

# CALL TO ACTION

## On Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies

### Report

2018 End-Year Review Meeting for the Nigeria Call to Action Initiative

Northeast Nigeria Road Map Release

5-6 December 2018



Maiduguri, Nigeria

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### Executive Summary

The Call to Action (CtA) on Protection from Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Emergencies, initially launched at the global level in 2013, is a multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to transform the way humanitarian actors address gender-based violence. To maximise the value and impact of the Call to Action in the field, global partners working in Nigeria came together with key Government and civil society stakeholders to pilot the development and implementation of a 2018-2019 Northeast Nigeria Road Map. There are currently 39 stakeholders signed up to the various actions areas of the Northeast Nigeria Road Map and this number may still increase as more actors become familiar with the Call to Action.

At the end of 2018 in December, current and potential stakeholders met during a two-day meeting that brought together 91 individual participants to collectively review progress, and map out next steps in the implementation of the road map. The meeting was held in Grand Pinnacle Hotel, Maiduguri, Borno State on December 5-6, and hosted by the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development in their capacity as Chair of the Nigeria Call to Action Multi-Stakeholder Task Team (MSTT)<sup>1</sup>. The meeting was anchored by a moderator from the Network of Civil Society Organisations in Borno State, Ambassador Ahmed Shehu, who also double as a representative of the CSOs in the MSTT.

In keeping with the multi-stakeholder nature of the Call to Action, participants included leaders and senior representatives from Nigerian federal and state ministries of Women's Affairs and Justice, three donor States, UN agencies, Nigerian civil society organizations and international non-governmental organizations. Donor state partners in attendance were ECHO, Canada and Switzerland.

A full list of attendees can be found in Annex four.

Over the course of the two days, participants actively took part and contributed to the various thematic sessions. Thematic sessions were organized to project critical issues in the road map implementation in order to contribute to strengthening GBV response, prevention and risks mitigations efforts in Northeast Nigeria. These included: GBV risk mitigation in other sectors, link between gender inequality and gender-based violence, unpacking GBV services available for child survivors, donor funding, how to effectively build the capacity of local actors on GBV response and prevention, and a reflection session on engaging with security actors. Although, access to justice was not a thematic area in the agenda of the review meeting, challenges around access to justice emerged as one of the core bottleneck to comprehensive GBV service delivery that needs to be addressed in Northeast Nigeria response. In addition to the thematic sessions, the Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator facilitated a special session on GBV with humanitarian leadership and the rest of the participants present at the review meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> The Nigeria Call to Action MSTT is a six member team, composed of representatives of CSOs, INGOs, Donor States, Office of the Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator and United Nations who are stakeholders of the Northeast Nigeria Road Map

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Pertinent issues that emerged from the discussion seek to improve engagement of senior leadership of organisations with field level operations. Other areas include linking the Call to Action to the new way of working; improving access to data by CSOs; galvanizing voices of CSOs on GBV through supporting them effectively to develop and release position papers on GBV, strategic reflection meetings by access to justice actors. In addition, the need to close the gap between INGOs and CSOs was expressed, considering that CSOs are not part of the INGO Forum and no coordination mechanisms exists between CSOs and the INGOs.

At the end of the engaging discussions, a number of recommendations were made. These are presented in details in the body of the report, but highlights include:

### **Strengthening access to justice for survivors and the legal framework**

- i. Set up a committee/task force for advocacy visit to the Borno State Attorney General, Chief Judge, Governor and House of Assembly to push for the pending GBV law reforms.
- ii. Organise strategic reflection session on access to justice for GBV survivors with key stakeholders to discuss critical bottlenecks and map the way forward.
- iii. Advocacy with donors for more supporting to legal sector (funding and infrastructure).
- iv. Federal and State Governments and GBV partners -advocate for measures to strengthen the legal frameworks, especially on child marriage.
- v. State Governments should consider introducing the exclusive trial system for prosecuting GBV cases (trial in camera) to protect the privacy and confidentiality of survivors during trials.
- vi. Strengthen the capacity of CSOs to help follow-up cases in court, from investigations to final judgement.
- vii. Build capacity of prosecutors and police officers charged with the role of investigation, female police officers and female judges to handle cases of GBV
- viii. Advocacy to the Federal and State Governments to increase their political will to enforce existing laws such as the VAPP.

