Post Boko Haram Insurgency, Nigeria's National Security and Emergent Threats

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ABSTRACT

Nigeria's national security has been negatively hit by the emergence of Boko Haram insurgency in the North-Eastern region of Nigeria from 2009 to date, and that has also posed other numerous future threats. This article examined the emergent post Boko Haram security threats to be imminently faced by the Nigerian state and societies, upon eventual defeating and bringing to an end the insurgency. The study is theoretical method and secondary sources to gather data. It is found that there are imminent socio-economic, security and other national security challenges to be faced after the fight against Boko Haram insurgency is won; these national security threats creep into the Nigerian state and society in varied manifestations - poor and or collapsed educational system, and social institutions and services, leading to rapes/deflowering girls, child and elder abuses, sexual assaults, unwanted and illegal termination of pregnancies/abortions and abandoned babies right from attacked places to internally displaced camps (IDPs) and onto the society, high rate of crime, psychologically traumatised women and children, millions of both disabled and dependent persons, militarised youth, challenges of reconstruction and development of destroyed towns and villages, coming across unidentified parcels/planted objects (explosives), suicide attacks, and the threats of insincere, corrupt political commitment and willingness to make and enforce sound short and long term policies and allocate huge human and material resources towards checking these threats, are there lying and waiting any and every government's plans and actions. The article specifically explored the post Boko Haram insurgency era and vulnerability of women and children. The article made recommendations such as: provision of short, medium and long term measures on education, entrepreneurship, employment and establishment of special rehabilitation and trauma centres, reconstruction of all affected areas and adoption of a multi faceted approach and management to Nigeria's national security in relation to Boko Haram insurgency.

Key Words: Boko Haram, Insurgency, National Security and Threats.

1. Introduction

The immediate past and present decades have on one aspect of the world's history been those of increased and intensified acts of insurgency/terrorism, conflicts, migration and refuge seeking

more than ever since the 2nd World War, in many parts of the world like Germany, Greece, Austria, Britain, Moscow, France, Turkey, Sudan, the South Sudan, Syria, Iraq, Somalia, Eritrea, Yemen, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Mali, United States of America, Nigeria, Algeria, Kenya, Egypt, Chad, Cameroon, Niger, Libya, Burundi, Rwanda, Central African Republic (CAR), among others. Most of these acts are largely influenced by political, economic, social upheavals and undertones, poor governance coupled with natural disasters as noted by Adebayo & Akinade in (Kusa, 2010:5 & 97). Nigeria and her immediate neighbours (Republics of Cameroon, Chad and Niger) have been hit by the debacle of Boko Haram insurgency since 2009 claiming thousands of lives and properties worth billions of Naira. Like in those of Asia, other African states and Europe, the Nigerian dimension of insurgency has also not only claimed properties, towns and villages, but also an attempt to break away an integral part of the Nigerian state and so the insurgency transcended to neighbouring states of the Republics of Niger, Cameroon and Chad, thereby complicating regional security and the fight against insurgency along the Lake Chad region.

Many Nigerians and others from neighbouring states look up to a period when this insurgency would be overcome and normalcy restored, especially in the areas that are worst hit. However, in life, one problem may lead to a pack up of some others and solving same may bring an individual or a state face to face with some other problems which is typical of this Boko Haram insurgency. Therefore, of the greatest concern to most security conscious and other Nigerians is the future of Nigeria's national security in the post Boko Haram era considering the enormous damage done by the insurgency and other effects that will certainly trickle down, but which some other Nigerians and a segment of Nigerian leaders do not seem to foresee, take into cognisance and conceive the likely significant effects on future of Nigeria's well being in several aspects of lives such as family and social settings, education, housing, business and economy, politics, leadership and religious segment.

1.1 Statement of the Problem

Even without Boko Haram insurgency, Nigeria is one of the states with the highest rates of internal ethno-religious and communal strifes in the world (Osaghie, 2015). From 2009 to date, Boko Haram insurgency has devastated the North-East Region of Nigeria, especially Borno, Yobe and Adamawa, and other parts of the Lake the Chade Region – Difa, Niger Republic, far Northern Cameroon and Chad, displaced millions of people around the said areas, turned tens of thousands of women and children to traumatised widows and orphans, while houses, educational facilities, process and establishments, villages, towns and markets have been partly or completely destabilized, destroyed and deserted, levels of poverty and unemployment have further aggravated, numerous enterprises have collapsed, many renown and wealthy individuals have been turned to refugees and or beggars, continental and international businesses along the sub-region has crippled. In fact, in Borno State alone, for example, about 5, 335 classrooms in 512 primary, 38 schools as well as 2 tertiary institutions were damaged; about 1, 205 public buildings were damaged in addition to 76 Police Stations, 35 Electricity Offices and 72 Power Stations and Distribution Lines, 14 Prison buildings and 201 Health Centres. Sources of water to the people, including the River Basin and lakes were poisoned in 16 of the 27 Local Government Areas of the State and large scale destruction of properties and investments have reached $5.9 billion and more than 20, 000 lives were lost to the insurgency (World Bank, European Union [EU] and the United Nations Organisation [UNO] Report, March, 2016).

