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# A Call for a Comrade Citizen

A Strategy for the Commoditization of the Office of the Comrade

#### Context

The present trajectory of the coming 2023 electioneering period has all the signs and signals of going the way things went during the 2018 elections. Going by the experience of what eventually played out in 2019, and given the new reality of having the good fortune of various well organised groups now openly taking an anti-establishment posture, it is in our opinion, incumbent upon comrades to come up with a umbilical cord of a discuss that seamlessly brings together the disparate voices currently out there.

#### **Current State**

The Nigerian political space has now reached a point where a sizeable number of the members of the public are now reasonably sensitised as to the true nature of their inner yearnings. Individually, groups like EndSARS, RevolutionNow, TiB, Oduduwa agitators, IPOB, to mention but a few, are individually doing a stellar job of showing their utter contempt for the present state of penury and subjugation of the masses of the country of Nigeria. They are all visibly showing their desire for a bright and better future. However, the operative word is "individually". This individuality has also inadvertently helped to keep all these groups seeking change from being able to change the narrative by coming together to use their inertia to set the scene for the next chapter in the current unfolding play.

## Challenges

- ❖ The current puppet masters are calling the shots mainly because they have been able to dictate the narrative on top of their having all the instruments of coercion at their disposal.
- ❖ The various groups of people on ground who could really make a difference have become apathetic towards the critical subject of civic duty.
- The people in the diaspora who would happily help in any way they can have been made to accede to being helpless, inconsequential and without influence.

### Recommendations

- Experienced groups (like TiB) should create new virtual revolutionary groupings that cut across and encompass various elements from the vast number of existing groups agitating for a better future for the peoples inhabiting the geographical expression called Nigeria, to cover multiple areas of influence that are of common interest to the different groups of people.
- Open channels of communication with each of the bona fide change seeking groups.
- Create a lottery system where the proceeds go directly into fixing infrastructure issues. The randomly chosen infrastructure issues to be fixed are to be called out before people start contributing towards the lottery.
- ❖ Take on the issue of how the revolutionary groups would be running government, if they were in government, or when they get into government. To this end, build out shadow

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government teams that are peculiar to each region, perhaps using some of the good work already done by Adeyinka Grandson and Pat Utomi in their books on regional government and the economy respectively, as suitable guard rails.

- Bring on-board people like Dele Ogun, Dele Farotimi, Tony Nnadi etc., to start an eternal conversation about restructuring and the return to regional governance that will serve as the backup plan for the groups actively seeking autonomy.
- Bring on-board people who have served in paramilitary roles before to come and talk about strategy for quickly bringing the present insecurity situation under control.
- ❖ Take on a theme song like Teckno "Better" that has revolutionary lyrics, and speaks to all the complaints of the various revolutionary groups, whilst also having renditions that cut across ethnicity and religion.

### **Teams**

The intention should be to create the following virtual groups as soon as possible across the revolutionary groups agitating for a reprieve from the odious and onerous terms and conditions of the present British Special Purpose Vehicle called Nigeria.

- IT Solutions Team
- IT Operations Team
- Infrastructure Engineering Team
- Electrical/Telecoms Engineering Team
- Mechanical Engineering Team
- IPOB Liaison Team
- ❖ IDU Liaison Team
- Oduduwa Liaison Team
- Civil Society Liaison Team
- Liberation Theology Team
- Worker Cooperatives Team
- Regional Government Team
- New Federal Constitution Team
- Insecurity Curtailing Team
- Kremlin Liaison Team

### Rationale

The revolutionary groups need to be in a position whereby anyone with a legitimate grievance, should feel free to, as well as find it easy to register their discontent or displeasure with the system directly through a team that helps to spread the message amongst and across all the groups.

Furthermore, anyone or group seeking to effect a change in the material circumstances of the life of people (especially when it comes to communal infrastructure), should naturally feel the virtual groups created to be the most effective platform for realising their desires for their people.

## **Next Steps**

- Review the options around the functionality available in the current group website.
- Review options available for bulk sending of messages directly to citizens via SMS/WhatsApp/Telegram.

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Review options around the use of satellite infrastructure, Broadband Over Power Lines etc., for alternative means of internet connectivity, if the incumbents were to go down the route of shutting down the internet, at some point during the ongoing electioneering cycle.

Engage the various revolutionary teams in the working on nominating the worst roads to see what can be done to bring the local citizens together with good Samaritans to achieve a level of improvement to the local infrastructure issues being showcased for their notoriety.

## **Appendix**

#### Example citizen participation web application

https://fixmyarea4us.org/faq

#### The Teckno Better revolutionary song

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLN4cXbkKREtpWjhzlkBO8jmovKl97jYX7

#### Books by Adeyinka Grandson

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Kindle-Store-Adeyinka-Shoyemi/s?rh=n%3A341677031%2Cp\_27%3AAdeyinka+Shoyemi

#### Books by Pat Utomi

https://www.amazon.co.uk/s?k=pat+utomi&i=stripbooks&crid=25WZDDRXK3JKM&sprefix=pat+utomi%2Cstripbooks%2C59&ref=nb\_sb\_noss

#### Books by Dele Ogun

https://www.amazon.co.uk/s?k=Dele+Ogun&i=stripbooks&crid=16CEB77QE5QGX&sprefix=dele+ogun%2Cstripbooks%2C104&ref=nb\_sb\_noss\_2

#### Books by Dele Farotimi

https://www.amazon.co.uk/s?k=Dele+Farotimi&i=stripbooks&crid=2WW5FQSBD0X6G&sprefix=dele+farotimi%2Cstripbooks%2C114&ref=nb\_sb\_noss

#### Books by Tope Fasua

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Books-Tope-Fasua/s?rh=n%3A266239%2Cp\_27%3ATope+Fasua

#### Books by Other authors

https://www.amazon.co.uk/BRAIN-POWER-ECONOMIC/dp/1796347728/ref=sr\_1\_1?crid=3T30KPAPRAN42&keywords=Ayinde+fabun mi&qid=1644111480&s=books&sprefix=ayinde+fabunmi%2Cstripbooks%2C105&sr=1-1 Classification: Internal Green Paper Page 4 of 4

## Inspiration

Satoshi Nakamoto (www.bitcoin.org)

✓ A <u>purely peer-to-peer version</u> of electronic cash would allow online payments to be sent directly from <u>one party to another without going</u> through a financial institution.

Lord Sumption (former UK Supreme Court Justice "Reith Lectures")

✓ There are some <u>inalienable rights</u> which human beings enjoy, not by the largesse of the state, not by the forbearance of their fellow citizens, but because they are <u>inherent in their humanity</u>.