

ROLES OF INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND PARTNERS IN CURTAILING BANDITRY, INSURGENCY, TERRORISM, AND BOKO HARAM INVASION IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

The paper discussed the roles of international institutions and partners in curtailing banditry, insurgency, terrorism, and Boko Haram invasion in Nigeria. Secondary data were used in the study. The data were collected from both print and online publications. Content analysis was used to analyze the selection of literature for the study. The paper concluded that humanitarian assistance, counter-terrorism frameworks, reintegration support, regional counter-terrorism strategy, joint task forces and training intelligence sharing, conflict prevention and mediation security sector reform, regional collaboration mechanisms, funding support, developmental aid, counter-radicalization programs, military training equipment and technology are peacebuilding programs—advocacy and research are the critical roles of the international institutions and partners in curtailing banditry, insurgency, terrorism, and the Boko Haram invasion in Nigeria. Based on these findings, the paper recommends the Nigerian government should deepen strategic partnerships with the UN, AU, ECOWAS, and other global security bodies to improve coordination in intelligence sharing, border security, counterterrorism operations, and early-warning systems. Regular joint security summits and operational frameworks will ensure coherent and sustained responses to emerging threats. International organizations should scale up capacity-building initiatives, including advanced counterinsurgency training, forensic investigation support, drone surveillance technology, cybersecurity systems, and modern equipment for Nigerian security forces. This will strengthen operational effectiveness in combating banditry and insurgency. International partners should support locally driven initiatives aimed at reducing radicalization, strengthening inter-ethnic trust, and promoting reintegration of former insurgents. Scaling up UN- and INGO-supported psychosocial support, vocational training, and peace education will help address the socio-economic drivers of recruitment.

Keywords: Banditry, Boko Haram, Insurgency, International Institutions and Partners, Terrorism.

1.0 Introduction

Banditry, insurgency, and the Boko Haram uprising have remained major security challenges confronting Nigeria for more than a decade. These threats have undermined national stability, disrupted socio-economic development, displaced millions of people, and weakened the capacity of local institutions to guarantee safety and peace. In response to these complex and evolving forms of violence, international organizations have increasingly played significant roles in supporting Nigeria's counter-terrorism and peace-building efforts. Bodies such as the United Nations (UN),

African Union (AU), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and various international partners have contributed through humanitarian assistance, intelligence sharing, peacekeeping support, policy coordination, and capacity building for security agencies. Emerging global patterns—such as multilateral security cooperation, international counter-terrorism frameworks, border-control partnerships, and donor-driven stabilization programmes—have also shaped Nigeria's strategies for curtailing insecurity. Understanding the roles and patterns of engagement by these international actors is essential for evaluating the effectiveness, limitations, and future prospects of collaborative efforts aimed at reducing banditry, insurgency, and Boko Haram activities across the country.

2.0 Conceptual Terms

2.1 Banditry

Banditry is a derivative of the term bandit meaning an unlawful armed group terrorising people and confiscating their properties. It is synonymous with the establishment of gang groups that use small and light weapons to carry out attacks against people. In this regard, banditry could mean a set-up of criminal activity deliberately designed and carried out for personal gains (Rosenje, & Peter, n.d). Banditry refers to acts of armed robbery, kidnapping, cattle rustling, village raids, and violent criminality typically carried out by loosely organised armed groups. In Nigeria, banditry has become prominent in the Northwest and North-Central regions, where armed groups target rural communities, kidnap for ransom, and destroy farmlands (Akinola, 2022). The phenomenon is driven by factors such as poverty, weak security institutions, proliferation of small arms, farmer–herder conflicts, and unemployment. Banditry has evolved into a serious internal security threat, disrupting agriculture, internal trade, education, and community stability (International Crisis Group. 2021).

Shalangwa (2013) defined banditry as the practice of raiding and attacking victims by members of an armed group, whether or not premeditated, using weapons of offence or defence, especially

in semi-organised groups to overpower the victim and obtain loot or achieving some political goals. Such bandits are usually perceived as outlaws, desperate and lawless marauders who do not have a definite residence or destination but roam around the forest and mountains to avoid being identified, detected and arrested. Egwu (2016) viewed banditry as a practice of stealing cattle and animals from herders or raiding cattle from their ranches. From the above, banditry can be seen as the application of force to raid cattle from their ranches and intimidating owners with weapons. Banditry is organized criminal activities carried out by people with weapons that involve raping, cattle rustling, and killing, kidnapping and armed robbery in rural areas or cities. Banditry is also the use of force and weapons to abduct people, raid cattle, destroy farmlands, kill, rape and cart away foodstuffs in rural areas. Banditry affects teachers, students and the entire education process in the rural communities.

