Challenges of Border Control and Effect on National Security: A Case of Nigeria-Niger Border

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Abstract

This study seeks to highlight the challenges in the Nigeria's international borderlines and its implications for national security at the Nigeria-Niger borders. This is because the layers of frontier and cross-border activities of Nigeria and her neighbours since independence in 1960 has been bedevilled by controversies and worrisome security challenges that sparked diplomatic rows and near-war experiences. The greatest challenge facing Nigeria today is international terrorism that is aided by religious extremism, porosity of borderline and cross-border security challenges and crimes. Indeed, the existence of porous borders and cross-border and frontier activities in Nigeria has aided crimes and security challenges across Nigerian borders for long without any specific solutions. Theory of transnationalism was adopted as a framework for analysis. This study sourced data from secondary sources and the data were analyzed qualitatively. The study findings revealed that border porosity caused food scarcity in the northeast, which in the struggle for food people get into serious crises. Also, the level of kidnapping/banditry and insecurity has increased in the Northeast region. Based on the findings, the study suggested that adequate provision of funds, use of modern technological gadgets, adequate training of security personnel, and strengthening of Multinational Joint Task Force etc, will go a long way in achieving effective border security in Nigeria, which promotes national security and development.

Keywords: Border, Border Security, Challenges, National Security and Nigeria-Niger border

Introduction

Nigeria has her own share of border security challenges, which are made more complex by poverty, lack of good governance, corruption, chronic armed conflict, armed banditry, porous border security and transnational crimes. Countries in Africa today are facing the serious challenge of managing their borders to the extent that their territorial sovereignty is in danger. This is because interdependence between states today has become something inevitable and beyond individual state's control, as Aristotle stated, "no country is an island of its own", therefore, states need one another to survive and conduct a relationship with one another. All matters in their relations are to protect and promote their national interests by displaying their domestic politics at the international level. Among the national interests' border protection happened to be the most important factor because among the qualities of the state, it is permanent territory.

Therefore, borders happened to be a strong component that the state must protect. Though with the pressure from the African countries to manage and control border management systems, cross-border trading is still in increase, where citizens move from the country of their origin to search for greener pastures elsewhere. Babatola, (2015), gave the estimate of the entire borders that Nigeria shares in West Africa, though, this study mainly focuses on the border with the central African country, Cameroon. According to Babatola, Nigeria is placed (1497 km) to Niger, to Chad (87 km), and Cameroon (1690 km), 773 kilometres boundary with Benin Republic. Nigeria's claim to territorial sea (offshore space) rose from three miles of the continental shelf and about 200 miles on exclusive fishing zones from 1958 to 1978 as a country signatory to conventions on the continental shelf despite its inability to determine its extent of the claim.

States in international relations out of their interests try to protect both their citizens and the territory from international aggression but because of today's state interdependence and globalization, and migration, it is often difficult to fully control border porosity or to stop it in general but can be minimally controlled. This is because globalization today has made the state borders weak with the name of development and civilization, and not only globalization, migration also is among the factors that bring about border porosity. Another factor that makes it difficult to control border porosity is how States share their borders.

In Africa for example, countries share borders to the extent that some are only water springs or hills that separate one country from another. In-country A' you will see a family with relatives in-country B' and this follows how the then colonial masters disintegrated Africa among themselves during the colonial period, and while giving independence to the African states, Africa as a continent was balkanized into smaller and many sovereign countries with their borders interconnected. Okumu (2011), in his writing, stated some realities about the African border system. These realities give urgency to African countries to put in place effective border management systems that minimize border tensions, increases joint enforcement and surveillance efforts, decreases organized crime activities by syndicates and traffickers in borderlands, generate a common understanding of border insecurities and approaches to addressing them, secures the flow of goods and people in the spirit of regional and continental integration, integrates and develops marginalized border areas through provision of essential infrastructure and promotion of a sense of security and well-being among the border population, enhances communication and information exchange between neighbouring countries, maintains borders in ways that do not obstruct cross-border trading and legal movements of people, harmonizes, and enables borders to be sources of mutual trust and harmony between neighbours.

Recent events of increasing wave of insurgencies have further heightened anxiety about the efficacy of law enforcement across the country's borders. As it stands today, no Nigerian border can be described as truly watertight (The Nation, 2017) as the less than eighteen thousand (18,000) workforces of the Nigerian Customs Services, an agency statutorily charged with

responsibilities of anti – smuggling, revenue generation and security functions along Nigeria's land, air and sea borders are having challenges effectively policing the borders.

