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Malden High School—Nigeria Delegation Paper

A. Introduction

The delegation of Nigeria addresses the global community with great concern as the pressing issue of climate change has detrimental effects on our country. The most recent report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) states that the global temperature will surpass 1.5°C during the 20th century (Rigaud xxiv). As a result, of continuous rising temperatures, countries with the poorest infrastructure (like Nigeria) are at the forefront of the dilemma, experiencing the full force of the implications. According to the 2017 Climate Change Vulnerability Index, Nigeria is among the most vulnerable countries to climate change (Verisk). Nigeria's environment is subject to climate change, leading to exacerbated weather conditions, rising sea levels, desertification, etc. For example, around 6% of Nigeria's landmass is heavily degraded (“Building Climate Resilience”). However, these effects have large-scale implications, particularly on sectors of agriculture, migration, infrastructure, and economic development.

In the context of agriculture, natural disasters such as floods and droughts have a direct impact. The livelihood of the rural population is directly affected as 88% of the rural poor rely on agriculture as a means of income (Dove 11). Inhabitants are forced to migrate as a result of fluctuating agricultural success. However, this has led to wide-scale migration, upturning and halting economic development, and disturbing the lives of millions. Climate-induced migration may be a major form of migration, with possibly one million migrating out of the coastal region by 2050 (Rigaud xxii). As for the consumption and usage of fossil fuels, European, Asian, and American countries contribute more global CO₂ emissions than the continent of Africa (“Per Capita”). Yet, many of the current complications are faced by the countries that only produce a percentage of the emissions compared to the global superpowers in the world. It poses the

question of who is responsible for the current state of the world and what should be done to address it.

Nigeria has made attempts to lower its greenhouse gas emissions and reduce the effects that climate change has on the country and the world. Nigeria has presented and updated its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) which addresses the commitment to Article 4.2 of the Paris Agreement to cover a larger scope of the issue (Department). The NDC states that Nigeria will continue to uphold its unconditional contribution of a 20% decrease of "business-as-usual" and increase its conditional contribution from 45%-47% with international help (The Federal Government of Nigeria). Nigeria has also made steps towards addressing specific sectors such as migration and energy. The Nigeria Erosion and Watershed Management Project (NEWMAP) aims to mitigate the effects of desertification, land erosion, and shift Nigeria to renewable energy ("What We Do"). Nigeria also plans to implement the MACS (Migration and Climate-Informed Solutions) derived from two Groundswell Africa regional reports that address the situation around climate-induced migration (Rigaud xxvi). Nigeria aims to make partnerships and alliances with other nations in order to lessen the impact that climate change has on Nigeria and the rest of the globe.

B. Key Points

i. Rising sea levels

Nigeria is a country filled with natural resources and rich culture. The country itself comprises 206 million people, but due to rising sea levels and other effects of climate change millions of people are threatened with displacement. Lagos, the most populated city in the country, along with 800 other coastal villages are being threatened due to rising sea levels. 85% of the country's industry is located on the coast of Nigeria, which includes a large amount of the Oil and Natural gas sector that makes up most of Nigeria's income, which is also being threatened (Sea level rise). In the absence of human intervention, a 1 meter rise in sea level by 2100 would imperil 18,000 km² and 3.2 million people, costing 18 billion dollars in US currency (Sea level rise). This is extremely damaging to the Nigerian economy and would create an awful humanitarian crisis that leaves millions of people without shelter, and without jobs and ways to get themselves out of their predicaments brought on by climate change.

ii. Food insecurity

Food insecurity is another dire situation that needs to be addressed in order to solve current and future situations. Food insecurity is an extremely bad situation in Nigeria that is being brought on by population displacement and climate change. Fish farming is a major source of food and revenue for Nigeria. Due to rising sea levels, and changes in lakes, rivers, and other sources of water, fish populations have been dying off and moving to different water sources (CORE). Aside from fish farming, other forms of food production such as agriculture have also been largely affected by climate change. Rising temperatures in Nigeria are leading to unpredictable weather patterns. This adversely affects crop yields and shrinks the already

unstable food supply of Nigeria. Other weather patterns such as flooding, heavy winds, and thunderstorms which are all being exacerbated by climate change are negatively impacting the agriculture sector of Nigeria. Which damages the economy and leads to the continued food insecurity of Nigeria (CORE).

iii. Loss of biodiversity

Nigeria is home to many phenomenal animals, plants, and marine species, containing a variety of biodiversity. The continent possesses different geographical habitats and terrains for species. However due to many factors including climate change, it has caused issues in the development and progression of Nigeria. This brings issues to rural areas in Nigeria that greatly depend on its natural resources to thrive and provide for their family. With the loss of biodiversity impacted by human activities of global warming many species are in the face of extinction with Nigeria possessing over 22,000 vertebrate and invertebrate species that is native to Nigeria will be lost (Animals).

