



THE SENATE

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

REPORT OF THE DELEGATION TO TARABA STATE

ON

A MOTION

**"THE NEED TO URGENTLY FLUSH OUT BOKO-HARAM
INSURGENTS RE-ASSEMBLING IN TARABA AND HALT
THE ONGOING SILENT GENOCIDE IN THE STATE"**

SUBMITTED TO THE

8TH SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

DECEMBER, 2016.

1.00 INTRODUCTION:

The Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria at its sitting on Wednesday, 9th March, 2016 deliberated on a motion "The need to urgently flush out Boko-Haram Insurgents re-assembling in Taraba and halt the ongoing silent genocide in the State" and resolved amongst others to -

- (i) urge the Federal Government to undertake a holistic study of the crisis in Taraba State and rehabilitate the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and supervise their re-integration into their Community; and
- (ii) call on the relevant Committees to visit the affected States and the IDPs Camps so as to ascertain the gravity of the activities of the insurgents and interface with the State Government and Security Agencies in the State towards finding a lasting solution to the activities of the insurgents (S/Res./112/01/16).

2.00 MEMBERSHIP OF THE DELEGATION

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. Senator Kabiru Ibrahim Gaya | — | Leader of Delegation |
| 2. Senator Emmanuel Bwacha | — | Member |
| 3. Senator Shaaba M. Lafiagi | — | Member |
| 4. Senator Joshua M. Lidani | — | Member |
| 5. Senator Enyinnaya H. Abaribe | — | Member |
| 6. Senator John Owan Enoch | — | Member |
| 7. Senator Yusuf A. Yusuf | — | Member |
| 8. Senator Bareehu O. Ashafa | — | Member |
| 9. Senator Danladi S. Abubakar | — | Member |

3.00 METHODOLOGY:

The Delegation resolved to write to the Taraba State Government on its intention to visit the State, and also seek audience while in the State to interact with the State Government, Security Agencies and other relevant stakeholders.

4.00 DELEGATION VISIT TO TARABA STATE

The Delegation arrived Jalingo, Taraba State on Monday, 14th November, 2016.

The Delegation comprised of:

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| 1 | Senator Kabiru Ibrahim Gaya | — | Leader of Delegation |
| 2 | Senator Emmanuel Bwacha | — | Member |
| 3 | Senator Shaaba M. Lafiagi | — | Member |
| | Muhammad Sani Abdullahi | — | Clerk to the Delegation |
| | Abdulhadi Ibrahim | — | Assistant Clerk to the Delegation |

5.00 COURTESY CALL ON THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF TARABA STATE, HIS EXCELLENCY, ARC. DARIUS DICKSON ISHAKU (FNIA)

The Delegation was received by His Excellency, Arc. Darius Dickson Ishaku, FNIA, the Executive Governor at the Government House, Jalingo.

In his opening remarks, the leader of the Delegation, Senator Kabiru Ibrahim Gaya, informed His Excellency that the mission of the Delegation to the State is sequel to a motion "The need to urgently flush out Boko-Haram Insurgents re-assembling in Taraba and halt the ongoing silent genocide in the State" sponsored by Senator Emmanuel Bwacha (Taraba South) on Wednesday, 9th March, 2016.

He further stated that the Senate resolved to amongst others, send a Delegation to visit the affected areas in the State and the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camps, so as to ascertain the gravity of the effect of activities of the insurgents and interface with the State Government, Security Agencies in the State and other stakeholders towards finding a lasting solution to the activities of the insurgents.

Senator Kabiru I. Gaya noted that the movement of these insurgents was as a result of heightened military operations by the Armed Forces in the North East Region that dislodged many of the Boko Haram elements making them flee to areas they consider safe haven like Taraba State.

Senator Kabiru Ibrahim Gaya noted with appreciation the very good work His Excellency has done in restoring normalcy and has taken care of most of the problems of insecurity in the State.

The Leader of the Delegation also stated that the Delegation will meet with the Heads of Security Agencies, stakeholders and also visit Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Camps in the State.

