



**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

**NATIONAL BIOETHICS POLICY**

**OCTOBER, 2019**

**NATIONAL BIOETHICS POLICY**

**ON**

**AGRICULTURE, DEFENCE & SECURITY, EDUCATION,  
ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND SOCIETY**

**CONTENTS**

Table of Contents..... 3

Acronyms..... 4

Background..... 5

Vision..... 9

Mission..... 9

**Overview of Bioethics..... 10**

Global Perspective..... 10

Nigeria Situational Analysis..... 12

Specific Objectives of the National Bioethics Policy Strategy ..... 13

**Sectoral Policy Strategies..... 15**

Agricultural Ethics..... 15

Defence and Security Ethics ..... 18

Educational Ethics..... 26

Environmental Ethics..... 38

Health Ethics..... 45

Societal Ethics..... 60

## ACRONYMS

AIDS	-	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
EFCC	-	Economic and Financial Crimes Commission
HIV	-	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICPC	-	Independent Corrupt Practices & Other Related Offences Commission
ICT	-	Information and Communication Technology
MDCN	-	Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria
M & E	-	Monitoring and Evaluation
MIS	-	Management Information System
NABC	-	Nigerian National Bioethics Committee
NABDA	-	National Biotechnology Development Agency
NACA	-	National Action Committee for AIDS
NATCOM UNESCO	-	National Commission for UNESCO
NHREC	-	National Health Research and Ethics Committee
NIREC	-	Nigeria Inter-Religious Council
NOA	-	National Orientation Agency
NYSC	-	National Youth Service Corps
TM	-	Traditional Medicine
3R	-	Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle

## **1.0 BACKGROUND**

Bioethics is multidisciplinary, Pluralistic and independent. It blends several disciplines with life and mediates between scientific progress and societal concerns. It is also concerned with questions about basic human values, such as the rights to life and health which it does by examining the rightness or otherwise of human conduct on a particular issue in a given environment. Bioethics credits itself in assessing what ought to be in a given situation, and not necessarily what should be. It is also the moral principles (ethics) of medical and biological research which deals with life and the environment. Therefore, Bioethics could be defined holistically as the application of ethical principles to the knowledge of human values in relationship to life.

Bioethics has become an important field due to new innovations and advances in technological developments which often have great potentials and promise, but also need to be assessed adequately in order to ensure that they are safe, as well as environmentally and socially sustainable. There is therefore a need to balance the benefits versus the risks these technological, advances in Sciences and Medicine, including societal concerns may pose. It invariably exacerbates the existing risks faced by humans and the ecosystem. Developing countries are even more susceptible to these risks as they often rely on new innovations and technologies to solve nagging developmental challenges. To properly understand the risks and give

it adequate attention, ethical dimensions in different sectors must be considered. Notably among the sectors include Agriculture, Defence and Security, Education, Environment, Health, and Society.

Agricultural ethics cut across different facets including philosophical, social, political, legal, economic, scientific and aesthetic aspects of agricultural problems, and provides guidance for decisions about these problems when they involve competing values. Making decisions involving competing values are not often easy as evidenced by the questioning of current practices in agricultural production with respect to the use of pesticides and fertilizers, soil degradation, and the introduction of products of biotechnology that involve gene manipulations and transformation. They are controversial because there are good arguments that can be made for or against each practice. These arguments often revolve around increase in productivity and potential risks to humans and the ecosystem. Without doubts, food security is important to the economic and developmental growth of any nation. However, there is need for food production to be pursued by means that respect the rights and dignity of all participants in the food production and consumption cycle.

Ethical considerations in the educational sector are also very germane as they help run the system smoothly and protect the interests of both the educators and learners. It also helps to determine the standard of what is acceptable and what is not. Ethics in education has been given a lot of considerations over the years and institutions are increasingly designing courses that help in understanding these ethics.

Environmental ethics rests on the principle that there is an ethical nexus between human beings and the natural environment. The concept of environmental ethics brings out the fact that the natural environment is a reserve of resources that are crucial to the existence of life and that their unscrupulous depletion is detrimental to our well-being. It is hinged on the fact that human beings are an important part of the environment including other living being.

Health ethics deals with ethical issues in health, health care, science and medicine. It requires a critical reflection upon the interaction between health care professionals and those seeking health care. It also considers the programmes, systems and structures developed to improve the health of the people. Health ethics involves discussions about treatment choices, and care options available to individuals, families and health care providers. This is very important as the society grapples with the translation of scientific insights into social benefits and the attendant consequences it ushers. Scientists have always known that man can transcend natural limits only by compensating with other natural resources and we flourish only to the extent that we use the laws and order in nature to maintain harmony within, amongst and beyond ourselves.

The need for ethical considerations in the security and defence sector has also been well documented. It has become apt in view of the increasing statistics of conflicts and violence worldwide and the need for security outfits to address such issues

within an acceptable threshold of force required. It also addresses ethical concerns arising from the conduct of security outfits in carrying out surveillance –online and also offline. Security and defence ethics involves itself in discussions that will uphold excellence in service delivery, promote peace in the national ethos (international or as the case may be) and mutual respect within and among the Services. It is also to provide the individual decision-makers reminders of the necessity for uprightness.

Societal ethics caters for every community –human and non-human value, not only to its members but also to the larger life community of the earth’s homeostatic and regenerative biospheric ecosystem. It mandates equal and fair consideration for human rights, animal rights and the environment while also having concern for the well-being of future generations and a respectful understanding of the wisdom and folly of our ancestors.

Bioethics is a philosophical integration of human, animal and environmental rights. In governmental terms, there is an increasing need to facilitate, give equal and fair consideration to all sides or aspects of any given issue concerning the triad of human, animal and environmental rights.



## **2.0 VISION**

To have a nation where the highest ethical standards, and conduct pervade every part of the society in reflection of her local values, and in line with global best practices.

## **2.1 MISSION**

To work with all governments, sectors, and communities to internalize, demonstrate, and promote human dignity, integrity, discipline, and justice in all our affairs.

## **3.0 OVERVIEW OF BIOETHICS**

### **3.1 GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE**

In the years of human existence, people have looked for ways to differentiate right conduct from wrong. Systems have been developed to assist individuals in the attempt to make ethical decisions and determine the correct thing to do in any given situation. Many people have sought simple rules of decision making that could be used in every situation, such as the Golden Rule of treating others as one would like to be treated, but those simple rules often fail to provide specific guidance in complex circumstances. The search for methods of identifying a universal approach in determining the right conduct has led to the development of more complex theories of ethics which is often based on attempts to distill a single rule that could be used in every situation.

There are multiple theoretical approaches to bioethics and this gives rise to the controversy about its aims, objectives and methodologies, including the roles of contributory disciplines and the relations between them. The ethical theories do not only question about options for action in relation to any development but also consider terms such as “life”, “death” and “person” while also questioning the implications of how we understand human life in changing social contexts. It implies that emphasis on defining specific behaviours or standards as acceptable or

not is no longer fashionable. The global dimension of many bioethical issues, such as differences in life expectancy, access to resources and the problems caused by pandemics, raise questions regarding the feasibility of a global bioethics.