iv. Desertification

In addition to loss of biodiversity in Nigeria, a major issue such as desertification has impacted the lives of Nigerian citizens as they are greatly dependent on resources such as trees and animals. Desertification where geographical land in our ecosystem is constantly losing grass coverage and trees which creates the heating of the surface more severely. Nigerians raise and provide for their family through harvesting, woodcutting, fishing, etc. However this has become a really difficult task for them because of desertification. With “80% of people depend on natural resources for their livelihood”, 60% of Nigerian land has been affected and experiencing

drought due to global warming (Nugent). This has limited land for farmers and also areas for cultivation for Nigerians. One-fifth to one-half of all Nigerians obtain a living from agricultural production (J.F.) Competition of farmland has been fueled uncontrollably leading to around 10,000 individuals since 2011. Many farmers have been migrating south for better resources and land. "Annual rainfall...less than 600 milliliters compared to over 3,500 milliliters along the coast in the South " (Unah). With the " annual deforestation rate of about 3.5 percent, meaning an average yearly loss of between 350,000 and 400,000 hectares of forest cover." Which will soon increase as global warming continues to impact Nigeria harshly on Nigeria.

v. Infrastructure

Infrastructure in Nigeria is already highlighted in economic contexts as one of the major problems with developing the economy. Despite the large recent investments in large scale infrastructure projects, there still remains large areas of lackluster infrastructure and there are significant threats to some vital as well as currently underdeveloped areas that are likely to worsen as climate change continues to intensify. (Infrastructure Action Plan) Some of the major risks are thermal discomfort, drainage especially in urban areas, and the destruction of transportation/economic infrastructure. (World Bank) Normal rainfall already regularly overloads drainage systems causing flooding, with extreme weather and rainfall expected to increase, many of these systems shall become dangerously overtaxed.

The economic and infrastructure hub of Nigeria, the state of Lagos, has many problems with roads being constructed without drainage systems, waste blocking drainage systems, and building blocking natural waterways which create flooding issues. (Ezeabasili) In 2012, the Lokoja Bridge and large pieces of fundamental roadways were submerged, practically splitting

the country into two. (Ezeabasili) The effects of climate change are also very much contradictory in the different areas of the country, with the north having desertification intensify, with the drying up of water sources and destruction of crop yields as a result. (Okon) In the south however, sea levels rising, increased storms and rainfall are causing erosion, extreme flooding and destruction of both buildings and roadways as a result. (Okon) The destruction of gas pipelines, and water pipes will both contribute to fire risks, and the inability to put out these fires, as well as the poisoning of water supplies which affects water availability and the health of the local ecosystem. Gas, being the largest economic sector of Nigeria, would lead to loss of jobs and income which would be required to deal with the resulting stresses. (Ezeabasili)

The effects of this unchecked flooding will lead to the degradation of foundations, as well as washing away less well tethered structures, environmental damage (the uprooting of trees and vegetation), and these will influence each other and damage as these trends intensify.

(Ezeabasili) Both dry and wet periods are expected to worsen, during which the overuse of groundwater resources during dry sessions can lead to extreme damage to concrete foundations, stormwater infrastructure, and pipelines. (Okon) All of these will drive up repair costs, will create displacement and chaos, as well as destroying economic growth in the country. There is not enough work being done currently to modernize the infrastructure which is to be effected, which will ultimately raise costs in the long term, as well as harm the ability for the economy to deal with these costs.

Planning initiatives with an eye towards future demands, with regards to building, water availability, flood management and environmental protection are going to be required to stop compounding issues from destroying urban areas, water quality, and causing mass

migration/social instability (World Bank), as well as direct death and harm attributable to heat and water issues as well as destruction from poorly planned construction and infrastructure.

vi. Water Pollution

Water Pollution and security is one of the most pressing issues in Nigeria both today and moving forward. In a preliminary assessment on Lagos itself, the population has already strained water supplies, which has caused salt-water intrusion, as well as wells which have been found to be contaminated with heavy metals. (Shiru) Urban populations are expected to be some of the most affected by climate change in the coming years, with Lagos being one of the most populous cities in Africa, it will be at the front of many of these problems. Parts of its population are already facing water scarcity in the economic center of Nigeria, there is enough water in terms of quantity at this point, but because of the haphazard infrastructure in place, and numerous other factors such as improper solid waste management, scarcity still remains pervasive for many. (Shiru).

One of the largest problems is the over-abstraction of water, which is gradually causing water tables to decline, while increasing pollution in the water left over. (Shiru) Climate change is already expected to cause decreases in overall rainfall and groundwater reserves, but pollution from waste management, having much of the population dig their own wells outside of the existing water infrastructure, alongside widespread industrial use being a major economic center of the region. (Shiru) Migration is also a major stressor on existing networks, as migrants are attracted to the city, it compounds on both pollution, the creation of wells outside of the existing network, and continues to overexert resources. (Shiru) While Lagos is already facing many problems, and the sheer density of the population represents intricate and unique sets of issues, it

is also one of the most prepared communities, being a center of economic and political power, meanwhile many rural communities are going to be left to fend for themselves without even close to the resources required to sustain themselves.

Outside of the more developed urban areas though, the issue becomes even more viscerally clear. Currently Nigeria is ranked #22 in the list of countries with the least capabilities to combat climate change by the Notre Dame Global Adaptation Index. (King) While on the coast, rising sea levels, and increasing storms are likely to salinize potable water supply, as well as arable land around the coastline. (King) Because of the lack of a cohesive water system throughout the country, which is often afflicted by poor repair where it does exist, Nigeria is not in a position to deal with the extent of these already existing problems. (Shiru) With the north and middle of the country experiencing increasing desertification, the amount of arable land has gradually shrunk, causing traditionally nomadic communities to be pushed into farming communities. (King) It has been reported that the violence caused over conflict between herders and farmers has actually outpaced the ongoing Boko Haram insurgency. (Oduah) There are wide variations as to the effect of climate change, with many facing intensifying destructive rainfall, with others having to deal with the lack of water instead.

