

BRIEFING NOTE ON THE 9TH ROUND OF POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS:
NIGERIA-SWITZERLAND DAYS – 10TH JUNE 2022

OVERVIEW OF BILATERAL RELATIONS:

The relations between Nigeria and Switzerland have remained cordial since the two countries established diplomatic ties in the 1960s. The two countries further heightened their relations by signing a number of bilateral agreements. Some of the agreements earlier signed include: Bilateral Air Services Agreement (BASA) in 1980, Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (IPPA) in 2000; Protocol of Understanding on Migration Partnership, 14th February, 2011; Memorandum of Understanding on Establishment of an Annual Process of Switzerland-Nigeria Bilateral Consultations; 'Letter of intent on the Restitution of Illegally-Acquired Assets' forfeited in Switzerland in order to be awarded to the Federal Republic of Nigeria; Memorandum of Understanding on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, 2003; Mandate Agreement on Voluntary Offshore Assets Regularization Facility in Switzerland.

2. The Nigeria-Switzerland Migration Partnership which is one of the most active MOUs covers various areas of cooperation including capacity building for Nigerians, legal migration and joint programmes on training and further education. Other areas covered by the MOU, are Return Assistance Programme, Readmission and Reintegration Assistance, as well as Fighting Human and Drug Trafficking. Nigeria continues to demonstrate strong commitments towards agreements signed by both countries and stands to benefit significantly from strengthening relations with Switzerland. The two countries have been holding Bilateral Consultations annually since the coming into effect of the agreement. The last of such meetings was held in Berne, Switzerland on 2nd - 4th December, 2019. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the Consultation could not hold in 2020.

3. The Swiss Government supported the production of a television series in Nigeria, known as “The Missing Steps” sensitization campaign. The project was intended to raise awareness on the dangers of irregular migration through the production of the Television Mini-series, The Missing Steps. There is also an existing cooperation between Nigeria and Switzerland in the area of fight against human trafficking. Nigeria has passed the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Establishment and Administration Act. 2015 and looks forward for further cooperation within the framework of the Act with the Swiss authorities.

4. In spite of the existing cordial relations between Nigeria and Switzerland, a recent development involving a Swiss Vessel, SAN PADRE PIO which was seized by the Nigerian Navy has caused some strain in the bilateral relations, leading Switzerland to take the matter before the International Arbitration in Hamburg, Germany. This development posed a major irritant in Nigeria-Swiss relations for some time. While the issue has now been resolved diplomatically and the ship left Nigeria’s territory in early December, 2021, the Swiss government is still expected to withdraw the case from the International Arbitration in line with the agreement reached between both countries.

Human Rights Matters:

5. Nigeria is a member of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC). As an intergovernmental organization, the UNHCR with its cross-regional membership of 47 States, is responsible for the promotion and protection of human rights across the globe. Following the expiration of Nigeria's two-term tenure on the Human rights council in 2019, relevant authorities have commenced campaigns for Nigeria's re-election to the Human Rights Council for the term 2024-2026. In the upcoming elections for the UNHRC 2024-2026, four countries, including Nigeria will be contesting for two available slots allocated to the ECOWAS Sub-region. These are Cote d' Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Mali. In view of the current security and humanitarian challenges, and given that such position could avail Nigeria the much-needed opportunity to actively and robustly defend its interests on human right issues, it has become imperative for Nigeria to regain its membership of the Human Rights Council.

6. The Human Rights Council has continued to be politicized, as some developed countries continues to call for its reform in line with their wishes and aspirations. Other delegations, mostly from the developing countries, remain of the view that any reform of the Human Rights Council must be anchored on time-honored principles of multilateral consensus, and not to serve the interest of certain powerful United Nations member states.

7. Nigeria's priority at the UNHRC includes international human rights advocacy:

- The rights to development;
- Transfer of illicit funds to countries of origin;
- Elimination of all forms of racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;
- Commitment to Multilateralism and the promotion of and protection of human and peoples;
- Rejection of Lesbianism, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Queer, Inter-sex (LGBTQI) advocacy.

