

**THE ROLE OF THE NIGERIAN POLICE FORCE (NPF) IN THE UNITED NATIONS MULTI-DIMENSIONAL INTEGRATED STABILISATION MISSION IN MALI (MINUSMA)**

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**ABSTRACT**

The objective of this study is to assess the role of the Nigerian Police Force in the United Nations multi-dimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in Mali (MINUSMA). Conflict has become visible and inevitably noticed across the globe. Its frequency has attracted the attention of concerned scholars and states, who are seeking creative ways to nip it in the bud. These ways include mediation, negotiation, and peacekeeping operations. To this end, the study used qualitative data collection methods to analyse the intensity and deadly nature of the conflict in Mali. The study adopted the Liberal Institutionalism theory as its analytical framework. The study's findings revealed that the Nigerian police force, across different categories, performed the following roles in the MINUSMA very well: training and reforming the local police force in Mali, and protecting and promoting human rights and the rule of law. The research findings also discovered that the causes of the conflict in Mali in the above period were the attack of the Tuareg rebels on the military barracks in the north and the military coup. The study revealed that the mandates of the MINUSMA are as follows: stabilisation of key population centres and support for the reestablishment of state authority throughout the country. Finally, the research advanced the following recommendations for the study: the Nigerian police force should prepare adequately before embarking on a peace support operation to avoid unacceptable levels of deaths of the Nigerian police force, like that of Mali, and the Malian government should also try as much as possible to run an inclusive government.

**Keywords:** United Nations, Multi-Dimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission

**Introduction**

Conflicts and wars have become an inevitable thing in human society. It is the unavoidability and inevitability of it that led the states of the world (major powers) into the First and Second wars (WW I & II), whose consequences were catastrophic. Most nations that were directly involved in the wars lost millions of soldiers and civilians during the time, as the total number of casualties in the two wars was 70,044,000. In addition, there was the financial cost of the

two wars, which totalled \$2,287.8 billion U.S. dollars (Sherriff & Umar, 2014). Conflicts and wars, therefore, have left most of the countries engaged in them, at one point or another, totally paralysed and useless.

Since the creation of the United Nations (UN) in 1945, it has made immense efforts to prevent the recurrence of the experiences of the First and Second World Wars. The United Nations, as an international organisation, has put in place measures to prevent conflict and help parties in conflict make peace, deploying peacekeepers and creating conditions that allow peace to hold and flourish. Other measures the United Nations has used to maintain peace and security worldwide include diplomacy, good offices, and mediation (United Nations, 2016).

However, peacekeeping, as a case in point, has been the most effective tool available to the UN in helping most countries navigate conflicts to peace. Today's peacekeeping operations are used not only to maintain peace and security but also to assist political processes, protect civilians, support disarmament, demobilisation, and reintegration of former combatants, support constitutional processes and the organisation of elections, and promote and ensure human rights (United Nations, 2016).

According to Nwolise (2004), the UN has mounted 71 peacekeeping operations since 1948. It has mounted peacekeeping operations in the following countries at different times: United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK); United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP); United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP); United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Congo (MONUSCO); United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO); United Nations multi-dimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA).

In these peacekeeping operations, or MINUSMA, Nigeria has played a significant role since 1960, when it gained political independence from Britain; it has been involved in promoting global peace and stability. From the Congo in the 1960s, Lebanon in the 1975s to Angola in the 1980s and Liberia. In the 21st Century, Nigeria has played a significant role in various troubled areas where peacekeeping was required under the auspices of the United Nations or regional bodies. The most recent peacekeeping mission Nigeria has been in is MINUSMA.

Nigeria has participated in peacekeeping operations, deploying its civilian personnel, Police, and military contingents. They have done quite well, especially the police force, which has received United Nations awards several times for its maturity, professionalism, and discipline demonstrated during peacekeeping operations.

The role of the Nigerian Police in United Nations peacekeeping operations, both globally and in general, has been quite significant. The contributions include: Nigerian Police Force participated in the capacity building for the host country, it helps the host countries in the conduct of free and fair and transparent elections; it assists the host countries in reforming and restructuring of the local Police, protection of civilians who are returning from the refugees camps where they flee to during the conflicts and disarmament, demobilisation, and reintegration process in the host countries,(Nigeria Police Force Press Release, 2023).

Nigerian contributions to MINUSMA consisted of 687 military personnel and 146 police personnel, a total of 833, compared to 1200 troops in AFISMA. Nigeria withdrew the majority of its contingent from the country. Nigerian officials suggested that the troops were needed back home to deal with their own insurgency (Library House of Commons, 2013, cited in Maiga, 2017:119).

