



NCMG International

CATEGORY: PEACE BUILDER

1. GOVERNOR KASHIM SHETTIMA



GOVERNOR, BORNO STATE

BACKGROUND

Kashim Shettima was born on 2 September 1966 in Maiduguri, Borno State. He attended Government Community Secondary School, Biu in 1978 and then attended Government Science Secondary School Potiskum, Yobe State between 1980 and 1983. He studied Agricultural Economics at the University of Maiduguri, graduating in 1989. For his National Youth Service he worked with the Nigerian Agricultural Cooperative Bank in Calabar (1989–1990). He then attended the University of Ibadan (1990–1991), gaining a master's degree in Agricultural Economics. From 1991 to 1993 he was a lecturer in Agricultural Economics at the University of Maiduguri.

EARLY CAREER

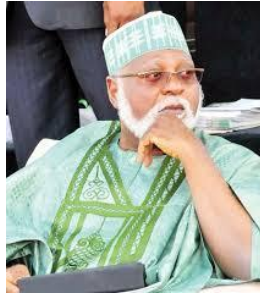
Shettima worked with the Commercial Bank of Africa as an Agricultural Economist at its Ikeja Office, Lagos State (1993–1997). He then became a deputy manager, later manager, at the African International Bank Limited, Kaduna Branch (1997–2001), and was appointed Deputy Manager/Branch Head of the Zenith Bank's Maiduguri Office in 2001, becoming General Manager five years later. In mid-2007, Shettima was appointed Commissioner of the Borno State Ministry of Finance and Economic Development. Later he became Commissioner in the Ministries of Local

Governments and Chieftaincy Affairs, Education, Agriculture and later Health under his predecessor as Borno Governor Ali Modu Sheriff.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- One of the biggest achievements of Governor Shettima's government is in the reconstruction of towns and villages destroyed by Boko Haram. The government had in 2016 created the Ministry of Reconstruction, Rehabilitation and Resettlement that was saddled with the task of rebuilding all public buildings and homes of the displaced persons.
- Despite the insurgency in Borno State, Governor Shettima has continually worked on ensuring a secured state. He continues to give support to the security agencies while solely funding the activities of the youth vigilante group called Civilian-JTF, who work round the clock to wade off Boko Haram attackers. The governor's efforts in this regard have helped restore normalcy in most parts of the state capital. Night life has since returned to Maiduguri and other areas after years of curfew.
- Management of camps for internally displaced persons, IDPs, was initially a challenge for the government in 2016. But the problem later turned out a success with the introduction of house hold feeding system for IDPs. Governor Shettima has also led an aggressive campaign for support within and outside the country, which made agencies like the Dangote Foundation donate N2 billion in support of IDPs welfare and the reconstruction effort. His government has also begun the relocation of IDPs back to some of the liberated communities.
- He has ensured that his government creates jobs via several initiatives that are targeted towards addressing the insurgency-induced socio-economic problems. Hundreds of youth have engaged in the making of interlocking bricks that are used in landscaping most parts of Maiduguri, the Borno State capital. Hundreds of young men and women are also engaged as street cleaners under the Borno State Environmental Protection Agency (BOSEPA); amongst other achievements.

2. GENERAL ABDUSALAMI ABUBAKAR



CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL PEACE COMMITTEE

BACKGROUND

Born June 13, 1942 in Minna, Niger State, to Hausa parents, Gen. Abdulsalami Abubakar was educated at Native Authority Primary School in Minna, the Provincial Secondary School in Bida, and finally the Technical Institute, Kaduna. Afterwards, he joined the military.

CAREER

Gen. Abubakar led Nigeria's contingent in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon and eventually rose to the position of Chief of Defence Staff. Upon the death of Gen. Sani Abacha, the retired Army General was military Head of State of Nigeria from June 9, 1998 until May 29, 1999. Abacha's agenda to transmute from military dictator to a civilian president had polarised the country and split it down the middle. The country needed a man of peace, a fence-mender, a man whose ambition was not vaulting, one who would steer Nigeria away from the knife-edge of danger, hence the appointment of Gen. Abubakar.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- A few days after assuming office, Gen. Abubakar promised to hold elections within a year and transfer power to an elected president. He therefore established the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), appointing former Supreme Court Judge, Justice Ephraim Akpata as chairman. The INEC held a series of elections first for Local Government Areas in December 1998, then for State Assemblies and Governors, National Assemblies and finally for the President on February 27, 1999.
- Surprising some critics of the country's military, Gen. Abubakar kept his word and transferred power to elected President Obasanjo on May 29, 1999. During his

administration, Nigeria adopted a new constitution on May 5, 1999, which went into effect when General Olusegun Obasanjo became president. For honouring his word by returning the country to democratic rule after the military interregnum, Abubakar received multiple honours, including the Rainbow/Push Coalition Peace Prize, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) International Gold Medal, and the Star Award of Ghana.