Conceptual Clarification

Borders: 'Border' means different things to different people, but in classical literature, borders, boundaries, and borderlands are used interchangeably (Mata-Codesal, 2007). They sometimes constitute multiple opportunities as well as security barriers. Whereas borders are vital to separate the physical boundaries of state territories, they are in daily practice even more important to the people living along the borders. In similar vein, demarcated or not demarcated, a border can engender positive or negative effects, which have implications for national security. A greater portion of borderlands in the African continent are not distinctly demarcated and hence show no guidelines, creating security threats.

Border Security: Border security is the control of cross-border movement of people with the main goal of reducing illegal flows and not (unduly) limiting legal flows (Predd, Davis & Brown, 2010). Nelson et al., (2010) defined border security as "managing the flow of people, goods, and other tangible items across national boundaries". International law recognizes states on the proviso that the entity puts in adequate resources to keep its boundaries under strict surveillance to ensure citizens' protection; states are thus classified as strong, weak, or failed. Border security can be defined and implied in this study as the statutory purpose of preventing unlawful changes to the state border regime, maintaining the border regime and the regime at border crossing points from violation.

Border Management: is a function of regime types in place for the purpose of maintaining border administration. It includes routine administration to be undertaken at the border and in border zones. Border management generally rests on governmental surveillance agencies like the immigration, customs and police forces to ensure a lawful flow of human and economic resources in the national interest, be it economic, security or peace. This explains why customs officers in Nigeria go to markets and warehouses to impound smuggled prohibited goods. The number of agencies in border management is great, especially at border crossings, but a recognized border point is where you have the presence of Port, Health, Immigration and Customs facilities.

National Security: National security covers critical dimensions viz: economic security, food security, personal security, community security, political security (Adenbaken& Raimi, 2012). In addition, Nte (2011) defined national security as "the ability of a nation to protect its internal values from internal and external threats. Thus, for all practical purpose includes securing the individual against war, poverty, disease, loss of income and other health hazard. There must be national preservation and equilibrium in the economic, social, political and environment spheres". In this study, focus is placed on national security based on state's ability to protect lives and property, ensures economic development (increase in revenue and high standard of living), protection from harm, control of crimes and violent attacks.

It is also important we delve critically into what border defence and border security mean. Segell (2005) in his argument drew a clear distinction between these two concepts. Defence of the border, according to Segell, rests statutorily on the nation's armed forces, especially against external aggression. This mandate is always carried out with the use of heavy military equipment and weapons such as tanks, aircraft, ships, and many troops. All of these became insignificant in the twenty-first century as conflict focus shifted from inter-state conflicts to intra-state conflicts, as largely witnessed in Africa, thus making the procurement of these items of equipment unnecessary.

Theoretical Framework

This study is anchored on the theory of transnationalism. The theory of transnationalism was popularized in the early 20th century by Randolph Bourne which grown out of the increased interconnectivity between people and receding economic and social significance of boundaries among nation-state (Transnationalism, 2016). Transnationalism talks about the process where immigrants forge and sustain multi-stranded social relations that link together their societies of origin and that of their host country (Rosemberg, Boutain & Mohammed, 2016). It is based on increased functional integration and multiple interaction or links of people, states, and institutions across borders or beyond state boundaries, which can affect the capability of states. This increased interaction is facilitated by globalization.

This theory viewed that the increase in interaction between non-state actors (because of globalization) across borders has led to several impact on the capability of states. Therefore, the constant cross border activities or interactions affect the domestic policies of state actors (which can reduce the importance of states). This transnational interaction can take place in one country while the effects are seen in another country (Soehi & Waldinger, 2012). This theory or approach "emphasizes the ways in which nations are no longer able to contain or control the disputes or negotiation through which social groups annex a global dimension to their meaningful practices, the notion of diaspora brings to the fore the racial dynamics underlying the international division of labour and the economic turmoil of global capital" (Transnationalism, 2016). The theory of transnationalism has the following assumptions:

    i.   Persons are not bound to place, as much, as they are to space and technologies of place.
    ii.   There is cultural connectivity and reproduction and human mobility. Meaning that individuals or immigrants maintained cultural ties with their parent country and reproduce these cultural-related activities in their host country when the need arises.
    iii.   Some immigrants stay abreast of and influence the political-related occurrences of both their home and host country.
    iv.   The increased cross-border activities and interactions affect the capability of states. (Rosemberg *et al*, 2016).