All these are likely to increase rates of poverty and crime, family/social disintegration, collapse of social and infrastructural facilities and services and general insecurity if not immediately and

properly handled. Accumulations of these problems are a major threat to any security conscious state and society, especially, with much emphasis placed only on the traditional security approach - military and physical combat with the insurgents. Currently, these have resulted in general, specific and terrible damages on the environment, education, food security, health care delivery, water and sanitation, housing and transport as well as the economy. Not only those, the two major elements of insurgency – crime and human rights violations (Badiora, 2017), have also manifested in the Boko Haram insurgency and have evident manifestations of post Boko Haram insurgency threats.

1.2 Objectives of the Study

This paper is premised on the main objectives of exposing the various aspects and dimensions of security threats and challenges that are to be inevitably faced by the present and future governments and societies of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, especially the North-Eastern region and parts of Niger, Chad and Cameroon involve the future state of children, women, education, housing accommodation, intra and inter-religious co-existence and harmony. The paper also sought to bring forth the relevant states and non-state agencies and actors, the enormity of such threats and also proffer short, medium and long term measures to be taken by those charged with such responsibilities. The paper gives special focus on Nigeria, the major victims among the four Lake Chad regional states (Republics of Cameroon, Chad, Nigeria and Niger) ravaged by the Boko Haram insurgency.

1.3 Conceptualisation

The term security has been subjected to different meanings at different periods and in different environments. However, despite the rich literature on it, there is far less agreement as to what it constitutes. Baldwin (2000:12) has asserted that the term is confused and inadequately specified by users. According to Green (1981:3), security implies a relatively peaceful environment and living where individuals carry out their daily pursuits of life without fear of the unknown. Therefore, this state of security is only achieved by putting in place structures and actions designed to shield members of the society from all kinds of harm (physical, psychological, economic, or otherwise). Bland (2005) sees insecurity as the state of fear or anxiety stemming from a concrete or alleged lack of protection of the society. It also refers to lack of or inadequate freedom from danger. In contemporary usage, security goes beyond the protection of life and property of the conventional armed forces to the provision of social welfare services, employment, economic opportunities, freedom and fundamental rights of the citizenry by the state acting through the government.

Emphasis on national security is now shifted from traditional external threats resulting from international hostilities between countries to internal threats like corruption, drug trafficking, and environmental pollution and diseases, epidemics, human trafficking, internal insurgency and food provision, etc. (Hope, 2017:125-162; Bamidele, Olaniyan & Ayodele, 2016; Dumbili & Sofadekan, 2016; Lawrence, 2016). National security is a subject of debate among many – security experts and analysts, military, academics, politicians and civil societies. National security, according to Otubanjo in Tamuno & Atanda (1989:45), implies the concern of governments and their agencies with the stability and safety of a particular state. For many like Nwolise cited in (Olasupo, 2010:200), a state can possess the best military establishment with training, equipments and other related elements, yet it becomes most insecure state in the world if it has bad government, its citizens are stricken by hunger, poverty, ignorance and or unemployment. Paleri (2008) sees national security as a state's significant ability to overcome different dimensions of impediments to its well being through state policies which also affect

outside environment. Thus, the security of government at all levels and in all circumstances is of prime concern among sovereign entities throughout the world (Green, 1981:55). Although security is a global issue and desired to be achieved by all states and societies, there are variations in perception and modes of handling among states, especially developing and developed ones.

