

P.E.W. 2023

(PEACE, EQUITY AND WEALTH CREATION)

NEW VOICE!

NEW VISION!

NEW DIRECTION!



**BEING THE MANIFESTO OF MRS. PATIENCE NDIDI KEY, PRP
ASPIRANT FOR PRESIDENT, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

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PREFACE

My fellow Nigerian,

Another Verge of Decision

The period preceding the 2023 General Elections imposes on every mature, rational and patriotic Nigerian, the burden of sober reflection on the course of our voyage thus far as a nation. The question that should be agitating the mind of every honest and conscious Nigerian now is; how do we extricate our nation from the dreadful, humiliating abyss that successive decades of bad governance has plunged us into?

Indeed, after 108 years of nationhood, 62 years of political independence and over two decades of uninterrupted civil rule, the state of our country is a woeful depiction of how efficiently our past and present leaderships have mobilized, exploited and managed our over 200 million vibrant population; rich cultural diversity; 923,768 km² of landmass (including 13,000 km² of surface water); apparently inexhaustible deposits of natural resources; congenial climate; rich soil, flora and fauna, among a horde of other potentials.

With GDP estimate of over USD 432 billion in 2020, Nigeria is acclaimed the largest economy in Africa. Hurray! However, the weak linkage between the various sectors of the national economy, with petrodollars contributing disproportionately to boost the figures, makes our GDP figure a charade! Only a few privileged Nigerians reap the bountiful rewards from the rent-seeking structure of our petroleum industry, compelling many right thinkers to infer that crude oil has been more of a curse than a blessing to Nigeria.

In reality, our country is profusely bleeding! Poverty, hunger and anger are boldly imprinted on the faces of the vast majority of the populace. Pervasive insecurity has denied many Nigerians not only their lives and the lives of their loved ones, but also their freedom, dignity and means of livelihood. Terrorists now hoist their flags on huge swathes of land within our national territory; more alarmingly, some within a few hundred kilometers from our nation's capital! Our villagers and assiduous farmers in the North East now gladly pay taxes to terrorists and armed bandits, rather than government, in order to stay alive and access their own farmlands.

Out of sheer despondency, the Governor of Katsina State, the home-state of the incumbent President and Commander-in-Chief, joined other opinion

leaders and statesmen to encourage his citizens to take-up arms and protect themselves from their relentless assailants. That is because the Federal Government has proven beyond doubt that it is grossly incapable of guaranteeing both the physical and social security of citizens, which unfortunately, is the most fundamental obligation of government to its citizens as enshrined in the United Nations Charter of Human Rights, the African Union Charter of Human Rights and even the 1999 Federal Constitution of Nigeria.

Never, in the chequered history of Nigeria, have we witnessed such heights of ineptitude by a duly elected Federal Government! With persistent stagflation and a national economy waddling in and out of recession; critical infrastructures on the brinks of dereliction; health systems in shambles; peace and social justice mere mirages; dysfunctional educational system; spiraling unemployment; palpable disillusionment and innocent Nigerians being hounded and disparaged overseas, even in other African countries, we must not compromise the golden opportunity of the 2023 General Elections to take back our country from the ravaging fangs of the old breed, worn-out and clueless politicians at the helm of affairs.

It's time to inject a fresh breath of air; a fresh ray of hope, for every Nigerian. At this defining moment, we cannot allow political party prejudices and the primordial sentiments of religion, ethnicity, tribe and gender to becloud our reasoning. This is also not the time for indifference, complacency or despondency. We must all honestly admit that our nation-state is precariously drifting in murky waters, and if we fail to take conscious and urgent steps to alter the deleterious course of our national voyage, we will be complicit in the eventual capsizing or outright sinking, of our State-ship!

NEW VOICE! NEW VISION! NEW DIRECTION!

Nigerians must be sick and tired of the callous, deceptive and manipulative tendencies of our key political actors since the return to democracy in 1999! With escalating insecurity, asphyxiating poverty, mounting foreign debts and apparent citizens' disenchantment being the order of day, it is evident that our key political parties have failed to deliver on their campaign promises to Nigerians over the years!

Consequently, Nigeria has earned the ignoble title of 'poverty capital of the world' and ranked 149 out of 180 on Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index, the leading global indicator of public sector corruption! In terms of security, the 2021 Global Peace Index (GPI) ranked Nigeria 146th out of 163 independent nations and territories, making it the 8th least peaceful place to live in Africa.

Whereas, some African countries returned favourable ratings, e.g. Mauritius, the most peaceful African country ranked 28th, followed by Ghana (38th) and Botswana (41st), Nigeria is at the base of the global ladder, along with war-torn countries like Afghanistan, Yemen, Syria, South Sudan and Iraq. The GPI measures the state of peace in countries. Yet, the incumbent Federal Administration vehemently swore to tackle insecurity headlong, nip corruption in the bud and revive our ailing economy.

Their acclaimed deregulation and restructuring of the power sector with private sector participation, turned out to be a grand scheme to empower themselves and their cronies. While they promised to inject several megawatts of electricity into the national grid, they only injected several megawatts of excuses! Nigerians have since resorted to alternative sources of electricity to power their homes and businesses, many using gasoline generators in spite of their high cost of purchase and maintenance, and their harmful effects on the environment.

Our universities are swelling in number, but our educational standard is rapidly hitting rock bottom! As a reflection of our weak human capital development profile, Prof. Chukwuma Soludo, renowned Professor of Economics, once lamented that Nigerian graduates were unemployable!

The irrefutable fact is that Nigeria needs a new Captain and a new Crew altogether, to navigate our State-ship from the brinks of disaster! The leading political parties have had their chances, and have failed us woefully. They seem committed to the same common manifesto, which is, "seize political power at

all costs: trickery, barefaced falsehood and force, and deploy same instruments to perpetuate yourself in power.”

But political leadership is not a tea party! It's not about having unfettered access to the national treasury. In the words of Professor of Theology, Yusuf Obaje, leadership is a sacred responsibility with multiple dimensions. National leadership is not ethnocentric or gender-specific! It is a divine call to duty for true visionaries: eligible persons with the required levels of competence, selflessness and patriotism; those that would do all it takes to unify and protect their people, and engender peace and prosperity in the land.

There exists a serious contradiction between our nation's latent potential and its current status, and we cannot allow this anomaly to continue. Tough times call for superior ideas, to tackle our numerous problems as a nation. **Nigeria desperately needs a New Voice, a New Vision and a New Direction.**

Accordingly, I, **Patience Ndidi Key**, humbly present myself to you and the world at large, as a presidential aspirant in the 2023 General Elections, on the consecrated platform of the **People's Redemption Party (PRP)**. I am earnestly soliciting for your support and partnership, to become that new Captain, who would lead the new Crew, to unify and mobilize our citizenry towards redirecting our State-ship from its current trajectory of failure, to the calm waters of peace, unity and progress.

I am a young and vibrant Nigerian professional who envision a better Nigeria and have decided to run for the Office of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. After proper evaluation of the Nigerian State, I realised that leadership in Nigeria needs more capable hands with expertise in nation building and the realisation of the Nigerian dream designed by our forefathers. Hence, I come with a vision to reposition Nigeria in her rightful place amongst the League of Nations and like the Biblical Joshua, lead us into the “Promised Land”, in terms of significant wealth creation through economic development; accessible health; standard education; building peace and revamping security for the average Nigerian; creating equality and a level playing field for all Nigerian citizens and businesses to thrive.

Therefore, I am pleased to present this manifesto, as my Social Contract with all Nigerians, along with a firm promise that if I am elected the President and Commander-in-Chief, I will expeditiously harmonize all Nigerians towards popular participation; so that together, we will work to redeem our country from the deadly precipice it is teetering on, and restore its place of pride in the comity of nations.

MY PROPOSED ROADMAP TO NIGERIA'S REDEMPTION:

PEACE, EQUITY & WEALTH CREATION

In 2006, I left the shores of Nigeria for the United States of America, where I've resided for the greater part of the last 15 years. I was equally opportune in the intervening period, to visit several developed nations including the United Kingdom, France and Germany. This afforded me the opportunity to critically study how nations develop, and to have a taste of what life is like for the citizens of the developed nations. The fact that I was very mature before leaving the shores of Nigeria, and have returned home on countless occasions, availed me the dual benefit of being in touch with the realities of our times back home. That is probably why I am utterly discontented with the state of affairs back in Nigeria.

From my vast experience, juxtaposing successful national development models across the world with Nigeria's peculiar situation today, I have identified three core interwoven concepts that I believe should constitute the focal points of the desired roadmap to Nigeria's redemption and rapid transformation, namely; **Peace, Equity and Wealth Creation (P.E.W.)**. These represent a tripod of strategies that enable a space for proper intervention and forestalling of the deteriorating society and economy of Nigerian. The agenda is construed on both short and long-term basis.

Peace Building

A peaceful environment is a *sine qua non* to development. The Federal Government seem to have exhausted all its strategies; and the security status of Nigeria has really deteriorated. Nigeria now struggles with various security challenges such as kidnapping, extremism and jihadism, banditry, gun proliferation, intractable herdsman-farmers conflicts, separatists and insurgency. These major security challenges have troubled most parts of the country over the years and have even gotten worse more recently. Therefore, I intend to enhance peace in Nigeria by firstly tackling poverty, which is a remote cause of the various security deficits that have caused humongous challenges for economic growth in Nigeria. In view of these challenges, to achieve peace and stability, I intend to collaborate with the governments of neighbouring countries where most of the problems emanated from; as this would reduce the influx of arms through the various border areas into Nigeria.

The overhauling of the Nigerian Police and Military remains very significant. Proper auditing and funding of units working directly against insurgency and extremism would not be left out. As a matter of fact, all of Nigeria's security-related units such as Customs, Immigration and many more will be areas of focus in the government that I hope to lead. As it stands, proper digitalisation of policing as well as Community Policing, strategies that have been very successful in various civilised countries, would be firmly put in place in various Nigerian communities. These and many more will be categorised into long and short-term strategies with the intent to continue with various plans till stability is achieved in the security sector of our country. Nigeria's security must be made digital, with the introduction of CCTV cameras in most parts of the country, along with other sophisticated devices used in crime detection and prevention.

In the light of my objective to maintain peace, provision of standard healthcare becomes imperative. An average Nigerian is entitled to standard and accessible healthcare services. When a society thrives, it is assessed based on metrics such as health accessibility and affordability. My government will make sure there is access to healthcare right from rural to the urban areas in all geopolitical zones where all and sundry can equally enjoy proper healthcare. We all know that healthcare in Nigeria has really deteriorated in recent times. We have even lost most of our professional hands in healthcare to other countries. Our administration will conduct a general overhaul of the healthcare system in Nigeria that will be beneficial to the public and all health workers, to stop the incessant immigration of expert hands in the health sector.

Equity

In social justice, equity simply means the notion of being fair and impartial as an individual engages with a system, especially in a system embodied with grievances such as ours. Nigeria today, lacks fairness in most areas. That is why tribalism, nepotism, unequal allocation of resources, ethnicity, favouritism and corruption are the order of the day. The Key Presidency will emphasise the significance of equitable justice and social system that will eradicate the above-named societal ills. Equity is a veritable tool that enables stability and increases the standard of living in any system in the 21st century. To achieve this, it is important to restructure the current systems within Nigeria such as educational system, justice system, social systems and many more.

