



International  
**Human Rights** Commission  
Transnational Intergovernmental Foundation



BRANCH IN NIGERIA



# IHRC NIGERIA

A Prelude to Africa's Cooperation and Reforms  
for Economic Development and Inclusive Leadership  
that Represents Africa



**H.E. Duru Hezekiah, PhD**  
Ambassador at Large and Head of Diplomatic Mission



**International  
Human Rights** Commission  
Transnational Intergovernmental Foundation



CHE-388.075.145

## **IHRC NIGERIA: A PRELUDE TO AFRICA'S COOPERATION AND REFORMS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP THAT REPRESENTS AFRICA**

The International Human Rights Commission (IHRC) under the absolute leadership of Secretary-General Prof h.c. Rafal Marcin Wasik is headed in Nigeria by H.E. Ambassador Dr. Duru Hezekiah. Ambassador Duru Hezekiah was officially appointed on the 16th of September 2022 after a comprehensive and legitimate background check on him came out clean. Before his official appointment, he was Acting Head of Mission IHRC Nigeria from April to September.

The International Human Rights Commission - IHRC is a Diplomatic Transnational Intergovernmental Organization and member of the "Migration and Home Affairs" Department of the European Commission, the executive and civil service of the European Union. An experienced, highly specialized peace negotiator and humanitarian aid provider; a self-financed, neutral, impartial, and independent organization with world headquarters in Zurich Geneva and Nigeria Office at 9 Cotonou Crescent Wuse Zone 6 FCT Abuja.

Dr. Duru Hezekiah was appointed the Ambassador at Large and Head of Diplomatic Mission IHRC Nigeria to uphold trust, foster collaboration, negotiate and resolve conflicts, and influence positive outcomes both in humanitarian interventions and advocacy between the Transnational Intergovernmental Organization- IHRC and the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Upon his assumption of office in 2022, he has engendered cooperation and reforms that spur Economic Development and Inclusive Leadership, an undaunted apperception in the history of IHRC in the Africa Continent.

A full list of antecedents will prove to be too extensive. However, I must constrain myself with the bare minimum. IHRC Nigeria, a Prelude to Africa's Cooperation and Reforms for Economic Development and Inclusive Leadership that Represents Africa is generally attributed in recognition of the unwavering commitments of H.E. Ambassador Dr Duru Hezekiah to the International Human Rights Commission.

### **1. Securing of Office**

While IHRC Nigeria Central Office was located at 12 Oke Agbe Street in Garki Abuja, a restricted apartment for carrying out the day-to-day activities of IHRC, reducing and berating our global identity. Against this background, H.E. Dr. Duru upon assumption of office with the knowledge of the IHRC Diplomatic Mission to Nigeria, identified the



undeserving environment and single-handedly sponsored the acquisition of a new office for IHRC Nigeria which has now relocated to 9 Cotonou Crescent Wuse Zone 6 FCT Abuja. The office is said to be a 5 bedroom Duplex, having two administrative parlors, 200 seater Capacity Conference Hall and well equipped with office facilities including technology and uninterrupted power supply

## **2. Improving Operations, Reducing Burnout**

To improve the day-to-day activities of the Organization and as well reduce burnout, H E. Dr. Duru employed not less than 12 staff who are directly responsible for carrying out activities of the Organization.

## **3. IHRC First Assembly**

Since the inception of IHRC in Nigeria, there has been little recognition of the Organization including affairs of the Special Monitoring Mission. Many State Zonal Volunteers Coordinators (ZVC) are not identified with the Central Office either, hence, a central control of activities and records of human rights abuses tends to be low until September 21st, 2022 where ZVCs across the Country were invited to the Central Office Abuja, for the First Assembly of IHRC members in Nigeria.

The meeting was an avenue to introduce H.E. Ambassador Dr. Duru Hezekiah at the new IHRC Ambassador at Large in Nigeria, familiarize and acquaint themselves with the scope of work and objectives of the International Human Rights Commission, and to present a strategic roadmap in moving forward.

## **4. Comprehensive Security Cooperation and Reforms**

In commemoration of the September 21st International Day of Peace, in the heel of insecurity, insurgency, banditry, and diversity in Nigeria, H.E. Dr. Duru implored the Federal Government of Nigeria on the need for a peaceful dialogue with agitators as a means of restoring normalcy and reinstating inclusiveness in the Nigerian society.

## **More details about it can be found on these links:**

<https://punchng.com/discuss-with-ipob-yoruba-agitators-ihrc-urges-fg/>

a.

<https://guardian.ng/news/dialogue-with-ipob-yoruba-nation-agitators-others-ihrc-tells-fg/>

b.