5.01 In his response, the Executive Governor of Taraba State, His Excellency, Arc. Darius Dickson Ishaku, appreciated the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for sending a powerful Delegation to see for themselves the existence of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). This was as a result of the spillover of insurgents from Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States; as well as the various ethno-religious crisis ravaging the State.

He further stated that the high point was the arrest of suspected Boko

Haram insurgents in different parts of the State from 2012 to 2015. The most notable is the arrest of Kabiru Abubakar Umar Dikko (a.k.a Kabiru Sokkoto) at Mutum Biyu, Gassol Local Government Area.

Governor Ishaku further informed the Delegation that the other reasons for this situation in the State are the farmers/herdsmen crisis and ethno religious crisis in some parts of the State.

His Excellency commended the cooperation of the Security Agencies in the State for the wonderful job done in restoring normalcy in the State. He also informed the Delegation that he had suspended some Traditional Rulers for complicity, and this has helped in restoring peace in some parts of the State.

He gladly stated that relative peace has returned to the State and as he had told the citizens that "give me peace and I will give you development." Now he is set to give the State the desired development within the limited resources available.

Finally, His Excellency appreciated the Delegation and congratulated the Leader of the Delegation on his recent appointment as the Vice President of the Africa Group, Inter Parliamentary Union.

6.00 VISIT TO INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS CAMPS (IDPs) CAMP

The Delegation was at Kona IDPs Camp within Jalingo metropolis. The Kona camp, occupies a Primary Health Care Centre with 339 men, women and children who are mostly from Gwoza in Borno State.

The basic challenges faced by the IDPs in Kona are education for their wards, health care and feeding. They appreciated the Taraba State Government for doing their utmost best to make them comfortable through the Taraba State Emergency Management Agency; the host community and other donor agencies/NGOs like TY Danjuma Foundation, religious bodies and individuals for their support.

The Leader of the Delegation, Senator Kabiru Ibrahim Gaya commiserated with them and asked the IDPs if they are ready to return to their respective homes since gradually peace is returning to their community.

They expressed willingness to go back to their homes as soon as practicable.

6.02 MALLUM IDPs CAMP

The Delegation visited Mallum IDPs Camp which has a population of about 1,000 people mainly from Gwoza Local Government Area, Borno State. Unlike in Kona Camp, all the IDPs in Mallum are already integrated within the Community.

They acknowledged various kind of support from the Taraba State Emergency Management Agency; the host community and other donor agencies/NGOs like TY Danjuma Foundation, Religious Bodies and individuals.

The Leader of the Delegation, Senator Kabiru Ibrahim Gaya, assured the IDPs that the State Government and National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) will do more to assist them to be as comfortable as possible. He appealed to them to be law abiding citizens

and stay out of trouble; and be patient with government as they are doing all things humanly possible to eliminate Boko Haram so that they can return to their respective homes and villages, as there is no place better than home.

6.03 MUTUM BIYU IDPs CAMP, GASSOL LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA.

On Tuesday, 15th November, 2016 the Delegation, led by the Secretary to the Taraba State Government, State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and other Security personnel to the camp. The Chairman of Gassol Local Government Area received the Delegation.

The Camp has a population of up to 3, 000 persons, of which about 95% are from Wukari Local Government Area following the ethno-religious conflict in the State. The State Government through the Taraba State Emergency Management Agency; the host community and other donor agencies/NGOs like TY Danjuma Foundation, Religious Bodies and individuals are doing their best in terms of their needs. But their basic challenges are inadequate accommodation, water (lack of borehole as the wells have dried up), feeding, health care and education for their Children.

They appealed that if necessary arrangements could be made, they are ready to go back to their respective homes and Villages.

Senator Emmanuel Bwacha, stated that most of the IDPs are from his Senatorial District. He appealed to them to be patient with Government as efforts are being made for them within the shortest possible time to return to their respective homes and Villages.