### **Capacity Building of local actors**

- i. Build capacity of local NGOs, CBOs, local structures (women groups, youth groups, traditional rulers
- ii. Capacity building of the Ministry of Women Affairs on GBV Coordination
- iii. Coordination on caring for child and adolescent survivors

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- iv. For CSOs, explore opportunity to support attachment of experts/consultants to mentor/coach CSOs to strengthen technical capacity, data and financial management systems. Mentoring and coaching for CSOs on proposal development

### **GBV Information and Data Management**

- i. Stronger coordination in data and information management between child protection and GBV should be established.
- ii. Strategic reflection on the contribution/ participation on GBV IMS by government bodies
- iii. Explore mechanisms of capturing data from different government services, especially from health, justice, police to complement GBVIMS information for advocacy and to provide a holistic picture of on-going GBV interventions.

### **GBV service availability for child survivors**

- i. GBV Partners should consider supporting the Borno Police Command to develop the Family Support Unit to strengthen GBV response.
- ii. GBV partners should embark on a sustained, aggressive enlightenment campaign to create awareness in communities as a way of discouraging GBV and providing information on available services.
- iii. Strategic program interventions to address the unique needs of adolescent girls
- iv. Mobilise additional funding for livelihood interventions

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### 1. Introduction

One of the critical elements of the Northeast Nigeria Call to Action road map implementation is the interaction of stakeholders bi-annually (mid- and end-year) to review progress. As such, on December 5 and 6, 2018, stakeholders of the Nigeria Call to Action Road Map converged in Maiduguri during a two-day end-year review meeting to collectively review progress and map out next steps in implementation of the Road Map. The Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development hosted the meeting in their capacity as chair of the Nigeria Multi-Stakeholder Task Team providing leadership oversight on the implementation of the Call to Action road map in Nigeria. A total of 91 people participated in the various thematic sessions held during the two-day meeting. The different thematic sessions focused on GBV risk mitigation in other sectors, link between gender inequality and gender-based violence, unpacking GBV services available for child survivors, donor funding, how to effectively support capacity building of local actors on GBV, and a reflection session on engaging with security actors.

### 2. Meeting objectives

The main aim of the end-year review meeting was to provide a platform for Nigeria Call to Action (CtA) stakeholders to review the progress of the Nigeria Road Map, identify gaps, challenges and make recommendations to address them. It also provided avenue for stakeholders to discuss critical issues relevant to the key outcome and action areas of the road map and identify potential solutions to ensure that the implementation of the road map activities remains on course. The meeting platform also provided opportunity for dialogue and advocacy on issues of mutual interests and critical concerns among stakeholders.

### 3. Opening Remarks

The Call to Action 2018 end-year review meeting was opened by the Borno State Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development who welcome participants to Maiduguri. Several speakers that included representative of Chair of the Multi Stakeholder Task Team (MSTT), Attorney General of Adamawa State, representative from the Borno State Ministry of Justice, CSOs representative among others spoke to the importance of collective action, mutual support and accountability in addressing gender-based violence in northeast Nigeria as envisaged under the Call to Action road map.

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**Borno State Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development:** In her remarks, the Director of Women Affairs, Borno State Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Mrs. Falmata Hamzah Gambo, welcomed participants to Maiduguri. She recalled the efforts of GBV partners in commemorating the 2018 Sixteen Days of Activism and said her Ministry was already strategizing on ways to improve the 2019 engagement and called for more support from partners. She requested partners to invest in building the capacity of social workers and women development officers who exists at all levels from State, to Local Government Authority (LGA) areas, to Ward and Communities, as this will ensure sustainability of the gains of the humanitarian response. She also expressed the resolve of the Borno State Ministry of Women Affairs not to withdraw any case of GBV from prosecution, due to undue influence.



**Attorney General of Adamawa State:** Speaking passionately, the Attorney General of Adamawa State who was a former UN Staff before taking up his present appointment in Adamawa State, stated how his ministry in Adamawa State took up the challenge of addressing GBV in Adamawa State. He said Adamawa State set up GBV Assault Reporting Centre 8 months ago and discovered from available data within the last 8 months' period that GBV incidents was quite high (70 cases in Yola) and prosecution rate was quite low (9 cases) for several reasons which needed to be investigated and understood. He lamented the absence of Borno State Commissioners of Women Affairs, Justice and Information at the meeting as involvement of the top level in a multi-sectoral approach was the best way to end GBV, from the Adamawa experience. He requested support in establishing a forensic laboratory in Adamawa State to better address the prosecution of GBV perpetrators and thanked the Call to Action for extending invitation to him.