Because of the lack of effective government action taken for many people throughout the country, most of the insurgent groups which have come up, have made a more equitable supply of clean water a general demand called for, which has also been matched by peaceful protests over the last few decades. (Oduah) The lack of effective answers have brought chaos and violence to many areas of the country, with insurgencies, tribal hostilities over land, and government conflict with protestors. (Oduah) In the case of the insurgencies, many have taken to attacking the oil infrastructure which provides much of the country's income, but to their

detriment oil leakages from attacks or otherwise, have contributed to the destruction of crops and potable water, exacerbating problems further. (Oduah)

Despite the compounding of issues, there have also been several programs aimed at increasing the availability and cleanliness of water for local communities. The Niger Delta communities are facing flooding which is destroying their crops, homes and livelihoods. (Akingbulu) These floods often come into contact with poorly secured latrines and waste disposal, bringing contamination back into the water supply once the floods settle. (Akingbulu) As a result, the Niger Delta Support Programme has been formed, supported by UNICEF Nigeria and funds from the EU. (Akingbulu) The programme has created local solutions, such as motorized bore holes, powered by solar panels, elevated water pumps to stop flooding pollution, educating communities on hygienic practices, creating and implementing local resilience plans against floods, employing environmental health officers to monitor and record water safety and flood risks. (Akingbulu)

Water instability is one of the most pressing challenges presented by climate change for Nigeria. Local initiatives supported by the international community have helped alleviate the pain for afflicted communities, but still much preventative work remains to be done. Instability, lack of centralized infrastructure and dependence on destructive industry remain major blockades to adapting to the coming struggles in an effective manner.

vii. Migration

Since the 1980's, the migration rate of Nigeria has resided in the negatives, with a migration rate of -0.021 (Varrella). This has been mainly attributed to the economic downturn of the country and its political instability due to the persistent religious, sectional, and political

upheavals that have remained unchecked throughout the country. Despite this factor, Nigeria remains the most populated country on the continent of Africa and the 7th most populated country in the world, with a population of 206.1 million in 2020 (Varrella). This population size has been attributed to early marriages, high birth rates, and a lack of family planning access with the birth rate being 37 births per 1000 people (Nigeria Population).

viii. Labor

Labor is a fundamental asset for economic growth amongst the world's poorest countries. With a goal of lifting 100 million people out of poverty by 2030, providing productive jobs for young Nigerians (15-29 year old) has been difficult. Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, Nigeria was "projected to fall into its deepest recession since the 1980s" pushing 20 million Nigerians into poverty. With a population of 200 million, 3.5 million young Nigerians enter the labor market every year, however, fewer and fewer Nigerians are seeking secondary education, favoring a school to work transition.

Highly skilled Nigerians who have been trained often emigrate to foreign countries, working abroad. The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development has found that out of 40,000 workers who emigrated, 23% were health care workers with real estate and workers in the wholesale sectors accounting for 12% together. This has resulted in a loss of educated and skilled workers in the country, however, it has in turn become a source of income for the country. Migrant remittances have "surpassed both Foreign Direct Investment and Net Official Development Assistance inflows and is one of the major inflows of foreign earnings to Nigeria", reducing and aiding in alleviating the effects of poverty in many households.

ix. Extreme Weather Events

Nigeria, in recent years, has been fighting against increasingly extreme flooding affecting the majority of states in the country. Nigeria has a pre established history of flooding due to its annual rainy season flooding the banks of Niger, Benue, and various other rivers. However, the increased rainfall climate change has caused Nigeria's seasonal floods to burst their banks and onto land. The 2012 Nigeria floods saw the worst flooding Nigeria had seen in 40 years. The "rivers burst their banks and submerged vast lands in 30 of the country's 36 states, killing over 400 people and displacing 1.3 million others." (UN) Even after the floods, citizens are vulnerable to diseases such as cholera and malaria due to lack of access to clear water, health facilities, and housing. (WHO) Not only was the 2012 Nigeria floods not only a humanitarian crisis, but also an economical one as the damage done by flooding was estimated at \$17 billion. Disastrous flooding has continued since, as "In 2019, a total of 277,555 people were affected by floods and 158 were killed." The number of people affected has only risen in subsequent years to the millions.

x. Fossil Fuels

Nigeria as an economy has its central basis upon its stake on fossil fuels. As of 2019, 7.4% of Nigeria's GDP, 80% of budget funds, and 95% of foreign exchange earnings is from oil. It has the second highest crude oil reserve in Africa after Libya and is the largest oil producing country in Africa with majority importers being India, the United States, the Netherlands, and Spain each each 10% or over of Nigeria's total exported oil. Though oil is Nigeria's most vital resource that keeps the bulk of its economy going, oil has also been responsible for polluting the Niger river delta with frequent spillages putting its diverse ecosystem, farmland, and people at

risk. Nigeria also has Africa's largest supply of natural gas, though it is not as dependent on gas as oil. Nigeria primarily exports its gas supply as liquefied natural gas, or LNG being ranked the 5th largest exporter in the world.