He cautioned them on the need to maintain a cordial relationship across ethnic and religious divide. Senator Bwacha also intimated the IDPs that Senator Kabiru Ibrahim Gaya, the Leader of the Delegation is the initiator of the North East Development Commission Bill already passed by the Senate and House of Representatives which is to help in reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of the North East zone.

The Leader of the Delegation, Senator Kabiru Ibrahim Gaya, informed the IDPs on the mission of the delegation to the camp as well as the efforts being made by the National Assembly by passing the Bill for the development of the North East region, North East Development Commission (NEDC) similar to that of the Niger Delta region, all for the rehabilitation and provision of critical infrastructure for the region to bring even social economic well being of its citizens.

7.00 MEETING WITH TARABA STATE GOVERNMENT, SECURITY AGENCIES AND STAKEHOLDERS.

The Delegation met with the Taraba State Government officials, Heads of Security Agencies, Traditional Rulers and other stakeholders:

- 1 Secretary to Taraba State Government
- 2 Commissioner of Police
- 3 Director, State Security Service
- 4 Commandant, Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps
- 5 Comptroller, Nigerian Prisons Service
- 6 Commandant, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency
- 7 Comptroller, Nigerian Immigration Service
- 8 Permanent Secretary, Taraba State Emergency Management Agency.
- 9 Special Adviser to the Governor on Security Matters
- 10 Permanent Secretary, Home Affairs and Special Services

- 11 His Royal Highness Emir of Bakundi, Bali LGA
- 12 Representative of His Highness Emir of Muri, Jalingo, Galadiman Muri
- 13 Tor Tiv, Taraba State
- 14 President General, Tiv Cultural and Social Association Taraba State
- 15 Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria, Taraba State.
- 16 Miyetti Allah Tabitta Pulaku.

7.01 The Leader of the Delegation briefed the invitees on the mission of the Delegation to the State which is sequel to a motion "The need to urgently flush out Boko Haram Insurgents re-assembling in Taraba and halt the ongoing silent genocide in the State" sponsored by Senator Emmanuel Bwacha (Taraba South) on Wednesday, 9th March, 2016.

Senator Gaya stated that most people did not acknowledge the presence of IDPs in Taraba State, but from what the Delegation had seen, there are a lot of IDPs in the State. He emphasized that the meeting is not to apportion blame, but to brainstorm and find lasting solutions to the crisis.

Furthermore, the Senate and indeed the National Assembly has passed into law the North East Development Commission which is similar to the Niger Delta Development Commission for the rehabilitation of infrastructure, peace and security of the zone.

Finally, on behalf of the Delegation he appreciated the hospitality of the people and Government of Taraba State.

7.02 Senator Emmanuel Bwacha expressed his joy, in that the Delegation is able to see for itself the existence of IDPs in Taraba State.

He emphasized that the meeting is to find lasting solutions to the crisis and not to trade blames.

7.03 Senator Mohammed S. Lafiagi appreciated the efforts of the Governor and the Security Agencies for the peace in the State and urged them to do more.

He urged the meeting to state the situation as it is, so that the Delegation can make the right recommendations to the Senate.

8.00 SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS

8.01 Lamido Bakundi, Alhaji Muhammad Musa Gidado, Gassol LGA

His Royal Highness, Sarkin Bakundi appreciated the visit by the Delegation and pleaded that since peace has returned to the land, there was the dire need for the needy to be assisted so that they can be able to live a decent life.

8.02 Galadiman Muri

Galadiman Muri Galadiman Muri who represented the Emir of Muri, Jalingo also appreciated the Delegation's visit. He stated that IDPS are spread all over the State. He further stated that so many of the IDPs are into menial jobs like cobbler (shoe shining), nail cutting, wheel barrow pushers, etc.

He stressed the need to assist the citizenry to be able earn a living.

8.03 Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association, Taraba State Branch.

The Association was represented by its Chairman, Alhaji Sahabi, who appreciated the Senate for sending a high powered delegation to find out the reality on ground. This has gone a long way to demonstrate

Inclusion of all tribes.

