## Curbing Terrorism and Violence in Nigerian Society: The Role of Information Professionals

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#### Abstract

This study investigated the roles of information professionals in curbing terrorism and violence in the Nigerian society. It adopted both the quantitative and qualitative research approaches, with three specific research objectives. Twenty high ranking information professionals (librarians) were randomly selected from four states in South-South Nigeria, namely; Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River and Rivers states. Published statistical data obtained from the Global Conflict Tracker (2021) and semi-structured interview schedule, which involved face-to-face interactions with the respondents to elicit in-depth and firsthand information, were used for the study. The statistical data obtained from the Global Conflict Tracker (2021) were analysed quantitatively to explain the trends of attacks in Nigeria between 2005 and 2020, while responses from the semi-structured interview schedule on the roles of information professionals and factors militating against their involvement in curbing terrorism and violence in Nigeria, were qualitatively analysed using subjective headings. Among others, the study identified that major factors militating against information professionals' involvement in curbing terrorism and violence in Nigeria include: financial challenges, poor interest in the fight against terrorism and violence, lack of strategic knowledge and on the needed skills to combat terrorism and violent crimes, inadequate supporting facilities and infrastructure, among others. Based on the findings, it was recommended that governments at all levels should provide necessary supports including adequate financial resources and facilities to information professionals involved with the fight against terrorism and violent crimes, while information professionals should develop special interest and demonstrate personal involvement in activities that facilitate the fight against terrorism and violence in the Nigerian society.

# *Keywords:* Terrorism, Information Professionals, Library Information Services, Nigerian Society

#### Introduction

The act of terrorism and violence related vices in most countries of the world including Nigeria has assumed an alarming dimension which requires very urgent and sincere attention. The incessant bombings, killings, blowing of oil pipelines, kidnapping, and other forms of attacks have remained at the front burner of discourse in most Nigerian homes and media outlets today. The Nigerian government and foreign organizations have exerted concerted efforts towards curbing terrorism and violence by way of interventions like training of security personnel, procurement of ammunitions, providing health care services and relief materials among others. Realistically, these efforts and many others have become more likely options adopted to remedy the devastating consequences of the menace. Curbing terrorism or violent attacks in any society requires a conscious and well-planned approach involving the government, elites, civil and public servants, businessmen, media groups, students, rural dwellers, etc.

It takes a collective responsibility of people in all walks of life to curb terrorism and violence. Information professionals seem to be at the centre stage in this clarion call considering their duties and responsibilities around information circle. Information professionals include, but are not limited to librarians, knowledge managers, information officers, information brokers and consultants, curators, information systems specialists. Certainly, information remains an asset for result-oriented holistic fights against terrorism and sustaining peaceful co-existence in society. It is believed that when people are conscious of relevant facts about terrorism and its devastating effects on personal and societal development, recalcitrant and unruly behaviour could be checked. Information professionals whose ethical foundation and convention focus on information gathering, organization, and delivery could be useful in the fight against terrorism and violence.

Information professionals acquire special or technical knowledge within the practice of librarianship, a profession concerned with acquiring, organizing, and delivery of dependable information to the right people and in the right format (Joyia, 2019). They are saddled with the responsibility of making available and accessible information and services that will inform, educate, and enlighten the society on all issues including terrorist attacks and their adverse effects on human life, private and public property, economy, health, education, governance, peaceful co-existence, development and growth of the nation.

Terrorist activities in whatever form they manifest are intended to create terror, fear, fatalities and feelings of chaos among the people; and this should be handled holistically and conscientiously by everyone right-thinking members of society. A close observation of the Nigerian society reveals that terrorist attacks have been on the increase thus, causing a lot of unrest and destruction in the country (Iorliam et al., 2021). This should be the concern of all including information professionals. It is important to mention here that seamless access to information and knowledge on these menaces could help a long way. At this point, this study is apt to investigate the roles of information professionals in curbing terrorism and violence in the Nigerian society.

### **Research Questions**

- i. What are the trends of terrorism and violence in Nigeria?
- ii. What constitute the roles of information professionals in curbing terrorism and violence in Nigeria?
- iii. What factors militate against information professionals' involvement in curbing terrorism and violence in Nigeria?

