

NIGERIA ACTION NETWORK ON SMALL ARMS (NANSA)

NEWS LETTER

NATIONAL COORDINATOR'S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD

JANUARY 2006 - MARCH 2007

Good People, and friends of NANSA, it is with deep sense of responsibility that I share with you some of the bold steps recorded by the coalition during the period Jan. 2006 - March 2007.

NANSA participated in the Control Arms Campaign Regional coordination meeting held in Dakar-Senegal during Feb. 2007 where a regional as well as a Nigeria work plan was developed.

NANSA organised and hosted a three day capacity building conference for selected NGO's in West Africa including over 20 NANSA members.

Organised a training programme for 30 volunteers to assist in the collection of Million Face Petition signatures from all over Nigeria.

Observed the 2006 Global Week of Action with a press conference held in Abuja Nigeria.

As part of our aggressive media campaign to raise awareness on key small arms control initiatives notably the proposed Arms Trade Treaty and the ECOWAS

Convention on Small Arms, The National Coordinator and some members of NANSA were guests to several Radio, Television and Print Media pages including

- a. The popular Nigeria Television Authority network programme - PANORAMA
- b. The famous Africa Independent Television breakfast programme - KAAKAKI
- c. Guest perspective interviews on Ray Power FM and Voice of Nigeria.
- d. Guest appearance on Human Rights - Radio Nigeria Network
- e. Half page interview published in Vanguard Newspaper
- f. Two full page interviews published on Insider Magazine
- g. Group appearances on The Nation Newspaper, The Leadership Newspaper, etc
- h. NANSA was involved in a documentary produced by Africa Independent Television on the impact of SALW in West Africa during Dec 2006

One can rightly conclude that the Nigeria media was awash with reports of NANSA campaign.

In partnership with PANAFSTRAG, NANSA developed a proposal/draft amendment to the Nigeria Firearm Act.

NANSA & PANAFSTRAG organised workshops for youth organisations on electoral violence in Enugu and Kaduna

during Feb. and March 2007 to reduce armed violence during the April 2007 general elections in Nigeria.

I am delighted to report that the series of programmes and activities aimed at mobilizing support of Nigeria Government towards the ratification of the ECOWAS Convention on SALW and also to solicit for Government proactive support for an Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) which started in Sept. 2006 was successfully concluded on the 11th of March 2007.

These programmes include -

- A. Press conference on the 13th of Sept. 2006 to mark the Global Day of Action to canvas for support for an Arms Trade Treaty,
- B. Media visitations around the launch of the formal presentation of the Million Face Petition (a total of 12 media houses was visited)
- C. Sensitisation Conference for parliamentarians and government functionaries on the need for Nigeria government to ratify the ECOWAS Convention and also support the ATT at the UNGA.

We concluded with a one day workshop and 20 day photo exhibition of SALW victims across the globe as advocacy tool to get both Government and Nigeria populace to become sympathetic towards the ratification of ECOWAS Convention and supporting the ATT. (The exhibition

received overwhelming coverage from over 15 media outlets)

NANSA's National Coordinator was elected into the WAANSA Executive Committee during the Regional General meeting held in Accra-Ghana. (Jan 2007)

SIMPLY PUT, NANSA IS CONSPICUOUSLY ON THE GLOBAL MAP OF ACTIVE ORGANISATIONS ON THE CONTROL ARMS CAMPAIGN.

I extend NANSA's unalloyed gratitude to **Oxfam GB** for their support in funding NANSA activities.

To the Executive and Network members, I thank you for the opportunity to serve NANSA and Humanity.

Shalom!

Nkemakonam DICKSON-ORJI

National Coordinator

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