Furthermore, there is an urgent need for a constitutional review in Nigeria, as Nigeria has to deal with colonial imprints currently causing diversity and iniquitousness in all areas of our constitution. The strides of our forefathers as well as their mistakes must be assessed for the design of a Nigeria that we all hope for. Equity between gender and all areas of our economy is for sure a veritable tool that can enhance us more than the current status quo by 50%; where all citizens are empowered equally for wealth creation and enhancement. A government by Patience Key will liberate the less-privileged Nigerian and create a level playing field for all and sundry. Currently, most organizations have come up with various indexes that categorise Nigeria as one of the poverty capitals of the world. This is reminiscent of the fact that leadership in Nigeria has not been very inclusive but didactic in recent years, resulting from the imprints of military government witnessed in the past.

To say that a society is fair means every citizen will have access to basic amenities. We know this isn't the case in Nigeria, as several children and youths in Nigeria cannot even go to school because there is no easy access especially for poor households. Our government will pledge more funds to education and work on revamping the standards of education in Nigeria. In recent times, our universities have been ranked lowly in the international community. This is unacceptable! Furthermore, the cost of education will be investigated significantly and possibly subsidised with more budgetary funds made available for universities to thrive without much burden on the students from poorer households. When education in Nigeria is compared with other civilised countries, some countries budget as high as 30-40% on education as against the 13% education budget in Nigeria which happens to be the highest in the last ten years, hence the reason for the continuous deterioration of the sector.

Overall, a government by Patience Key is looking forward to an all-inclusive government where every citizen of Nigeria will have a say in the government and can have a feeling of being secured in their own country. The leadership of Patience Key is a leadership that is ready to work with versatile, reputable, and professional hands that are ready for the mission of turning Nigeria into the desire of all.

Wealth Creation

Wealth creation is about diligently investing in Nigerians, both the young and the old. Proper education, which will be designed to enrich an average Nigerian in terms of understanding the current trends around the world where businesses can flourish, a space where creativity can be eminent and enabling a potential for risk analysis and management. The current poverty rate in Nigeria, according to the Nigerian National Bureau of Statistics as at 2021 is at 40% or we say that about 83 million Nigerians live in poverty. Poverty in Nigeria currently stands as a giant, obstructing major government efforts towards developmental plans. Poverty in Nigeria is estimated at an alarming increase of about 10% annually, which means that poor people will increase to 90 million, or 45% of the population, in 2022.

While population in Nigeria is also a factor to be considered when growth and wealth is anticipated, a balance is required in the Nigeria population to enable equilibrium in allocation of resources among Nigerians. Patience Key intends to alleviate poverty and reduce it to the barest minimum among Nigerians. In wealth creation, it is important to focus within Nigeria and focus more on production than importation. Patience Key will make Nigeria an export country; this will increase revenue generation in areas of mining, agriculture and construction; and create jobs for more youths, enhance proper engagement of the population and a proper utilisation of the diverse natural resources the country is blessed with. Hence, creation of wealth encompasses various sections of the country's needs at the moment: from job creation, to exports, infrastructural growth, poverty alleviation and many more.

Therefore, Peace, Equity and Wealth Creation constitute my **3-Point Integrated Redemption Agenda**, my solemn pledge to Nigerians before God, to which I should be held accountable at all times, for the delivery of the good governance that we desperately need.

THE ELEMENTS OF MY 3-POINT INTEGRATED REDEMPTION AGENDA

PEACE:

[Engendering a convenient physical and socio-economic environment for all citizens to not only survive, but thrive and attain their optimum potential].

- Declaring a State of Emergency on Insecurity
- Peacefully Addressing the Mounting Quests for Secession
- Qualitative, Functional and Affordable Formal/Vocational Education
- Holistic Reform of the Armed Forces, Police & Paramilitary Services
- Guaranteed Full Local Government Autonomy
- Reinforcing our National Emergency Response Architecture
- Enhanced Communal Reintegration, Peace and Progress
- A Robust Foreign Policy
- Restoration and Preservation of our Physical Environment
- Engendering a Convenient Social Environment
- Establishment of a Credible Social Welfare Scheme
- Curbing the Rising Spate of Drug Abuse and Use of Psychotropic Substances, Especially Among the Youth.
- Grooming the Youth for Leadership Succession

EQUITY:

[Fair and just treatment of all Nigerians]

- Strengthening the Institutions of Democracy and the Rule of Law
- Judicial Autonomy and Unfettered Access to Social Justice for All Citizens
- Upholding the Tenets of Human Rights and Dignity
- Promoting and Defending the Rights of Nigerian Consumers
- Entrenching Transparency and Accountability in Governance
- A Fair and Equitable Tax Regime and Administration
- Economic Diversification Away From Crude Oil
- Promoting Gender Balance, with 30% Affirmative Action for Women in Governance
- Comprehensive Reform of the Federal Civil Service
- Electoral Reforms
- Access to Affordable and Qualitative Healthcare for all Nigerians
- Massive Investments in Physical and Social Infrastructures

- Functional Public Transportation System
- Provision of Potable Water for Enhanced Sanitation & Hygiene
- Urban Renewal and Housing Development
- Resource Control

WEALTH CREATION:

[Financial inclusion/empowerment for all Nigerians]

- Sound Fiscal and Monetary Policy Frameworks
- Prudent Public Expenditure
- Focus on 21st Century Precision Agricultural Practices
- Rapid Industrialization
- Massive Employment Creation through Aggressive Public Works
- Public-Private Sector Partnerships for Rapid Socio-Infrastructural Development
- Human Capital Development through Skill Acquisition
- Comprehensive Energy Sector Reforms; With Holistic Review of the Nigerian Gas Master Plan
- Emphasis on Engineering, Scientific and Technological Research & Development
- Information and Communications Technology Revolution
- Development of the Nigerian Solid Minerals and Steel Industry
- Establishment of the Nigerian Industrial Development Fund
- Promoting Tourism, Sports and Nigeria's Creative Industry
- Leveraging Nigerians in Diaspora

COMPREHENSIVE REDEMPTION ROADMAP

Peace

“If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.”

----John F. Kennedy, Former United States President

Peace in this context is not just the absence of war. It is a complex term that incorporates the presence of equity, human rights, social justice and a robust citizens' welfare. It also entails efforts to establish equilibrium with our physical environment and the elimination of the element of fear; in other words, the guarantee of physical and social security.

In my opinion, the mounting agitations for secession by some ethnic groups in Nigeria are traceable to people's palpable feeling of marginalization, and the poor quality of education. How can some Nigerians not feel loved and accepted in their own country? We are diverse entities; and every individual and ethnic group needs to be brought on board the developmental journey.

The root causes of rising crime rate, insurgency and secession must be tackled with proper education, reorientation, life skills, financial empowerment and the provision of social infrastructures; alongside bolstering the Nigeria Police and Armed Forces.

From a sociological perspective, individuals process challenges differently, and their responses to situations vary. While you and I may be resolute on not cutting corners in our quests to earn a decent living or attain fame, some others may say, “Who cares?” Hence, they could steal, maim or kill in order to eke out a living. So, we have a huge task of developing the minds of the average Nigerian. We need to show them alternatives to a life of crime and violence, and lay a level playing field for all Nigerians to thrive.

Our Broad Redemption Strategy

- ✓ We shall instantly declare a State-of-Emergency on insecurity. It would entail adopting a holistic approach to tackling the extenuating factors to crime, terrorism, banditry, kidnapping and the other security challenges bedeviling the nation.
- ✓ Comprehensive reforms of the Nigeria Police, Armed Forces and other security agencies/paramilitary services.

- ✓ Strengthening the capacities of the Nigerian Immigration Service and the Nigeria Customs Service for national border patrol and surveillance, to check the influx of criminals and illegal immigrants at all our borders.
- ✓ Complete upgrade of our emergency response outfits, such as the Federal Fire Service, the National Emergency Management Agency etc.
- ✓ Prompt development and strict enforcement of a viable Environmental Sustainability Plan, including drastically reducing greenhouse gases emission, and reducing by up to 50% in four years, the menace of gas flaring in the Niger Delta.
- ✓ Development of a robust Foreign Policy that places premium on enhancing the global interests of Nigeria and the welfare and dignity of its citizens in the Diaspora.
- ✓ Tackling all forms of political/electoral violence in Nigeria with proper reorientation of political actors and the supports, which they use to perform all sorts of nefarious activities like violent attacks on perceived political rivals, ballot box snatching etc.

Focus on Improving Security

Insecurity is a major issue especially in the North Eastern and Middle Belt regions of Nigeria, with Boko Haram kidnapping young school girls in the North East and Fulani Herdsmen ravaging villages and killing farmers in parts of the North East and Middle Belt. In spite of the efforts of previous and current administrations, the spate of insecurity is not exacerbating.

Provision of security is the most fundamental obligation of the State to its citizens. Without security of lives and properties, there cannot be peace in the country, and business and social activities would eventually grind to a halt.

Our government shall tackle the hydra-headed issue of insecurity by adopting the specific redemption strategies outlined below.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ Rejuvenating and reinforcing community policing through strategic collaborations with the members of communities; especially village heads; youth, women and other community leaders and religious leaders, towards building an elaborate security architecture to aid intelligence gathering and proactive responses to security threats and breaches.

- ✓ Development and phased implementation of a robust framework for State Policing.
- ✓ Extensive reforms of the Nigeria Police, the Armed Forces and Paramilitary organizations, with the prompt recruitment and training of more personnel.
- ✓ Adequate budgetary funding for the nation's security agencies and effecting periodic pay rise and other incentives for security personnel.
- ✓ Reorganization of the multi-agency Counter-Terrorism Unit (CTU) to tackle all forms of terrorism, militancy and insurgency.
- ✓ Diligent prosecution of all persons caught involving in, or aiding and abetting acts of terrorism, militancy and insurgency.
- ✓ Application of Information and Communications Technology in information gathering and counter-insurgency.
- ✓ Establishing stronger collaborations with sub-region, regional and international organizations towards tacking insecurity.

Specific Focus on Holistic Reform of the Armed Forces, Police & Paramilitary Services

The infamous #EndSARS Protest witnessed in Nigeria in 2020 was the height of the Nigerian citizens' remonstrations against a federal police force which they perceive as critically incompetent, inefficient, unaccountable and corrupt. Ending perennial abuse of hapless citizens by the police and increasing police effectiveness and accountability will help to strengthen our democracy and make governance more meaningful to the majority of the people, especially the poor and vulnerable. As a proof of the general perception of the Nigeria police as corrupt and inefficient, the use of private security firms and armed vigilante groups is ever-increasing. Instead of protecting the public, many police officers spent their time protecting VIPs from the public.

Nigeria cannot effectively tackle insecurity or win the war against insecurity without a holistic reform of the Police, Armed Forces and other paramilitary forces. The incidences of extortion, brutality and extrajudicial killing by the police and other security forces portray Nigeria as an uncivilized society, where the rule of jungle is the order of the day. Between 1999 and 2004 alone, armed robbery, arson, grievous bodily harm and kidnapping was recorded to increase by 21% across Nigeria. The situation today is pitiable. Approximately 600 students were kidnapped between December 2020 and March 2021 alone. The raging battle with the Boko Haram terrorist group in the north; the pockets of insurgency in the Niger Delta; perennial conflicts

over land and water use amongst ethnic groups in the Middle Belt; sustained pro-Biafra sentiments in the south; and regular clashes between members of the Islamic Movement of Nigeria (IMN) and the police and the increasing cases of ritual killings are all symptomatic of a national security in the throes of crisis.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy:

- ✓ Adequate funding and equipping of the Police and other security forces.
- ✓ Recruitment and proper training/retraining and orientation of security personnel.
- ✓ Designing and implementation of a robust community policing framework, including decentralisation of authority, beat orientation, forward planning, performance evaluation, overcoming officers' resistance to duty.
- ✓ Unemployment, particularly among young people, must be addressed by investing in social and economic initiatives for crime prevention.
- ✓ Enforcing deterrent measures including trials and prosecution in open courts, to members of the police and other security forces found culpable in acts of brutality, harassment, and extortion etc. of citizens.
- ✓ Strengthening police internal accountability mechanisms, such as the Complaint Response Unit.
- ✓ Introduction of body cameras to at least one member of every operational team of the Nigeria police and other security forces, with prospects of increasing the number of body cameras to every police officer on duty.
- ✓ Regularization of the cJTF and other notable vigilante groups, either into the army or the police.