**Borno State Ministry of Justice:** The Director of Public Prosecution, Barrister Hussain Itze, who represented the Borno State Ministry of Justice appreciated the efforts of GBV actors in the State. He recalled attending a meeting where the future of Civilian Joint Task Force was discussed with concrete resolutions. He praised Adamawa State for its achievements as stated by the Attorney General and acknowledged the need for Borno State to learn from Adamawa's experience. He hoped that the meeting will come up with recommendations to guide engagements and wished all a fruitful meeting.

**Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development:** Mr. Femi Alaka, speaking on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development as representative of the Director of Gender and Women Affairs, reiterated that GBV remains a priority issue for the Ministry and that it will continue to play a strong leadership role as the chair of both the

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GBV Working Group and the Call to Action Multi-Stakeholder Task Team. While reiterating the relevance of the CtA in supporting the collective work and efforts of all actors working to address Gender-Based Violence in North-East Nigeria, he highlighted the focus of the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs & Social Development in addressing GBV and gender issues in other geographical zones, including the refugee crisis in North-Central and South-West of the Country. He expressed the need to develop a National GBV Strategy and a comprehensive work plan at the Federal level to reflect the different humanitarian contexts in the country and called on UNFPA and other partners to support this course of action. He reflected on the link between the Call to Action initiative and the priority given to Gender-based Violence in the humanitarian system by the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs, noting that the Call to Action initiative will help strengthen the Ministry's role as the GBV Working Group Chair at the Federal level.



**United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA):** Dr. Midala Balami who spoke on behalf of the UNFPA Humanitarian Coordinator, identified the Call to Action as a key initiative that had the potential to close the GBV funding gap through collective partnerships. He commended the Director Federal Ministry of Women Affairs for her role as chair of the Multi-Stakeholder Task Team for the Call to Action in Nigeria noting that everyone involved should be very proud of the progress being through the collective work. He stressed the importance of doing the work together with Nigerian government partners and CSOs in the spirit of strengthening local capacity and thanked the national partners that have been involved to date while looking forward to having others join as the work continues to move forward.

**Gender Based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR):** The opening session was wrapped up by Ms. Astrid Haaland, the Deputy Coordinator of the global Gender-based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR), based in Geneva. Ms. Haaland expressed hope that partners will look at what is being done and ask the salient questions, such as where are we with the collectives that will transition into a game changer within the outcomes. She expressed optimism that the meeting will provide opportunity to learn new things that can be expressed in other contexts.

#### 4. Thematic Sessions and Recommendations

##### **Overview of the HCT Centrality of Protection Strategy of Northeast Nigeria**

The Inter-Agency Protection Advisor, Ms. Erin Mooney, facilitated this session. The session was aimed at providing a clear understanding of the Northeast Nigeria Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) Centrality of Protection Strategy and how the Northeast Nigeria Call to Action road map complements the strategy. Erin Stated that protection issues are so multi-sectoral that



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they need to be a priority for the humanitarian response, hence the introduction of the Centrality of Protection strategy. The strategy was finalized in December 2017 with the adoption of an action plan by the HCT in April 2018. It provides for three (3) objectives namely;

1. Ensuring a robust protection environment: Advocacy on protection issues, improved evidence based protection analysis, strengthen legal framework and implementation; capacity strengthening.
2. Ensuring freedom of movement and access: In DIP camps/LGAs and Headquarter towns, evictions and durable solutions; access to affected population and access to services by persons in need.
3. Mainstreaming protection in humanitarian response and decision-making: Including all phases of humanitarian program cycle (HNO/HRP) by each sector and regular protection discussion.

The Centrality of Protection (CoP) recognizes GBV as one of four “key threats & risk trends”, hence the CtA Action areas align well with the CoP indicators to track progress so that CtA progress reports can feed into the CoP action plan reporting. Each of the 5 Outcome areas of the CtA road map is linked to at least 2 indicators of the CoP.

### **Overview of the Northeast Nigeria Road Map and Status of Stakeholder Commitments**

This session was facilitated by the Call to Action M&E Specialist, Dr. Matthew Onoja. The aim of the session was to review the progress of road map implementation by outcome areas based on the analysis of stakeholder reporting and the picture provided by the key indicators of the M&E framework. The presentation showed that Outcome 5 had the least commitment by partners and also the least implemented action areas. Action areas under Outcomes 1 and 5 had the least unfunded activities which was attributed to lack of funding. Although Outcome 2 had the most commitment by partners, it also had the most unfunded activities on the road map and requires to be beefed up in 2019 by partners, in addition to some action areas in Outcomes 1 and 5. It was also noted that between the launch of the road map in July and December 2018, the Call to Action had attracted new funding support, hence 17 road map activities with hitherto “unfunded” status now had funding to be implemented.