C. Background of Nigeria

[The world factbook](#)

Nigeria, as we know it today, is the result of the British colonial administration in the 19th and 20th centuries. The British occupation of this territory was, for all intents and purposes, hostile to the indigenous population's collective will. While the Hausa in the north largely accepted British rule, resistance in the southwestern and eastern parts of the country, largely populated by Yorubas and Igbos, was spontaneous and aggressive. Given the disparities in social organization that existed across the regions, this was unsurprising. Lord Lugard, the first High Commissioner of Nigeria from 1900 to 1906, merged Nigeria in 1914.

Lugard established the Protectorate of Northern Nigeria in 1900, with headquarters in Lokoja (later moved to Jebba), which was abandoned soon after, then moved to Zungeru, and finally to Kaduna. The new Nigerian nation had a land area of 356,669 square miles, which was so large and fictitious that it was questioned whether it could survive or be sustained. The north and south were separated by a cultural and, by extension, a religious iron curtain. While the south was being revolutionized by Western education and the westernized elite, urbanization, Christianity, commerce, and other factors, the north remained a culturally and religiously conservative terrain dedicated to the preservation of Islam and its traditions. This schism has weakened the bonds of nationhood even more.

The independence of Nigeria on October 1, 1960, gave many Nigerians, and Africans in general, renewed hope for the continent's future. Given Nelson Mandela's (1995:347) assertion that "good administration is no excuse for self-government," it was believed that Nigeria, as a sovereign nation, would lead the way in the economic liberation of the entire African continent.

[The history and the evolution of Nigeria](#)

Nigeria is a West African country that obtained independence from the United Kingdom, France, and Germany in 1960, and was born out of European ambitions and rivalries in the region. Since independence, the nation has had 36 states and a federal capital territory (Abuja), but its borders were not finalized until the twentieth century since the newly formed country had a number of large kingdoms. Before the British colonists arrived, Nigeria was made up of various towns, villages, kingdoms, ethnic groupings, and city-states that coexisted peacefully and took their traditions and ideals seriously. They had an excellent inter-group interaction as well:

During festivals, there is a lot of trading, intermarriages, and cultural ties. The people's government, economic system, religious system, and social organization all functioned in accordance with their culture and tradition. All of this was shattered when they came into touch with the Colonialists, who scattered and fragmented them before eventually subduing and controlling them.

People residing along the Benue-Niger rivers were included in Nigeria's forest region. Yams, coco-yams, cassava, plantains, palm products, and other crops such as fruits, pineapple, bananas, tomatoes, and vegetables were among their major subsistence crops. In the north, the Fulani were renowned for their livestock and goats, whereas in Igboland, the Igbo were known for their marketplaces and market days.

There's no question that the British government wanted to put an end to the slave trade in Nigeria. The British interest in Nigeria reached its pinnacle in 1851, when John Beecroft bombed Lagos. It wasn't simply a humanitarian desire to put an end to the Portuguese and Brazilian slave trade in Lagos; it was also a business ambition to dominate the city's trade. The annexation of Lagos in 1861 was a foregone conclusion. The British had planned it, and it was the natural and unavoidable result of the Lagos Bombardment in 1851.

-Official British sources generally explain the takeover by claiming that the slave trade was being resurrected under King Dosumu. Between 1862 and 1893, practically all of Yoruba land's cities, up to Ilorin, were under British dominion. To achieve success, the British employed all available resources, including liberated Africans and missionaries. Despite incidents such as the bombing of Lagos in 1851 and the Ijebu expedition of 1892, the British imperial establishment in Yorub territory was marked by more than sheer military control.

King Pepple of Bonny, like King Kosoko of Lagos, respected his autonomy and sovereignty and did not want any British involvement. He accused the British of breaking the conditions of the 1839 and 1841 Anti-slavery Treaty, in which the British government committed to pay restitution. King Pepple was transported to Fernando Po in 1854, but was eventually permitted to return in 1861, but he remained a puppet until his death in 1866. In 1852, British consul BeeCroft presided over a conference that resulted in the Ekpe society's strength being reduced as a result of several adjustments. British businessmen were concerned that this would result in a trade halt.

The British acknowledged Jaja as monarch of Opobo in a treaty signed on January 4, 1873. He was so adamant about defending his kingdom and sovereignty that he refused to sign a contract of protection. Despite promising not to hold Jaja against his will, Johnston enticed him onboard a vessel and deported him to the West Indies in 1887. Several attempts by Johnston to outwit Jaja failed until he appealed with Jaja to come to a peace agreement. Jaja continued to beg to the British administration to return him to Opobo while in the West Indies, but he perished during the journey. It's possible that his death on the cruise had anything to do with the British desire to remove him from the scene. The eviction of Nana of Itsekiri and Oba Ovonramwew of

Benin in 1894 and 1897, respectively, expedited the British autonomy extension over the Urhobo region.