Focus on Education

Education prepares the individual for life. Quality Education is the 4th of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs). Hence, any nation that is serious about development cannot afford to pay lip-service to the funding and management of its educational sector. Qualitative and functional education is a catalyst for national development, an enabler of wealth and a veritable means of empowerment of the citizenry. All nations of the world are in an open contest in terms of educational development. There is no lower quality of education acceptable for the developing nations, and a higher quality for the advanced nations. However, education in Nigeria, from the basic to the tertiary levels, has been a huge scandal for several decades!

In March 2021, the Nigerian government itself reported that the number of out-of-school children had climbed up to **10.1 million** nationwide, an increase of more than three million from the 2020 figure. However, a more recent report from UNICEF puts the figure at **10.5 million**. ***Nigeria currently has the highest number of out-of-school children in the world, with one in every five of the world's out-of-school children being in Nigeria.*** In this 21st century, our young school children still sit on the bare, hard floor to take lessons!

At the tertiary level, no Nigerian university was rated amongst the top 1000 in the world in 2021. That is not unexpected, for a nation that only committed 5.6% of its annual budget to the educational sector in 2021, (by the way, the lowest in ten years) against the United Nations international benchmark of 15-20 percent of annual budget.

Little wonder, while other serious nations are talking about exploration to space; kids designing, building and programming robots; scientific and technological research and development being vastly deployed to address lingering environmental and socio-economic challenges like climate change, access to basic healthcare, agriculture etc., we in Nigeria are still grappling with the problems of basic reagents in our science laboratories for practical sessions at all levels of our education.

The situation has given birth to a rash of private schools that charge exorbitant rates, and still fall short of providing students with the quality of education they need to stand-out amongst their contemporaries globally.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy:

- ✓ Our PRP Government shall be unremittingly committed to the declaration of free education from at least the primary to secondary levels.
- ✓ Our budgetary allocation to the educational sector shall be boosted from the current 5.6% to a minimum of 20% of annual budget.
- ✓ We shall strive to reduce to the barest minimum, the number of out-of-school children by creating and enforcing legislation that would make it compulsory for parents/guardians to send their children/wards to school at least up to the secondary level of education.
- ✓ We shall pay special emphasis to encouraging the girl-child education, especially in Northern Nigeria.
- ✓ We shall promptly commence a thorough review of the nation's academic curriculum to bring it at par with that of other developed nations.
- ✓ Special emphasis shall be paid to the recruitment, training and re-training of school teachers, along with salary increase and other adequate incentives to keep them motivated.
- ✓ Our national security framework would accord special attention to intelligence gathering and the deployment of ICT to guarantee the safety of all academic institutions, and ensure that the tragedy of abduction of school children by terrorists becomes a thing of the past in Nigeria.
- ✓ Revitalization of the Federal Government Scholarship Scheme of minimum of N100,000 for students of tertiary institutions with CGPA of 3.5 (out of 5) and above.
- ✓ Special attention to the development of vocation/technical schools and colleges.
- ✓ Provision of free and effective internet facilities to all public secondary and tertiary institutions across Nigeria.

Focus on Full Local Government Autonomy

Nigeria practices the federal system of government, which emphasizes autonomy for every tier of government: the Federal, State and Local Government. Unfortunately, the local government, which is closest to the citizens at the grassroots, has long been denied administrative and financial autonomy in Nigeria, mainly due to the overbearing influence of the various state governors. This has resulted in ineffective local government administrations, with Local Government Chairmen reduced to mere errand boys and bootlickers of the respective state governors in a bid to attract the required revenue for the development of their constituencies.

Effective local government administration is the surest route to ensure that the laudable policies and programmes of government trickle down to the citizens at the grassroots. Even with the passage of the Local Government Autonomy Bill by the National Assembly in 2021, the situation has not changed much, as the various State Houses of Assembly have been reluctant to pass the bills in their respective states; perhaps, owing to the fact that they are unwilling to incur the wrath of their state governors.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy:

- ✓ Our government will workout a blueprint for the management of local governments in line with their constitutionally assigned duties. This would include the mode of elections, the tenure of elected local government officials, income generation, accountability and financial control mechanisms.
- ✓ Abolition of state-local government joint accounts, with clearly established mechanisms to forestall financial recklessness by local government chairmen and other officials.
- ✓ Our government will promote legislation to guarantee that the financial allocations due to local governments are disbursed directly into their coffers by the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC), rather than through their joint accounts with the state governments.
- ✓ Scrapping of the various State Independent Electoral Commissions (SIECs), and transferring the mandate of conducting local government elections to the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), to ensure fairness and transparency in local government elections and discourage the imposition of Local Government Chairmen by state governors.

- ✓ Criminalizing the appointment of Sole Administrators for local governments by state governments.
- ✓ Ensuring that all states share 10% of their internally generated revenues with their respective local governments, in line with the **RMAFC Act**.

Focus on Restoration and Preservation of our Physical Environment

My Administration shall be committed to the protection of our remaining mangrove and restoration of destroyed or degraded areas through reforestation. Nigeria loses over 10.5 billion naira (\$34.3 million) every year to environmental challenges such as deforestation, drought, and desertification. In northern Nigeria, desertification threatens the livelihoods of some 40 million people. With the very high level of urbanization and pollution, along with a dearth of cultural and physical planning policies; and open defecation becoming an urban menace in Nigeria, we must take urgent measures to rid our environment of air, water and land pollution. We must tackle the insidious challenges of toxic chemicals from industrial gas flaring, global warming, waste and garbage mismanagement, oil spillage etc.

Climate change, Desertification and drought in northern Nigeria are part of reasons for the migration of herders, exposing them to attacks of cattle rustling, and fanning the embers of herders-farmers conflicts.

Mangrove rehabilitation projects are currently going on in several countries like Indonesia, Brazil, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Seychelles, and Sierra Leone, but Nigeria has no gazetted mangrove protected areas, and there is no rehabilitation programme at present. Nigeria has an estimated mangrove area of 10,515 Km², which forms about 5.8% of world total mangrove area, and the largest in Africa. So far, conservation efforts by government have concentrated on terrestrial ecosystems only.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy:

- ✓ Develop an integrated and comprehensive approach to the management of land and water.
- ✓ Thorough review, update and implementation of the Land Use Act, Urban and Regional Planning Act 1992, Urban Development Policy of 1992, and the Housing and Urban Development Policy 2002.

- ✓ Proper synchronization of the activities of the Federal Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning with those of the respective State Ministries of Physical Planning and Urban Development, to develop sustainable Master Plans for our urban centres and create opportunities for citizens to live in better environments.
- ✓ Addressing the underlying enablers of deforestation by evolving government policy support, strengthening regulations and eradicating rural poverty.
- ✓ Outlawing unregulated mass exploitation of land resources for food production, medicine, fuel, fodder, building materials and household items.
- ✓ Providing alternative sources of energy and income/livelihood for the coastal regions and communities up north that are prone to desertification, to reduce the pressure on forest resources.
- ✓ Ensuring Adequate urban planning and control to ensure that physical infrastructural development is harmonious with environmental sustainability.
- ✓ Preparing a legislative base for mangrove-protected areas, with adequate financial support for mangrove conservation and rehabilitation.
- ✓ Adequate Provision of drainages, sewages, electricity, water and other sanitary facilities to all urban and sub-urban centres of Nigeria.
- ✓ Employing modern technologies such as remote sensing and GIS on national surveys to establish the true status of our mangroves.
- ✓ Educating the public through seminars, workshops mass media, etc. on good environmental sustainability practices.
- ✓ Strengthening the activities of the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (FEPA), Nigeria Conservation Foundation (NCF) and other key actors in the conservation sector.
- ✓ Encouraging mutual cooperation among scientists and institutions responsible for, or interested in coastal resources management.

Focus on Establishment of a Credible Social Welfare Scheme

Social welfare implies an extensive range of organized activities by voluntary organizations and governmental agencies that seek to avert, alleviate, or solve social problems; or to improve the wellbeing of individuals, groups, or communities. In Nigeria, social welfare is mainly left to philanthropic individuals and organizations, the religions institutions, NGOs and international relief

organizations. Hence, social welfare is currently unavailable to majority of Nigerians who truly need them. This could pose a threat to public health amid dwindling economy plagued by poor funding and budgeting. Some of the past and even some present federal government social welfare programmes have not been very effective because either they are lacking in transparency, are short-lived or they don't really trickle down to the deserving beneficiaries in the grassroots.

My administration's social welfare programme shall focus at improving the health, education, employment, housing, recreational, and cultural services for all Nigerian communities. As a major component of our health services, we shall prioritize the provision of support, protection, and welfare to disadvantaged people in our society like the orphans, the physically challenged and the mentally or chronically ill. Even prison inmates shall be well fed under good infrastructural and hygienic conditions; not in filthy, overcrowded prisons.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy:

- ✓ Develop a robust, equity-focused social protection policy framework to provide clear institutional roles and responsibility which guides social protection design and implementation at the federal and state levels.
- ✓ Improved funding, programmatic design, monitoring and evaluation for the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development.
- ✓ Proper documentation and review of the activities of NGOs concerned with social welfare activities, with the view to offering them government support.
- ✓ More legislative bills would be targeted towards education and care for the vulnerable children who turn out to become social miscreants in the future to plague the entire population.
- ✓ My Administration would provide funding for child support, old-age, disability, foster care, war veterans and care dependency.
- ✓ Reviewing, extending and scaling-up existing cash transfer schemes and making banking services available to the poor, so they can also benefit from conditional cash transfer programmes.
- ✓ Establishing credible employment-based public works programmes in both our rural and urban communities.
- ✓ Provision of free/subsidized agricultural inputs targeted at poor and peasant farmers.

- ✓ Introduction of a National Food and Nutrition Programme, which would include civic education/sensitization and transfers, targeted at-risk groups, in particular children below five years of age;
- ✓ Access to free health services for all women and children below 9 years of age.
- ✓ Provision of special medical, physical and social care and support services for persons living with HIV/AIDS.
- ✓ Concentrating on wealth creation, employment generation, poverty reduction, corruption elimination and general value re-orientating.
- ✓ Special attention would be accorded to educational scholarships and subsidies for indigent students, along with the establishment of skill acquisition/development centres and vocational schools to cater for the teeming population.

Focus on Electoral Reform

When elections are not seen to be free and fair, the government would lack credibility and the capacity to galvanize the citizenry toward a common cause. It also puts unnecessary strain on our security forces, and overstretches our judicial system, which ends up as the final arbiter in election-related disputes.

The capacity and credibility of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to deliver free and fair polls has been a subject of growing public skepticism since the return to democracy in 1999. On assuming office in 2007, the late President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua openly admitted that the election that brought him to power had shortcomings, hence he went on to establish an Electoral Reform Committee headed by the late Justice Mohammed Uwais. But the Uwais Committee report was never really implemented; hence even the 2019 elections were still heavily criticized on the grounds that they were not totally free and fair.

