



# **NATIONAL MINIMUM STANDARDS (NMS)**

**ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
THE ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT  
&  
THE ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE LAWS  
IN THE VARIOUS STATES**

**DEVELOPED BY**



**AND**

**OTHER CRIMINAL JUSTICE STAKEHOLDERS**

**WITH SUPPORT OF:**

**MacArthur  
Foundation**



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## Preface

Nigeria attained Independence in 1960. She inherited two major criminal procedure laws from the erstwhile colonial masters. These are Criminal Procedure Code (CPC) that was applicable in the Northern States and the Criminal Procedure Act (CPA) that applied in the Southern States. These laws have now been replaced by the Administration of Criminal Justice Act 2015 and the Administration of Criminal Justice Laws of various States. The Federal ACJA and the ACJL of States are similar in several respects.

The National Minimum Standards Project aims to provide the basic or minimum standards to guide the implementation of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) 2015 as well the Administration of Criminal Justice Laws of States (ACJLs).

The Minimum Standards are priority provisions in the ACJA/ACJLs, which must be implemented for the beautiful innovations in the law to be effectively realized. The project is designed to inject vibrancy into the criminal justice system by serving as a catalyst for improved implementation of the ACJA and ACJLs by agencies of Criminal Justice administration at the federal and state levels. Each state is thereby well-guided as to what it must do to earn recognition from its peers, other stakeholders of the criminal justice system, and observers as a compliant state with respect to criminal justice reform.

The Guidebook is a result of extensive collaboration amongst the various stakeholders of criminal justice administration at the federal and state levels.

The process of establishing the National Minimum Standards in the Implementation of ACJA/ACJLs began in December 2019 with the National Conference held at the Court of Appeal Ceremonial courtroom in Abuja where delegates from the states resolved that the idea is desirable as a practical means of promoting healthy competition amongst states and other implementing agencies of criminal justice.

That was followed by the Baseline Assessment which attempted to understand, at the start of the project, the state of criminal justice reform implementation in the FCT and the states. Questionnaires were designed and administered. The anonymous responses to the Baseline Assessment Questionnaires (BAQ) were collated, analysed, and published in the Baseline Assessment Report (available at [nms.ng](http://nms.ng) or at [censolegs.nig.org](http://censolegs.nig.org)).

A conference was then held in February 2023 to disseminate the outcome of the Baseline Assessment exercise. A great percentage of the participants agreed that the findings of the Baseline Report were accurate in describing the situation of criminal justice administration at the time of administering the BAQ in May 2022. The next stage of the project was the National Technical Review and Evaluation Conference (NTREC). States were given the same Questionnaires to complete to show what improvements have been recorded in each state since May 2022 when the BAQ was first administered. The report of the NTREC is based on our assessment of the improvements recorded by each state in implementing criminal justice reform since May 2022. This report of the NTREC is available at **nms.ng** and **censolegs.org**

This booklet is a narrative account of the factors considered in evaluating the performance of each state and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) in the implementation of the Administration of Criminal Justice Law. It spells out the minimum activities that each state is required to perform in implementing the ACJL. We believe that states that scored above 70% (Class A) in the indices spelled out are doing very well. Those that scored between 50 and 70% (Class B) are doing well. Those that scored below 50% (Class C) are performing satisfactorily. However, there is clearly a wide room for improvement by all States and the FCT.

## Acknowledgment

The CSLS acknowledges with profound gratitude the support of the stakeholders of criminal justice administration at the federal and state levels. These include the Federal Ministry of Justice (FMoJ), the ministries of justice of the various states, the judiciary at the federal and state levels, law enforcement agencies, the Nigerian Correctional Service as well as civil society organizations working in the justice sector.

Specific mention must be made of the fellow members of the MacArthur Foundation Criminal Justice cohort. These include the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NILAS), Centre for Law Enforcement Education (CLEEN), Legal Defence and Assistance Project (LEDAP), Partners West Africa (PWAN), Juritrust Centre for Socio-Legal Research and Documentation, and International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA). We also acknowledge the excellent work of the Network of University Legal Aid Institutions (NULAI) in reforming legal education and propagating value-driven learning of the administration of criminal justice system amongst law students.

