



BEYOND THE POLLS

HOW YOUNG PEOPLE
CAN DEEPEN DEMOCRATIC
ENGAGEMENT

A REPORT ON THE LAUNCH OF ONN

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About Madiba Foundation For Good Governance

Madiba Foundation is a pan African non-governmental organization which seeks to promote social equality in the process of development for the African race and other excluded groups.

Our flagship project, Organizing for a New Nigeria, seeks to give ascendancy to youthful energy, skills and vision in Nigeria's democracy.

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Executive Summary

Executive Summary

The ONN launch drew young men and women across a wholly national divide represented by diverse backgrounds, religious leanings, different strata of society, and occupations. The ONN launch was a catalyst towards raising passionate adopters, promoters, and builders of the Nigerian dream. The launch itself served to clarify and form what a Nigerian dream represents, how every Nigerian is a part of it, and what its ambassadors look like. The launch was an intersection between governance and technology. Showcasing a tool that can make harnessing youth energy towards a collective democratic goal easier and more powerful.

The Event: Purpose and Objectives

The Organising for a New Nigeria (ONN) Launch was held on the 22nd of July 2023 at the Yar'Ada Centre, Abuja. The event started at 11:12 am ramme started. At 11:40, the ONN launch programme opened with the first and second stanzas of the national anthem led by the MC.

Descriptive Data

The ONN launch served as a value orientation-seminar, a lead generation mechanism for the ONN platform, and the entrance into an incubation system for adopters of the ONN platform. The general call to action for participants was to join the crop of new Nigerians building a new Nigeria. Overall, the ONN team achieved these objectives.

The ONN platform recorded 898 signups, and

more than 90% of persons in the room joined in taking the ONN pledge. The total number of attendees at the launch was 1,002, 158 onsite and 844 streaming online (YouTube & Facebook).

Fifteen volunteers were involved in organising and ordering the day's event. The roles filled by volunteers included – registration, ushering and protocol, media (sound, photography, and video), and facility and tools management.

The ONN launch was rated Excellent by the feedback received during and after the launch. Of the participants who provided feedback, 80% gave positive feedback using words like impactful, inspiring, impactful, educative, eye-opening, motivating, enlightening, and informative. In contrast, 20% gave negative feedback, citing starting late, rowdiness, and ease of locating the venue.





Attendee Demographics

Gender	Frequency (Number)	Percent (%)
Male	464	46.3%
Female	538	53.7%
Other		

Profession/Industry	Frequency (Number)	Percent (%)
Students	400.8	40
Social developers	150.3	15
Youth Corp Members	200.4	20
Graduates	250.5	25

State of Residence	Frequency (Number)	Percent (%)
United Kingdoms	39	3.9
Abuja	312	31
Lagos	161	16.1
Oyo	42	4.2
Kano	54	5.4
Kaduna	28	2.8
Rivers	39	3.9
Yobe	23	2.3
Bauchi	22	2.2
Delta	22	2.2
Other	260	26

Feedback Presentation

Positive (Yes)	Negative (No)	Feedback/Recommendation	Respondent's Category	Channel
Yes		Ensure that the programme keeps momentum	Attendee	Google forms
Yes		Inspired by the concept, a critical movement that reaffirms faith in Nigeria and provided a reorientation around our consciousness about who we are as a people.	Speaker	Interviews
Yes		It was a thoughtful event, very educative and enlightening, which, in different ways, would help build the new Nigeria that Nigerians crave.	Volunteer	Google form
Yes		Considers ONN as a possible vehicle or bridge for students/fresh graduates to convert academic concepts into capstone projects in communities quickly.	Speaker	Interview

Opening Teasers - What Does A New Nigeria Look Like To You?

An analysis of the event attendees is as follows: Olumide Fred Adetiba, the Executive Director of Madiba Foundation for Good Governance welcomed the audience and recognised the participants that came from Yobe and Kebbi States. He highlighted that their presence communicates that Nigerians are ready to build a new Nigeria regardless of the current circumstances.

He posed a question to the audience: "What Does a New Nigeria look like to you? The following were the responses that could be taken:

- "A new Nigeria where everything works. If you put in the effort, you get the results."
- "A Nigeria that works for everybody. I am not judged by what part of the country I am from."
- Access to quality education for all.
- A country where every part of the country feels like home regardless of your state of origin.
- A new Nigeria where it is sufficient to introduce yourself as a Nigerian without adding state and local government, and a son of a 'nobody' achieves success without knowing someone to



- speak or lobby on their behalf.
- Every Nigerian takes responsibility for their irresponsibility.
- Where the average person is comfortable and doesn't need to be wealthy or affluent to achieve that desired state of comfort (decent living conditions and quality of life).
- A new Nigeria where the systems work and you don't need to bribe anyone to access the basic amenities.
- Inclusivity for women, youths and PWDs, and who are appropriately

- represented in the democratic process.
- A land where every soul has enjoyment.
- A place where religion is not a barrier
- Freedom of rights, speech and movement is respected.
- +-Where there is no under-utilisation of human resources

Mr Adetiba reiterated that one of the purposes of the event is to show us how to put in the work to realise the beautiful pictures of a New Nigeria that they just painted.