2.2 Concept of Insurgency

The term insurgency refers to a violent uprising to overthrow a regime (Adenusi, 2006). Insurgency is a condition of revolt against a government that is less than an organized revolution and that is not recognized as belligerency (Ukpong-Umo 2016). The term is used in describing a movement's unlawfulness with capacity to pose a threat to a state or seen as such by another authority, especially when viewed from the backdrop of its not being authorized and therefore, executing a cause that is illegitimate (Shafer, 1988). Ukpong –Umo (2016), stresses that those causing the uprising are seen as rebels, whereas, those rising up will see the authority itself as being illegitimate. On this basis, insurgency is an act of rebellion against a legitimate authority.

Insurgency refers to an organised, armed rebellion aimed at undermining or overthrowing an established government through guerrilla tactics, ideological mobilization, and violence. Insurgent groups challenge state authority by disrupting governance structures, spreading fear, and controlling territories (Olojo, 2020). In Nigeria, insurgency is largely associated with Boko Haram and Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP), whose attacks on civilians, government facilities, and security forces have destabilized the country's Northeast. Insurgency thrives in conditions marked by weak state presence, socio-economic marginalization, corruption, and ideological radicalization (Kilcullen, 2016).

Insurgency refers to a typically form of internal war, one that occurs primarily within a state, not between states and one that contains at least some elements of civil war (Sloan, 2011). According to the U.S. Government Counter Insurgency Guide (2009), Insurgency is defined as “the organized use of subversion and violence to seize, nullify or challenge political control of a region”. This implies that insurgents see to subvert or displace the government and completely or partially control the resource and population of a given territory. This is achievable through the use of force-including guerilla warfare, terrorism and coercion/intimidation, propaganda, subversion, and political mobilization. Insurgents fight government forces, only to the extent needed to achieve their political aims, their main effort is not to kill counter insurgents, but rather to establish a competitive system of control over the population, making it impossible for the

government to administer its territory and people. Hence, insurgent activity is designed to weaken government control and legitimacy while increasing insurgent control and influence.

2.3 Concept of Terrorism

Literally, the term terrorism' comes from French *terrorisme*; and from Latin “tenor, “great fear” threat, related to the Latin verb *terrere* to frighten (Harper, 2007: Ukpong-Umo, 2016). Thus, terrorism therefore refers to the use of violence to create fear in the minds of the populace in order to achieve political objectives (Adebisi; 2006). United Nations sponsored working definitions as drafted by Alex P. Schmid for the policy working group on the United and Terrorism in 2002 outlined some broad characteristics of the phenomenon as follow: that terrorism is a criminal act, meant to inflict dramatic and deadly injury on civilians and to create an atmosphere of fear, generally for a political or ideological whether secular or religious purpose. This implies that terrorism is a strategy or a tactics employed by a terrorist group to inflict fear in the mind of the populace in order to achieve their objectives.

In the same line of thinking, the United State Department of Defence (DOD) (2004), defines terrorism as “the unlawful use of violence or threat of violence, often motivated by religious, political or other ideological beliefs, to instill fear and coerce governments or societies in pursuit of goals that are usually political. Hence, instilling of fear in mind of populace by the terrorist group stands out in the definition. This is embraced to achieve their complex ambitions. Terrorism is the systematic use of violence and intimidation to coerce a government or community into according to specific political demands (Pearsall and Trumble, (2006).

2.4 Boko Haram

Boko Haram is a jihadist militant organisation founded in Northeast Nigeria in 2002 by Mohammed Yusuf. Officially called *Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati wal-Jihad*, the group initially opposed Western education and government corruption but later transformed into a violent extremist organisation seeking to establish an Islamic state (United Nations Development Programme. (2021). Since its violent uprising in 2009, Boko Haram has conducted mass killings, suicide bombings, abductions (including the Chibok and Dapchi girls), and attacks on schools, markets, places of worship, and security installations. The group later splintered into two factions—Boko Haram and ISWAP—intensifying its operational reach across Nigeria, Niger, Chad, and Cameroon. The insurgency has caused more than 35,000 deaths and displaced millions (Amnesty International 2018).