Human Rights and Security Forces

8. Terrorism has continued to be the main threat to international peace and security, which, as a result, hampers the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as sustainable development. As it is already known, the Nigerian counter-terrorism operation is still ongoing, and tremendous successes have been recorded, as the Boko Haram terrorist group have been substantially degraded. Terrorist attacks have caused the loss of thousands of lives in different parts of the world and destroyed many families. It is important that countries remain united against this threat. In this regard, the Nigerian delegation should highlight the efforts of our security forces in abiding by rules of engagement and respecting human rights while combating the Boko Haram terrorism. There is need to also highlight the negative effect of terrorism on the enjoyment of human rights, thereby bringing the rights of victims of terrorist activities into focus.

9. Below are some specific human rights issues:

i. **Advancement of Women and Children's Rights:** As a signatory to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Nigeria continues to champion the cause of women's rights at the Human Rights Council. However, there has been attempt by

proponents of LGBTQI rights to broaden the scope of the protection of women's rights to include non-consensual terminologies such as persons in same-sex relationships and Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SHRH). The use of the phrase "intimate partner violence" as compared to the commonly used domestic violence which happens between men and women, is intended at incorporating Same-sex relationship in this context. Therefore, Nigeria has always dissociated itself from such controversial notions of human rights, without necessarily affecting its firm commitment in ensuring the advancement of women's rights. Nigeria supports ensuring women have access to sexual and reproductive health-care services. However, Nigeria is strongly opposed to on-going attempt by proponents of LGBTQI rights to also broaden this scope of women's rights to read which includes right to bodily autonomy and gender reassignment surgeries;

ii. **Child Rights:** Nigeria has also supported all multilateral efforts aimed at advancing the rights of the child. However, on the issue of rights to education, the controversial phrase "comprehensive sexuality education", which also seeks to advance the cause of same-sex relationship, has been introduced into some UN documents, albeit without consensus. Nigeria and many other like-minded countries have vigorously opposed the usage of such languages and any attempt to diminish the roles and responsibilities of parents in the protection of the rights of children;

iii. **Civil Society and Human Rights Defenders:** Nigeria as a democratic country supports advocacy by the civil society and human rights defenders, in accordance with the Constitution and other relevant laws. However, any attempt to relegate the role of government as the entity with the primary responsibility for the promotion and protection of human rights, in favour of empowering non-State actors, should not be accepted. Therefore, all civil society activities must be in tandem with our domestic laws and democratic ideals. The attempt to set specific rights to human rights defenders, as opposed to the rights enjoyed by all citizens without discrimination, should be resisted, in order to avoid impunity.

iv. **Death Penalty:** Nigeria as a retentionist State (of death penalty), has always maintained the view that all States have the inalienable sovereign right to develop their legal system in line with their peculiarities and national circumstances, while taking into consideration their international obligations. This is despite the growing advocacy for the abolition of the death penalty, and the fact that Nigeria has maintained a de facto moratorium on executions.

v. **Prevention of Torture:** Nigeria has shown commitment to the prevention of torture, with the enactment of the Anti-Torture Act, in fulfilment of its obligation under the Convention Against Torture. However, more needs to be done by Nigeria regarding its obligation under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT), which it ratified in 2009. Under Article 17 of the of the OPCAT, States Parties to the Protocol are requested to maintain, designate or establish one or several independent preventive mechanisms for the prevention of torture at the domestic level, at the latest one year after the entry into force of the Protocol or its ratification or accession. Having ratified the OPCAT in 2009, Nigeria has now been categorized among countries whose compliance with Article 17 of the OPCAT is substantially overdue. It is therefore, imperative that Nigeria shows commitment in this regard.

JOINT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON MIGRATION:

Migration Governance:

10. Migration has been part of human existence from creation and with the creation of nation-states with borders migration began to pose global challenges to nation states. In recognition of the important roles that migration plays in development, the Nigerian government established a national Technical Working Group to ensure that there is a nexus between migration and development. Nigeria remains committed to discouraging irregular migration as well as fighting human and drug trafficking. In 2015, Nigeria designed a National Policy on Migration which serves as the norms and organizational structures which regulates and shapes how Nigeria responds to international migration and to ensure, safe, orderly and regular migration.