This theory is relevant or can be applied to this study because there has existed several increased relations or interaction between people or non-state actors beyond Nigerian borders. With the

help of globalization, Nigerian citizens have maintained ties with citizens in other countries with ease. These interactions can be in form of economic, social, cultural and political interaction. The constant ties or interactions of people from different countries within and across Nigerian borders most times serves as a problem to state's capability on how to ensure effective border security and national security in Nigeria. As people interact across borders by engaging in illegal or illicit trade activities and other organized crimes, they most times devise several means on how to sustain such relations across borders. This can lead to several challenges to state's capability to control and manage its borders from unnecessary infiltrations that can pose a threat to sovereignty and survival of the state.

Methodology

This study is descriptive in nature because it is based on describing and analyzing the issue of border security in Nigeria and its effects on national security. The data were sourced from secondary sources such as journals, newspapers, textbooks etc. The qualitative method was used to analyze the data or information collected.

The State of Borders in Nigeria

This section considers the Nigerian borders and their current state and the various transnational criminalities that occur along the borders which make the borders an unsafe locale. Nigeria is situated within latitudes 4°N and 14°N and longitudes, 2°E and 15°E, possessing a total area of 923,768km2 (356,669 square miles), putting it at number 32 on the list of largest countries globally, and sharing a 4,047km border with its neighbours, 773km with Benin, 1,497km with Niger, 87km with Chad and 1,690km with Cameroon, with a modest coastline of about 853km (Willie & Okunade, 2021).

Former Nigerian Immigration Head, David Parrandang, averred that only 84 approved entry points exist in the country while there is a staggering number of over 1,400 illegal routes (Okunade, 2017). This shows that the illegal routes outnumber the recognized approved routes by 1,316, among which Ogun and Adamawa States are with 83 and 80 respectively. This could be because of the huge flow of illicit activities that happen within the area and across the borders into neighbouring states. Okunade (2017) also pointed out that these routes keep increasing daily as a result of the clandestine activities as identified in preceding section. And as some are being foiled, new ones are opened around the porous borders.

These activities, which have long existed and been carried out in the form of transnational crimes across the Nigerian borders, have to a great extent challenged the country's economic and national security. The modus operandi by which these activities are carried out continues to improve in a sophisticated way due to technological advancement, but unfortunately the Nigerian government has not been able to contain the change and stem the increasing rate of criminality, thus making the borders a free zone for their perpetrators to operate.

Leiter (2014) argued that the porosity of the Nigerian borders is the major factor that encourages the proliferation of illegal arms and insurgencies in the country. According to Abdullahi (2010),

70 percent of the illegal small arms in the West Africa sub-region is found in Nigeria. William Hartung, a renowned arms dealer, submits that arms deals thrive in Nigeria, and in West and Central Africa, because of conflicts in Africa, which create the pivot for the arms trade (Leiter, 2014). The flourishing arms market in Africa explains the source of strength for the Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria, which makes it a perpetual threat to the nation's territorial integrity and national security. The inadequate border posts for surveillance are worsened by the ill equipped, poorly trained, and poorly remunerated personnel who find it rewarding to compromise with the insurgents.

Eselebor (2013) opined that transnational crimes, even though on the increase, are quite civilized in practice, as they operate in syndicate states not adequately equipped to curb the menace of human trafficking, drug trafficking, contraband smuggling, smuggling of small arms and light weapons, cross-border armed banditry/robbery, oil theft/bunkering, financial crimes, advance fee fraud (e.g., '419' fraud), cybercrimes and credit card fraud and environmental crimes. These crimes have of late been compounded with the menace of insurgency and terrorism which are a far cry from the others earlier mentioned. This nefarious engagement has been adduced to be the greatest threat that has confronted the Nigerian government, to such an extent that it remains insurmountable and has turned the state into an ineffective actor.

NBC News, a division of the National Broadcasting Company based in the USA, reported that current and former USA officials and arms experts have averred that a larger part of Boko Haram armoury items was commandeered from overpowered Nigerian military stocks. The news report further credited a statement to a former USA Ambassador in Nigeria, John Campbell, admitting that: there are bad eggs/saboteurs who willingly gave access to Boko Haram to loot the Nigerian armouries (Babatola, 2015). He concluded that the array of small and automatic weapons, mortars, grenades, car bombs and mines 'is all Boko Haram's soldiers need to carry out their brand of terrorism' (Babatola, 2015).