3.0 Method

The roles of international institutions and partners in curtaining banditry, insurgency, terrorism and Boko haram invasion in Nigeria is a position paper that adopted a systematic literature review-based method. The method allows to collect and review the related previous literature from various online sources. With the aid of digital platform, the researcher collected secondary information to generate knowledge on this topic from 2015-2025. The position paper followed

qualitative narrative design method. The researcher has visited different online sites to collect the previous literature and analyze the roles of international institutions and partners in curtaining banditry, insurgency, terrorism and Boko haram invasion in Nigeria. The previous findings are critically analyzed and presented in different themes as on the roles of international institutions and partners in curtaining banditry, insurgency, terrorism and Boko haram invasion in Nigeria (Adapted from Ogunode, 2025).

Inclusion and exclusion criteria

Inclusion

This output of the literatures on the roles of international institutions and partners in curtaining banditry, insurgency, terrorism and Boko haram invasion in Nigeria presents an in-depth study and result that can infer conclusion on the topic. The study includes: online publication; conference paper, journals sorted from reputable international journals such as CEON, Elsevier, Hindawi, JSTOR, IEEE, Learn Techlib, SAGE, Nebraska and Springer (Adapted from Ogunode, 2025v).

Exclusion

Also, the literature review excludes information from edited books, preprints, monographs, information below 2015 and book chapters (Adapted from Ogunode, 2025).

4.0 Result and Discussion on the Roles of International Organization and Emerging Patterns in Curtailing Banditry, Insurgency and Boko Haram Invasion in Nigeria

Nigeria has faced prolonged security challenges arising from banditry, armed insurgency, and the Boko Haram terrorist movement. These threats have not only destabilized communities but have also strained Nigeria's security institutions and increased the need for external support. As a result, international organizations have emerged as major actors in Nigeria's counter-insurgency landscape, providing humanitarian aid, military assistance, diplomatic coordination, intelligence sharing, and institutional capacity building. This section discusses the roles and patterns of engagement demonstrated by key international organizations in addressing insecurity in Nigeria.

United Nations (UN)

The United Nations plays a multifaceted role in curbing insurgency and banditry in Nigeria.

The United Nations continues to play a vital role in curbing insurgency and banditry in Nigeria. Through their efforts, the organization is working towards promoting peace and stability in the region (UNDP, 2023a). They have implemented various programs and initiatives aimed at addressing the root causes of these issues, such as poverty, inequality, and lack of access to education (UNDP, 2023b). Additionally, the United Nations has been actively supporting the Nigerian government in strengthening their security and law enforcement agencies to combat

insurgency and banditry. By providing resources, training, and expertise, the United Nations is helping to build a more secure and prosperous Nigeria (UNDP, 2022a).

Key Roles:

1. **Humanitarian Assistance** – Through the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) and the UNHCR, the UN supports internally displaced persons (IDPs) affected by Boko Haram violence (UNOCHA, 2022).
2. **Counter-Terrorism Frameworks** – The UN Counter-Terrorism Committee (UNCTC) assists Nigeria with counter-terrorism legislation, human rights compliance, and international monitoring (UNCTED, 2021).
3. **Reintegration Support** – UNICEF and UNDP assist with the rehabilitation and reintegration of rescued child soldiers and ex-combatants (UNDP, 2020).

Pattern of Engagement:

The UN follows a **multilateral, humanitarian-security hybrid approach**, combining relief efforts with long-term peacebuilding and governance strengthening.

African Union (AU)

The African Union (AU) is playing a crucial role in curbing insurgency and banditry in Nigeria by providing support and resources to the Nigerian government. Through various initiatives and partnerships, the AU is working towards promoting peace and stability in the region. One such initiative is the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), which aims to prevent and resolve conflicts through early warning systems, mediation, and peacekeeping operations. Furthermore, the AU has established the African Standby Force (ASF) to provide rapid response to crises and support peacekeeping efforts in Nigeria. The AU also works closely with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to address security challenges in the region. By leveraging its diplomatic and economic influence, the AU is able to address the root causes of insurgency and banditry in Nigeria and promote sustainable solutions. Overall, the AU's involvement in curbing insurgency and banditry in Nigeria is crucial in promoting peace and stability in the region. The AU contributes through regional mechanisms that focus on collective security.

