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**From Open Doors to Open Results.
A Call for Legislative Transparency, Accountability and Integrity!
..... As the Curtains Fall on NASS Open Week**

“Transparency opens the door, accountability builds public trust, and integrity sustains democracy. As the curtains fall on the 2026 National Assembly Open Week, Nigerians expect more than dialogue; they expect action, accountability, and measurable results”.

The **Initiative for Research, Innovation and Advocacy in Development (IRIAD)** commends the **National Assembly** for successfully convening the **2026 NASS Open Week**, held from 14–16 July 2026 at the **National Assembly Complex, Abuja**. The three-day engagement brought together legislators, MDAs, civil society organisations, development partners, women, young people, persons with disabilities, traditional leaders, the media, and citizens to advance transparency, and public participation in legislative governance. It provided an important platform for open dialogue on national priorities, and reaffirmed the legislature's responsibility to serve Nigerians with responsibility, responsiveness, and respect for democratic principles.

As **NASS Open Week** comes to a close, the National Assembly must not lose sight of the resolutions adopted, and the commitments it has made. The true measure of an open parliament is not the number of conversations it convenes but its willingness to implement decisions from these convenings with transparency, responsibility, accountability, and integrity.

The work ahead is clear: **Nigeria must become a more inclusive, secure, accountable, and innovative nation**. Achieving this requires sustained collaboration among the legislature, MDAs, citizens, civil society, and other relevant stakeholders, guided by openness, ethical leadership, and responsible stewardship of public trust.

The dialogues held over the three days on legislative oversight and service delivery, national security, inclusive representation, legislative reforms, and youth engagement must not end as conference activities and themes. **They should be translated into concrete policies, legislative actions, and measurable reforms, supported by regular public reporting that enables citizens to track progress and hold institutions accountable.**

The security of citizens and territorial integrity of the nation must remain the foremost priority. Without peace and safety, democratic governance, economic growth, and sustainable development cannot flourish. Equally urgent is the passage of the **Special Seats Bill for Women**, which represents a critical step towards a more representative

legislature and a democracy where equity truly reflects the diversity and strength of the Nigerian people

Young people must be recognised as equal partners in nation-building. Their voices, creativity, and leadership should be fully integrated into legislative processes, ensuring equity and a shared democratic future.

As we reflect on the 2026 NASS Open Week, progress must be measured not by promises or public declarations, but by actions, transparent implementation, accountable leadership, and decisions made in the interest of all Nigerians.

Call to Action

IRIAD calls on:

- **National Assembly:** translate the resolutions and commitments of the 2026 NASS Open Week into measurable actions by establishing clear implementation timelines, providing regular public progress reports, ensuring the **immediate passage of the Special Seats Bill for Women**, and institutionalizing meaningful youth participation in legislative processes to strengthen democracy, inclusion, and innovation.
- **Security Enforcement Agencies:** enhance responsiveness, strengthen accountability, ensure transparent and prudent use of public resources, strengthen inter-agency collaboration, and adopt proactive measures to protect lives, property, peace and stability.
- **Public Institutions and the Private Sector:** Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), and the private sector should work collaboratively to implement reforms with transparency, accountability, and integrity, foster innovation and inclusion, and deliver efficient, high-quality services that improve the lives of all Nigerians.
- **Civil Society Organisations:** continue promoting transparency, monitoring legislative performance, fostering civic participation, and holding public institutions accountable to the Nigerian people.
- **Citizens:** remain actively engaged in democratic processes by participating in public consultations, monitoring legislative commitments, demanding accountability, and supporting leaders who demonstrate transparency, responsibility, responsiveness, accountability, and integrity in governance.

IRIAD affirms its unwavering commitment to promoting transparency, accountability, integrity, and inclusive democratic governance. Guided by our values of and commitment to Knowledge, Innovation, Inclusion, and Impact, we will continue to work with government institutions, other civil society organisation, media, and citizens to ensure that commitments translate into meaningful reforms and sustained development impact.

Together, let us build trust, strengthen accountability, and drive impactful change to ensure a secure, and inclusive Nigeria's democratic present and future.

**#NASSOpenWeek2026 #EngageYourNASS #CitizenCentricNASS
#LegislativeTransparencyAndAccountability #PublicGovernanceAndAccountability**

Signed

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ABOUT IRIAD

The **Initiative for Research, Innovation, and Advocacy in Development (IRIAD)** is an interdisciplinary knowledge, policy, and advocacy hub committed to developing a critical understanding of governance processes and regimes through research, documentation, policy engagement, public education, and impact advocacy to inform policies, advocacies, and other forms of interventions. Whilst promoting and encouraging active citizenship through citizens' engagement, participation, and representation in democratic governance.

IRIAD is committed to strengthening democratic governance by advancing public accountability, citizens' participation, women's rights and gender justice, and strengthening the capacities of governance institutions to be responsive, responsible, accountable, effective, and ethical

Knowledge | Innovation | Inclusion | Impact
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