Notable challenges observed from the reports submitted by partners include limitation of access to affected population due to security concerns, inadequate capacity, funding gaps, incomplete reporting and monitoring gaps that was also attributed to security concerns.

### ***Recommendations:***

- i. CtA Partners yet to submit their reports are encouraged to do so in order to provide a complete picture of progress made in road map implementation.
- ii. Partners working on access to justice should provide their data to complement GBVIMS data, which shows gross limitation to access of the justice system.

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### **GBV Situation Update for Northeast Nigeria (January – September 2018 GBVIMS Data Analysis)**

This session links directly to Outcome 2 of the road map dealing with access to quality GBV services. The was facilitated by the Inter-agency GBVIMS Coordinator, Ms. Elfriede Koroma with the objective of providing an overview of the emerging trends from the GBVIMS data analysis triangulated with GBV Sub-sector 5Ws (What, Where, When, Which and Why) data. From the presentation, 99% of all reported incidents of GBV in the period under review affected women and 1 out of 5 cases of reported GBV incidents involved children. On the types of GBV, Pphysical abuse constituted 29% of all cases, denial of resources 25%, psychological/-emotional abuse 20%, rape 17%, forced marriage 7%, and sexual assault 2%. Three in four cases reported survivors of GBV knew the perpetrator, particularly in cases of sexual assault. 10% of the incidences reported occurred in the context of sexual slavery. Majority of reported GBV incidents occurred at either the perpetrators residence or the survivor's residence and this underscores the need to train social workers on safety planning. Sixty-one percent of GBV incidences occurred in the context of Intimate Partner Violence; in 20% of reported cases, the perpetrator had no relationship with the survivors, and family or spouse perpetrated 6%. The referral pathway showed that 55% of the survivors did a self-referral, while only 45% of survivors were referred for assistance. This therefore calls for the need to strengthen the referral pathways.

On services delivery, the types of GBV services provided to survivors include: livelihood services (45%), psychosocial support (96%), health/medical services (15%), and safe house/shelter (1%). Legal and security services were not provided, hence the need to step them up in service provision. The following key recommendations were derived from the session:

#### ***Recommendations:***

- i. Prioritize the strengthening of access to justice as a life-saving GBV intervention to ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice as this will help to decrease GBV incidents and eliminate stigmatization of survivors.
- ii. GBVIMS partnerships should be expanded so that GBV data from the government health, justice and police systems can also be captured to provide a holistic picture of on-going GBV interventions.
- iii. Partners should embark on advocacy to Federal and State Governments to increase their political will to enforce existing laws such as the VAPP, for prevention of GBV and prosecution of offenders.
- iv. GBV partners should embark on a sustained, aggressive enlightenment campaign to create awareness in communities as a way of addressing GBV by discouraging it and providing information on available services.
- v. GBV Partners should consider supporting the Borno Police Command to develop the Family Support Unit (FSU) that can serve as a one-stop GBV prevention and response center.

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- vi. State Governments should consider introducing the exclusive trial system (trial in camera) for GBV survivors. This limits presence of many people and would ensure that the privacy and confidentiality of survivors is protected to a reasonable extent. For parents who may not wish to prosecute, the case could be kept in view by the police for future reawakening by the survivor if they choose to.
- vii. Partners should ensure that case workers are trained on safety planning for survivors, to maximally support them in the absence of a safe shelter which is often required for cases of rape, especially those involving household members.

### **Unpacking GBV Services Available for Child Survivors in Northeast Nigeria, 2018**

This session links to both outcome 1 and outcome 2 of the road map and was facilitated by Ms. Joyce Mutiso, the Child Protection Sub-Sector Coordinator (UNICEF).

Ms. Joyce Mutiso provided an overview of services available for child survivors of GBV, the challenges faced and opportunities to address comprehensive needs of child survivors. According to the Child Protection Information Management System, notably, 1 in 2 reported incidents recorded involve child marriage. The trend of Child marriage was observed to have increased from 10% in quarter 2 to 28% in quarter 3. Services provided by child protection agencies for child survivors of GBV are; GBV case management, Psychosocial support/mental health, Socio-economic reintegration, and awareness raising on grave violations, such as conflicts related sexual violence against children.