Nigeria became a country in 1914, but not without ongoing unrest in one form or another. In 1946, the Richards constitution was enacted, which established Regional Assemblies to deal with regional differences, particularly between the North and the South. General Gowon established the twelve states of the federation in 1967 to ease tensions caused by the state creation agitation, but the unrest continued. In 1975, General Murtala Mohammed created a commission to investigate the issue of state formation, which was chaired by Hon. Mr Justice Ayo Irikefe of the Supreme Court of Nigeria. General Ibrahim Babangida added two additional states to the Federation in 1987, Akwa-Ibom and Kastina, bringing the total to twenty-one. He formed nine more states in 1991: Enugu, Abia, Jigawa, and Urukka.

[Nigeria Population](#)

[Nigeria](#) has the largest population in [Africa](#). The United Nations project that the overall population of Nigeria will reach about 401.31 million by the end of the year 2050. By 2100, if current figures continue, the population of Nigeria will be over 728 million.

According to the Census Bureau of the [United States](#), the population of Nigeria will surpass that of the United States in 2047, when the population of Nigeria will reach 379.25 million. With those numbers, Nigeria will become the third most populated country in the world. The major contributors to Nigeria's population growth are early marriages, high birth rates, and a lack of family planning access. The birth rate in Nigeria is about 37 births per 1,000 people.

D. Issues

Committee on Migration

Historically, Nigeria has had significant internal and external migration throughout its recent history. Nomadic cultures has existed in Nigeria for several centuries, Nigeria was also involved in the transatlantic, indian, red sea and subsaharan slave trades, which involved an estimated around 2 million Nigerians. After being colonized by the British empire, rural migration to developing urban centers and work areas, such as mines, began at an explosive rate, with emmigration to other parts of the empire, and immigration to man these projects becoming more widespread throughout the 19th century. After independence, emigration for jobs and education increased to the UK and US, though early, most of the early emigrants readily moved back to the country. After the 70's and 80's though immigration was stifled and emigration had far less returns as a result of political and economic instability as a result of war. Since then emigration of skilled Nigerians has increased, as well as less skilled workers. Internal migration also tends towards people leaving less hospitable and developed regions (generally closer to the Sahara) for economic opportunities around Lagos and urban centers.

Since the 1980's the migration rate of Nigeria has remained in the negatives, with a migration rate of $-.021$ (Varrella). This has been mainly attributed to the economic downturn of the country and political instability due to the persistent religious, sectional, and political upheavals that have remained unchecked throughout the country. Despite this, Nigeria has remained the most populated country on the continent of Africa and the 7th most populated country in the world, with a population of 206.1 million in 2020 (Varrella). This population size has been attributed to early marriages, high birth rates, and a lack of family planning access with the birth rate being 37 births per 1000 people (Nigeria Population).

Most Nigerians immigrate to Canada, the United States of America, and the United Kingdom, leaving Nigeria seeking employment, and education; with young families leaving to seek a better education for their children and higher education for themselves (Where). Educated Nigerians who have taken secondary education often emigrate to foreign countries, working abroad. The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development has found that out of 40,000 workers who emigrated, 23% were health care workers with real estate and workers in the wholesale sectors accounting for 12% together. This has resulted in a loss of educated and skilled workers in the country, however, it has in turn become a source of income for the country. Migrant remittances have “surpassed both Foreign Direct Investment and Net Official Development Assistance inflows and is one of the major inflows of foreign earnings to Nigeria”, reducing and aiding in alleviating the effects of poverty in many households.

Internal migration patterns within Nigeria are centered around migrants migrating from rural areas to more urban cities. Populations in the states “Ogun, Kwara, Osun, and Imo” are the “most migratory” with the states “Abia, Port Harcourt, Anambra, Lagos, Ebonyi, Enugu, Oyo and Delta” along with the federal capitals Bayelsa and Abuja being where migrants are most concentrated. The causes for internal migration are education, job opportunities, the absence of necessary amenities, and a lack of physical and social infrastructure.

The main causes of immigration into Nigeria are job opportunities and refugees/asylum seekers. India is the biggest source of employment immigration for Nigeria, accounting for 39.1% of total foreigners living in the country, with Nigeria issuing 1,492 work visas to Indians. This is closely followed by China with 22.2% of foreigners in Nigeria being Chinese, accounting for 1,171 work visas issued in 2018, and Britain with 4.9% of foreigners being British and accounting for 987 work visas in 2018. The causes of refugees and asylum seekers fleeing to

Nigeria are a result of natural and human factors including environmental degradation, political conflicts, persecution, and warfare. The situation has worsened due to a degrading humanitarian crisis in West Africa as a result of insecurity, increasing rates of unemployment, and droughts. In 2017, The crisis in the North-West and South-West provinces of the Cameroun Republic due to the demand for self-determination by Anglophone Cameroonian citizens in these provinces and the subsequent crackdown on the protesters has resulted in an influx of 7,805 refugees into Nigeria, causing a pause in the economic development of the country as the resources for these plans have been reinvested into the refugee camps located in the country. In February of 2020, this count has increased to nearly 60,000 (United). With the backing of the European Union and the International Organization of Migration, Nigeria has adopted a Nation Migration policy in 2015.

