd) as the prima-dona and nodal point for security policy evaluation and review and intelligence coordination for all security services of Nigeria.
The National Security Adviser (NSA); then under the leadership of late Lt Gen Patrick Owoye Azazi (Rtd) initiated the process of the first National Security Strategy...with the aim to produce a policy document for comprehensive engagement to disrupt, dismantle and defeat terrorism in Nigeria.
The National Security Adviser (NSA); then under the leadership of Col Mohammed Sambo Dasuki (Rtd) set up a committee composed of representatives from Nigeria’s defence and security, intelligence, law enforcement, judiciary, strategic ministries, departments and agencies national infrastructure and civil society, as members.
It is important to recognize the effort of the leadership of ONSA to mobilize further funding and material support to the project from the diplomatic community and development partners. These include the US, Canada, Embassies and the UK High Commission, as well as the Nigeria Stability and Reconciliation Programme (NSRP), Department of International Development (DFID) and the European Union (EU), who assisting in funding consultative visits, seminars and workshops to facilitate advocacy for the strategy.
A National Security Strategy or Policy (NSS or NSP) is a key framework for a country to meet the basic needs and security concerns of citizens, and address external and internal threats to the country. In addition to focusing on the effectiveness of security providers, many of the more recent, forward-looking NSS/NSPs incorporate a number of key issues as a way of ensuring their relevance, public legitimacy, ownership, and sustainability, as well as facilitating their implementation and improving the efficiency of how security is provided. These are:

- Human security
- Oversight and accountability
- Human rights
- Justice
- Gender
- Monitoring
- Coordination
- Communications
The National Security Strategy 2014 does not pointedly provide a definition of ‘national security’. However, the definition of national security could be drawn from the specified vision of the national security strategy, which is to:

...make Nigeria a violence-free, safe, peaceful, self reliant, prosperous and strong nation.

This ideal was in order to protect the fundamental values of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, spelt out as

...peace, security, stability, sovereignty, democracy, the rule of law, freedom of enterprise and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms...creation of the enabling environment for the full expression of the potentials of its citizenry, the development of its resources, including human capital, the preservation and promotion of its diverse cultural heritage and the forging of national identity therefrom.
How Actual and Anticipated Threats are Considered in Nigeria’s National Security Strategy

On risk management, the strategy acknowledges that:

The assessment and management of risk underlines the full spectrum of...national security activities, including decisions about when, where and how the investment in resources that eliminate, control or mitigate risks. In the face of multiple and diverse catastrophic possibilities, we accept that risk – a function of threats, vulnerabilities and consequences – is a permanent condition.

Consequently, to address this inevitable challenge, a culture of preparedness at two levels of shared knowledge and individual and collective initiative was identified.
Thanks for Listening