#### **Review of Related Literature**

#### **Conceptualizing Terrorism and Violence**

Terrorism and violence are becoming rampant in the modern society and no country of the world is totally free from the scourge that comes with the situation. Terrorism and violence have often been used by many authors to describe similar state activities, but they are not interchangeable. Terrorism is characterized by the use of violence against civilians, with the express desire to create panic, fear and uncertainty in the population. Pratt (2010) made a nuanced examination of what each term actually means and revealed that while closely related, they are nevertheless analytically discrete. The particular ways in which terrorism and violence are different and/or related depends on how they are discussed, the situations that surround them, and the severity of the situation. Also, Igbini (2020) notes that most people use terrorism to describe insurgency. Hassan (2014) and Amalu (2015) argue that insurgency is not terrorism despite that the two concepts are associated with violent actions carried out by individuals and group of individuals. However, this paper considers violence, insurgency, and terrorism as tripod concepts in the same stalk with terrorism being the main axis.

The concept of terrorism is viewed differently by different writers from different perspectives. Chinwokwu (2012) asserts that scholars of various disciplines view terrorism from different approaches depending on what ideology is applied or whose ox is gored. This explains the idea of "one man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter" which has led to enormous conclusion that defining terrorism is a subjective activity about assigning negative connotation to one's opponents (Garrison in Chinwokwu, 2012). However, terrorism both as practiced and justified is a politically motivated tactic involving the use of threat, violence, or force on a government, community, or any segment of the society with the primary purpose of cursing instability and insecurity with a view to get their specific demands.

According to Osewa (2019), terrorism can be classified under three groups – state terrorism, domestic terrorism, and international or transnational terrorism. The author explains that state terrorism is essentially a government rule through violence and fear often targeted at those who oppose the status quo. State terrorism could simply be described as a terrorist act on a state or government by state or government. It is also considered as terrorism committed by governments against perceived enemies, and can be directed externally against adversaries in the international domain or internally against domestic enemies (Martin, 2016). International or transnational terrorism is viewed as terrorism that spills over onto the world's stage where targets are selected because of their value as symbols of international interests, either within the home country or across state boundaries (Martin, 2016). International or transnational terrorism usually represents a "spills over" conflict into the international arena as a way to attract the attention of the international community to pay attention to the grievances of parties to a domestic conflict (Martin, 2016). Terrorism, irrespective of the form is likely to lead to insecurity, transfer of legitimacy, death, serious injuries to persons, damage to public and private property, and major economic loss, among others. This high order crime against humanity has a far-reaching psychological repercussion beyond the immediate victim or target.

The motives and motivations of terrorist activities in all parts of the world including Nigeria revolve around political agitation, ideological differences from that of the constituted authorities, regional and national demands, religious beliefs, and pecuniary needs among others. One could say that the seed of animosity resulting in divide and rule attitude, social inequality, social injustice, oppression, exploitation, relative deprivation, marginalization, poor representation of political office holders fuel terrorist attacks in most situations. The act of terrorism, has brought untold hardship, insecurity, loss of lives and property, and lots more on the country Nigeria and its citizenry. The attempt by a young Nigerian Farouk Umar Abdul Mutallab to bomb a US Detroit airplane led to Nigeria to be blacklisted as a terror nation and the 6th risk country in the world (Dankamo, 2010). Multiple terrorist attacks by Islamic fundamentalist group known as Boko Haram were recorded at various states in the Northern part of Nigeria. This group attacked Abuja Police Headquarters, UN Office in Abuja, and many other places like schools, churches, and universities (Kamer, 2022; Sasu, 2022).

The incessant attacks by Boko Haram or similar groups have claimed responsibility

for several terror attacks, including kidnapping of 276 female students in Chibok Secondary School in 2014 (Varrella, 2021), killing of 70 civilians in 2020 (GOV.UK, 2020) and loss of thousands of property worth billions of Naira. Iorliam et al. (2021) investigated the activities of terrorism in Nigeria from 1970 - 2019 using the Apriori algorithm model. The authors observed that the number of attacks increased tremendously 2011-2019 with the highest frequency attacks in the villages, cities, towns, and suburb. The research also revealed that guns and weapons are usually used by terrorist attackers to destroy lives and property in Nigeria which is as a result of free influx of weaponry in the country. The findings infer that some attacks were successful, lasted longer than 24 hours and were prevalent in Borno and Adamawa states.