11. Another major approach that the government of Nigeria has adopted in tackling irregular migration is youth development and empowerment. The government of Nigeria is also exploring collaboration with friendly countries in rehabilitating and reintegrating irregular migrant returnees into societies as well as absorbing regular migrants, particularly, youth through strengthening migrant policies as well as adoption of community development programmes and youth empowerment opportunities that will allow regular migrant to take up employments in their countries of destination.

12. The fact that the Switzerland migration policy provides very limited admission of third-country nationals for particular/specialized workers makes it impossible for Switzerland to offer legal migration channels of entry to Nigerians at the moment, Nigeria is pushed to reinvigorate her human rights and migration policies to incorporate mutual beneficial clauses.

13. Regrettably, as Nigeria and Switzerland continue to strengthen bilateral relations, the Swiss Immigration, Police and Judicial authorities continue to violate Vienna Convention on arrested persons as they do not inform the Embassy whenever a Nigerian is arrested or detained. Nigeria's mission only gets informed by the Swiss authorities for the purpose of identification of arrested Nigerians during preparation for their repatriation. It is also pertinent to mention that racial profiling by the Swiss Police and Immigration has become a common phenomenon especially among blacks.

14. Nigerians in Switzerland continue to lose their children, especially juveniles to Swiss authorities due to minor domestic challenges and incidents in an alarming way. Our Mission has continued to receive complaints from Nigerian parents who have become victims of this phenomenon. Sadly, the Swiss government has been unable to return the children to their Nigerian parents in spite of the intervention of the Mission. It could be helpful if the forthcoming consultation forum could propose an agreement between both countries on issues relating to juveniles-parents' relationships, to enable parents have their wards back.

15. It is important to also state that following the ongoing Ukraine –Russian war, 21 Nigerians students found their way into Switzerland (9 in Bern and 12 in Zurich). They have reportedly been subjected to varying degrees of interviews (which are not required for the issuance of the "S" status permit) **The "S" status as the name implies is a special status granted to Ukrainian nationals which enables them to live in Switzerland, enjoy social benefits and be able to work for one year.** So far, only 1 Nigerian student has been issued with the "S" status permit while others are at the risk of being deported. To date, formal requests for consular visit to the students have not been granted by the State Secretariat for

Migration. Nigerian government could take advantage of the Consultative platform to request that Nigerian students that fled Ukraine as a result of the war be absorbed into Swiss Universities as done by some European countries sympathizing with those affected by the war.

ECONOMIC AND TRADE RELATIONS:

16. Nigeria's trade with Switzerland constitutes only 3% of her entire trade with Africa. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from Switzerland to Nigeria has been on the decline from CHF 598 million in 2015 which was 5% of the entire FDI from Switzerland to Africa to CHF 399 million in 2019 representing 3% of Swiss FDI to Africa. Furthermore, in 2020, Nigeria only contributed 3% of the entire Swiss imports from Africa.

The volume of trade in services between Nigeria and Switzerland in 2020 stood at CHF 138 million which is 5% of her volume of trade with Africa in 2020. Switzerland exported services worth CHF 98 million to Nigeria in 2020 and imported services worth CHF 40 million same year.

17. The volume of trade in crude oil between Nigeria and Switzerland fluctuates strongly year by year. In 2014, it was at about 1 billion USD, while in 2015 it declined to about 650 million USD due to low oil prices. The main exports of Switzerland to Nigeria are pharmaceuticals, chemicals, machineries, watches and textiles (trade in textiles largely informal).

18. There are about 68 Swiss Companies doing diverse businesses in Nigeria; among which 32 are active members of the Swiss-Nigeria Business Council with Nestle Nigeria PLC, KPMG, ABS Nigeria Limited, Novartis and Roche, Cotecna and Addax Nigeria Limited being the major players. Foreign Direct Investments from Switzerland amounts to about USD 300 million employing over 4,000 people.

AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA (AfCFTA):

19. The African Continental Free Trade Area is a regional trade pact connecting almost 1.3bn people across 54 African countries. The agreement aims at creating a single market for goods and services in order to deepen economic integration in Africa. It is widely seen as a crucial driver for economic growth, industrialization and sustainable development in Africa. The overarching objective of the AfCFTA is the elimination or reduction of tariff and non-tariff barriers on goods within the member states, facilitated by movement of persons in order to deepen economic integration and prosperity. However, in spite of the opportunities that abound, there are also huge challenges which need to be addressed. Among such challenges are fears of significant tariff revenue losses and an uneven distribution of costs and benefits to the continent.