Buzan (1990:7-8) has stressed the dimensions and composition of national security to include, among others, the military, politics, economy, society and environment emphasising the importance and indispensability of each to achieving national security. United Nations Development Programme, UNDP (1994) posits that human security refers to being free from fear and freedom from wanting, safety from chronic threats such as hunger, disease, and repression as well as protection from sudden and harmful disruptions to daily life wherever one finds him/herself. Security does not only involve measures put in place to protect people from danger and threat, to promote and enhance its cherished values, but has to do with maintaining those measures through vital institutions to promote social-political and economic objectives. The implications of security challenges are, therefore, grouped into three; the economic, social and political implications. Ate & Akinterinwa (1992:181) have noted that actual searching for security means early recognition of the type and extent of the threat to a state/society. Nigeria's policy perception of national security is one sided, i.e. concentrates on the traditional military and law enforcing agencies' aspect only and at the expense of others such as food, economy, education, employment, disasters, etc.

Robert McNamara as cited in Ojo (2006:350) has deplored that any state/society wishing to achieve only military security against food shortage, population explosion, low production, poor technological development and other public utilities is deceiving itself security wise. Nigeria, for Ekoku and Vogt (1990:226) has been a victim of security issues approach through conservative and coercive approach to internal security handling as different from the positive, non-coercive plan and response which tries to remove the causes of threats and internal strife through minimizing socio-economic hardship and inequities just as Section 14 (b) of the 1999 Constitution of Nigeria notes that the welfare and security of Nigerians shall be the primary concern of the government.

1.4 Insurgency/Terrorism

Insurgency and or terrorism as noted by Reid (1997:386, 389 & 395) are acts which involve threats, violence, the creation of fear and coercive acts*,* and maintained that crime and insurgency/terrorism frequently involve violence and that acts of terrorism and insurgency have in the recent years gained much more attention as attacks of that nature have become frequent and largely political in nature with extensive degrees of damages to properties and humankind as well. It is noted that insurgents and terrorists make use of strategies that include: undermining internal security, harming the international status of a government, inflicting damages to public and properties. Terrorism and insurgency affect lives of persons, cause extensive property damage with some other escalating and complicating problems where the whole of society is victimised with creation of fear in the individuals and changes in lifestyles. In this article, insecurity denotes the state in which post Boko Haram era is endangered by other issues, actions and reactions as a result of the insurgency itself.

2. Nigeria and Management of National Security

National Security is multi-faceted and each is nearly equal in importance to all the others. Nigeria faces multi-dimensioned security challenges both within and outside scenes. Internally Nigeria has those challenges of cattle rustling, cultism, militancy, armed robbery, kidnapping,

sea piracy among others. These are in addition to those other non-conventional, but neglected or underscored such as food, employment, education, etc. However, the insurgency in the North-Eastern part of Nigeria and neighbouring Lake Chad States, has since 2009 been the most conventionally threatening. On the border/territorial front, Nigeria has an altogether about 4,775 km long border (Republics of Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Benin) and currently, there are hundreds of illegal entry points into Nigeria from these neighbouring states.

Nigeria's borders are also not secured as a result of smuggling, inter-border communities' clashes, heavy and illegal movement of cash by drug barons and illegally gotten states resources and importantly the smuggle of small, light and heavy weapons. This has been one of the major reasons why Boko Haram were able to hit Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states within short time and that facilitated various ethno-religious and communities' clashes, cattle rustling and proliferation of small and light arms in the region over the years. In actual sense, Nigeria has for quite some time not been articulated and decisive in handling its national security in relation to its territory/borders and immediate neighbours as lamented by Ate & Akinterinwa (1992:1) and that explains why there are additionally several migration loopholes in Nigeria.

3. General Background to Boko Haram

The words 'boko' and 'haram' are originally Hausa and Arabic, meaning "Western Education" and "Forbidden" respectively. The (boko/western education and haram/forbidden) together mean boko haram 'Western education is forbidden'. This was earlier connected to the suspicion and stereotyping of Western Education as introduced by Colonial masters which (though gradually waning) still has bearing among some of the up North population. Many ignorantly link to and blame Islam for the Boko Haram insurgency, but indeed, out of misconception, negative stereotyping and religious dogmatism (Da'awah Institute of Nigeria [DIN], 2017:ix-xiii). Though it became clear that there were undertones by founders, promoters and financiers of Boko Haram, it in the first instance, found sympathisers mostly lured in through stereotyped Islamic preaching, the activities of which became manifest and violent in Borno and Bauchi in July, 2009. Through preaching and using Islam as a religion, Boko Haram were able to win many symphatisers' and recruits, especially the youth, poor, uneducated, unemployed and criminals. From then on, clashes between authorities and the members of Boko Haram became recurring, thereby resulting in attacks and counterattacks between the two sides.

