

**Study Visit of the House of Representatives Committee on the Army
National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria**

**Houses of Parliament
10 - 11 May 2016**

Report



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Background

1.01. Following the general election in Nigeria, held in April 2015, the House of Representatives experienced a turnover of representatives of 64%. The National Assembly¹ is now undertaking a programme of parliamentary exchanges to share ideas of good parliamentary practices for new and experienced representatives.

1.02. The Nigeria House of Representatives Committee on the Army visited the UK Parliament to explore and discuss good parliamentary practice and procedure on oversight of defence policy and human rights, budget scrutiny and procurement, with the aim of developing and strengthening effective committee practices and improving accountability.

1.03. Nigeria is affected by several major security issues, including: terrorist attacks in the north of the country, primarily attributed to Boko Haram; conflict in the Niger Delta region; and violence attributed to the Fulani herdsman. The character of these security threats differs greatly to traditional conflict and security challenges faced by the Armed Forces, including and increasing presence of violent non-state actors, the use of women and children and the use of non-traditional weapons, demanding a modern and adaptive approach to military operations.

1.04. In addition to the security challenges facing the Armed Forces, the military has also been subject to intense scrutiny and criticism over its human rights record, particularly with regard to its engagement with Boko Haram².

1.05. In the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria eight committees are mandated to oversee the work of the Armed Forces and to scrutinise the relevant legislation, four in the House of Representatives (the lower House), comprising: the Committee on Defence; the Committee on the Army; the Committee on the Navy; and the Committee on the Air Force and four in the Senate (the upper House) carrying the same title. These committees examine the work of their corresponding Armed Forces institution, as well as scrutinise legislation affecting the institution. In contrast to the UK Parliamentary system, these committees have powers to suggest changes to the budget and also have a senior member of the relevant Armed Forces institution attached to the committee, in an advisory capacity.

1.06. This study visit contributed to the re-establishment of the bilateral relationship between the National Assembly and the UK Parliament, through CPA UK, following general elections in both countries in 2015. From 2016, CPA UK will undertake bilateral exchanges on good parliamentary practices both in the UK Parliament in London and at the National Assembly in Abuja.

¹ The Nigerian Parliament, the National Assembly, comprises the two Houses; House of Representatives and the Senate.

² Amnesty International, 'Nigeria 2015/2016', available at:

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/africa/nigeria/report-nigeria/>, [accessed 22 July 2016].



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Aims & Objectives

2.01. **Aim.** To enhance the capacity of the Nigeria House of Representatives Committee on the Army to hold the Executive to account through effective scrutiny and oversight.

2.02. **Objectives.** In the context of the Westminster Model and through a programme of briefings, roundtables and practical sessions, the programme aimed to deliver the following objectives:

- a. **Objective 1.** Promote a broader understanding of the key principles, features and functions of parliamentary committees in holding the Executive to account.
- b. **Objective 2.** Explore the role, responsibilities and relationships of the Committee Chair, Members and Clerks in operating an effective Committee.
- c. **Objective 3.** Develop the practical skills of Members and Clerks in committee practices, including:
 - Developing effective committee strategy.
 - Conducting inquiries
 - Budget and financial scrutiny
 - Engagement with the public
 - Reporting and impact

2.03. **Strategic Fit.** This programme is in concordance with the following CPA UK strategic goals:

- a. **Strategic Goal 1.** To strengthen parliamentary democracy by undertaking international parliamentary outreach work on behalf of the Houses of Parliament and the wider CPA.
- b. **Strategic Goal 2.** To further co-operation between Commonwealth and non-Commonwealth parliaments and legislatures, and other democratically elected institutions.
- c. **Strategic Goal 4.** To communicate the work of CPA UK and enhance the profile of the Houses of Parliament, the Commonwealth, the CPA and CPA UK.