Questions of definition, for example, life and death, as affected by technological developments are part of the subject matter of bioethics. The relationship between philosophical work and empirical research is a matter for ongoing reflection. Bioethics has both a theoretical aspect and a public policy role. In the context of global challenges such as pandemics, the possibility of global bioethics becomes increasingly important.

The overview of ethics from a global perspective shows that ethical documents are dynamic, and has been evolving considerably since the publication of the first code of ethics in psychology in 1953. The documents are becoming more international and more global. The Universal Declaration represents the latest expression of this movement and the largest international effort of psychologists to establish an explicit moral framework of ethical principles that are based on shared human values across cultures. Another major development in ethics is the shifting emphasis from defining specific behaviors or standards as acceptable or not, to linking behaviors to an explicit moral framework.

### **3.2 NIGERIA SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS**

Nigeria presently lacks adequate human, institutional, infrastructural capacities and cultural content in modern bioethics. Additionally, Nigeria's views on bioethics are neither sufficiently developed nor heard. These has brought to fore the need to confront these current challenges of bioethics to their lives and communities and to develop Nigerian conceptions to incorporate Nigerian specificities and approaches.

In Nigeria, the Nigerian National Commission for UNESCO (NATCOM-UNESCO) is the Nigerian clearing house for Bioethics. In 2009, NATCOM-UNESCO chose the National Biotechnology Development Agency (NABDA) as the Focal Point for bioethics in Nigeria to ensure the establishment of the Nigerian National Bioethics Committee (NABC). It is worthy of note that the setting up of the NABC is neither to compete nor replace the already existing National Health Research Ethics Committee (NHREC). Rather the NABC would act as an advisory body to the government of the federation including relevant policy makers. The NABC framework is all encompassing and will continue to expand to accommodate changes in society and advancement in science and technology.

For over a decade, Nigeria has been on the path to establish the NABC. This has taken this long to achieve because of perceived conflict of perception about the rationale behind the setting up of the NABC. Despite this, a draft frame work had

been put in place but given the time that has elapsed, there is need for a more robust input to accommodate hitherto issues that had not arisen. This has informed the organizing of a two-day stakeholders meeting for the harmonization of the National Bioethics Committee Framework and Policy Documents in August which was then subjected to review and has led to the production of this final draft.

#### **4.0 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIONAL BIOETHICS POLICY**

This policy document addresses a number of bioethical concerns in different and related fields which are vital to re-enforcing Nigerian drive for sustainable growth and overall development. These fields provide additional strategy for assessing Nigeria National Bioethics Policy. In view of this, the specific aims of this policy include:

- (1) Advising government on standards, codes of conducts and guidelines on Bioethics and other related matters, as well as developing tools for the Nigerian National Bioethics Committee;
- (2) Strengthening Bioethics coordination in Nigeria;
- (3) Promoting the establishment of Bioethics Committees in state and institutional levels;
- (4) Collating and documenting information on Bioethics activities in Nigeria;

- (5) Organizing workshops, conferences and seminars for increased public participations, as well as institute debates;
- (6) Encourage international, regional and institutional partnership in Bioethics and related matters;
- (7) Encourage synergy among stakeholders in Bioethics and related issues;
- (8) Evaluate the moral and socio-cultural implications of emerging biological technologies in order to determine whether they require the formation of new rules and regulations at national level;
- (9) Mobilizing resources for the discharge of the mandate of the NABC;
- (10) Serving as an umbrella body for other existing structures in Nigeria like the NHREC involved in ethical and scientific review of research;
- (11) Reviewing of international research collaborations and national research proposals or specific proposals of government; and
- (12) Carrying out other functions that may be necessary for the realizations of the goals for the establishment of the NABC.

## **5.0 SECTORAL POLICY STRATEGIES**

In addressing the challenges of Bioethics in Nigeria, several strategies are required to address ethical dimensions in relation to the following sectors, Agriculture, Defence & Security, Education, Environment, Health, and Society.

### **6.0 Agricultural Ethics**

The ethical concerns related to agriculture are essentially two folds;

- i. Food safety and security which promotes conditions for sufficient food production and distribution in a safe and sustainable manner; and
- ii. Ecological sustainability which promotes policies and measures aimed at ensuring ecological sustainability of food production (including animals and fisheries) and biodiversity sustainability.

#### **6.1 Food Safety, Security and Ecological Sustainability**

It is becoming more difficult for agriculture to achieve its primary objective of feeding the world. Greater demand for food and other agricultural products are driven by population growth and changes in diet associated with rising incomes. The quest to meet up with the rising demand for food compelled the application of modern industrial agriculture and food production processes which have generated

new ethical, economic, social, environmental dilemmas which hold dire consequences for the existence of humanity.

## **6.2 Objectives**

The objectives of agricultural ethics are designed to address ethical issues in relation to:

- (i) The morals that underpins farmers and industries' action;
- (ii) Sufficiency and availability of safe food at affordable prices to the people.
- (iii) The rational development of agricultural production and the optimum utilization of the factors of production, in particular land; and
- (iv) Food production by means that respects the rights and dignity of all participants in the food production system.

## **6.3 Strategies**

- a) Creation of necessary mechanisms such as agencies and commissions to balance interests and resolve conflicts.
- b) Encouragement and support of broad stakeholder participation in policies, programmes and projects.



- c) Engagement of individuals, communities and stakeholders to dialogue and, ultimately, to do what is ethical including development and dissemination of information and knowledge necessary to make wise and ethical decisions.
- d) Guaranteeing that decision-making procedures in food and agriculture policy as well as the content of deliberations are well understood and open to public scrutiny.
- e) Fostering the use of science and technology in support of a more just and equitable food and agriculture system.
- f) Ensuring that programmes, policies, standards and decisions always take ethical considerations into account so as to lead to enhanced well-being, environmental protection and improved health.
- g) Development of codes of ethical conduct where they do not currently exist.
- h) Periodically reviewing ethical commitments and determining whether or not they are appropriate, in the light of new knowledge and changes in circumstances.

## **7.0 DEFENCE AND SECURITY ETHICS**

Ethics in the defence and security sector has become relevant in recent years due to the dynamic nature of security challenges bedevilling the country. The policy strategies provides for broad guidelines to control the conduct of state and non-state actors operating either statutorily, voluntarily or as a private business purposes within the framework of delivery of defence and security services. It seeks to promote:

- i. Sound professionalism; and
- ii. Moral principles and practices in operations, administration and interaction with the general public.

### **7.1 Objectives**

The policy is designed to address ethical issues in relation to:

- i. the provision of guidelines to avoid behaviours and actions inimical to the safety and wellbeing of the citizenry;
- ii. upholding excellence in service delivery, promoting peace in the national ethos and mutual respect within and among the Services; and
- iii. Providing the individual decision-makers reminders of the necessity for uprightness.