## **5. Humanitarian and Disaster Interventions**

The 2022 flooding experienced in Nigeria was intense and has been confirmed as Nigeria's worst flood disaster in a decade, and it was said to be worse than those of 2012 and 2018. IHRC Nigeria did not leave affected Nigerians during this devastating situation, but carried out participatory and damage assessment advocacy visits to some affected areas to



enhance national and global efforts in mitigating the flooding effects on Nigerians.

**a. More details about it can be found on these links:**

<https://tribuneonlineng.com/flooding-prioritise-disaster-relief-emergency-assistance-ihrc-urges/>

b.

<https://www.thecable.ng/flood-rights-group-calls-on-international-agencies-to-help-nigeria/amp>

c.

## **6. Nigeria at 62: IHRC Calls for Peaceful Coexistence and Inclusion**

H.E. Dr. Duru Hezekiah has never ceased to contribute his wealth of experience to national integration. During the 62nd Independence of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in 2022, he submitted that only peaceful coexistence and inclusiveness shall strengthen the nation's sense of solidarity.

**More details about it can be found on this link:**

<https://sgihrc.wordpress.com/2022/10/01/nigeria-at-62-ihrc-calls-for-peaceful-coexistence-and-inclusion/>

a.

## **7. Thrilling Activities of SMM's Commemoration of 16-Days of Activism for the Elimination of Violence Against Women Debouches**

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day. It was started by activists at the inaugural Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991 and continues to be coordinated each year by the Center for Women's Global Leadership. It is used as an organizing strategy by individuals and organizations around the world to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls. As part of efforts to uphold these objectives, H.E. Dr. Duru Hezekiah, through the Special Monitoring Mission led by the NVC, Elijah Vitus Echendu charged Officials of the Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) to adequately participate during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.

**More details about it can be found on this link:**

<https://sgihrc.wordpress.com/2022/11/25/ihrc-thrilling-activities-of-smm-commemoration-of-2022-intl-day-for-the-elimination-of-violence-against-women-debouches/>

a.

## **8. Over 200 Women and Girls Trained, Empowered in IDP Camp** Over 200 women and girls were trained and empowered in various skills and entrepreneurial programs organized by the International Human Rights Commission in collaboration with Broken



But Mendable Life Foundation (BBML) at IDP Camp Dwellers in Apo Area called the Malaysian Garden Abuja, in commemoration of the 2022 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. The training included Soap making, Vaseline making, and Adire making.

**More details about it can be found on this link:**

<https://sgihrc.wordpress.com/2022/11/26/ihrcc-smm-over-200-women-and-girls-trained-empowered-in-idp-camp-to-mark-global-day-elimination-of-violence-against-women-in-nigeria/>

a.

## 9. International Human Rights Day 2022

During the December 10th International Human Rights Day in 2022, IHRC said that the rights of Nigerians are serially abused given the high rate of poverty, dilapidated roads, epileptic power supply, and high cost of living among others. IHRC observed that the situation had pushed so many vibrant youths into seeking greener pastures abroad, a situation that has led to a brain drain in the country.

IHRC's Ambassador at Large and Head Diplomatic Mission, H.E. Ambassador Dr. Duru Hezekiah, who spoke during the 2022 universal declaration of Human Rights in Abuja, wondered why a country like Kenya could be enjoying constant power and Nigeria is groping in the dark despite its sufficient natural resources.

**More details about it can be found on this link:**

<https://sunnewsonline.com/rights-of-nigerians-serially-abused-ihrcc/>

a.

## 10. Prison Congestion: IHRC sues for Inmates' Rights.

H.E. Dr. Duru Hezekiah reiterated his commitment to upholding the rights of inmates, and directed the Special Monitoring Mission of the International Human Rights Commission (SMM IHRC) on the 10th August 2022, to Imo State National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA). The visit was led by the SMM IHRC National Coordinator Nigeria, Elijah Vitus, flanked by the presentation of gift items to inmates, skills acquisition training, and empowerment.

**More details about it can be found on these links:**

<https://sgihrc.wordpress.com/2022/08/12/ihrcc-gifts-inmates-clients-at-ndlea-imo-state-nigeria/>

a.

## 11. Continued Comprehensive Security Cooperation: IHRC Meets Nigeria Force Secretary, AIG Hafiz



The International Human Rights Commission (IHRC) Nigeria under the amiable leadership of Ambassador Dr. Duru Hezekiah, the Ambassador at Large and Head of the Diplomatic Mission, has reiterated its effort to secure a solid foundation with Nigeria law enforcement agencies in promoting and encouraging freedom against injustice, as well maintaining the culture of peace and security.