In June 2013, the Nigerian military intercepted a consignment found to be loaded with arms and ammunition meant for delivery to the Boko Haram camps for the purpose of attacking, maiming, and killing civilians (mostly rural dwellers), businesses, government institutions and security personnel. This class of arms and ammunition, such as anti-tank missiles, surface-to-air missiles, AK-47 assault rifles and rocket propelled grenades (RPGs), were found to be used by mercenaries and rebel forces during the Libyan uprising and are gradually being routed into troubled zones for use by terrorist groups such as Al Qaeda in Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) and Boko Haram in Nigeria (Leiter, 2014).

Boko Haram, with the help of some of these weapons that have got to them, has being able to unleash terror, turning Northern Nigeria, especially the North-Eastern region into a turbulent region, by causing chaos and unjustifiable destruction of lives and properties in the region and in neighbouring Republic of Cameroon. Adetula (2015) opined that the activities of the sect must have been intensified by the manpower support they got from rebels from Libya. After the demise of Muammar Gaddafi and his regime in Libya, his loyal fighters were dispersed

across Africa and Middle East. Some of the rebels were cited in neighbouring Chad and Niger and for them to have got so close, there is every likelihood that some of them must have filtered into Nigeria to support the cause and operations of the militant Islamic group in the country. Adetula averred that the religious upheavals in some parts of Nigeria could have identified the country as a location for an international Islamist revolution to thrive (Adetula, 2015, p. 12).

The activities and attacks of Boko Haram, which have consistently been a challenge to Nigeria and her neighbours, gained a global awareness even though the Nigerian government did not envisage that its activities would deteriorate to that extent. Former Nigerian president Goodluck Jonathan pointed out at the regional summit on security and terrorism in 2014 that the Boko Haram insurgency has assumed a global dimension antithetical to civilization and regional stability (Leadership Newspaper, 2014). At some point, the impudence and carnage unleashed by Boko Haram degenerated to an easy influx of arms from Libya. The porous nature of Nigerian borders made it easy for the sect to manage its logistics. These items were always smuggled in via donkeys, camels, cattle and heavy duty motor vehicles through the inadequately policed borders of the vast areas of Borno and Yobe States, the same way in which women, children, SALWs, second-hand clothing, poultry products, used cars, parboiled rice, pharmaceutical products and other consumables are smuggled into the country through the porous borders (land and maritime) all around the country but especially in the South-West.7 At some point, these deadly attacks from Boko Haram dissuaded visitors and tourists from coming into the country (US Department of States, 2014).

Challenges of Effective Border Management in Nigeria

Even though efforts have been made to secure Nigeria border, it has been discovered that certain factors appear to pose a problem or challenge to effective border security in Nigeria.

Conflict/ inadequate Co-operations among Security Agencies: Adam (2012) viewed that "the lack of or absence of integrated security efforts also provides criminal smuggling and other illicit networks." The poor co-operation and coordination between security agents within Nigeria and other neighbouring countries have undermined border security in Nigeria (Idowu, 2014; Babtunde, 2009; Temisan, 2015; Menner, 2014). Temisan (2015) noted that there is poor co-operation between the security agencies (mainly the NCS and NIS) in joint patrol arrangement at the borders. Even though the Multinational Joint Task Force has been improving its efforts to ensure security mainly at the borders, there has been problem of collaboration, co-ordination, and co-operation between security agencies of other countries (Menner, 2014). In addition, the conflict or poor cooperation and coordination can be because of suspicion, problem of information and intelligence sharing, disagreement on standard to follow, adhoc operations of some joint patrol etc. (Babatunde, 2009; Idowu, 2014).

Corruption: The issue of corruption is another problem to effective border security in Nigeria. It has been discovered that most security agencies are often compromised to allow illegal flow of goods and people (Akinyemi, 2013; Nte, 2011; Gibemre, 2016). According to Onuoha (2013)

since corruption is endemic and systemic in Nigeria, cross border arms trafficking is sometimes facilitated by security agents.

