

# Middle-Belt Progressive Movement

14a Muhammadu Buhari Way (formerly Waff Road), Kaduna

---

The Secretary,  
Advisory Committee on National Dialogue,  
International Conference Centre,  
Area 10, Garki,  
Abuja.

11th November, 2013

Dear Sir,

## **Memorandum by Middle-Belt Progressive Movement**

We believe that by 1914, when Nigeria came into existence, it came by the fiat of Britain through Lord Lugard, and without consultation with the indigenous people of Nigeria.

The indigenous peoples have lived as free people on their own territories from time immemorial. But since after independence, in 1960, they have not had the opportunity to deliberate freely on their political and economic future.

With its vast human and natural resources, her citizens continue to remain pauperized. Born out of our common volition, the indigenes will decide their future under sustainable development, democracy and overall human development. The major issues we want to discuss are:-

- (1) Federal Restructuring to allow the federating units to function among the tiers of government.
- (2) Fiscal Federalism.
- (3) Derivation and share of revenue.
- (4) Devolution of Powers at Federal, State and Local Government Autonomy.
- (5) Essential Social Welfare and Human Rights.
- (6) Security Forces.
- (7) Citizenship – Definition of Citizenship.
- (8) Privileges, rights, etc.
- (9) Religion – Right of worship.
- (10) Proportional Representation:
  - (a) All the Ethnic Nationalities within the Middle-Belt Region, without exception, are to be represented. Other groups to be represented are: Women's Organisations.
  - (b) Religious Organisations.

- (c) Organizations of the Handicapped.
- (d) Professional Organisations.
- (e) Private/Business Associations.
- (f) Mass Organisations.
- (g) Youth Organisations.
- (h) Civil Societal Groups.
- (i) Economic Interest Groups.
- (j) Academic Groups.
- (k) Students Organisations, etc.

The past Constitutional National Conference convened by the past military and successive governments since 1979 Constituent Assembly to the 1995 Constitutional Conference had been manipulated, predetermined or, better still, had a "Hidden Agenda" of the Government, and so ended in complete failure. We hope this one will not follow the same way. The 1999 Constitution was a fraud; and no attempt should be made by this committee to allow moneyed bags or the present unprincipled, corrupt and expired politicians to hijack the outcome of the committee. The government should allow the decision of Nigerians to stand.

**(Signed)**



**D.I.G. Potter L. Dabup (rtd)**

**National Chairman, Middle-Belt Progressive Movement**