

THE POLITICAL MANIFESTO OF DR THOMAS-WILSON IKUBESE, 2019 PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRANT.

Campaign Website: www.ikubese.org

MY DECLARATION

(Made on 24th July, 2017)

Fellow Nigerians, I make this declaration with a heavy heart and tears in my eyes.

I weep for Nigeria, my beloved country!

Nations which were in the same league with us at independence have since joined the developed world, while we are daily retrogressing rather than make advancement.

Nigeria ought to be the pride of the black race. But today, we have become a global embarrassment!

This nation is blessed with vast natural and human resources. Yet, we live as though we are sub-humans.

Our albatross over the years, is largely hinged on the fact that those who manage our resources are ill-prepared for office, selfish and lack the vision for posterity.

In 2011, I wrote a book titled **MY PRESCRIPTION FOR NIGERIA** (available online at www.mpfng.blogspot.com)

In that publication, I stated the 23 areas that must be addressed for Nigeria to become the nation of our dreams.

Ever since, I've passed the content therein to our national leadership with very little willingness to so implement on their part, as this will make

the occupation of political office strictly a seat for rendering **SERVICE** and not a ticket for self-enrichment, taking the political and economic power away from them, placing it in the hands of the masses!

Seeing that our present crop of political leadership might never implement these recommendations, I have decided to run for the office of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, so that I can put machineries in place for the actualization of these recommendations, which will birth the New Nigeria of our dreams.

I hereby call on our youths, who form about 70% of the Nigerian population, to rise up and join me in this civil revolution through the ballot box come 2019, rather than recycle the current political brigades.

I hereby encourage our youths to rise up to this challenge and vie for elective offices in their various localities. We must however identify credible youths in our domain with leadership qualities who are selfless, visionary and worthy of our votes.

When we identify those, we should encourage them to run for elective offices and work hard for their emergence at the polls, for if we fold our hands and allow youths who are not worthy of leadership to assume office, they shall leave us far worse than the former.

I am but a Medical Practitioner, not a money-bag. So at the appropriate time, you shall all contribute your widow's mite to the success of this project; our project!

Tell your friends, colleagues, siblings, parents, neighbours, that a new Nigeria is possible and together we can!

We shall not bribe electorates to get their votes come 2019. These politicians bribed them for votes not long ago, but now we are all suffering the consequences thereof!

SHARE and Spread this message far and wide.

Consider yourself the Campaign Manager of this project called **REVOLUTION-NIGERIA-2019** in your locality.

I urge you all to start reaching out in your various localities, gathering yourselves into groups, in your places of work and residence, ward-by-ward towards the success of this all-important project.

A New Nigeria is possible!

Together we can.

Yes We Fit!

God bless Nigeria.

Dr Thomas-Wilson Ikubese
2019 Presidential Aspirant

***Find below the manifesto of Dr Thomas-Wilson
Ikubese:***

STATE & PRESIDENTIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AWARD

One of the ways to improve on the economy of the country is to encourage and support those who invest in the country. Doing this will spur the investors, especially those in the large scale as well as medium scale enterprises, to plough back their profits into further investments in the country.

Therefore, my administration shall institute an Annual Presidential Entrepreneurship Award where the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria shall honour entrepreneurs of different categories across the 36 states of the federation. The nomination will be made by members of the public and the list published a month to the event to entertain objections thereof.

In a replication of the Presidential Award, we shall encourage state Governors to do same, wherein entrepreneurs of different categories (and of reputable integrity), whose investments are resident in the state would be recognized and so honoured by the state governor through the same process as in the Presidential Award.

The award will be sponsored entirely by the Private Sector at no cost to government.

GOODS IMPORTATIONS

For the past three to four decades, local production of goods in Nigeria has continued to dwindle due to the increase in the importation of goods that could be produced in the country.

Many of the local producers in the country have folded up due to their inability to favourably compete with imported goods in the market. This has also led to the loss of jobs with thousands sent into the unemployment market every year.

With Nigeria fast becoming a dumping ground for all sorts of products from around the world, there is the need to ensure the survival of local producers of goods in the country in order to protect the nation's economy.

Therefore, we shall take steps to BAN the importation of ANY good that is or can be **produced** locally in Nigeria. This shall serve as incentive for

local production. This will also create employment opportunities and job security in the production sector.

We shall however give a window period of between six months to one year after inauguration, to allow for anticipatory adjustment.

STATE OF ORIGIN

With the amalgamation of Nigeria in 1914, all Nigerians have been given the opportunity to reside, function and perform all their constitutional and legitimate responsibilities anywhere they find themselves in any part of the country.

This integration is as important as the continued unity of the country and in order to encourage this, there is the need to allow every Nigerian to have the same sense of belonging in any part of the country. Every Nigerian shall be seen as equal and entitled to any privilege accorded by their environment, without discrimination.

My administration shall therefore sponsor an Executive Bill to the National Assembly to expunge "State of Origin" from every official document, as ***Nigerians everywhere shall have equal opportunities wherever they choose to live.***

This shall also include a comprehensive equality bill to stall any form of discrimination such as tribe, disability, age or gender .

CONTESTING ELECTIONS

As an extension of my prescription on State of Origin, every Nigerian shall have equal opportunities everywhere in the country.

Therefore, my administration shall sponsor an Executive Bill to the National Assembly prescribing that ***anyone who resides in a locality for an onward period of five years shall be eligible to contest elections therein.***

TRUE FEDERALISM

There is the need for Nigeria to break the jinx in its quest of evolving a constitution that reflects the collective wishes and aspirations of its more than 350 ethnic groups.