#### **Reactions to Terrorism and Violence**

The acts of terrorism and violence could be reacted to differently by different people, at different time. Such reaction could be determined by some forms of experiences which an individual has about the menace and the perceived effects of the acts of terrorism. However, Schmid (2023) observed that individual reactions to acts of terrorism includes those who are:

- i. Terrorised and intimidated
- ii. Panicking and confused
- iii. Frightened and showing loss of confidence
- iv. Worrying and distressed
- v. Indifferent or wavering
- vi. Angered, with hardened opposition to the terrorist cause
- vii. Positively impressed by the short-term impact of the terrorist act
- viii. Sympathetic to the terrorists' cause
- ix. Supportive of terrorist tactics
- x. Seeking to join terrorist organization.

#### Activities that Encourage Terrorism and Violence

There are various activities undertaken by individuals, religious organizations, communities, political, traditional and religious leaders, or governments that could encourage terrorism and violent attacks in the society. These activities aim at providing a safe haven for terrorist attacks or the establishment of terrorist organizations either consciously or unconsciously. Accordingly, Schmid (2023) highlights the various ways or activities which could encourage terrorism and violence to include:

- i. Advocating the use of terrorism in demonstrations, in mass media or on the internet.
- ii. Assisting terrorists in the collection of information and the distribution of propaganda.
- iii. Offering an alibi or other false testimony for a person accused of an act of terrorism.
- iv. Providing services to terrorists like a safe house for those on the run from the law.
- v. Donating money or paying ransom to terrorists or terrorist organisation.
- vi. Providing facilities and other assistance for the recruitment and training of new members of terrorist organisations.
- vii. Providing (false) identity papers and other services to terrorists.
- viii. Providing expert advice and intelligence to terrorist organisations.
- ix. Providing terrorists with logistical assistance and transport for crossing borders and/or reaching (target) destinations.

- x. Procuring weapons, ammunition and bomb-making materials for terrorists.
- xi. Providing personnel and operational assistance to terrorist organisations.
- xii. Freelancing on behalf of a terrorist group as 'lone wolf' or by joining a terrorist group directly.

#### The Role of Information Professionals in Curbing Terrorism and Violence

Information remains the most essential product needed by all stakeholders in the fight against terrorism and violence (Chorun et al., 2014). It serves as one of the viable tools through which the real integration of people, expertise, skills and other terrorism-fighting weapons could be brought together for actual cooperation and exchange in order to curb terrorist activities. Akwang (2013) posits that information is truly necessary for the liberation of people from the shackles of ignorance, misconceptions, economic stagnation, social unrest, political instability, and insurgency. In other words, terrorism and violence cannot be fought without timely, accurate, and relevant information which could be generated, disseminated, and delivered by information professionals.

State it aptly, nformation professionals are purveyors, creators, curators, analysts and managers of information that is fundamental in curbing terrorism and violence. Information professionals are typically information managers who are involved in all segments of the information transfer chain from information generation to information use. They are integral part of the information transfer chain, increasingly and constantly interacting with stakeholders in other areas of the society. They function variously as scholars, researchers, authors, speakers, publishers, abstractors, indexers, online vendors, information-on-demand-providers, and the likes. As a matter of fact, the roles of information professionals are central in the fight against terrorism and violence in all ramifications.

Though many individuals involved in information gathering and provision may erroneously be regarded as information professionals, but the term as used in this article focuses on the librarians. Librarians as information professionals refer to trained personnel in Library and Information Science with higher and sound academic background, professional knowledge, skills, competencies and service attitude suitable for the provision of varying information services to users (Akidi & Agbese, 2019). They possess higher academic qualifications and professional expertise, as well as play leadership roles such as provision of direction on how information services could best be provided in order to ensure that the social, educational, economic, political, security, and cultural needs of the people are satisfactorily met (Arua & Udoh, 2019). Librarians as information professionals play crucial roles in the generation, organization, processing, dissemination, preservation and conservation of information.

All things being equal, information professionals have numerous roles to play in curbing terrorism and violence. According to Mislan et al (2020); Vassilakaki and Moniarou-Papaconstantinou (2015), information professionals execute the role of information, collectors, organizers, disseminators, preservers, consultants, educators, sensitizers, mobilizers, advocates, collaborators, partners and facilitators to ensure the continuous upgrading of information generation, retrieval and use for the fight against terrorism and violence. Specifically, some of these roles and how they help in curbing terrorism and violence are briefly discussed under the following subheadings:

**i. Informational role:** Fundamentally, information professionals have a mandate of providing the public with adequate, accurate, easier, quicker, faster, and more convenient access to information on all subjects of human interests. They are duty bound to play effective role in generating and disseminating timely information on incidences of terrorism

and violent crimes as well as on how the public should be involved in neutralizing terror attacks. Information professionals can play this role through the provision of books, journals, reports, newspapers, magazines, current awareness services (CASs), selective dissemination of information services (SDIs), leaflets, handbills, fliers, bulletins, and other information sources pertaining to terrorism and violence. In fact, information professionals should be up and doing in playing their informational roles since information is the most essential tool in every decision-making process by individuals, institutions, governments, and non-governmental organizations toward countering terrorism.