Dr Tobi Oluwatola's Welcome Address

Dr Tobi Oluwatola, Executive Director of CJID opened with the words, "I am proud to join the launch of the product and movement that we've held in our hearts. We've dreamt of a platform that gives people the tool to organise themselves for collective action towards the kind of democratic agenda that we seek." Drawing from Nnamdi Azikiwe's speech to the NAACP on the kind of Nigeria the founding fathers had in mind, he quoted Zik saying that Nigeria would be a democratic country drawing from the essentially democratic character of indigenous African society. Nigeria will be a country where the rights of the citizens will be respected, freedom under the law will be guaranteed, and in Nigeria, we are building a coun-

try of which the black race will be justly proud.

In stating the current state of affairs, he lamented that in the place of democracy is inherited hypocrisy. In place of respect for the rights of the citizen, it is the rights and the convenience of the state and the powerful that are protected from the legitimate cries of the citizen and in the place of shared prosperity is a nightmare of shared penury.

Commenting on the "Japa syndrome," he cited his living experience outside Nigeria. He pointed out that regardless of where you go, you are regarded as a second-class citizen until Africa is better.

Dr Oluwatola challenged the audience to take the moral courage to look back and think of



what they can do about the state of Nigeria because “it is convenient and common to take the journey of financial prosperity on an individual and familial level.” He challenged participants to be a part of the new crop of Nigerians that go beyond the norm.

Dr. Oluwatola points out that, in the end, it is functioning institutions that make countries thrive. Functioning institutions mean that there are property rights, respect for the rule of law, and there is shared prosperity. He cited examples of the British invasion of Latin America and Africa, where there was no shared prosperity and societies didn't thrive. Other examples of countries getting the shared prosperity metric right include Sweden, the first country to institute press freedom and ensure the people had a voice. Asian countries like South Korea had land reforms that provided poor people could own the lands and proceeds of their farmlands.

He reiterated history's teaching that institutions don't form because planners want it. Instead, institutions develop because the people insist that institutions provide property rights, respect for the rule of law, fairness, and shared prosperity. He cited the example of the Nigerian senate approving 110 billion for 460 persons and 19 billion for 2 million people displaced by floods as an example of a people getting the shared prosperity metric wrong. Nigerian leaders should draw from Henry Ford,

who started paying his workers a livable wage that empowered them to purchase the cars they were making. Highlighting that the purpose of a meeting like the ONN launch “is so that we can work towards creating a country where at the core of who we are is a sense of prioritising shared prosperity.”

In rounding up, he shared a 2007 Nelson Mandela quote that black people around the world would not be respected until Nigeria is respected, and black people around the world are looking up to Nigeria for pride and confidence. He closed by correcting the misconception that Nigerians are inferior, enjoining participants to do away with mediocrity and join ONN, the organisation required to draw attention and demand change from the people in power.

“Regardless of where you go, you are essentially a second class citizen until Africa is

-Dr. Tobi





Olumide Fred' Adetiba

About ONN - Olumide Fred Adetiba

Olumide Fred' Adetiba started his presentation by sharing his encounter with Patrick Wilmot, a Jamaican who taught Political Sociology at ABU Zaria for 18 years and was deported by the regime of General Ibrahim Babangida in 1988. During his first visit to Nigeria in 2006 since his deportation, the fearless lecturer, author and speech writer visited the University of Jos, where Mr Adetiba had the opportunity to engage with him.

Mr Adetiba recalled asking him: "Can the desire for a better Nigeria be pursued alone when one finds it difficult to get others to buy in?" Dr Wilmot's response was, "Don't try it. Whatever you do, make sure you organise and bring people together." He advised that if you go alone, "They will kill you easily". "He said there is power in organising. The ONN launch is a testament to that spirit of organising." He continued, "ONN is both a movement and a platform, especially for young people committed to driving development and promoting good governance in their locality. Young people's worth is beyond campaigns and queuing up to vote, and ONN is a platform for passionate Nigerians who are ready to do what it takes to bring the New Nigeria to reality. The platform harnesses as many resources as possible, creating a concentration of energy that will help facilitate the possibilities that exist. A New Nigeria is not in a person but a reality that exists inside each and everyone of us, and it is time to organise

and collectively work to bring the picture to pass."

He went to speak on the approach the movement will use to realise its mandate, called the **MAIN** model. MAIN stands for:

- **M** - Mobilising using the ONN tech platform
- **A** - Advocacy
- **I** - Intervention: Demonstrating practically what good governance looks like by providing interventions in key areas.
- **N** - Nurture: Mentoring brilliant young people and empowering them to serve as change agents in different sectors of the Nigerian society.

*"we can organize to develop,
we can organize to promote
good governance, we can organize
to get the job done, and we can
organize to hold our leaders
accountable"*

-OFD



Taking Responsibility for Nigeria's Future: A Call to Action
Fela Durotoy (Keynote Address)

Fela opens his talk by making a distinction between politics and nation-building. He adds that nation-builders require a vision, but whenever you have to look back to see the purpose of a nation, you are already in disintegration because purpose should unite you to where you are going, not just where you are coming from.

He highlighted that one reason to support the Madiba Foundation for Good Governance is because we know the man - Frederick Adetiba. Organisations usually reflect the visionaries that birth the organisation, and Mr. Adetiba is such a visionary. ONN is guided by specific values instilled as member pledges. He expanded on the pledges, which are:

1. "To make a positive impact on everyone I meet, everywhere I go."
2. "I will be a solution provider, not a part of the problem to be solved." He said solution providers don't spend time and energy pointing fingers, accusing, and belabouring the problem.
3. "Be a role model worthy of emulation." Be the epitome of the Nigeria of our dreams in present times, the flesh and blood of the promise of a new Nigeria. Becoming ambassadors of the new Nigeria.
4. "Be the best in all I do, particularly the things I am naturally good at", which speaks of the hallmark of excellence.
5. "Do the right thing at all times regard-

less of who is doing the wrong thing." This requires courage and the will to stand alone if needed. He encouraged that in the end, you'll realise you don't have to stand alone for long.