Furthermore, the organization has been working with local communities to promote dialogue and reconciliation, and to improve access to basic services and opportunities for economic development (UN Peacebuilding, 2022). The United Nations recognizes the importance of a holistic approach in addressing these complex issues, and remains committed to supporting Nigeria in their efforts towards lasting peace and stability (United Nations Nigeria, 2022).

Key Roles:

1. **Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy** – The AU's African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) provides member states, including Nigeria, with coordinated frameworks for counter-insurgency (AU, 2018).
2. **Joint Task Forces and Training** – The AU supports military training for Nigerian forces and helps coordinate the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) (AU Peace and Security Council, 2019).
3. **Intelligence Sharing** – Through its Peace and Security Council, the AU promotes intelligence exchange among Lake Chad countries.

Pattern of Engagement:

The AU applies a **continental collective security model**, emphasizing cooperation between Nigeria and neighbouring states in tackling cross-border insurgency.

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) is playing a crucial role in addressing the issues of insurgency and banditry in Nigeria. With its commitment to promoting peace, stability, and economic development in the region, ECOWAS has been actively involved in initiatives and interventions aimed at tackling these challenges in Nigeria (*ECOWAS Commission, 2020; ECOWAS, 2021*). This includes working closely with the Nigerian government to develop and implement strategies for countering violent extremism, addressing root causes of conflict, and promoting good governance and human rights (*ECOWAS Commission, 2022; United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel [UNOWAS], 2021*).

Additionally, ECOWAS has facilitated dialogue and cooperation between Nigeria and neighboring countries in the region to address cross-border security threats (*ECOWAS, 2021; AU Peace and Security Council, 2018*). Through its efforts, ECOWAS is contributing to the overall peace and security of the region and helping to create a more stable and prosperous future for Nigeria. ECOWAS plays both diplomatic and security roles (*ECOWAS Commission, 2020*).

Key Roles:

1. **Conflict Prevention and Mediation** – ECOWAS has issued communiqués urging coordinated regional action against Boko Haram (ECOWAS Commission, 2020).
2. **Security Sector Reform** – ECOWAS provides technical assistance to Nigeria in policing reforms and border security.
3. **Regional Collaboration Mechanisms** – ECOWAS supports joint operations and information-sharing frameworks among member states.

Pattern of Engagement:

ECOWAS employs a **regional integration approach**, focusing on harmonizing border security, intelligence, and military operations among West African countries.

Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF)

The MNJTF plays a significant role in curbing insurgency and banditry in Nigeria. This multinational task force was established to combat terrorist groups such as Boko Haram and their activities in the Lake Chad region (*African Union, 2015; Lake Chad Basin Commission, 2020*). The MNJTF works closely with other local security forces and has been successful in carrying out various operations to disrupt and dismantle terrorist camps and activities (*MNJTF, 2021*). The force also conducts patrols and monitors borders to prevent the movement of armed groups and weapons (*MNJTF, 2021; LCBC, 2020*).

In addition, the MNJTF provides training and support to local security forces, as well as engages in community outreach programs to gather intelligence and build trust with local communities (*UNDP, 2022*). Through its efforts, the MNJTF has contributed to a decrease in insurgency and banditry in Nigeria, making the country a safer place for its citizens. Overall, the MNJTF plays a crucial role in maintaining peace and security in the region and is an important tool in curbing insurgency and banditry in Nigeria. Although regionally driven, the MNJTF operates with support from several international organizations (*African Union, 2015; United Nations, 2021*).

Key Roles:

1. **Joint Military Operations** – Nigeria, Chad, Cameroon, and Niger conduct cross-border operations against Boko Haram under MNJTF auspices (*ISS Africa, 2020*).
2. **Coordination of Counter-Insurgency Tactics** – MNJTF helps synchronize troop deployments and target militant strongholds.
3. **Funding Support** – The EU and AU contribute financial resources to sustain MNJTF operations.

Pattern of Engagement:

MNJTF follows a **joint-military, cross-border operational model**, focusing on eliminating militant sanctuaries and disrupting movement across borders.

