

THE INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP STUDIES IN AFRICA: SITUATION REPORT AND FOUR – YEAR ACTION PLAN (2019 – 2022).

1. INTRODUCTION

The Institute for Governance and Leadership Studies in Africa (IGLSA) was registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee in August 2016 and approved by the government of Nigeria as a Training and Research Institute. In the last two years, efforts have been directed towards developing a framework to establish a world class Institution. Part of these has been the development of curricular in key subject areas that are of critical relevance to governance and leadership. These were developed based on skills-gap analysis undertaken by a team of experts commissioned by the Institute.

The Governing Council has the privilege of having Nigeria's former Head of State, General Yakubu Gowon GCFR, PhD, as its President. The Institute is also fortunate to have on its Council, distinguished African Intellectuals, international public servants, both serving and retired as well as retired top Public Servants including a former Head of Civil Service of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. A former Director General, of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation has also agreed to serve as a member of the Governing Council.

2. PARTNERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

The Institute has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Institute for Mediterranean Studies, Napoli, Italy. The focus of the MOU is on joint research. We have concluded discussions for formal affiliation and partnership with the African University of Science and Technology, Abuja, and the Adeleke University, Ede, Nigeria as well as the Nigerian Army Resource Centre (NARC).

In pursuance of its affiliation with Adeleke University, the Institute has developed academic curricular in the following areas:

1. Public Service Management and Strategic Leadership.
2. Public Procurement and Supply Chain Management.
3. Political Party Management
4. Corruption and Financial Crimes
5. Community Development Administration

These Programs are expected to be offered at the Post Graduate Diploma and Master Degree levels. In addition, the Institute has developed short term programs focusing on leadership, management, cyber security, disaster management, Non-profit sector management, and other programs crucial to community development and good governance. Some of these will be offered directly by the Institute while some will be offered jointly with the African University of Science and Technology, a Nelson Mandela Legacy University, with which the Institute is developing joint programmes.

We have equally developed a very robust relationship with the Federal Ministry of Defence in the areas of civil military relations and conflict management. Our relationships with these foremost Institutions provide us with the platforms to realise our goals in undertaking quality teaching, impactful research and effective advocacy.

The Institute has also commenced partnership with an international consulting firm with a view to exploring opportunities in Asia. Through the partnership we intend to establish a Centre for Africa Studies targeting Asian Business men and women who are interested in Africa. The Centre is expected to be domiciled in one of Asia's leading Institutions. The main objective of the Centre is to provide basic data and research services on Africa to Asian Businesses with an intent to invest in the Continent. We shall also work with this firm to organise off-shore training programmes, short term courses, International Honours for deserving African leaders, academics, Captains of industry as well as the non-state sector. A formal Memorandum of Understanding between the two organisations has been signed.

PROJECTS

1. EMERGING LEADERS SUMMIT AFRICA

This is an initiative of the Institute designed to create an Africa-wide network for emerging African leaders. The focus is to organise capacity building programs in the following areas for aspiring young African leaders, especially those who are contesting for political as well as Union positions for the first time as follows:

1. Planning and Execution of Party Primaries for first time contestants
2. Political Party Management
3. Training of Party/Poll Agents
4. Campaign Content Development/Political Communication for Election Purpose
5. Strategic Leadership and Consensus Building in Governance in Africa

There shall be an annual Summit which shall provide a platform to undertake review on political, economic as well as other developments as they affect leadership recruitment processes in the Continent. In essence, the ELSA will strengthen capacity, undertake relevant research and circulate research findings to relevant bodies.

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS IN BANJUL, GAMBIA

The Institute, in pursuance of its vision as an international organisation, intends to open its Regional Centre for West Africa in Banjul, Gambia in the current Year. It will eventually serve as the Institute's international Operational Headquarters while the administrative Headquarters will remain in Abuja. Depending on the regulatory situation in the Country, it is expected to provide a very conducive and stable environment for the Institute's operations. Already, contacts have been made with highly placed individuals who are not only expected to join the Governing Council of the Institute but also to facilitate its take-off in the Country in the first quarter of 2019.