20. Nigeria ratified the AfCFTA and is poised to gain from the investment and trade opportunities that the pact will inevitably bring. Nigeria has the largest economy and population in Africa with more than \$500 billion in GDP and a population of over 200 million. This market size allows manufacturers to increase capacity and expand into other African countries. This will further enable investors benefit not only from the Nigerian

market but from other countries in the continent as well. Given that Nigeria currently contributes an estimated 76% of total trading volume in the ECOWAS region, made possible by the ECOWAS treaty which provides for the free movement of people and goods throughout 15 West African countries. The AfCFTA will further boost regional trade as it is expected to grant access to 54 countries with a population of 1.3 billion and a combined market worth \$2.6 trillion in GDP.

DIGITILISATION:

21. Nigeria has developed its National Digital Economy Policy and Strategy (NDEPS) to enable Nigeria fast-track the development of our digital economy which is intended to facilitate the diversification of our economy. In furtherance of our cooperation with Switzerland under the Migration partnership, Nigeria hopes to collaborate on the development of digitalization and to enhance the capacities of the various MDAs to adopt appropriate technologies in the development of the economy.

EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION – NIGERIA:

22. On 12 December 2017, in Buenos Aires, representatives from the Member States of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), including: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland signed a Joint Declaration on Cooperation (JDC) with Nigeria. Following the signing of the EFTA-Nigeria Joint Declaration Cooperation, both sides committed to further enhance their bilateral economic relations. The JDC established a Joint EFTA-Nigeria Committee, which provided the Parties with a forum for discussing relevant issues. According to statistics, trade flows between the EFTA States and Nigeria reached USD one billion in 2016, with imports valued at USD 352 million, and exports at USD 649 million.

INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND PROTECTION AGREEMENT:

23. In November 2000, the Swiss Federal Council and the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria signed a reciprocal Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (IPPA) to intensify mutually beneficial economic cooperation. It was to stimulate individual business initiatives, contribute to development as well as increase prosperity in both nation States. As a step further to strengthen investment prospects between Nigeria and Switzerland, both countries resumed negotiations on bilateral Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement (BAADT). Regrettably, BAADT remains inconclusive to date.

ASSET RECOVERY:

24. Nigeria has continued to drive Asset Recovery Resolutions and the need to implement Chapter 5 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, on Asset Recovery. These efforts have paved way for Law Enforcement Officers in seeking Mutual Legal Assistance with relevant countries to recover and return stolen Assets. In December 2021, Nigeria tabled a resolution titled "Enhancing the use of beneficial ownership information to facilitate the identification, recovery and return of proceeds of crime." Meanwhile, the United Nations Office for Drug and Crime (UNODC) has issued Questionnaires to UN member states to provide information on beneficial ownership in line with UN resolution. These issues will be discussed during the Working Group session on Asset Recovery in September 2022 in New York.

25. Fight against corruption: Nigeria has continued to implement the obligations under the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) Convention by recommending reforms at the national level. Accordingly, several reforms including the recent Proceeds of Crime Act are part of the efforts by Nigeria in this regard.

Cooperation in Legal Matters:

26. Some of the agreements entered into between Nigeria and Switzerland include: Bilateral Air Services Agreement (BASA) in 1980, Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (IPPA) in 2000; Protocol of Understanding on Migration Partnership, 14th February, 2011; Memorandum of Understanding on Establishment of an Annual Process of Switzerland-Nigeria Bilateral Consultations; 'Letter of intent on the Restitution of Illegally-Acquired Assets' forfeited in Switzerland in order to be awarded to the Federal Republic of Nigeria; Memorandum of Understanding on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, 2003; Mandate Agreement on Voluntary Offshore Assets Regularization Facility in Switzerland. As we can see, most of these agreements have become moribund and will require to be revived or re-negotiated. It is the position of the Nigerian delegation that some of these MoUs should be revisited and the JTC should be mandated to commence negotiations on some of the vital MoU, such as, BASA and IPPA. In this context, Nigeria has proposed an amendment to the MoU on Migration Partnership which may be considered at the next session.