Delegation

3.01. The Nigerian Committee on the Army delegation comprised the following Members and officials:

Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum MP (Chair)

Hon. Gaza Jonathan Gbepwi MP

Hon. Asadu Oziokoja Patrick MP

Hon. Marshal Katung Sunday MP

Hon. Shehu Rijau Saleh MP

Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku MP

Hon. Philip Shaibu MP

Hon. Shehu Rijau Saleh MP





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Hon. Thaddeus Akinola Aina MP

Hon. Thaddeus Akinola Aina MP

Mathias Rimamdeyati (Senior Legislative Aide)

Colonel Abubakar Hadejia Ahmed

Summary

4.01. This programme successfully enabled Members of the House of Representatives Committee on the Army to engage with the structure, processes and principles that govern the UK Parliament's committee system and to explore and discuss challenges of oversight and legislative scrutiny facing the Committee. Discussions centred on the role of committees in the context of defence and security oversight, and sought to define the role of committees with respect to Army operations.

4.02. For Nigeria, as with other countries, the character of state security and security actors involved is evolving from one defined exclusively by military institutions to one which ever more involves non-governmental armed groups, individuals and civilian targets. This programme both introduced security considerations as well as provided a platform for UK and Nigerian colleagues to exchange ideas and good practices on oversight of military institutions in this context.

4.03. The visit of the Nigeria House of Representatives Committee on the Army was predicated on the consideration of three key issues: reconciling national security challenges and the protection of human rights; ways in which to strengthen parliamentary oversight of defence policy and operations; and improving strategies and technical capacity for oversight of defence spending and tackling corruption in the defence sector. The delegation met with experts from both within the UK Parliament (including Members, specialist and technical staff) and external experts on the Nigerian security context and environment.

4.04. The programme successfully informed delegates about the practices and procedures of the House of Commons Committee of Selection. This enabled the delegates to identify good practices and areas for improvement in the management of their own system, particularly in the form of conducting inquiries, financial scrutiny and the assessment and development of legislation to enable the Army to perform more effectively and to a higher standard. The programme also engaged UK Members in assessing the strengths and limitations of the UK system compared to the committee structure and processes in Nigeria.

Programme Comments

5.01. Reconciling national security challenges and the protection of human rights

a. At the delegation's request, Elizabeth Pearson, PhD candidate at King's College London, briefed Members on Boko Haram. Her research specifically focuses on the role of women and children in Boko Haram's operations. The role of women and children was raised in further sessions, in relation to the



challenges that the Army is facing in adhering to international human rights standards whilst also ensuring national security.

b. The delegation raised the concern that the Army in Nigeria felt paralysed in its actions due to seemingly conflicting priorities of national security and compliance with human rights standards. Delegates spoke of the difficulty that the Army was facing in identifying Boko Haram fighters due to a lack of uniforms, the way in which women and children are used, and balancing mitigating threats with scrutiny and actions in line with human rights obligations.

c. The delegation discussed this issue primarily with the Chair, members and staff of the UK Joint Committee on Human Rights (JCHR). Rt Hon. Harriet Harman QC MP, Chair of the JCHR, outlined a key task of the JCHR in cases of Human Rights in conflict as being the examination of the legal framework for actions. The Chair drew on her experiences of the JCHR inquiries, in which they examine and judge actions both by legal and moral standards in order to best address the dual obligation of the state to protect its citizens and to abide by international human rights standards.

d. Lord Woolf, a member of the JCHR emphasised the importance of educating the Army about human rights standards and the impact and influence on military operations, tactics and situations. He argued that, where the Army is cognisant of human rights standards and their role, there is less likelihood that operations will be paralysed by fear of them. He stated that, in the use of judgement, human rights concerns are often applicable only when actions are disproportionate to the threat. It was also stressed that the House of Representatives Committee on the Army could be instrumental in promoting better education on human rights for the Nigerian Army by providing recommendations for example, human rights training courses delivered by distance learning.

e. Within the context of the changing character of threats, tactics and technologies in warfare, the delegation and members of the JCHR also discussed the importance of developing adequate legislation to reflect the ever changing nature of threats. A popular suggestion was the establishment of a forum for regional discussion and cooperation to develop a more effective legal framework, and the option of approaching the United Nations or the Council of Europe for expertise on this.