There was a general misconception and confusion at the initial stage as it was linked to Islam with preaching in several places, but the patterns of later attacks which neither discriminated religions nor geography revealed the irreligious tones and further exposed the insurgent nature. Mohammed Yusuf, the prominent Boko Haram leader was extra judicially killed by the Nigeria Police in the July, 2009 in Borno amidst controversial circumstances and since then, the North-Eastern states of Borno, Adamawa, Gombe and Yobe have been subjected persistent attacks by the insurgents. With the intensification of the fight between the group and Nigerian state authorities, it became clear that it is an insurgency and to some extent linked with other external terrorists/insurgent groups, deploying all possible and available avenues to attack authorities and the public irrespective religion, sex or geography, and attacking targets including suicide attacks (now involving large of females), child soldiering, kidnapping, etc. since insurgents and terrorists have the main objectives of instilling fear, terrorising and creating violence for the sake of effect (Reid, 1997:389). As events unfold, however, political and other undertones are also enveloped in the Boko Haram insurgency, including corruption.

4. Post Boko Haram Insurgency Emerging Threats

Although the war against insurgency is still on in Nigeria and may take a long period of time before it is completely overcome, there are potent and emerging threats that are bound to be faced by both the state authorities and the public, especially in the Northeast region that is worst hit by the insurgency. Ability to address these threats will also impact either positively or negatively on overall Nigeria's national security.

4.1 Food, Unemployment and Poverty

Issues relating to food provision, poverty and employment are very critical and an indispensable part of every state and society's security. Without the three, nothing positive and sustainable can be achieved in terms of wealth, security and prosperity. Seer (1979) asserted that development can only take place if unemployment and poverty are addressed as poverty is antithetical to national security and development and according Robert McNamara as cited in Ojo (2006: 350), perpetration of poverty is the herald of unrest, internal unrest, violence and the escalation of extremism and noted that without development, there would be no national security. Poverty basically involves lacking what is necessary for material well-being of an individual (World Bank, 2002) and Nigeria is already hit by poverty as more than 112.519m of its 167m people are living in abject poverty. This is tied to unemployment, which has also by the 2nd quarter of the year 2015 stood at 74.0m and also increased to 75.9m persons during the third quarter of the same year, 2015 (National Bureau of Statistics, NBS Reports, 2014, 2015).

Unemployment and poverty are directly linked and are so pronounced thereby making them a threat to Nigeria's national security as those battalions of unemployed numbering about 75.9m (mostly youth) and many of whom are in the North-East region could be and or had been forcefully and voluntarily recruited by Boko Haram, indulged into drug abuse, crime and many other acts threatening to Nigeria's national security. Because of the insurgency, many of villages and towns affected by Boko Haram have been deserted; their peoples were not been able cultivate lands for years and have neither food for survival nor sale and earn a living. With these, hunger sets in, poverty also overtakes and then increased rate of crime, diseases etc. Even if such people return to their lands and re-settled in the near future, they have to be rehabilitated economically to start a new life as there are more than 1.3m displaced persons due to insurgency in the states of Borno, Adamawa, Yobe and Taraba states (National Emergency Management Agency, NEMA, July, 2015 and December, 2015) and by December, 2015, 3m refugees are already scattered in the North-East and Lake Chad Region with over 800, 000 children displaced in the North-East and taking refuge in Niger, Cameroon and Chad. Many other children and youth have been forcefully recruited by Boko Haram to join in the fight, cook or guard for the insurgents in addition to those of cases rape, forced marriages and abductions.

Millions of refugees remain mostly in poor host countries and issues of resettlement, integration and or repatriation which is already a major problem all over the world has been further complicated as manifested in European Refugee Crises (Rolfe, Rolfe & Harper, 1987; United Nations High Commission for Refugees [UNHCR], 2014). For example, all the 22 Local Governments earlier occupied by Boko Haram and later liberated around December, 2015 by the Military have no potable water and other social and infrastructural facilities as all public utilities in these Local Governments have been deliberately damaged or destroyed with specification of many boreholes and wells poisoned and or filled with stones by the fleeing Boko Haram insurgents (Borno State Government and BBC, January, 2016).

