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Nigeria Office

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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.

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COVID-19: 20% of Workers Loose Job to Pandemic

A joint research conducted by the United Nations Development Programme and National Bureau of Statistics have shown a disproportionate socio-economic decline in the country. The report surveyed 3000 businesses across the country in the formal and informal sector which showed the effect of the pandemic on the unemployment rate in the country. Forty-three percent of the enterprises sampled experienced a decline in the work force," the report noted, with around 20 percent of workers in the surveyed enterprises losing their jobs during this period. Aljazeera, [New 24 \(September 21st\)](#) reports.

President Buhari Seeks Amendment to Petroleum Industry Act, Senate President Worries Over Disunity of Citizens, Reps Decry Poor Funding in Education Sector

In new reports, President Muhammadu Buhari is seeking approval to amend the new Petroleum Industry Bill signed into law. Buhari wrote to the Senate seeking to review the administrative structure by increasing the number of non-executive board members of departments and agencies in the petroleum industry from two to six. Oluwatobi Bolashodun, [Legit News \(September 21st\)](#) reports

The President of the Senate, Ahmed Lawan, has called on political leaders in the country to "unite against the nations challenges." He described the challenges of the country as surmountable while urging citizens to be united and face the challenges regardless of its difficulty level. Lawan added that the unity displayed in the senate chamber consisting of varying religious and ethnic backgrounds could be replicated across the country to bring peace and unity. Sodiq Oyeleke, [Punch News \(September 19th\)](#) reports.

Meanwhile the House of Representatives Committee has decried the falling standard of education in the country. The House chamber at plenary on Tuesday 21, urged the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning to give further considerations to subsequent budgetary allocations to align with the UNESCO projection by 2030, the lawmakers described the country's educational system as being on a steady decline within the last decade. Leke Baiyewu, [Punch News \(September 21st\)](#) reports.

National Electoral Office Set Ablaze, Lagos State Signs Anti Open Grazing Bill into Law, #ENDSARS Panel Suffers Poor Funding

The National Electoral Commissioner for Information and Voter Education Committee, Festus Okoye disclosed to journalists the report of the Independent National Electoral Office in Enugu State which was burnt down on Sunday 19. Okoye said the identities or motives of the arsonists were unknown, however, he revealed that all movable election materials were evacuated and no casualties recorded in the fire incident. Don Silas, [Daily Post \(September 19th\)](#) reports.

The Governor of Lagos state, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, on Thursday 22 signed the law prohibiting open cattle grazing in Lagos state, after it was passed by the Lagos State House Assembly. The law bans the trespass of cattle on farmlands and for other connected purposes. Olasunkanmi Akoni and Gabriel Olawale, [Vanguard News \(September 21st\)](#) reports.

The panel of enquiry on police brutality set up in march by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) following petitions by the #EndSARS protesters have experienced delay by a lack of funding from the federal government. At a press conference in June the Executive Secretary of the NHRC, Tony Ojukwu, and the Secretary of the #EndSARS panel, Mr Ogbonna, have said the panel was busy confirming the judgments some petitioners had brought for enforcement. He confirmed that the NHRC had yet to receive any funding since the panel started sitting in November 2020, but added, "We don't really think that the federal government is the reason why we are not sitting. Ade Adesomoju, [Premium Times \(September 14th\)](#) reports.

Insecurity: Army Raises Concerns over ISWAP Recruitment, Central Bank Alleges Terrorism Financiers, FG Alleges Capture of Terrorism Financiers, Boko Haram Appoints Deputy Leader

The Director of Army Public Relations, Onyeama Nwachukwu has disclosed what he described as "massive recruitment" by ISWAP. He advised members of the public to be cautious and engage the media in order to frustrate the recruitment exercise. Nwachukwu reported made claim to the successes recorded in the fight against insurgency in North-east stating that the military was trying its

best to handle the issue of Boko Haram within international laws. Rejoice Illya, [Daily Trust News \(September 20th\)](#) reports.

The Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Godwin Emefiele, at a Monetary Policy Meeting (MPC), on Friday 17 revealed that the funding of terrorism and kidnapping in the country was financed by Bureau De Change owners. He disclosed that the CBN's concluded study revealed suspicious activities of travellers who illegally buy foreign exchange from the illegal market, transport them in aircrafts out of the country to buy arms and ammunition, bringing them back into the country to conduct crime through Boko Haram, kidnapping and all sorts of activities. Nduka Chiejina, [The Nation News \(September 18th\)](#) reports.

The Attorney General of the Federation (AGF), Abubakar Malami, revealed to journalist that the federal government has succeeded in identifying

and detaining "high profile" individuals responsible for funding terrorists in the country. Malami addressed the issue of terrorism financing as a work in progress in the direction of the investigation adding that the federal government is determined to take stringent measures to counter insurgency in the country and lot of successes would be recorded in the direction of the investigation. Ademola Olonilua, [Punch News \(September 13th\)](#) reports.

In new development, Ameer Bakoura Buduma the leader of the Boko Haram sect has appointed a second in command. The development coincides with the redeployment of members of the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) which saw several foot soldiers dispatched to dominate a forest close to Rigachikun in Kaduna state. Mallam Tahiru Damboa is now the second in command of the Boko Haram sect. Mandy Oteng, [News 24 \(September 21st\)](#) reports.

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