5.02. Strengthening oversight of defence policy and operations

a. The delegation met with Dr Julian Lewis MP, Chair of the UK Defence Committee, to discuss effective committee structures and management, as well as effective committee practices and outputs.

b. Dr Lewis discussed the formation, structure and powers of committees and the role of these in the delivery of key committee strategy and objectives. He introduced the role and the purpose of UK Select Committees as focusing on scrutiny and oversight of relevant ministry departments and thematic issue areas, particularly on the areas of: policy; projects and practices; and budgets.





c. The processes by which select committees are formed have changed in recent years. Dr Lewis explained that whilst there is a process of negotiation between political parties to determine which party will chair which committee, since 2010 the committee Chairs have been elected by the whole House of Commons (the lower chamber). This has increased both the power and the independence of Committees. Firstly, candidates for the position of Chair have to reach out to members of different political parties in order to canvas for votes. This means that elected Chairs are seen to have the confidence and the authority of all MPs and as such, reports and recommendations are seen to be a reflection of the whole House of Commons. Secondly, in being elected by all MPs, it is less likely that a Chair is chosen who would be establishment minded. Overall the recent changes to the Select Committee selection process is perceived to have given greater independence to every committee, including those chaired by members of the governing party.

d. Dr Lewis also highlighted the importance of committee staff in delivering effective committee work. The number and composition of committee staff varies, depending on the remit of the committee in the UK parliament. In the case of the Defence Committee, there are three Clerks, as well as a certain number of Committee Specialists depending on the subject and complexity of the inquiry. The Committee also draws on external specialists from think tanks or retired members of the Armed Forces, such as former Generals. He emphasised the need for committees to draw on expert advice, research and knowledge, both because the nature of an MP's work is generalist rather than specialist (due to high demands on time) and because committee staff provide sustained institutional and thematic knowledge.

e. A key issue raised by the delegation throughout the programme was the adaptation of military and committee work to the changing character of threats and security concerns. The meeting with Ashlee Godwin, the Committee Specialist for the Joint Committee on National Security Strategy (JCNS), addressed the ways in which different issue areas work together to oversee policy and strategy on security issues. The Committee Specialist discussed the composition of the JCNS, highlighting that the committee is represented by Members of different political parties and from both the House of Lords (the Upper Chamber) and the House of Commons. The eight Members of the House of Commons who are on the JCNS are also interdisciplinary, they are the Chairs of relevant select committees, including: the Defence; Business, Innovation and Skills; Foreign Affairs; Home Affairs; International Development and Justice Committees. This reflects the UK's broad definition of national security and takes into account the fact that the different ministerial departments work together on security issues.

f. Both the meetings with the Chair of the UK Defence Committee and the Committee Specialist for the JCNS focused on the inquiry process, and - in particular on the use of evidence and witnesses for gathering information. Ashlee Godwin highlighted the fact that the JCNS invites both written and oral evidence from a number of specialists, including officials, academics, policy makers and ministers. Moreover, in the interests of transparency and accountability, evidence sessions are held publically and written and oral evidence are published - as far as possible given concerns of national security.

g. Dr Lewis discussed different approaches to questioning witnesses and stressed the importance of establishing techniques. In the Defence Committee, Clerks and Committee Specialists prepare briefing documents for the committee members five days in advance of the evidence session. This briefing includes





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suggested ‘starter questions’, which members volunteer to ask and/or the Chair allocates questions to be asked. Dr Lewis highlighted the different types of questioning techniques, whereas he favours seminar-style questioning, using open questions, some UK Committee Chairs prefer to use more direct and closed questioning. Styles and techniques can vary depending on the type of situation and information the committee is looking to gather.

h. The delegation engaged with the UK Parliament’s network of All Party Parliamentary Groups (APPGs) in a meeting with Members of the Nigeria and the Africa APPGs, as well as a working lunch with a member of the APPG on the Armed Forces. The Nigeria APPG outlined the role of APPGs in that, whilst they don’t have legislative standing, they provide a cross-party forum for engagement on topics or issues of particular interest to members. APPGs can also conduct their own inquiries. At the time of the visit, the Africa APPG was undertaking an inquiry into the process and impact of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) in Africa. The Nigeria APPG also highlighted the potential impact of APPG reports. They can be put on the agenda for debate in the House of Commons. The Nigeria APPG highlighted the case of an assessment report on detention centres, by the APPG on Refugees, the Home Office (Internal Affairs) department of the government commissioned further reports into detention centres, which referred to the APPG’s report.