There is also the need to reduce the power and financial strength at the centre for stronger and more responsible federating units.

Therefore, my administration shall sponsor an Executive Bill to the National Assembly, prescribing that each state of the federation shall function as an AUTONOMOUS structure, in full control of its RESOURCES, pay Tax to the Federal government and contribute to the CommonPurse at a ratio to be co-determined.

This way, each state will be able to develop at its own pace using its own God-given resources.

STATE POLICE ABUSE

One of the major concerns of those against state police has been that governors will abuse its use to haunt perceived political enemies. There have been concerns that governors might use state police for personal and political ambitions.

In order to avoid the abuse of the use of state police by state governors, that there shall be a unit called "State Police Abuse Complaints Unit (SPACU)" in the Police headquarters in Abuja, which shall handle all complaints of abuse of power by members of the Public.

The unit will be subdivided into six, representing each of the six geo-political zones for effectiveness.

Special Police Abuse Courts will also be established in each state to try police officers who abuse their privileges. These courts shall conclude sittings and deliver judgements speedily **within six months**, circumventing unnecessary delays and adjournments.

Thus, Police officers who allow themselves to be used by governors to trample on the right of citizens in a **criminal** fashion will be made to face the law and judgement delivered in their cases speedily. Where a governor or any politician is implicated in the abuse, such a fellow should also brought to book and made to face the music. Where a governor is so indicted, he shall be charged to court and made to appear if it's a **criminal** proceeding, as my administration shall equally sponsor a bill to abolish the immunity clause for public office holders in a criminal matter.

STATE POLICE

For many years now, Nigerians have had to deal with an inefficient, corrupt and a mediocre police force.

The federal government has also compounded the situation by underfunding and under-equipping the police, leaving the people to bear the brunt.

This has also been compounded with the fact that State Governors who are supposed to be the Chief Security Officers of their states have no control over the Police Command in their states as Police Commissioners in the states are only answerable to the Inspector General of Police in the federal capital who is in turn answerable to the President; an equation that makes the governors mere figure-heads.

Having a Nigerian police which is comprised of persons who are locals of the environment and have been resident therein for years will certainly help in checking crime as these officers would know the nooks and crannies of the towns and villages, the socio-cultural settings and indeed the pedigree of residents of the communities.

My administration shall thus send an Executive Bill to the national assembly to prescribe that each state of the federation should have its own police, and the State Commissioner of Police answerable to the state Governor, as the TRUE Chief Security Officer of the state.

THE POLICE BARRACKS

One of the greatest factors hindering the emergence of the police of our dream in Nigeria is the barrack system that we operate, where policemen are lumped together in barracks and isolated from the society which they are meant to police.

The concept of accommodating policemen in barracks was originally a colonial arrangement put in place to make for easy assemblage of these men whenever they are needed to tackle matters of urgent attention. However, times have changed. Every police officer now has a mobile phone, besides the regular police walkie-talkie. Police men therefore do not need to live together in a particular place for them to be easily assembled whenever they are needed to attend to distress situations.

When policemen live amongst the people, they interact with them and feel the pulse of their communities. It would therefore be easier for them to gather information and counter crimes as against when they are

isolated in the barracks.

When police officers graduate from the police training institute (Police College), they do so with high hopes of professionalism. However, the kind of interactions that take place within the barracks amongst police officers soon erode every sense of astuteness and altruistic professionalism that the young officers graduated with and soon blends with the older folks, doing "business as usual".

A visit to a typical Nigerian police barrack shows buildings that are dilapidated, unkept and grossly unfit for human habitation. There is no way an individual would be accommodated in that kind of an environment and such a fellow would be expected to behave decently. The average Nigerian policeman lacks self esteem and dignity largely because of the inhuman environment where he resides. He therefore sees members of the larger society as enemies. He sees them as people who are enjoying, while he and members of his family are deprived of basics of life. This scenario certainly prevents him from putting in his best into his job while he looks at other professionals with envy, and perhaps disdain. So, from the onset, it becomes a game of "us" against "them".

My administration shall scrap the police barracks system all over the federation and ADEQUATE ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCE will be factored into the salaries of policemen to enable them afford decent accommodations amongst the civil populace.

COMPUTERISATION OF POLICE DOCUMENTATIONS

It is common knowledge that almost all the time, statements at Nigerian police stations are made on sheets of paper and filed among gamut of files, many of which get missing sooner than later. This has made it almost impossible for the Police to keep crime records of individuals.

My administration shall computerize all police stations so that statements are stored in the computer and sent to a central data base on daily basis with the pictures of the accused persons.

This will make it easy for the police to keep tabs on the criminal records of individuals and produce same when needed.

Employers of labour, using the Freedom of Information provision, can ask the Police to furnish it with the **Criminal Records** of potential employees, ditto for persons seeking to occupy public office.

EQUIPING THE POLICE

My administration shall equip the Police with modern day communication and security/communication equipments .

CCTV ON OUR STREETS AND PUBLIC PLACES

My administration shall install CCTV on the streets of the FCT and public places in the Federal Capital Territory.

Since there will be uninterrupted power supply using gas turbine, the question of electricity would not be a challenge.

My administration will encourage all the state governors to do same for their states as a security measure.

GUARD POLICE

Nigeria has a population of about 186 million people and a Police population of about 370,000.