4.2 Education

Education is the bedrock upon which human life is built and developed. The importance of education, especially that of children cannot be over emphasised and it is the cardinal

determinant of the future security of states and societies as every state/society requires children to acquire and develop other skills required during adult-hood, which can mostly be done through schools with a deliberate process of making changes (White & White, 1980:62). Much of a child's social development takes place in the classroom and through interaction with peers while at middle childhood, a child puts strategic thought in establishing social standards in schools (Harris, 1995 & Mayeux & Cillessen, 2008). But for good and quality education to be attained, effective school environment has to be put in place and that is determined according to Zastraw & Ashman (2010: 196) by school climate (warm and hospitable place), emphasis on academic issues, developed and challenging curriculum, proper classroom management, discipline and ability to work as a team. Similarly, series of changes, especially negative ones are likely to threaten children feeling of security and such have implications for their emotional and social adjustments and where and when such changes involve education, the children progress is educationally affected (Davie, Butler & Goldstein, 1972). Education is critical and key to future of refugees to build their livelihoods, protect themselves from manipulation.

Moreover, man-made factors affect children's education and thus improve or worsen the child's state of education as noted by Maduewesi (1999:5). The education sector is one of those terribly hit by the insurgency as the insurgents targeted school, students and their teachers in all the affected areas and as a result, over 600 teachers have been lost (killed) to Boko Haram insurgency and related conflicts in Nigeria, which includes: Adamawa – 75, Borno – 308, Gombe – 2, Plateau – 120, Kaduna – 25, Kano – 63, Plateau – 120 and Yobe – 18. This is in addition to the over 19, 000 other teachers directly displaced by the insurgency (Nigerian Union of Teachers [NUT], 2015 and United Nations Children Education [UNICEF], 2015). There are, in addition, 314 school students killed and over 2000 schools have also been affected along the Lake Chad region (UNICEF, April, 2015 and December, 2015). The state of education has gone so bad that in Borno state, for example, the state government in March, 2014 formally announced an indefinite closure of over 400 schools all over the state and were not reopened until December, 2015 as a result of the Boko Haram insurgency.

The future of children's education in these states, especially Northern Borno state where most schools had been indefinitely closed for over five (5) years is bleak and that signals further insecurity, socio-political and economic tension and instability for the State and the nation at large. This is for the fact that in the next 15-20 years, these children would eventually grow up as youth and adults and once their future is not programmed with positive education today, they will become undesirable elements in the society of their own time and thus a wasted generation. Other States like Adamawa also had their substantial number of schools such as Adamawa State University and Federal Polytechnic, Mubi indefinitely closed for a long period of time until July, 2015. This is further aggravated by the massive exodus of tertiary institutions' lecturers in the affected states, thereby signaling inevitable future shortage of teaching staff and other educational manpower in the affected states. All these are well over the already more than 9% of the total Northern children and youth who are engaged in the unfortunate practice of Al-majiranci found only in the Northern region of Nigeria (Wada, 2012:120). This worsens the world's state of children education where at the moment about 34m children and adolescents are out of school in conflict affected countries around the world and their schools either destroyed or hit by insurgency, terrorism and other conflict related acts (United Nations Economic, Scientific Cultural Organisation, UNESCO/EFA, GMR, May, 2015 and British Broadcasting Corporation, BBC/UNO Report, 2015).

There have to be an adequate number of schools, professional teachers, support and development to the teachers, adequate teaching and learning facilities, rehabilitation of the affected areas, improved and realistic curriculum, proper guidance and counseling services, direct and participatory involvement of class rooms' teachers in educational policies and guidelines formation for education to achieve its desired status. These victims, especially the children miss the basic forms of symbolic modeling by both parents and teachers such as good stories telling, good practical examples and psychological inclinations (Spiegler & Guevremont, 2010:163). Over 1 million children have been forced out of schools along the Lake Chad region as a result of Boko Haram insurgency and $23 million is required to settle those who have been forced out of or displaced from schools along the Lake Chad region (UNICEF, December, 2015).

4.3 Rehabilitation of individuals/Victims

Hundreds of thousands of people have also been psychologically traumatised by horrific things they see during the insurgency period. Most of them need to be psychologically rehabilitated in order to re-integrate them back into their societies. Women and children have had their husbands, fathers and brothers slain or hacked to death in their presence and their properties and villages torched to ashes. Boko Haram has displaced millions of persons, including a substantial number of children and more than $67m is needed to rehabilitate the displaced and psychologically traumatised persons on the North Eastern part of Nigeria, especially children whose situation is one of the worst in the world (Red Cross, May, 2015). Every child needs education, physical and emotional support so as to grow up as a responsible adult, but problems for children usually come up from lack of, poor or abusive family, physical and emotional disabilities (White & White, 1980:98).