## 7.2 Strategies

- i. **Rules of Engagement (RoE):** Individuals shall exercise personal judgment on the application of force in discharging responsibility. The use of minimum force is required for task accomplishment and shall be the guide with accountability resting squarely on the individual;
- ii. **Slavery and Torture:** Under no circumstance shall any citizen be subjected to slavery and torture. No extra judicial measures shall be enforced on the citizen under any context of operations;
- iii. **Use of Proxy:** No service personnel shall engage a proxy to exercise functions of extortion, bribe taking and unauthorised activity at the behest of the service personnel for the purpose of personal gains;
- iv. **Abuse of Power:** The service personnel shall not use powers inherent in his position to take advantage of others for his personal benefit. Such abuse of power includes the use of arms, vehicle or equipment to intimidate, harass the citizen for purposes of personal advantage;
- v. **Impunity:** The breach of law shall be eschewed in all circumstances. Such infractions like breach of traffic lights, jumping the queue and outright disobedience to local regulations meant for good governance and orderliness of the society shall be avoided. Service personnel are to be

- mindful at all times of cultural sensibilities of communities and ethnicities;
- vi. **Inter and Intra Service Personnel Scuffle:** No individual or group of individual service personnel either in or out of uniform shall engage in either armed conflict or fisticuffs with each other or with members of other services. Esprit de Corps shall be used for public good and shall not be applied for harmful pursuits;
  - vii. **Involvement in Civil Matters:** Service personnel acting as individual or in concert with others shall not engage in civil matters such as debt recovery, interventions in land disputes, taking sides in communal clashes and private protection of privileged people;
  - viii. **Gratification:** Under no circumstance shall the service personnel demand or acquiesce to gratification of any form. Particularly, service personnel in conflict areas must not provide services based on quid pro quo;
  - ix. **Engagement in Commercial Activities:** Service personnel shall not engage in trading or any other commercial activity of exploitation of natural resources either by themselves or by proxy. Neither shall they engage in levy and taxation of the locals as protection for their daily economic activities;

- x. **Gender Sensitivity:** The individual service personnel shall at all times be mindful of personal dignity of the female and thus, shall not engage in whatsoever manner, rape, sexual harassment or exploitation. The guise of consensual agreement under circumstance of no free will shall be avoided;
- xi. **Financial Probity:** Every personnel must shun ostentatious living and live within means in line with modesty expected of the profession. Unexplained wealth must be strictly avoided. Superior officers have the moral responsibility to question subordinates over unexplainable wealth;
- xii. **Careerism:** Every individual must be mindful of unbridled ambition of careerism. Exaggeration or under reporting of situations for career promotion or protection shall be avoided;
- xiii. **Competencies:** Every personnel must strive to be competent in the assigned job and must not use ethnic, religious or political persuasion as merit. Professionalism shall rest on competencies;
- xiv. **Discriminatory Practices:** Under no circumstance must cronyism, godfatherism manifest in the Service. Postings and appointments shall be fair and equitable and must reflect professional competence;

- xv. **Disregard for Welfare:** The welfare of personnel shall be uncompromising in standards and all superior officers must as a matter of duty promote the wellbeing of their subordinates;
- xvi. **Inter-Agency Cooperation:** Inter Agency rivalry has caused national embarrassment in the polity. Refusal to share assets, information and social harmony diminishes professionalism. As a matter of ethical principles, all Services must as much as possible integrate planning and operations as well as respect for jurisdictions;
- xvii. **The Creation of Whistleblower Mechanism:** The establishment of whistleblower in organisations is an international best practice and a means of transparency and accountability. Administrations shall at all levels create avenues for anonymous reporting, as such, must be taken seriously at the next higher level;
- xviii. **Creation of Centres for Ethical Studies and Departments of Ethics:** Each Service shall create in their institutions, centres of learning for ethics and shall produce well thought-out curricula of studies. Similarly, Services shall create Departments for the promotion and constant monitoring and evaluation of ethical practices;
- xix. **Performance Evaluation:** The evaluation of performance must not be based on “the end justifies the means” rather, included in measurement

- should be the content of ethical principles. All personnel and authorities must embed in their practices values and ethics promoting the culture of human dignity societal ethics;
- xx. **Solicitation and Presents to Superiors:** Professionals must under no circumstance compromise their positions either through solicitations like requests to people, institutions and subordinates. It shall be unethical for superiors to accept contributions towards personal ceremonies and projects;
- xxi. **Acceptance of Gifts:** While in service, personnel must not accept gifts beyond limits as may be prescribed by regulations. Awards and chieftaincy titles shall not be accepted whatsoever. It is unethical to receive titles, awards and gifts while in service. Such honours if accepted must be on behalf of the Service and such symbols and gifts must be relinquished to the Service. This shall be without prejudice to medals of honour awarded for meritorious serves;
- xxii. **Forceful Collection of Properties:** Billeting as provided in regulations must not be used as a pretext for forceful collection of properties of civilians. Such acts of commandeering must be diligently applied with adequate compensation;

xxiii. **Trespass and Destruction of Private Property:** Unauthorised entry into private property must be eschewed. In like manner, where permission is granted, extra care must be taken to avoid damages. The sensibilities of hosts must be well respected.

### **7.3 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY:**

The world is evolving with innovation and inventions of various kinds to ease the use of man power to get work done and services delivered efficiently without much time and energy expended. The use of electronics and computer systems with internet facility makes it easier to globally change the societal perspectives of working conditions.

#### **7.4 Objectives**

- i. To defend the nation against evolving cyber threats, respond effectively to incidents and ensure that data and systems are protected and resilient.
- ii. To make the nation a hard target for all forms of aggression /crimes on cyberspace by detecting, understanding, investigating and disrupt hostile actions.
- iii. Pursuing and prosecuting offenders and ensuring that the citizens businesses and the public sectors have the knowledge and ability to defend themselves.



- iv. To develop an innovative and growing cyber security industry of global standard by exploring the potentials of indigenous IT experts.
- v. Capacity to uphold fundamental values such as democracy, rule of law, human rights and freedom.

## **7.5 Strategies**

- i. **Raising Awareness:** A comprehensive and sustained National Cyber Security Education Campaign is essential for raising public awareness of the risk and impact of cyber illegal activities. The cyber security education should cover the use of strong passwords, updates of system timely, secure of systems against viruses and spyware, double checking on e-mail links/attachment to be sure of the sender/source/origin before click on. The campaign should be a kind of Stop-Think-Connect awareness.
- ii. **Working with Invested Partners:** Improvement of national and global capabilities to detect, prevent, mitigate and respond to cyber-criminal events through a joint, integrated 24/7 Public/Private Operational Capability that leverages information sharing, analysis and collaboration should be a top priority.
- iii. **Working through the global community** to address gaps and coordinate law enforcement, investigation and prosecution of cyber crooks will help tackle

both the economics and the challenges of anonymity in nefarious cyber activities.

