



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

**Views of the Government of the
Federal Republic of Nigeria
on the
Visitation Report into the Affairs of the
National Institute for Nigerian Languages, Aba,
Abia State
(2016 -2020)**

DECEMBER, 2022

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**WHITE PAPER ON THE REPORT OF THE VISITATION PANEL INTO THE AFFAIRS
OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR NIGERIAN LANGUAGES, ABA, ABIA STATE.**

(2016 - 2020)



ARRANGEMENT OF PARAGRAPHS

Paragraph:

1. Publication of Federal Government White Paper on the Report of the Visitation Panel into the Affairs of the National Institute for Nigerian Languages, Aba, Abia State (2016 - 2020)

2. Citation.

SCHEDULE

**WHITE PAPER ON THE REPORT OF THE VISITATION PANEL INTO
THE AFFAIRS OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR NIGERIAN
LANGUAGES, ABA, ABIA STATE
(2016 - 2020)**

1. The Federal Government White Paper on the Report of the Visitation Panel into the affairs of the National Institute for Nigerian Languages, Aba, Abia State (2016 - 2020) as provided in the schedule to this Notice is hereby published in the Federal Government Gazette.

Publication
of the Federal
Government
White Paper
on the
Report of
the Visitation
Panel into
the affairs of
the National
Institute for
Nigerian
Languages,
Aba, Abia
State (2016 -
2020).

2. This Notice may be cited as the “White Paper on the Report of the Visitation Panel into the affairs of the National Institute for Nigerian Languages, Aba, Abia State (2016 - 2020).”

Citation.

1.0. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PREAMBLE

The Presidential Visitation Panels to the Federal Universities and Inter-University Centres in the country were inaugurated on Tuesday, 13th April, 2021, by the Honourable Minister of Education, Mallam Adamu Adamu, represented by the Permanent Secretary, Arc. Sonny Echono, at the Idris Abdulkadir Auditorium, National Universities Commission (NUC), Maitama, Abuja.

1.2. COMPOSITION OF THE PANEL

Members of the Visitation Panel to the National Institute for Nigerian Languages, Aba were:

- | | | | | | | | |
|-------|------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|------------------|
| (i) | Prof. Julius Afolabi Falola | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | <i>Chairman</i> |
| (ii) | Prof. Kevin Nwogu | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | <i>Member</i> |
| (iii) | Mrs. Rachel Hassan-Ola jokun | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | <i>Member</i> |
| (iv) | Prof. Patricia Lar | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | <i>Member</i> |
| (v) | Dr. Comfort Oko | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | <i>Member</i> |
| (vi) | Mrs. Ifeoma Uzokwe.. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | <i>Member</i> |
| (vii) | Mr. Theophilus Ogbor | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | <i>Secretary</i> |

1.3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Panel's Terms of Reference were to :

(i) inquire into the level of implementation of the white paper on the last visitation report ;

(ii) look into the leadership quality of the University/Inter-University Centre, in terms of the roles of the governing council, the vice-chancellors/ executive directors and other principal officers ;

(iii) look into the financial management of the institution, including statutory allocation and internally generated revenue over the recommended period, and determine whether it was in compliance with appropriate regulations ;

(iv) investigate the application of funds, particularly the special grants and loans meant for specific projects in order to determine the status of such projects and their relevance for further funding ;

(v) examine the adequacy of the staff and staff development programmes ;

(vi) determine the relationship between the Inter-University Centre and the various statutory bodies it interacts with according to its law for purposes of supervision, planning, finance, discipline, guidance and any other

relationship (i.e., Governing Council, NUC and Federal Ministry of Education (FME)).

(vii) examine the law establishing the Inter-University Centre including the relationship between the various internal organs, units and offices, and indicate the ways the law has been observed by the competent authorities, and also suggest modifications to the law ;

(viii) trace the historical evolution of the Inter-University Centre and take stock of its net achievements and problems as well as its style and direction ;

(ix) examine the general security in the Inter-University Centre and how the Centre has dealt with it, and recommend appropriate measures ;
and

(x) examine the processes and structures of discipline of students in the Inter-University Centre in line with due process of the rule of law.

1.4. Details of the Findings/Observations and Recommendations of the Visitation Panel, as well as the comments indicating recommendations accepted, noted or rejected by the Visitor are contained in a tabular format in sections 2 – 11 of this gazette. The highlights of the Visitor's directives include:

(i) Council should ensure that Management implements recommendations of the Internal and External Auditors' reports ;

(ii) Management should adhere to extant financial regulations and circulars;

(iii) Management should redress the high non-academic to academic staff ratio ;

(iv) Council should ensure speedy revision of the NINLAN Act;

(v) Management should be proactive to pre-empt students' indiscipline;
and

(vi) Students' Handbook should be published with clear guidelines on students' conduct and behaviour, as well as disciplinary measures.

TERM OF REFERENCE ONE

"To inquire into the level of implementation of the White Paper on the last Visitation Report."