Without proper (in some cases, clinical) rehabilitation of the insurgency victims, many will never come back to normal life and others, especially children, are bound to wicked, heartless and brutal in the remaining parts of their lives for what they had seen and undergone under the insurgency. In addition, many of those refugees, especially children have lost both parents and societal care to which Stewart (1977: 76) has noted that *".... the child's psychological development is profound and significantly influenced by the kind of care he or she receives"*. For that, such children are also likely to lack social intelligence as the ability to respect others perspectives, avoid hurting others unintentionally, making friends (Brophy, 1977: 359). In the same vein, Zastraw & Ashman (2010:96) have noted that 'psychological factors act together with biological and social conditions which then determine and influence individual's actions, reactions, condition and behavior.

4.5 Child Soldiering

Every child born under whatever circumstances and of parents adds hope and potentiality to the world and fellow humans. What happens to a child at critical period is likely to have more effects and impact than things that happen in normal life (Maduewesi, 1999:3). Currently, 60% of all Nigerian children face one form of abuse or the other. Such children need special emotional attachment as a bond between persons, especially parents and children (Santrock, 2003:231). Typical of African states like the Central African Republic (Central African Republic, CAR), where about 10, 000 children are forcefully involved in child soldering by over eight different militia groups, many thousands others have been taken away as captives and or child-soldiers by Boko Haram insurgents making them end up with militarised and brutalised spirits and thus only wanting to kill, rape, hurt or maim others. This is affecting children amidst a situation in which 10% of the total global population are already suffering from mental disorder and amidst insufficient work force (World Health Organisation [WHO] Report, 2015). By implication, most

children in the affected by the Boko Haram insurgency would have to be retrained, re-oriented and put under special care and attention so that they become potentials elements for the future.

4.6 Environment (Mines and other Explosives)

Generally, the environment affected by the insurgency is no longer safe or conducive for living, especially for children as observed by Zastraw & Ashman (2010:64) that surrounding environment and events in which a child lives play a key role in his/her development and these environmental factors do influence individual differences, thinking and behaviour. The present setting of the areas with (destruction, horrific experience, unemployment, poverty, and social disintegration) is not conducive to life and has negative effects on individuals. On the other hand, the areas have been damaged and because of deployment and use of light arms and ammunitions, heavy weapons, there are possibilities that mines and other explosives may have been dropped or planted either by the military or the insurgents in an attempt to target the other or the innocent civilians. The affected areas are thus threatened by possibility of innocent civilians unknowingly coming across, trampling, children playing with such planted mines and other explosives. This, indeed, is a threat to the authorities, health of the communities living in such areas, especially where such people do not know or cannot detect or identify the explosives.

4.7 Externally and Internally Displaced Persons

All over the world, more people are now displaced by conflicts than at any time since the Second World War. By December, 2014 there are about 60m forcibly displaced persons all over the world and that includes those in and from Africa (UNHCR, 2015). Of this figure, 27.5m were specifically displaced in the year 2015 alone in over 127 and 113 countries with 8.6m and 19.2m people displaced by conflicts and disasters respectively, while within the same year (2015), 66, 000 people were daily displaced respectively (International Displacement Monitoring Centre, 2016). These (2015 figures) represent the highest number of internally displaced persons ever in history. The African states with the largest number of refugees in the world include the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Eritrea, Central African Republic, Somalia and South Sudan and now Nigeria (UNHCR, 2014). This has resulted in political and humanitarian crises as in Europe (European Refugee Crisis/European Migrant Crisis) with countries divided over accepting the refugees.

Migrant populations and refugees all over the world face challenges on health and other socioeconomic services and so forced migration leads to low income and limited ability which in turn affect health, economy and other conditions and standards of life. The issue of refugees is therefore a source of concern for many states and non state actors. Along the same line, Boko Haram insurgency has at the moment turned a large number of persons to become internally displaced in the North – East region, some of them now living in refugee camps, others with relatives and some others wandering the streets and begging, especially in neighbouring and other states like Bauchi, Plateau, Taraba, Kaduna, Kano, Jigawa, Abuja, Lagos, etc. The displacement has since 2014 reached an *unpredecdented level* (Amnesty International, 2014:22-23)This is in addition to others taking refuge in also affected and neighbouring countries of Niger, Cameroon and Chad Republics. The major threats here are that those internally displaced in refugee camps may suffer an outbreak of infectious diseases, social indiscipline, shortage of food and other basic needs of life, unavailability of or poor education. This makes them vulnerable to unhealthy conditions, further insecurity and attendant effects.