6. "Value time and make the best use of it." Nation-building is beyond politics and elections. It transcends time frames, but it is evident in time. Today is the opportunity you have to build a better tomorrow.
7. "I will care and show respect to all through my words and actions."
8. "I will consciously build a legacy starting now, today and every day." Anything you pass to your children that can be exhausted in their lifetime is not the most significant legacy you can give. Any inheritance that is not trans-generational is not worthy of an inheritance. The greatest inheritance you can leave your children is not only a nation that works but the values that created that nation.
9. "Live a life of integrity and honour." Integrity is the alignment of your thoughts, your words and your actions.
10. "Make my family, my nation, and my God proud."

He led the audience to say the following pledge, "This day, I accept responsibility for the nation I will live in and the nation I will bequeath to my children. I believe that I and a

generation of leaders like me can build a new Nigeria, and now I commit my time, energy, resources, and network to do everything that needs to be done to birth the nation of my dreams. A nation that we desire, and a nation that my children deserve." He further led public commitment to the ten pledge points and rounded up with the clarion call that it is new Nigerians that will build a new Nigeria.

"every vision in your heart is a gift not for you but a gift to you for others"

-FD



Panel Discussion

After introducing the panellists, the MC, who also moderated the discussion, asked the general question, "How did you start your journey?" to all the panellists and one follow-up question. Responding to the question, each panellist gives a deeper insight into life and work.

The below excerpt is a summary of each panellist's response during the time of the discussion.



Cynthia Mbamalu

Cynthia Mbamalu:

Her journey started in her second year in the university with an essay her Constitutional Law lecturer asked them to write on the state of the nation. The negative responses from most of her class led her to ask, "What can we do differently?" This led to her, Samson Itodo and a few others starting something called "Democracy Dialogues", which later became a movement. Cynthia re-echoed that systems are built by people. Considering Yiaga Africa's work for sixteen years this 2023, it is mainly on the power of organising. Recounting the first time they went to push for the reduction of the age for candidacy in 2009 as young university students, a senator at the time said to them after their presentation to the constitution review committee of the senate that the youth cannot change Nigeria. They should instead return to school because it is not time for young people. In 2012, they returned as a group of organisations for the same amendment. In 2015/2016, they learned the power of organising and returned after training at the Harvard School of Kennedy on the Leadership, Organisation and Action course. She defined leadership as "taking responsibility to enable others to achieve a shared purpose under conditions of uncertainty."

On the note of mentorship, Cynthia reminded the audience that investing in oneself requires a conscious effort to build capacity. "Avail yourself to learning opportunities," she said.

"Secondly, identify the people whose values align with yours and find ways to connect with them even through indirect mentorship." She stressed that "Beyond the Polls, how young people can deepen democratic engagement", the audience needs to know who their lawmakers are in the state and national assemblies. Post the polls, the following line of engagement is demanding accountability from those elected to office and those who represent us on all levels. It is essential to know who they are, what their promises were before elections and organising our communities on an issue we want to engage them on. Post the election, there are many reviews – done and ongoing presenting an opportunity for electoral reforms. She encouraged members of ONN to pick sections of the electoral act that need reviewing and push for reviews ahead of the next elections.

In closing, she stressed the need to organise for civic engagements. Countries suffering worse fates than Nigeria are still fighting for their nation. Nigeria shouldn't be any different if the citizens engage.

*"Things can get better
if we get involved "*

-Cynthia



Shuraim Abdulmumin

Shuraim Abdulmumin

He pointed out that every young person needs someone to take them somewhere within themselves that they cannot go by themselves. In sharing his personal story, he talked about being a dropout and a person who questioned everything that religion said to do. In seeking answers, he went back to school to study Islam and found answers many people didn't know about. He realised that to attain spirituality, you have to accept how vulnerable you are and agree to collaborate with people. He reminded the audience that we are humans before we are anything else, but we have allowed ourselves to be adequately separated.

His first attempt in starting his TV show "Did You Know" to highlight what he felt people needed to know, he reached out to Mufti Menk for an interview. He was questioned for not being a media personality, but that didn't stop him. He watched over 200 Oprah interviews and other TV hosts and learned through tons of research. After sending over a hundred emails without a response from Mufti Menk, he heard Mufti Menk was coming to Nigeria and reached out to the organisers. He was initially rebuffed but then later got access. He missed the initial opportunity but later got a callback.

He shared that to be a good leader, you must have what he calls **MOPCARI**.

- M stands for Motivation. What is your why?

- O - Organisation
- P - Participation
- A - Attention physically and mentally
- R - Readiness
- I - Intentions.

Intention is guarded by and with the right people.

He rounded up by appealing to persons like Fela Durotoye for proper mentorship and for those seeking mentorship to remember that "for you to do things you've never done before, you have to become someone you've never been before, and accept that change."

"Every Young person needs someone to take them somewhere within themselves that they cannot go by themselves who has been there and done that"

-Shuraim



Sa'adatu Hamu Aliyu

Sa'adatu Hamu Aliyu

Sa'adatu highlighted that to succeed in life, you have to determine who you are, and who you are is determined by the values you hold as an individual. As a law student, she was part of the law clinics, which exposed her to the opportunities law had to influence society. In the process, she was reawakened to the economic deficit that many of the people the law clinic catered for faced. This process led to her pivoting from human interest lawyering to commercial lawyering.

Before starting her practice, she worked at Solola & Akpana for five years. Highlighting that for young people to lead effectively, we must learn to follow; otherwise, you won't know the gaps that need to be filled. Her pivoting came after she left a quarterly all-around office meeting at Solola & Akpana, feeling like she had a grander vision and purpose for her life than she was experiencing. This sense of purpose was hinged on the fact that an institution's role is not to churn out profit. Profit comes as a by-product of the work done. She left and started Hamu Legal as an opportunity to create a talent hub where lawyers can advance themselves. As the organisation grew, she doubled down on the intersection between law and technology while catering to her desire to impact society by joining the Global Shapers community. At the time, the Global Shapers Initiative led the project where security agencies and young people could interact on a

non-adversarial ground. Being part of the Global Shapers community taught her, on a personal level, how to lead her peers by gaining consensus.

Sa'adatu shared a personal challenge in reaching for the dream of building a successful organisation. She was faced with the reality that in her environment, she couldn't find women who had done the things she wanted to do. But then, a few years ago, her friend sent her a podcast of Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and Pastor T.D Jakes, and as she listened, she heard the statement, "You have to have the audacity to dream without a point of reference." This was the statement that reignited the dream in her heart.

Sa'adatu believes that building institutions that make an impact is the starting point for grooming the next generation of Nigerians that we want to see creating a change. People aren't born as leaders, but values that make for good leaders are nurtured within the person. It is the values that a person carries that truly make for what the person builds. In her words, the "manage it like that mentality" to life must die.

To Sa'adatu, law practice is a pathway to impact society and advance the skills of individuals. As a result of the fact that she works consistently with companies, she is right in the middle of helping other organisations run the same mission. This gives her a sense of purpose.

While noting that there are pockets of improvements that go unnoticed within the Nigerian public sector, she pointed out that it is mainly because the leading vision was never that grand to start. Therefore, she hopes that owing to the ONN launch, individuals in the room create a grand vision for themselves and the institutions we represent. In rounding off, she affirmed that Democracy is not a spectator sport. There's a need for continuous engagement. We cannot leave advancing for change to only the people in the Civil Society Organisations.

She further led the call for us to return to wearing the red military insignia popular in the previous administration to remember our soldiers, mainly because we are in a dire security situation in the country. Whatever we can do in our individual spaces that will shift the security area will go a long way because a new Nigeria will not materialise without a safe Nigeria.

“For you to lead effectively, you must learn how to follow otherwise you will not know the gaps that you need to fix”

-Sa'adatu







Debola Deji Kurumi- Guest Speaker Presentation

1. After thanking and speaking goodwill about the speakers and guests at the launch, she urged the audience to strive to live in the Nigeria of their dreams instead of only the altruistic
2. sense of bequeathing a new Nigeria to their children. Her presentation focused on critical questions that new Nigerians should ask themselves to steer their hearts towards the role and responsibilities they must play. The fundamental belief that should guide new Nigerians is that "you're significant to Nigeria's emergence."
- 3.
4. The reflective questions are as follows:
 1. "How corrupt am I?" Citing examples of using social media on paid time and printing visa documents with your employer's printer as corrupt practices. We should ask, "What then do I need to do to be that stellar leader that I expect my political leaders to be?"
 2. "What gives me the greatest pride about Nigeria?" This question is essential because nation-builders must desire the future of their nation more than they despise her failures. She urged participants to build a personal compendium of what truly inspires them about Nigeria as a tool for restoring national pride, hope, and optimism. She highlighted that the "Japa syndrome" is a cry mainly from losing national pride, hope and optimism.
3. "Which of Nigeria's toughest challenges burn the strongest in my heart?" Active citizenship begins with a growing, intelligent, driven and evidence-based understanding of the critical issues. You are not empowered to solve every problem that Nigeria has, but you are empowered to solve specific problems because of your unique endowments. I create, build, support or serve to deliver significant transformation to my community, local government or country in the next four years?" We often feel overwhelmed by the size of the problem, but we should feel empowered by the size of our vision.
4. "When Nigeria works, what kind of nation would it be?"
5. "If my personal beliefs, habits and ethics became the standard operating system for Nigeria, would citizens thrive in the land?"
6. "How can we productively engage our Nigerian brothers and sisters in the diaspora as partners in nation-building?"
5. Further shared five paradigms and postures for collective prosperity;

They are:

 1. Afro-optimism is like a weighted

- scoring system that analyses the impact of faith, conviction, and belief in a nation by its people and its direct proportional effect on nation-building.
2. Research affinity and the pursuit of intellectual curiosity.
 3. The office of the Citizen of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
 4. Collective consciousness.
 5. The need for embracing the true Nigerian spirit.

DDK asserts that the dimension of the true Nigerian spirit is contagious. We don't take no for an answer. We don't need a title to be a leader. We thrive amid odds and opposition. We are entrepreneurial, groundbreaking and innovative. We are communal, kind, and compassionate. The dimension of the true Nigerian spirit is summed up in the words character, competence, compassion, conviction and confidence.



After DDK's session, Fela Durotoye showed a video of Tafawa Balewa's United States Information Service (USIS) visit as a way of helping us "borrow from the glory of the former in charting the course of the new Nigeria." He says, "Our past has no right to be the custodian of our greatest possibility. Meaning that our past will never be the reference point for how great we can be. How great we can be will always be ahead of us, but if we can look at how great we have been, it gives us the capacity to believe that if we could do and be that at some point in time, then we can be greater in the future."

"And to each of you the new Nigerians building a new Nigeria with compassion, courage, confidence, clarity, commitment; our vision and dreams for this country is not just an illusion that is a distant imaginary construct. It is a reality that we will touch and live by"

-DDK

Afterwards, Fred Adetiba led the naming of the speakers and panellists as ONN ambassadors before handing the microphone to Fela Durotoye, who unveiled the platform. Chris Ade led a musical interlude, and the Madiba Foundation Programme Manager, Ozohu Otonoku gave a vote of thanks as the ONN launch ended.



Conclusion

The ONN launch was successful as a catalyst for building the people who can hold their leaders accountable and take the necessary steps to build sustainable systems in a nation that works. The launch created the needed reference for the continued building of the ONN platform. The various speakers helped create the hunger and need to adopt ONN as a tool for organising, or at the least moving from passive Nigerian onlookers to engaged citizens. The Madiba team is now responsible for converting the energy created from the launch into actions and results.



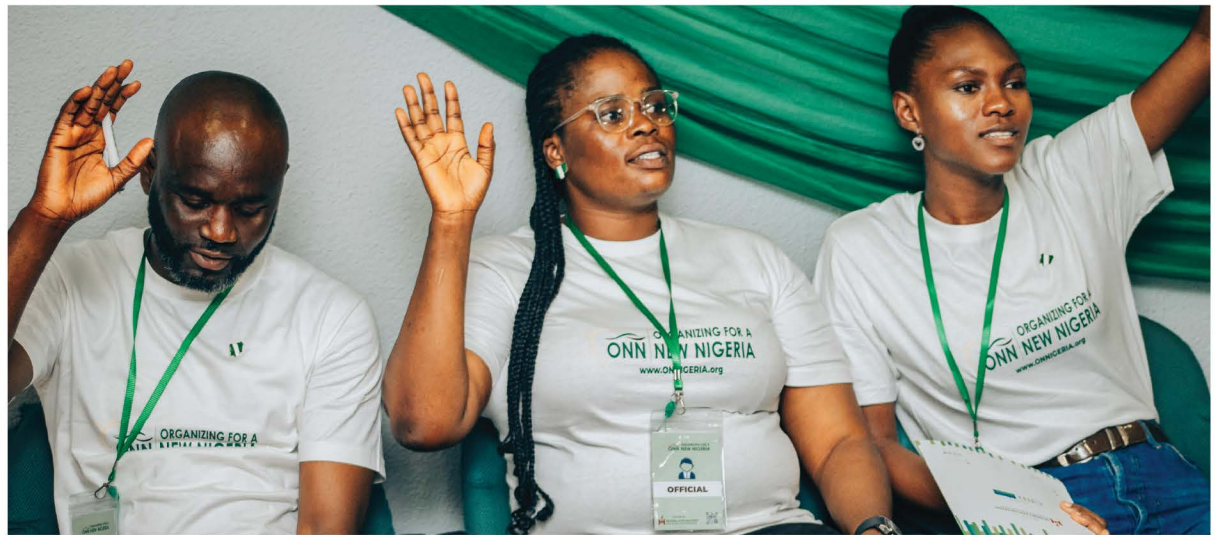


Gallery









The ONN Constitution

Introduction

Organising for a New Nigeria (ONN) is a flagship programme of Madiba Foundation - a pan African non-governmental organization based in Abuja, Nigeria.

At the heart of this programme is a movement for Nigeria's youth who want to see a country that Nigerians everywhere (both at home and in diaspora) can be extremely proud of. We invite you to join us as we work together to see the birth of a New Nigeria!

This constitution provides adequate information about ONN and how individuals can become members. It is divided into three major sections - the ONN Manifesto, our Code of Conduct, and our Operational Guidelines.

Section one covers ONN's Manifesto. It provides detailed information on our aims, objectives, and the principles that guide and inform who we are as an organisation. All prospective members are required to read this section thoroughly before signing on to become members of this movement.

Section two covers our Code of Conduct. The ONN Code of Conduct outlines and enables ONN members to effectively understand the values that drive this organization.

Section three covers our operational guidelines which include everything from how officials are selected, to how resources are deployed and projects are managed.

If you are ready to do your part to see the advancement of an inclusive and sustainable Nigeria, then we implore you to keep on reading.

Article 1 - The Manifesto

Section 1: Our Aims

Our aim is to give ascendancy to youth energy, skills and vision in Africa's democracy starting from Nigeria.

At Organizing for a New Nigeria (ONN), we choose to see the youth beyond any constitutionally defined age restriction. For we believe that belonging to the phase of life known as 'youth', is not simply a time block in life. But in the words of Robert Kennedy, our definition of youth refers to "a state of mind, a temper of the will, a quality of the imagination, a predominance of courage over timidity, of the appetite for adventure over the love of ease".

Therefore, at ONN, we will work with skilled people who possess a compelling vision of the future of Nigeria and Africa as a whole. But most importantly, we will work with skilled people who have the requisite energy to do the work required to realize our collective aspirations.

Section 2: Our Objectives

ONN is not for people who might be deemed as constitutionally young but lack technical and leadership skills or a compelling vision of a broadly shared prosperous future. Our way of thinking doesn't allow for the acceptance of the corrupt ways of the past which privilege wealth for its own sake, rather than as an output of productivity.

Our objective is to re-ignite active citizenship and a fresh zest for civic participation amongst Nigeria's literate youth and grassroots communities.