Challenges include the fact that cases of GBV against children are grossly under-reported, limited number of partners providing GBV services, no reprisals for perpetrators, which further discourages survivors from reporting incidents. Key recommendations derived from the session are:

#### ***Recommendations***

- i. Stronger interaction and coordination in data and information sharing between Child Protection (CPIMS) and gender based violence (GBVIMS) should be promoted by the GBV Sub-Sector.
- ii. The legal system needs to be strengthened through the development/application of legal instruments, in order to stop the trend in early marriage.

### **Structured Donor Dialogue on Outcome 4**

This session, which directly links to Outcome 4 of the road map, had the objective of providing the current donor status on the road map, strengthening engagement with donors to improve the response, providing update information on the development of the donor checklist and identifying issues that donors would like to explore in 2019.

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Speaking on behalf of ECHO, Thomas Conan stated that donors are ready to fund GBV and protection projects but implementing partners need to identify the donors and knock on their doors in order to get the required support. He noted that the humanitarian situation in Nigeria is one of the best funded as it attracts the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) best donor response at the global level and the best funded (1<sup>st</sup>) in Africa. He reiterated that since the funds are never sufficient, partners must always be prepared to convince donors on what they have been doing, how they are doing it and what they intend to achieve within a time period. Partners should not shy away from identifying the gaps and limitations when seeking for funding as itemizing these to increase the capacity of their organizations will contribute to achieving the results.



Speaking on the Berlin Conference on the Lake Chad Basin, Astrid Haaland stated that the conference that was held in September 2018 was a high level advocacy meeting organized by Norway, Germany and Nigeria. The panel discussion during the meeting came out strongly with the need to scale up prevention and response for GBV. Some countries made financial commitments, hence, there is need to follow up on their commitments.

Speaking on behalf of Canada, Christine Apio provided information on the progress of the donor checklist. She stated that Canada led a conversation with UNICEF and had had a consultative meeting to discuss the draft checklist with partners that made commitment to developing the donor checklist. The next consultation, which may hold in early 2019, will be broad-based to include other partners. Recommendations from the last consultation include the need for more context analysis to provide information on gaps and challenges the checklist should seek to address to ensure its relevance to northeast Nigeria situation.

### ***Recommendation:***

- i. Partners to identify donors, meet their specific criteria and knock on their doors with proposals for funding GBV programme interventions.
- ii. Countries that made financial commitment during the Berlin conference should be identified for follow-up.

### **Round Table Discussion/Dialogue on GBV Risk Mitigation with Sector Coordinators**

The main objective of this session was for sector coordinators to reflect and share information on specific measures taken to mitigate GBV risks and the key protection outcomes of measures taken, while also noting the challenges, good practices and lessons learned. Health, Food Security and Livelihoods, Camp Coordination & Camp Management (CCCM) sectors participated in the session.

CCCM stated that it had conducted trainings for partners on GBV mainstreaming in shelter and site planning at field level. Discussions were also held around the involvement of women

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in decision making in the camps governance structure. Global level trainers on CCCM were now in Nigeria .. Structures have also been put in place which encourages women to participate in camp governance. There has been about 30% increase in women representation in the camp governance structures (camp committees), however, according to the Shelter/CCCM sector, this number is still low calling for the need for continued efforts to address existing cultural barriers that hinders the participation of women, including those represented in the structures.

Food Security and Livelihoods sector reported that there has not been any specific GBV indicator so far in FSL sector activities, however, mechanisms to mitigate risks of GBV through provision of fuel efficient stoves, implemented through the Safe Access to Fuel and Energy programme (SAFE). By providing fuel efficient stoves, chances of women going out to fetch firewood and associated risks is reduced.

The Health sector in its presentation stated that GBV programming and response was an integral part of its activities and trainings were on-going for service providers. Health facilities were being improved in collaboration with other partners such as UNICEF, to better address the needs of sexual violence survivors. WHO was also training health workers for better service provision. There will be a GBV indicator, moving forward in the next year.

### ***Recommendations:***

- i. Partners need to scale up their activities to get the hard to reach areas covered.
- ii. Government and Partners should sensitize male stakeholders on the importance of women participation.

