23rd of November, 2021

**Mr Adesola Olusade,**

The Permanent Secretary,

Federal Capital Territory Administration,

Central Bank of Nigeria,

Plot 1, Kapital Street,

Area 11, Garki

Abuja.

Dear Sir,

**NOTIFICATION OF FCT SECURITY AWARENESS AND GRASSROOT SENSITIZATION CAMPAIGN PROGRAMME AND REQUEST FOR SUPPORT**

The above subject refers.

I bring you warm greetings from the leadership and entire membership of the FCT Youth Stakeholders’s Forum, a platform for socio-economic and political engagement of students and youth groups within the FCT with the mandate to identify, aggregate and amplify the voices of young people in the FCT. Over the years, the forum has relentlessly pursued it goal through advocacies of different forms such as health outreaches, civic outreaches, humanitarian outreaches among others

The impact of the Forum’s activities is visible in different sensitization and awareness programmes as well as different call for actions. In recent time, the security situation of the FCT is becoming highly unbearable and has influenced the migration of many investments from some communities to other states in Nigeria. The implication of this seemingly unending decimal on the socio-economic wellbeing of FCT residents on one hand and the overall economic growth and development of the City on another hand cannot be overemphasized. It is against this background the Forum is proposing a programme titled **“FCT Security Awareness and Grassroot Sensitization Campaign”**.

Kindly accept this correspondence as a notification of the programme as well as request for financial support to achieve same. Attached to this letter is a concept note for the programme. In anticipation of your positive consideration and prompt response, please accept the warm assurance of our highest regards.

Yours Sincerely,

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**Com. Yusuf Ahmadu Com. Akoshile Mukhtar**

**Co-Convener Co-Convener**

**Concept Note on the Proposed FCT Security Awareness and Grassroot Sensitization Campaign**

**By**

**The FCT Youth Stakeholders’ Forum**

**Background**

Knowledge has remained the absolute weapon against ignorance. The advent of the FCT in Abuja is one that has inflicted controversial lifestyle on the indigenes and residents of the capital city of Nigeria. While some believes that the relocation of the Seat of Power to the Federal Capital Territory has ebb the primitiveness of the people of FCT as regards cultural and and ancestral superstition, others believe it has unleashed untold events upon the lives of the indigenous people. No doubt, civilization and modern living has characterized the indigenous people over the last 40 years of the movement of the Federal Capital Territory to Abuja.

The laws and the orders are much believed by the indigenous people to work against their inclusion in the scheme of things despite several attempts to ensure political system restructuring. In recent time, the security situation of the FCT is becoming highly unbearable and has influenced the migration of many investments from some communities to other states in Nigeria. The implication of this seemingly unending decimal on the socio-economic wellbeing of FCT residents on one hand and the overall economic growth and development of the City on another hand cannot be overemphasized. Haven noted that the responsibility of nation building is collective, thus the issue of peace and security would not be an exception.

Also, reality have shown that one of the major factors that contribute to insecurity in FCT is the demolition of the original abodes of FCT natives, therefore to address this kind of security challenges influenced by forced migration of inhabitants anywhere and everywhere, a bottom-top approach must be considered and implemented holistically. In this context, an inclusive approach, wherein all communities and stakeholders must be aware and involved in the process to eradicate security threats and address security challenges. Haven observed that FCT Natives in Abuja North that has Abuja Municipal Area Council (AMAC) and Bwari Area council have suffered more government high-handedness in such aspect than the Abuja South. The knowledge of Land ownership and customary rights of occupancy is sacrosanct for the people of FCT.

It is against this backdrop that the FCT Youth Stakeholders’ Forum are proposing an initiative of community awareness and sensitization programme in the FCT. This campaign will be predominant in Abuja North to serve as a knowledge catalyst for the Abuja South.

**Objectives**

The objectives of this program are to achieve the following:

1. Increase the knowledge of indigenes and residents of FCT on peculiar security challenges in FCT;
2. Improve the knowledge of indigenes and residents of FCT on Land ownership and customary rights of occupancy;
3. assuage the incessant sales of land by the indigenous people of the FCT as well as uninformed cum dangerous agreements entered into by the FCT natives with developers and other Nigerians with no consideration to its negative effect to their entire generation accross the communities thereby endangering their lives and also posing existential threat.
4. Improve the involvement of indigenes and residents of FCT in the Peace and security process of their communities;
5. Secure the support of indigenes and residents of FCT for security agencies to enhance intelligence gathering and seeming less security operations;

**Proposed Implementation Strategy**

The Program is designed to be implemented in an inclusive manner, however, the execution shall be centralized in some of the area council headquarters. While there are four local government in Abuja south comprising Kuje, Gwagwalada, Kwali and Abaji, the program is scheduled to hold in Kuje central ward and that of the Abuja North will hold in the two Area Council of Bwari and AMAC on different dates. Mobilization will be conducted across the six area councils to the various venues of the sensitization. The Awareness and Sensitization Programme will adopt a conference like approach to assemble stakeholders in those communities for a robust deliberation on the subject matter.

**Targeted Audience**

This programme is designed to target the following group of stakeholders:

* Opinion leaders accross the communities of the FCT.
* Traditional institution
* Indigenous and Resident Youth Organizations
* Women Organizations
* Political office holders
* Other stakeholders
* Technocrats