He stated that the crux of the matter is that Boko Haram were re-grouping in Taraba State and masquerading as Fulani herdsmen, and that everyone, including the Fulani, are victims of the dreaded sect.

Alhaji Sahabi assured that the Association is ready to help fish out all miscreants amongst the Fulani. He stressed the need to involve all and sundry in looking for solutions through dialogue.

The Chairman stressed that nomadic life is one of the most difficult professions known to mankind, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year. There is no room for holiday or vacation. Even at night he has to keep vigil of his animals. No profession that have demanded as that of the herdsmen on the face of the earth.

He further called for inclusiveness noting that Taraba State has largest cattle population in the country estimated at 4.9 Million herds. He therefore stated the Association's demands which include, but not limited to the following:

- (i) Grazing Reserves: of the 42 grazing reserves in Taraba State, only 9 are gazetted;
- (ii) Stock Routes: as livestock cannot move to watering points without stock routes; and
- (iii) Inclusion of Fulani Communities as beneficiaries in programmes like polio immunization, etc.

8.04 TABBITA PULAKU ASSOCIATION

The Tabbita Pulaku Association is the Vigilante Arm of the Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association represented by Alhaji Ahmadu Bela.

Alhaji Ahmadu appreciated the Delegation's visit and stated that the Tabbita Pulaku have assisted the Security Agencies in the identifying, arrest and handing over of suspected criminals which has led to drastic decline in criminal activities like kidnapping.

8.05 TIV CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ASSOCIATION

The Association was represented by its President-General, Goodman Dahida.

The Tiv Cultural and Social Association expressed their appreciation for the Delegation's visit and the opportunity offered them to state their position. Mr. Dahida stated that there have been communal clashes, especially with Fulani herdsman, which has claimed a lot of lives and property over a long period of time.

He requested, as a way forward, for the deployment of special security forces to flush out illegal persons occupying their land to stem the violence.

8.06 TARABA STATE GOVERNMENT

The State Government's presentation was made by the Secretary to the State Government, Permanent Secretary, State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), and the Special Assistant to the Governor on Security Matters. They called on the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, Inspector-General of Police, National Security Adviser and all other relevant security agencies to

intervene/investigate the happenings in Taraba State.

Accordingly, they noted that the State Government has taken action by suspending some District Heads and Village Heads for operating in variance with the policies of Government towards ensuring peace in the State.

The Permanent Secretary, State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), stated that the State presently hosts 47,587 IDPs located across 16 Local Government Areas. The IDPs are found in 12 unofficial camp-like settlements and in various host communities. It is estimated that 22% (about 10,469) of the IDPs are from Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States, most of whom have been in the State since 2013.

It is worthy of note that the State Government has been providing relief materials, medical consumables, etc. to the IDPs in collaboration with such humanitarian organizations as United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), Victims Support Fund and Interfaith Mediation Centre.

The State Government is open and willing to collaborate with any well meaning organization and/or individuals to provide food, shelter, healthcare, education, water and livelihood; as most of them have expressed their willingness to return to their homes as soon as practicable.

8.07 SUBMISSION BY THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, YUNANA Y. BABAS.

The Commissioner of Police, Taraba State noted that the State being located at the extreme south of Borno State, which was the epicenter

of the Boko Haram insurgency, was hitherto thought to be immune from the violence. However, the State became a safe haven for insurgents due to sustained action of the military that dislodged them from their hideouts in search of food, etc. As a result of this incursion, many lives were lost and properties damaged.

The Commissioner of Police proceeded to chronicle some of the activities of violence in the State such as the four (4) explosions recorded in 2012 alone on 30th April, 11th May, 4th October and 5th November. He also recalled an attempt by the terrorists to destroy Wukari Divisional Police Headquarters which was resisted and which resulted in the deaths of Insp. Adman Almadu, Cpl. Binslot Nansin and Cpl. Ochache.

