

PRESIDENTIAL SUB-TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON CENTRALISED DEMOGRAPHIC DATABASE FOR THE WHOLE COUNTRY



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The World Governments IT systems are moving toward cloud computing and mobile technologies, with large stores of government data as a major strategic asset in collaborative form among various government entities. The proposed Centralised Demographic Database represents opportunity to make sense of data available to government, and an opportunity for government agencies to seek to exploit it to enhance the business of government.

The Big Challenge:

1. How to create unique, robust, scalable, dependable and fully customized simple-to-use yet fully encrypted (secured) central database for the nation;
2. How individual agencies can decide what information they want to make available to other agencies and law enforcement, while retaining ownership of the data and improve their big data efforts.

The Pragmatic Approach:

A1. The first thing is the creation of Unique Identification Number (UIN), usually 12-digit for every Nigerian citizen that will identify him/her. The number will be stored in the proposed centralized database and linked to the basic demographics and biometric information: photograph, ten fingerprints, iris, etc., of each individual. It would not just help the government track down individuals but would make life far easier for citizens as they would not have to submit so many documents each time they want to avail a new private or government service (a bank account, passport, driving license, etc.). This clear proof of identity provides mobility of identity and will also facilitate entry for poor and underprivileged residents into the formal banking system as well as financial inclusion with deeper penetration of banks, insurance and other government benefit schemes. The number must

be easily verifiable in an online, cost-effective way. It must be unique and robust enough to eliminate the large number of duplicate and fake identities in government and private databases. The random number generated will be devoid of any classification based on caste, creed, religion and geography.

The second approach is adopting a high performance universal inter-operability database (multimodal biometric) for rapid, remote, and automated usability. From the point of integration mode, multimodal biometric system is best created in different modes: Serial, parallel, hierarchical, pipelining, or sequential approach with reject option to check for duplication automatically. This can provide easy integration with national ID cards, driver's licenses, passports, voters' cards, addresses, even telephone numbers using of-course the Unique Identification Number (UIN) as the baseline. The solution gives: **universality, uniqueness, permanence, measurability, acceptability, scalability, dependability** and **fully customizable** and **secured**. This standard format is in line with the international privacy policy, cooperation and collaboration with respect to sharing biometric data with other nations if the need arises, but most certainly the format is a universal format for simple integration with all other biometric platforms locally and internationally due to insecurity and terrorism. To this end, the biometrics database and software management system are standardized which is referred to as: Adaptive Biometric Systems (ABS).

A2. The creation of National Integrated Interagency Information (N-III) system, a groundbreaking national information sharing initiative: an Integrated Query Tool (IQT), searchable index for a police information portal (PIP) and federal government departments and public safety agencies. IQT will provide access through a governance-based access control (GBAC) filter, which aims to ensure that various information sharing laws are respected and agencies only access the data to which they are legally entitled. The portal sits among all participants, acting as an information search engine and request broker. Individual agencies decide what information they want to make available to other agencies and law enforcement, while retaining ownership of the data. The portal contains only an index of information and not the contents of an electronic record. This encourages greater information exchange, tapping into the enormous stockpiles of data the government

maintains to improve citizen services and further the business objectives of departments and agencies, solve crimes, save lives and increase collaboration among the various government entities. N-III should be coordinated by the Ministry of Communication Technology just as the Database components can be housed by both NIMC and NCP.

Respectfully submitted...

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