Nigerian police units deployed to the MINUSMA in Mali received significant awards for their performance and professionalism in their assigned roles. These awards include United Nations medals and recognition, and Ugorji was chosen as a runner-up. The recognition given to the Ugorji was due to her introduction of tactical operations that have helped reduce crime in the area, in support of their security forces and the host population.

In light of the above, some of the causes and effects discussed in the body of the study manifested themselves in the crisis in Mali. Mali has experienced conflicts at various times. The periods of these conflicts were: 1963-1964, 1990-1996, 2006- 2009 (Mahamane, 2017).

Most common reasons for the Tuareg rebellions, as recorded in history and documented evidence, include fractious political relations between communities in the north and the central government, poor governance, insincerity on the part of the government of Mali, funding for Development in the north, and cross-border criminal and extremist networks.

It is on these premises that the study intends to discuss the role of the Nigerian Police in the United Nations multi-dimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in Mali (MINUSMA).

## **Conceptual Review**

### **Peace Keeping**

The term peacekeeping refers to the deployment of military, Police, and, frequently, civilian personnel to assist in implementing agreements reached between governments or parties engaged in conflict. Peacekeeping presumes cooperation and its methods are inherently peaceful (Osimen, 2015) (cited in Agaba, 2017). Peacekeeping consists of observer missions and lightly armed forces monitoring a ceasefire, operating in an essentially static mode with the consent of the parties involved (Agwu, 2007) (cited in Agaba, 2017). For Mutiullah (2013:134). "Peacekeeping in the traditional sense involves the deployment of armed forces to serve as a buffer between adversaries, to enforce a ceasefire agreement, and to monitor peace processes in post-war societies. It is defined by the United Nations (n.d., cited in Mutiullah 2013) as an operation involving military personnel, but without enforcement powers, established by the United Nations to help maintain or restore international peace and security in areas of conflict.

In practical terms, peacekeeping deals with a series of activities that are carried out by international organisation, directed at separating two hostile parties in a violent conflict in order to provide a peaceful environment for making peace, (Uke, 2010 cited in Agaba, 2017) further argued for a successful execution of peacekeeping operations three fundamental principles must be upheld, which are: consent of hostile parties; impartiality in all activities and non-use of force except in self-defense.

From the above argument, it is clear, therefore, that peacekeeping involves the activities of containing and terminating hostilities between warring parties by the UN.

Cojocar (2014) maintains that peacekeeping moderates and/or ends hostilities between states or within them through the intervention of a third party that is impartial, organised, and internationally directed. Also, peacekeeping uses the military and civilians to complement the political process to bring about peace. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI, cited in Adie, 2021) considers peacekeeping to have objectives of facilitating the improvement of a peace agreement; supporting a peace process; and assisting in conflict

prevention and/or peacebuilding efforts. This definition has been described as lacking in some areas, as it fails to include activities such as good offices, fact-finding, supporting elections, and missions that the UN or regional organisations have not sanctioned.

Contributing to the study of peacekeeping, Abdulwaheed (2012) views peacekeeping as a term primarily used to describe actions authorised by the UN Charter, with the primary responsibility of maintaining international peace and security. The Congo intervention was the only occasion where the UN acted as an independent power in its own right.

Thus, in the view of Rood (2014) Peacekeeping mission may include the following activities: monitoring and multi-dimensional peacekeeping operations carried out by the UN Department of peacekeeping operations (DPKO), including Joint AU/UN Hybrid Operations such as the one in Darfur (UNAMAID); special political and peacebuilding missions that are directed by the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) and meet the SIPRI definition of peacekeeping mission. Dorn (2011) expanding on the UN definition, he contends that peacekeeping is the act of sending military and civilian personnel from abroad to a conflict area with permission from the parties involved and/or national authorities acting impartially in order to: supervise the implementation of a peace agreement; stop hostilities; or provide humanitarian relief, human rights compliance, and nation-building support.

This definition raises two fundamental issues that are central to the operation of peacekeeping. The first issue concerns the principles guiding peace operations, of which consent and impartiality are good examples. The other issue is the dynamic nature of modern conflicts, which requires peacekeeping operations to adopt a multi-dimensional approach to function effectively.

