



WEST AFRICA NETWORK FOR PEACEBUILDING
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TWISTS AND TURNS IN THE 2015 NIGERIAN ELECTION: THE POSTPONEMENT SCENARIOS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

On February 24, 2015, an estimated 8.8 million Nigerians were expected to go to the polls to cast their vote in the federal election that includes electing the President. However, on February 25, 2015, a week in the elections, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) through its Chairman, Professor Attahiru Jega, announced postponement of the election of consultations with a wide range of

stakeholders. Although INEC has stated its readiness to conduct free, fair and credible elections, despite the allegations and widely reported non-attendance of government voters and by opposition of the registered opposition. The postponement of the election came after the National Council of State members and followed reports by the National Security Adviser (NSA) that security will not be guaranteed on February 28 because of the identified Islamic rebels in the

2.0 TWISTS AND TURNS IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS

The postponed elections have come under heavy criticism by Nigerians and the international community given the electoral turmoil, financial and material resources already committed towards the conduct of the elections. The criticism was on the possible political interference of the government, a situation marked by eleven political parties allied together under Coalition of Progressives Political

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