If elected into office in 2023, one of the sure legacies that my administration would bequeath Nigerians is a free, credible and transparent electoral system.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy:

- ✓ Making INEC truly independent by removing the President's powers to appoint the Chairman and Members of the Commission; and making such appointments the responsibility of the National Judicial Council.
- ✓ Changing the funding model for the electoral commission to ensure it is absolutely free of government interference.

- ✓ The integration of the various State Independent Electoral Commissions (SIECs) into INEC's structures and ensuring that all Local Government Elections are conducted by INEC.
- ✓ The establishment of an Electoral Offences Commission to prosecute electoral offenders.
- ✓ Shifting the burden of proof in election petitions from the petitioner to electoral commission. This is to show that elections were free and fair when challenged.
- ✓ Greater use of technology, especially electronic accreditation and verification of voters. Similarly, electronic transmission of results, storage and publication of electoral data.
- ✓ Electronic transmission of result, to discourage incidences of ballot box snatching, save cost and risk of transmitting results by road and making the announcement of elections results faster. This would also reduce needless post-election violence and litigations.
- ✓ Strengthening the capacity of INEC to promote internal democracy among political parties.
- ✓ Proper equipping and funding of INEC
- ✓ Allowing Nigerians in Diaspora to participate in voting electronically
- ✓ Encouraging proportional representation in government, as against the current winner-takes-all syndrome.

Focus on Leadership Succession

My administration shall promptly commence the grooming of our youths and women, the segment of our population that has so far been inequitably represented in the power equation, to enable them take-over the reins of leadership and run the nation efficiently at the expiration of my tenure in office. The saying that, "The youths are the leaders of tomorrow," is a truism, hence a timely warning that they must be properly trained to assume to full duties and responsibilities of leadership.

Never again, shall we handover the reins of our nation's leadership to worn-out, recycled politicians and their children/cronies. Rather, we shall be handing over to vibrant, articulate, properly mentored and adequately equipped young men and women, who would strive to surpass our achievements and take the nation to greater heights.

EQUITY

“If we don't figure out a way to create equity, real equity, of opportunity and access to good schools, housing, health care, and decent paying jobs, we're not going to survive as a productive and healthy society.”...

[Tim Wise](#), American Anti-Racism Activist and Writer

Equity is simply defined as a situation in which all people are treated equally and no one has an unfair advantage. It is placed at Number 10, on the United Nations' SDGs. Equity is a critical indicator of social justice, as inequity breeds discontentment with the system, and is capable of stirring up understandable acts of rebellion. In my opinion, the mounting agitations for secession by various ethnic blocs in the country over the last couple of years, is a direct consequence of inequality. Any society that countenances inequality should forgo the prospects of peace, hence the interconnectedness of these concepts.

The Federal Character Commission was established with the view to entrench equity in the Nigerian polity. But even the FCC itself is shrouded in allegations of inequity in the appointment/employment of its personnel. Inequity in the Nigerian polity was elevated to the status of statecraft under the current APC Administration of President Muhammadu Buhari, with brazenly lopsided appointments in favour of specific geopolitical regions.

Nigeria's over-reliance on crude oil as our major source of foreign exchange for several decades, to the neglect of other viable sectors of the economy, is in itself a manifestation of inequity; as oil exploration has been limited to only the Niger Delta region. There is no region or state in Nigeria that is not blessed with essential natural resources in commercial quantities. But the discovery of crude oil, and its easy petrodollars, made successive leaderships to neglect literally all the other resources above and beneath our soil.

Hence, while money from crude oil is shared equitably to assist in the development of the FCT and other states, the environmental degradation that results from crude oil exploration is not shared equitably by other regions; rather, only the Niger Delta is left to bear the brunt. The physical environment of the Niger Delta is vastly degraded by the activities of multinational oil companies operating there. That lopsidedness is at the root of the militancy that once threatened peace and crude oil exploration in the Niger Delta.

Our Broad Redemption Strategy:

- ✓ Restructuring Nigeria to a true Federal State with resource control, in line with the ideas of our founding fathers and the principles of the 1954 Federal Constitution.
- ✓ Ensuring that every citizen has access to at least the basic resources required to sustain life in his/her society; to include not only food, clothing and shelter but also free public education, legal representation in the courts of law, emergency medical care and other vital forms of basic welfare.
- ✓ Encouraging our social institutions, vis-à-vis families, private charities, religious institutions and private businesses to share in the responsibility for sustaining a just society by contributing in appropriate ways to a minimum provision of basic economic resources for all citizens.
- ✓ Complete financial and administrative autonomy for the Nigerian Judiciary.
- ✓ Encouraging and supporting the National Assembly to achieve a comprehensive, all-encompassing, conclusive and people-centred review of the 1999 Constitution.
- ✓ Separating the Office of the Attorney General of the Federation from the Office of the Honourable Minister of Justice, and ensuring that the appointment of the Chief Justice of Nigeria is strictly merit-based.
- ✓ Strengthening the capacity of the Media and Civil Society to further hold all arms and tiers of government accountable, both financially and administratively.
- ✓ Immediate remediation of the land, waters and atmosphere of the Niger Delta from the debilitating effects of decades of gas flaring and oil spillage.
- ✓ The expeditious development of other sectors of our economy, especially agriculture and solid minerals, to ensure that all states of the federation contribute equitably to the national purse.
- ✓ Review of the mandate and activities of the Federal Character Commission, to ensure that national merit is not sacrificed for mediocrity on the altar of primordial sentiments.
- ✓ Each state of the Federation will be tasked to Master Plan at least one Industrial City with Free Trade Zone (FTZ) Status, for industrial localization and development.

Focus on a Fair and Equitable Tax Regime

One of the biggest challenges with taxation in Nigeria (and perhaps across the world) is that many of the big companies and affluent individuals usually devise ingenious ways to evade taxes. The burden of taxation is borne more by the poor populace and the small businesses.

In Nigeria, we really need to start taxing the rich, so that the poor can be comfortable. China, in the course of its evolution into the world super power that it is today, deliberately practiced both the socialist and the capitalist systems of economy simultaneously, to ensure that it streamlines the gap between the poor and the rich.

Our administration shall adopt specific measures to reduce income inequality and redistribute wealth to the most needy.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ My administration shall undertake a comprehensive review of the National Tax Policy to ensure that our tax system promotes the socio-economic and political development of Nigeria.
- ✓ We shall focus on taxing personal income, corporate profits and estate/inherited wealth. We shall tie citizens' tax rates to their incomes, with a progressive structure that would reflect prevailing inequalities, reserving the highest rates for the wealthiest households.
- ✓ We shall reduce consumption taxes on food, gasoline, groceries and other essentials to the barest minimum in view of their regressive natures, as the lower and middle-income families tend to spend much of their incomes on such taxable purchases, when compared to the higher-income households that spend a much smaller share of their incomes on such purchases.
- ✓ My Administration shall ensure that the Nigerian stakeholders are connected with effective service delivery, to encourage the prompt and honest payment of taxes.
- ✓ We shall abolish all forms of multiple taxation and other oppressive and suffocative tax regimes, ensuring that local people, or workers in the local economy, are not overburdened by taxes.
- ✓ We shall eliminate Capital Gains Break and other tax breaks that mainly benefit the rich. Standard deductions, personal exemptions and similar tax provisions would be revised and reduced for people with very high incomes, to increase available revenue for capital projects.

- ✓ With respect to reducing wealth inequality, my administration shall consider applying higher tax rates to higher-value homes, and tax second homes and vacation homes. We shall apply higher tax rates to incomes from wealth than incomes from work. Efforts would be made to track and tax intangible property like stocks, bonds, patents and copyrights.
- ✓ We shall eliminate the use of third parties for tax collection, and ensure that all collected taxes due to the Federal Government, are paid directly into the coffers of the Federal Government, and not to political kingpins, community heads/chiefs, ethnic warlords and other local champions.

Focus on Health/Wellbeing

Good health and wellbeing of the citizens is the 3rd of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). But in Nigeria, the all-important health sector has been left in total shambles. Sometime in 2017, the First Lady, Mrs. Aisha Buhari, lamented that the Aso Rock Clinic could not treat her of a minor ailment. She revealed that the x-ray machine there was dysfunctional, and that the clinic lacks a single syringe and basic drug as Paracetamol!

Perhaps, no sector of our economy has been affected by the brain drain syndrome as much as our health sector. Our medical doctors and other health workers are steadily being recruited by countries that take their health sector seriously; countries like the United States, Saudi Arabia and Dubai, to mention but a few.

Our citizens are daily dying from common, non life-threatening diseases. Life expectancy at birth in Nigeria in 2021, was estimated at 60.87 years, (59 years for males and 63 years for females) being among the lowest in Africa as well as in the world. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), as at year 2020, the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) of Nigeria is 814 (per 100,000 live births). Hence, the lifetime risk of a Nigerian woman dying during pregnancy, childbirth, postpartum or post-abortion is 1 in every 22, in contrast to the lifetime risk in developed countries estimated at 1 in 4900. Nigeria currently accounts for about 20% of global maternal deaths. The 2022 infant mortality rate for Nigeria is projected at **56.220 deaths per 1000 live births**.

THE National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) has remained abysmal and coverage rate dropped, from over 10 per cent (5.6 million Nigerians) 10 years ago, to just barely 1.72 per cent (one million Nigerians) in updated statistics. The non-passage of the amended National Health Insurance Scheme

(NHIS) Act has further slowed uptake of health insurance packages and Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Nigeria.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy:

- ✓ Improving access to skilled birth attendance (SBA), especially through better quality primary health care (PHC), to reduce the MMR and Infant Mortality Ratio.
- ✓ Nigeria currently has about 34,000 PHCs (entry point level) covering all health wards and hard-to-reach communities. We shall increase the number of PHCs to at least 100,000 within our first four years in office; and improve the accessibility, availability, affordability and care quality in all the PHCs.
- ✓ Massive improvement in the quality of care provided within tertiary health facilities (second-level referral).
- ✓ Concerted re-orientation of the citizenry on the dangers of some primordial beliefs and cultures and how it affects people's perception and willingness to access healthcare.
- ✓ Recruitment of skilled healthcare providers and re-orientating them against negative attitudes that discourage many people, especially women, from accessing healthcare at the Primary and Tertiary Health Facilities.
- ✓ We shall pay greater attention to preventive medicine and the development of Alternative Medicine.
- ✓ Provision of free medical services to children under 7 years of age, and the aged population (65 years and above).
- ✓ Access to free anti-malarial drugs for all Nigerians of all ages.
- ✓ Strengthening collaborations with global bodies like the Global Fund, and the WHO towards expanding access to anti-retroviral drugs, and tackling tuberculosis.
- ✓ Increased budgetary allocation to the Health Sector up to at least 10% of the annual national budget.

Focus on Urban Renewal and Housing Development

Unless urgent and decisive steps are taken to address the increasing demand occasioned by increasing number of citizens, it is projected that in the next 10 years, there will be a deficit of about 22 million houses in Nigeria. Nigeria currently needs about 6 trillion Naira to tackle its housing deficits. Hence, we

must begin to build Sustainable Cities and Communities that will shelter the anticipated population explosion.