i. The delegation discussed the role of APPGs in engaging with citizens and with the Armed Forces during a working lunch. The Madeleine Moon MP, the Vice-Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on the Armed Forces, stated that the APPG was able to organise a programme in which MPs are able to join the Armed Forces for one weekend a month. This gives them the opportunity to ask questions to recruits and their families, as well as experience what members of the Armed Forces experience in their work. During this meeting Ms Moon also discussed the development of the UK’s Armed Forces Covenant³ which draws on the experiences of soldiers and their families and sets out provisions to support military families. This Covenant addresses issues such as ensuring children in military families are guaranteed places at local schools, as well as funds to support transitions to new schools. The direct engagement of Members with the Armed Forces through the APPG enables Members to better understand issues affecting the military and to develop effective legislation to improve conditions for the military and their families.

5.03. Strengthening the oversight of defence spending and addressing corruption in the defence sector

a. The delegation discussed the role of parliaments in tackling corruption. This was first introduced by the Chair of the UK Defence Committee. He highlighted the key role that Committee can play in tackling corruption by acting as a high-grade pressure group for the government, particularly through their use of the media. Whilst the Committee has no power to force the government to change policy, the Defence Committee can write open, topical letters to the Secretary State for Defence to highlight concerns. These letters along with government’s responses are published on the UK Parliament’s website.

³ The Armed Forces Covenant 2015 – 2020, available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/armed-forces-covenant-2015-to-2020>.



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Moreover, whilst UK committees cannot act as a Court of Appeal for individual cases, inquiries can be undertaken to investigate some large scale scandals and patterns of defence procurement. Evidence and reports are often published on the website and committees can hold press conferences at the launch of a report. In some cases committee reports are debated in the House of Commons. This puts pressure on the government to address issues of corruption.

b. The delegation also discussed corruption risks in the defence sector with Byron Davies MP, from the Anti-Corruption APPG, Eleonore Vidal de la Blache of Transparency International’s Defence and Security Programme (TI-DSP), and Salaudeen Hashimu, at the Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC). The meeting highlighted the difficulties inherent in oversight of defence budgets in that some information is deemed too sensitive to disclose. The delegation expressed their concern that much information on budgets and spending is kept secret and that committees tasked with oversight of defence and security are not given adequate resources to undertake scrutiny, particularly compared with other committees in the National Assembly. Mr Davies of the Anti-Corruption APPG highlighted other approaches to scrutiny which the UK uses to enhance transparency, such as questions put directly to the Secretary of State for Defence every few weeks. These questions are televised, recorded and reported. Moreover, members of the public can write to their MPs to ask questions and MPs can put these questions to ministers through letters or the parliamentary mechanism of written questions.

c. TI-DSP and CISLAC highlighted the supporting role that Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) can play. Whilst the delegation expressed their need for CSOs to be more objective in their analysis of corruption in institutions, TI-DSP and CISLAC proposed alternative support that CSOs can provide, particularly in terms of providing evidence for committee inquiries and in terms of expert support in analysing and reviewing files submitted to the committee. This supporting role was also highlighted by the Chair of the UK Defence Committee, who expressed the importance of drawing on external expertise to improve the quality of analysis, briefings, questions and reporting.

d. In addition to discussions on defence corruption risks, the delegation undertook a technical session in financial oversight devised by Larry Honeysett, the UK Parliament’s Head of Financial Scrutiny. Financial Scrutiny is an important section of the Scrutiny Unit, an internal body of legislative and financial experts who provide ad hoc analysis and guidance to committees to assist in the conduct of high quality oversight.

e. The format of the session was modelled on the analysis of budgets provided by the National Assembly. The analysis was approached as if creating a narrative from the data provided. This both enabled Members to understand whether budgets and spending relates to specific aims and objective outlined by the government and is also a key way of highlighting any specific actions, timings and people. In analysing data, Mr Honeysett outlined key questions or approaches to consider. These