### **Round table discussion with Civil Society Organisations' (CSO) representatives and government actors on how best to effectively address capacity of local actors on GBV response, prevention and coordination**

The Executive Director of the Network of Civil Society Organizations in Borno (NECSOB), Ambassador Ahmed Shehu, facilitated this session. The purpose of the session was to understand how local actors can be better supported to effectively deliver quality GBV response and support coordination. This round table discussion links with outcome 3 of the Northeast Nigeria Road Map and is an extension of the outcome of consultation with CSOs. Members of the panel included the Directors of Women Affairs, (Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development of Borno and Adamawa States; heads of the Network of Civil Society Organizations of Adamawa and Yobe States; Borno State Director of Public Prosecution, Borno Ministry of Justice and UNFPA Adamawa State Programme Officer.



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It was noted from the discussions that the State Ministries of Women Affairs had deployed personnel to all Local Government Areas of the States. However, these personnel need to be trained on an on-going basis to be more productive. There was therefore a call for the capacity building of government structures, such as the Social workers and women development officers. Civil Society Organizations were identified as the conscience of the society and their role in holding Government and society accountable for actions was identified. While highlighting the lack of coordination between CSOs and the INGOs as a key challenge, which must be tackled, the panel stated that CSOs need to be supported by partners to follow up on GBV cases in court from investigation to prosecution, as this remains a major gap.

The discussion came out clearly that CSOs require organizational capacity building for effective response to GBV prevention, response and risk mitigation. This being done, CSOs can enhance the capacity of traditional leaders to create awareness on GBV prevention and response. CSOs have a rich pool of community volunteers who provide selfless services. Data is needed from the Police and government ministries to help shape programming. There is a need to address existing structural barriers that discourage the reporting of GBV incidents and the prosecution of perpetrators. Identifying key male champions to speak on issues of GBV passionately can go a long way in contributing positively to addressing the identified challenges. Panel members agreed that CSOs have a big role to play in pushing for the amendment of laws. Such structural barriers include the absence of a gender desk in police stations and the paucity of female lawyers and judges in court.

On the available opportunities for CSOs develop, the CSOs feel strongly that they do not experience donor flexibility, which can encourage their development. They are treated with the same criteria set for well-enhanced INGOs and this becomes a disadvantage for them in engaging with donors.

Government was called upon to take lead responsibility as duty bearers and recognize the role of CSOs as first responders and work effectively with them. Government's role in censoring CSOs to ensure their credibility was also emphasized. INGOs were requested to consider translating 3-5 days training sessions, which is the current norm, to sustainable capacity building of CSOs with mentoring and partnership collaboration. Donors were requested to be flexible and apply specific context criteria in dealing with CSO.

### ***Recommendations:***

- i. CSOs should spearhead the advocacy needed to create structural changes such as establishment of a gender desk at police stations, assigning of GBV cases to female lawyers and judges in courts and advocacy for enactment of laws critical to elimination of GBV.
- ii. There is a need for the Government and the INGOs to support the CSOs in their activities so that they become more efficient.
- iii. Partners should strengthen the capacity of CSOs to help follow-up cases in court, from investigations to final judgement.

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- iv. Government, UN agencies and INGOs should build capacity of local NGOs, CBOs, local structures (women groups, youth groups, traditional rulers) with innovative approaches such as mentoring, for sustainable impact.
- v. Partners should build the capacity of the Ministry of Women Affairs on GBV Coordination to improve coordination in States and across LGAs.
- vi. INGOs and the CSOs need to work closely together for the mentoring of the CSOs. Local partners should ensure to engage with stronger partners so their capacity can be built adequately. There should be options for a pool of trainers who will in time continue to train the CSOs and this may go beyond operational programming to academic engagements with universities.
- vii. Partners should explore opportunity to support attachment of experts/consultants to mentor/coach CSOs in order to strengthen their technical capacity, data and financial management systems.

### **Gender and Equality in Relation to the Nigeria Road Map**

Facilitating this session, the UN Women Policy Specialist on Humanitarian, Peace and Security; Ms. Salamatu Kemokai, showed the link between GBV and gender inequality in relation to the Nigeria Road map. She defined gender equality as the equal enjoyment by women, girls, men and boys of rights, opportunities, resources, rewards and quality of life while GBV is any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will, and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and females. She identified power and control as the underlying factors driving gender inequality. Consistently, women and girls are most vulnerable while men have greater access to resources. Therefore, there is need for humanitarian actors to pay attention to gender issues when implementing their programs. Gender mainstreaming is the collective responsibility of all humanitarian actors. Tackling gender inequality is critical to addressing the root cause of GBV. But then, the leaders/government must ensure to support such conversations and be more proactive in addressing GBV.

