

**Need to Establish
Pastoralists Development Commission (PDC)**

**A Memorandum for the
Constitutional Review Hearing in Nigeria
26-27/ May /2021**

**A submission of
African Resources for Economics Environment Health & Sustainability (AFRES)
United Kingdom**



Dear Sir,

Memorandum on the Need to Establish Pastoralists Development Commission (PDC)

In the last couple of years, seasonal local farmers and pastoralists clashes have assumed serious and alarming dimensions. This is not only due to their frequencies but also the use of lethal weapons in the violence that results in gruesome killings of both human and animals as well as destruction of properties, which is becoming common. Apart from the tragic consequences of loss of lives and properties, the violence has negatively impacted on livelihoods by destroying rural economies, which has created a conducive environment for disharmony and social ills. The crises, which has destroyed people and their livelihoods, especially in the pastoralist's states like Taraba, Benue, Plateau and parts of Adamawa have spread like wildfire to all parts of the country including the South East and the South West regions.

The clashes have been unfortunately exploited and, in some instances were even incited by some unscrupulous politicians and community leaders. These are the people who should have been playing positive roles in promoting communal cohesion but resorted to inimical activities that now threaten lives and properties.

Conflicts between pastoralist nomads and sedentary farmers are not new in this country. However, the recent frequencies and the magnitude of the conflicts have taken serious dimensions and alarming proportions, which require conscientious efforts to investigate the main causes and most importantly explore a permanent solution. Apart from the economic quandary that bedevilled the country for decades, other factors aggravating the crises include environmental degradation linked to climate change, demographic changes leading to population pressure on diminishing arable and grazing lands associated with unemployment, lack of education, deprivation and political upheavals in neighbouring countries including Libya.

Every well-meaning Nigerian must have breathed a sigh of relief with the initial plans of the Federal Government to establish cattle colonies, which reconciles the views of those who want every pastoralist to have a ranch no matter his economic status, and those opposed to it. Similar projects established in some African countries, ranging from Botswana, in Southern Africa to Kenya in East Africa and Ethiopia in the Horn of Africa, have proven to be successful. In fact, In July 2007 the African Union had committed to a Pastoralism in Africa programme with the goal of formulating a Pastoral Policy Framework for Africa. The African Union's (AU) focus on a policy framework arises from the need for a tool to effectively address,

in a more holistic manner, the many challenges confronting pastoral communities. Recognising its importance, the World Bank has recently, in 2020, committed to funding Pastoral Community Development Project in Kenya.

Although, the concept of establishing cattle ranches/stations is laudable, but sustainability of the ranches/stations in the future could be undermined if not backed by Law. This therefore calls for a promulgation of an Act that can provide the project full protection. Related to this is the fact that policies and investments aimed at enhancing the contribution of livestock to economic growth and poverty reduction and address social ills, such as crimes, should target both livelihood-oriented and business-oriented livestock keepers.

Consequently, **there is an urgent need to establish Pastoralists Development Commission (PDC)** akin to **the Niger Delta Development Commission**. It is worth noting that the genesis and the problems in relation to the developmental/economic and environmental challenges are comparable.

The proposed PDC's main function is on pastoralists development, but it is essential that the commission be vested with responsibilities of coordinating all required services for the proper functioning of the pastoralists' development. These include education for the pastoralist children, animals related industries (meat, milk, etc) environmental (pasture management), security and importantly social aspects of the programme like farmers/pastoralists arbitration and symbiotic committees.

The appendix 1 below summarises the main features of the memo in a chart for ease of allusion. Appendices 2 – 4 provide economic potentials that the PDC has for Nigerian economy by not only serving the domestic needs for meat, milk, etc but also serves as an additional source of foreign exchange for the country.

Thank you very much for your time.

