



ENUGU SECURITY SUMMIT BEGINS AUGUST 16-18

Security experts, law enforcement professionals, civil society groups, scholars, journalists, women, and top political leaders are meeting in Enugu August 16-18, 2022, to review the protracted human security challenges facing Nigeria.

The forum convened by Michael Ekwo Foundation and the Institute of Management and Technology, Enugu features notable speakers who will facilitate discussion around specific subject areas, with the goal of generating new knowledge and understanding, forging, and expanding new international, intercultural, interdisciplinary research networks, partnerships, and institutional collaborations.

Tagged “MEF Ideas Festival”, the event to be graced by Governor Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi of Enugu State is expected to generate new thinking on contemporary security issues, deepen channels of communication across opinion leaders and experts, and examine different aspects of human security broadly defined - financial security, food security, information security, and health security.

“We may have our differences, says Dr. Uchenna Ekwo, Chair of MEF Board of Trustees, but all agree on one truth: Our country sits on the precipice of economic collapse and how can we come back from the brink? According to him, MEF seeks to build a framework for transforming ideas into action, hence the 2022 MEF Ideas Festival that will harvest different viewpoints on how to tackle the chronic security challenges in contemporary Nigeria with a central focus on citizen participation.

Among leading policy makers and activists that will discuss the way out of the socioeconomic chaos on security policy are Professor Dame Nora L. Daduut, Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, representing Plateau State South Senatorial District, CP Lawrence Alobi-retired Commissioner of Police, Abuja FCT, Professor Joy Ezeilo, distinguished law faculty at the University of Nigeria, Enugu campus and Executive Director of Women Aid Collective (WACOL), Mr. Okey Attah, retired Deputy Director of Department of State Services, and Dr. Sirajo Yakubu- a security consultant and lecturer at Nile University, Abuja.

Others include Professor Robert Schwartz of Rutgers University, Newark New Jersey, Dr. Jumo Ayandele, Africa, a security expert at New York University (NYU) and Dr. Joseph Seigle, Director of Research, Africa Center for Strategic Studies at National Defense University, Washington DC.

The summit’s thematic sessions - Human Security Vs. National Security; Financial Literacy, Financial Security, and Family Stability; Engaging Women in Peace and Security Process; Information Security; and Health Security will examine how ineffective governance, corruption, inadequate basic services, the mistrust of state security forces and a sense of isolation from the government at all levels have fostered a permissive environment conducive to armed group activities and alternative state structures. The event is open to the public. However, registration is required to participate to earn a certificate on completion of the three-day conference.

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