She advocated for a gender-responsive programming and GBV prevention in humanitarian setting which entails conducting a gender assessment to know how men, women, boys and girls are affected differently; identifying who benefits or is being marginalized; addressing factors contributing to long-standing inequalities between men and women; applying the "gender lens" or "equality eyes"; establishing GBV programmes at the earliest possible intervention and designing innovative programmes to reach out to male survivors of sexual violence. She ended by pointing out clearly, that to end GBV, we must end inequalities and discrimination between men and women

To address gender inequality, a number of recommendations were made which UN Women was leading in the humanitarian response:

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### *Recommendations:*

- I. Provide economic empowerment for women to enhance protection from SEA, GBV and increase their access to justice/other services
- II. Provide trainings on gender in humanitarian action
- III. Mainstream gender in HNO/HRP
- IV. Establishment/Coordination of the Gender Technical Team
- V. Continual advocacy on gender equality, including through HeForShe campaign

### **Engagement with the military actors on GBV/Protection issues**

This session was jointly facilitated by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Protection Sector (UNHCR), National Human Rights Commission and Borno State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA).

The Protection Sector Coordinator, Ms. Goretty Omala, stated that they work very closely with the military and has had several trainings for them. According to her, many of the military officers had been to international peace keeping missions and were abreast with international protection laws which often made interaction easy. However, when protection breaches are noticed, they are often reported formally. Government had responded to protection disorders reported against the military in 2016 by redeploying over 200 soldiers from the northeast and taking disciplinary actions against those involved. When solutions are not forthcoming, reports are often escalated to the office of the Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator and then the Humanitarian Coordinator in Abuja. In terms of screening practices around the IDP camps, a lot of tangible progress has been made but there is room for more.

The representative of OHCHR, Mr. Peter Mefor, stated that they have been engaging with the military in a very progressive fashion. The military has been trained over the past two years on protection issues. There have been commitments by the government to take action on the military involvement on GBV related offences. Discussions around CJTF getting involved as perpetrators of GBV or protection is being addressed and there is a continuous follow-up on the same. GBV awareness was created within the security personals, security personnel were sensitized on safety of survivors and a network was established for security personals responding to GBV.

According to the Executive Chairman of Borno SEMA, Haj. Yabawa Kolo, the agency continues to work closely with the security actors in relation to vulnerable groups as first line responders. During food or NFIs distribution, girls are usually exploited, therefore camp managers and security actors in collaboration with SEMA and other partners, often ensure their safety. Crowd control sometimes lead to abuse of human rights people, including women as security agents flog people to check the disorderliness. Other areas of concern are separated and unaccompanied minors where camp officials and security Agencies have greater roles to play in ensuring their safety. SEMA sometimes hold press conferences to protect the rights of



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women and girls in IDP camps by sounding a warning on the need to respect their rights and what cannot be tolerated.

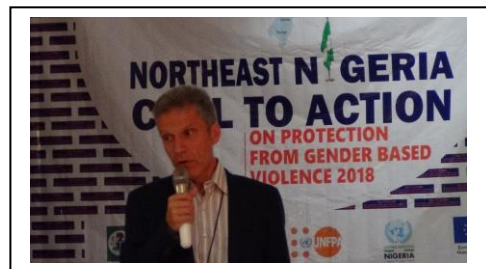
Representing the National Human Rights Commission, Mrs. Ngozi Okore stated that the Commission is also committed to working with security actors. However, security actors due to their public reporting of human rights violation often resist them.

The key challenges faced with the security actors is their lack of trust of protection actors, denial of reports of abuse and delay in getting their approval for timely protection response. There is also paucity of funds for training of security actors.

### **Recommendations**

- i. There is need to include the military on the GBV working group to gain trust.
- ii. Continual advocacy for access to justice and strengthening of security system for GBV survivors

**Remarks by the Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator:** The Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. Yassine Gaba, who arrived on the second day of the meeting due to exigencies of duty, made his remarks. He identified Call to Action as a long-term initiative and commended its commitment to fight a battle that needs to be won - GBV. While emphasizing the need for INGOs and CSOs to work together, he stated that scaling up the existing local capacities and ensuring that the right information gets to others at all times must be kept in perspective by all actors. He also requested partners to keep focus on the new way of working, giving priority to the centrality of protection, and ensure that GBV is mainstreamed into each sector activities.



