

Nigeria Press Review

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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: FG Integrates Vaccination and Childhood Immunisation Campaigns

The Nigerian government has announced plans to integrate routine childhood immunisation at various Covid-19 vaccination sites across the country. The executive director of the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA), Faisal Shuaib, made this known at the National Covid-19 weekly briefing in Abuja on Tuesday. He explained: "In this phase of Covid-19 mass vaccination, the campaign would be integrated with childhood immunisation and other primary health care services". He urged parents or guardians with children aged zero to 23 months to take them along to the vaccination sites. Nike Adebowale, [The Premium Times News \(January 25th\)](#) reports.

FG Sets Aside Petroleum Industry Act, Applies Twitter Operational Conditions to Facebook, WhatsApp, China Raises Stake in Africa to USD 300 Billion, Tasks Nigeria on Trade Imbalance, UK Resumes Work, Study Visa Applications

The Federal Government has reversed its initial plan to remove subsidy on petrol, setting aside the Petroleum Industry Act to continue paying about N 4.6 trillion provided crude oil price hovers around USD 85 per barrel. The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation had revealed that Nigeria consumes about 19.535 billion litres of petrol yearly, averaging 1.6 billion litres monthly. With about N 241 now paid on every litre as subsidy, this brings yearly subsidy to about N 4.6 trillion. The Minister of Finance, Budget and National Planning, Zainab Ahmed, in a meeting with lawmakers at the National Assembly explained that due to ongoing consultations, it was agreed that the planned removal of fuel subsidy should be postponed until further notice. Collins Olayinka, Kingsley Jeremiah, John Akubo, Adamu Abuh, Joseph Chinueze and Rotimi Agboluaje, [The Guardian News \(January 25th\)](#) reports.

The Minister of Information and Culture, Lai Mohammed, disclosed this in Cairo at a meeting with his counterpart, Egypt Minister of Communication and Information Technology, Dr Amir Talaat. The Federal Government says it is set to amend its relevant statutes and code to enforce the operational conditions of Twitter in Nigeria on other social media platforms. Mohammed said the decision was borne out of the recent development on suspension of Twitter operations in the country and the

agreement reached before the suspension was lifted. [The Punch News \(January 16th\)](#) reports.

The Chairman of the China Africa Business Council, Chief Dana Chen, has announced that the Chinese government is planning to invest over USD 300 billion in the African continent over the next three years. According to her, the move is expected to increase the volume of trade between Africa and China from the current USD 30 billion. She added that the Chinese have shown interest in the Nigerian market, with presence across various sectors of the economy including financial technology, construction, retail, e-commerce, and manufacturing. Femi Adekoya, [The Guardian News \(January 27th\)](#) reports.

The United Kingdom has resumed work and study visa applications processing in Nigeria after the British High Commission had suspended visa applications from red list countries, including Nigeria, on December 6, 2021. Citizens have been urged to proceed to the UK visa application centers for the Priority Visa Services. Sodiq Oyeleke, [The Punch News \(January 26th\)](#) reports.

Nigeria Drops Five Places in Corruption Perceptions Index, UN Pledges Support Relief for Nigeria

The United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator, Martin Griffiths, has ended a visit to Nigeria, pledging support and promising the United Nations will do everything it can to help rebuild the lives of vulnerable families impacted by violence and extremism. Griffiths travelled to the country to see firsthand the humanitarian situation and response in the north-east to raise international awareness about the deteriorating humanitarian situation and bring attention to the ongoing regional conflict affecting the Lake Chad basin. In 2021, the humanitarian community reached more than 5 million people in need in Nigeria. The 2022 Nigeria Humanitarian Response Plan, slated for launch in February, requires over USD 1 billion. It sets out the humanitarian community's plan to assist 8.4 million people in need this year. Ngozi Egenuka, [The Guardian News \(January 25th\)](#) reports.

Transparency International (TI) released the 2021 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) where Nigeria dropped five places from the rank of 149 in 2020, now ranking 154 out of 180 countries surveyed and placing as the second most corrupt country in

West Africa. The CPI is TI's tool for measuring the levels of corruption in the systems of various countries around the world. The ranking may be an indicator that corruption in the country has gotten worse over the years. Kunle Sanni, [The Premium Times \(January 25th\)](#) reports.

Insecurity: 486 People Reportedly Killed in 2022, FG Plans to Address Insecurity with Emergence of 5G

The Premium Times has released a compilation of media reports that showed at least 486 people were killed in the first three weeks of 2022 by non-state actors across Nigeria, an average of 22 people a day. Over 80 per cent of the killings were carried out by terror groups that have terrorized the north-west and north-central zones while about 50 per cent of the total killings occurred in Niger

State, north-central Nigeria. The government has also intensified efforts against the armed groups in the north-west with more troops deployment and air bombardment. Nasir Ayitogo, [The Premium Times \(January 23th\)](#) reports.

President Muhammadu Buhari on Tuesday said the federal government will take full advantage of the opportunities that fifth generation network (5G) provides for the economy, security, and well-being of the nation. He directed all security institutions to immediately leverage 5G technology when deployed to enhance security in the country. President Buhari directed the Minister of Communications and Digital Economy, Isa Pantami, to supervise the implementation of the Policy, being carried out by the Nigerian Communications Commission with the support of other government institutions. Segun Adewole, [The Punch News \(January 25th\)](#) reports.

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