Hamman, Mustaph, and Omojuwa (2014) added a novel contribution to the study of peacekeeping. They opined that for a peacekeeping operation to succeed, the UN should look beyond the three traditional principles. To them, in addition to obtaining the assistance of the warring parties, the UN also needs the support of regional and sub-regional organisations within the international community, such as the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States, and the United Nations.

### **Peace Enforcement**

According to Pankhurst (2000), peace enforcement, like peacekeeping, is a practice of ensuring peace in an area or region. However, peace enforcement differs from peacekeeping, in which options, including the use of force, are used to bring conflicting parties to the negotiating table. The concept, however, has attracted significant controversy. Peace enforcement, in its sense, requires greater military force and is thereby best carried out by well-armed forces (Princeton, 2015). However, it is generally unable to create lasting peace, as it does nothing to address the underlying problems that caused the conflict itself (Henry, 2015). Examples of places where peace enforcement has been demonstrated and felt include the Korean and Gulf Wars (Global Security, 2015). This led to a vigorous debate among international relations scholars, national defence establishments, and the UN Secretariat on questions such as the extent to which these peacekeeping principles, in particular that limiting the use of force to self-defence, could be relaxed.

Peace enforcement can also be described as the use of military force to compel peace in a conflict, generally against the will of those combatants. To do this, it generally requires more military force than peacekeeping operations (Oni, 2002).

Furthermore, InfScipedi (2022) defines peace enforcement as the application of military force to warring parties, or the threat of it, typically pursuant to international authorisation, to compel compliance with resolutions or with sanctions designed to maintain peace.

### **Peace Building**

Peacebuilding is the long-term, post-conflict process of creating conditions for lasting peace. It strengthens host nations' (HN) capacities to address the root causes of conflict; rebuilds institutions, infrastructure, and civic life; and maintains compelling and harmonious political and societal order (Justin, 2024). It also applies to a limited military force that supports other actors to foster the elements of a stable state. These include security, governance, and rule of law, economic and infrastructure Development, political settlement, and societal relationships (Justin,2024).

Miller (2005) defines peacebuilding as a peace initiative that is not only aimed at addressing the triggers, which are the immediate sources of conflict responsible for the eruption of violence in the conflict behaviour of the parties, but also at dealing with the root causes. Root causes are the major structural or underlying factors that are instrumental but not sufficient to motivate violent attitudes between the parties. Peace building involves "Policies, programs, and associated efforts to restore stability and the effectiveness of social, political, and economic institutions and structures in the wake of a war or some other debilitating or catastrophic event, (Miller, 2005).

Peace building generally aims to create and ensure the conditions for 'negative peace', the mere absence of violent conflict engagement, and for 'positive peace', a more comprehensive understanding related to the institutionalisation of justice and freedom." The definition above discusses the aims and objectives of peacebuilding. `

### **Methodology**

The study adopted survey research and /or approach. Survey research is a method of data collection used in social science, marketing, and various other fields to gather information from a sample of individuals. It involves asking respondents questions about their attitudes, opinions, behaviours, or characteristics. A survey can be conducted through various methods, including face-to-face interviews, telephone interviews, mailed questionnaires, online surveys, or a combination of these. Survey research typically follows a structured format with standardised questions to ensure consistency in data collection and analysis. Researchers often use sampling techniques to select a representative sample of the population they are interested in studying, allowing them to generalise their findings to the larger population. The Malian conflict, as well as the activities of the Nigerian police force in the MINUSMA, deployed to restore peace and stability in the country, could be better understood through this approach. This explains why the approach is preferred over every other design.

Consequently, the researcher primarily focuses on obtaining information from relevant sources on the mission's effectiveness, its challenges, and the ongoing expansion of the conflict in the country, among other topics.

The study also employs a qualitative research method of data collection. This method adopted a combined research approach, using data collection, verbal descriptions, and explanations instead of a quantitative pattern and statistical analysis.

## **Theoretical Framework**

### **Liberal Institutionalism**

Generally, liberals have called on nations to cooperate, ensure collective security, engage in trade, and spread democracy to promote peace on the global stage (Ibrahim & Yahaya, 2014). Liberal institutionalism believes in the "ability of global institutions to eventually coax people into getting along as opposed to going to war" (Libre Texts, 2019).

