

STRATEGIC ORIENTED POLICING

By

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PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION 1/2

- 1. To underscore the importance of modern policing in a democratic society and the main elements.**
- 2. To identify the challenges of policing in Nigeria and the need for strategic approach to deal with them.**

PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION 2/2

- 3. To advocate for the need for the Nigeria Police Force to become strategic in its approach to policing so as to overcome the challenges.**
- 4. To elucidate on the strategic issues that affect the organisation, efficiency and effectiveness of the police as an organisation.**

OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

1. **Introduction: The importance of policing, the duties of the NPF and the concept of modern policing.**
2. **Conceptual Clarifications: Strategic and Policing.**
3. **Challenges of Policing in Nigeria**
4. **Strategic Oriented Policing**
5. **Conclusions and Recommendations**

1. INTRODUCTION

Peace and security of life and property is a necessary pre-condition for development.

The principal agency charged with the responsibility of internal peace and security of nations all over the world is the police.

The 1999 Nigerian Constitution provides for the establishment of the Nigerian Police Force under section 214.

Duties of the Police: Police Act (Cap 359) 1/2

1. **Prevention and detection of crime;**
2. **The preservation of law and order;**
3. **Apprehension and prosecution of offenders**
4. **Enforcement of all laws**
5. **Performance of military duties within or outside Nigeria as may be required by them or under the authority of the act or any other act and**
6. **Protection of life and property.**

Duties of the Police 2/2

Policing all over the world is undergoing constant and rapid changes especially in terms of type of government and technology.

Policing under military rule is different from policing in a civilian and democratic dispensation.

Under military rule, the police can take some actions in the course of duty that are inimical to the tenets of democracy and get away with it.

Concept of Modern Policing 1/2

- a. **Community Policing: close working relationship with communities**
- b. **Strategic Oriented Policing: Proactive and preventive methods focusing on strategic issues.**
- c. **Problem Oriented: Dealing with criminogenic situations. Providing service and welfare**

Concept of Modern Policing 2/2

**d. Proper Organisation and Management:
Diversity and peculiarities of the society**

**e. Respectful Policing: Respect for human
rights**

**f. The use of ICT and other scientific aid in
Policing**

2. CONCEPTUAL CLARIFICATIONS

(a) STRATEGIC: an issue is strategic if it has a fundamental impact on the organization as a whole; affects more than one strategic success factor (financial, performance, human capital, corporate culture etc); futuristic and affects managing change and competitive advantage.

b. POLICING

In this paper, we take policing to mean all activities carried out by the police to fulfill its mandate of maintaining internal peace and security.

3. CHALLENGES OF POLICING IN NIGERIA

The challenges of policing in Nigeria are well documented by scholars and practitioners.

Femi Odekunle: the challenges of policing in Nigeria can be categorized as material inadequacies, human problems (quality of personnel in the force) and other factors such as absence of an overall crime prevention/control policy, body and planning; political interference; materialistic, greedy, corrupt and indisciplined socio-economic

Various IGs

Musliu A. A. Smith, Tafa Balogun, Sunday Ehindero, Mike Okiro, O. O. Onovo, Hafiz Ringim: funding of the police, increasing crime wave, the need for training and re-training, corruption within and outside the police, community policing, public relations/image of the police, inter-service and agency co-operation, conditions of service and welfare of police officers and the need for a paradigm shift in policing.

Challenges 3/3

It is clear that the challenges facing policing in Nigeria are well known and documented by scholars and practitioners. The problem has been lack of strategic approach to dealing with the challenges, poor leadership and management to apply workable solutions in a democratic society.

4. STRATEGIC ORIENTED POLICING

As noted above, strategic policing is about adopting proactive and preventive methods of crime prevention.

As Chukwuma has pointed out, the literature has shown that the more police you have, the more crime would be discovered and not necessarily solved, and the more the citizens would complain about the intrusive behaviour of the police because of more regular contact. In many societies where crime rate is very low,

Strategic Issues that should be addressed 2/6

1. **Recruitment into the Police Force**
2. **Human Capital Development: Ratio of Police to Citizens (UN Standard 1:400; Nigeria 1:377).**
3. **Change of Attitude: police administration and law enforcement-relation to members of the public, the way police authorities react to allegations of police brutality and discipline of officers.**

Strategic Issues to be addressed

3/6

4. Operations: From Fire for Fire to service.

5. Corruption: Advertised, Programme to fight corruption and consequences to members of public.

6. Improving the image of the Force: Respectful policing, checking corruption and management of information.

7. Funding of the Police: Trainable manpower, vehicles for movement and communication

equipment

Strategic Issues Contd 4/6

8. Leadership and Management

9. Monitoring and Evaluation: Femi Odekunle suggests four parameters

Effectiveness: Fewer or reduced criminal victimization, higher proportion of crimes known to the police cleared by arrest; increased recovery of stolen property; higher rates of arrests which result in conviction; lower traffic accident rates; faster response time to reports/complaints.

Monitoring and Evaluation...5/6

Soyombo suggests that empirical research can be used to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of the police.

Things that can be assessed include activities of police teams, patrol teams, response to distress calls, the number of crime cases known to the police, the number of arrests made, the number of successful prosecution.

A handbook for oversight of Police in South Africa : 6/6

**Protecting democratic political life: how
policing protects human rights.**

**Governance, accountability and transparency:
that policing is in accordance with basic tenets
of democratic governance including the
principles of accountability and transparency.**

Service delivery for safety, justice and security.

**Proper police conduct: that police officers
conduct themselves in a way compatible with a
democratic constitutional regime.**

5. CONCLUSION 1/2

The police is the principal agency charged with the responsibility of internal peace and security of nations. In Nigeria, the NPF is constitutionally and legally empowered to police the country for peace and security. But the policing in Nigeria is bedeviled with a lot of challenges. Scholars and practitioners have identified the challenges facing the policing in Nigeria. They include the problems of funding, increasing crime wave, poor training, corruption within and outside the police, lack

CONCLUSION 2/2

We suggest that the Nigeria Police Force need to become strategic in its approach to policing to be able to overcome the challenges of policing. The beginning point is to identify the strategic issues that affect the organization, efficiency and effectiveness of the police as an organization. In our view some of the strategic issues that need to be addressed are recruitment, human capital development, change of attitude, operations, corruption, image of the force, funding, leadership and

THANK YOU