**ii.** Advocacy role: Advocacy is a vital role of the modern information professionals. Advocacy is a multifaceted process that involves an everchanging set of actors, ideas, and agendas with the aim of identifying issues, selection and formulation of solutions, creation of awareness, policy action, and evaluation (Obar, Zube & Lampe, 2012). Advocacy as a role of information professionals in curbing terrorism and violence gear towards influencing decisions within a political, religious, economic, social and cultural setting for a change of ideologies, beliefs and philosophies that may be promoting or tend to promote terrorism and violent crimes. Information professionals can embark on advocacy towards curbing terrorism and violence through various activities such as public awareness on the ills and effects of terrorism and violence, youth sensitization, community mobilization against terrorism and violence, among others.

**iii. Educational role:** Information professionals guide and/or educate the public on intelligence gathering, literacy skills and tools, information evaluation and effective use of information with the aim of curtailing terrorism and violent crimes. This role includes sensitizing the public on the need to report terrorist gatherings, hide-outs, terrorist financing and sponsorships, as well as planned terrorist attacked. They can also sensitize the public campaigns, lecturers, and talk shows on the activities of terrorists. As educators, information professionals can teach the public on how to find relevant information from various media such as books, journals, newspapers, magazines, reports, Internet, organizational websites, and other sources of information on terrorism related issues and how to use such information to evade any covert or overt involvement in terrorism and violence. As a matter of fact, it is believed that when the public understands how and where to seek for relevant information, how to evaluate and use the information relating to crime activities, it will help them to make wise decisions terrorism and violent crimes.

**iv. Facilitation role:** Facilitation role is an essential responsibility of information professionals in curbing terrorism and violence. It involves providing learning spaces which could be physically or remotely; organizing information resources and facilities; providing relevant information services; ensuring adequate manpower supply; mobilization, allocation and utilization of financial resources; implementing relevant programmes toward combating terrorism and violence, among others. This role requires brainstorming, effective negotiation and communication between various stakeholders such as perceived terrorists and their sponsors, religious, cultural and political leaders, governments, and other interested-persons.

v. Research role: Research is a vital process through which new knowledge can be

created and shared. It involves a systematic investigation of a problem, literature search, data collection and analysis, interpretation of findings and communication of new knowledge. It helps in digging deep into the causes, effects, and consequences of terrorism and violent crimes in order to proffer solutions to the menace without bias. Thus, information professionals can help in curbing terrorism and violence by engaging in quality and in-depth research activities on issues relating to terrorism and violence in order to find lasting solution to the scourge. The research findings may be effectively communicated to the public across various forms and media such as oral communication processes, publications in books, journals, as reports, press releases, news conferences or media chats, etc.

vi. **Extension role:** Information professionals also provide extension services to the public as one of the ways to facilitate the fight against terrorism and violent crimes. Extension services refer to the special information services which are undertaken with the aim of reaching larger groups of people who might otherwise be unaware of vital information services through group lectures, reading circles discussion societies, film shows, public talks, and book displays in order to make people more informed, educated, and stimulating the desire for reading (Shukla, 2010; Yahaya & Abba, 2017). Through the extension role of information professionals, crucial information on terrorism and violent crimes could be provided to the illiterate and literate adults, children, distance learners, dumb and deaf, faculty members, research scholars, students, old people, the physically and visually impaired, the hospitalized and the institutionalized people. This role of information professionals has the potential of helping the public with necessary education, skills and knowhow on how to detect terrorists' movements and gatherings as well as effect a change in their attitude on the need to report terrorist groups and activities in the neighbourhood to relevant authorities such as security agencies.