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
2.1.		<p>(i) The National Institute for Nigerian Languages (NINLAN), Aba was last visited by a Presidential Visitation Panel in the year 2000. The Institute was not visited in the last visitation -2006-2010.</p> <p>(ii) Efforts of the Panel to find the White Paper to the year 2000 Visitation report, both at the Institute and the Federal Ministry of Education Headquarters, Abuja did not yield any result. Consequently, the Panel had no information to report on concerning the level of implementation of the White Paper.</p>	Government should ensure that records of all Visitation Panels are kept safely in the archives and, in the current dispensation, electronically for proper documentation and easy access.	<i>Visitor notes this recommendation.</i>

TERMOFREFERENCETWO

"To look into the leadership quality of each University/Inter-University Centre, in terms of the roles of the Governing Council, the Vice-Chancellors/Executive Directors and other Principal Officers."

S/No.	Item	Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel	Recommendations by the Visitation Panel	Comments by the Visitor
3.1.	THE GOVERNING COUNCIL	<p>(i) The Governing Council had six meetings instead of twelve due to the lean resources at the inception of the Institute.</p> <p>(ii) New approaches were evolved and adopted to increase the IGR of NINLAN.</p> <p>(iii) The considerable efforts mounted by the Governing Council through quality leadership notwithstanding, the desired developments have not been achieved due to inadequate funding as manifested in poor infrastructural facilities - classrooms, laboratory space and equipment, poorly maintained building, poor access roads and the physical landscape, among others.</p> <p>(iv) There also existed discontent and uncertainty amongst staff and the host community arising from the previous ceding of NINLAN to UNN and the neglect the Institute had suffered as a result of monumental underfunding.</p>	<p>(i) The Governing Council should be commended for its leadership role and sacrifice.</p> <p>(ii) The Management of the Institute should be commended for working with the Council in initiating and adopting innovative ways in raising the IGR for the Institute.</p> <p>(iii) The Governing Council of the Institute should ensure that policies and decisions concerning the Institute are taken according to strict provisions of the law.</p> <p>(iv) The Council should ensure that Federal Government Policy on Federal Character is subscribed to in the employment of principal officers, bearing in mind the peculiarity of the Institute - Nigerian languages.</p> <p>(v) Adequate funding should be made available through annual budgetary allocation to facilitate regular meeting of Council as stipulated in the law.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor notes recommendation (ii).</p> <p>(iii) Visitor accepts recommendation (iii) and directs Council to comply.</p> <p>(iv) Visitor notes recommendation (iv).</p> <p>(v) Visitor notes recommendation (v).</p>

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
			(vi) Government should back up the considerable efforts of the Governing Council towards achieving the longed-for transformation of the Institute through the provision of special grants.	(vi) Visitor notes recommendation (vi).
32.	THE PRINCIPAL OFFICERS	<p>(i) There was very good working relationship among the Management team and between the Management team and the Council.</p> <p>(ii) Each member of the Management team attended to the demand of his or her office effectively and efficiently with all efforts being geared towards the growth and development of NINLAN.</p> <p>(iii) The Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director were quite passionate about seeing that NINLAN achieved its mandate.</p> <p>(iv) The Executive Director had good relationship with the host communities.</p> <p>(v) The library infrastructure and acquisition fall below the requirement for a specialised centre like NINLAN.</p>	<p>(i) The Management Team should be commended for their team spirit.</p> <p>(ii) The Executive Director should be commended for growing and nurturing cordial relationship with the neighbouring communities.</p> <p>(iii) The Librarian should be commended for developing a clear vision and mission towards the transformation of, and making the library to eventually serve the teaching and research purpose of the Institute.</p> <p>(iv) An Ultra-Modern E-Library Complex, fully air-conditioned should be built in NINLAN for effective Library Information Services based on global best practices and standards.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor notes recommendation (ii).</p> <p>(iii) Visitor notes recommendation (iii).</p> <p>(iv) Visitor notes recommendations (iv), (v) and (vi).</p>

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
		<p>(iv) The Librarian from 2019 has made and, is making concrete efforts to bring improvement to the library through new acquisitions, restructuring of the library, training of professionals and non-professionals and developed a clear vision and mission for the library which can only be achieved through development of e-library and implementation of library automation among others.</p>	<p>(v) There should be acquisition of current books in Nigerian languages, current reference books, state-of-the-art ICT facilities (including development of ubiquitous and broadband wireless internet connectivity) and e-library-based equipment and constant subscription to both local and foreign journals in linguistics and languages.</p> <p>(vi) In order to achieve (iv) and (v) above, the Federal government should go beyond statutory allocation and facilitate access to special grants which are currently lacking.</p>	

TERM OF REFERENCE THREE

"To look into the Financial Management of each Institution including Statutory Allocations and Internally Generated Revenue over the recommended period, and determine whether it was in compliance with Appropriate Regulations."