MEASURES TAKEN

- 1 Intensive and extensive patrol of the State i.e. high ways;
- 2 Intensive stop and search on the road and in residences;
- 3 Vigorous and aggressive intelligence gathering and sharing;
- 4 Community policing strategies i.e. patrolling and sensitization of the communities to give information about suspected people and strange objects abandoned near them; and
- 5 Raiding of black sports.

CONSTRAINTS:

- (i) Lack of sufficient Federal Government Intervention in provision of patrol vehicles for effective monitoring and prevention duties;
- (ii) Poor welfare of officers and men; and
- (iii) Limited Communication Network for ease of communication in case of emergency or security breach within the State.

8.08 SUBMISSION BY STATE DIRECTOR OF STATE SECURITY TARABA STATE

In his submission, he stated that there was no officially recognised Federal Government or State Government established Internally Displace Persons (IDPs) Camp in Taraba State. However there are victims of flood disasters in Lau Local Government Area, ethno-religious crisis in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas, as well as Tiv Farmers/Fulani Herdsmen Crisis.

He submitted that most of the IDPs who were displaced as a result of the insurgency in the North East have re-integrated within the society among relatives and religious centers, while others have returned to there homes.

He stated that, before now, there were IDPs in various settlements according to an Interim Report by the Six (6) Man Committee set up by the Taraba State Government for the Return and Resettlement of IDPs as follows -

- (a) Wukari - Sixty six Thousand, Five Hundred and Eighty Four (66,584);
- (b) Gassol - Eleven Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty Nine (11,569);
- (c) Bali - Eleven Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty Five (11,965);
- (d) Donga - Sixteen Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty Seven (16,367);
- (e) Gashaka - Two Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty (2,930);
Temporary IDPs

TEMPORARY IDPs

- (i) Mayo Dassa in Jalingo metropolis has a population of 1040 persons that left the temporary camp and settled within the Local Communities in the area.
- (ii) Acha road IDP settlement; has a population of Thirty Six persons (36) from Michika and Gwoza.
- (iii) Mutum Biyu and Tella IDPs Settlement: Initially the population was Two Thousand Five Hundred (2,500) but now due to relative peace in the area most have since returned to their homes leaving less than a Hundred (100) in the camp.

ARREST OF SUSPECTED INSURGENTS IN THE STATE

Within the period that the insurgency has been raging about Twenty (20) suspected Boko Haram insurgents were arrested in deferent parts of the State from 2012 to 2015. The first major arrest was that of Kabiru Abubakar Umar Dikko (aka Kabiru Sokoto) in February, 2012 at Sabon Gida in Gassol LGA.

Further more, the service is currently intensifying efforts to ensure the arrest of more of the fleeing Boko Haram terrorists returning or planning to settle down in the State.

8.09 SUBMISSION BY COMMANDANT NIGERIAN SECURITY AND CIVIL DEFENCE CORPS, TARABA STATE

Commandant Kamilu Ado Isah opined that the security challenges in Taraba State are mostly borne out of ethnic rivalry. The situation as recently witnessed in Karim Lamido Local Government Area, led to loss of lives and properties.

He recalled that Wukari Local Government Area in the Southern Zone has recently witnessed a clash between Julan and Fulani Herdsmen. This situation is worrisome as many lives and properties were lost.

On the issue of armed robbery, cattle rustling, kidnapping, proliferation of fire arms, religious disputes, and boundary disputes, he stated that investigations revealed that these crimes are being perpetrated by different groups operating and terrorising citizens. The genesis of most of these crimes were committed by the Youth due to lack of employment, allowing the proliferation of arms in some instances by politicians, corruption by some security personnel, as well as in some cases intolerance by religious believers.

He stated that boundary disputes involved claims on farm lands, settlements, fishing sites, tenancy rights, etc.

The NSCDC Commandant expressed the need for the continuation of enlightenment campaigns put in place by Government, traditional rulers, religions bodies, Miyetti Attah Cattle Breeders Association, Farmers Association and Stakeholders on the various vices such as kidnappings, cattle rustling, armed robbery, danger of crisis and the importance of peaceful co-existence in the State.