The theory is also concerned with international society, which exists when a group of states, conscious of specific common interests and shared values, form a society in the sense that they consider themselves bound by a standard set of rules in their relations with one another and share in the workings of common institutions. This international society is based on the idea of cooperation between states for common goals and interests (Bull, 1977). Liberal institutionalism advocates multiple channels that allow interactions among actors across national boundaries and increase interactions and connections between actors and non-state actors, claiming that all states seek to maximise absolute gains through cooperation (Devitt, 2011). The concept of cooperation is, therefore, a central tenet of this theory as Hellmann and Wolf (1993:14) assert that states operate in an increasingly complex world with multiple issues and multiple contacts among societies, a world in which states face limitations in accomplishing essential tasks on their own. Because of the size or nature of many issues, states are often unable to address the underlying causes of these issues without the cooperation of other states." Their position finds relevance in the work of Allison (2008:84) who claims that "the rise in globalisation and concerns over terrorism, drug trafficking and pandemics such as HIV/AIDS have shown that states can no longer react unilaterally to those threats and that it is only through regional and global regimes that policy responses can be coordinated to deal with security threat."

Furthermore, Mordi (2015) states that neo-liberalism frowns at the narrow pursuit of individual self-interest but instead encourages the promotion of cooperation; membership of international institutions, because it would lead to a broader view of self-interest for the Purpose of encouraging cooperation; and trade relations among states, because it would lead to the elimination of war.

### **Application of the Liberal-institutionalism theory to the Nigerian Police Force in the MINUSMA in Mali**

Nigeria's involvement in the United Nations multi-dimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) was not an isolated or purely self-driven decision. It was the result of multilateral cooperation within the United Nations, reflecting the core principles of liberal institutionalism. This theory emphasises that international institutions such as the UN can foster cooperation among states, reduce conflict, and promote peace by establishing a system of shared norms, rules, and accountability. Nigeria's participation in MINUSMA aligns closely with these ideas.

As a member of the United Nations and the African Union, Nigeria joined MINUSMA not only for national interests but also as part of a broader commitment to international peace and security. This decision allowed Nigeria to work within a structured, rules-based environment alongside other countries, rather than acting unilaterally. Liberal institutionalism holds that international institutions help coordinate state actions by providing platforms for collaboration, reducing mistrust, and creating enforcement mechanisms for agreements. Nigeria's role in

MINUSMA is a perfect example of such cooperation. It demonstrated Nigeria's willingness to abide by international norms, contribute to a collective mission, and play its part in regional stability.

### **Nigeria Police Force and the United Nations multi-dimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in Mali**

Performance and impacts of the Nigerian police force in the MINUSMA were quite excellent and impressive because of the contributions they made in the areas of crowd control, protection of the civilian population, promotion of human rights, support for the rule of law, reduction of the crime rates, and fostering community trust and building the capacity of the Malian Police forces. As a result of their outstanding impact in resolving conflict in Mali, they were awarded United Nations medals and commended and singled out for their impressive performance. The cases of these practical experiences will be discussed below.

Madaki (Oral Interview, 2023), stated this:

The Nigerian Police Force deployed to the MINUSMA contributed to stabilising the situation in Mali, especially in Timbuktu, where its unit is currently deployed as part of Sector West. They are the region's primary police unit and are responsible for general security and policing duties. They have created opportunities for the resumption of law and order in the region and facilitated the movement of civilians in and out of the city.

### **Protection of Human rights and the civilian population**

During the period in Mali, Nigerian police force (formed police unit) performed the role of protecting human rights and civilian population against abuses resulting from the people who are dissatisfied with the entire situation either because they were denied certain things such as those in refugee camps in other countries, rape and mass killing of the people by the situation and /or armed groups that made them to be at a place without movement to do normal their businesses.

According to Yusuf (Oral Interview, 2023), the Nigerian police force protected human rights and the civilian population in Mali. They said this:

The Nigerian police unit contributed to reducing violent incidents targeting civilians between 2017 and 2020. The Nigerian police force again documented human rights violations by all parties to the conflict and advocated for accountability and transparency. They also established that they had built safe havens, provided escorts for humanitarian convoys, and conducted patrols in vulnerable communities.

The comments of the above people interviewed on the situation in Mali and their impact on the protection of the civilian population and human rights are consistent with materials from other sources. The formed police unit in Timbuktu alone conducted more than 200 patrols with the Malian security forces day and night, in addition to 135 long-range patrols: "We are proud of the work we have done here since our arrival in January 2012. There was no shortage of challenges; we faced them all with heart."

## **Supporting the Rule of Law**

Ahmed, Augustine, and Yusuf (Oral Interview, 203) agreed that police officers' impact on the rule of law and justice systems is a foundation for lasting peace and stability. In other words, Nigerian police officers have assisted in strengthening the rule of law in Mali by providing training and mentorship to local police forces. They have also collaborated with Malian authorities to investigate and prosecute crimes.