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
4.1.	<p>STATE OF THE INSTITUTE'S FINANCES</p> <p>(a) <i>Statutory Allocation</i></p> <p>(b) <i>Internally Generated Revenue (IGR)</i></p>	<p>(i) Statutory allocation was the main source of fund to NINLAN.</p> <p>(ii) The capital allocations to the Institute were grossly inadequate.</p> <p>(iii) Despite the efforts made by the Management to improve on its IGR base, funds generated from IGR were not enough to cope with the financial needs of the Institute.</p> <p>(iv) The Institution has an outstanding ₦3,484,088.14 of its IGR to remit to the Federal Government.</p>	<p>(i) Government should increase the statutory allocation, especially the Overhead and Capital allocations.</p> <p>(ii) The Institute should be provided with a Special Intervention Fund or a Take-off grant in view of the high level of infrastructural deficit and decay which exist in the Institute.</p> <p>(iii) While commending the efforts of the Management for the IGR initiatives, it should further expand the scope by investing on the wide expanse of land with very high agricultural potentials.</p>	<p>(i) <i>Visitor notes recommendation (i).</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>Visitor notes recommendation (ii).</i></p> <p>(iii) <i>Visitor notes recommendation (iii).</i></p>
4.2.	<p>AUDIT REPORTS</p> <p>(a) <i>Report of Internal Audit</i></p> <p>(b) <i>External Audit Report</i></p>	<p>(i) The External Auditors cautioned the Institute to be prudent in the management of the resources at its disposal.</p> <p>(ii) They also pointed out the need for the Institute to improve on its accounting system through the use of Computerised Accounting Softwares.</p>	<p>(i) The Institute should ensure that it implements all observations in the Internal and External Auditors' reports aimed at improving their record of accountability and prudence in the management of its finances.</p> <p>(ii) All payment vouchers are duly signed by the authorising officers.</p>	<p>(i) <i>Visitor notes recommendation (i).</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>Visitor notes recommendation (ii).</i></p>

S/No.	Item	Observations/ Findings by the Visitation Panel	Recommendations by the Visitation Panel	Comments by the Visitor
		<p>(iii) From the External Auditors' report, the scale of research activity at the Institute was not substantial, there was also no funding by TETFund.</p> <p>(iv) From the Internal Audit report, there was serious disregard for control signature in Payment Vouchers.</p>		
43	MANAGEMENT OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES	<p>(i) Contracts for the construction of the Micro-teaching Laboratory and the construction of Language Laboratory which were awarded in 2020 were at 35 per cent and 28 per cent levels of completion respectively, with the release of the sum of ₦20, 000,000.00 (Twenty Million Only) for each of the projects.</p> <p>(ii) The Institute did not receive any special grant from the Federal Government, and did not receive donations, grants or any loan from State Governments, Corporate Organisations or individuals during this period. However, it generated the sum of ₦1,440, 000.00 (One Million, Four Hundred and Forty Thousand Naira Only) from the lease of its Guest House.</p> <p>(iii) The Institute's financial situation dur-</p>	<p>(i) The Institute's Act should be amended to grant it the same recognition as other tertiary Institutions to enable it access TETFUND grants for the development of its ailing infrastructure.</p> <p>(ii) The Federal Government should increase the Institute's annual subvention, especially for Overheads and Capital to enable it to meet up with the challenges of its day-to-day needs.</p> <p>(iii) The Institute should be brought under the sole supervision of the National Universities Commission (NUC), so that it can run degree programmes in Nigerian Languages as contained in the Act establishing it. This will enable the Institute to attract</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor notes recommendation (ii).</p> <p>(iii) Visitor rejects recommendation (iii) and directs Council to comply with its mandate.</p>

B 14

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
		<p>ing the period was precarious as it was not adequately funded and was therefore not capable of sustaining meaningful academic and administrative functions of an Institution of the stature of NINLAN.</p> <p>(iv) Management was very prudent with available resources. For instance, the Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director share a flat of building as their official quarters to save cost. In addition, the official vehicle of the Executive Director is a 2005 Toyota Corolla which is not befitting. None of the Principal Officers of the Institute has an official vehicle.</p>	<p>more students, generate more IGR and be less dependent on government for funding.</p> <p>(iv) The Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director and all other Principal Officers of the Institute should be provided with befitting official vehicles.</p>	<p>(iv) Visitor notes recommendation (iv).</p>

TERM OF REFERENCE FOUR

"To investigate the application of funds, particularly the Special Grants and Loans meant for Specific Projects, in order to determine the Status of such Projects and their relevance for further Funding."