### **5. Meeting Feedback Evaluation**

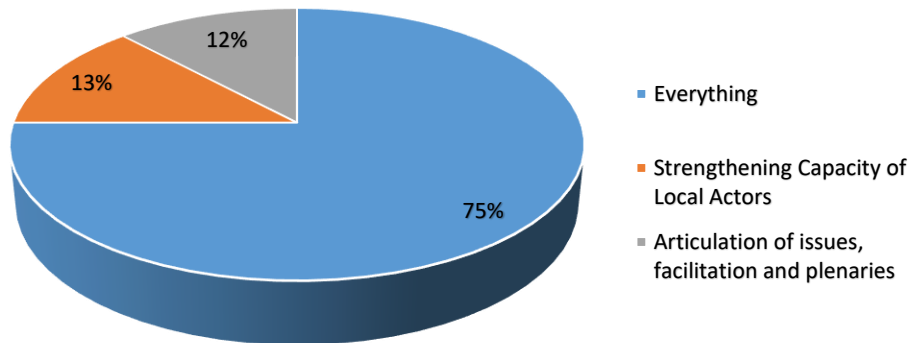
In a short post-meeting survey conducted in which feedback on the 2018 End-Year Review meeting was sought from participants, responses were obtained on what participants thought of the meeting in terms of organization and content and their suggestions to improve the content of future similar meeting engagements were suggested.

On what went well, 75% of respondents said everything about the meeting was fine with them while 13% said that they think the session on strengthening the capacity of local actors was the most outstanding part of the meeting. Twelve percent of respondents feel that Articulation of issues, facilitation and the plenary sessions were most outstanding. This is shown in figure 1 below:

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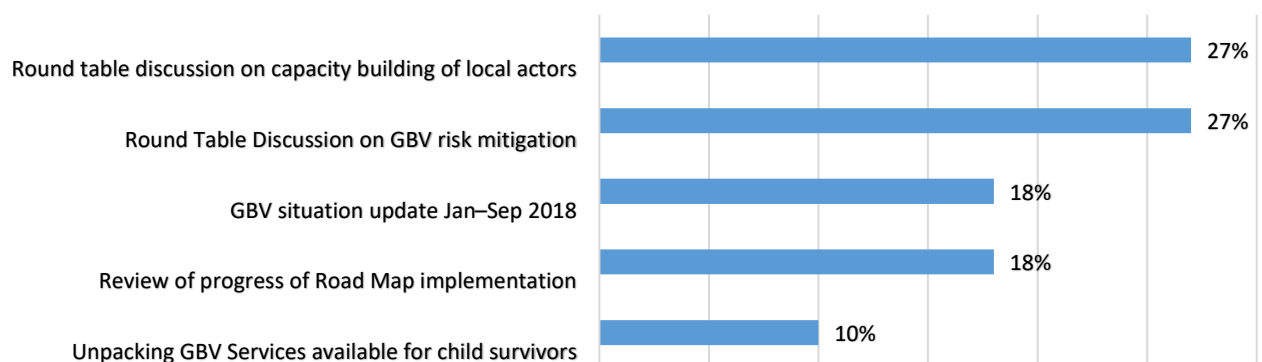
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Figure 1: What Went Well



When the thematic sessions were separated and respondents were asked to choose the thematic session they considered most useful to them, round table discussion on capacity building of local actors and round table discussion on GBV risk mitigation were the 2 highest scoring thematic sessions with 27% each. These were followed by GBV situation update and review of road map implementation progress (18% each) and unpacking GBV service availability for children (10%). Figure 2 (below) illustrates this.

Figure 2: Thematic sessions considered most useful



Participants suggested that the thematic areas of future meetings should include sessions on GBV Coordination and supervision, skills acquisition for at risk women and girls for empowerment, engagement with policy makers at State and LGA level for effective GBV programming, child sexual violence in IDP camps and how lack of access to livelihood services promotes women and girls' engagement in survival sex.

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One participant suggested that there should be an additional outcome in the road map to speak on inclusion of GBV as a course of study in an institutional learning center to understand what GBV is all about and the violation of human rights by such act and encourage breaking the silence.

### **6. Conclusion**

The meeting ended with a call for Call to Action partners to brace up to implement the recommendations from the meeting which will be shared when the report is finalized.

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### Annexes:

Annex 1: Photo Gallery

Annex 2: Nigeria Call to Action Stakeholders lists

Annex 3: Programme Agenda