The role of committees in financial scrutiny

- **Linking spending to outcomes**
- **Looking at value for money**
- **Holding government to account for:**
 - Delivery and performance**
 - Quality, cost and timeliness**
- **Highlighting gaps and weaknesses**
- **Seeking to drive improvement**





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included:

- Is there a genuine causal link between spending and outcomes?
- The importance of identifying patterns, to look at how spending and situations develop over time and to analyse it in the context of other factors, such as population, geography, security events, etc.; and
- How do current figures compare to:
 - Similar costs in neighbouring countries or regionally?
 - Other organisations?
 - In the past?
 - In different situations?

f. Mr Honeysett also demonstrated that a lack of data or of good quality data can create questions of its own. He highlighted the importance of comparing figures from the government with other data sources to help to identify gaps and weaknesses and to assess whether any particular issue areas or departments haven't been addressed. Committees can then use inquiries as an opportunity to pose these questions and to gather more evidence to assess government budgets and policies, as well as to examine the impacts and potential impacts of spending plans and policies.

Programme

Tuesday 10 May 2016	
0815	Arrive at Houses of Parliament, Cromwell Green entrance, met by Eleanor Bayley, Africa Programme Manager
0845 - 0900	<p>Welcome & Introductions</p> <p>This introductory session provided an overview of CPA UK and of the programme that the delegation undertook on 10 and 11 May 2016.</p> <p><i>CPA Room, Westminster Hall</i></p> <p>Speaker:</p> <p>Andrew Tuggey DL, <i>Chief Executive and Secretary, CPA UK</i></p>
0900 - 0950	<p>Session 1. Briefing: Security, terrorism and gender</p> <p>Experts provided a briefing on the security environment in Nigeria, with a particular focus on their research work: on Boko Haram and terrorism; and on the role of gender on security and terrorism in Nigeria.</p> <p><i>CPA Room, Westminster Hall</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Dr Caroline Varin, <i>Lecturer at Regent's University, London and Associate, Global South Unit, London School of Economics</i></p> <p>Elizabeth Pearson, <i>PhD Candidate, King's College London and Associate Fellow, Royal United Services Institute</i></p>
1015 - 1115	<p>Session 2. Viewing evidence session</p> <p>International Development Committee: DFID's programme in Nigeria</p>





	<p>The delegation viewed an evidence session conducted by the UK International Development Committee. The session aimed to introduce the delegation to questioning techniques and the use of witnesses.</p> <p><i>Wilson Room, Portcullis House</i></p> <p><i>Witnesses:</i> <i>Dr Titilola Banjoko, Founder, Africa Recruit</i> <i>Dr Prudence Hamade, Technical Advisor, Malaria Consortium</i> <i>Dr Joanna Härmä, Research Fellow, Centre for International Education</i> <i>Chris Horn, Independent Consultant</i> <i>Georgia Taylor, Director, WISE Development</i> <i>Ojobo Atuluku, Country Director, ActionAid Nigeria</i></p>
1115 - 1145	<p><i>Tea break</i></p> <p><i>CPA Room</i></p>
1200 - 1330	<p>All-Party Parliamentary Group on Anti-Corruption event: The impact of corruption on public services</p> <p>In the run-up to the Anti-Corruption Summit (held in London on 12 May 2016), the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Anti-Corruption held an event to discuss how corruption can impact on public services. The event also included input from journalists who reported on the Panama Papers.</p> <p><i>Committee Room 9, Palace of Westminster</i></p> <p>Chair: Rt Hon. Dame Margaret Hodge MP (Labour)</p>
1345 - 1445	<p>Lunch with members of the International Development Committee</p> <p>Drawing on the viewing of the evidence session in the morning, this informal lunch provided an opportunity to ask questions to the International Development Committee regarding committee strategy, practice and procedure.</p> <p><i>CPA Room, Westminster Hall</i></p> <p>In attendance: Stephen Twigg MP (Labour & Cooperative), <i>Chair, International Development Committee</i> Pauline Latham OBE MP (Conservative), <i>International Development Committee</i></p>
1500 - 1600	<p>Session 3. Meeting with the Chair of the Defence Committee</p> <p>This meeting provided an introduction to the work of the Defence Committee and provided a platform for discussion of: committee strategy; engagement with government security institutions; and the impact of committee reports</p> <p><i>CPA Room, Westminster Hall</i></p> <p>Speakers: Rt Hon. Dr Julian Lewis MP (Conservative), <i>Chair, Defence Committee</i> James Davies, <i>Clerk, Defence Committee</i></p>
1600 - 1700	<p>Session 4. Meeting with the Chair of the Joint Committee on Human Rights</p> <p>This meeting explored the role that human rights plays in the assessment of national policy and how human rights are linked to security and counter-extremism. The meeting also drew on practical committee experiences of assessing policy with due consideration to human rights.</p> <p><i>CPA Room, Westminster Hall</i></p> <p>Speakers: Rt Hon. Harriet Harman QC MP (Labour), <i>Chair, Joint Committee on Human Rights</i></p>