IMMEDIATE STEPS

The first major step is the formal inauguration of the Governing Council by the President of the Institute, General Yakubu Gowon GCFR, PhD, and the formal commencement of public activities by the Institute.

The Institute expects other distinguished African leaders to join its Governing Council very soon. Formal letters of appointment and conferment of Fellowship of the Africa Institute will be undertaken after consultation with and approval by the President of the Institute.

Please find below highlights of the Institute's immediate plans

IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE PLANS

1. Curriculum Review Workshops.

These held in the last week of January 2019. The Workshop featured experts from the academia, relevant professional organisations, the Public Service etc. Sequel to the workshop, Adeleke University approved our request for affiliation for the Institute to work with the University, to commence admissions for the approved programmes.

2. Yakubu Gowon International Annual Governance and Leadership Public Lecture Series/Yakubu Two - Yearly Conference on Governance and Leadership Issues in Africa.

General Yakubu was Nigeria's Head of State between 1966 –1975. Apart from leading the Country through a major civil war and kept her united, he left a legacy of good governance and sustained national development. It should be noted that he continued with the implementation of the First National Development Plan that he inherited from the former civilian government. Indeed, he initiated and implemented the 2nd National Development and had just announced the Third National Development plan (1975-1980) when he was overthrown in 1975. According to General Gowon, the Third National Development Plan 'was audacious, (and) 'was aimed to wage a war on want in the midst of plenty' adding that the Plan was 'based on agro-allied industry and to build a base for Nigeria's industrial revolution by providing iron and steel, petrochemical and liquefied natural gas projects. General Gowon emphasised that 'We planned more investment in education, health, industry, ports development, aviation, power, communication and urban development as well as defence and security. .

However, the Murtala Muhammed coup of 1975 disrupted the planning cycle. Instead, the Country has been experimenting with short term plans with short term goals and there has been an emphasis on economic indicators and indices and less on the qualitative impact of government plans on the people. The result has been chaos in the development planning process and increase in poverty. Apart from these Development Plans legacy, General Gowon has remained an incorruptible national icon who unarguably has no comparison in terms of personal probity. His reputation transcends the Country's borders.

It is against the background of the foregoing that the Institute has decided to name its Annual Leadership and Governance Public Lecture Series after General Yakubu Gowon GCFR, PhD to provide an annual international platform to discuss issues of development and Governance in Africa. The Objectives of these annual events, the inaugural of which will hold in 2019 includes the following;

1. Provide a platform to robustly discuss critical issues of development as it affects the citizens
2. Review current governance and leadership challenges in Africa and proffer solutions
3. Examine international best practices on governance and leadership and their potential relevance to Africa.
4. Discuss contemporary global trends on development and governance and their implications on Africa's development.

It is important to note that the programs will be evidence-driven and guided by the need to solve challenges.

OPERATION OF THE LECTURE SERIES

General Yakubu Gowon IGLSA's Public Lecture Initiative is an international annual programme. Consequently, we shall source for reputable international figures to make presentations at the annual event. Members of the International Community in Nigeria will be invited while national institutions with responsibility for planning will be actively engaged from all over Africa. Indeed, the Institute will partner with the Federal Government through the National Planning Commission to organise the annual program.

FOUR YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN AND PROPOSALS FOR 2019

The Institute has initiated the process of developing its four year strategic plan. In addition, we have also started the development of the Institute's plans for 2019. These are in addition to the academic programs mentioned above. Therefore, the following are the focal areas for 2019.