As a result of rural-urban migration, we now have over a third of our citizens living in urban centres. Consequently, there is a rash of slums and make-shift houses across all our major cities, constituting an excrescence to the city centres and serving as hideouts for criminals, drug addicts, prostitutes and the likes.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ Compilation of adequate and reliable data on Nigeria's housing population, as a basis for comprehensive planning in the housing sector.
- ✓ Rapid construction of eco-friendly and affordable homes in our urban centres, not from the perspective of making profit for the Federal Government, but for meeting a basic need of citizens.
- ✓ Construction of Sustainable Cities and Communities, in line with the SDGs Number 11, Sustainable Cities and Communities.
- ✓ Restructuring of the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria, to be more effective and efficient in the discharge of its mandate.
- ✓ Review of the Land Use Act to enable more citizens own land for building purposes.
- ✓ Curbing the activities of land grabbers (omo-onile) through a thorough review and diligent implementation of the Land Use Act.
- ✓ Sustained efforts to drastically reduce the amount charged as rents in urban centres, especially Lagos, Abuja and Port Harcourt.
- ✓ Promptly commencing a robust savings schemes through establishing cooperative societies in the Housing Sector, to ensure inclusive growth and development in the sector.
- ✓ Provision of the basic amenities like good roads, potable water and health facilities in villages and rural settings, to discourage rural-urban migration.
- ✓ Drastic reduction in the cost of land titling, from its current 15% of land value, to a maximum of 7.5% over four years.
- ✓ Prompt settlement of all outstanding subscribers of the Federal Government's low-cost housing schemes, some dating as far back as 1994.
- ✓ Promotion of the use of local building materials and technology to reduce the cost of building.

- ✓ Continually bringing to the fore, trends, technologies, systems and policies that impact the building industry's intervention and responses to everyday living of Nigerians.
- ✓ Extensive investments in Research and Development in the Housing Sector, in association with local manufacturers.
- ✓ Taxing of large, vacant houses and estates in the country, with the incomes from these taxes being ploughed back into the construction of decent and affordable homes for Nigerians to buy.

Focus on Care for Persons with Disabilities

We have members of our society who due to one handicap or the other, cannot be as productive as others, even if they desire to be. We have persons living with disabilities, HIV/AIDS and other limiting infectious diseases, and it is our responsibility to care for them, as well as create the enabling environment for them to thrive. All the advanced nations that we seek to emulate operate their social and economic systems on this premise. My administration shall therefore pay special attention to reducing the plights of persons living with disabilities.

Focus on Strengthening the Institutions of Democracy and the Rule of Law

The pervasive corruption, poverty, illiteracy, injustice, inequity, abuse for human rights and the rule of law; and the height of immorality, anomalies and other contradictions in the Nigerian State/society, already provides a very weak foundation for the growth of democracy. Therefore, my administration shall work assiduously to first recreate a stable and sustainable foundation for democracy, by tackling all the social, economic and political indicators that earned Nigeria an unenviable spot in the "Failed States Index 2008".

In addition, my administration shall pay specific focus to strengthening the following institutions of democracy:

- i. The institution of free and fair elections
- ii. The machinery for the conduct of elections; and
- iii. The machinery for the adjudication of election disputes

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ We shall ensure that there is equality between the voters, in line with the Electoral Act.
- ✓ Participation by political candidates shall on the basis of equality of treatment by the authorities, none being subjected to unfair restrictions or be accorded unfair advantage in relation to others; thus, maintaining a level playing field for all the candidates.
- ✓ Political parties will be free to sponsor candidates and canvass for votes in a truly competitive sense and on the basis of equal treatment with other political parties.
- ✓ The territorial units of representation shall be reviewed, and demarcated to be as nearly equal in population as possible, so as not to favour some people against others.
- ✓ Ensuring always that all those entrusted with the conduct of an election are not agents of, or are not subject to direction by, any of the contestants or the political parties sponsoring them.
- ✓ That electoral contests are always conducted impartially and fairly, according to laid-down rules binding on all, giving no unfair advantages to one candidate and his political party while imposing unfair restrictions on another.
- ✓ Ensuring that the result are based on, and truly reflect, the votes lawfully cast at the election by the voters and are free of falsification, inflation or other fraudulent manipulation of figures; and the eventual winner is determined by a majority or the highest number of such lawful votes.
- ✓ We shall promote electoral reforms to truly guarantee the independence of INEC from the direction and control of the government. In particular, the appointment of the INEC Chairman and other members of the Commission shall cease to be the exclusive preserve of the President and Commander-in-Chief, but a function of the National Judicial Council (NJC).
- ✓ We shall tinker with our Electoral Act to ensure that elections take place six months before the expiration of the incumbent's term of office and that election petitions are concluded before the swearing-in of the person declared winner.
- ✓ Our Government shall promote extensive reforms of the Nigerian judiciary

Focus on Economic Diversification Away From Crude Oil

Nigeria's overdependence on crude oil earnings, despite its relatively small proportional addition to our GDP, makes our economy vulnerable to shocks in the international crude oil market. When the global price of crude oil falls sharply below government projections, it creates yawning gaps in the federal budget. The revenue profile of the Federal Government over the last decade, reveals that crude oil earnings account for about 80% of foreign exchange earnings. As part of the effects of petrodollars, Nigeria's economy has shown steady growth over the last decade, without commensurate increase in job creation and poverty reduction.

An assessment of the non-oil sector of the Nigerian economy reveals that despite the various strategies, policies and programmes of the federal government, the contribution of this sector has been very dismal, with the share of non-oil exports in the country's total export earnings hovering around one to six percent. With more countries moving away from fossil fuels as sources of energy and embracing clean, renewable energy, and the fact that crude oil is an exhaustible asset, my administration intends to tow the thorny path toward transiting Nigeria from a mono-based, oil economy.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ Tackling insecurity headlong, as it is one major disincentive to local and foreign investors in Nigeria.
- ✓ Squarely addressing our critical infrastructural deficits, vis-à-vis electricity supply, road networks, telecommunications, railway network, airports and seaports etc.
- ✓ Improving access to finance for SMEs
- ✓ Enhanced efficiency, transparency and accountability in our national income accounting.
- ✓ Establishment of more export processing zones at strategic locations across the country to facilitate production of duty-free goods.

- ✓ My administration shall accord special attention to human capital development, as the starting point, driving force and sustaining force of our economic diversification efforts.

As potential export alternatives, we intend to focus on the development of the following sectors of our economy:

- ✓ Agriculture (Before the discovery of crude oil, Nigeria sustained a vibrant economy based on agriculture. We cannot successfully diversify our national economy if we ignore the agricultural sector, as the raw materials needed to power most of the industrial/manufacturing sectors come from agriculture. Palm Oil, Cassava, Cocoa, Coffee, Cashew Nuts, Ginger, Sesame Seeds and Hides, Skin and other cattle products, are potential foreign exchange earners for Nigeria in terms of raw export. But my administration shall develop the entire agriculture value chain, from the production through the processing and packaging stages). In four years, we hope to upgrade Nigeria's agriculture to the 21st century precision level that guarantees maximum output per hectare of land, and encourage our smallholder farmers to embrace commercial farming.
- ✓ Information and Communications Technology (We intend to make Nigeria the leading tech hub in Africa. My administration shall work to fix the perennial challenge of poor electricity supply, improve our fibre-optic internet network coverage and invest in the training and retraining of competent indigenous software engineers).
- ✓ Solid minerals
- ✓ The Creative Industries (vis-à-vis entertainment, sports)
- ✓ Industrialization/Manufacturing
- ✓ Real Estate
- ✓ Renewable Energy
- ✓ Services
- ✓ Tourism
- ✓ Arts and Crafts

Details of our strategies in some of the aforementioned non-oil sectors are contained in subsequent portions under our "Wealth Creation" agenda.

Focus on Resource Control

Resource control and allocation are typically features of every true federal system. Resource Control would enable each federating unit to take charge of natural resources within its borders, and make agreed contributions towards the maintenance of common services of the Federal Government. But in Nigeria, stiff disagreements; political, economic and regional power tussles and controversies over the control and allocation of resources have threatened our federalism over the years. The situation is exacerbated by our over-reliance on oil, and palpable neglect of other viable sectors of the economy.

The present resource control mechanism in Nigeria is not only controversial, but obviously tilted in favour of the Centre. The process of crude oil revenue generation, allocation and resource control has remained tools for massive corruption, political accommodation and stoking of socio-ethnic tensions. In addition, the politics of oil money has created a superiority/inferiority complex among oil and non-oil producing states in Nigeria. The protracted crisis in the Niger Delta is traceable to Nigeria's over-dependence on crude oil.

Therefore, my administration intends to reduce the controversies and intense politics arising from the issue of resource control and revenue allocation in Nigeria by diversifying our sources of revenue via the development of the non-oil sector, while observing thorough accountability in all spheres of governance and tackling all other challenges of Nigeria's federalism.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ My administration shall ensure rational investment of proceeds from crude oil into the non-oil sector, to diversify our economy and lessen the pressure, politics and controversies surrounding oil resource.
- ✓ We shall ensure devolution of powers from the Centre to the component states and local governments.
- ✓ All human and material resources across the states of the federation would be fully developed and exploited.
- ✓ We shall ensure consistent monitoring and evaluation of all federal allocations and projects in all the states and local governments across the federation, to ensure transparency and accountability.
- ✓ My administration shall strengthen the activities, efficiencies and independence of financial, anti-graft and regulatory authorities.

- ✓ We shall also guarantee full financial and administrative autonomy to Local Governments.
- ✓ Our government would readjust the revenue allocation formula, to generate and redistribute revenue in favour of disadvantaged federating units and sub-units.

Focus on the Nigerian Woman

Globally, more awareness is being created with regard to incorporating gender perspectives in policy-making; and adoption of gender-inclusive approaches in the implementation of developmental goals. This has been identified as necessary for the attainment of peace, justice, equity and sustainable development. As a very crucial instrument for shaping the society; the world's governments adopted gender equality and women empowerment as the third Millennium Development Goals, and the fifth in the subsequent SDGs.

Unfortunately, in Nigeria's male-dominated patriarchal socio-economic and political milieus, women are grossly underrepresented, with sometimes very little or no decision-making power accorded to them. Some educated Nigerian men still widely hold the notion that the place of the woman is in the kitchen (and of course, the bedroom!). But the United Nations is of the view that ending all forms of discrimination against women and girls is not only a basic human right, but crucial for sustainable future; as it is proven that empowering women and girls helps economic growth and development.

A gender-equal society is as a society in which both women and men, as equal members of the society, enjoy equal opportunities to participate in all kinds of social activities at will; and to equitably enjoy political, economic and cultural benefits and share responsibilities. As a woman, I shall make women empowerment a cardinal focus of my administration. My administration shall strive to attain gender-equality in Nigeria.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ We shall take concrete steps to domesticate and achieve all the targets of the SDGs Goal 5 on Gender Equality, including:

- *Eliminating all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation*
 - *Ending all forms of discrimination against all women and girls in Nigeria.*
 - *Eliminating all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation*
 - *Ensuring women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.*
 - *Ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences*
 - *Undertaking reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws*
 - *Enhancing the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women*
 - *Adopting and strengthening sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels*
-
- ✓ My administration shall be committed to the eradicating all forms of gender-based bias through concerted campaigns via formal and informal education channels and the mass media. To this end, Gender Education will be incorporated into school curricula at all levels of education.
 - ✓ We shall promote legislation of 35% Affirmative Action for Women in Governance, for all elective and appointive positions.
 - ✓ Promote legislative action towards the review of the Electoral Act to take gender-based issues into account in creating equitable representation of women in political participation. To this end, concerted efforts would be taken to end all forms of electoral violence, to enable more women vie for elective positions.
 - ✓ We shall make gender mainstreaming mandatory in all governmental, political party and private sector policies in Nigeria.
 - ✓ Establishment of the National Centre for Maternal Mortality Reduction, with a mandate to reduce the rate of Maternal Mortality in Nigeria by 50% over a period of four years.
 - ✓ Establishment of National Action Programme for the Reintegration of Female Dropouts, to encourage young girls who may drop out of school due to pregnancy to return to school at an appropriate time after childbirth.
 - ✓ Provision of special incentives for women in agriculture, entrepreneurship, commerce and industry.