Yours sincerely,

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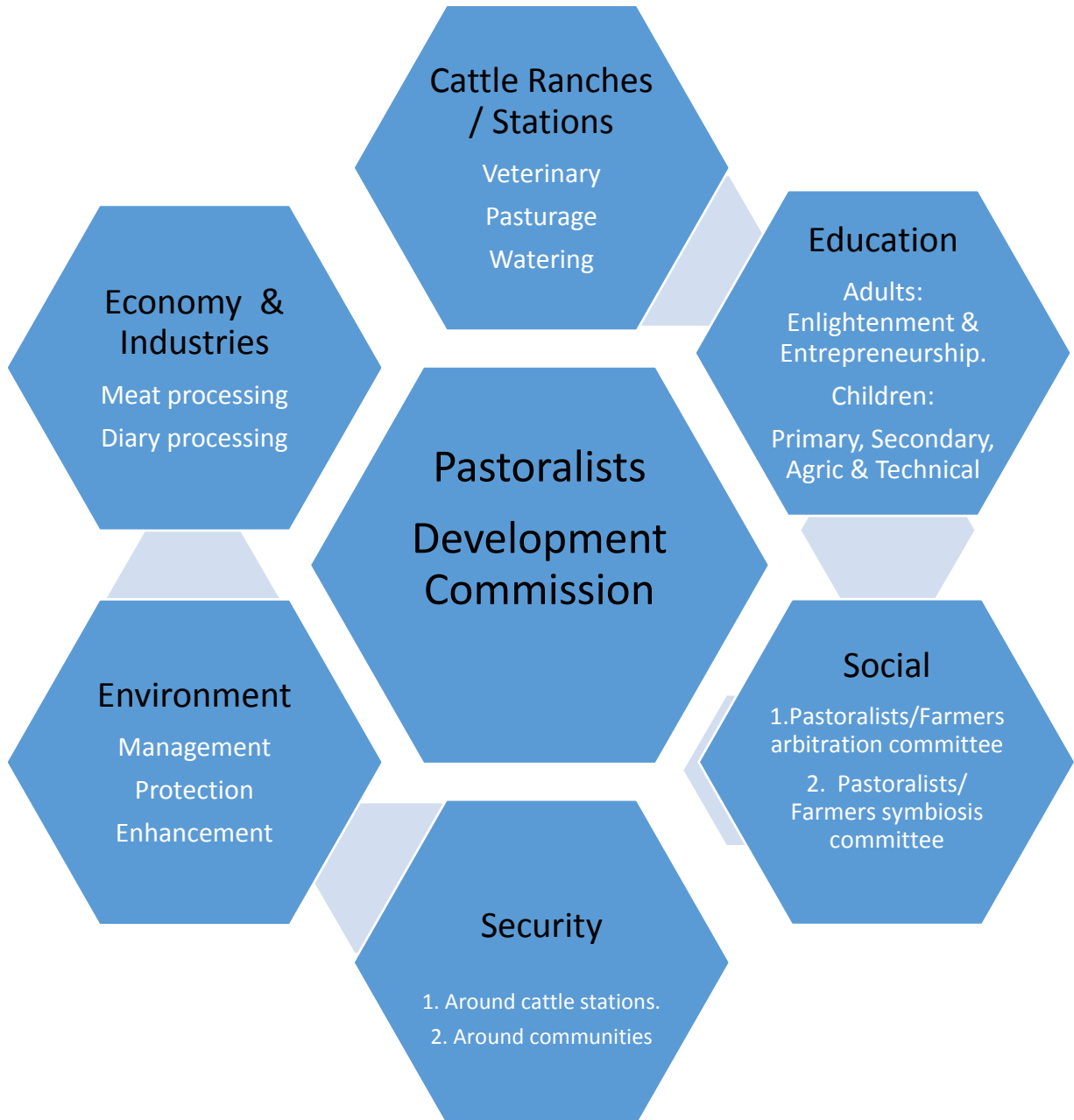
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APPENDIXES