REGIONAL THEMES:

SECURITY SITUATION – LAKE CHAD REGION AND SAHEL:

27. Nigeria acknowledges and commends the remarkable progress made in countering terrorism by the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) through the instrument of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF). Nigeria is also pleased to note the progress made so far in operationalizing the Regional Stabilization Strategy (RSS) for Lake Chad Basin, particularly, the implementation of the Territorial Action Plans (TAPs) for the eight (8) key Boko Haram affected areas in the region. Beyond the implementation of the Regional Stabilization Strategy, it is imperative for Member States of the region, as well as partners not only to focus on security and stabilization in the region, but to also intensify efforts in building resilience of civilians and ensuring sustainable development in the region.

28. In addition to the nine (9) priority areas of the Regional Stabilization Strategy, it is imperative for all stakeholders to redouble efforts in the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Rehabilitation programme, as the humanitarian crises in the region continue to worsen.

In addition to the security situation in the Lake Chad region, climate emergencies in the region has also led to the loss of livelihood of citizens, which invariably diminishes their coping capacities, weakens their resilience and increases their vulnerabilities. All of which makes communities in the region susceptible to financial incentives, thereby easily lured into joining armed insurgent groups. It is for this reason that Nigeria calls for the harmonization, consolidation and advancement of efforts by all stakeholders to actualize the Inter-Basin Water Transfer (IBWT) initiative to revitalize the Lake Chad towards enhancing peace, security and economic development in the region.

HUMANITARIAN AID – LAKE CHAD REGION:

29. More than 11 million people in the Lake Chad region need humanitarian assistance. Following the protracted crisis in the region, basic social services and already limited natural resources are severely strained. Some 4.1 million people are struggling with food insecurity, including at least 300,000 children who are severely malnourished. Approximately 1,020 schools are non-functional across the Lake Chad region, as a result of attacks, depriving thousands of children access to education. 2.9 million are internally displaced, with Nigeria housing over 2 million of these persons, and 266,000 are refugees. Violence continues to spread, with 49 security incidents resulting in the death of 149 people in March 2022 alone. To adequately address the region's most pressing humanitarian needs and assist 7.4 million people, response plans in the region require about US\$2.53 billion.

PEACE AND SECURITY – LAKE CHAD REGION:

30. The Lake Chad region is plagued with protracted insecurity, prolonged displacements of persons, increased food insecurity and other adversities faced by millions of civilians in the region. No doubt, this is largely due to the activities of the Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP) and the Jamaat Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad (JAS) factions, which are the two major Boko Haram (BH) insurgent groups operating in the region. Following the speculations that terrorist activities in the region are largely funded by external factors, and majority of the weapons used in the conflict are smuggled in, it is pertinent for member states of the Lake Chad Basin Commission, as well as member states of the African Union to enhance border management strategies through improved collaboration in information and intelligence sharing, to curtail the movement of terrorist and transnational organized criminal groups in the region. It is also important for all Member States to improve national identification and communication systems that would ensure proper tracing of funders of terrorist activities.

THE SITUATION IN THE SAHEL:

31. Since the regime change in Libya and the subsequent uprising in Northern Mali in 2012, the security situation in the Sahel region has deteriorated. Armed groups have multiplied and violence has continued to spread in many parts of the Sahel. In the last year, Africa has witnessed several unconstitutional changes of government, most of which took place in the Sahel region. Indeed, the security situation in these countries has played a major role in the current political crises of the region. Lack of state presence, poverty and unemployment has made it easy for armed groups to find new recruits in areas that had long been neglected. As devastating as these attacks are, they are in many cases symptoms of deeper, unresolved issues that plague the region including poverty, food insecurity, lack of job opportunities and climate change.

32. The situation in Mali continues to pose a threat to democracy, including the peace and security of the Sahel and ECOWAS Region. As recent as three days ago, the ruling junta in Mali extended its rule by another two years in a military decree, amidst ECOWAS sanctions and the promise to return the country to democratic rule. Nigeria, ECOWAS member states and the international community will continue to engage the Malian authorities in the transition, in order to find a mutually agreed timeline.