1. Civic/Voter Education. Review of the teaching of Civic Education in West Africa
 - a) A West Africa –wide survey of the teaching of civic education and its relative impact on citizens' participation not only in elections but in the entire governance process.
 - b) International Conference of teacher education involving faculties and colleges of education to deliberate on the survey result with a view to developing strategies to address areas where gaps may exist.
2. (a). Promotion of good governance through the promotion of the demand side of governance. Focus of this include Budget Training for Community Groups who will in turn work with the Institute to track the performance of annual budgets at the Community level
 - (b). Promotion of good governance in the management of Political parties as a central theme of the Institute's proposal to reform political Parties.

3. **Dissemination of Development Information** (i.e. simple technologies and innovations) to facilitate harnessing rural potentials in Africa using Community Organisations. This Project is expected to be executed jointly with the Africa Business Roundtable and the Bamanga M. Tukur Foundation.
4. **Formal Inauguration of the Summit of Emerging Leaders Africa** and the commencement of its activities. It should be noted that this is expected to be a major initiative of the Institute designed to assist in the leadership recruitment process. The Summit of Emerging Leaders Africa has been registered as a trade mark of the Institute.
5. **Formal Inauguration and commencement of the Association of African Political Parties.** The Association has been formally registered as a trade name in Nigeria. It will provide a platform for peer review by Political Parties especially in the area of governance. It should be noted that although most African Countries have democratised, the concept of good governance has only been applied to the Public Service. A major omission has been the application of good governance principles in the management of political parties in the Continent. Under the constitutions of most African Countries, political parties are regarded as non-state public institutions. Consequently, they are subject to public scrutiny, and are expected to be transparent and accountable. Indeed, the role of Political Parties in the process of leadership recruitment cannot be over –emphasised.

The Association will encourage reforms driven by the Parties themselves as well as prevent the likelihood of ruling parties in various countries pursuing reforms which may favour them at the expense of opposition parties. The President of the Africa Business Roundtable, His Excellency, Ambassador Bamanga Tukur has agreed to serve as the interim Chairman pending the convening of the inaugural meeting of the Association in Banjul, Gambia during the third Quarter of 2019.

6. **Two – Day Colloquium on the Challenges of Governance and Leadership in Africa.** The Colloquium is expected to identify the problems, prescribe solutions and develop sustainable plans to address the challenges using a strong network of non- state organisations, working actively with State institutions.
7. **Two Day Summit on Corruption, National Security and Development involving West African Countries.** The Programme was initiated to underscore the need for greater citizens’ participation in the implementation of anti-corruption measures. The measures would have been far more impactful if Citizens had owned the process. It is also aimed at ensuring greater collaboration among West African Countries especially in view of the trans-border nature of money laundering, and other related financial crimes. The Summit will assist in developing evidence-driven initiatives to support existing ECOWAS Protocols on financial crimes.
8. **CONFLICT MANAGEMENT & PEACE BUILDING ACTIVITIES**
The Institute’s Conflict Management programme will be in two parts. These are:
 - a) The North East Conflict Management and Peace Building Project
and
 - b) election related conflicts.

In this regard, we intend to reactivate the **Election Conflict Management Team (ECMT)** which was established in 2010 as a partnership project involving the Government and the non-state sector. The objectives of the ECMT include the following:

1. Establish an institutionalised strategic framework that will function to proactively prevent or mitigate conflict situations before and during the elections.
2. Regularly process relevant field information especially those with serious potential to trigger both pre-election and post - election violence and advice relevant institutions including political parties drawing attention on their negative implications.
3. Undertake campaigns aimed at discouraging the current dangerous trend while also encouraging the resort to the Rule of Law as reaction to any perceived or real breach of the electoral law.

The ECMT comprises of several Government and non – governmental agencies including the following:

1. The Coalition for Democracy and Credible Elections (CODECE), a coalition which comprised of the Nigeria Union of Journalists, World Association of Non-Governmental Organisations, Initiative for Civic Education, Centre for Applied Policy and Social Advocacy and others.
2. Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution
3. Federal Ministry of Justice
4. National Orientation Agency
5. Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps

It is expected that other Agencies like the Police Service Commission will be invited to join the Team before the full commencement of its activities.



'Lanre Adebayo, PhD
Director General