- iv. The use of National Identity Number (NIN) as means of accessing and creating social media account by liaising with service providers. This will also help in tracking cyber offenders.
- v. Ensuring strict adherence to norms of cyber conduct to enhance National benefits; unity and economic security, public health and safety and everyday life on cyberspace. National cyber incident response plan is very essential to National Economic security.

## **8.0 EDUCATIONAL ETHICS**

Ethical conduct is widely understood to be low or lacking in virtually all aspects of the educational sector. Morals are largely untaught as demonstrative conduct and exemplariness is largely lacking. With regards to learners, the existence of this gap indicates that ethical values and practices are not internalised at different stages of development, especially at critical early stages. An educated population with excellent and globally acclaimed ethical standards and conduct in all spheres of life and service is germane to the development of any nation. The ethical concerns related to education are;

- i. Morals precepts taught in school;
- ii. Choice of tutors; and

- iii. Sexual harassment

## **8.1 Objectives**

The objectives shall be in accordance with the National Education Policy that cover educational ethics, which includes;

- i. To facilitate the acquisition of ethical and moral values needed for the laying of a solid foundation for lifelong learning.
- ii. To inculcate values and raise morally upright and well-adjusted individuals capable of independent thinking, and who appreciate the dignity of labour.
- iii. To advance the virtues of respect for self, others and institutions.
- iv. To inspire national ethical values including a sense of equality of all, regardless of differences in ethnicity, religion, socio-economic status, endowment, colour, etc.
- v. To promote the ethical standards required to support professional practices.
- vi. To promote accountability and transparency in the management of resources and processes in the educational sector.
- vii. To inspire learners towards self-improvement and achievement of excellence.

- viii. To encourage exemplary moral conduct by teachers and other leaders of the educational sector as role models for learners.
- ix. To strengthen assessment systems that will yield true and deserving results.

## **8.2 Program Priorities**

### **8.2.1 Strategies**

- i. Inclusion of ethical lessons drawn from local cultural norms and practices in the respective curricula.
- ii. Exemplary conduct on the part of teachers as stipulated in Teachers Code of Conduct enunciated by the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria.
- iii. Work ethics and discipline of teachers and learners in accordance with relevant legislations and institutional regulations.
- iv. Continuous education and other interventions targeting all stakeholders on relevant provisions and offences enunciated in the law establishing the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) and the EFCC.
- v. Interventions to prevent and correct unethical practices in and related to the educational sector especially
  - a) illegal establishment of educational institutions

- b) all forms of fraud and other unjust practices associated with admission of learners into educational institutions
- c) non-compliance with minimum standards in recruitment of learners and teachers.
- d) non-compliance with curricular requirements.
- e) failure to update and upgrade standards that will align with national development goals and international standards.
- f) truancy on the part of learners and teachers.
- g) examination malpractice in all its ramifications.
- h) result and certificate forgery.
- i) unwarranted delay in the release of results issuance of certificates and transcripts.
- j) unwarranted interruptions of academic calendars.
- k) documentation errors.
- l) underfunding of educational institutions.
- m) research misconduct and other forms of research wrongdoings.
- n) failure to provide social protection for learners and teachers.
- o) inadequate remuneration of teachers.
- p) failure to promptly pay remunerations to trainers.

- q) non-compliance with legislations and international conventions relevant to the wellbeing and development of learners.
- r) denial of education for the child.
- s) abuse, stigma, discrimination and other vices against children and learners.

### **8.3 Program Methodology**

#### **8.3.1 Strategies**

Institutions, teachers, learners (supervision may be required), managers and others in the educational system shall employ different communication, demonstrative and other learning methods, in line with existing regulations, to achieve the educational ethics objectives and implement the prioritized programmes outlined above. The methods shall include the following.

- a) Conventional teaching methods.
- b) Inclusion of moral lessons in schemes of work.
- c) Drama, including role plays.
- d) Talks, workshops, seminars and symposia.
- e) Rallies and public shows such as road shows and market shows.
- f) Development and implementation of specific course modules.

- g) Development and implementation of new educational programs leading to the awards of certificates, diplomas and degrees in educational ethics.
- h) Reminders and integrations of lessons at meetings (such as meetings of clubs, staff and parents-teachers-associations), ceremonies and inter-house sports.
- i) Advocacy.
- j) Just and appropriate reward and punishment systems.
- k) Intra-school and inter-school competitions.
- l) Presentation of persons of exemplary moral conduct.
- m) Guidance and counselling services.
- n) Community mobilisation, education and participation.

## **8.4 Management System**

### **8.4.1 Strategies**

- i. Each Federal Ministry shall have a Ministerial Ethics Management Team. The Ministerial Ethics Management Team of the Federal Ministry of Education shall be responsible for managing the educational ethics component of the National Bioethics Policy at the national level. All Ministerial Ethics Management teams shall be responsible to the National Bioethics Committee.

- ii. Each state of the federation shall have a State Ethics Management Team which shall manage ethical issues in all ministries, including the respective ministries in charge of education.

## **8.5 Management Information System for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation**

There shall be a Management Information System (MIS) for planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of educational ethics status and dynamics at all levels. It shall be managed by the National Bioethics Committee in conjunction with the Federal Ministry of Education. The MIS shall be used for the following specific purposes.

### **8.5.1 Strategies**

- i. Assessment of the level of ethical and unethical practices by all stakeholders in all sectors.
- ii. Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) in line with plans and implementations must be developed.
- iii. Continuous monitoring of changes (progress and otherwise) towards set targets.
- iv. Feedback mechanism on data should be provided.



- v. To provide data for research into ethical behaviours in the education sector, formative research in specific interventions and audits into programs, services and systems concerned with moral education.
  - 1. To periodically inform the general public on the status of ethical conduct in the educational system.
  - 2. There shall be developed appropriate variables and tools for routine data collection for MIS in line with objectives and prioritised programs in this policy.
  - 3. There shall be a data management system for MIS that shall include mechanisms for collection, collation, storage, securitizing, retrieval, analyses, presentation and publication of data.
  - 4. There shall be developed a database for the MIS.

## **8.6 Resources**

Resources shall be identified, developed and harnessed to continuously plan, implement, monitor and evaluate educational ethics. Resources for educational ethics shall include material, financial, human, management and time, including resources that are already available in different settings of the various stakeholders in the educational sector.

### 8.6.1 Strategies

- i. Human and management resources engaged in the educational sector shall receive additional relevant training as necessary in bioethics.
- ii. The training of teachers and other categories of human resources at various levels in ethics shall be promoted.
- iii. There shall be adequate budgetary provisions for the programmes, services, other interventions and research in ethics that are additional to existing resources.
- iv. Grants and donations shall be additional sources of funding for educational ethics strategies.
- v. Resources for different levels of education in ethical conduct shall be drawn from local knowledge, skills and competences consistent with local culture and socioeconomic realities.
- vi. Material resources for education in ethical conduct shall be supported by inputs from the international institutions that have guidelines on educational ethics; similar initiatives in other countries and reference materials from UNESCO shall be instructive in this regard.
- vii. All forms of legally sourced and channeled resources are acceptable for the purpose of this policy.