Gbemre (2016) noted that some checkpoints are not meant to check passport but to extort money from people. Hahonou (2016) indicated that recent anthropological research shows that regular traders, transporters, and passengers that move along West African states usually provide various kinds of informal payment to state agents to escape taxation of goods and certain procedures. Report also maintained that along the Niger-Benin-Nigeria border, there is no positive relation between a higher number of checkpoints and an increased level of control because security agents create fake offices and checkpoints to increase the number of opportunities for taking bribes and racketing citizens (Hahonou, 2016).

The Porous Nature of the Borders: Studies have shown that there is high rate of porous borders in Nigeria, and it has been assumed to be the major challenge to effective border security. This can be because of the vastness of Nigerian border (Menner, 2014; Gbemre, 2016). It has been indicated that Nigerian has 147 irregular and 84 regular routes as movement were done through irregular routes(Maro, cited in Akinyemi, 2013; Menner, 2014) Adams (2012) viewed that there are existence of 1475 official border sites and estimate of 2000 un-official border sites across Nigeria borders. Musa (2015) identified that there is presence of 250 footprints from Damaturu/Maiduguri axis that link the Republics of Cameroon, Chad and Niger that are not known to Nigerian security agencies.

The porosity of Nigeria's border can be seen or indicated in the use of dried tree, oil drum, tyres etc to demarcate national borders which makes the borders highly disorganized (Gbemre, 2016). The existence of large number of illegal routes have made it easy for all sort of transnational crimes like movement or smuggling of illegal goods, trafficking of persons, theft and terrorist and other violent activities etc.

Inadequate Facilities & Logistics: The problem of inadequate facilities and other logistics serve as a problem to effective border security in Nigeria. There have been reported cases of low operational facilities like poor border barrack or substandard office; lack of or insufficient communication or technological gadgets or facilities; inadequate patrol vehicles etc (Akpomera & Omoyibo, 2013; Akinyemi, 2014; Danfulani, 2014; Bearzotti, Geranio, Keresztes & Mullerova, 2015). Lamptey (2015) stated that "the work of border security officials is hampered by logistic and poor government remuneration, creating avenues for corruptions." There is no how effective border security can be achieved without adequate facilities and logistics.

Globalization: Despite the positive effect of globalization, it still poses a threat to effective border security in Nigeria. Through the advancement of information and communication technology and transformation of international relations caused by globalization has increased the challenges of African states to manage their borders (Okumu, 2011). The present globalization serves as a problem to Nigerian border security because it has aided criminal to engage on illegal business without necessarily crossing the border. This is done through the cyberspace with the use of information and communication technology. The use of ICT has

also enhanced terrorist activities in Nigeria and other trans-border crimes (Nosiri, 2016; Nwanyi & Orji, 2015).

Effect of Nigeria-Niger border porosity on Nigerian National Security

The porousness of the Nigerian borders led to the following challenges to Nigerian national security. They include the following:

Kidnapping and human trafficking Humans are not new to trafficking. It is an ancient practice that has changed overtime from bondage to its current state. Before it was criminalized in2000 under the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, including Women and Children, known as the Palermo Protocol. The scourge noticed that the international community was being criminalized. Since then, concerns of trafficking in persons among researchers and professionals have gained traction largely because of the increased political understanding of the threats and the deaths of victims incurred by the violence. However, research has shown that the problems are little understood in the African context and cause other causes to be questioned beyond the prescriptive push-pull factors. Nigeria's porous frontier with its northern neighbour, Niger, was used as slaves by smugglers who smuggle young girls into Europe.

Nigeria is also the wealthiest and most populated in West Africa and Nigeria dwarfs all these countries in terms of fiscal, demographic, and military ability. This explains the reasons why crises like political unrest, drought, and diseased conditions in neighbouring countries break over Nigeria because their neighbours rely exclusively on Nigeria. The former President of Nigeria also demonstrated this in Babangida's address, saying that no one is willing to profit from any subregion's economic failure. This means Nigeria's national safety as illustrated in both the breadth and scale of cross-border smuggling operations, which are achieved in its everyday contact, represents the safety and security of its immediate neighbours

Insecurity: The crisis in northeast Nigeria owes its origins broadly speaking to the insurgency of Boko Haram, a terrorist organization chargeable for assaults on nearby groups throughout Nigeria, Chad, Cameroon, and Niger. The sports of this terrorist organization and the counterinsurgency through the Nigerian nation prompted the more severe humanitarian disaster within side the records of Nigeria. The precarious socio-financial situations of this place because of its touchy weather situations and forget through the crucial authorities are suspected to have created a fertile floor for Boko Haram to prosper. The strategic vicinity of the location occupied through Boko Haram's troops did now no longer most effective offer them with refuge far from national security forces. However, additionally to be had manpower from the determined youths that struggled to make a living. Boko Haram recruits its individuals specifically amongst disaffected youths, unemployed excessive college and university graduates, and destitute children, broadly speaking from however now no longer restrained to northern Nigeria (Kamta, Azadi, & Scheffran, 2020).