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
5.1.	APPLICATION OF FUNDS : STATUTORY ALLOCATIONS	<p>(i) One of the projects (i.e., Rehabilitation and Asphalt Overlay of 1.45km Internal Roads, (2019 Federal Ministry of Works and Housing Intervention) has been completed while the remaining four are ongoing.</p> <p>(ii) The ongoing projects with slow rate of work were those being funded from capital allocations.</p> <p>(iii) All the students, except for two male PGD students live off-campus due partly to lack of proper accommodation on campus and the problem of insecurity.</p> <p>(iv) The capital allocation of ₦283,157, 276.80 (Two hundred and Eighty-Three Million, One Hundred and Fifty-Seven Thousand, Two Hundred and Seventy-Six Naira and Eighty Kobo Only) for the period 2016-2020 was grossly inadequate for a tertiary institution of the magnitude of NINLAN, particularly with the level of decay and deterioration of infrastructure and facilities at the institute.</p>	<p>(i) Government should increase the capital allocation to the Institute to enable it improve on the quality and quantity of infrastructure and facilities to create an enabling environment for teaching, learning and research.</p> <p>(ii) Government should release funds as and when due to ensure that projects are completed expeditiously.</p> <p>(iii) Government should open opportunity for NINLAN to access special grants which are currently lacking.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor notes recommendation (ii).</p> <p>(iii) Visitor notes recommendation (iii).</p>

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
52.	APPLICATION OF FUNDS : INTERNALLY GENERATED REVENUE (IGR)	<p>(i) The main source of the Institute's IGR was from student fees and "Business Transactions" which includes fees collected from its Demonstration Secondary School, NINLAN Consult and leasing of its Guest House.</p> <p>(ii) The Institute is making efforts at expanding its IGR base through the establishment of consultancy services, agro-businesses - crops, and livestock. The agro-business, particularly the ranch is at the experimental stage during the period under review.</p> <p>(iii) The Institute occasionally borrowed money from the Secondary School's account to augment its statutory allocation.</p>	<p>(i) The Institute should be commended for the ongoing efforts at improving on its IGR base.</p> <p>(ii) The Institute should put in more efforts at increasing its IGR as this remains a veritable means of generating funds to mitigate its challenges.</p>	<i>Visitor notes these recommendations.</i>
53.	APPLICATION OF FUNDS : SPECIAL GRANTS AND LOANS AND OTHERS	<p>(i) The Institute benefitted from the intervention of the Federal Ministry of Works through the rehabilitation and asphalt overlay of 1.45km Internal Roads in 2019.</p> <p>(ii) The Institute has not benefitted from any special grants, loans, etc, since the cessation of ETF.</p> <p>(iii) Despite inadequate resources and the lack of support from the Special Grants and</p>	As an Inter-University Centre for teaching, learning and research in Nigerian Languages, NINLAN should be positioned to access special grants that Federal and State Universities in Nigeria enjoy including TETFund grants.	<i>Visitor notes this recommendation and directs Council and Management to liaise with TETFund and any other government and non-governmental agencies.</i>

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
		loans, the Management of the Institute did the best it could to give a face-lift to the Institute's landscape, particularly in its City Campus.		

TERM OF REFERENCE FIVE

"To examine the adequacy of the staff and staff development programmes of the Inter-University Centre."

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
6.1.	ASSESSMENT OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES	<p>(i) The student enrolment for the diploma programme in various Nigerian Languages was low, with only 18 students during the period.</p> <p>(ii) The acculturation programme was the most subscribed programme in the Institute over the years.</p> <p>(iii) Enrolments in the PGDE programme have improved over the period. However, only 59 students out of 184 students graduated from the programme. This represents only 32 percent of intake during the period.</p> <p>(iv) The NCCE has been giving provisional approval to the programmes run, however, like the Diploma programme, the enrolment was low-45 in two years averaging 23 students in a year.</p> <p>(v) The NCE offerings encapsulated Education, Humanities, Social Sciences and Life and Physical Sciences. However, for the sciences, there was no laboratory back-up.</p> <p>(vi) The language laboratory that was installed in 2005 with 16 work stations was not functional being quite obsolete.</p>	<p>(i) The low enrolment in the diploma programme draws attention to the issue of appropriateness of the type of diploma being run at the Institute. Knowing that National Diploma has been outside the purview of universities, and by implication, Inter-University centres, there is the need to re-examine the intent of the programme offered before students can be attracted to enroll in it.</p> <p>(ii) The acculturation programme should be sustained and extended to include other Nigerian languages.</p> <p>(iii) In view of the value of acculturation to national unity, Acculturation Centres can be established in other communities for the purpose across the country. The Institute can partner with various universities in Nigeria to achieve the goals of acculturation.</p> <p>(iv) NINLAN should seek to improve not only enrolment for its PGDE and related programmes,</p>	<p>(i) Visitor rejects recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor accepts recommendation (ii).</p> <p>(iii) Visitor rejects recommendation (iii).</p> <p>(iv) Visitor notes recommendation (iv) and directs Council to in-</p>