Committee on Security

The republic of Nigeria has Historically from the end of British colonial rule to the modern day been plagued by internal ethnic divisions and political instability. From Boko Haram Jihadist Insurgents to the North, calls for a independent Biafra by Igbo seccesionists in the southwest, rising kidnappings and Banditry and a worsening security situation in the oil-rich Niger river delta are only some of the myrid of issues facing the federal government in Abuja. To make matters worse rising urbanization due to a population explosion alongside climate change have not only contributed to a decades long series of violent conflicts between the nations pastoralists and farmers but also contributed to the rather controversial movement of the nation's seat of power from the densely packed cosmopolitan coastal city of lagos to Abuja due to rising sea-levels caused by rising global temperatures.

According to Associate Professor of Political science and economics at Eastern Mediterranean University Dr Haldun Canci much of Nigeria's core issues are the direct result of deep religious and ethnic nationalism which has resulted in conflicts over state power, unequal allocation of resources, economic decline and citizenship issues. For like many modern day african nations the wounds of Europe's policy of divided in conquer are still fresh, for under the British ethnic tensions between the nation's three largest groups the Yoruba, Igbo and Hausa were actively inflamed in order to maintain british hegemonic rule over the vast territory alongside this. The Empire's organization of its Nigerian colony was characterized by a focus on maximizing profits in a manner similar to that of a corporation The British also divided Nigeria into southern and northern Nigeria. Southern Nigeria received the most attention by the british due to the discovery of oil in the region in the early 20th century, its resource abundance land and bustling port cities this increased attention also resulted in the wide-spread christianization

of the local populations with the igbo one of nigeria largest ethnic groups converting to christianity in massive numbers. In contrast the Northern colony of Nigeria was not as resource rich as the south nor did it receive the same level of British colonial attention as their southern counterparts with the British preferring to maintain indirect rule in the region. The regions majority Hausa-fulani group a deeply islamic people also unlike their southern brethren rejected westernization remaining firm in their adherence to islam and their traditional ways. These divisions came to a head in 1914 when the twin protectorates of northern and southern nigeria were merged into the greater colony of nigeria. Although the british continued their policy of indirect rule the seeds of ethnic divisions would be inflamed as the british throughout the remainder of their rule in nigeria promoted Hausa elites to positions of power within the colony giving the hausa elite a vested interest in maintaining british rule for as long as possible. This of course would come to a end in 1960 with the end of british colonial rule and the independence of Nigeria but the ethnic tensions which had been fostered by decades of british rule remained and would manifest violently in 1966 after a series of events led to the breakaway of the igbo majority region of biafra sparking one of the bloodiest conflicts in not only African history but also post-world II.

This History of bloody ethnic divisions is not the only factor facing Nigeria as just like the rest of the world the crisis of religious extremism has also deeply impacted Nigeria. For nearly thirteen years the federal governments in Abuja have warred with Boko Haram, a religious extremists organization in the north of nigeria. This conflict has resulted in the deaths of some 350,000 people and has displaced nearly 3 million Nigerians. Like many of the issues plaguing nigeria the roots of the conflict are rooted in the inability of the Nigerian government to effectively resolve the long-standing ethnic and religious tensions which are tearing the nations

apart. The context of the conflict is primarily rooted in the long-standing issues between Nigeria's Christian and Muslim communities and the insurgents' ultimate aim to establish an Islamic state in northern Nigeria. Although to the best efforts of the Nigerian armed forces, the fractured nature of Boko Haram, paired with the Nigerian military's ill-equipped army and the general instability in West Africa, has resulted in the prevalence of Boko Haram. To tackle the issue, Nigeria, alongside a coalition of West African states and Western powers such as the United States and France, have launched a multi-border offensive against Boko Haram, which has yet to result in any meaningful results. Overall, Nigeria's myriad of socioeconomic issues have led to a general lack of focus on climate change by the Nigerian government, as chronic shortages of power, alongside the nation's heavy reliance on its fossil fuels to generate government income, have seen the Nigerian government set their net-zero targets to either 2050 or 2070.

Committee on Energy

Nigeria, dubbed "Africa's Giant," has the continent's largest natural gas reservoir and ranks fifth in the world in terms of liquefied natural gas exports. Energy is important for Nigeria because it is required for everything that keeps the country running, including productive activities like agriculture, commerce, manufacturing, industry, and mining, as well as in families, schools, and hospitals. Nigeria's abundant conventional energy resources include oil, natural gas, lignite, and coal. It also has a lot of renewable energy sources like wood, solar, and hydropower, and it has a lot of potential for wind-powered electricity generation. Despite possessing all of the necessary resources for both traditional and modern energy, and having a GDP of 432.3 billion compared to a population of 195.8 million, Nigeria has struggled for the past two decades to meet its country's demands for energy distribution, resulting in an increase in poverty and economic decline as a result of the rapid increase in population expecting Nigeria to overtake china and and become the world's most populous country after india by the end of the century, and the demand for energy, as well as the inability to distribute energy to the entire country.