He gave the assertion last year during a courtesy visit to the Nigeria Force Secretary, **AIG Hafiz Inuwa** at Force Headquarters in Abuja. He said the visit to the Force Secretary was to familiarize and intimate him on the scope of work and objectives of the Organization and jointly explore avenues of possible cooperation needed to support the Nigeria Police to help foster expected change in Nigeria

**More details about it can be found below:**

<https://sgihrc.wordpress.com/2022/10/22/ihrcc-meets-nigeria-force-secretary-aig-hafiz/>

a.

**12. 2023 Election: IHRC Signs MOU with IPAC, Nigeria**

Ahead of the 2023 general elections in Nigeria, the International Human Rights Commission, IHRC, under the watch of H.E. Dr. Duru Hezekiah reiterated efforts in ensuring credible free, and fair elections void of violations of human rights and protection of citizens by coming into a corporate partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Transnational Intergovernmental Organization IHRC, and Inter-Party Advisory Council Nigeria was signed on Thursday 22nd September 2022. The MOU was of mutual and fundamental benefit to the Nigerian people and aimed to effectively assist in monitoring, evaluating, and providing holistic supervision of pre-elections and post-elections activities. It will further enhance possible ways to solve human rights compliance as well as identify human rights challenges associated with the 2023 general elections in Nigeria.

**More details about it can be found on this link:**

<https://sgihrc.wordpress.com/2022/09/26/ihrcc-ipac-nigeria/>

a.

**13. In Nigeria, Civil Society Groups Seek Partnership with IHRC Against Human Trafficking, Illegal immigration, Human Rights Protection**

On November 17th, 2022, the International Human Rights Commission (IHRC) reaffirmed efforts in curtailing the world's dreaded enemy called human trafficking, its vices, and other human rights issues in Nigeria. The Ambassador at Large and Head of the Diplomatic Mission of the International Human Rights Commission Nigeria, H.E. Ambassador Dr. Duru Hezekiah during a meeting with Human Rights Protection, Rule of Law and Justice Foundation, and Mediterranean Foundation for the Survival of Africa



Migrants at IHRC Central Office Abuja, assured that through partnerships, campaigns, seminars, training, and conferences on international issues of human rights, peace, democracy, education, health, child labor, women's rights, combating terrorism, drug, and human trafficking, IHRC will partner with them in ascertaining results.

**More details about it can be found below:**

<https://sgihrc.wordpress.com/2022/11/20/ihr-nga-civil-society-groups-look-for-partnership-against-human-trafficking-illegal-immigration-human-rights-protection/>

a.

**14. Women Entrepreneurs and Empowerment**

A world-class humanitarian aid organization, IHRC, working undauntedly to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, is disturbed about the increasingly alarming poverty rate and its devastating effects on Nigerians, making women and girls more vulnerable. Poverty is associated with substandard housing, hunger, homelessness, inadequate childcare, unsafe neighborhoods, and under-resourced schools. Against this background, this initiative was formed to empower both women and other vulnerable groups economically and lift them out of poverty, as well as strengthen social services for the marginalized and increase awareness of their rights.

**More details about it can be found below:**

<https://sgihrc.wordpress.com/2022/12/15/yuletide-over-100-women-to-benefit-from-ihr-give-away-abuja/>

a.

**15. 2023 Election: IHRC Secretary-General Rafał Marcin, Lauds IHRC INEC's Accreditation, Nigeria.**

The Secretary-General of the International Human Rights Commission (IHRC) Switzerland, Prof. Rafał Marcin Wasik last year, commended the accreditation of IHRC by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) as a Foreign Election Observer to observe the 2023 general elections in Nigeria. A statement made available by the Ambassador at Large and Head of the Diplomatic Mission to Nigeria, H.E. Ambassador Dr. Duru Hezekiah, asserted that the IHRC received an invitation from the Federal Republic of Nigeria to join other International and Intergovernmental Organizations to help observe the 2023 general elections in Nigeria".

**More details about it can be found on these links**

<https://leadership.ng/ihr-laus-accreditation-as-election-observer/>

a.

<https://platinumpost.ng/2023/01/15/2023-rafal-wasik-laus-ihr-inecs-accreditation/>

b.



## 16. IHRC Advocacy on Crime Prevention

Prevention is the first imperative of justice. Crime prevention comprises strategies and measures that seek to reduce the risk of crime occurrence, and their potentially harmful effects on individuals and society, including fear of crime, by intervening to influence their multiple causes. There is clear evidence that well-planned crime prevention strategies not only prevent crime and victimization but also promote community safety and contribute to the sustainable development of countries. H.E. Dr. Duru Hezekiah also instituted a partnership with Delta State University Abraka to curb this menace.

### More details about it can be found on this link:

<https://www.vanguardngr.com/2022/07/smm-ihrc-partners-delsu-on-campaign-against-crime/amp/>

a.