Focus on Youth Empowerment

Nigeria is blessed with one of the largest youth populations in the world. The African Youth Charter recognizes youth as people between 15 and 35 years old. Youth are said to constitute 60 percent of the Nigerian population. The Nigerian youth are the spirit of today, and the hope for a better future. Their tremendous energy, ideas, inventiveness and vision are crucial to the continued development of Nigeria. Nigeria's youth have been known from time to time to be notable change agents and drivers of societal transformation. Unfortunately, youth interests and roles have been greatly undermined in Nigeria, resulting in endemic poverty, alienation, destabilization and conflict amongst, and by the youth.

Currently, the Nigerian youth is buffeted with several challenges, including illiteracy, unemployment, alcohol, tobacco and other illicit drugs abuse, premarital sex and early pregnancy/HIV and other STDs, high crime rate (with cyber crime now assuming alarming proportions), to mention but a few. In a society characterized by greed, recklessness and misuse of public funds, it is worthy to admit that the Nigerian youths have been exposed to corruption as a growing trend.

Youth empowerment encourages and capacitates youths to think creatively in order to be able to tackle the existential local, national and global challenges affecting their various localities in Nigeria. My administration shall strive to tackle all the challenges militating against the development of the youth, in order to provide a new lease of life for our heirs of posterity.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ My administrative shall be genuinely committed to youth empowerment through entrepreneurial training to guarantee youth self reliance. Entrepreneurial training would be incorporated into the school curricula from Secondary to Higher levels of education, and made compulsory. Opportunities for vocational training would also be extended to all young people who are not in formal education.
- ✓ We shall work to improve the system of education in Nigeria, and to relate the system to the job market, to prepare the youth for after-life school and lessen the burden of unemployment among the youths.

- ✓ More academic scholarship programmes would be created for the youth, while soft loans and grants would be made readily available to enterprising youths to fund their ideas or projects.
- ✓ Attention would be accorded to the equitable inclusion of youths in governance, in order to inject fresh ideas into the governance sector, to mentor youths for leadership and enable them to hone their leadership skills.
- ✓ We shall be committed to youth sensitization, reorientation and ethical reformation programmes, to change the negative mindsets of some of our youths and further expose them to the dangers of drug abuse, crime, illicit sex and other social vices plaguing the youth.
- ✓ The development of sports, the entertainment industry and the ICT sector would equally be accorded priority attention by my administration, to create opportunities for self-expression, employment and economic empowerment for the teeming youth and reduce the rate of youth migration to foreign countries where job opportunities are believed to be easier to come by.

Focus on Comprehensive Reform of the Federal Civil Service

The Nigerian Federal Civil Service plays an invaluable role in the formulation, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and review of Federal Government's policies and programmes. A competent and motivated civil service is a prerequisite for maintenance of good governance, production and distribution of public goods and services, fiscal management and sustainability, and efficient and effective performance of government.

In Nigeria, the Federal Civil Service was left to deteriorate in capability, integrity and morale over the years. All recent efforts at civil service reforms by successive federal administrations in recent times have ended as mere jamborees. Most of the Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the Federal Government are performing abysmally below expectation, whereas precious taxpayers' money is being channelled to the payment of salaries and other benefits to non-performing federal workers.

Therefore, my administration shall pursue holistic civil service reforms to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the service, hence increase its

capacity to promote economic, social and political development of Nigeria to meet the needs and aspirations of all citizens.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ Establishment of a new minimum wage policy in the public sector, and narrowing public sector pay differentials with the private sector, to improve personnel morale within the civil service.
- ✓ Adoption of a new code of ethics for civil servants and public officials, and implementing structural and attitudinal changes to entrench probity and accountability in the civil service, including right-sizing the workforce.
- ✓ Strengthening the activities of anti-graft agencies, Public Complaints Commission and the activities of SERVICOM.
- ✓ Establishing training and retraining programmes with modern information technology advancements, to acquaint civil servants with requisite technical and managerial orientations to sustain the reform process.
- ✓ Promptly addressing deteriorating physical conditions of public facilities including office buildings, machinery and equipment.
- ✓ Establishing and enforcing strong internal and external accountability mechanisms necessary to enhance civil servants' responsiveness, including stiff penalties, auditing, continuous monitoring and evaluation of work performance, whistle-blower reward and protection programmes, etc.
- ✓ Building partnerships and consensus amongst various stakeholders such as political leaders, the civil servants, the civil society, the media, public and private sectors, local and international financial institutions and the international community towards the implementation of reforms in the federal civil service.
- ✓ Capacity-building in the context of human resources development, including investments in personnel training, development of compensations systems and establishment of an efficient decision-making system that utilizes the capacity and skills of civil servants.
- ✓ Full digitization of the Federal Civil Service, and making the service adaptable to changing technology.
- ✓ Strengthening the Open Door Policy, and ensuring free flow of information within the civil service.

- ✓ Seeking technical support, expertise and advise from competent external sources, especially in designing and financially supporting the reform process.

WEALTH CREATION:

“The single most powerful asset we have is our mind. If trained well, it can create enormous wealth”...

Robert Kiyosaki, Author of the Bestselling book, “RICH DAD, POOR DAD”

In 2020, the Nigerian National Bureau of Statistics revealed that **40%**, or 83 million Nigerians, were living in poverty, i.e. on less than \$1 per day. The World Bank insists that it was 47.3% Nigerians, or 98 million citizens, that were living in multidimensional poverty. This is an alarming figure that should jolt any responsible government to expeditiously come to the aid of the poor members of the society, even as it strives to build a virile, vibrant and growing economy. In addition, there is an ever-widening income gap between the rich and the poor, and such growing inequality is both practically and morally dangerous, as a growing income divide fosters bitterness and animosity between social classes, threatening national peace, democracy and economic stability. In addition, it violates the cherished moral principle of equality.

The situation necessitates a higher minimum wage, higher taxes on the rich, and increased welfare spending, while efforts remain in top gear to empower the average citizens with requisite life skills and start-up capitals for their businesses, with deliberate government policies to favour the growth and development of micro, small and medium-scale business enterprises. We can't have both the richest man and woman in Africa as our citizens, and still be regarded as the poverty capital of the world!

Our Government promises financial inclusion and financial empowerment for all Nigerians. Financial inclusion is the availability and equality of opportunities to access financial services. Financial empowerment on the other hand, is the feeling of being in control of your own financial situation.

Our Broad Redemption Strategy

- ✓ Develop and implement specific redistributionist economic policies.
- ✓ Structural transformation, with full commitment to developing our human capacities and harnessing talents in the creative industry.
- ✓ Increased industrial production and foreign and domestic investment
- ✓ Guaranteed financial inclusion and financial empowerment for all citizens.
- ✓ Extensive investments in the agricultural sector
- ✓ Strategic focus on solid minerals and steel development
- ✓ Improved Scientific/Technological Research & Development
- ✓ Comprehensive Energy Sector Reforms

- ✓ Focus on Human Capital Development
- ✓ Focus on Modern Infrastructure Development
- ✓ Leveraging Nigerians in Diaspora

Focus on The Economy-Overview

Nigeria's DGP has failed to maintain a steady positive growth over the last seven years. The National Bureau of Statistics reported that Nigeria's economy grew by 3.4% year-to-year in 2021, with an estimated value of N72.39 trillion in real terms, representing an increase from the 1.92% contraction recorded in 2020. This is the fastest GDP growth rate recorded in Nigeria since the current administration came into power in 2015. In terms of contribution to GDP, the Agricultural sector contributed 25.88% in 2021, while services accounted for 53.56% of the country's GDP. The Industrial Sector accounted for 20.56% of the total GDP. Meanwhile, the oil sector's contribution was a mere 7.24% in 2021. On the other hand, the non-oil sector (agriculture, mainly transportation and storage sector, electricity, gas, financial and insurance sector, ICT etc.) contributed 92.76% to the GDP.

From the foregoing, the current size of Nigeria's economy (in terms of GDP) is about **440 billion dollars**. The highest GDP of 497 billion dollars was recorded in 2015. Nigeria's GDP Per Capita as at 2021 was **2360 dollars**. Meanwhile, Brazil, once considered to be developing at par with Nigeria, recorded a GDP of **1620 billion dollars** in 2021, and its GDP projection for 2023 is 1890 billion US Dollars. Over the last decade, Brazil recorded its highest GDP of 2472.81 billion dollars in 2013. Brazil's GDP per capita as at 2021 was **11,100 dollars!**

My Economic Vision

My administration's broad economic vision is to achieve a 75% increase in our current GDP of 440 billion dollars over 4 years, making Nigeria a 770 billion dollar economy by 2027.

My Broad Economic Development Strategy

- i. Sound, clearly-defined fiscal and monetary policy priorities and objectives, with fiscal prudence and price stability as primary goals.
- ii. Enhanced public sector accountability and due process
- iii. Economic Diversification
- iv. Massive Infrastructural Investments
- v. Human Capital Development
- vi. Provision of adequate security

Focus on Scientific/Technological Research & Development

Scientific research is the careful examination of an object or situation for the purpose of effecting societal development and improvement. The prime function of research therefore is to discover answers to meaningful questions aimed at solving societal challenges. Is it not ironical that while Nigerians are among the top researchers in the production of life-saving vaccines in other countries abroad, the country ends up with expired, or nearly-expired vaccines, which by the way, are gestures of charity by the developed nations, the World Health Organization, the United Nations etc? Our talents, our human resources are used to power other economies. This goes to prove that Nigerians are not lacking in intellectual capacity, but it is the enabling environment for them to hone and demonstrate their skills and talents, that is grossly lacking.

The government at federal and state levels keeps borrowing, depending on foreign loans to bridge our infrastructural deficits, because most of the money would also be fretted away, with little actually going to enduring and impactful infrastructure and Scientific Research and Development.

With digital economy being the trend today, with advancements in robotics etc, we don't need to fight anybody to put Nigeria first. We can make Nigeria a global industrial hub through our research and development.)

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ Development of a clear-cut philosophy of national development, detailing the direction which Nigeria would channel its developmental efforts.
- ✓ Provision of a convenient environment for growth and utilization of research, including adequate infrastructure, trained manpower and adequate financial support for research initiatives.
- ✓ Motivating Nigerians to accept science culture as a way of life.
- ✓ Proper placement of competent persons at the headship of our foremost research institutes.
- ✓ Funding the mass production of invented products by researchers towards establishing a strong synergy between the research institutions, the industries and the market, thereby creating a sense of fulfillment among researchers and boosting the overall productivity profile of the nation.

Focus on Agriculture

Agriculture is a key activity for Nigeria's economy after oil. Agricultural activities provide livelihood for many Nigerians, whereas the wealth generated by oil reach a restricted share of the populace. Between July and September 2021, agriculture contributed to almost 30 percent of the total GDP.

With vast portions of arable land, good climate and adequate rainfall, Nigeria's agricultural sector is performing way below par. Agriculture remains the only way we can feed our ever-growing population, create jobs for a greater proportion of the citizenry and provide the necessary raw materials to power our industrial sector.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ Under our government, each state of the federation would be mandated to develop at least one cash crop for export.
- ✓ All States of the Federation would be tasked to develop a minimum of 5000 hectares of agricultural plantation for development of agro-allied raw materials to serve as sources of raw materials for the private sector driven industries to be established in the Industrial Cities/Estates.
- ✓ We shall pay due attention to increased funding and the overall development of the agricultural sector, in order to be able to feed our vast and increasing population.
- ✓ Subsistence farmers would be encouraged to transform to 21st century precision farming methods.
- ✓ Provision of the requisite training, farm machinery and inputs to all farmers.
- ✓ Revitalization of agricultural commodity boards and minimizing wasted of farm produce due to lack of markets to trade them.
- ✓ Special attention shall be accorded to recruitment, training and re-training of agricultural extension workers.
- ✓ Increasing access to single-digit loans to farmers and encouraging them to transform from peasant farming to commercial agriculture.
- ✓ Special incentives shall be provided for investors in the agro-allied industries.