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
			<p>but also address the low completion rate.</p> <p>(v) The provisional approval to mount NCE programmes, while it may appear attractive, the Institute should not replicate the Colleges of Education.</p> <p>(vi) The new Language Laboratory should be equipped with State-of-the-Art ICT infrastructure for effective teaching and training.</p>	<p><i>vestigate the reasons for the low enrolment and completion rate.</i></p> <p><i>(v) Visitor accepts recommendation (v).</i></p> <p><i>(vi) Visitor accepts recommendation (vi).</i></p>
62.	ADEQUACY OF STAFFING OF THE INSTITUTE : ACADEMIC STAFF	<p>(i) The staff mix was extremely bottom heavy as the numbers of graduate Assistants and Assistant Lecturers are disproportionately high.</p> <p>(ii) The Schools of Education and Ancillary Studies as well as Department of General Studies appeared to have very high number of staff judged against Linguistics and Nigerian Languages.</p> <p>(iii) The staff-student ratio was quite low. Thus, the Institute has capacity to enrol greater number of students when it is enabled to admit students according to the Act establishing it.</p>	<p>(i) Future staff employment should target the senior cadre as this is the only way to attend to effective teaching and research.</p> <p>(ii) The holders of Bachelors and Masters degrees should be funded to acquire Ph.D degrees.</p> <p>(iii) Future staff recruitments should be skewed towards Linguistics and Nigerian Languages.</p> <p>(iv) More staff should be sponsored to attend conferences to sustain the achievement of the goal of promoting the teaching of Nigerian Languages.</p>	<p><i>(i) Visitor notes recommendation (i).</i></p> <p><i>(ii) Visitor notes recommendation (ii).</i></p> <p><i>(iii) Visitor notes recommendation (iii).</i></p> <p><i>(iv) Visitor notes recommendation (iv).</i></p>

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
6.3.	QUALITY OF ACADEMIC STAFF AND STAFF TRAINING/ DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES	<p>(i) A very large proportion of academic staff need further training to acquire higher degrees.</p> <p>(ii) There was no record of staff benefiting from financial support to attend conferences, workshops or training from the institution. Those who did went on self-sponsorship since NINLAN did not receive any special grant to attend to this essential need.</p> <p>(iii) There was no document on staff Development Plan.</p>	<p>(i) Staff should be commended for holding on even without support to build their capacities.</p> <p>(ii) The Institute should develop a staff training Plan and conduct staff training audit to set priorities for training needs in the future.</p> <p>(iii) The Federal Government should provide and facilitate NINLAN's access to special grants (such as TETFund resources) to attend to training and other related staff development needs.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor accepts recommendation (ii) and directs Council to treat expeditiously.</p> <p>(iii) Visitor notes recommendation (iii).</p>
6.4.	NON-ACADEMIC STAFF AND STAFF OF NINLAN DEMONSTRATION SCHOOLS	As it is in Nigerian tertiary institutions, the ratio of academic to non-academic staff was 1 : 2 (94 against 179)	<p>(i) Given the number of non-academic staff, the Institute should ensure that further recruitment of this category of staff should be tailored to the need of the Institute.</p> <p>(ii) The training needs of non-academic staff, the technologists and administrators should be addressed to enhance their skills and competence, and, thus, efficiency and effectiveness in the discharge of their duties.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor accepts recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor accepts recommendation (ii).</p>

TERM OF REFERENCE SIX

'To determine the relationship between the Inter-University Centre and the various statutory bodies it interacts with according to its law for the purposes of supervision, planning, finance, discipline, guidance, and any other relationship (i.e. Governing Council, NUC and the Federal Ministry of Education).''

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
7.1.	RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NINLAN AND THE GOVERNING COUNCIL	<p>(i) The Council has not been able to meet quarterly owing to limitations of funds.</p> <p>(ii) The Council is desirous of seeing NINLAN run degree programme.</p>	<p>(i) If the Council is to discharge its role of supervising the planning, finance and guidance, it has to hold meetings quarterly as due. This calls for increase in the overhead allocations.</p> <p>(ii) A Special Revitalisation fund should be given to revive the Institute.</p> <p>(iii) The desire of the Council for running degree programme should be addressed.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor notes recommendation (ii).</p> <p>(iii) Visitor rejects recommendation (iii) and directs Council to adhere to the mandate of the Institute.</p>
7.2.	RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION (NUC)	NINLAN has been unable to run degree programme in Linguistics and Nigerian Languages as the Institute and the NUC have not been able to find a common ground on the award of degree.	<p>(i) The Act establishing NINLAN should be amended to fulfil the conditions set by NUC being an Inter-University Centre.</p> <p>(ii) The NUC should be actively involved in the amendment of the Act in order to ensure that the Centre runs as an Inter-University Centre.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor notes recommendation (ii).</p>

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
7.3.	RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (FME)	<p>(i) The Act establishing the Institute appears to be quite nebulous to allow for focused policy direction, and thus, needs a very close scrutiny.</p> <p>(ii) The FME cannot distance itself from the amendment of the Act as it should not be the sole responsibility of NINLAN to carry out the required amendment for passage to the National Assembly.</p>	<p>(i) The FME representative on the Council of NINLAN should give update on the status of the Centre to the Hon. Minister of Education following the quarterly meetings.</p> <p>(ii) The FME, in collaboration with the NUC should ensure the necessary amendment of NINLAN Act.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor accepts recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor accepts recommendation (ii).</p>
7.4.	RELATIONSHIP WITH NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR COLLEGES OF EDUCATION (NCCE)	The provisional approval to mount NCE programmes by NCCE has implications for the supervision of one of the academic programmes of NINLAN.	The degree programme should be pursued rather than the NCE at NINLAN.	Visitor rejects this recommendation.
7.5.	RELATIONSHIP WITH NATIONAL BOARD FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION (NBTE)	NBTE has not approved the mounting of Diploma programmes in the Institute, possibly because there has been no request for it, and particularly as Universities are not to run National Diploma and Higher National Diploma programmes and NINLAN is an Inter-University Centre.	The offering of Diploma programme in NINLAN should be reviewed as addressed under the Term of Reference Seven (7).	Visitor rejects this recommendation.