In order to confirm the above statements from the key informants that is, material from other United Nations (2016) prove that, Nigerian police force (Individual police officers) made sure that the rule of law is not being broken down at the inception of the returned of the conflict in state of Mali; they made efforts by putting a lot measures in place in ensuring that there is respect for rule of law in the country. In addition to the above, the documented source revealed that "Senegalese and Nigerian UN police (UNPOL) officers serving with the UN multi-dimensional integrated stabilisation mission in Mali (MINUSMA) conducted crowd control training for local police officers at the Ecole Nationale de police in Bamako, Mali" (United Nations,2016).

## **The capacity building and police reform of the Malian Police**

The individual police officers performed this particular role. The Nigerian individual police officers did quite excellently and impressively in the context of the advice, mentoring, observation, and training provided to the Malian national security.

In order to collaborate with the above statements, Ahmed, Augustine, Comfort, Umar, Coulibaly, and Kalilou (Oral Interview, 2023) agreed that Nigerian individual police officers carried out these functions in Mali:

- a. Training national police officers in community policing, investigations, patrol techniques, and human rights;
- b. Advise on police reform, restructuring, and Development of professional and accountable police services; and
- c. Institutional capacity building contributed to strengthening institutional capacity within the national police forces, including resource management and organisational Development.

As a result of the above, UN police advisor Luis Carriho said the following about the impacts of Ugorji's leadership and coordination of the three police units formed in Gao. He congratulated Chief Superintendent Ugorji for being chosen as a runner-up. He said that Ugorji, a United Nations MINUSMA police officer, has demonstrated exceptional leadership of three newly constituted police units in Gao (Premium Times, 2020). The Nigerian police force deployed to MINUSMA numbered 146 officers; three officers were lost during their activities in Mali. Again, Nigeria spent **\$45 million** (as of around 2013) as part of its contribution to MINUSMA, covering the deployment of troops, the police force, and support (Daily Trust, 2013).

## **Reducing crime rates and fostering community trust**

The Nigerian police force participated in reducing crime rates in the state of Mali. Most of the data collected revealed that a significant reduction in violent incidents targeting civilians occurred during the population.

Generally speaking, it is evident that the Nigerian police force's participation in the MINUSMA reduced crime in Mali. These crimes, such as robbery, violent attacks on the people, rape, violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, murder, etc (Premium Times, 2020). The Nigerian police force's activities earned them appreciation and praise from the communities they served.

### **General conduct of the Nigerian police force in the MINUSMA in Mali**

Interviews with Madaki, Dele, Ahmed, Augustine, Yusuf, and Umar (2023) indicated that the Nigerian police force's performance in the mission. They did excellently and impressively.

Again, Saleh (Oral Interview, 2023), contended that:

The Nigerian police force performed well in resolving the conflict in Mali, despite their usual poor performance at home. In other words, the Nigerian the Nigerian police force performed exceptionally well in resolving the conflict in Mali. Their assessment could be better carried out by the functions assigned and carried out while they were in Mali, such as promoting the rule of law, crowd control and crisis management, maintaining peace, reducing crime, and conducting frequent patrols. He further stated that the Nigerian Police Force comported itself well.

In addition, the above responses from the key informants are in line with the following source: the Nigerian police force that participated in the MINUSMA in Mali, from the beginning, conducted itself well. The MINUSMA lasted for ten (10) years. There were cases in which the Nigerian Police Force was singled out and commended for outstanding performance, impact, diligence, dedication, commitment, professionalism, and maturity. According to Daily Post (2019), this assertion was confirmed: Nigeria's police professionalism attracted praise.

Furthermore, the United Nations (2016) reported that the Nigerian Police Force largely adhered to the principles of neutrality, impartiality, and professionalism that guide UN peacekeeping operations. Nigerian police officers operated under the United Nations Police (UNPOL) code of conduct, which emphasises respect for human rights, accountability, and restraint in the use of force. Evidence from MINUSMA reports also revealed that Nigerian FPU's maintained high levels of internal discipline and compliance with mission rules of engagement, particularly in volatile environments characterised by civil unrest and terrorist threats (United Nations, 2016). This disciplined conduct enhanced the credibility of both the Nigerian contingent and MINUSMA as a whole among international partners and host communities.