## **8.7 Research and Development**

Empirical studies in ethics are relatively new. Taking advantage of MIS and researcher initiatives, research shall prioritize research into:

- i. The objectives, priority programs and systems in or arising from this policy.
- ii. Moral education and development priorities of learners and other stakeholders in the education sector.
- iii. Ethical training in formal educational settings as a determinant of future moral behaviour.
- iv. Schools as trusted sources of secondary socialization that inculcates ethical values at every level of education.
- v. Improvement in knowledge base and methodologies in ethical education at all levels.
- vi. Needs for applied ethics in all spheres of life and service in different sectors in Nigeria.

Resources for research shall include

- i. Researchers in education and other sectors
- ii. Budgetary provisions
- iii. Research grants
- iv. Libraries of academic and research journals

- v. Other sources of resources.

### **8.7.1 Strategies**

- i. Opportunities for training, conferences, seminars and other learning methods that support research and development in ethics education shall be harnessed.

## **8.8 Collaboration and Partnership**

This makes provision for contributions from all stakeholders. Stakeholders include learners, their parents, guardians and other caregivers, teachers, proprietors, owners, investors, policy makers, managers, regulators, government, entrepreneurs, philanthropists, other educational management systems at all levels, local and international collaborators and partners, host communities of educational institutions and the public.

### **8.8.1 Strategies**

Specific programmatic collaborations and partnerships are particularly expected along the following lines.

- i. Inter-institutional and intra-institutional.
- ii. Inter-level (between different levels of government) and intra-level.
- iii. Interstate and intrastate.

- iv. International and intra-national.
- v. Intersectoral and intra-sectoral.
- vi. Public-private.

### **8.8.1 Strategies**

**The strategies shall include the following guidelines:**

- i. Mutual interest, mutual trust and synergy of resources and efforts between partners shall be promoted to optimally harness the benefits of collaboration.
- ii. The areas of partnership and collaboration shall not be restricted and shall include all possible legal opportunities in line with objectives and program priorities of this policy.

## **9.0 ENVIRONMENTAL BIOETHICS**

Environmental ethics is concerned with ethical issues related to our physical and human environments. The physical environment can be sub-divided into Air, Water, and Land.

### **9.1 Physical Environment**

#### **9.2 Air**

Environmental issues concerning air affects human lives as human beings cannot do without breathing. Human activities often affect the quality of air and thus making the atmosphere unsafe for others.

##### **9.2.1 Objectives**

The policy is designed to address ethical issues in relation to:

- i. emissions from automobiles and other combustion engines; and
- ii. radiations from industries, and network masks

##### **9.2.1 Strategies**

- i. Regulate combustion related activities in respect of road worthiness, petroleum quality in respect of emission potential, gas flaring, use of generators and bush burning.

- ii. Promote green/clean technology for bio-energy production and utilization.
- iii. Facilitate a community of stakeholders from automobiles and energy industry including formal and informal sector practitioners on best global practices/standards and technology transfer.
- iv. Review of existing regulations/statutes geared towards enforcements of emission thresholds for different sectors of the economy including telecommunication, and manufacturing sectors.
- v. Promoting personnel ethics and establishing business standard for identified sectors.
- vi. Engaging relevant community and sensitization of same on the implications of air pollution.

### **9.3 Water**

Water is the most important compound on earth for many reasons. It makes up two third of the earth surface and also consisting of 75 percent of human body. Protecting the environment for future generations begins with more effective water management at the moment. Thus, addressing unsustainable use of water will mean easing off of struggles to achieve goals in a myriad of other areas.

#### **9.3.1 Objectives**

The policy is designed to address ethical issues in relation to:

- i. temperature
- ii. chemical pollutants
- iii. solid waste inclusive of fecal waste, marine waste and so on

### **9.3.2 Strategies**

- a) Regulation of effluents discharged into water bodies to curb temperature.
- b) Facilitate and promote the implementation, enforcement and harmonization of existing regulations on discharge into water bodies.
- c) Engaging relevant community and sensitization of same on the implications of air pollution.
- d) Promote municipal waste disposal methods to mitigate against flooding and other environmental hazards.
- e) Developing national short, medium, and long-term waste management plans to provide a clear vision that will properly place Nigeria amongst global leaders in waste management.
- f) Strengthening existing relevant government institutions to provide portable and safe pipe-borne water, and sanitation facilities.
- g) Strengthening of existing agencies of government to deliver on their mandates.



## **9.4 Land**

Land can be defined as any part of the earth's surface not covered by a body of water. Land, in some quarters, is referred to the resource that encompasses the natural resources used in production.

### **9.4.1 Objectives**

The policy is designed to address ethical issues in relation to:

- i. soil pollution
- ii. soil fertility
- iii. soil degradation
- iv. land-use abuse

### **9.4.2 Strategies**

- a) Strengthening of relevant government agencies and individuals to enforce waste sorting from source and also provide necessary waste disposal facilities.
- b) Regulation and enforcement of urban/regional town planning laws.
- c) Promotion of the 3Rs (reduce, recycle and re-use).
- d) Regulation of excessive application of agro-chemicals and monitoring of agronomic practices to address over-tilling.

- e) Strengthening of regulatory framework for the enforcement of laws to curtail dangers of mining related activities.
- f) Promotion of ranching and provision of requisite financial arrangement to support agricultural practitioners and prospective ranchers.

## **9.5 Human Environment**

Human environment is all the external factors and conditions in which human beings live. It includes fabricated and natural materials used for food and water, shelter, other organisms including humans, and the weather.

### **9.5.1 Objectives**

The policy is designed to address ethical issues in relation to:

- i. noise
- ii. smoking
- iii. visuals
- iv. behaviors

### **9.5.2 Strategies**

- a) Sensitization and strengthening of government agencies with mandates to enforce relevant laws relating to noise control, public smoking and so on.

## **9.6 Biodiversity**

There is no universally accepted definition of biodiversity. However, it is a short form of Biological Diversity. Modern definitions include three components of diversity in the biological world namely; diversity of ecosystems, species, and genes (within a species).

### **9.6.1 Objectives**

The policy is designed to address ethical issues in relation to:

- i. Loss of biological resources.

### **9.6.2 Strategies**

- i. Strengthening existing government agencies to regulate the exploitation of bio-resources.
- ii. Promoting sustainable utilization of bioresources.
- iii. Strengthen and provide appropriate frameworks for the documentation of available bio-resources in the country.
- iv. Building and developing local capacity of experts in curbing bio-piracy.
- v. Ensure appropriate regulation of exportation of biological resources.
- vi. Promote and upgrade where possible, the institutionalization of conservation programmes for biological resources.