TERM OF REFERENCE SEVEN

"To examine the law establishing the Inter-University Centre including the relationship between the various internal organs, units and offices, and indicate the ways the law has been observed by the competent authorities, and also suggest modifications to the law."

S/No.	Item	Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel	Recommendations by the Visitation Panel	Comments by the Visitor
8.1.	PART I SECTION 2 OBJECTIVES OF THE INSTITUTE AND PART II SECTION 7 : FUNCTIONS OF THE INSTITUTE	<p>The law establishing the Institute mandates it to "operate for the benefit of, among others.</p> <p>(i) primary and secondary school teachers of Nigerian languages ;</p> <p>(ii) tertiary educational institution teachers of Nigerian languages ;</p> <p>Addressing this purpose does not necessarily imply admitting NCE and undergraduate candidates for three- and four-year programmes in the same institution. This interpretation of wanting to teach and train students for the award of Diploma, NCE in particular with all kinds of ancillary subjects and at the same time hoping to run degree programme, warranted looking for accreditation from various bodies. Thus, the Institute appears to be missing the point about the intent of what is meant by an Institute being under the ambit of the NUC. The NUC is the supervising agency for the</p>	<p>(i) The Institute should start where the Polytechnics and Colleges of Education stopped. Thus, it should be positioned in the areas of teaching and training to offer refresher courses, short courses etc., to teachers of Nigerian languages and learners. Participants are to be awarded testimonials, certificates and diplomas (not OND/HND).</p> <p>(ii) Being a Centre for an active teaching, learning and research in Nigerian languages, the centre should concentrate on degrees of Bachelor, Postgraduate Diploma, M.A. and Ph.D programmes to facilitate both focused research and production of high-level manpower to work in the tertiary institutions that will feed the primary and secondary schools.</p> <p>(iii) The diploma courses should target the needs of young and mid-ca-</p>	<p>(i) Visitor rejects recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor rejects recommendation (ii).</p> <p>(iii) Visitor rejects recommendation (iii).</p>

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
		<p>Universities, while Diploma and NCE programmes are supervised by NBTE and NCCE respectively. All three supervising agencies cannot be supervising the performance of one institution at the same time. Also running Diploma and NCE require ancillary disciplines and, therefore, more staff. The questions that will arise are :</p> <p>(a) How many students can the Institute take for various subject areas for which approval has been granted?</p> <p>(b) What will be the calibre and staff strength for each subject area?</p> <p>(c) How will the Institute handle the several ancillary disciplines as regards staffing Education, Humanities, Life and Physical Sciences, and Social Sciences?</p> <p>(d) For the Sciences, what about the need for laboratories?</p> <p>NINLAN is not set up to replicate the Polytechnics, Colleges of Education or even the Universities and be subservient to any. Rather, it is a Centre that is unique and should exist to complement those institutions.</p>	<p>reer professionals who wish to deepen their knowledge in particular Nigerian languages, but not the equivalent of National Diploma desired for proceeding to the Level 2 in the university or HND in the polytechnic.</p> <p>(iv) The BA, MA and PhD Degrees should be duly accredited by the NUC and, thus, duly recognised internationally through appropriate legislation.</p> <p>(v) The degree of Bachelors that has been long awaited by the Institute, should be confined purely to Nigerian languages in which case subject combinations at the lower levels will combine selected Nigerian language with linguistics and communication studies. This will rule out the need for ancillary subjects such as from other areas of humanities, social sciences and sciences.</p> <p>(vi) As regards the PGDE, the Centre should design a unique curriculum in collaboration with the NTI which will capture the teaching of Nigerian languages.</p>	<p>(iv) Visitor rejects recommendation (iv).</p> <p>(v) Visitor rejects recommendation (v).</p> <p>(vi) Visitor notes recommendation (vi).</p>

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
			<p>(vii) As the objective is to provide scholarly education and practical training, NINLAN should be able to partner with Nigerian universities where teaching and research in HIYA have notched up. This will create avenue for joint teaching and supervision, exchange of staff and students to promote students spending some of the time away in the partnering institutions. It will also address the controversy that have shrouded the issue of Academic Board rather than Senate in the award of Diplomas and degrees.</p> <p>(viii) Focusing on the second recommendation will mean creating an enabling environment to attract renowned scholars/professors either on sabbatical or short compressed visit to participate in the teaching, research and supervision of students at these higher levels without their being on the permanent payroll of the Institute.</p>	<p>(vii) <i>Visitor rejects recommendation (vii).</i></p> <p>(viii) <i>Visitor rejects recommendation (viii).</i></p>