European Union (EU)

The European Union (EU) is actively working towards curbing insurgency and banditry in Nigeria by providing financial and technical support to the Nigerian government. This includes funding and training of security forces, as well as the implementation of peacebuilding and conflict resolution programs. The EU also plays a key role in promoting dialogue and cooperation between

Nigeria and its neighboring countries to address cross-border threats posed by insurgents and bandits. Additionally, the EU works closely with civil society organizations and local communities to address the root causes of these issues and promote sustainable development. Through its efforts, the EU aims to contribute to the overall stability and security of Nigeria and the wider region. The EU provides substantial financial assistance for security and development in Nigeria.

Key Roles:

1. **Funding for Military Logistics** – The EU supports MNJTF operations and equips Nigerian forces with communication and surveillance tools (EU Commission, 2021).
2. **Developmental Aid** – EU humanitarian aid programs improve livelihoods in areas affected by insurgency, reducing vulnerability to recruitment.
3. **Counter-Radicalisation Programs** – EU-funded initiatives promote education, peacebuilding, and community policing reforms.

Pattern of Engagement:

The EU adopts a **development-security nexus**, combining socio-economic interventions with military support.

United States and Other Bilateral Partners

The United States and other bilateral partners have been playing a critical role in curbing insurgency and banditry in Nigeria. Through various efforts, including military support, diplomatic initiatives, and economic aid, these partners have worked to address the root causes of these security threats (U.S. Department of State, 2014; BusinessDay Nigeria, 2025). By strengthening the capabilities of the Nigerian military and providing intelligence sharing, they have helped to disrupt and dismantle terrorist and criminal networks (U.S. Department of State, 2014; U.S. reaffirms commitment to Nigeria, 2025). Additionally, through diplomatic engagements and development projects, they have sought to address grievances and promote stability in the region (United States Institute of Peace, 2024; BusinessDay Nigeria, 2025). This collaborative approach has significantly contributed to reducing the impact of insurgency and banditry in Nigeria and has been crucial in promoting peace and security in the country. The United States, along with other states, provide tactical, intelligence, and institutional support (U.S. Department of State, 2014; U.S. reaffirms commitment to Nigeria, 2025).

Key Roles:

1. **Intelligence Sharing** – The U.S. AFRICOM provides surveillance and intelligence support to Nigeria (AFRICOM, 2019).

2. **Military Training** – The U.K. and U.S. assist with counter-terrorism training, drone tactics, and special force operations.
3. **Equipment and Technology** – The U.S. supplied Super Tucano aircraft used in precision strikes against Boko Haram.

Pattern of Engagement:

Bilateral partners generally adopt a **capacity-building and technological enhancement strategy**, focusing on improving Nigeria's military professionalism.

International NGOs

International NGOs play a crucial role in mitigating insurgency and banditry in Nigeria through various initiatives and interventions (*International Crisis Group, 2021; Mercy Corps, 2016*). Some key roles include providing humanitarian aid and assistance to affected communities (*International Rescue Committee, 2022*), implementing peacebuilding and conflict resolution programs (*Mercy Corps, 2020*), advocating for human rights and the protection of vulnerable populations (*Human Rights Watch, 2020*), and supporting local authorities in addressing security challenges (*UNDP, 2022*).

Additionally, international NGOs also play a vital role in raising awareness and advocating for lasting solutions to these complex issues, working with both the government and local communities to promote sustainable development and address underlying causes of conflict (*Oxfam International, 2021*). Through their efforts, international NGOs are making a significant impact in curbing insurgency and banditry in Nigeria and fostering a more peaceful and stable society. International non-governmental organizations also play roles in addressing root causes of insecurity (*International Crisis Group, 2021; Mercy Corps, 2016*).

Key Roles:

1. **Peacebuilding Programs** – Organization like Mercy Corps and International Crisis Group run de-radicalization and community resilience programs.
2. **Humanitarian Relief** – NGOs provide food, shelter, trauma care, and psychosocial support to victims.
3. **Technology Peacebuilding Programs – Advocacy and Research – Advocacy and Research** – NGOs help generate policy insights and evaluation frameworks for government and international actors.

Pattern of Engagement:

NGOs follow a community-driven, grassroots approach, focusing on human security and resilience-building (*International Crisis Group, 2021; UNDP, 2020*).