Of the 370,000 a staggering 80% of this number are assigned to guard private citizens, politicians, businessmen and private enterprises, leaving only 20% to carry out the core police duties of maintaining peace and security in our communities.

It is a known fact that today, in not a few cases, as much as 30 police officers are attached to a single individual!

In simple terms, of the 370,000 police officers in Nigeria, 296,000 (80%) are assigned as 'private' guards while only 74,000 (20%) are left to the core duties of policing a nation of 186 million people.

The United Nations recommendation for Police: Citizen ratio is 1:400, meaning that every 400 people should be policed by an officer. However, with the current Nigerian situation of 74,000 police officers to a population of 186 million people, we run on a ratio of 1:2,514.

This means that instead of a Police officer to a population of 400 people, we have one police officer to 2,514 citizens, leaving us **SIX TIMES** under-policed.

In order to address this anomaly, we shall establish a unit called the Guard Police.

This unit will be responsible for providing security to private citizens and Politicians at a cost, leaving the Regular Police to do their traditional job of maintaining peace and providing security to the society unhindered..

Funding: The funds needed to run the Guard Police does not have to come from the purse of the Federal Government.

Persons who require the services of these officers will pay specific sums to a designated account from which their salaries will be drawn monthly, thus taking the financial burden off the govt.

This way, we would have succeeded in creating jobs for our teeming youth population, while equally meeting the security need of our populace, at no extra cost to government

In addition, the funding for this unit shall also come from citizens who break the law and are fined thereby, as we shall activate and strictly enforce the fine culture. Such fines will be paid into the designated account from wherein the salaries of the officers will be drawn.

SECURITY VOTE

For many years, elected chief executives have been hiding under 'security votes' to budget for themselves millions of naira every month without any form of accountability on how such money is spent.

Many state governors collect as much as N500 million monthly (N6 billion annually) as security vote without any explanation of how the money is spent.

My administration shall send an Executive Bill to the National Assembly prescribing that the monthly Security Votes should be accounted for by each state governor, alongside other expenditures.

A system that allows you to receive millions of naira each month without accounting for its expenditure is the greatest incentive for STEALING.

With the new security architecture as stated above in place, the Security Votes will be drastically reduced

THE CONSTITUTION

It is rather unfortunate that today, you would see a well educated professional who is completely ignorant of the provisions of the Nigerian constitution.

This ignorance has had its negative backlash on the entire polity so much so that we find political office holders who do not know the constitutional provisions for their office. This lacuna has led to the emergence of political office holders who sometimes take actions that run contrary to constitutional provisions only to reverse themselves after wasting public funds.

The knowledge of the constitution should not be the exclusive preserve of lawyers, but rather should be at the finger tips of every Nigerian, whether occupying political office or not.

Therefore, my administration shall reform our educational curriculum such that the Nigerian Constitution be taught in secondary schools as a **compulsory subject** and a credit pass required to proceed to any institution of higher learning.

HISTORY/CITIZENSHIP STUDY

It is most unfortunate that History as a subject has been scrapped from our schools' curriculum. A people without a sense of history is a people with no hope for the future.

This explains why we keep making the mistakes of the past, while we fail to uphold the legacies of our heroes past.

My administration shall re-introduce **History** as a subject into our schools' curriculum alongside **Citizenship Studies** so that our students can understand our past in order to appreciate our future, with a proper perspective of their roles as citizens of our great nation .

LEADERSHIP AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Nigeria is indeed a blessed nation, both in natural and human resources. However, our greatest albatross as a nation is the lack of good leadership.

It is expedient that right from secondary school levels, students should have a proper grasp of what leadership entails. The dos and don'ts of public life, responsible leadership and the right values.

My administration shall thus introduce the subject called **Leadership and Entrepreneurship** as a compulsory subject in our secondary schools, so that leadership qualities can be imbibed in our students from their tender age

BANK LOAN

The Nigerian economy used to be driven by industries and small and medium scale enterprises. But as power generation continued to drop and government policies started favouring importation of goods that could be produced locally, those enterprises began to fade away with thousands of jobs lost every year.

Most of the small and medium scale enterprises in the country are suffering from lack of enough capital for sustenance and expansion while commercial banks in the country make it difficult for them to access loans.

Small and medium scale enterprises can drive the Nigerian economy if they are encouraged to thrive and in turn create employment opportunities for millions of Nigerians.

My administration shall direct the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to ensure that banks dedicate 30% of its funds to lending by Small and Medium-scale Entrepreneurs (SMEs) at a reasonable **single-digit** interest rate. With this, the economy of Nigeria will experience a turn-around in a short period of time as the SMEs which forms a critical mass shall be buffered.

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Pursuant to inculcating leadership qualities, interest and altruistic political engagements in our youths from a young age, students in the Senior Secondary School shall be divided into two “political parties”; ***Democratic Students Party and Republican Students Party***.

Each Party shall be made to elect its leadership at the beginning of each academic session.

Elections shall be held and students elected from their “political parties” to the Students Government Council, which will comprise the Executive and Legislative arms.

The Nigerian Constitution shall be the statute book of the Student Government Council

The aim of this is to encourage the spirit of political participation and responsible leadership amongst citizens from a young age, exposing them to the provisions and practice of the Nigerian Constitution.

SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP

In order to inculcate the rudiments of governance and leadership in our youths and politicians, my administration shall establish a department of **Leadership and Governance (L&G)** in selected universities in each of the six geo-political zones of Nigeria to run Diploma programs thereby.