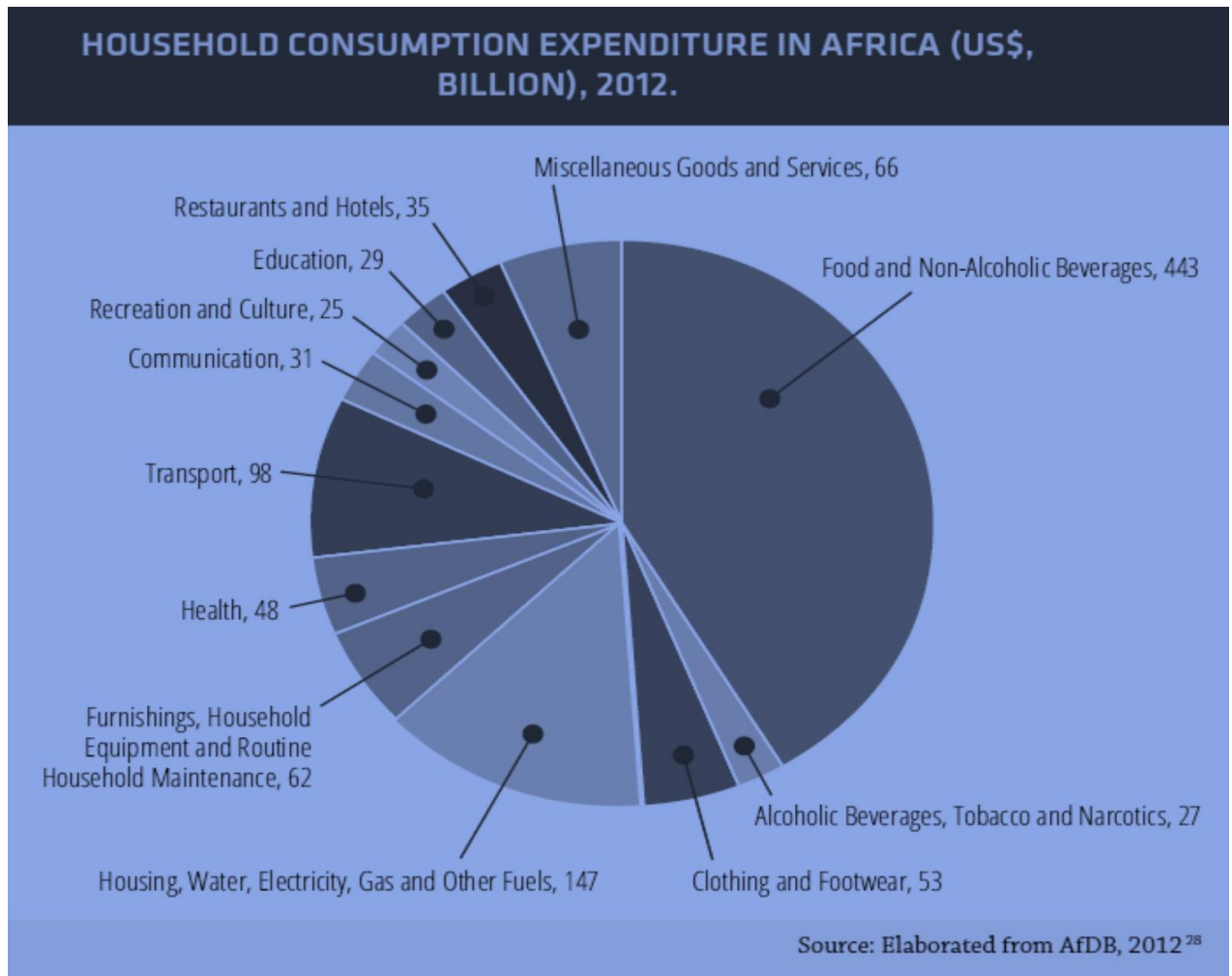
Appendix 1

Pastoralist Development Commission



Appendix 2

African Livestock Markets



Appendix 3

Meat Markets in the World

ESTIMATED AND PROJECTED SIZE OF MEAT MARKETS IN MAJOR WORLD REGIONS 2005-07, 2030 AND 2050					
Region	Estimated consumption 2005/07, million tonnes	Growth, million tonnes		Estimated consumption million tonnes 2050	Annual growth rate 2005/07-2050
		2005/07-2030	2030-50		
Developed	108.1	16.8	6.6	131.5	0.4%
Africa	10.5	10.3	13.9	34.8	2.8%
Near East	7.1	7.0	6.1	20.2	2.4%
Latin America	33.9	17.0	9.7	60.6	1.3%
South Asia	6.7	12.8	21.0	40.4	4.1%
East Southeast Asia	86.6	50.8	22.8	160.3	1.4%

Source: Elaborated from data of the FAO Global Perspective Studies Unit³⁰

Appendix 4

Milk and Livestock Markets

ESTIMATED AND PROJECTED SIZE OF MILK MARKETS IN MAJOR WORLD'S REGIONS 2005-07, 2030 AND 2050					
	Estimated consumption 2005/07, million tonnes	Growth, million tonnes		Estimated consumption million tonnes 2050	Annual growth rate 2005/07-2050
		2005/07-2030	2030-50		
Developed	273.2	35.2	11.2	319.6	0.4%
Africa	32.4	24.8	25.4	82.6	2.2%
Near East	23.8	14.2	11.1	49.1	1.7%
Latin America	61.7	25.5	13.3	100.5	1.1%
South Asia	107.7	81.5	71.8	261.0	2.0%
East Southeast Asia	45.6	32.2	10.7	88.4	1.5%

Source: Elaborated from data of the FAO Global Perspective Studies Unit³⁰

ESTIMATED MARKET SIZE OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS IN AFRICA 2005-07, 2030 AND 2050					
	Estimated consumption 2005/07, million tonnes	Growth, million tonnes		Estimated consumption million tonnes 2050	Annual growth rate 2005/07-2050
		2005/07-2030	2030-50		
Milk	32.4	24.8	25.4	82.6	2.2%
Eggs	1.6	2.0	2.5	6.1	3.1%
Pigmeat	.08	1.1	1.5	3.5	3.3%
Mutton	2.2	1.7	2.1	6.0	2.3%
Poultry	2.9	3.6	5.3	11.8	3.3%
Beef	4.7	3.9	5.0	13.6	2.5%

Source: Elaborated from data of the FAO Global Perspective Studies Unit³⁰