In order to examine the nature of the war economy in Northeastern Nigeria, it is important to understand the impact of the conflict: an estimated 15 million people in northeastern Nigeria are affected by violence and military actions. According to reports, this situation has been particularly serious since 2014, resulting in approximately 20,000 deaths and 1.8 million displacements ((Avis, 2020). This has led to poor economic development in the Northeast. The damage to the infrastructure is estimated at US$9.2 billion, which in turn caused cumulative production losses of US$8.3 billion. Although most of the displaced remain in the three conflict affected states (Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe), the rest have moved to northern and central Nigeria. There are shelters for more than 170,000 people in neighbouring countries (Avis, 2020).

The impact of the conflict on the six states in the region is mixed. Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe suffered severe physical damage and the displacement of displaced persons, destroying the local economy. The internally displaced persons in Bauchi, Gombe, and Taraba are overcrowded, which has placed a heavy economic burden on them. The conflict in the host country severely affected food production and agricultural productivity, especially in the worst-affected states of Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa. Population inequality and displacement prevent families from maintaining their usual livelihoods and hinder trade and markets. Limited food supplies and access to farms and markets in Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa have created local food crises related to severe food insecurity (Brechenmacher, 2019).

Economic Backwardness: Nigeria has struggled since its sovereignty to date with growth problems. The country's recent growth rate places it among the top countries in the world for a "developing" population. Furthermore, Nigeria has low GDP per capita, massive unemployment, a poor economy of human capital depreciation, low investment, and other problems that the nation's entire population needs to be created. Civilian administrations have, however, made tremendous strides to revitalize the economy and boost human resources since 1999. In the face of strong political resistance and terrorism threats, progress in airport re-modelling, universities repositioning, new construction, and new highways as well as the creation of jobs, as well as improved public transportation is being made in the world. While attacks carried out by Boko Haram have aided Nigeria's progress, in a manner of speaking, on the contrary, the movements of the Boko Haram have been an obstruction to Nigeria's growth (Awortu, 2015). In the writing of Muhammad, (2017), many economic issues were recorded because of the border porosity.

Conclusion

Borders are one of the most vital aspects of a state's national security. This is because states protect their national territory as among their qualities, though, border issues remain the citizen's integral part of life. Because of economic hardship, political instability, employment opportunities, citizens tend to leave their home countries to go and search for nearby and employment opportune countries. For these reasons, migrations, and management of borders between Nigeria and her neighbouring countries seem to be a serious challenge, more especially

if we look at the fact that there are intermarriages between the local communities at the border sides, the use of common language, which constitute easy communication and convincing methods towards authorities managing the borders among others.

The understanding on how to achieve national security also requires the question of how to ensure effective border security. Therefore, border security is a very essential for the actualization of consolidated statehood, enhancement of sovereignty and national security. Nigeria has been experiencing the problem of how to effectively secure its borders from all sorts of transnational crimes that serve as a threat to national security. Nigeria has been experiencing the problem of how to effectively secure its borders from all sorts of transnational crimes that serve as a threat to national security.

Recommendations

To ensure effective border security, the following recommendations were made:

 i. There should provisions of other facilities like good accommodations, offices and logistics (like patrol vehicles, aircraft) to security agencies is very necessary in order to curb the activities of transborder criminal activities.
 ii. There is need for the government to construct adequate fences, auto-gates or border plazas. This will help to reduce the size of illegal migration,
 iii. There is need to strengthen the cooperation and coordination of Nigerian security agencies involved in border control or management. A well-coordinated effort and intelligent sharing between security agencies like the Police, Customs, Immigration, Civil Defence Corps, the Military etc will go a long to ensure effective border security.
 iv. There is urgent need to address the problem of corruption among security agencies in order to reduce the rate of trans-border criminal activities.
 v. Security agencies must always advise government based on the situation on ground for the overall improvement of security measures and adequate funding.

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