The rapid spread across the country of the Administration of Criminal Justice Law could not have been possible without the collaborative efforts of the public sector actors and the above-mentioned MacArthur criminal justice cohort members and international development partners.

We note with gratitude the support provided for the National Minimum Standards (NMS) project by the MacArthur Foundation. The Nigerian criminal justice sector is indebted to Yvonne Darkwa-Poku of the Foundation for coining the phrase, *'key, core, essential and unifying elements of the ACJA'*. This has sharpened our focus on the National Minimum Standards for implementing the ACJA.

Finally, we thank the staff members of the Centre, particularly our esteemed Programme Officer, Esther U. Gbeyide (Mrs.) (nee Ugo), Princewell Akinseye-George, Chiamaka Anyaegbu, and Kelvin Mejulu, for being the arrowheads of the National Minimum Standard Project.

## **TABLE OF ACRONYMS**

ACJA	Administration of Criminal Justice Act
ACJL	Administration of Criminal Justice Law
FCT	Federal Capital Territory
CSLS	Centre for Socio-Legal Studies
NMS	National Minimum Standards
NTREC	National Technical Review and Evaluation Conference
ACJMC	Administration of Criminal Justice Monitoring Committee
CRR	Criminal Records Registry
CCRR	Central Criminal Records Registry
IGP	Inspector General of Police
COP	Commissioner of Police
DPP	Director of Public Prosecutions
AG	Attorney-General
ATP	Awaiting Trial Person
NBA	Nigerian Bar Association
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission

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## **Part 1**

### **ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN NIGERIA: NATIONAL MINIMUM STANDARDS**

#### **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

Users of this guide will be able to:

- (a) Identify the objective, purpose and core essential element of the National Minimum Standards project;
- (b) Explain the stages and processes of the National Minimum Standards.
- (c) Describe the indicators used for assessment and evaluating the implementation of the ACJA/ACJLs of various states and the FCT.

#### **1.1 INTRODUCTION**

The Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) was enacted in 2015 but since then we have been grappling with the implementation of the Act. A similar law known as the Administrative of Criminal Justice Law (ACJL) has been passed in each of the 35 States of the Federation. The one state remaining, Borno is expected to complete the process of passing the law soon.

Passage of the law is one thing and implementing it properly is another thing. That explains why despite the passage of the ACJA and the ACJL in most states, criminal justice administration in Nigeria remains largely dysfunctional. The manifestations of this include poor investigation and lack-lustre prosecution resulting in delay of cases, congestion of courts and correctional facilities; etc. While significant progress has been recorded with respect to the trial of high profile corruption cases, it is a shame that our correctional centres remain overpopulated and overcrowded with a large population of persons who are yet to be tried. When cases are unduly delayed, we send a wrong signal to the public that criminal behaviour may not be punished. That encourages the weak minded to go into anti-social practices such as corruption, terrorism, banditry, cattle rustling, kidnapping, armed robbery, abuse of power etc.

The National Minimum Standards Project is designed to serve as a catalyst for improved implementation of the ACJA and ACJLs by

agencies of Criminal Justice administration at the federal and state levels. The Centre for Socio-Legal Studies (CSLS) is, in collaboration with other stakeholders, taking decisive steps to ensure the achievement of these standards and key sections of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act 2015 (ACJA) and ACJLs that are fundamental to the proper functioning of the criminal justice system.