For those taking refuge in neighbouring states and countries, their loyalty to Nigerian state may be lost if something tangible and urgent is not done or the respective authorities in those states may decide to return them any moment which further exposes them additional insecurity,

despair, etc.. Hundreds of thousands of persons have already been displaced both internally and externally among these 4 countries as a result of the insurgency and there are hundreds of thousands forced out of or displaced along the Lake Chad region (UNICEF, December, 2015). Meanwhile, only 19% of the internally displaced persons have access to relief materials and services; and 23% (mostly widows) are left struggling for survival with families dependent members; 16% have sent their children begging because of abject poverty, while more than 330, 000 of the internally displaced persons were facing epidemics from the commencement of the 2016 rainy season onward, due to inaccessibility to portable water, health care and sanitation (OXFAM, 2016). Those displaced persons if not properly settled, rehabilitated and integrated can also become a threat to the Nigerian state and societies as they have already been brutalised and many of their spirits militarized by the insurgency, besides the fact that homelessness is one of the major facets of deep social exclusion (Dwyer, Bowpitt, Sundin and Weinstein, 2015) and also such internally displaced may have lost familism, i.e. cultural values which emphasise interdependent family relations, warm, closeness, support and ties (Campos, Perez & Guardino, 2015). Similarly, there are, already, cases of unwanted pregnancies, rapes and other vices are established in the camps as the vulnerability of women is abused by bad elements.

4.8 Orphans and Widows

Boko Haram insurgency has resulted in large number orphaned children and widows. 60% of all the persons in the internally displaced camps established as a result of Boko Haram insurgency are women and children. Likewise, 60% of all the children in these camps are orphans and such children face socio-psychological, medical, economic and environmental challenges as a result. Zastraw & Ashman (2010:204) have noted that neglected children suffer from or are victims of physical and mental health care (unattended), educationally neglected, without proper and normal life supervision, face housing hazards, lack proper household and basic personal and sanitation, face social and attachment difficulties, lack basic nutrition, encounter cognitive and academic deficits and also have emotional and behavioural problems. One other potential threat of the post Boko Haram era is the presence of neglected children all over the affected areas and by extension, other places. This is because there are a large number of orphans all over, those others are abused in one form or the other and in widespread poverty and children and women are worst in affected areas. As a result of the insurgency, there are more than 5, 000 orphans in the North-Eastern region alone (National Emergency Management Agency, NEMA, December, 2015). These children/orphans are, if not urgently attended to will to grow up uneducated, unprepared for life challenges, unemployed, and criminals as well as counterproductive to the Nigerian state and society (see also Badiora, 2017).

4.9 Militarised Youth and Proliferation of Arms and Weapons

One of the imminent challenges is the issue of militarised individuals, especially the youth, including the popular Civilian JTF who are helping tremendously in the fight against insurgency. Many of those elements have lost their dear ones, businesses and have nowhere to start. In the process of counter-insurgency many found themselves either providing intelligence information or side by side with the Nigerian Military and gradually acquiring military training and spirit. These elements may in the post Boko Haram era become undesirable elements unless they are integrated in the Military, Police or other services. Similarly, disarming those elements also poses another challenge. Numbers of arms within the civilian circle have proliferated and disarming will be a long term, intelligent and cautious programme to be carried out by government. This proliferation may also increase the rate of crime in the post Boko Haram era as there still are abandoned weapons (rifles, live ammunitions, explosives) in the midst of the

civilian population. This is in addition to individuals who have not only been involved in crime and or subjected to human rights violations,m which are inherent in every insurgency as maintained by Badiora, (2017). Such individuals may extend such to the society and also become frustrated and use every means available to transfer anger, aggression and frustration whenever opportunity warrants.

4.10 Breakdown of Socio-Societal Order and Values

Because of the looming and imminent problems above, there are bound to be more cases of rape, sexual assault, unwanted, terminated and or aborted pregnancies, within the affected and neighbouring areas and states, especially in and among the internally displaced camps and persons which may further break down the trodden socio-societal values and norms. This may further trickle down on security challenges in view of the direct relationship between social values, order and security.

