

Attempts at Police Reforms, Starting with SARS (2015 - 2021)

IGP	DATE	ACTIVITY
Solomon Arase	August 7, 2015	The IGP split SARS into two units with a view to checking human rights abuses.
Ibrahim K. Idris	September 22, 2016	The IGP told SARS personnel "You should respect the constitutional right of every Nigerian; you don't have authority to take lives, you don't have authority to change a civil case to a criminal case, you don't have the right to torture suspects."
	December 3, 2017	The IGP directed the immediate reorganisation of SARS nationwide.
	August 14, 2018	The IGP in compliance with the presidential directives ordered the immediate overhauling of SARS.
Mohammed Adamu	January 21, 2019	The IGP said: "A comprehensive reform both in terms of ethics; mode of operation; nomenclature and orientation; function delineation; command and control; weaponry; and accountability mechanism will be undertaken in SARS."
	October 4, 2020	The IGP bans Federal SARS (FSARS), other police tactical squads from routine patrols.
	October 11, 2020	The IGP dissolves SARS.
	October 13, 2020	The IGP renames SARS as the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team, an already existing unit within the Force.
	October 19, 2020	The IGP says the SWAT Team will commence training.
	December 14, 2020	The IGP orders the 17 AIGs to deploy all the recently trained members of the SWAT Team for routine patrols with immediate effect to checkmate the increased spate of insecurity across the country.
Usman Alkali Baba	April 15, 2021	The IGP orders the reform of police monitoring units, disbanding the IGP monitoring satellite offices in Lagos and Port Harcourt.
	May 27, 2021	The IGP said the SWAT Team has not commenced operations.
	October 7, 2021	The IGP said there is no plan to bring SARS back. He said SARS is gone for good and will not resurrect under any guise whatsoever.

"A report on Police Reform was produced in 2012. It was presented to the Deputy President of the Senate. And again to the APC transition team in 2015.

Police reform will not be achieved by cherry picking."

- Ayo Obe, Chairman, the Nigerian Civil Society's Panel on Police Reform



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Source: EiE Research

#EndSARS