Focus on Industrialization/Manufacturing

The UN SDGs Number 9 emphasizes Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure. Historically, before the Industrial Evolution in Europe and America (1760 to 1840), Africa was seen to be on the same level of industrial development and civilization with Europe and America, with agriculture dominating global trade and commerce. But the Industrial Revolution set in motion the roadmap through which Europe and America's dominance of the new world started. Economic historians are in agreement that the onset of the Industrial Revolution is the most important event in the history of humanity since the domestication of animals and plants. It set the stage for technological advancement, and without indigenous technology, no nation can attain true greatness.

Over the years, successive Governments of Nigeria have misplaced national priorities, embracing the wrong routes to solving Nigeria's economic problems in a highly competitive and complex world. This has resulted in poor economic development, in comparison to nations like South Korea, Brazil and Malaysia; which until the early 1980s, were rated at par with Nigeria in terms of economic development.

Our government shall ensure that Nigeria's economic planning is centred on industrial development; with investments in every other sector structured to provide the needed input for the development of industries. The Government of Saudi Arabia, one of the top producers of crude oil in the world, attached great importance to industrial development by providing incentives and facilities to its private industrial sector. Consequently, the Saudi industry made significant progress, manifested in the growth of industrial investments since the establishment of Saudi Industrial Development Fund (SIDF) in 1974. An analysis of growth of industrial activities illustrates the progress in the number of producing factories, volume of investments and number of employees. Between 1974 and 2018, the Saudi Industrial sector experienced a monumental average growth rate of 1000 percent! Within the same period, literally all the established industries in Nigeria folded-up.

The fact is that if you are not producing anything, you cannot grow your economy. This holds true for any individual, corporate entity or nation. We cannot expect to build a resilient, 21st century economy only on taxation. Ever wonder why Nigerians prefer to emigrate, and suffer all sorts of indignities abroad just in order to eke out a living for themselves? We need quality employment on our own shores, to avoid those sad tales of death on the Mediterranean and other misfortunes associated with illegal migration. We

need focus-oriented leadership, not one that would attribute our problems to previous administrations and extend the blame game, but one that would work expeditiously to get the vast majority of Nigerians out of the excruciating grips of poverty.

We have a responsibility to serve the people, and make Nigeria stand out in the comity of nations. Interestingly, the human and natural resources that are used to power Europe, America and the rest of the developed world comes mainly from Africa.

Nigerians cannot continue to stash monies abroad, while at home, we are still at the primary levels of production. We cannot continue to export cocoa, only to import chocolates from abroad! We cannot continue to own and operate four refineries, only to export the chunk of our refined petroleum products from abroad! It tells of our penchant for sheer mismanagement, inanity and dearth in leadership.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ Focus on Review of the Nigerian Gas Master Plan:
Revise the Nigerian Gas Master Plan to ensure that there is a gas pipeline system from the Niger Delta to all States of the Federation, with the view to supplying gas to all parts of Nigeria as a source of energy to power our industrial development.
- ✓ Development of transportation and logistics infrastructure like roads, rail and de-centralisation of our ports for easy transportation of goods and products from the industrial estates.
- ✓ Development of the Nigerian solid mineral and steel industry, to act as source of raw materials to power our industries.
- ✓ Establishment of the Nigerian Industrial Development Fund (NIDF), hence a minimum of 10 percent of revenues generated in the Federal Republic of Nigeria would be committed to the NIDF for the sole purpose of developing infrastructure framework and policies for private sector driven industries in all states of the Federation. This will facilitate economic diversification.
- ✓ Establishment of the Nigerian National Manufacturing Bank (NNMB); to offer readily accessible, low-interest loans to existing and intending manufacturers in the Real Sectors of our national economy.

Focus on the Energy Sector

We first have to focus on developing our **Energy Sector** in order to power our Industrialization/Manufacturing drive. Gasoline generators cost a lot to buy and maintain, along with the many health hazards that occur from the toxic CO₂ that they release into the atmosphere. We need to focus on generating green, renewable energy to power our societies.

Nigeria is said to have substantial installed generation capacity of more than 13.5 GW, compared to the country's peak demand of 8.25 GW. Hence, power generation should be able to adequately address the national demand. However, in 2019, the available capacity only amounted to 3.7 GW. National electrification stands at 60% of the population, leaving 16 million households without access to electricity.

I had the opportunity to visit the **Uniosun Power House, Osogbo, Osun State** sometime in 2020. That visit enabled me to learn that the challenge of electricity in Nigeria wasn't actually that of power generation. In fact, I was reliably informed during the visit that some of their cables were bursting due to over-production of power. But our major problem is currently with the power transmission and distribution network.

The Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) operates the transmission grids of Nigeria and the average capacity evacuated to distribution companies (DISCOs) during fourth quarter of 2019 was only 2,868 MW. Transmission losses (from generation to DISCOs) amounted to a whopping 22%! During the same fourth quarter of 2019, total distribution losses across the DISCOs amounted to about 40%! It amplifies that the competent investors that have the means to buy and redistribute the power we generate, aren't really doing so.

In addition, much of Nigeria's new gas-fired electricity generation capacity is unused because of gas supply problems. Production at our highest capacity thermal power plant, the Egbin Power Plant in Lagos State, is being severely threatened due to frequent gas supply issues.

It is thought-provoking that while some African countries such as Benin, Togo, Burkina Faso and Niger Republic are being powered by Nigeria's excess generated electricity; we are having gross deficits in power distribution to our various homes, schools and businesses.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ The development of the power sector would form a cardinal point of our administration's focus.
- ✓ We shall pay particular attention to all the forms of renewable energy, vis-à-vis solar, geothermal, wind, biomass, tidal power and hydroelectricity.
- ✓ In addition, our Review of the National Gas Master Plan would ensure that adequate gas is made available to all our thermal power plants across the nation.

Focus on Solid Mineral and Steel Development

With the world focusing on developing renewable energy, coupled with the glut in global oil supply due shale oil production, the reduction in global crude oil prices is not expected to reverse in the short run. This brings to the fore, the need to diversify our national economy towards improving other sources of revenue. The Nigerian solid minerals and steel sector offers great potential in achieving this economic diversification.

Nigeria is enormously blessed with a cornucopia of solid minerals. Every state in the country has economically viable solid minerals of commercial quantities underneath its soil. Unfortunately, due to the focus on easy petrodollars by successive governments, the solid minerals sector has not been accorded the due attention, hence, the sector's contribution to Nigeria's GDP in recent years hovers in the range of 0.1 to 0.46%. It has never exceeded 1%!

Our government shall strive to increase the sector's GDP contribution to at least 5% over our first four years in office, and higher in subsequent years. We equally intend to make the sector a major producer of jobs for the vast unemployed segment of our society.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ Our massive investments in critical infrastructure will factor-in planned linkage with existing and potential mining sites, to support the movement of labour and equipment to mining sites; as well as the evacuation of minerals for sale and export.
- ✓ Commence prompt and accurate geophysical data gathering, to provide reliable information on the estimated quantity of the nation's solid minerals, as an encouragement to potential investors.

- ✓ The requisite raw materials for infrastructural development, such as Bitumen for road construction, limestone for cement production and iron ore to manufacture steel for rail construction etc., would be sourced locally, to fast-track the development of local markets for these solid minerals.
- ✓ Improving security, especially in the northern parts of Nigeria, will be a boost for the Solid Minerals Sector. Due to the persistent menace of terrorism, banditry and communal conflicts in the northern regions, mining activities have been grossly undermined over the years.
- ✓ Establishing a New Policy on artisanal mining: 80% to 85% of current mining activities in Nigeria are via artisanal and small scale mining. Apart from revenue loss to government, it exposes the miners to risks and causes other degrading effects on our environment. We shall take urgent steps to formalize artisanal and small scale mining by formulating policies aimed at achieving the integration of informal artisanal miners into the formal mining sector; training and equipment supply; funding; possible absorption by bigger companies and enlightenment on safe mining practices etc.
- ✓ Encourage the **“One Local Government, One Mineral Prospect”**: Our government will achieve this by encouraging each state to invest in domiciled solid mineral(s) either as sole investors or in collaboration with private investors, with revenues accruing entirely to the state, and taxes and royalties accruing to the Federal Government; and applying the derivation formula used in the oil and gas industry in sharing the tax and royalty revenues accruing from the development of the solid minerals sector.
- ✓ Facilitate the establishment of Mineral Buying Centres and lapidaries across each geopolitical zone of the country. This will encourage the artisanal miners to sell minerals locally, and their production can be monitored for taxes and royalty collection.
- ✓ Establishment of a Solid Minerals Development Bank to provide investor-friendly loans specifically designed to cater for the various stages of the mining life cycle. This will make funding more accessible to miners, and repayment terms more reflective of the realities in the mining industry. Our government will also provide special incentives for commercial banks having special packages for the solid minerals sector.
- ✓ Strengthening the Mining Cadastre Office through funding and training.
- ✓ Prompt completion of the privatization of the Ajaokuta Steel Rolling Plant.

- ✓ Conducting the bitumen licensing round and the rehabilitation of National Iron Ore Mining Company, Itakpe.
- ✓ Re-establishing realistic milestones in our reviewed roadmap for the development of the solid minerals and metals sector.

Focus on Infrastructural Development

Our quest for Industrialization must be backed by huge concerted investments in modern infrastructure. The pitiable state of our roads, railway system, aviation services, water supply, housing infrastructure, electricity distribution, health, public education and communication infrastructure is grossly inadequate to cater for our rapidly growing population. Our infrastructural deficits have been identified as the most challenging factor in doing business in Nigeria. The United Nations forecasts that by 2050, the population in Nigeria would almost double, reaching **over 400 million people** and making Nigeria the third most populous nation in the world. Hence, we must commence rapid infrastructural development, reaching even the remotest parts of the country, to minimize rural-urban migration and other social malaise associated with over-population.

Nigeria's infrastructural deficits are too massive to be dependent on the yearly budgetary allocations. Robust critical infrastructure has the potential to increase productivity, which would ultimately alleviate poverty, enhance job creation, facilitate trade and promote innovation in the economy.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ Creating a strong framework for private sector investments through public-private partnership (PPP).
- ✓ Leveraging the capital market for sourcing of infrastructure development financing.
- ✓ Running a lean and efficient government, to reduce recurrent expenditure and free-up more money for infrastructural development.
- ✓ Substantially increasing budgetary allocations to the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA), towards the maintenance of our federal road network.
- ✓ Addressing the perennial problems of poor customs performance at our ports, and improving both the marine and landside access to ports, while planning for new capacity infrastructures.
- ✓ Ensuring that funds allocated to capital projects are promptly disbursed and utilised as budgeted.

- ✓ Ensuring consistency in government policy and prompt completion of all viable ongoing/abandoned capital projects, as well as legislating on government's national developmental plans.

