



A WEEKLY PUBLICATION FROM THE MEDIA DESK

FG UNVEILS COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN DATA MANAGEMENT AND HARMONIZATION

President Muhammadu Buhari has recently inaugurated a committee on Citizen Data Management and Harmonization in Abuja following the recurring security challenges facing the Country.

The Committee which is made up of Ministries, Departments and Agencies chaired by the Minister of Interior, Ogbeni Rauf Aregbesola, has been set up with a view to harmonize existing data of Nigerians and Legal Residents.

The Minister thereafter set-up three sub-committees namely: Citizen Data Management & Harmonization, Central Crime Data Management & Harmonization and Limited & Temporary Visa Restrictions two of which the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) is part of.

The Committee is to review the status of the harmonization project aimed at consolidating all multiple data sources into the National



President Muhammadu Buhari GCFR

Identity Database (NIDB) owned and managed by the Federal Government of Nigeria through the NIMC.

NIMC DG/CEO Engr. Aliyu Aziz reiterated at the meeting that the NIMC is a major influence in hurling Nigeria into the modern identity

scene affecting global financial transactions, travel and international government cooperation today.

He said "NIMC has had to strenuously engage limited resources in the pursuit of its mandate to establish, own, operate, maintain and manage the National Identity Database in Nigeria, register persons covered by the NIMC Act of 2007, as well as assign a Unique National Identification Number (NIN) and issue a General Multi-Purpose Card (GMPC) to each and every legal citizen of Nigeria as well as others legally residing within the country."

The CCU Media team gathered that, the Committee will propose strategies that will expedite the data harmonization process and will also review the temporal migrant visa restrictions imposed by the United States of America on Nigerians.

Some of the Committee members

at the inaugural meeting were: Minister of Interior (Chairman), Minister of Communication and Digital Economy, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Finance, Budget and National Planning, Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Minister of Police Affairs, Governor of the Central Bank, Inspector General of Police, Comptroller General, Nigeria Immigration Service, Director-General, State Security Services, Director-General, Nigeria Intelligence Agency, Director-General, National Identity Management Commission (NIMC), Director-General, National Population Commission.

Others present were, Executive Chairman, Federal Inland Revenue Service, Chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Corps Marshal, Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) and Accountant General of the Federation.

OSIA INAUGURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOCUSED ON FINDING SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS OF ID INTEROPERABILITY- ALIYU AZIZ

The National Identity Management Commission's Director General/Chief Enrolling Officer and Chairman, Open Standards Identity APIs (OSIA) Advisory Committee, Engr. Aliyu A. Aziz, has said that the committee is focused on working with the industry to find a solution to the problems of interoperability and lock-in.

Engr. Aziz stated this in the committee meeting held recently to accelerate the development and adoption of OSIA across Africa and beyond.

The OSIA is a global initiative aimed at solving the interoperability challenges within the



ENGR. ALIYU AZIZ ABUBAKAR
DIRECTOR GENERAL/CEO
NATIONAL IDENTITY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION (NIMC)

identity sector was launched by Secure Identity Alliance (SIA) in 2018 and held its Inaugural Committee meeting

in November, 2019 that brought together private sector companies with senior Government Stakeholders from The Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Uganda.

With plans steered in the direction to hasten the adoption of the OSIA initiative across Africa, Engr. Aziz at the meeting said "irrespective of political, technical or cultural differences, all the governments represented on the OSIA Advisory Committee are focused on working with the industry

to find a solution to the problems of interoperability and lock-in. In OSIA we believe we have found it, and we made tremendous progress. Our task is now to raise awareness of OSIA in our home markets to ensure government institutions understand its real-world benefits."

The Chairman of the Secure Identity Alliance- Philippe Barreau while commenting said "the committee will open discussions between the industry and governments to ensure OSIA is continuously improved and implemented for a tangible impact on economies and citizens around the world."

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