

SPECIAL REMARK BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY NALTF, Rt. HON. HENRY NWAUUBA, AT THE OVERSIGHT, CSOs AND DELIVERY EXCHANGE HELD

TUESDAY, 14TH JULY, 2026

PROTOCOLS

I am pleased to welcome you to the National Assembly Library for this important Oversight, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and Delivery Exchange.

I acknowledge our distinguished Chairman, Rt. Hon. Yakubu Dogara, Speaker of the 8th House of Representatives, as well as representatives of the National Assembly, development partners, civil society organizations, public sector institutions, members of the media, and all stakeholders dedicated to strengthening democratic governance and improving public service delivery in Nigeria.

Today's engagement comes at a critical time, as citizens increasingly expect transparent, accountable, and responsive governance that delivers measurable outcomes. These expectations highlight the need for effective legislative oversight and strong collaboration between public institutions and civil society.

The National Assembly Library plays a unique role within the legislative ecosystem. In addition to serving as a knowledge repository, it supports evidence-based lawmaking, strengthens institutional capacity, promotes research, preserves and digitizes legislative history, and facilitates informed decision-making. These functions are essential for the legislature to fulfill its constitutional responsibilities effectively.

Historically, the relationship between legislative oversight and Civil Society Organizations has often been viewed with apprehension. Today, we aim to change that narrative and build a strategic partnership.

The National Assembly relies on the ground-level insights that CSOs provide. You are the eyes and ears of the constituencies, observing where policy is implemented. In turn, the Assembly offers legislative frameworks and budgetary

mechanisms to turn governance commitments into reality. By bridging these perspectives, we advance from oversight to meaningful delivery.

Legislative oversight remains one of the most important pillars of democracy. It ensures accountability in the management of public resources, promotes compliance with laws and policies, and ultimately safeguards the public interest.

This Exchange offers a valuable platform for dialogue, knowledge sharing, and practical experience. It is an opportunity to identify innovative approaches, strengthen partnerships, and explore ways to make oversight mechanisms more effective in improving governance and service delivery.

As an institution dedicated to knowledge management and legislative excellence, the Library is committed to supporting initiatives that foster collaboration, build capacity, promote policy learning, and deepen democratic accountability. We believe sustainable development is best achieved when institutions work together, use evidence, and maintain open engagement with citizens.

As we deliberate today, I encourage us to focus on three key questions:

1. How can we better integrate independent CSO data into the formal legislative oversight process?
2. How do we make the broader legislative ecosystem more accessible to civil society, ensuring that the information you need is available, readable, and actionable?
3. How do we create a feedback loop where the findings of oversight activities directly influence the next budget cycle and policy reform?

It is my hope that this Exchange will generate recommendations that enrich policy discussions and inspire concrete actions across our institutions.

Once again, I welcome you to the National Assembly Library and wish you productive deliberations and successful outcomes.

Thank you and God bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria.