

Nigeria Press Review

04.02. – 11.02.2022

Welcome to Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung's Nigeria Weekly Press Review

The weekly press review seeks to explore and keep you informed on selected issues relating to politics, business and economy, insecurity, infrastructure and development, health related issues, new trends and matters bothering on COVID-19 and the situation in Nigeria.

Content

Covid-19: EU Donates Two Million Doses of Johnson & Johnson Vaccines to Nigeria

Nigeria Sets 60-Day Export Action for Ease of Doing Business, Plans to Set Laws for the Protection of Digital Rights, Assures Citizens of Steady Supply of Fuel, INEC Seeks to Increase Women, Youth Participation in Politics

Nigeria Re-elected to AU/s Security Council, IMF Says "Insecurity" Threatens Nigeria's Economic Recovery, Advises Shift from Import Substitution

Insecurity: United Nations Reports Intensifying Efforts by ISIL in Nigeria, Internal Security Threats Takes Priority at Two-Day Police Retreat, Insight on Food Insecurity, 11 Billion Naira in Claims Paid for EndSARS

Covid-19: EU Donates Two Million Doses of Johnson & Johnson Vaccines to Nigeria

The Nigerian government received about two million doses of Johnson & Johnson (J&J) Covid-19 vaccines from the European Union (EU) as part of a pledge by the EU to distribute more vaccines to developing countries. The Executive Director of the National Primary Health Care Development Agency, Faisal Shuaib, explained that the J&J vaccines will be channeled to those in hard-to-reach locations such as riverine areas, desert areas, and security-compromised areas. Nike Adebowale, [Premium Times News \(February 7th\)](#) writes.

Nigeria Sets 60-Day Export Action for Ease of Doing Business, Plans to Set Laws for the Protection of Digital Rights, Assures Citizens of Steady Supply of Fuel, INEC Seeks to Increase Women, Youth Participation in Politics

The Federal Government has set yet another 60-day export action plan as part of its efforts to make it easier doing business in Nigeria. The action plan is targeted at ensuring that perishable agricultural produce earmarked for export are allowed to move freely through Nigerian ports. This comes after Vice-President Yemi Osinbajo had decried how regulatory requirements and elongated certification processes were harming Nigerian businesses immensely. Ayodeji Adegboyega, [The Premium Times News \(February 8th\)](#) reports.

The Minister of Communications and Digital Economy, Isa Pantami, at a roundtable discussion on data privacy and protection disclosed plans of the Federal Government to set in motion laws in order to protect the digital rights of Nigerian citizens. Represented by Dr. Vincent Olatunji, the National Commissioner/Chief Executive Officer of the Nigeria Data Protection Bureau, Pantami announced collaboration with public and private sectors as well as advocacy groups to address the issue of data privacy and freedom of doing business online together. Ezra Ukanwa, [The Vanguard News \(February 10th\)](#) reports.

Amidst growing fuel scarcity, the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority has stated the reasons for current events was a high amount of gasoline with methanol above national specifications in the supply chain that by now had already been removed the fuel from circulation. The regulatory agency fur-

ther said that Nigeria currently had 20 days sufficiency of petrol and advised against panic buying. It added that it was working round the clock to address the challenge thrown up by the importation of the substandard petrol into the country. Oladeinde Olawoyin and Mary Izuaka, [The Premium Times News \(February 9th\)](#) reports.

Nigeria Re-elected to AU/s Security Council, IMF Says "Insecurity" Threatens Nigeria's Economic Recovery, Advises Shift from Import Substitution

Nigeria has been re-elected into the 15-member African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) for another 3-year mandate. The election of the council was held during the 40th ordinary session of Ministers of Foreign Affairs in Addis Ababa. Nigeria is the only country that has sustained its membership in the council since its inception in 2004. The AUPSC is the standing decision-making organ of the AU for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflicts. Wale Odunsi, [Daily Post News \(February 5th\)](#) reports.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has warned the Federal Government (FG) about the negative effects of worsening violence and insecurity on Nigeria's recovery from economic recession. In line with the report on its 2021 Article IV Consultation, the IMF has reiterated its call on the FG to improve transparency of Covid-19 emergency spending and to remove fuel subsidies, accompanied with compensatory measures for the poor and transparent use of saved resources as well as implementation of major reforms in the fiscal, exchange rate, trade, and governance areas to lift long-term, inclusive growth. [The Vanguard News \(February 8th\)](#) reports.

Meanwhile, the IMF emphasized that it had become imperative for Nigeria to refrain from import substitution in order to boost effective participation in the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA). This could only be achieved through bold reforms in the trade regime as well as investments to promote diversification to harness the gains from the AfCFTA. According to the report, Nigeria's ratification of the AfCFTA could yield a positive boost to the non-oil sector while oil production could rebound, supported by the more generous terms of the Petroleum Industry Act. Cynthia Egboboh, [The Business Day News \(February 11th\)](#) reports.

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) announced a collaboration with the Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC) with the aim to increase passive and active women and youth participation in politics in the country. According to Prof. Sam Egwu, the INEC Niger Resident Electoral Commissioner, “mechanisms are required to address the challenge of women’s under-representation and reach a gender balance in political institutions, especially political parties”. He charged the National Assembly to enact laws that would help boost the participation of marginalized groups in politics in Nigeria. [News Agency of Nigeria \(February 10th\)](#) reports.

Insecurity: United Nations Reports Intensifying Efforts by ISIL in Nigeria, Internal Security Threats Takes Priority at Two-Day Police Retreat, Insight on Food Insecurity, 11 Billion Naira in Claims Paid for EndSARS

Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, Vladimir Voronkov, has said the Islamic State of Iraq and Levant (ISIL), a terrorist group, is expanding its affiliates and network beyond Syria and Iraq to Nigeria and other West African countries. He revealed that the terrorist activities were gaining ground in Central and West Africa at an “unsettling” scale and pace. [News Agency of Agency \(February 10th\)](#) reports.

Officers of the Nigeria Police Force held a two-day retreat in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, to assess Nigeria’s international threats and devise means of

tackling them. A holistic assessment of the current security threats and crime dynamics in the country shall serve as a starting point to re-evaluate existing strategies, identify operational gaps, and evolve new pathways. According to the Inspector-General of Police, Usman Alkali Baba, the retreat is the “largest gathering and broadest representation of senior police officers” across Nigeria, hoping that it will come up with a roadmap for stabilizing Nigeria’s internal security. Cletus Ukpong, [The Premium Times News \(February 8th\)](#) reports.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) have warned that acute hunger and food insecurity may worsen in Nigeria in the next few months if urgent steps were not taken to forestall the looming famine. According to the Nigeria Food Insecurity fact sheet released by the NGO Oxfam, the violence between farmers and herders in the country has claimed lives, disrupting rural communities and ultimately threatening Nigeria’s food security. Gbenga Akinfenwa, [The Guardian News \(February 6th\)](#) writes

The chairman of the Nigerian Insurers Association (NIA), Ganiyu Musa, has disclosed that insurers have paid over N11 billion as claims for losses suffered during the 2020 #Endsars protest where citizens demanded an end to police brutality and a comprehensive reform of the police in the country. Furthermore, NIA had put the number of insured businesses that were affected as a result of the protest at about 2,000. [The Guardian News \(February 8th\)](#) reports.

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.

Marija Peran, Deputy Resident Representative
Adams Adamu, Program Assistant / Editor Press Review

Nigeria Office

www.kas.de/nigeria

www.facebook.com/kas.nigeria

marija.peran@kas.de / adamu.adams@kas.de



The text of this publication is published under a Creative Commons license: “Creative Commons Attribution- Share Alike 4.0 international” (CC BY-SA 4.0), <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/legalcode>