Section 3: Our Model

Our Model: To this end, we will be adopting what we refer to as the MAIN model to meet our goals and objectives. MAIN stands for Mobilization, Advocacy, Intervention, and Nurture.

Mobilization

Using digital technology and through various activities and events, we will mobilize and organize young people to believe in and work toward realizing a new Nigeria. Through the ONN platform, passionate and committed Nigerians will have numerous opportunities to contribute to the development of the country.

Advocacy

By galvanizing public support for the realization of policy and legal frameworks that are required for development and good governance, we will move towards realizing a new Nigeria. We will work with various organizations and institutions of government including the legislature, executive, judiciary, ministries, and MDAs to ensure their commitment and actions address the yearnings of the people of Nigeria.

Intervention

Through the mobilization of youth energy and resources to address pressing governance issues in our communities, young people will have the opportunity to contribute directly to the development of their communities and furthermore, demonstrate what good governance looks like.

Nurture

We will create platforms where young people can be mentored, prepared and positioned to make meaningful contributions to the development of Nigeria in both private and public sectors, including elective and appointive positions.

We will use the tools of media, technology and grassroots campaigns to build a movement that engages youth in Nigeria's democratic processes from elections to governance.

Our activities are classified into ground stream and air stream and they are outlined below:

Air Stream

- Earned media: We will organize high-profile town hall meetings that would be accessible both in-person and virtually on youth participation in

politics with exceptional speakers, experts, and community members.

- Paid media: We will primarily use paid media, both traditional and digital, to promote events and civic participation.
- Digital organizing: We will utilize the power of digital media to promote as well as organize data driven ground-work and microtargeting to build youth participation.
- Storytelling: We will publish meaningful investigative, opinion pieces, documentaries and other creative content that highlights the vision of a new Nigeria and the activities of our passionate volunteers and candidates.

Ground Stream

- Build a network of volunteers who will be organized into groups /categories either based on their geography (state, local government, and ward) or governance issues they are passionate about solving. This organic network will be required to own and lead the message and recruit others.
- Train and empower volunteers to conduct community development events, including medical missions, food banks, community clean ups, phone banks, workout sessions, game nights, in the interest of civic participation.
- Identify promising youth candidates who can represent the vision and cause and subsequently be trained in state-craft.
- Collaborate with existing networks including political parties, religious organisations, markets, transportation unions, chambers of commerce and student groups to reach their youth and grassroots members.

Article Two - The Code of Conduct

Section 4: Our Principles

Every member of ONN is required to subscribe to the provisions of this code of conduct as well as ONN's operational guidelines.

All members will be required to do this by ensuring the values contained therein guide their daily conduct as citizens of Nigeria. Secondly, it is important for new members to note that signing ONN's code of conduct also confirms they agree and adhere to these two foremost principles which are:

1. A new Nigeria is only possible when we subscribe to the highest standards of professional and personal conduct as citizens.
2. No country can develop beyond the quality of the humanity of its citizens in terms of values and principles.

This code of conduct enables ONN members to effectively understand the principles upon which this organization was built. In addition, every aspect of our code of conduct provides vital information that is fundamental to the structure, culture and motivations of ONN. It is to this end that every member of ONN must subscribe to the following values and principles.

Section 5: ONN Values

- Integrity: Integrity is the act of behaving honorably, even when no one is watching. A citizen that lives by this value showcases a commitment to sound judgment, honesty, and dependability regardless of the circumstances present. Living, working and leading with integrity should be a key value of anyone representing ONN in any capacity as well as our nation Nigeria as a whole.
- Accountability: To be accountable means to take ownership of what happens as a result of your choices and actions. A citizen that lives by this value accepts responsibility for his or her actions or inactions especially when

they have a lasting impact on others. At ONN, we believe that accountability is the ultimate way for our leaders to build trust and keep their word on their promise to end the cycles of corruption that have plagued our nation. Demonstrating accountability as an organisation also enables us to show that we can lead by example.

- Transparency: Transparency is at the very foundation of this movement. It is ultimately an important piece to helping citizens gain trust in a government that hasn't been reliable in the past. As an organization, being transparent ensures members are clear on what's going on, where things are headed, and why certain actions and decisions are being made. We also believe that a nation where leaders are transparent, especially on the utilization of resources meant for the nation's progress, proves a willingness to be open about good governance.
- Justice for all: Justice for all is a value that is quite simply at the bedrock of every civilized society. At ONN, we understand that a society without justice only results in a group of individuals who will be harsh and intolerant, often leading to conflict. We also believe that holding up the rule of law and the ideal of justice for all applies to everyone regardless of social status, age or position in government.
- Responsibility: We believe that all members of ONN must show a commitment to take action as well as be responsible for the actions taken. Some practical ways this can be done is by advocating for public policies, systems, and structures that promote and move us closer to a new Nigeria. Being responsible shows a resolve to speak up and take action where necessary in ways that ensure the advancement of our nation Nigeria.