- He had the honour of being the Chairman of the National Peace Committee in 2015. The Committee ensured a peaceful conduct of the general election and consequently brought about a peaceful transition of power - the signing of the peace accord between President Mohammed Buhari and his predecessor, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan ahead of the March 28 presidential election.
- Apart from these, the retired General has been engaged in many national and international assignments in various capacities since he left office in 1999.

3. WEST AFRICA NETWORK FOR PEACEBUILDING (WANEP) NIGERIA



ABOUT WANEP

WANEP is a regional non-profit peacebuilding organization founded in 1998 in response to civil wars that plagued West Africa in the 1990s. Over the years, WANEP has succeeded in establishing strong national networks and national offices and structure in every Member State of ECOWAS in all 15 countries in West Africa including Cameroon and Chad with head office in Accra, Ghana.

ABOUT WANEP-NIGERIA

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) Nigeria is the largest and best organized peace building network in Nigeria. It is characterized by just and peaceful coexistence among communities where dignity of the human person is paramount and where the people can meet their basic human needs and decide their own direction. WANEP-Nigeria seeks to enable and facilitate the development of mechanisms for cooperation among civil society based peacebuilding practitioners and organizations in Nigeria by providing cooperative responses to violent conflicts, providing structure through which these practitioners and institutions can regularly share experience and information on peacebuilding, conflict transformation, social, ethno-religious and political reconciliation and tolerance and promoting cultural values as resources for peace building. Underlying its work is a commitment to professionalism and a dedication to a world of mutual respect, tolerance and peace.

Like other country based WANEP Structures in the West Africa sub region, WANEP-Nigeria operates through a membership scheme that provides technical support and builds the peacebuilding capacity of its member organizations to intervene effectively at the grassroots level in various communities of the country. Intervention programs of the network are divided into five basic thematic areas: Conflict Prevention, Women in Peacebuilding, Active Non-Violence, Peace Education, Democracy and Good Governance; Research and Documentation.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- In 2002, an historic memorandum of understanding between WANEP and ECOWAS was signed in 2004 in the implementation of a regional early warning and response system called ECOWAS Conflict Early Warning Mechanism (ECOWARN) and African Union Peace and Security Architecture (APSA). Its partnership is for five years, and has since been renewed for another 5 years.
- WANEP-Nigeria stresses gender equity and balance in its intervention strategies and program implementation, hence The Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET) which has over 1,000 women professionals and community leaders working in diverse fields of women empowerment and peacebuilding, etc. The network has built mass of 1,000 women since inception drawn from women professionals, association working at different levels and positions to address abuses and violence against women in the six-geo political zones of the country. The credibility of WIPNET has led to the participation in the development of a national gender policy framework for Nigeria in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs, amongst other joint initiatives.
- Under the Peace Education program, since 2008, WANEP-Nigeria has initiated Peer Mediation and peace education program for 30 primary and post primary schools in Delta & Rivers States. The project led to the training and development of peace clubs in pilot school. The project now has a critical mass of over 900 students who have been trained and actively participating in dispute resolution mechanisms crisis management. WANEP-Nigeria is part of the expert committee set up by the regional office of WANEP for the development of a practice guide on peace education for West Africa in 2002.
- Through its grant from Oxfam-Novib, WANEP-Nigeria was able to embark on the development of a work place policy on HIV/AIDS for the Network. Having successfully engaged all network members to contribute to its development, the policy was approved by the Annual General meeting of the network in 2006 as a referral document for all member organizations to address HIV/AIDS issues in the workplace.
- Since 2010, WANEP-Nigeria through the Swedish international Development Agency (SIDA) has been engaged in multilevel dialogue process to address the protracted conflict in Jos Plateau State. In partnership with the Institute of Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR) of the Federal Government of Nigeria, the Network has successfully convened and facilitated the first key stakeholder meeting.