### Methodology

The study adopted both quantitative and qualitative research approaches to achieve the research objectives. This implies published statistical data and interview sessions with select information professionals (librarians) randomly chosen by the researcher from four states in South-South Nigeria, namely; Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River, and Rivers states. Twenty (20) high profile information professionals (librarians) were selected and interviewed across the four (4) states by the researcher. The justification for using 20 high profile information professionals was to elicit reliable information based on their experiences, competence and knowledge with the best possible convenience to achieve the purpose of the study. The data collected from the Global Conflict Tracker (2021) were analysed quantitatively to determine the percentages on the trends of terrorism in Nigeria between 2005-2020 while responses from the semi-structured interview schedule on the roles of information professionals on curbing terrorism and violence in Nigerian and factors militating against information professionals' involvement in curbing terrorism and violence in Nigeria were qualitatively analysed using subjective headings.

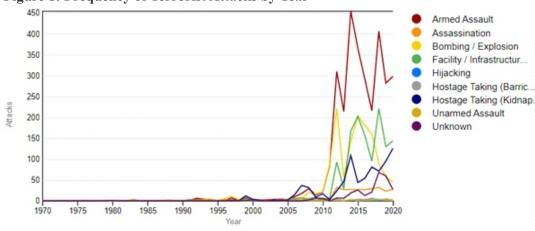
#### **Results of the Findings**

The results of the findings are presented quantitatively and qualitatively in accordance with the adopted research approach under three (3) subheadings as shown below:

# Research Question 1: What are the trends of terrorism and violence in Nigeria? Trends of Terrorism in Nigerian Society by Years and Attack Type with a Bar

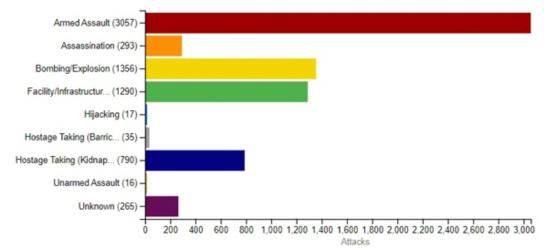
#### Chart

The trend of terrorism in Nigeria is here presented with statistical data extracted from the Global Terrorism Database. The Figures 1 and 2 below reveals the frequency of terrorist attacks by year and attack type that have occurred in Nigeria from 2005-2020 as reported by Global Conflict Tracker (2021). Figures 1 and 2 show that terrorism crept into Nigeria between 1990 and 2005 with astronomic growth to the present state where every part of the country is experiencing one form of terrorist attack or the other with diverse consequences. From available records, terrorism and preponderant violent attacks varies from attacks of persons, institutions, villages, and public facilities. These Figures show the frequency of terrorist attacks by years and attack type in Nigeria:









Data from the figures 1 and 2 above show the various form of terrorist activities and violent crimes such as armed assault, assassination, bombing/explosion, hijacking, hostage taking/kidnapping, and unarmed assault, among others. The figures 1 and 2 reveal that armed assault on individuals (civilians and security personnel targets) was the most frequent form of terrorist attack with about 3057 incidents and the greatest frequency of occurrence between 2005 to 2020 in Nigeria. This was followed by the frequency of bombing/explosion, destruction of facilities/infrastructure and hostage taking/kidnapping which occurred about 1356, 1290 and 790 times, respectively, within the period under investigation. Cumulatively, the overall level of terrorist attacks increased between 2011 to 2020, with the bombing of the United Nations house in Abuja by Boko Haram, which resulted in the killing of several persons.

Also, between 2011 to 2020, there were series of calculated terrorist and violent attacks in Nigeria, which the Global Conflict Tracker (2021) revealed to include: 12.2% in 2012; 14.1% in 2014; 12.6% in 2015; and 12.8% in 2018. Other studies further revealed that between 2011 to 2021, over 20,000 deaths and millions of Nigerians wounded and misplaced were attributable to terrorist attacks involving Boko Haram, Jihadist Fulani herdsmen, banditries, highway kidnappers, unknown gunmen, assassinations, and communal/ethnic clashes (Kamer, 2022; Sasu, 2022). It is also reported that Nigeria has one of the highest terrorist attacks worldwide, after Afghanistan (Sasu, 2022). Deducing from this situation, it becomes imperative for more involvement of information professionals in the dissemination and education of the public on why terrorism and other violent crimes should be collectively confronted. This can be achieved through the generation, gathering, processing, dissemination, sharing and preservation of tailormade information on terrorism and violent crimes by all information professionals.

# Research Question 2: What constitute the roles of information professionals in curbing terrorism and violence in Nigeria?