Governance is serious business and should be seen as such. Over the years, we have seen elected political office holders who are virtually green-horns in matters of governance and leadership. But because they have the financial muscle and are in the good books of king-makers, find their ways into government and conduct themselves in uncomplimentary manners to the embarrassment of the governed.

The school of leadership will teach the rudiments of governance in all its ramifications, the conducts of a public officer, the workings of government, the place of the civil service in governance, interactions across the various arms of government, problems confronting the Nigerian state and possible solutions.

Each "student" towards the end of his program will write his project on the challenges of development in his state of political interest and proffer solutions theretofore.

My administration shall sponsor an executive bill to the National Assembly requesting that the certificate to be obtained after the program will be an INEC prerequisite for anyone to run for a political office or be appointed into Key offices of government in the country.

The importance of this is that we would have leaders who fully understand our problems and are armed with solutions before even contesting office, as against the present arrangement where most political office holders get into government and begin to learn on the job, at the expense of pace and good governance.

SALARIES FOR EXECUTIVES

For about a decade now, the recurrent expenditure of the government has taken over capital expenditure, with the government at all levels spending more money on payment of salaries and allowances than developmental projects that would have meaningful impact on the people.

Elected officials and their retinue of aides have continued to feed fat on the resources available at the expense of development. This has also been compounded by the decision of the Revenue Mobilisation,

Allocation and Fiscal Commission to regularly increase the wages and allowances of political office holders in the country.

My administration shall sponsor an executive bill to the National Assembly prescribing that the Monthly Salaries of the President and Governors should be reduced to just a little above that of the Permanent Secretaries in the Federal and State Civil Service respectively, devoid of frivolous allowances.

Their number of Aides and unnecessary allowances should also be reduced significantly to reflect economic realities.

SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES FOR LEGISLATORS

As an extension of my prescription on salary for executives, my administration shall also send a bill to the National Assembly prescribing a review of the remuneration of legislators in the State Houses of Assembly and the National Assembly to reflect the economic realities in Nigeria so as to reduce the cost of governance.

It is inhuman to pay our legislators in millions monthly, when civil servants receive a national minimum wage of N18,500

Members of the National Assembly and the State Houses of Assembly should receive salaries compatible with the Civil Service Salary Scale. Every other 'allowances' should be inculcated in the core salaries, which in the overall should be compatible with regular earnings in the civil service. In the alternative, we may pay them sitting allowances at a rate compatible with our present day economic reality.

We shall equally make to see that the business of legislature is made part-time, rather than the current full-time arrangement.

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

One of the major problems facing Nigeria today is that for so many years, the country has been spending much more on recurrent expenditure than capital expenditure. This means the country spends less money on developmental projects than the money spent on payment of salaries, allowances and maintenance of offices and structures of government.

One of those structures of government consuming the financial

resources of the nation is the National Assembly, made up of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The bicameral legislature operated by the country is more expensive than the nation can afford, with both chambers of the National Assembly performing the SAME function of lawmaking.

With over 400 members of the National Assembly (senate-109, house of representatives 360) and a long list of aides, the country has continued to spend billions of naira to maintain the National Assembly while there is little or no resources to expend on developmental projects like infrastructure, stable power and provision of employment opportunities. Twenty five per cent of the overhead of the Federal Government budget goes to the National Assembly. Figures from the office of budget for the year 2010 shows that total government overhead is N536, 268,49, 280. Total overhead of the National Assembly is N136,259,768, 112 which is exactly 25.1 per cent of Federal Government overhead. The overhead of the National Assembly as a percentage of the Federal Government budget in 2009 was 19.87 and in 2008 was 14.19

This has made it a matter of compulsion for the Federal Government to cut down on the recurrent expenditures. One of the areas of doing this is the operation of a unicameral legislature, which was operated in the country before the second republic, as against the current bicameral legislature which drains the resources of the country and fills the pockets of a few individuals with expanded expenses.

Official figures from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) indicate that the 2012 democratic dispensation gulped over N18 trillion to service national “lifestyles” — operations, wages and salaries, purchase of goods and services, as well as subsidies, among others — in sharp contrast to a relatively paltry N6.5 trillion spent on infrastructure between 1999 and 2011.

A document procured from the NBS, showed a uniform average recurrent expenditure pattern within the range of N1 trillion and N1.6 trillion between 2003 and 2007, but shot up significantly to N2.1 trillion in 2008, N2.3 trillion in 2009, and jumping even higher to N3.3 trillion in 2010 to settle at N3 trillion in 2011. While the recurrent component burgeoned, capital expenditure dwindled in the period under review.

Specifically, N489 billion capital expenditure in 1999 fell to N239.4 billion the following year. It, however, appreciated to N519.5 billion in 2004,

sustaining the tempo to 2009, when the government, according to the NBS, spent N1.1 trillion on infrastructure. The figure also went down to N883.9 billion in 2010, the year the country spent the all-time high of N3.3 trillion on recurrent expenditure.

A country that spends 70% of its earnings on recurrent expenditure (salaries and allowances), leaving only 30% for infrastructural developments will certainly lag behind in the committee of nations.

My administration shall therefore sponsor an executive bill to the National Assembly prescribing that the Senate and the house of Representatives be collapsed into a single entity and the number of seats reduced. The present composition is unnecessarily too expensive and a sheer waste of national resources.