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	Alex Horne, <i>Deputy Legal Adviser, Joint Committee on Human Rights</i>
1700 - 1715	<i>Tea break</i>
1715 - 1800	<p>Session 5. Corruption risks in the defence sector</p> <p>This session highlighted key corruption risk areas for the defence and security sector. This session also aims to build knowledge and skills on addressing corruption risk and practices.</p> <p><i>CPA Room, Westminster Hall</i></p> <p>Speakers: Byron Davies MP (Conservative), <i>Member of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Anti-Corruption</i></p> <p>Eléonore Vidal de la Blache, <i>Africa Programme Lead, Transparency International Defence and Security Programme</i></p> <p>Salaudeen Hashimu, <i>Programme Officer, Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC)</i></p>
1800	<i>End of the day</i>
Wednesday 11 May 2016	
0850	<i>Arrive at Houses of Parliament, Cromwell Green entrance, met by Eleanor Bayley, Africa Regional Programme Manager</i>
0925 - 1045	<p>Tour of the Houses of Parliament</p> <p><i>Depart: Westminster Hall</i></p>
1045 - 1115	<p>Tea break</p> <p><i>CPA Room</i></p>
1115 - 1145	<p>Session 6a. Briefing: Prime Minister's Questions</p> <p>Prime Minister's Questions is a key democratic event in the parliamentary calendar. This weekly occurrence enables MPs to directly question the Prime Minister on issues of government policy and local impact. It is also highly publicised. This briefing introduced the concept, strategy and practices of Prime Minister's Questions.</p> <p><i>CPA Room, Westminster Hall</i></p> <p>Speaker: Rt Hon. John Spellar MP (Labour)</p>
1200 - 1245	<p>Session 6b. Prime Minister's Questions</p> <p>The delegation viewed Prime Minister's Questions live from the Gallery.</p> <p><i>Commonwealth Gallery and Speaker's Gallery, House of Commons</i></p>
1300 - 1410	<p>Lunch with a Member of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on the Armed Forces</p> <p>The delegation had the opportunity to discuss the All-Party Parliamentary Group structure and practices in the UK Parliament. This lunch also provided the opportunity to discuss the ways in which Members of Parliament engage directly with Armed Forces institutions.</p> <p><i>IPU Room, Westminster Hall</i></p> <p>In attendance: Madeleine Moon MP (Labour), <i>Vice-Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on the Armed Forces</i></p>
1430 - 1515	<p>Session 7. Meeting with the Committee Specialist, Joint Committee on National Security Strategy</p> <p>The session introduced the delegation to the role of the UK Parliament in assessing national</p>