- **Inclusion:** We believe that inclusion is a basic human right. This is because an inclusive society provides equal access to opportunities and resources for people who might otherwise be excluded, such as those who have physical or intellectual disabilities and members of other minority groups. At ONN, we know that for a new Nigeria to emerge, its political, industrial and governmental landscape will need to be inclusive. This will mean creating and sustaining an environment where stakeholders and players in these varied groups feel respected and valued, regardless of their differences.
- **Equity:** Equity is the fair treatment, access, opportunity, and advancement for all people and it is achieved by identifying and eliminating barriers that have prevented full participation of individuals who have been marginalized in any way. At ONN, by championing equity through our membership, collaborations, and partnerships, we ensure that this movement is known for bringing a wide range of perspectives, deep diversity, and experiences to everything we do.
- **Respect:** We believe that building a new Nigeria that values all voices and contributions requires an enthusiastic commitment to listening, learning, and most importantly respect. Our promise to freely engage with people in this way will create room for ONN to form strong collaborations and partnerships with community leaders, other nonprofits, public and private organizations, including government agencies etc.
- **Collaboration:** Collaboration is a vital part of creating a better society. We believe that when people work together to achieve a common goal, the possibilities around how much ground can be covered significantly increases. We also understand that the change we seek will only be possible when people

put their differences aside and collaborate. At ONN, we know that relationships are fundamental to the success of any project we embark on. This is why our structure allows for collaboration to happen across all levels in ways that encourage results.

- **Patriotism:** Patriotism is a sense of pride and a feeling of love or devotion towards one's country. But the effect of patriotism is most felt when patriots gather and work together. We believe that when this happens, citizens are able to unite toward a worthy cause. At ONN, we esteem patriotic unity at every level of society because it has the ability to create sustainable change that dramatically impacts the future.

Section 6: Our Value Statement

On this day, we hereby commit to live by and subscribe to the highest standards of professional and personal conduct as citizens of Nigeria.

To this end, WE WILL:

1. LIVE AND LEAD BY EXAMPLE knowing our actions can have a lasting impact on others.
2. PLAY OUR PART to end the cycle of corruption in Nigeria.
3. LEND OUR VOICES to ensure there is justice for all regardless of social status, age or position in government.
4. ADVOCATE FOR POLICIES, SYSTEMS, AND STRUCTURES that move us closer to a new Nigeria.
5. IDENTIFY AND ELIMINATE BARRIERS OF NIGERIA'S PROGRESS that have prevented individuals from having equal access to opportunities and resources.
6. COMMIT TO RESPECTING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OTHERS even when they have different political opinions or leanings.
7. DEVOTE OUR TIME, SKILLS AND RESOURCES towards building the New Nigeria we seek.
8. COLLABORATE WITH LIKE-MINDED

PATRIOTS who believe in creating sustainable change that impacts the future of Nigeria.

9. CONTRIBUTE AND PARTICIPATE IN GOOD GOVERNANCE.
10. LIVE A LIFE OF INTEGRITY THAT MAKES OUR FAMILY, OUR NATION AND OUR GOD PROUD.

Section 7: Non-Partisanship Statement

In the pursuit of our shared objectives and the governance of the Organising for a New Nigeria (ONN), we affirm our commitment to non-partisanship as a fundamental principle guiding our actions and decision-making processes. The ONN shall remain independent of any political party or partisan affiliation, and all members, officers, and representatives shall adhere to the following principles:

1. **Neutrality:** The ONN shall maintain strict neutrality with respect to political parties, affiliations, and ideologies. The organization shall not endorse, support, or engage in activities that favour any particular political group against another.
2. **Impartiality:** All decisions and actions taken by the ONN, whether in policy formulation, resource allocation, or advocacy efforts, shall be made solely on the basis of the ONN's vision, mission, values, and the best interests of its members and stakeholders, without regard to political considerations
3. **Equal Opportunity:** The ONN shall provide equal opportunities for participation, leadership, and representation to individuals of diverse political backgrounds, ensuring that the organization remains inclusive and welcoming to all, regardless of their political beliefs.
4. **Accountability:** The ONN shall be accountable to its members and stakeholders for its actions and decisions, upholding transparency in its processes and operations. Any allegations of partisan bias or misconduct shall be thoroughly investigated, and appropriate measures taken to address any

proven violations of this non-partisan principle.

5. **Safeguarding Independence:** The ONN shall take proactive measures to safeguard its independence from external political influences, including financial contributions that may compromise its non-partisan stance. Any financial support received shall be transparently disclosed and managed in accordance with the organization's mission and values.
6. **Education and Awareness:** The ONN shall promote education and awareness among its members and stakeholders regarding the importance of non-partisanship, emphasizing the need to separate personal political activities from the organization's functions.
7. **Respect for Diversity of Thought:** The ONN shall foster an environment of respect and tolerance for diverse viewpoints, recognizing that its members may hold a wide range of political beliefs. Disagreements on political matters shall not hinder cooperation on matters related to the organization's mission.

This non-partisanship clause is an integral part of the ONN Constitution, and all members, officers, and representatives of the organization shall uphold and adhere to these principles to ensure that the ONN remains a steadfast and impartial advocate for a New Nigeria.

Article Three - Operational Guidelines

Section 8: Understanding the Membership Process

At ONN, we know that what we cannot achieve as individuals can undoubtedly be achieved as a collective because there is strength in numbers.

This is why this movement towards a new Nigeria will require a purposeful collective of committed and patriotic young people who have the highest standards of professional and personal conduct as citizens.

Becoming a member of ONN is a simple but intentional process. The first step is to carefully read the ONN Manifesto, Code of Conduct and Operational Guidelines. After reading both sections, the individual will have the opportunity to become a member by signing up on the ONN platform. By signing up, the individual automatically becomes a member of ONN and will be able to function in a volunteer capacity, willingly giving their skills, time, energy and other resources.

After reading the ONN Constitution and signing up on the platform, the new member will then be required to reach out to the State Coordinator in their state via email. Details of the state coordinators will be found on the ONN platform.

The state coordinators are obligated to disseminate information about ONN activities, projects, and members in the state to ensure new members are up to speed.