## 17. IHRC Educational Support Project Flagship in Nigeria.

Education is a fundamental human right, broadly recognized as a tool to promote peace, justice, and equality for sustainable development.

The Educational Support Project of the International Human Rights Commission Nigeria was envisioned to improve sensitization on educational values, distribute notebooks, and issue scholarship grants to deserving individuals in the selected schools in Nigeria.

### More details about it can be found on this link:

<https://sgihrc.wordpress.com/2023/01/21/ihrc-smm-educational-support-project-flagship-in-nigeria/>

a.

## 18. State of the Nation and Role of Electorates: IHRC Press Conference

Expressing dissatisfaction with the deplorable system of Nigeria's society coupled with disturbing signals ahead of the concluded 2023 general elections, the Ambassador at Large and Head of Diplomatic Mission IHRC Nigeria, H.E. Ambassador (Dr.) Duru Hezekiah, held a Press Conference on the State of the Nation urging electorates to actively participate in the 2023 election as a medium to determine the next leader of the country. He noted that Nigerians over decades have faced numerous tragedies on the high cost of living, masses graves resulting from banditry and insecurities, insurgencies, hunger, massacre, tribalism, looting, kidnapping, ASUU Strike, etc.

### Find more details here

<https://sgihrc.wordpress.com/2023/03/05/state-of-the-nation-and-role-of-electories-h-e-dr-duru-hezekiah-full-text-message/>

a.





## **19. Organ Harvesting: IHRC Led Leniency Plea to UK Government for Ekweremadu**

The International Human Rights Commission, IHRC Nigeria, was at the top of an appeal to the Government of the United Kingdom for leniency in the sentencing of former Nigeria Deputy Senate President Ike Ekweremadu, alongside his wife Beatrice and Dr. Obinna Obeta, who was found guilty and convicted under the Modern Slavery Act of the United Kingdom by the Central Criminal Court Old Bailey, London

### **More details about it can be found on these links**

<https://www.channelstv.com/2023/05/04/ekweremadu-ihrc-writes-uk-govt-pleads-for-clemency/>

a.

<https://thetreejournal.org/ekweremadu-reps-begs-uk-court-for-leniency/>

b.

## **20. IHRC Nigeria Disclaimer Notice Against Geneva Mafias**

It has come to our notice that some unscrupulous persons bearing International Human Rights Commission Africa Region with headquarters in Geneva being led by Dr. Sir Tivlumum Innocent Ahure are parading themselves off as representing or being affiliated with the International Human Rights Commission (IHRC) Switzerland. They have been appropriating parts of our brand identity and photographs of members of our leadership with the intent to defraud unsuspecting members of the public.

H.E. Ambassador Dr. Duru Hezekiah had 2022 sworn a general affidavit of disclaimer at the High Court of Justice in Maitama Abuja on the 18th of January, 2023.

## **22. IHRC's High-level Delegation Visit to Nigeria's Interior Minister, Rauf Aregbesola**

Towards advancing corporate partnership (protocol agreement) with the Federal Government of Nigeria on the scope and objectives of the International Human Rights Commission (IHRC) and jointly exploring avenues of possible cooperation in international diplomacy, protection of the fundamental human rights of people, and continued comprehensive security cooperation, and reforms to support economic growth in Nigeria, the Ambassador at Large and Head of Diplomatic Mission to the International Human Rights Commission in Nigeria, H.E. Ambassador Dr. Duru Hezekiah led a delegation visit to the Minister of Interior, H.E. Ogbeni Rauf Adesoji Aregbesola in Abuja.

Dr. Duru further appealed to the Federal Government for effective cooperation with IHRC in providing humanitarian interventions, supporting government policies, and inclusive leadership that represents all Nigerians.

### **More details are contained here:**

a. <http://Aurangzeb.uspa24.com>



International  
**Human Rights** Commission  
Transnational Intergovernmental Foundation



b. <https://sunnewsonline.com/aregbesola-tasks-ihrc-on-advocacy-monitoring-of-human-rights-treaties/>

c. [https://www.operanewsapp.com/ng/en/share/detail?news\\_id=5b4e11f83c892c07caaa33df128f4cbf&news\\_entry\\_id=s293af5be230520en\\_ng&open\\_type=tanscoded&request\\_id=news\\_771f41bc-0b76-4a62-829f-4aa2d68fc72d&from=news](https://www.operanewsapp.com/ng/en/share/detail?news_id=5b4e11f83c892c07caaa33df128f4cbf&news_entry_id=s293af5be230520en_ng&open_type=tanscoded&request_id=news_771f41bc-0b76-4a62-829f-4aa2d68fc72d&from=news)



**Fidelis Onakpoma**  
Head of Media and Strategic Communications, IHRC Nigeria