	<p>security strategy, as well as techniques used to scrutinise National Security Strategy and national security institutions.</p> <p><i>Room P, Portcullis House</i></p> <p>Speaker: Ashlee Godwin, <i>Committee Specialist, Joint Committee on National Security Strategy</i></p>
1530 - 1645	<p>Session 8. Workshop session on conducting financial scrutiny</p> <p>This session introduced and implemented financial scrutiny techniques to improve effective financial oversight. The session was based on data submitted to Committee on the Army to ensure the relevance of techniques used.</p> <p><i>Room P, Portcullis House</i></p> <p>Speaker: Larry Honeysett, <i>Head of Financial Scrutiny, Scrutiny Unit</i></p>
1645 - 1700	<p><i>Tea break</i></p> <p><i>Portcullis House</i></p>
1700 - 1800	<p>Session 9. Roundtable discussion with All-Party Parliamentary Groups on Nigeria and on Africa</p> <p>This roundtable discussion, with members of the All-Party Parliamentary Groups on Nigeria and on Africa, provided an opportunity for the delegation to discuss the role of All-Party Parliamentary Groups in raising the profile of issue areas and promoting issues on the parliamentary agenda. This session also explored the ways in which All-Party Parliamentary Groups draw on expert support to inform parliamentary work.</p> <p><i>Room P, Portcullis House</i></p> <p>Chair: Richard Fuller MP (Conservative), <i>Vice-Chair, All Party Parliamentary Group on Nigeria</i></p>
1800 - 1820	<p><i>Programme evaluation and comments</i></p> <p>The programme finished with a discussion about lessons learned and areas for further work with the delegation and the coordinators of the programme.</p> <p><i>Room P, Portcullis House</i></p> <p>With:</p> <p>Mariam El Azm, Deputy Head of International Outreach, CPA UK</p> <p>Eleanor Bayley, <i>Africa Programme Manager, CPA UK</i></p>
1820	<p><i>End of programme</i></p>

Outcomes and Follow Up

7.01. This programme enabled participating Members from the House of Representatives Committee on the Army to gain a better understanding of the practices and procedures of committee oversight on key issues of security and defence oversight, including: principles behind effective financial scrutiny; the role of committees in addressing defence corruption and improving Army training and associated legislation on human rights and security.

7.02. On this last issue, the Committee expressed their keenness to engage with colleagues in the region to discuss how legislation can be modified to best address modern security challenges whilst adhering to





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international human rights standards and how to ensure the army is well prepared, through education, so that operations are effective but also in line with human rights obligations.

7.03. Pre and post-assessment forms were distributed to the delegation to assess the development of the knowledge and understanding of issues raised in the programme. Participants were asked to rate their understanding from 1 (little understanding) to 5 (expert). At a quantitative level, the results of the pre and post-assessment forms show that the proportion of topics rated at 2 reduced from 18.2 per cent in the pre-assessment phase, to 4 per cent in the post-assessment phase. The proportion of topics rated at 4 increased from 25.5 per cent in the pre-assessment phase, to 47.5 per cent in the post-assessment phase. This indicates that the programme has had a tangible effect on the participants' level of understanding of good and effective committee practices.

7.04. CPA UK has been approached by the House of Representatives Defence Committee to undertake capacity building training and is liaising with other stakeholders to assess the potential of developing a coordinated strategy for support of defence and security oversight by the National Assembly.

Acknowledgements

8.01. Sincere appreciation is given to all the speakers for volunteering their time and their expertise for the delivery of the programme. Thanks are also given to Dr Caroline Varin of Regent's University, London and to Elizabeth Pearson of King's College London for sharing their research on security issues in Nigeria.

8.02. Thanks are also extended to Hetty Bailey, Coordinator and Researcher of the Africa All Party Parliamentary Group and Katherine Lawson, Coordinator and Researcher of the Nigeria All Party Parliamentary Group of the for the organisation of the session with members of the Africa and Nigeria All Party Parliamentary Groups.

8.03. Thanks also go to Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum MP, the Chair of the House of Representative Committee on the Army from the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, for coordinating the study visit and for his involvement in the design of the programme.

About CPA UK

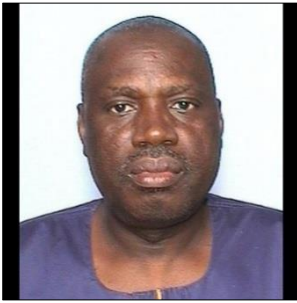
9.01. CPA UK is one of the largest and most active branches in the CPA community and delivers a unique annual international outreach programme in Westminster and overseas. CPA UK works to encourage parliamentary diplomacy and build parliamentary capacity on behalf of the UK Parliament and the wider CPA. Through activities such as conferences, seminars, delegations and parliamentary strengthening teams, CPA UK provides Members with a practical, current and first-hand perspective on international issues facing fellow parliamentarians across the Commonwealth. Working with CPA UK's international outreach programmes also enhances Members' understanding of issues facing diaspora communities in their own constituencies.