Section 9: The ONN Structure

- The National Coordinator - The individual in this role will provide oversight and leadership for all chapters nationwide.
- The State coordinators - The individuals in this role will head the state chapters and provide oversight of all state activities
- Local government coordinators - The individuals in this role will head the local chapters.

Note: During the first 12-24 months after the launch of ONN, the state chapters will take precedence. This will allow for a proper flow and rhythm to be established in the various geo-political zones across the country. After this has been established, the local chapters will be inaugurated and local government coordinators will be chosen.

Section 10: ONN activities and opportunities

Our goal is to see all members of ONN actively participate and contribute to the building of a new Nigeria. This is why we have a variety of ways to make this possible.

Intervention Projects

State or local chapters of ONN will identify

projects in their locality and mobilise resources to execute such projects. These social impact projects would be implemented voluntarily and can be carried out in small or large groups.

Project Categories

1. Category one: These are social impact projects that can be implemented without the need for financial resources. For example, environmental sanitation, ease of traffic congestion, community security watch, and minor road repairs (i.e road maintenance).
2. Category two: These are social impact projects that require minimal financial resources like awareness campaigns, inter-community sports tournaments, skill acquisition programmes etc.
3. Category three: These are social impact projects that require considerable financial and human resources. Renovation of primary health care facilities, provision of books for students, renovation of school facilities etc.
4. Category four: These are social impact projects that
5. require resources beyond what ONN Volunteers and/or the community can mobilise. Projects like flooding, erosion, dilapidated or damaged public infrastructure e.g. power transformer, water pipelines, sewage system etc.

Note: Volunteers are advised to prioritize category one and two projects.

Framework for identifying and executing projects

Step 1 - Project identification

Members of the chapter agree on what project to focus on with help and coordination of the state coordinator. It must be a project that will have a direct social impact on the people in that state, region or the nation at large. It is also critical that all projects can be executed within a reasonable time frame.

Step 2 - Resource mobilization

Galvanise other young people with skills, abilities, and materials needed to execute the project.

Step 3 - Stakeholder Engagement

Identify the key stakeholders in the locality and inform them of all that would be involved in taking on the project

Step 4 - Reporting

A project report providing details on the overall status of the project or specific aspects of the project's performance is required at regular intervals throughout the project's lifecycle. Stakeholders and/or donors will agree on the frequency reports will be disseminated as well as the information that will need to be included in each report.

Step 5 - Advocacy

Upon the execution of the project, advocacy will be a key part to consider the project fully complete. Advocacy can take on different forms ranging from gathering support for the replication of similar projects through public and private partnerships or sponsorships to raising awareness in the community to ensure outputs and outcomes of the completed project are maintained and managed properly.

Section 11: Fundraising

1. State or local Chapters are not allowed to raise funds on behalf of the organization. Madiba Foundation will not be liable for any irregularities that arise from donations.
2. State or local chapters can mobilise resources for identified projects in their locality independent of Madiba Foundation.
3. State or local chapters are required to give proper accounts of funds raised from donors and present them to the donors.
4. State or local chapters may not raise funds for or on behalf of Madiba Foundation for good governance.
5. State chapters of ONN can mobilise resources for their local chapters.
6. Madiba Foundation will not be liable for any form of illegality arising from the execution of projects by state or local chapters.

Article Four - Our People

Section 12: Membership Pledge

As a committed member of ONN, I hereby pledge to:

1. MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT on everyone I meet & everywhere I go.
2. BE A SOLUTION PROVIDER and not part of the problem to be solved.
3. BE A ROLE MODEL worthy of emulation.
4. BE THE BEST in all that I do particularly the things I am naturally good at.
5. DO THE RIGHT THING at all times, regardless of who is doing the wrong thing.
6. VALUE TIME and make the best use of it.
7. CARE AND SHOW RESPECT through my words & my actions.
8. CONSCIOUSLY BUILD A GREAT LEGACY starting now, today and everyday.
9. LIVE A LIFE OF INTEGRITY AND HONOUR.
10. MAKE MY FAMILY, MY NATION AND MY GOD PROUD.

Section 13: Selection of ONN Officials

Selection Criteria for the State Coordinators

The position of a State Coordinator is an office of leadership and honour. Therefore, stringent conditions are put in place to ensure it is a dignified position. These conditions include but are not limited to:

1. A short application window of a month.
2. A short video and essay which must be submitted as part of the application.
3. This position is renewable after 2 years.
4. The benefit of this position is leadership training.

State Coordinator

Role Description

This role description is provided to help states consider the skills and dispositions needed by state-level personnel responsible for supporting the ONN movement.

The primary role of a state coordinator will be to:

1. Facilitate and support the work of the state leadership team.

2. Coordinate and support the growth of ONN into a professional development network (i.e By galvanising youths in the state).
3. Provide day-to-day management of the ONN members and activities in the state
4. Serve as the primary contact person for prospective and current

Qualifications and requirements

1. Must be gainfully employed
2. Must be available and dedicated to the cause
3. The State Coordinator will choose his team
4. The State Coordinator will send in reports and document them.

Key Values and competencies

1. Leadership - willingness to lead, take charge and offer opinions and direction
2. Law-abiding
3. Professionalism
4. Integrity

BEYOND THE POLLS

HOW YOUNG PEOPLE
CAN DEEPEN DEMOCRATIC
ENGAGEMENT

A REPORT ON THE LAUNCH OF ONN

POWERED BY



SUPPORTED BY