### Roles of Information Professionals on Curbing Terrorism and Violence in Nigerian

The transcribed interview responses showed that information professionals can play varied roles in curbing terrorism and violent crimes. Over 85% of the information professionals identified provision of information services through current awareness services and the use of fliers, handbills, posters, leaflets, bulletins, and publication of books, journals and reports as the major role of information professionals in curbing terrorism and violence in Nigeria. Majority of them also highlighted public enlightenment campaigns, youth sensitization on the danger of involving in terrorist activities, community mobilization programmes like talk shows, town hall meetings, public lecturers, and collaboration with community and religious leaders, including town criers as what information professionals can perform in the fight against terrorism and violence. Another segment of the information professionals interacted with equally harped on the provision of information literacy programmes such as training and educating the public on how to access, retrieve, use, preserve and communicate available information on terrorism related matters in order to reduce incidents terrorism activities. The finding agrees with Mislan et al. (2020); and, Vassilakaki and Moniarou-Papaconstantinou (2015), which revealed that the roles of information professionals in combating terrorism and violence include collection of information, dissemination of information, preservation of information, sensitization of the public, and collaboration with stakeholders to ensure the continuous spread of information

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on terrorism related activities.

#### **Research Question 3: What Factors Militate against Information Professionals' Involvement in Curbing Terrorism and Violence in Nigeria?**

# Factors Militating against Information Professionals' Involvement in Curbing Terrorism and Violence in Nigeria

As deduced from the transcribed interview responses, the major factors militating against information professionals' involvement in curbing terrorism and violence in Nigeria include: financial challenges, poor interest in the fight against terrorism and violence and lack of knowledge on the strategies needed to fight against terrorism and violent crimes. Other factors identified by the information professionals include: inadequate supporting facilities and infrastructure, lack of exposure, lack of support from governments, lack of cooperation by information professionals with other stakeholders, lack of involvement of information professionals such as librarians by governments for special training on intelligence gathering and lack of personal motivation and interest by information professionals to engage in activities relating the fight against terrorism and violence. The issue of perception on what constitute the core responsibilities of information professionals was also mentioned as a factor affecting their involvement in the fight against terrorism and violence.

#### **Conclusion and Recommendations**

Terrorism and violence are really ravaging the Nigerian society with severe economic, social, cultural and political consequences. In fact, with over 20,000 deaths and millions of Nigerians wounded and misplaced between 2011 to 2021 as a result of several terrorist and violent attacks such as Boko Haram, Jihadist Fulani herdsmen, and banditries, unknown gunmen, highway kidnappers, assassinations, communal and ethnic clashes, more hands have to be on deck to fight the menace. Particularly, it is obvious that the overall incidents of terrorism and violent attacks have been on the increase between 2011 to 2020. Thus, it becomes pertinent that information professionals move out of their comfort zone of primary assignments like the libraries, information centres, and offices to ensure that the information on terrorism and its impacts is made available and accessible to the right clients at the right time in the form most suitable for use. The findings of the study revealed that armed assault on civilians and security personnel targets was the most frequent form of terrorist attack, followed by bombing/explosion, destruction of facilities/infrastructure and hostage taking/kidnapping. The findings also showed that between 2005 to 2020, Nigeria had the highest frequency of terrorism activities and violent attacks in 2014, followed by 2018. The findings of the study also revealed that the roles of information professionals in curbing terrorism and violence include: provision of information services through current awareness services; public enlightenment campaigns and awareness creation; community mobilization programmes; provision of information literacy programmes such as training and educating the public on terrorism and violence.

#### **Recommendations**

i.

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations are made:

Governments at all levels should provide necessary supports including adequate financial resources and facilities to information professionals involved in activities that facilitate the fight against terrorism and violent crimes in Nigeria.

- ii. Governments in collaboration with Information Professional Associations (IPAs) like library associations should develop blueprints and strategies on the training of information professionals on intelligence gathering in order to equip them with necessary skills and competences to fight terrorism and violent crimes.
- iii. Information professionals should develop special interest and demonstrate personal involvement in activities that facilitate the fight against terrorism and violence. Such activities may include public enlightenment and awareness campaigns, community mobilization and youth sensitization programmes as well as other dedicated efforts toward curbing terrorism and violent crimes in the Nigerian society.
- iv. Information professionals should demonstrate high sense of willingness to cooperate with other stakeholders in the security agencies, media outfits, religious, governmental and non-governmental organizations involved in fight against terrorism and violence. This should be aimed at developing a win-win strategic information gathering and dissemination to enhance effective fight against terrorism and violence.

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