

The Zaria Declaration

14th November, 2016

The Board of Trustees of NRCN (Nigeria Resilient Cities Network), an NGO registered on 21st December, 2016:



*Prof Mike Mutter OBE
Chairman*



*Tpl Kabir Yari
Member*



*Prof Adamu Ahmed
Member*



*Tpl Idris Suleiman
Member*



*Simon Gusah MPIA
Secretary*

These 10 Principles were proposed by Delegates at the first Stakeholder Workshop on 14th July, 2016 and ratified by the National Workshop of NRCN on 14th November, 2016.

1. Establishment
2. City Advocacy
3. L.G. Autonomy & Accountability
4. Integrate Informal Areas
5. City Resilience Strategies
6. Peer Learning
7. Stakeholder Engagement
8. Local Land Markets
9. Development Control
10. Local Revenue Generation

- 1) **NRCN:** We stand in agreement that this umbrella association shall be named the Nigeria Resilient Cities Network (NRCN), whose secretariat shall be domiciled at the Centre for Spatial Information Sciences (CSIS) Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and shall upon formal incorporation be open for membership to all urban areas in Nigeria.
- 2) **City Advocacy:** We shall actively promote and advocate on behalf of cities at the highest levels in Nigeria and internationally; their establishment as distinct entities, with adequate provisions, sense of ownership and effective management. We will draw attention to the precarious condition of our cities and their importance as economic centres, coupled with their vulnerable status in an age of multiple challenges.
- 3) **LG Autonomy with Accountability:** We shall promote the idea and practice of effective local governance for cities, through State, Local Government, Business and Community agents and agencies. In particular, we will seek more effective local authority and service delivery to the cities.
- 4) **Integrating Informal Areas:** In our respective cities and jurisdictions, we shall actively pursue and support measures to integrate informal and unplanned areas into the formal planning and development frameworks of our cities.
- 5) **City Resilience Strategies:** We shall advocate and promote the incorporation of resilience strategies in urban plans and economic development for our cities.
- 6) **Peer Learning:** We commit to the principle and practice of collaboration, knowledge sharing and mutual support through peer learning and review.
- 7) **Stakeholder Engagement:** We recognize that there are many voices in the city, many agents already working hard, but not always working together. We therefore commit to promoting deeper collaboration, cutting across the silos of departmental, socio-economic and cultural divisions.
- 8) **Local Land Markets:** We commit to seeking strategies and plans to make land easily accessible and by promoting the concept of 100% coverage by Certificates of Occupancy (CofO).
- 9) **Development Control:** We commit to seeking more effective means to collaborating with traditional authorities, local agencies and any other stakeholders into the formal land administrative system and development control, from the local level up to Governor-level.
- 10) **Local Revenue Generation:** We commit to promote independent, alternative, local revenue streams, which can be captured and targeted to meet local services and needs of the city. Dependence on central allocations should be overcome by putting in place effective local strategies for boosting internal revenue generation for the city.

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**NIGERIA
RESILIENT
CITIES
NETWORK
(NRCN)**

Established by:
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Implemented by: Adam Smith
International

For: DFID Department for
International
Development