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
			<p>(ix) The very first key function of the Institute as outlined in section 7 (a) of the Act is to:</p> <p>“encourage the learning of Nigerian languages in an environment which shall prepare the students in the Institute to “speak Nigerian languages fluently.” This should not be limited to teaching teachers but rather all users of Nigerian languages (Nigerians and non-Nigerians) in their daily interactions, businesses and communications as aptly captured in objective 7(b) of, “holding out to all persons ... the opportunity of acquiring proficiency in the learning and pragmatic use of the Nigerian languages as a means of communication among different language groups in Nigeria.”</p>	<p>(ix) Visitor notes recommendation (ix).</p>
8.2.	THE ACADEMIC BOARD	<p>This Section implies that NINLAN, an Inter-University centre, is under several regulatory bodies (NBTE, NCCE etc.) and not just the NUC. In this way, the centre is thus arm strung/muzzled.</p>	<p>(i) The Act should be reviewed to exclude (a) to (d). Running programmes for awards of National Diploma, Higher National Diploma, and National Certificate of Education should not be the preoccupation of NINLAN.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendation (i) and directs FME and Council to initiate the process of amendment of the Establishment Act.</p>

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
			(ii) The Act should be amended to make NINLAN to be truly an Inter-University Centre and, therefore, strictly under the ambit of the NUC.	(ii) Visitor accepts recommendation (ii).
8.3.	PART I SECTION 2	The Panel observed that in order for the Institute to achieve the stated objectives and for the Institute to function optimally, and attract renowned scholars in the field of Nigerian languages, the Act needs to be amended to capture Directorates and Programmes and not just Schools and Departments.	<p>(i) Directorates : There should be the following Directorates:</p> <p>(a) Directorate of Teaching and Training - The Directorate will accommodate Linguistics and Nigerian Languages without the ancillary disciplines ; Translations and Communication ; and Education and General Studies.</p> <p>(b) Directorate of Research and Documentation -where collaborative (participants to be drawn from within and outside of NINLAN) and truly innovative research in Nigerian languages will be vigorously pursued.</p> <p>(c) Directorate of Academic Planning.</p> <p>(ii) Programmes (to be headed by Coordinators) :</p> <p>(a) Certificates - proficiency course of varying durations ;</p> <p>(b) Diplomas (Not ND and HND-reserved for Polytechnics);</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendations (i): (a), (b) and (c).</p> <p>Visitor accepts recommendations (ii): (a), (b), (c) and (g).</p> <p>Visitor rejects recommendations (ii): (d), (e) and (f).</p>

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
			<p>(c) Postgraduate Diplomas; (d) Bachelors ; (e) Masters ; (f) Ph.D ; and (g) Acculturations.</p> <p>This proposal and suggested amendment will naturally change the composition of the Academic Board.</p>	
8.4.	SECTION 32: EXPENDITURE OF THE INSTITUTE, SUB-SECTION (1) (d)	Included here is payment of pensions and gratuities.	This section should be amended in view of current policy of contributory pension in the Federal Service.	Visitor notes this recommendation.
8.5.	SECTION 34 : ANNUAL REPORT OF COUNCIL TO THE PRESIDENT	There was no evidence that the Councils have ever complied with this section by sending annual report to the President. However, there was a letter written by the Chairman of the 4th Council (2018 - 2021) to the President. The content did not come out as annual report.	Being a requirement, the Council should comply by sending annual report to the President.	Visitor notes this recommendation.
8.6.	GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS		<p>In order to ensure optimal operation and improve on the efficiency and effectiveness of the Institute as an Inter-University centre, it is recommended that :</p> <p>(i) The FME in collaboration with the NUC, should set</p>	<i>(i) Visitor accepts recommendation (i).</i>

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
			<p>up a powerful committee to undertake a comprehensive review of sections of the Act identified in this report and others that may be deemed necessary to make the Institute truly one for Nigerian languages.</p> <p>(ii) An enabling environment should be created to revitalize the Centre to achieve the set objectives will require adequate funding. And, as an Inter-University centre, NINLAN should be re-enlisted and incorporated as a beneficiary of TETFund as it was under ETF.</p> <p>(iii) In the light of the infrastructural deficits and decay, the Institute should, as a matter of urgency, be considered for NEEDS Assessment and special grants for its repositioning. This will quell the justified agitation of the communities who felt pained for parting with their wide expanse of land without the joy of any visible development on it.</p>	<p>(ii) <i>Visitor notes recommendation (ii).</i></p> <p>(iii) <i>Visitor notes recommendation (iii).</i></p>

TERM OF REFERENCE EIGHT

"To trace the historical evolution of the Inter-University Centre and take stock of its net achievements and problems as well as its style and direction."

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
9.1.		A good number of these issues have been addressed and appropriate recommendations forwarded under the different terms of reference.		Visitor notes this conclusion.

TERM OF REFERENCE NINE

"To examine the general security in the Inter-University Centre and how the Centre has dealt with it, and recommend appropriate measures."