- vii. Provision of financial support/subsidy for low energy emitting vehicles, equipment, and energy efficient buildings.

## **10.0 HEALTH ETHICS**

Nigeria in recent times has seen gross poorly controlled environmental pollutions, dumping of various deleterious consumer products, disconcerting health care status, and many more life-threatening occurrences in the face of morally weakened institutions. Furthermore, life threatening challenges easily spread in a global village, but the power to address them, benefits and profit from successfully addressing them must come from each society for its survival and flourishing.

### **10.1 Objectives**

The policy is designed to address ethical issues in relation to:

- i. enhancing rapid resolution of Bioethical dilemmas or uncertainties.
- ii. ethical compliance by all stake holders in related fields;
- iii. the quantity and quality of life in Nigeria; and
- iv. Nigeria's positive contribution to humanity as a whole.

### **10.2 Strategies**

- i. The Department of Traditional, Complementary and Alternative Medicine (TM) in the Federal Ministry of Health will pursue the efforts to have a

Council is place to regulate the body of practitioners, bearing various local differences in mind.

- ii. The Council, when put in place will also regulate ‘training’ and membership, and oversee the production of code of conduct (including those of practice and research) in a way that is authentic to TM and acceptable to the society at large. Efforts to document client engagements with outcome as well as address negligence and malpractice will be important to include in the contexts of TM. Some of their activities may involve traditional community leaders in their overall operation.
- iii. Teaching Hospitals should be encouraged to pursue modes of formally engaging TM practitioners with mutual respect bearing the overall interest of society in mind; this is not expected to result in one swallowing the other, but one informing the other in areas of its advantage with loyalty to their different foundations and regulations.
- iv. Efforts are to be made to gradually clarify taxonomies, drug characteristics, indications, dosages and recognition of improvement and deterioration. Symbiosis without parasitizing as mentioned above will foster this suggestion.

- v. Traditional Medicine practitioners and their clients should be made more aware of relevant laws that affect them as citizens apart from those related to their specific codes; such include laws affecting contracts, damages and compensation for instance.
- vi. Standards, general initially and fine-tuned with time must be set and publicised such that the entire community is aware of what these standards are. Involvement of leaders and members of the communities will facilitate these, and increase openness and social accountability in the practice of TM.
- vii. Formal systems that are culturally compatible will be put in place to exercise and document oversight such as ‘accreditation and reaccreditation’ exercises.
- viii. Laws that are specific to the practice of TM will be promulgated to back up the activities of their Council.
- ix. Relevant Ministries should initiate policies from time to time, to guide emerging issues in this dynamic endeavour of improving the scope and standard of TM.
- x. Councils of TM and all other Health related ones will be required to publish annually, outcomes of their activities.

- xi. For various ethical reasons, considering the technicalities involved with drug handling and management, Governments at all levels should employ Pharmacists to oversee drug policies.
- xii. Drug revolving funds should attract stricter oversight and compliance with extant rules and regulations in the interest of all stakeholders.
- xiii. Increase in drug research and local production should be of priority and current impediments addressed in the interest of citizens.
- xiv. Patent and other trade issues affecting drug availability should be continuously reviewed and addressed in the interest of consumers.
- xv. Access to care and support for people living with HIV-AIDS should be improved, while ethically questionable procedures should be eliminated and replaced.
- xvi. Comprehensive and effective HIV-AIDS education at all levels of society should be undertaken.
- xvii. Surveys, Research and innovations in respect of HIV-AIDS should be better monitored to ensure strict compliance with NHREC policies



- xviii. The capacity of HIV-AIDS care providers in local community engagement and involvement should be formally strengthened at all levels of Government nationwide.
- xix. Donor prescriptions and national plans should be further aligned
- xx. Oversight to ensure compliance with NACA policies should be strengthened through training and involvement of other stakeholders.
- xxi. Stem cell research and therapeutic uses, as well as Bio-banking activities should be strictly monitored for compliance with NHREC and MDCN policies and findings documented with regular publication of summaries.
- xxii. Outcomes of research, innovation and treatment of diseases should be monitored and regularly disseminated to all stakeholders.
- xxiii. Effectiveness of preventive interventions in respect of Non-communicable diseases should be evaluated through monitoring and regular dissemination among all stakeholders o relevant Lifestyle modification in respect of them.
- xxiv. NABC should from time to time jointly sponsor conferences with respect to complex issues of ethics wherever overlap occurs; moral status of embryos and the ethical conception of personhood.

xxv. Because of its fundamental importance, education in respect of non-stigmatization and non-discrimination should be embedded in our educational system and visible governmental practices at all levels and segments of our society.

## **11.0 SOCIETAL ETHICS**

The purpose of this policy is to provide framework for social standard of behaviour in private, public and business relationships including interaction in the Nigerian society. Nigeria is experiencing many social problems which have eaten deep into the fabrics of the society. To arrest the situation, there is need to put in place ethical standards to guide policy decision-making geared towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other developmental milestones in order to ensure the dignity of life, freedom and justice. For any policy to effectively address societal challenges, it must be deeply rooted in indigenous normative values.

Each policy area was discussed within the Nigeria sociocultural context with strategies to address them. The thematic areas are:

- i. Leadership ethics
- ii. Family ethics
- iii. Work ethics,
- iv. Religious tolerance
- v. Communication ethics
- vi. Sexual Relationship
- vii. Mode of Dressing
- viii. Gratification

ix. Political Patronage

x. Sexual and Gender Based Violence

xi. National Patriotism

## **11.2 Leadership Ethics – Justice, fairness and non-maleficence**

Leadership is important and vital for providing direction that enables society to achieve set goals. Leaders are expected to render account of their service to their followers. If truly leadership is about service to humanity, then leaders are servants who provide service to a group of people at a point in time. The leadership problems in our society today are transparency, accountability, trust, confidence building, responsibility, responsiveness, commitment, decisiveness, humility and creativity. Decision making about leadership should consider those attributes in order to promote orderly and just society.

### **11.2.1 Objectives of the policy**

The policy aims to:

- a. Promote transparency in leadership. Lack of transparency is a stumbling block between leaders and the followers.
- b. Promote accountability as a way of life in leadership. This is required to engage followers' leadership process. Absence of this usually results in suspicion.

- c. Promote trust in leadership. Trust is an output of an effective leadership. Where trust is lost, goal attainment will be hindered.
- d. Enable confidence building in leadership. This is important to bridge the gap between leaders and followers. Leaders need to build confidence in the follower.
- e. Decisiveness is an attribute of good leadership. A good leader should enjoy the confidence of the followers.
- f. Ensure humility as a way of life in leadership. A good leader should see him- or herself as servant and have shared interaction with the people. Leaders ought to be humble.
- g. Promote creativity as a desired need in leadership. This is a good leadership attribute which is required by leaders to be visionary.