Focus on ICT Development

Nigeria is strategically located at the heart of Africa, between West and Central Africa, enjoying easy access to other regions of the world. Its vantage geographical location, along with its vast human, natural and economic potential, makes Nigeria undoubtedly Africa's business hub, offering numerous business and investment prospects in the fledgling Information and Communications Technology, (ICT) Sector. Currently, it is estimated that over 65% of Nigerian youths are IT savvy. A recent report shows that Nigeria's Foreign Direct Investment in the ICT Sector rose from an aggregate of \$50 million in 2001 to \$99.6 billion in 2018, with a GDP of over \$380 billion, mainly from private sector initiatives and efforts.

With increased broadband penetration and rapid increase in mobile phone subscribers, online banking and electronic commerce which have witnessed exponential growth since the breakout of COVID-19, and the attractiveness of the ICT sector to the youth, Nigeria can triple its Foreign Direct Investment from the ICT sector over a five-year developmental period. The World Bank Group reports that the ICT has great promise to directly or indirectly lead to poverty reduction, productivity increment, economic growth boost, and accountability and governance improvement.

Unfortunately, government bureaucracy, lack of basic infrastructures, inadequate publicity, legislative and other political bottlenecks have limited the rate of growth and penetration of ICT Sector and its development potentials in Nigeria. My administration shall make the ICT sector a vital fulcrum in its quest to diversify the Nigerian economy and reduce dependence on oil revenue.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ Granting special incentives for local production of computers, mobile phones and other digital devices and their accessories/consumables, to drastically reduce the cost of purchase of computers and other imported mobile/digital devices.
- ✓ We shall promote aggressive human capacity building in ICT through training workshops and courses in partnership with local and

international ICT training firms. Viable partnerships shall be forged with foreign software producing firms for the promotion of knowledge-sharing and capacity-building for our local software engineers. This would address the challenge of loss of billions of dollars annually to the importation of software and other ICT Products and services.

- ✓ Promoting effective legislation and providing economic stimuli to tackling the high cost of bandwidth, while resolving the perennial limiting factor of inadequate power supply, tax burden etc.
- ✓ Providing a more enabling environment through liberalisation of key ICT sub-sectors such as broadband, managed services, software, Internet of Things (IoT) and blockchain technology, to create more competition and attract FDI.
- ✓ Establishing various grants and financing options for ICT business start-ups through the Bank of Industry.
- ✓ Formulating policies that would aid the use of ICT tools for enlightenment programs among rural dwellers on issues that have direct bearings on their welfare; such as agriculture, trade and commerce, education, health, social awareness etc.
- ✓ My administration shall develop the Nigerian software industry to fully harness the export potential of local software in earning foreign currency, as it is cheaper for foreigners to buy software from Nigeria due to the differentials in foreign exchange rates. To this end, we shall develop more ICT Hubs and Innovation Parks across the country.
- ✓ My administration will strive to increase mobile broadband penetration to at least 90% by 2027.
- ✓ Increasing government investment in research and development up to 0.8% of our GDP (compared to the current 0.2% of GDP) to boost the Nigerian tech industry.
- ✓ Promptly addressing gender disparities in science education and computer literacy, while promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) adoption by the younger generation.

Focus on Human Capital Development

In the 21st century, it is largely observed that the driving force for a nation's development and growth is shifting from natural resource endowment to knowledge-based economy. Countries without abundant natural resources, such as Japan, have attained significant developmental strides as a result of their emphasis on human capital development that drives knowledge-based

economy. Unfortunately, successive federal administrations in Nigeria have shown diminished interest in human capital development, as evident in the near neglect of the nation's educational sector. Nigeria has been spending much on governance, while critical infrastructure and education in particular, has been treated with levity in the national budget.

While no Nigerian Government since the 1980s has committed up to 10% of its annual budget to education, with the 2021 allocation being a meagre 5.6%, countries that spent a huge part of their budget on higher education alone are Malaysia (32%), USA (26%) and Korea (22%).

Our government would not watch and allow our crude oil deposits to be totally depleted, before focusing on other viable sectors of the national economy such as developing, training and appreciating our abundant human capital.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ Effective training of our youth in ICT
- ✓ Adequate funding of the educational sector, with a minimum of 20% of the national budget being committed to educational development, and prospects of raising it to 26% of national budget within four (4) years.
- ✓ Paying special attention to vocation/business training and mentoring of young Nigerians.

Focus on Leveraging Nigerians in Diaspora

The World Bank projected **\$21 billion** Diaspora remittances into Nigeria in 2020 alone. This figure attests to the productive ingenuity of Nigerians living abroad. The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs' (DESA) estimated the total number of **Nigerians in Diaspora** to be 1.7-million, as at June 2020. But the children and grandchildren of Nigerians born in foreign countries or areas of destination were not included in this figure. Recognising the strategic importance of Nigerians in Diaspora, the Federal Government signed the Nigerians in Diaspora Commission Establishment Bill into law in July 2017. The Commission was set up to engage and utilise the human, capital and material resources of this demography in the socio-economic, cultural and political development of Nigeria. In 2017, **Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa**, Chairperson of the Nigerians in Diaspora Commission, gave the number of Nigerians living abroad as **15-million**. The bottom line, Nigeria has

a lot of professionals and business men and women who are doing exceedingly well abroad.

Nigerians are hard-working, intelligent and industrious, and the governments of the developed countries of Europe, America and Asia provide the enabling socio-economic environments for our young professionals and business persons to thrive.

My administration intends to harness the intellect, resources and experience of Nigerians abroad, to build our economy in more ways than financial remittances. We must therefore leverage what we have locally, and the contributions of Nigerians in the Diaspora, to build the nation of our dream.

Indeed, many Nigerians in Diaspora complain that the socio-economic environment back home is not favourable for them to invest. But I'm often quick to remind them that the Chinese, the Koreans, the Russians, the Germans, the Americans and the Indians still populate the Nigerian market, where they earn the chunk of the capital that they repatriate home to build their own economies. So why can't we do the same? Why should we always locate our investments abroad because we feel that the foreign environments encourage investment? Even more, why can't we work to build the convenient business environment that we need in Nigeria?

There are several ways to build a nation's economy. Taxation is just one of those ways. While I served as the Chairperson of Nigerians In Diaspora Organization, Americas, (NIDOA), I recall telling the Special Adviser to the President on Diaspora Matters and Chairperson, Diaspora Services Commission, Mrs. Abike Dabiri, that I know many Nigerians abroad who were willing to come home to contribute their quotas to the development of the nation. However, we must provide the leverage to these categories of Nigerians who are desirous to identify with their roots, to come home and join in the nation-building process. We cannot depend on foreign aid and grants to build our economy. The World Bank, United Nations, all the international development partners cannot help us. At best, they can offer their minimal support to our developmental efforts. We need to deploy our creativity to its optimum level, in order to achieve the Nigeria of our dream.

Our Specific Redemption Strategy

- ✓ Our government shall develop a coherent policy framework to harness remittances into generating capital for productive investments for the growth and development of micro, small, and medium-scale enterprises.
- ✓ We will establish a programme through which any Nigerian in the Diaspora that doesn't yet have a Green Card, and is willing and able to make a capital investment of about 500,000 dollars and above in the real sector of Nigeria's economy, would be offered a Green Card automatically.
- ✓ We shall create platforms that increase accessibility of crucial information for Nigerians in the Diaspora. Nigerians in Diaspora constitutes mainly semi-skilled, skilled and highly skilled professionals. They are in need of credible opportunities of investment with assured returns on their savings and earnings
- ✓ Reducing the transaction costs of migrant remittances to less than 3%, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals 10 Target.
- ✓ Encouraging and creating pooled investment vehicles, where Nigerians in the Diaspora can be vetted and can aggregate funds for private equity investment.

THE CANDIDATE-PATIENCE NDIDI KEY

Mrs. Patience Ndidi Key is a bonafide Nigerian from Local Government of State. A seasoned health professional, scrum professional and consummate entrepreneur, Mrs. Key has a sterling track-record of humanitarian endeavours. She is the former **Chairman, Board of Directors (BOD), Nigerians in Diaspora Organization Americas (NIDOA), USA**; and former **President of NIDOA**, Maryland Chapter.

Mrs. Key is the Co-owner of **Divine Home Healthcare LLC**, and the Founder and CEO of **P-Key Health Solutions**. She equally founded **Patience Key Foundation**, a non-profit organization. Mrs. Key employs and manages staffs for direct patients' care, private settings and hospital settings. She facilitates, motivates and provides encouragement to teams for better creativity and improves the efficiency of development teams using the Agile Project Management Methodology.

Mrs. Key is a Public Health specialist, with focus on Environmental Health, Epidemiology and Social Behavior. She has an impeccable history of successes in spearheading enterprise operations, applying business and system acuity, leadership talent and regulatory compliance in creating operational centers of excellence. She is drawn to charitable organizations and strongly committed to the education and empowerment of Nigerians; specifically, with the belief that charity begins at home. Mrs. Key is a focused, passionate and compassionate leader, effectively committed to community and national engagements, and dedicated to promoting interpersonal development. She is equally a strong believer that the unification of the Nigerian people is a veritable key to nation building.

Her life skills and career competency are matched with a **Master of Public Health, Walden University, USA**; a **Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Coppin State University, Baltimore USA**, a **Bachelor of Science in Geography and Regional Planning from Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma Edo State Nigeria**. Mrs. Key is a Certified Scrum Master and Agile Project Management professional.

She has worked with the famous **Johns Hopkins Hospital; Sinai Hospital; Maryland General Hospital**, and **Genesis Healthcare**, all in the United States of America.

Mrs. Key has hosted several eminent leaders both in Nigeria and the United States, and has spoken extensively on leadership, governance and the economy at different forums, including at the State House, Aso Rock Villa, Abuja.

Mrs. Key was inspired to join partisan politics because of her insatiable desire to see that Nigeria attains the fullness of its potential, and Nigerians are accorded their due respect abroad. Hence, her conviction to join an undefiled political platform upon which she would pursue her presidential ambition. This led her to enroll into the People's redemption Party (PRP), which in her opinion, is the party that does not only have a key as the main feature of its logo, but symbolizes the key to unlock the enormous potential of Nigeria and Nigerians.

Mrs. Key is married with two lovely sons.

PRP, THE CREDIBLE ALTERNATIVE PLATFORM

Nigeria is currently in dire need of redemption! If things are left to go on unchecked, we may wake-up someday to find out that our nation has slid into extinction. The PDP and the APC have had their chances at governance at the centre, and proven that they both lack the capacity and credibility to turn things around for the better. Power is taken, never given. I therefore enjoin all Nigerians to embrace the new, credible alternative, being the People's Redemption Party (PRP), so that we can take back power from the APC and redirect it to the noble cause of providing a better life for the Nigerian people.

The PRP offers Nigerians a path to total redemption from the brinks of failure due to several decades of bad governance. It is the only political party with the logo of a key, the key to unlock the full potentials of Nigeria and reclaim its place of pride in the comity of world nations.

LAST LINES

With the diligent pursuit of the **3-Point Integrated Redemption Agenda** outlined herein, I have no glimmer of doubt that Nigeria shall truly become the Giant of Africa and the Pride of the Black Race, not only in terms of its size and population, but from the prism of providing effective regional leadership and its global competitiveness.

We are in this presidential race to win! This is not as a test of our popularity or acceptability, but a divine mission to redeem our nation from several decades of bad governance. I am confident in my eligibility, experience, dedication and sincerity to serve sacrificially as your next President and Commander-in-Chief.

I therefore welcome you on board this divine journey of redemption, as I solicit your unflinching support and enjoin you to share the salient contents of this manifesto with your family, neighbours, friends, associates and all other Nigerians that you come across. Together, we shall reposition our nation on the path of enduring prosperity. **It is achievable, and the time is now!**

Thanks and God bless you.

Mrs. Patience Ndidi Key
PRP Presidential Aspirant