5. Summary and Conclusion

Based on the above study, it is the conclusion of this paper that the Boko Haram insurgency in the North-Eastern Nigeria, parts of Chad, Cameroon and Niger Republics has crippled economic, social, religious and many other activities as well as security. Many families have become homeless, family ties/bonds broken, many others have become traumatised widows and orphans, men and millionaires have been reduced to refugees and beggars, businesses have collapsed, employment degenerated, towns and villages shattered, tens of thousands of lives lost in addition to those permanently incapacitated and traumatised, neglected and or abandoned children. Similarly, babies born and grown to mothers in such emotional turmoil are more prone to complications and more likely to grow as adults with psychiatric disorders. There are also bound to be problems of unwanted, terminated/aborted pregnancies, rape and related matters. All these are threats that have bearing on Nigeria's national security in the post Boko Haram era. Nigeria's national security is further threatened by the trickle down negative effects of Boko Haram insurgency such as collapse of social services, education, unemployment, the incessant number of widows and orphans, increased rate of poverty, shortage of accommodation, collapse of social bonds and discipline. Unless authorities, non – governmental organizations, religious bodies and parents come together, these threats will sooner or later further consume the peoples in the area.

There are short, medium and long term policies and measures that could be taken by all the stakeholders. But great works have to be done in the areas of rehabilitation of traumatised and displaced victims, educational institutions have to be immediately rehabilitated, special funds and intervention would have to be provided by the state and Non Governmental and Civil Societies Organisations to speed up any and every move towards the addressing the damages done by the insurgency. Special consideration would have to be given to the youth, women and children who are worst hit by the insurgency (education, breakdown of family ties and social bonds, unemployment, insurgent recruits, poverty and social dislocations). Failure to realise and curtail these threats would mean facing an equally or more dangerous and damaging scenario by the Nigerian state and authorities than the insurgency period itself. Those threats, if not addressed now, may be more difficult, require more time and expensive to address. Indeed victims of Boko Haram insurgency need special support and re-assurances of life, hope, restoration and normalcy from both state authorities and the general public. The earlier these threats are tackled, the better for Nigeria's national security and prosperity.

6. Recommendations

1. Special welfare schemes should be immediately commenced in the affected areas to cover up
     socioeconomic   gaps created and supplement food provision, income stabilization,

especially with special incomes   supplementation, provision of free or subsidised food and other essential commodities for some time   pending restoration of normalcy in the affected areas.

2. There should be entrepreneurial drives and programmes on the ground, especially for the youth as part of   rehabilitation, integration and employment generation drives.

4. Special economic intervention programmes, bail out and funding should be provided to the states and areas hit by   the insurgency.

5. Federal and affected States governments should immediately commence reconstruction of all destroyed schools

and provide necessary teaching and learning equipments and facilities. Where it may not be possible to

commence such rehabilitation/reconstructon, makeshift and or mobile schools should be provided.

6. Special rehabilitation and trauma centres should be established, especially for women and children who have had   horrible experiences during the insurgency period. Trauma exposed individuals should be given special psychological debriefing treatment to prevent and contain possible post traumatic stress and disorder   (PSTD).

7. Special prosecutions should be set up in line with constitutional provisions to ensure dispensation of justice to   all   those   found   to   have   been   involved,   financed, politically supported or abetted the insurgency.

8. All religious activities including preaching and evangelism should be internally regulated by the respective religions and externally by all relevant authorities.

9. All illegal entry points into Nigeria should be sealed and the legal points of entry be manned with adequate and   responsible security agencies to ensure control on immigration and influx of weapons, especially along the Niger, Cameroon and Chad borders as well as the sea ports.

10. Families of all military personnel who died in the fight against Boko Haram should have their   benefits promptly   paid and special attention be given to them in order to boost the morale   and confidence of serving officers   and men in the Nigerian military.

11. There should be an intensive and extensive clean up exercise of the affected areas with possibly planted, mines,   concealed bunch of bombs, etc.

12. There should be awareness/enlightenment programmes and campaign all over the affected areas to educate the people on the possibility of coming across unidentified/

Unknown parcels, packs and other planted objects. This is to avoid people trampling, picking up of or   children playing with such explosives.

13. Porous border controls should be intensified with intelligence gathering technologies in order to halt weapons   and   track   illegal   border   movements   and   obscured   border crossings through collaborative efforts of regional   border security personnel.

14. There should be prevention and special care by the authorities concerned and the general public   for   those affected by the insurgency, which forced them into the migration, unemployment, povert y and social degr-   adation of life and urgently require sufficient housing, employment, income and children and parents   keeping.

15. All the able bodied who helped the military in the fight against the insurgents such as the Civilian JTF should be   integrated into the Nigerian Armed Forces in order to contain their militarised spirits, intelligence and   training.

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