General Patterns in International Involvement

Across institutions, several patterns are evident:

1. Multilateral Military Coordination

Seen through MNJTF, AU, and ECOWAS cooperation against Boko Haram (*African Union, 2015; ECOWAS, 2020; MNJTF, 2021*).

2. Intelligence and Technology Support

Provided by the U.S., U.K., and EU to enhance surveillance and drone operations (*U.S. Department of State, 2022; UK Foreign Office, 2021; European Union, 2020*).

3. Humanitarian–Development Nexus

UN and EU interventions combine relief, education, and long-term development efforts (*UN OCHA, 2023; European Commission, 2022*).

4. Border Security Collaboration

Nigeria and neighbouring states increasingly coordinate border patrols to restrict insurgent movement (*Lake Chad Basin Commission, 2021; ECOWAS, 2020*).

5. Counter-Radicalization and Reintegration Programs

UNDP, UNICEF, and NGOs focus on youth empowerment, deradicalization, and peace education (*UNDP, 2022; UNICEF, 2023; International Rescue Committee, 2021*).

6. Legal and Diplomatic Support

UN and ECOWAS emphasize human rights, governance reforms, and conflict mediation (*United Nations, 2021; ECOWAS Commission, 2022*).

4.1 Conclusion and Recommendations

International organizations play indispensable roles in combating banditry, insurgency, and Boko Haram in Nigeria. Through military cooperation, humanitarian intervention, intelligence sharing, and development programs, these bodies have strengthened Nigeria's security architecture. The patterns of engagement—ranging from multilateral military operations to human-security approaches—reflect the multidimensional nature of Nigeria's security challenges. Based on these findings, the paper recommends the following:

1) Strengthen Multi-Level Collaboration Between Nigeria and International Organization

The Nigerian government should deepen strategic partnerships with the UN, AU, ECOWAS, and other global security bodies to improve coordination in intelligence sharing, border security,

counterterrorism operations, and early-warning systems. Regular joint security summits and operational frameworks will ensure coherent and sustained responses to emerging threats.

2) Enhance Technical and Logistical Support for Security Agencies

International Organization should scale up capacity-building initiatives, including advanced counterinsurgency training, forensic investigation support, drone surveillance technology, cybersecurity systems, and modern equipment for Nigerian security forces. This will strengthen operational effectiveness in combating banditry and insurgency

3) Promote Community-Based Peacebuilding and Deradicalization Programs

International partners should support locally driven initiatives aimed at reducing radicalization, strengthening inter-ethnic trust, and promoting reintegration of former insurgents. Scaling up UN- and INGOs-supported psychosocial support, vocational training, and peace education will help address the socio-economic drivers of recruitment.

4) Improve Humanitarian Assistance and Protection Mechanisms

Organization such as UNHCR, ICRC, and UNICEF should continue expanding humanitarian aid for internally displaced persons (IDPs), especially in the Northeast. Support should prioritize food security, education, healthcare, and protection of vulnerable groups, while ensuring greater accountability and transparency in aid delivery.

5) Support Socio-Economic Development in Conflict-Prone Areas

International financial institutions, including the World Bank, African Development Bank (AfDB), and UNDP, should invest in long-term development programmes targeting poverty reduction, youth empowerment, agricultural revitalization, and infrastructure rehabilitation. Enhancing livelihoods will reduce the vulnerability of communities to recruitment by bandits and insurgent groups.

6) Strengthen Regional Security Architecture in West and Central Africa

ECOWAS and the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) should reinforce joint military operations and cross-border patrols to curb arms trafficking, illegal mining, cattle rustling, and movement of insurgents. Expanding the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) and providing sustained funding will significantly enhance regional counterterrorism efforts.

7) Promote Good Governance, Transparency, and Rule of Law

International Organization should continue supporting governance reforms, anti-corruption programmes, and justice-sector reforms. Reducing corruption in the security sector and government institutions will ensure that counterterrorism resources are effectively utilized and that communities regain trust in the Nigerian state.

8) Improve Monitoring, Evaluation, and Research on Security Patterns

International Organization, in partnership with Nigerian academic and research institutions, should invest in empirical research to identify evolving patterns of banditry and insurgency. Data-driven analysis will help in designing more adaptive and evidence-based security strategies.

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