### **11.2.2 Strategies**

- i. Institute a National Platform to reward excellence equitably at all levels.
- ii. Government shall strengthen the capacity and availability of teachers for Christian Religious Knowledge and Islamic Religious Knowledge in schools as well as review their curricula to capture social and ethical values in line with national vision.
- iii. Reform religious education and practice to have measurable goals and outcomes in terms of human character.

- iv. Train, evaluate feed-back, reward/sanction leaders, based on specified goals, methods and means: at all levels of our human group existence.
- v. Ensure that learning and living, wisdom and work are coupled in ways that show unity of heart, mind and limbs in all our educational processes.

### **11.3 Family Ethics**

There is a need for a policy dedicated to family ethics. The family as the basic unit of society provides primary functions including, but not limited to socialization of members to positive values. From childhood, children internalize family and societal values and are guided by societal norms. As enacted by the United Nations in 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights notes that “the family is the fundamental and natural group unit of society and is entitled to protection by the society and state”. The family is the factory where the heart is molded because it is the textbook of life which parents are co-authors. It is the most natural environment for a child to grow mentally and spiritually. Erosion of family values, infidelity, child neglect and abuse and lack of care for aged parents are the challenges requiring urgent policy attention in the Nigerian society today.

#### **11.3.1 Objective of the policy**

The policy aims at addressing the following:

- a. Erosion of family values.
- b. Infidelity.

- c. Child neglect.
- d. Child abuse.
- e. Lack of care for the aged.

### **11.3.2 Strategies**

- i. Reform general /liberal education to develop intellect, emotion and will appropriately
- ii. Introduce community engagement activities from primary school upwards.
- iii. Introduce family-life education together with human sexuality education at all wards.
- iv. Introduce co-curricular and extra-curricular activities that build human skills.
- v. Encourage formal/systematic family-life and human sexuality education by all religious organizations, traditional or otherwise.
- vi. Social, cultural and occupational Associations at the grassroot levels should be empowered to strengthen family values, social morals, and ethical behavior.
- vii. Citizens shall independently reach decisions and shall decide objectively on the basis of the facts of the case, taking into consideration only the legally relevant facts and acting without unnecessary delay.

- viii. Citizens shall adhere to the appropriate procedures when performing the official duties within their competence, especially rejecting any pressure even the ones from the superiors.

#### **11.4 Work Ethics**

There is a need for policy on work ethics. Work is an effort or activity carried out, performed or fulfilled for income or wages. It is the value added by individual to an effort to earn legitimate income or wages. Work is measured by type and nature of activity, duration and value to society. Work legitimises income or wages earned by individual in society. Therefore, level of effort and societal value of such effort determines the level of income accruable to such work. Not all work leads to income or wage. Individuals may be forced to work without necessarily earning income either by law such as prisoners or illegally such as slavery. While work ethics supports legitimate work it abhors forced labour. To avoid unethical practices in work, such as illegitimate earnings and forced labour, ethical standard of regulating work is necessary. Diligence, dignity of labour, integrity, dedication and commitment, professionalism, discipline, team work spirit, and child labour are urgent work-related issues requiring attention in Nigeria today.

##### **11.4.1 Objective of the policy**

The policy aims at addressing the following:



- a. Diligence at work as an essential element of work ethics which defines the extent to which workers take their work seriously.
- b. Dignity of labour as an important issue in work ethics. This is a situation that defines the quality of work. It does not reduce workers to mere object which strips the workers his or her personhood.
- c. Integrity. This should permeate every aspect of work from relationship with fellow workers, superiors and clients.
- d. Dedication and commitment to work. This should reflect the extent to which workers handle their work.
- e. Professionalism. This involves appearance to how one wants to conduct his or her work in the presence of other people.
- f. Discipline. Workers must have discipline to adhere to the rules and regulation of the workplace.
- g. Team work spirit. This is lacking among many workers resulting in low productivity. This needs to be addressed.
- h. Child labour in all ramifications. Children are to be taken care of by parents and not to be used for economic gains.

#### **11.4.2 Strategies**

- i. Employees should have access to criteria for engagement set out as required by labour regulations.
- ii. Employees should be expected to carry out roles with dedication and commitment to the institutions and its core values such as integrity, honesty, objectively and impartiality.
- iii. Duties should be performed in compliance with Nigeria Constitution and laws.
- iv. There should be equity treatment of the citizens and legal entities on official duties.
- v. Employees should work with high level of professionalism.
- vi. Activities shall be carried out in the most conscientious, efficient, timely and methodical manner, avoiding situations and conduct that could impair the interest of the country. There should be mutual confidence and cooperation.
- vii. Citizen shall not be influenced by partiality when performing specific tasks and deciding about the rights, duties and interest.
- viii. Citizens shall provide equal treatment in which they are employed.
- ix. Entities shall ensure the realization of the rights and the legitimate interest of citizens and the other entities.

- x. Relevant Government Agencies should create enough awareness and dialogue on peace building, nonviolent behaviours, national and work ethics, service deliveries, leadership, gender mainstreaming and statism.
- xi. Government Agencies like National Orientation Agency (NOA), Paramilitary Organisation, NYSC, UNITY SCHOOLS and Private Organizations should be aligned towards attainment of social standard and national integration.

### **11.5 Religious Tolerance Policy**

Religious tolerance policy is also needed in the Nigeria society. Tolerance means willingness to accommodate one another. People have different values and orientations that must be taken into consideration in every interaction. In every interaction process, individuals ought to do value clarification of self in order to understand how to relate with other fellow human being. This will help to ensure respect for person and dignity. This is very vital in a multi-religious environment like Nigeria. Therefore, it is important to take this into consideration in policy making.

#### **11.5.1 Objective of the policy**

The objectives of the policy are as follows:

- a. Truthfulness as an important element of tolerance. When the truth is said at all time there will be no room for distrust

- b. Transparency as a rule of engagement will increase trust and commitment to the process dialogue process.

### **11.5.2 Strategies**

- i. Re-focusing the Nigerian Inter-Religious Council (NIREC) to include oversight functions, training (seminars, workshops) on national and social values towards the unity and integration of Nigerians.

## **11.6 Communication**

Communication ethics policy is also important. Communication is a process of interaction through symbolic expression of intent and actions. When we communicate, we influence one another, positively or negatively. Poor professionalism, fake and distorted news, hate speech and use of foul words and misuse of social media are key issues requiring national attention in Nigeria today. Awareness of the communication ethics will promote harmonious society devoid of misinformation, misunderstanding and conflict.

### **11.6.1 Objective of the policy**

The policy will address the following:

- a. Poor professionalism. Professionalism in service delivery is important in any profession. It is important that professionals adhere to the ethics of their profession. Lack of adherence to professional ethics constitutes danger for society. This should be properly addressed in the media.