### **Study Findings**

The study revealed that performance and impacts of the Nigerian police force in the MINUSMA was quite excellent and impressive because of the contributions they made in the areas of the crowd control, protection of civilian population, promotion of human rights, supporting of rule of law, reduction of the crime rates, and fostering community trust and building the capacity of the Malian Police forces. As a result of their outstanding impact in resolving conflict in Mali, they were awarded United Nations medals and commended and singled out for their impressive performance.

## Summary and Conclusion

The study focused on the role of the Nigerian Police Force in the multi-dimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in Mali.

These first findings revealed that the democratic order in Mali was disrupted in 2012. Three events destabilised the democratic order. The first one was the Tuareg attack on the military barracks in the northern Mali because the state of Mali has, over the years, neglected, marginalised, and sidelined the presence of the government without Development. What made it possible were the Tuareg returnees who came to Mali after the death of Gaddafi with dangerous weapons. It was on this that Nigeria deployed its police force as part of the MINUSMA 1800, alongside police forces from other contributing countries. The study concluded that the persistent and protracted nature of the conflicts in Mali has threatened global peace and security, attracting the attention of most states worldwide, which are curious to understand the basis and/or causes of the conflict in Mali over the years.

## Recommendations

This study recommends the following based on the findings:

1. The Malian government should run an inclusive, decentralised government that involves people in running affairs. With this in existence, conflict in Mali will be nipped in the bud.
2. The mission's mandates should be well-defined and clearly stated to enable the contributing police forces to prepare and perform effectively, especially for the assigned mandates.
3. The Nigerian police force should prepare adequately and soundly before embarking on a peace support operation and mission to avoid unacceptable levels of deaths of the Nigerian police force, like that of Mali, and
4. The Nigerian police force, with modern ammunition, supports its tactical and strategic operations in the northern part of Mali, where the environment is hostile, volatile, and lacking in infrastructure, communication networks, and good roads.

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APPENDIX A

LIST OF PERSONS INTERVIEWED, AT THE NIGERIAN POLICE FORCE HEADQUARTERS, LOUIS EDET HOUSE, SHEHU SHAGARI CENTRAL AREA, FCT – ABUJA.

S/N	Interviewee	Age	Occupation	Rank	Location	Date
1.	DSP Ahmed Abdulhamid	45 yrs	Public servant	Administrative Officers	The Nigerian Police Force, headquarters, Louis Edet House, Shehu Shagari Central Area, FCT, ABUJA.	14 December 2023.

2.	DCP Augustine Jagaba	45 yrs	Public servant	Director of Peacekeeping	The Nigerian police force headquarters, Edet House	14 December 2023
3.	CSP Yusuf Umar	50 yrs	Public servant	2i/c	The same place/venue mentioned above	14 December 2023.
4.	ASP Yusuf Masinji	45 yrs	Public Servant	Chief Training	The same place/venue mentioned above	14 December 2023.
5.	ASP Maithias Yusuf	40 yrs	Public Servant	Armourer	The same place/venue mentioned above	14 December 2023.
6.	Insp Adaugo Okereke	38yrs	Public Servant	Instructor	The same place/venue mentioned above	14 December 2023.
7.	Insp Comfort Musa	40 yrs	Public servant	Instructor	The same place/venue mentioned above	14 December 2023.
8.	Insp Ahmadu Sule	43 yrs	Public Servant	Instructor	The same place/venue mentioned above	14 December 2023.
9.	CSP Bernard Ojewole	47 yrs	Public Servant	Contingent Commander, NIGNFPU MINUSMA, Mali.	The same place/ venue mentioned above	23 January 2024.

#### APPENDIX B.

##### LIST OF PERSONS INTERVIEWED AT THE MALIAN EMBASSY

S/ N	Interviewee	Age	Occupation	Location	Date
1.	Seydou, Coulibaly	56 year	Senior officer of the consulate	Embassy of the Republic of Mali, Maitama	3 September 2023.
2.	Kalilou Fane	33years	Military attaché(Colonel in the Malian army) to the ambassador	District FCT – Abuja	3 September 2023.
3.	DioubairouOuane	40 years	Secretary to the ambassador	Embassy of the Republic of Mali, Maitama District, FCT-Abuja	3 September 2023.

#### APPENDIX C.

List of Persons Interviewed, At The Department of Political Science and International Relations, University of Abuja, Abuja.

S/ N	Interviewee	Age	Occupation	Location	Date
1.	Saleh Dauda, Ph.D ( Professor)	59 years	Lecturer	University of Abuja	12 December 2023.
2.	Ahmadu Ochoche Eneje, Ph.D	48 years	Lecturer	University of Abuja	12 December 2023.