CHARACTER CERTIFICATE

Most Nigerians don't get to really know much about the people they vote for to occupy sensitive positions, especially with the power of political parties to field whoever they like as candidates for elections. Many elected officials have turned out to be an embarrassment to those who elected them without knowing much about their character.

My administration shall send an Executive Bill to the National Assembly prescribing that for anyone to be eligible to contest for public office, his or her "***character transcript***" must first be sent to the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) from the secondary school and higher institution(s) attended by the person concerned. This way, persons with deformed characters and antisocial traits will not take charge of our lives.

Indeed, young fellows will become conscious of the fact that should they involve themselves in anti-social activities like fighting, rape, cultism and other youthful vices, they would have fore-closed their chances of ever taking up leadership positions in future.

Our leaders will thus be cultivated from grassroots gradually over the years. This will also lead to a reduction in youthful exuberance and the society will be better for it.

ELECTIONS AND TRIBUNALS

There is no democracy without elections. The electorates choose their representatives through elections. However, the violence and malpractices associated with elections in Nigeria, especially since the return of democracy in 1999, has made more crucial the role of the Elections Petition Tribunals.

As experienced in the country after the 2007 general election, the judiciary has a vital role to play in the electoral process. A lot of the governorship and legislative election results were overturned by the tribunals and the appellate courts, with some winners of those cases reclaiming their mandates two years after the election during which the wrong persons occupied such positions illegally.

This has necessitated a speedy hearing of electoral dispute cases and an adjustment in the election timetable in such a way that there will be enough time to conclude hearing and deliver judgment between the time an election is held and the time the winner is sworn in into office.

Therefore, my administration shall sponsor an Executive Bill to the National Assembly prescribing that elections should be held **six months** before the tenure of the incumbent terminates. ALL litigations arising from the elections must be completed within this period, before the winner of the election is sworn into office.

PROSECUTION OF ELECTORAL OFFENDERS

The greatest incentive to crime is when criminals go unpunished.

My administration shall strictly enforce the arrest and prosecution of persons found to have committed electoral offences to serve as deterrent to others.

SIX-YEARS SINGLE TERM.

The greatest distraction in the Nigerian polity, is the politics of "2nd term".

Since the return to democracy in 1999, Nigeria has been grappling with violence and malpractices during general elections, partly owing to the desperation of political office holders seeking a second term in office.

Although the Constitution allows for a second term in office, just like it is the practice in most democracies around the world, it is however putting Nigeria's nascent democracy under a serious strain.

Under the present arrangement, most elected political office holders 'thread softly' in their first term in office because they do not wish to step on toes. Certain decisions that need to be taken for the betterment of the general populace are delayed till the second term in office, when they would no longer require votes from anybody. Hence, those who never get the opportunity to make it to second term in office deprive the populace of the benefits of their 'suspended' best.

Typically, upon victory at the polls and the taking of the oath of office, the governor/president spends the four years thus:

1st YEAR: The first six months celebrating his victory, settling down, appointing commissioners, special advisers, senior special advisers, and familiarizing himself with office generally.

The following six months is spent on governance.

2nd YEAR: The second year is spent on governance.

3rd YEAR: The first six months is spent on governance.

The following six months is spent scheming and laying the foundation for the second term campaign.

4th YEAR: The entire year is largely dominated by grassroots politicking and campaigns for second term in office.

From the above analysis, we can deduce that of the four years, just about two and a half years is spent on real governance, while the rest is consumed by the second term virus.

Thus, if a single term non-renewable is introduced, the time and funds wasted on the second term maneuverings will be eliminated.

My administration shall therefore sponsor an Executive Bill to the National Assembly prescribing that elected officials be allowed a single term of five years as against the two terms of four years each stipulated in the Constitution.

With this prescription, we will spend less on elections and politicking and more time on governance while electoral malpractices and violence caused by the desperation of elected officials to remain in office would be reduced.

ROTATIONAL PRESIDENCY.

One of the major conflicts of the Nigerian state is that some regions feel "marginalized" in the Nigerian space because they are not able to

ascend to the Presidency, which is grossly oscillated between the North and South, a conglomerate of several ethnic nationalities, making them thus show primary allegiance to their ethnicity, taking Nigeria thus as a secondary sphere..

In order to give every region of the country a sense of belonging, my administration shall sponsor an Executive Bill to the National Assembly prescribing that election into the office of the President shall be rotated every five years amongst the six geo-political zones of North West, North East, North Central, South South, South East and South West.

After every region has produced the President, we may thereafter throw it open to all Nigerians irrespective of geography, so that the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria can emerge from any tribe per time, as **capacity, integrity** and the **spirit of excellence** becomes the yardstick and not tribal ancestry.

NO RE-CYCLING OF POLITICAL OFFICE HOLDERS

One of the greatest albatross of the Nigerian state is the re-cycling of persons from one office to another. The *typical* Nigerian politician now sees politics as a “profession”, thereby oscillating from one office to another, mastering the arts of manipulation for personal benefits without recourse to the welfare of the citizens.

This also explains why he/she will do just about anything to remain in office, one way or the other; either by election or by appointment.

It is therefore common place to see a person run for local govt councillorship, complete his tenure, vie for local govt chairmanship, complete his tenure, run for the state house of Assembly, complete his tenure, get appointed as a commissioner, complete his tenure, run for House of Representatives, complete his tenure, run for Senate, complete his tenure, run for governorship, complete his tenure, get appointed as a Hon Minister, Ambassador, Head of Parastatal etc.

This perpetuation in office keeps young minds out of our polity and allows the old ones to recycle themselves to the detriment of the polity.