He suggested the need for Joint Patrol by Security Agencies to flush out criminals in their hide outs.

Finally, he urged the Government, organisations and well meaning individuals to provide employment to the teeming unemployed youth especially in skills acquisition programs.

8.10 SUBMISSION BY COMPTROLLER, IMMIGRATION SERVICE, TARABA STATE COMMAND

In this brief the Comptroller stated that the Immigration Service was able to apprehend one Sulyman Monina, a Senegalese, on 22nd May, 2014.

Two (2) International passports were discovered from him, one Senegalese and the other French passport; further searches on him revealed that he was carrying three fully assembled improvised explosive devices and other component for the manufacturing of Bombs.

The Comptroller sought for the following:

- (i) Special Security Forces should be deployed to the State to help flush out illegal and strange people in the State.
- (ii) Given the huge destruction of property and loss of lives, the Federal Government should include Taraba State in the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Programmes targeted at the States in the North East.

9.00 OBSERVATIONS/ FINDINGS

After visits to IDPs Camps, meetings with State Government Officials, Heads of Security Agencies and other stakeholders the delegation observes as follows:

- (i) Based on the Security Agencies submissions, that Boko Haram insurgents used Taraba State as a safe haven from the military onslaught in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States;
- (ii) That Boko Haram insurgents caused havoc and fear among the inhabitants of the State through their series of bombings and

Bank Banks robbery;

- (iii) That Security Agencies have made efforts by arresting several Boko Haram members including Kabiru Abubakar Umar (a.k.a Kabiru Sokoto) and al-queda bomb specialist Sulyman Monina;
- (iv) That there exist IDPs in the Taraba State;
- (v) That the State Government, NGOs, TY Danjuma Foundation, UNCHR and Communities have been catering for the IDPs both within the Camps and host communities;
- (vi) There are ongoing peace building processes being coordinated by the Taraba State Government with agencies such as Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Interfaith Mediation Council and United Nations High Commission for Refugees;

10.00 RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Delegation recommends as follows:

- (i) That the Senate do acknowledge and commend the Taraba State Government for the current peace existing in the State;
- (ii) That the Senate do acknowledge and commend the Security Agencies in Taraba State Government for maintaining peace in the State
- (iii) That the Senate do acknowledge the existence of IDPs in Taraba State;

(iv) That the Senate do urge the constitution of Joint Security Task Force to help in checking security breaches;

(v) That security agencies should find ways in which local vigilante can be co-opted in maintaining peace;

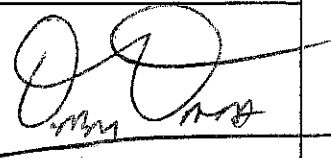
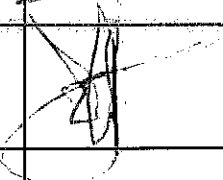
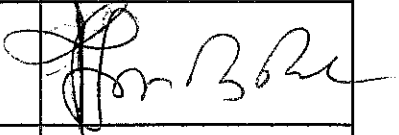
(vi) That Taraba State be included in Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Programme targeted at North Eastern part of the Nigeria affected by the Boko Haram crisis.

11.00 CONCLUSION:

The Delegation wishes to sincerely express its appreciation to the President of the Senate, the Leadership and entire Senate for the opportunity to carry out this important assignment.

Thank You.

Senator Kabiru Ibrahim Gaya
Leader of Delegation

S/N	NAMES	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
1.	Senator Kabiru Ibrahim Gaya	Leader of Delegation	
2.	Senator Emmanuel Bwacha	Member	
3.	Senator Shaaba M. Lafiagi	Member	
4.	Senator Joshua M. Lidani	Member	
5.	Senator Enyinnaya H. Abaribe	Member	
6.	Senator John Owan Enoh	Member	
7.	Senator Yusuf A. Yusuf	Member	
8.	Senator Bareehu O. Ashafa	Member	
9.	Senator Danladi S. Abubakar	Member	


Muhammad Sani Abdullahi - Clerk to the Delegation