Annex A - Delegate Biographies

Delegate Biographies



Hon. Rimamnde Shawulu Kwewum MP

Chair, House of Representatives Committee on the Army

Party: People’s Democratic Party (PDP)

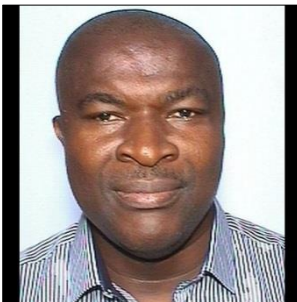
Legislative interests: Finance; Education; Power; Agriculture

Previous work: Member, Representing North East on NDDC Board (2011 - 2013);

Programme Director, Neighbor to Neighbor (2011); Chief Consultant

Goodluck/Sambo Campaign Orga (2010).

Education: BSc International Studies, Ahmadu Bello University



Hon. Asadu Oziokoja Patrick MP

Member, House of Representatives Committee on the Army

Party: People’s Democratic Party (PDP)

Legislative interests: Poverty Alleviation, Human Capital Development, Health Economics

Previous work: Member of the House of Representatives since 2007

Education: MBBS, University of Nigeria Nsukka



Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku MP

Member, House of Representatives Committee on the Army

Party: Progressives Congress (APC)

Legislative interests: Education (Girl; Child) Women, Youth Empowerment, Poverty Alleviation and Skill Acquisition

Education: BA Ed. English, Bayero University Kano



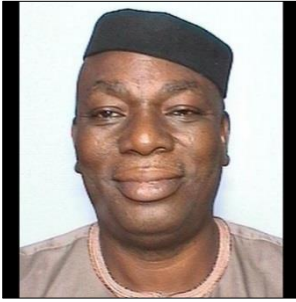
Hon. Gaza Jonathan Gbefwi MP

Member, House of Representatives Committee on the Army

Party: People’s Democratic Party (PDP)

Education: B. Technology, Fut Minna





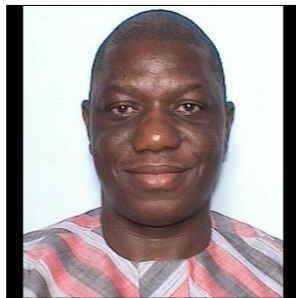
Hon. Joseph Hontonyo Bamgbose MP

Member, House of Representatives Committee on the Army

Party: All Progressives Congress (APC)

Legislative interests: Effective Legislation to improve the well-being of my constituency through empowerment & job created

Education: MPA (Hons), Lagos State University



Hon. Marshal Katung Sunday MP

Member, House of Representatives Committee on the Army

Party: People's Democratic Party (PDP)



Hon. Philip Shaibu MP

Member, House of Representatives Committee on the Army

Party: All Progressives Congress (APC)

Legislative interests: Law Making & Constituency Project Development

Previous work: MHR (2011 - 2015); President of Nupeng (2011 - 2010)

Education: MBA, University of Benin



Hon. Shehu Rijau Saleh MP

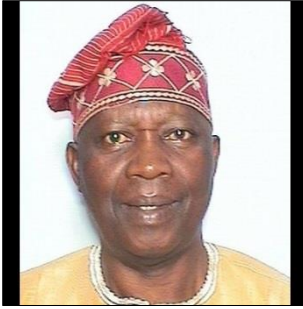
Member, House of Representatives Committee on the Army

Party: All Progressives Congress (APC)

Previous work: Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Agriculture and Rural Development Secretarial. FCT Abuja from 2014

Education: HND in Extension and Management, C.A. Zuro





Hon. Thaddeus Akinola Aina MP

Member, House of Representatives Committee on the Army

Party: People's Democratic Party (PDP)

Legislative interests: Bills

Previous Work: Chair Ido/Osi Local Govt (2004 - 2007)

Education: BSc. Finance and Banking, Ogun State University (Now OOU)

Mathias Rimamdeyati

Senior Legislative Aide

Col. Abubaker Hadejia Ahmed

Member of the Armed Forces, Nigeria