33. The UN estimates that 80 percent of the agricultural arable lands in the Sahel belt are already affected by climate change. Food production is also on the decline and violence often forces farmers to flee conflict areas and closed roads and markets further exacerbate food insecurity. In this connection, Nigeria calls for the revitalization of regional security cooperation and collaboration mechanisms, particularly the Nouakchott Process. Nigeria also urges countries in the region to prioritize security in the region. Nigeria also believes that there is need to prioritize the stabilization efforts in the Sahel. Consequently, Nigeria calls on the ECOWAS Commission to finalize the revision of the AU strategy for the Sahel region as soon as the Joint Strategic Assessment is adopted, and work towards strengthening the AU's presence through MISAHEL, including the provision of adequate resources to implement its mandate, and monitor ongoing transitions.

ECOWAS:

ECOWAS INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS:

34. The ECOWAS Institutional Reform process, which started in 2006 is still ongoing. Nigeria has remained in the forefront of the reforms process. During the 58th ordinary Session of the ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State and Government, Mr. President, advocated for the reduction of ECOWAS Statutory Appointees, in line with the Maxwell Stamp Report. Since Mr. President's advocacy, the support for the ECOWAS Institutional Reforms is gaining momentum, particularly the reduction of Statutory Appointees in the Commission from fifteen (15) to seven (7). Accordingly, Nigeria will continue to push for these reforms until all is achieved.

REVIEW OF THE 2001 ECOWAS PROTOCOL ON DEMOCRACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

35. The resurgence of coup d'état in our sub-region, requires deep introspection on the part of leaders, to better understand the deep-rooted issues that lead to the coups. This is why ECOWAS Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance must be reviewed to come up with a sound and succinct document to guide the sub-region in the implementation of the tenets of democratic rule and good governance.

36. Nigeria has also put heads together with ECOWAS Member States to review the 2001 ECOWAS Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance. This became necessary following the recent political developments in Mali, Guinea and Burkina Faso. The Authority of ECOWAS Heads of State and Government, at its Extraordinary Summit on 16th September, 2021, in Accra, Ghana, directed the ECOWAS Commission to initiate the process of reviewing the 2001 ECOWAS Supplementary Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance in order to ensure the consolidation of democracy and good governance as well as peace and stability in the region.

37. On recent Political instability in the region, Nigeria will continue to adopt innovative measures towards ensuring a swift return of Mali, Guinea and Burkina Faso to Democratic rule. Nigeria should continue to support ECOWAS' stance on unconstitutional change of government as demonstrated during the Gambian political crises. Nigeria's leadership role at the formation of the Joint Multinational Military Forces has demonstrated our readiness to build a strategic security network with its West African neighbours to fight against Terrorism and other security threats within the region.

MULTILATERAL ISSUES

CANDIDATURE:

38. In view of the bond of friendship between Nigeria and Switzerland, Switzerland requested Nigeria to support its bid for non-permanent seat at the UNSC for the term 2023-2024; the Committee on the Rights of the Child for the term 2023-2027. In turn, Nigeria proposed a Reciprocal Support Arrangement (RSA) to secure Switzerland's support for Nigeria's bid for the same UNSC 2028-2029 as well as Committee on the Elimination on Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), respectively. In addition, the Swiss also requested support for International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Council for the term 2023-2026 and Nigeria proposed RSA with the same election and term.

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION REVIEW FORUM:

39. Nigeria was part of the leading member states at the Marrakesh conference in 2018, which adopted the United Nations General Assembly resolution to launch a process of intergovernmental negotiations which resulted in the adoption of the Global Compact for Migration. Nigeria recently participated in the first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) in New York, from 17 – 20 May 2022, where it submitted its national voluntary review of the GCM. By creating this cooperative framework on international migration, states have developed a common terminology for discussing key migration issues and a blueprint for comprehensive, rights-based migration policies. The GCM has well-articulated objectives covering all aspects of migration otherwise known as the "360-degree" approach, with an array of possible actions, drawn from best practices that states may utilize to implement their national migration policies.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Abuja

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