In order to correct this anomaly, my administration shall sponsor an executive bill to the National Assembly that **no Nigerian shall cumulatively occupy public office more than twice; either by election or by appointment.**

This will open up the space for young minds and fresh ideas at all times.

Politics should be a call to service, not a profession. Once a person completes his tenure, he/she should return to his/her primary vocation, write books about his/her political experiences and serve as a mentor to younger ones.

LIFE IMPRISONMENT

Also closely related to the issue of corruption is the penalties given to convicted corrupt officials, most of who often get a slap on the wrist for embezzling millions of naira while petty thieves are sentenced to years of imprisonment.

Justice must be equal and must not recognize positions or wealth.

My administration shall sponsor a bill to the National Assembly prescribing that any public office holder, who is convicted of corruption, should face the following penalties:

1. Life imprisonment with no option of fine
2. Forfeiture of ALL assets, including those of spouse and children acquired after the public officer occupied office.

I so recommend because most corrupt public officers acquire assets fraudulently using the names of their spouses and children.

3. Banning the convict, spouse and children from ever holding public office in the country.

I so recommend because in most cases, the spouses and children are the ones that put pressure on the office holder to embezzle public funds. Their song often times is "this is our time". But if they are aware that they stand to forfeit their own chances in future if the office holder found wanting, they will be the ones putting pressures on him to be above board.

ANTI-CORRUPTION COURTS

The major cog in the wheel of Nigeria's progress is CORRUPTION!

For many years, the country has been swimming deep in corruption, with the epidemic eating deep into the fabrics of all the sectors of the nation's economy.

Today, corruption seems to have become a way of life for an average Nigerian and there seems to be no way out.

The establishment of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) by the Federal Government was a right step in the right direction in the efforts to fight corruption but the challenges facing the anti-corruption bodies are overshadowing the little progress so far made in recent times.

Nigerians are often gutted to see highly placed officials arrested for corruption walk free without serving jail terms or returning their loots. Corruption cases in courts often drag for too long and more often than not those cases are either thrown out for lack of evidence or are never heard of after a while.

My administration shall establish special courts to try cases of financial crimes and other related offences in the country.

In these special courts, frivolities and un-necessary adjournments should not be entertained and conviction should be secured within six months of filing a case just like it has been done for election dispute cases.

This speedy trial should be complemented by thorough and meticulous investigations by the prosecuting officials as against the usual practice where suspects are arrested in commando style and prosecuted on the pages of newspapers only to walk free after a shamble show at the courts.

GENDER BALANCING

Women are no less cerebral or productive than men. When properly engaged, a woman can perform as much as a man.

However, in most cases, women are less engaged and often relegated by our political actors.

My administration shall thus ensure equal gender distribution in the cabinet in the spirit of equity. The number of males/females who are appointed to serve at the Ministerial level shall reflect gender balance at ratio 50:50.

Women shall also be brought to the fore in heading some of the several government parastatals and MDAs.

This shall be implemented without compromising merits and excellence.

NAIJA CARD

We shall have a complete data card to be known as “Naija Card”, which shall be a one-stop data card for every Nigerian citizen. This card shall contain the NHIS data, drivers license, National Identity card, social security card number, Permanent Voters Card, ATM card, Blood Group, Genotype, Proof of Residence and any other vital data.

This card will make the centralization of data easy and accessible

NIGERIA AIRWAYS

- ❖ Nigeria is the “giant of Africa” yet has no national carrier, while many other smaller African nations have functional national carriers.
- ❖ Many years ago, Nigeria Airways had as much as 32 Aircrafts. However, today, all of them are grounded because of poor management.
- ❖ We shall resuscitate Nigerian Airways within two years in office. However, it shall no longer be owned wholly by the Federal Govt. Rather, the FG shall own 45% of the shares, while members of the public/private investors shall own the remaining 55%.
- ❖ The entity shall be managed as a private profitable enterprise, devoid of undue interference from Govt.
- ❖ Government functionaries who patronize the Airline shall pay in the manner of other passengers as they shall not be granted any form of credit facility.

M-TEL

At the birth of GSM system of communication in Nigeria in 2001, the Nigerian populace shifted base from the land line largely. M-Tel was created then as a subsidiary of NITEL. However, because of sabotage and poor management, other GSM outfits prospered, while M-TEL became grounded.

My administration shall re-awaken NITEL and the M-TEL subsidiary and run it on a Public-Private-Partnership arrangement wherein the FG owns

45% of the equity while 55% thereof is sold out in a transparent manner to investors.

Thus, the land lines and GSM services will become functional.

This will create employment opportunity for our populace and give Nigerians a competitive alternative to other GSM network providers

ANTI-CORRUPTION FIGHT

We shall make corruption unattractive to the citizens and govt dignitaries, while indicted persons be punished to serve as deterrent to others. Our corruption-fighting institutions shall be made strong and independent of the executive.