In a 1985 study, it was discovered that, in addition to being a large producer with an average of 1.88 million barrels of oil per day, it was also a large consumer of oil, with petroleum and biomass accounting for 78 percent of total energy consumption and using an average of 180,000 barrels per day. Nigeria is also a major oil and natural gas exporter, with energy accounting for 70% of the country's GDP. Nigeria exported crude oil and natural gas worth 55 million dollars in 2018, an increase of 23 million dollars over 2016. The massive consumption and production of fossil fuels has resulted not only in a significant increase in carbon emissions being ranked 17th worldwide in greenhouse gasses, but also in increased health risks in recent years due to exposure to these fossil fuels. In order to mitigate the effects of oil production,

President Buhari signed the Paris Agreement to reduce GHG emissions by 45 percent and produce an additional 13 gigawatts of offgrid solar power by 2030. More than one in every three Nigerians lack access to electricity, and the country has one of the lowest energy consumption rates in Africa, among other places, due to limited distribution to rural areas and neighborhoods.

For the past three decades, PHCN has been unable to meet the bare minimum of acceptable power device dependability, accessibility, and availability. Rural areas are particularly affected by a lack of conventional energy due to poor roads, and because they have low power purchase and consumption, private power investors do not see a need to invest in them, rendering the vision of rural areas having adequate energy in the distant future a dream. To meet their energy needs, families in rural areas are forced to rely on wood-burning and traditional biomass, such as trash. Nigeria consumes more than 50 million tonnes of fuelwood per year, far exceeding deforestation rates; the country lost 86,700 hectares of tropical forest between 2010 and 2019.

It is clear that relying solely on fossil fuels will not suffice to meet the country's energy needs today or in the near future, emphasizing the need to invest more in renewable energy, which will not only help to meet the country's energy needs but will also reduce government expenses. The country currently has an abundance of renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, biomass, and minor hydropower, with plants capable of producing 12,533 KW (kilowatt) of electricity. Despite having ideal and abundant renewable energy resources, hydropower provided 18 percent of the country's energy in a study conducted in 2018, Power Africa was able to develop a 330 million dollar Solar Power Naija program that will provide financing to private sector developers to deploy 5 million new solar connections by 2030. As it was shown the insufficient funding on energy, nor the inadequate investing in not as urgent areas not only affects the economy, but the country and its people, along with the continent and eventually the

world. Long-term investment in renewable energy is the responsibility of the government, as this will not only ensure energy supply and sustainable economic development, but will also help to mitigate climate change and secure the country's future. We are still a long way to reaching our goal, but it is not too late to become a better, totally renewable energy run country.

Committee on Agriculture and Food Security

Nigeria is a country that heavily relies on agriculture, and its primary sectors include crop production, fishing, livestock, and forestry (Oyaniran). Nigeria is both a food exporter and food importer. However, it is in a large deficit due to the unmatched food exports. In 2019, the gap between food imports and exports had increased; 22% of food was exported compared to 78% of the food imported (Oyaniran). Because of Nigeria's inability to meet the food demands of its people, it relies heavily on food imports. Despite this, food security remains a pressing issue facing the people of Nigeria. They are unable to domestically provide adequate measures of food in order to satisfy their needs (B.E. 19). Around 12.8 million people needed "humanitarian assistance" in 2021 regarding the issue of food insecurity ("Explore"). A root cause traces back to the issues surrounding agriculture and its efficacy in providing food to the people of Nigeria.

Of the commodities that Nigeria exports, some of the foods include cassava, yams, maize, and other vegetables ("Explore"). One of the most vital food exports is rice. Around 70% of Nigeria's population consumes rice, and it is enjoyed by both the rich and poor (B.E. 19). In addition, Nigeria is the largest rice exporter in West Africa, producing around 3.2 million tons of rice paddies (B.E. 22). However, Nigeria experiences numerous factors that negatively affect rice production and agriculture, which are exacerbated by the effects of climate change. The labor force of Nigeria consists of 60 million people ("Explore"). Employment in agriculture makes up 36% (Rigaud 9). Of that percentage, 87.6% consists of crop production, meaning that environmental effects play a major role (Oyaniran). The people of Nigeria have to accommodate their crop cultivation around seasonal changes and extreme climate events such as dry spells, heavy rainfall, and floods (Rigaud 14).

On the contrary, in recent years, climate change has had evident impacts on the overall livelihoods of the people of Nigeria, causing mass displacement and increasing food insecurity. Nigeria's crop production relies heavily on rainfall, meaning droughts and periods of rain dictate agricultural success. Although irrigation through precipitation can be inconsistent, Nigeria lacks the proper infrastructure and access to clean water in rural areas to shift to a better alternative (Dove 7). In 2013, a World Bank report on Nigeria found that a long-term implication of climate change was a 20%-30% on crop cultivation (Rigaud 16). As a result, this causes a chain reaction, increasing food imports to accommodate rising food insecurity and hampering agricultural productivity, which uproots Nigerian lives. Other prospected statistical impacts of climate change include the 11% of the minimal arable land being affected by climate change, further causing a decline in agricultural processes (Rigaud 17).

Climate change has also been seen to have notable influences on livestock as well. Nigeria is one of the largest livestock producers in the ECOWAS region, with livestock exports making up 9% of the agricultural value (Rigaud 17). However, the effects of climate variability in semi-arid areas such as North Nigeria are predicted to have detrimental effects on livestock production along with food security. Due to this frequent decline in precipitation and land erosion, the land is overgrazed, and the region lacks the means to maintain high levels of livestock production (Dove 17).

