

**SPEECH OF THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
FEDERATION, MR BOSS MUSTAPHA AT THE INAUGURATION OF
THE COMMITTEE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL
PEACE COMMISSION HELD ON 3RD SEPTEMBER, 2018**

PROTOCOL

I am pleased to welcome you to the inauguration of the Committee on the establishment of a National Peace Commission. The National Economic Council (NEC) at its last Security Summit held in August, 2017 reviewed the security situation in the country and identified ethno-religious crisis as one of the sources of insecurity, which needs to be addressed. It therefore recommended the need to establish a National Peace Commission (NPC) by the Federal Government and Peace Agencies (PAs) by State Governments. In order to work out the modalities for the establishment of these august bodies, this Committee is being set up with the following Organizations as Chairman, Members and Secretary:

- a. Institute of Peace and Conflict Resolution - Chairman
- b. National Council of Traditional Rulers of Nigeria (NCTRN) - Member
- c. Nigerian Inter-Religious Council (NIREC) - "
- d. Office of the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation - "
- e. Federal Ministry of Justice - "
- f. Defence Headquarters - "
- g. Nigeria Police Force - "
- h. Department of State Services - "
- i. Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps - "
- j. National Orientation Agency - "
- k. Special Services Office (OSGF) - Member/Secretary

2. At this juncture, it is important to emphasize that we should all be aware of the importance of this assignment. There are myriads of security challenges across the country that are yet to be brought to a halt. These include terrorism in the North East, armed banditry, cattle rustling and kidnapping in the North West, farmers and herdsmen's crisis in the North Central, secessionist agitations in the South East, pipeline vandalism, oil bunkering and theft and cultism in the South-South as well as the adverse activities of electricity vandals and oil bunkerers in the South West and South-

South. This is an indication that all parts of the country are engrossed in one security challenge or another. Hence, the essence of this Committee, which is to recommend a suitable platform for resolving these avoidable conflicts so as to return the country into the path of peace and sustainable development.

3. The Committee has the following Terms of Reference:

- a. Develop a suitable framework for the establishment of a National Peace Commission (NPC) at Federal level and Peace Agencies (PAs) at the State level.
- b. Articulate the functions to be performed by both National Peace Commission and Peace Agencies.
- c. Draw the administrative structures and Organogram for National Peace Commission and Peace Agencies.
- d. Recommend the legal framework for the National Peace Commission and Peace Agencies.
- e. Any other issue the Committee deems relevant to accomplish its assignment.

4. Members of this Committee were carefully selected based on your pedigree as sustainable peace builders. I have no doubt that you would carry out the assignment to the best by tradition of public service and in the interest of the country. The Committee is expected to carry out the assignment and submit its Report within three (3) months from the day of inauguration.

5. With these few remarks, it is my honour to officially inaugurate the Committee on the Establishment of a National Peace Commission.

6. I wish you fruitful deliberations and God's guidance. Thank you.

Secretary to the Government of the Federation
The Presidency
Abuja

3rd September, 2018