

AN OVERVIEW OF NATIONAL POLICY ON AGRICULTURE IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

Agriculture has been a priority programme of successive national development plans in Nigeria since independence but the country stands out as one of the worst fed countries in Africa. With the economy recession in the country, the Buhari Administration has placed even a greater emphasis on this sector as a way to diversify the economy. The main objective of this study therefore, is to review the national policy on agriculture via the planning of the sector during the first four national development plans with a view to making recommendations for improvement. Analysis by our leading experts indicates our problem is one of availability of output through better handling, storage and distribution. The recommendations made include the production of agricultural machinery and tools, coming to terms with peasant farmers and encouraging initiatives in the processing, storage and preservation of local foods.

KEYWORDS: Policy, Agriculture, Planning, Federal Constitution, Food Security