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
10.1.	THE SECURITY SITUATION ON THE CAMPUSES	<p>(i) The security situation, particularly on the permanent site is precarious.</p> <p>(ii) The permanent site is heavily forested with no perimeter fencing.</p> <p>(iii) Of the few students of the institute, only two (2) postgraduate diploma students lived on campus ; the rest lived off campus.</p> <p>(iv) There were reported cases of theft and harassment.</p> <p>(v) Insecurity made staff to vacate the campus before or at sunset.</p> <p>(vi) The number of security staff was grossly inadequate to cover the wide expanse of land for effective surveillance.</p> <p>(vii) The security staff were not sufficiently trained and equipped to be able to competently secure the two campuses, especially the permanent site.</p>	<p>(i) NINLAN should develop and implement a master plan that would give the Institute a secure and safe learning environment.</p> <p>(ii) The Federal Government should give the Institute a special intervention fund following NEEDS assessment to build a perimeter fence and to procure security equipment to secure the campus.</p> <p>(iii) The Institute be empowered to employ, train and equip more security personnel.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor notes recommendation (ii).</p> <p>(iii) Visitor notes recommendation (iii).</p>

TERM OF REFERENCE TEN

"To examine the processes and structures of discipline of students in the Inter-University Centre in line with the due process of the law."

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
11.1.	THE LEGAL STRUCTURE FOR DISCIPLINE OF STUDENTS	<p>(i) There was no documented evidence of student indiscipline and cases of student unrest.</p> <p>(ii) The students' hand book is still at the draft stage and yet to be published officially, and given to the students.</p> <p>(iii) The Brochures also lacked information on the process and structures for maintaining discipline of students.</p>	<p>(i) Institutional leadership should be proactive and preempt the problems of students' indiscipline, and should also plan to handle such problems should they occur. This can be achieved through the setting up of Students' Disciplinary Committee to investigate cases of indiscipline by students and make necessary recommendations to the Management/Academic Board.</p> <p>(ii) Students' Handbook should be published with clear guidelines on students' conduct and behaviour on campus, as well as disciplinary measures on acts of misbehaviour and other forms of indiscipline.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor accepts recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor accepts recommendation (ii).</p>
11.2.	STUDENTS' WELFARE/ ASSOCIATION	<p>(i) There is a Students' Affairs Department, and a Dean of Student Affairs which responded to students' enquiries.</p> <p>(ii) There was a good working relationship between staff and students.</p>	<p>(i) Students and staff should be commended for the good working relationship among them.</p> <p>(ii) Students should be commended for maintaining peace on the campus.</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendation (i).</p> <p>(ii) Visitor notes recommendation (ii).</p>

<i>S/No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Recommendations by the Visitation Panel</i>	<i>Comments by the Visitor</i>
		<p>(iii) There were no documented cases of student-related crisis.</p> <p>(iv) Most students lived off campus as a result of the unsecured hostel environment.</p> <p>(v) There was a newly formed Post-graduate Students Association, while another one for other categories of students was in the pipeline.</p>	<p>(iii) The campus should be made more secure to encourage students to live on campus.</p> <p>(iv) A students' Welfare Committee should be put in place to create a forum where students' complaints can be handled promptly.</p>	<p>(iii) Visitor accepts recommendation (iii).</p> <p>(iv) Visitor notes recommendation (iv).</p>

DATED at Abuja this 20th day of December, 2022.

MUHAMMADU BUHARI, GCFR
President, Federal Republic of Nigeria

S.No.	Item	Observations/Findings by the Visitation Panel	Recommendations by the Visitation Panel	Comments by the Visitor
			(ii) The Act should be amended to make NINLAN to be truly an Inter-University Centre and, therefore, strictly under the ambit of the MUC.	(ii) Visitor accepts recommendation (ii).
8.3.	PART 15 (a) (i) (ii)	The Panel observed that in order for the Institute to achieve the stated objectives and for the Institute to function optimally and attract renowned scholars in the field of Nigerian languages, the Act needs to be amended to capture Directorates and Programmes and not just Schools and Departments.	<p>(i) Directorates : There should be the following Directorates :</p> <p>(a) Directorate of Teaching and Training - The Directorate will accommodate Linguistics and Nigerian Languages with out the ancillary disciplines : Translations and Communication ; and Education and General Studies.</p> <p>(b) Directorate of Research and Documentation - where collaborative (participants to be drawn from within and outside of NINLAN) and truly innovative research in Nigerian languages will be vigorously pursued.</p> <p>(c) Directorate of Academic Planning.</p> <p>(ii) Programmes (to be headed by Coordinators) :</p> <p>(a) Certificates - proficiency course of varying durations ;</p> <p>(b) Diplomas (Not ND and HND-reserved for Polytechnics) ;</p>	<p>(i) Visitor notes recommendations (i): (a), (b) and (c).</p> <p>Visitor accepts recommendations (ii): (a), (b), (c) and (g).</p> <p>Visitor rejects recommendations (ii): (d), (e) and (f).</p>