Lastly, climate change also has a significant impact on the fishing and forestry sectors of Nigerian agriculture. In 2013, it was estimated that the annual fish consumption per person was 13.3 kg (Rigaud 18). The recent impacts of climate change have affected Nigerian fisheries due to the rising sea levels and severe storms, deterring fishing (Rigaud 18). Regarding forestry, Nigeria experiences a deforestation rate of 4% annually, which is one of the highest in the world

(Rigaud 18). Deforestation is one of the numerous issues that have been exacerbated due to the increased severity of climate change. As a result, those living in developing countries experience the more severe end of the spectrum, without the means to help solve the issue.

Committee on Economic Development

Climate change affects the distribution of rainfall and temperature during a year and this determines crop yields especially those crops cultivated under rain-fed conditions (Thurlow et al., 2009). Excessive rainfall leads to destruction of arable land, impairment of cultivated crops, increased growth of weeds and greater post-harvest loss while a significant reduction in rainfall may culminate in drier land, reduction in water level in streams and rivers, increase in farmers' search for water for irrigation and consequently resulting in invaluable man hour losses and reductions in crop yield (Ozor, 2009). Nigeria had a stable growth in its economy until recently in 2016, when oil recessions began.

The collapse of global oil prices during 2014–16, combined with lower domestic oil production, led to a sudden slowdown in economic activity (-1.6 percent in 2016) (World Bank 2020b). Following this trend, Nigeria had a rebound in 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic hit the globe. The World Bank states that, *Nationally, close to 43 percent of Nigerians (83 million people) live below the poverty line. Continuing, while another 25 percent (53 million) are vulnerable (World Bank 2020c).* The economy in Nigeria is stabilizing, "In 2012, Nigeria adopted its Climate Change Policy Response and Strategy (CCPRS) to ensure an effective national response to the multi-faceted impacts of climate change" (International Journal of Energy Economics and Policy). Due to climate change, flaring has become a more and more common practice. However many families desperately depending on income have to risk their life. Families with well diggers are having a harder time finding underground water and have to relocate. Lumberjacks, however, cause more damage to the community due to having to cut trees down just to earn living wages. Although there are some positive results from Nigeria's Austerity measures consisting of the 5% increase of food production per year, increase in farmer incomes,

value of currency decrease to make exports cheaper and more (csmonitor). With these measures it also raises problems for the individual, because farmer's increase in income means consumers will have to pay more for food, and because of the cut in the value of currency, it means that Nigerians's buying power is reduced. In many countries including Nigeria consumer spending is important in sustaining an economy however due to the austerity measures has affected the "consumption and investment" by deducting middle-class's purchasing power.

In the 21st century, Nigeria came to face an unsteady flow of revenue, its government attempted to counteract by borrowing from international sources and introducing various measures. Nigeria's national budget was needed to pay off its nation's debt which means that very little of its income was used to help Nigeria's citizens and meet their needs (Britannica). Problems such as Environmental deterioration as one of the factors to global warming which affects Nigeria's economic stability which causes lack of "investment capital contribute to low productivity and general stagnation in agriculture" (Britannica). As population continues to grow and urbanization accelerates, food deficiency due to desertification and just global warming in general will continue to worsen the nation despite the efforts of the government to replenish and heal the situation; as long as climate change continues, its effect on Nigeria will never get better.

Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Nigeria has the greatest economy and population of any African country, primarily due to its abundant natural resources, the most important and valued of which are petroleum, and crude oil. Crude oil/petroleum product exports account for 86 percent of Nigeria's overall export revenue and 65 percent of the government's inflow of funds (Carbon Brief profile). Because of this, it is safe to infer that Nigeria's current economy is heavily dependent on fossil fuels, and that it would not be in its current position as Africa's highest GDP holder if it were not for the trading of these items. Nigeria is highly reliant on these items, and despite its heavy reliance on fossil fuels for energy, the country only contributed for 0.36 percent of global CO₂ emissions (Nigeria CO₂ profile). Taking all of these factors into account, it is evident that Nigeria is not to blame for the global warming catastrophe, at least not to the extent that global superpowers such as the United States and China are.

Stepping aside from these facts, Nigeria is a country that faces an extreme wealth gap even though it has the largest economy in all of Africa. Average citizens in Nigeria suffer from Energy poverty, which is inadequate access to energy needed to do things like use air conditioning in order to combat rising temperatures brought on by climate change (Carbon Brief profile). Average Nigerian citizens also struggle with many other effects of climate change such as desertification, flooding, drought, decreased rainfall. All of these factors lead into Nigeria's decision to lower carbon emissions by 20 percent, and if given international support, by 45 percent, cutting their emissions almost completely in half (Carbon Brief Profile). Regardless of the fact that Nigeria doesn't produce a large amount of the Global carbon emissions, this act shows the desperation of the Nigerian government to combat climate change. It also shows the need for global superpowers to repay countries negatively affected by climate change, especially

if those countries do not produce a majority of the carbon emissions as well as partake in other harmful actions that exacerbate the climate crisis.

Nigeria is knowledgeable about the climate crisis and is taking actions to make sure they play their part in alleviating the situation, but as a country that does not have as large of an impact, it is necessary to point out that those with the most influence, and sway, must also play their part in helping out those less fortunate. The Global south has a long history of being exploited by those in power, and because of this those who are responsible for the exploitation are also responsible for assisting these countries in their struggles.

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