1. The Inspector General of Police shall not be an appointee of Mr President. He shall be appointed upon the recommendation of an independent body and confirmed by the National Assembly
2. The Inspector General of Police shall not be removed single-handedly by the President. However, the President can recommend his removal to the National Assembly. This is to allow for the Police to operate as an independent entity, without being tied to the apron string of Mr President.
3. The DG of the EFCC shall not be an appointee of Mr President. He shall be appointed upon the recommendation of an independent body and confirmed by the National Assembly.
4. The DG of EFCC shall not be removed directly by the President. However, the President can recommend his removal to the National Assembly. This is to allow for the Commission to operate as an independent entity, without being tied to the apron string of Mr President.
5. There shall be special Anti-corruption courts to speedily and diligently try cases of corruption and secure conviction within 6 months, devoid of frivolous adjournments.
6. The EFCC shall prepare its budget and the DG shall defend it before the National Assembly annually, to ensure adequate funding and financial autonomy, away from the grips of the Executive
7. The Nigerian Police shall prepare its budget and the IG shall defend it before the National Assembly, to allow for financial autonomy, away from the control of the Executive.

IMPORT POLICY

We shall give a window period of six months to a year after inauguration, after which we shall place a ban on the importation of any good that is produced in Nigeria. This is to encourage local production and economic rejuvenation. Government shall patronize the local market, by buying from it all goods it needs that are produced locally, rather than import same.

ELECTRICITY

We shall light up Nigeria within six months to one year of assuming office.

Each state shall **generate** and **distribute** its power supply using gas turbines, in a Public-Private-Partnership, without needing to pass generated electricity through the National Grid.

The federal government will no longer have business with electricity as we shall do away with the national grid and the current unitary system of electricity

HEALTH

1. We shall allocate 15% of the annual budgetary allocation for health in accordance with the African Union charter
2. We shall send a bill to the National Assembly to make participation in the NHIS scheme **mandatory** for Nigerians, as against the current *optional* status. This will ensure that Nigerians everywhere are covered by the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS), as against the current figure of less than 5% coverage since the inception of the scheme in 2005.
3. We shall increase the tariffs paid to health care providers to reflect the current economic realities, to ensure that enrollees get quality care, without short-changing the Health Care Providers.
4. We shall upgrade the facilities of one tertiary hospital in each of the six geo-political zones to world standard within two years. Other tertiary FG owned hospitals shall also be upgraded thereafter.
5. No government official shall be flown abroad for medical care.

6. We shall implement the National Health Act, 2014 immediately after inauguration.

AGRICULTURE

- ❖ We shall invest massively in agriculture on a mechanized basis.
- ❖ We shall create employment for 1,000 youths annually in each of the 774 local govts across the federation through agriculture
- ❖ We shall allocate arable lands to these youths, plough it for them with tractors, supply them with seedlings free of charge, give the fertilizers at subsidized rates, give them agric loans, supply them with tractors on loans to be repayed gradually and purchase the produce from them at harvest
- ❖ Cattle rearing shall be managed as animal husbandry and the herders given incentives to have their cattles ranched and benefit grossly thereby.

PRESS ADDRESS

I as the President of the federal republic of Nigeria, in the company of Ministers and heads of FG parastatals shall regularly address press conference **every three months**, with gentlemen of the Press and members of the public in attendance, during which we shall take questions freely and officers involved made to respond accordingly to enquiries.

NOLLYWOOD

We shall standardize Nollywood and make it a major source of massive job creation and income generation to government.

- ❖ Film producers MUST be certified professionals and films shot by certified professionals.
- ❖ We shall accredit certain universities for Nollywood production regulation.
- ❖ Scripts shall be submitted to accredited Units in the Dept of Theatre Arts in accredited universities by producers. A stated sum shall be paid to a designated FG account . The unit shall be responsible for evaluating the script with necessary amendments with the view of

standardizing it. A percentage of this sum shall be remitted to the Unit and thus the officers who partake in the process.

- ❖ The professional fees of the cast and crews shall be paid to the designated account by the owner of the film for onward transmission to them. This shall serve to eliminate a situation where casts and crews are paid peanuts which are even hardly paid.
- ❖ Only latest high tech equipments, with specifications shall be used in shooting the films.
- ❖ After shooting the film, each scene shall be evaluated by the designated unit of the accredited university, with sums paid per scene.
- ❖ Language interpretation shall be handled by the relevant Dept in the accredited university
- ❖ Each film shall be given an accreditation number
- ❖ The owner of the film shall pay a said sum to the govt as production tax
- ❖ No film without accredited number shall be allowed into the market or aired by any media house. Any such film that is found in the market without the accreditation number will be seized and the peddlers prosecuted
- ❖ A special unit shall be created in the NPF called **Anti-Piracy Unit**, which shall enforce anti-piracy laws, go after pirates and ensure their prosecution
- ❖ The Copyright Decree No 42 1999 Laws of the federation of Nigeria shall be reviewed to remove the option of fine as a punitive measure so that offenders shall be sentenced to a jail term without a fine option.
- ❖ Any film that is thus produced shall be shown round cinema houses for a period of **one year** to allow for the producer to recoup his investments and make profit thereby before producing it into CDs or sold to the open market or aired on television stations.

EDUCATION

- ❖ There shall be compulsory FREE education from primary to secondary schools across Nigeria
- ❖ We shall give priority and adequate funding to Research
- ❖ We shall ensure that educational taxes are directly invested in the educational sector
- ❖ We shall allocate a minimum of 26% annual budgetary allocation to education as prescribed by the W.H.O

- ❖ Review of teachers' salary and befitting welfare packages. Teachers shall be accorded a place of honour in society
- ❖ We shall give attention to technical education and the acquisition of technical skills

ELECTORAL REFORMS

- ❖ My administration shall move to ensure the following:
- ❖ Full-scale electronic voting wherein Nigerians shall be able to cast their ballots with their PVC wherever they choose to cast their votes electronically irrespective of where they registered.
- ❖ Voting shall be carried out electronically, on smart phones and using the electronic machine, while citizens go about their normal day-to-day activities, without having to restrict movement or shut down the economy on voting days.
- ❖ Nigerians in the diaspora shall be able to cast their votes from the country of their abode.
- ❖ Election results shall be transmitted electronically from the polling units straight to the final collation centre, where cumulative summation shall take place immediately the results come in. By this, there will be no need to count votes overnight.
- ❖ All elections shall be conducted by INEC, while state electoral commissions shall be abolished because it has been shown repeatedly that local government elections conducted by state electoral commissions are easily manipulated by the state governments.
- ❖ My administration shall ensure that electoral offenders are prosecuted according to the electoral act.