- b. Fake and distorted news. The quality of information passed across to the audience should not be harmful in any way. Nigeria is currently faced with prevalence of fake news. This is not good for the image of media. There should be a policy that will strengthen the existing media regulation.
- c. Hate speech and foul words. Media information should not be simple to understand by the audience and not ambiguous.
- d. Misuse of social media. Social media has become choice of information dissemination in recent time. IT is necessary to regulate this channel to reduce and possibly eliminate abuse.

### **11.6.2 Strategies**

- i. Media regulatory agencies shall enforce laws against breaches of ethical media practice.
- ii. Need for continuous educational programmes for civil servants, and media practitioners in government offices at all levels particularly on ethics of information dissemination.
- iii. Need to train children on communication etiquette.
- iv. Need to ensure that all communication and laws shall take cognizance of human rights, freedoms and responsibilities.
- v. Need to ensure that leaders in all sectors shall be evaluated regularly.

## **11.7 Sexual Relationship**

Sexual relationship is legal between two adults who consent to it. However, consensus may be influenced by coercion when it occurs between persons who are not of equal social standing. For instance, sexual relationship between adult student and her lecturer is unethical. This is because the consent may not be due to true love but because of the influence of the lecturer over her. This applies to all relationship in which the female is under influence of the male gender. Such influence may be by position one occupies or by force such as the case of rape. Generally, sexual gratification, rape, incest, homosexuality, lesbianism and bullying are important sexual issues requiring attention.

### **11.7.1 Objective of the policy**

The policy will address the following:

- a. Sexual gratification. This should be discouraged in all ramifications and at all level of society. Therefore, a policy in this direction would help.
- b. Rape. This is a serious social problem in our society today. Policy should be put in place to arrest the situation.
- c. Incest. This is cultural and legally unacceptable. Policy should strength regulations against incest.
- d. Homosexuality. This is culturally and legally unacceptable and therefore should be prevented.

- e. Lesbianism. This is culturally and legally unacceptable and should be discouraged.
- f. Bullying. This is becoming a serious issue in our society. There is a need to arrest the situation.

### **11.7.2 Strategies**

- a. Enlightenment programme should be put in place both in school and community level.
- b. Religious leaders should continue to enlighten their followers against sexual immorality at every fora.
- c. National Orientation Agency and the media should strengthen their campaign against these problems.
- d. Policy should be put in place to strengthen the monitoring and censorship of media information and programmes to eliminate exposure to condition that can promote act of sexual immorality.

### **11.8 Mode of Dressing**

Dressing is a way of life of people. Mode of dressing varies from one culture to the other. Dressing is meant to cover nudity which will enhance the dignity of human being. This has change in the recent time. The way people dress has been a subject of discussion and worry because it does not conform to the normative standard and function of dressing. Now, we have women dressing half naked, exposing part of

the body that ought to be covered and men especially boys exposing their buttock in the name of ‘sagging’. The aberration in contemporary mode of dressing has been attributed to increasing prevalent rate of rape and incest in our society.

### **11.8.1 Objective of the policy**

The objective of this policy is to:

- a. Discourage immoral dressing among males and females in order to restore decency to society.
- b. Discourage access to pornography

### **11.8.2 Strategies**

- a. Enlightenment programmes should be put in place both in schools and community level about the need for people to dress decently.
- b. Religious leaders should continue to enlighten their followers’ adherents about immoral dressing at every fora.
- c. National Orientation Agency and media should strengthen their campaign against these problems.
- d. Policy should be put in place to strengthen the monitoring and censorship of media information and programmes to eliminate exposure to condition that can promote act of sexual immorality.
- e. Dress codes should be introduced in institution of higher learning where they are not presently available and to strengthen it where it exists.



## **11.9 Gratification**

Gratification is a common practice and many has taken it as a way of life. This has degenerated to corrupt practices. It has become a norm in many public offices to get things done. Also, the citizens have considered it as part of requirements for getting things done in offices and people do prepare for it. This is wrong and must stop.

### **11.9.1 Objective of the policy**

The objective of this policy is to:

- a. Reduce or eliminate gratification norm.
- b. To entrench fairness as a way of life in the conduct of official business in our society.

### **11.9.2 Strategies**

1. Develop policy that can strengthen the existing anti-corruption regulations.
2. Orientation agencies such as NOA and the media should be strengthened to enlighten people on the evil of gratification which has been seen as a way of life.
3. Citizens shall adhere to the appropriate procedures when involved in official interaction and reject any pressure to give anything before access to legitimate services.

4. Citizens should protest all forms of shunting, privilege treatment at any service point whether private or public.

### **11.10 Political Patronage**

Patronage is a situation whereby people depend on others for power and survival. It is another major problem in Nigeria today. There has been an increase in the incidence of thuggery. This has degenerated to level of criminality. This is very dangerous to sustainable development.

#### **11.10.1 Objective of the policy**

The objectives of this policy are to:

- a. Discourage political patronage and godfatherism as a means of accessing dividend of democracy.
- b. Discourage monetary power in politics.
- c. Eliminate thuggery as a way of life in politics.

#### **11.10.2 Strategies**

- i. Reform social and citizenship education to have measurable goals and outcomes in terms of change in perception.
- ii. Reform our political system in order to discourage thuggery.
- iii. Social orientation agencies should be strengthened to sensitize mobilize the citizens on their rights.

## **11.11 Sexual and Gender Based Violence**

Sexual and Gender Based Violence is another major problem which has been on the increase in Nigeria today. These are majorly related to violence and abuses against women and children. In most cases, victims have no place to run to for proper help and also can't speak out about the existing problem.

### **11.11.1 Objective of the policy**

The objectives of this policy are to:

- a. Discourage gender violence.
- b. Discourage violence against children
- c. Discourage child abuse

### **11.11.2 Strategies**

- i. Reform general /liberal education to develop intellect, emotion and will appropriately
- ii. Community engagement through enlightenment programme tailored towards the prevention and elimination of domestic violence.
- iii. Introduce family-life education together with human sexual education.
- iv. Encourage formal/systematic family-life and human sexuality education by all religious organizations, traditional or otherwise.

- v. Social, cultural and occupational Associations at the grassroot levels should be empowered to strengthen family values, social morals, and ethical behavior.

### **11.12 National Patriotism**

Nigeria is a country born out of the amalgamation of the Southern and Northern Nigeria Protectorates. The country consists of many ethnic groups with diverse identity. As of today, many Nigerians still struggle with identity which directly affect their level of patriotism. Though, People accept that they are Nigerian, individuals prefer to be known as citizens of their tribal group first before Nigeria. This has bad influence on interpersonal relationship and commitment to the goal of nation building.

#### **11.12.1 Objective of the policy**

The objective of this policy is to:

- a. Discourage tribalism as a way of life in Nigeria.
- b. Promote national identity and patriotism.

#### **11.12.2 Strategies**

- i. Reform social and citizenship education to have measurable goals and outcomes in terms of change in perception.
- ii. Reform national programmes like the NYSC to promote patriotism.

- iii. The Federal Character Commission should be strengthened to ensure equity and fairness in the implementation of government policies to build confidence in people.