NATIONAL YOUTHS SERVICE CORPS (NYSC)

- ❖ The NYSC scheme was primarily created in a bid to reconstruct, reconcile and rebuild the country after the Nigeria Civil war. The unfortunate antecedents in our national history gave impetus to the establishment of the National Youth Service Corps by decree no. 24 of 22nd May 1973 which stated that the NYSC is being established "with a view to the proper encouragement and development of common ties among the youths of Nigeria and the promotion of national unity"

How do we achieve these noble objectives if Corp members are not given incentives to settle down in the states where they were posted to serve?

- ❖ We shall review the monthly allowances of corps members to reflect the current economic reality. A situation where serving corps members are paid monthly peanuts is demoralizing, dehumanising and totally unacceptable.
- ❖ We shall also review the laws to make it **mandatory** for states to retain 20% of corp members by offering them employment in the state civil service as to promote national integration and create job.

PETROLEUM SUBSIDY

- ❖ Over the years, there has been a lot of mystery and discrepancies around the provision of subsidy by the federal government in relation to petroleum products.
- ❖ The amount of PMS (Premium Motor Spirit) that is allegedly coming into Nigeria cannot be consumed by Nigerians. While Nigerians consume about 27 million litres a day, it has been alleged that 40 million litres a day of PMS is being brought in at some points in time, yet the queues at filling stations persist from time to time, while billions of naira keep disappearing in the name of providing 'subsidy'.
- ❖ My administration shall put an end to the provision of petroleum subsidy.
- ❖ NNPC shall import petroleum products ONLY for sales at NNPC retail stations, at a marginal profit..
- ❖ Independent and Major marketers shall import their own petroleum products and sell at their own rates, based on market forces.
- ❖ The forces of demand and supply shall eventually even out price differentials between that sold at NNPC station and those sold by major and independent marketers.
- ❖ This way, Nigeria will no longer lose billions of naira from "subsidizing" petroleum products and the products will be readily available to citizens who will make purchases without spending hours at filling stations.
- ❖ These are short-term measures, as our long-term goal is to be doggedly committed to fixing our refineries in the shortest possible time, so that we will have no need to refine our crude outside the country as all our petroleum products shall be refined here in Nigeria.

NO IMMUNITY FOR PUBLIC OFFICERS.

One of the catalysts for corruption in our polity is that the 1999 constitution confers immunity on public office holders while they are yet in office. This provision which was originally meant to protect political office holders from unnecessary distraction has since been abused by our politicians who oscillate from one public office to another and thus remain perpetually “immuned” from prosecution, thus entrenching corruption in the system.

In order to eliminate this ugly trend and entrench accountability in our public life, my administration shall sponsor a bill to the National Assembly for the withdrawal of the immunity clause for **criminal cases**.

By this, public officers shall yet have immunity against civil cases, but shall have no immunity against criminal cases, including cases of corruption filed against them by security or anti-corruption agencies and members of the public.

AJAOKUTA STEEL COMPANY

The Ajaokuta steel company was designed in 1971 and established in 1979 to produce different types of steel to service Nigerian industries and for export.

The building of the company began in the 1980s and as at 1994, it has attained 98% completion before the Russian company , TPE which executed the contract left the site in 1996 because the Nigerian government did not fulfill its own side of the financial bargain for the completion of the project.

It is estimated that over \$4.6 billion has so far been spent on the entire power plant. An audit conducted recently by a company, REPRON reveals that with \$500m, the plant can be reactivated and completed.

We shall invite the original Russian designer of the plant TPE to complete the building of the plant and upgrade it to meet the modern day evolution. We shall sell 55% of the shares to the public through a transparent process, while the federal government shall keep 45% of the shares in a PPP arrangement. This project is vital to our national life. We

shall not concession (sell off) Ajaokuta steel company as has been suggested by certain interests.

Upon completion and take-off, the Russian Company TPE shall stay back to provide technical support for the smooth running of the company for the first 4 years, ensure technology transfer to our Nigerian engineers and thereafter take their leave.

THE NATIONAL LANGUAGE

Nigeria is a multilingual nation with over 500 languages. Most times each tribe sees itself as a nationality unto itself and sees Nigeria as a secondary enclave, largely because of our cultural diversity.

This differences will be largely erased if Nigeria officially has a **national indigenous language**.

My administration shall therefore adopt the **GUOSA** language as the national indigenous language of Nigeria

The Guosa language, developed by a Nigerian, Prof Alex Igbineweka, covers at least 120 diverse tongues, with developing rules and grammars for the evolution and integration of other West African languages, dialects and cultures so that in future, Nigeria and the West African Regional countries of Africa should be able to take their positive stand in the communities of lingua franca nations of the world, such as the East Africa, the North Africa, Europe, America and Asia.