## **1.2 BACKGROUND**

In the pre-ACJA era, different laws were applied in the states – Criminal Procedure Code Laws in the Northern states, and the Criminal Procedure Act/Laws in the Southern states. From one state to another, there were significant variations in the procedures, which left gaps in the effective and efficient prosecution of crimes. As criminal activities are usually carried out across state borders and their investigation and prosecution processes require a level of certainty and uniformity across the country, the ACJA reforms are intended to achieve harmonized/uniform criminal justice system across Nigeria. Though desirable Legislators in the 36 states will not adopt the same provisions of the ACJA as part of their Administration of the Criminal Justice Laws (ACJLs). It is therefore necessary to have a standard that ensures a uniform criminal justice system which guarantee ease of access to justice for the common man and a Judicial system which can effectively fight corruption.

The enthusiastic response by the Stakeholders from the various states to the first-ever ACJA/ACJLs National Minimum Standards Workshop convened in December 2019, shows that the idea of promoting a healthy competition amongst states is welcome as a desirable mechanism for ensuring proper implementation of the ACJA/ACJLs, hence the birthing of NMS.

## **1.3 OBJECTIVE OF THE NMS PROJECT**

The objective of the National Minimum Standards (NMS) project is to create a national scheme for assessing and evaluating the implementation of the ACJA/ACJLs as well as a National Scoresheet which will clearly indicate the performance and score of each state.

## **1.4 PURPOSES OF THE NATIONAL MINIMUM STANDARDS**

More specifically, the purposes of the NMS include to:

- Provide a common basis for evaluating criminal justice institutions nationwide;

- Promote healthy competition amongst states; and
- Provide a basis for advocating and attracting more resources to the criminal justice sector.

## **1.5 PROCESS/STAGE OF THE NMS PROJECT**

The Centre aims to deliver a National Minimum Standards through a 5- Stage process.

### **STAGE 1: ROAD MAP AND BASELINE STUDY**

- The CSLS conducted a study of the current state of implementation of the ACJA and ACJLs to find out the situation in different states at the commencement of the NMS project in May 2021. The Centre developed a standard Questionnaire which was used to obtain information from the FCT and the various states on the implementation of the ACJA/ACJL.
- On completion, the Baseline Assessment Questionnaires were returned to the CSLS for collation, analysis and dissemination.

### **STAGE 2: PUBLICATION OF BASELINE ASSESSMENT REPORT**

- This involves the production of a Baseline Assessment Report and dissemination of the same. The Report is available at the [nms.ng](http://nms.ng).

### **STAGE 3: PEER REVIEW WORKSHOP**

- Each state presented a report of progress recorded since the publication of the baseline study report.
- This enabled each state to share their experiences and learn from others.
- Each state was represented by individuals selected by the Centre from the public sector and the private bar.

### **STAGE 4: NATIONAL TECHNICAL REVIEW AND EVALUATION CONFERENCE (NTREC)**

At this stage, the Centre conducted an assessment of the Justice facilities, processes, and personnel available for the implementation of the ACJA in the FCT and the ACJL in the states. The Centre deployed

its partners known as ACJA/ACJL Rangers in the various states to verify the claims made by states as regards implementation of the law.

- This is to:
  - identify the minimum standards each state is yet to comply with;
  - assess the strength of each ACJL in each state- whether it aligns with, improves on, or departs from the NMS embodied in the ACJA; and
  - assess the human capacity and infrastructural facilities available in each state to implement the law.

## **STAGE 5: PRESENTATION OF SCORE SHEET AND AWARDS**

- This is the final stage, which involves:
  - announcement of findings and Results, and
  - a national event convened to announce the results and make presentation of awards to deserving states and stakeholders.

## **1.6 PARTNERS IN THE NMS PROJECT**

The partners of the NMS project include:

- Ministries of Justice
- Agencies of Criminal Justice Administration;
- Civil Society Organizations including Macarthur Criminal Justice Cohort Members
- Development Partners
- The Media, and
- The Public

## **1.7 FOUR KEY, CORE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS: QUALITY OF THE ACJL**



- The National Minimum Standards focus on four core essential/fundamental elements and other issues of reform of criminal justice administration.
- Of the numerous provisions of the ACJA/ACJLs every adopting state should endeavour to implement provisions akin to:
  - **Section 106 ACJA** – the standard is that prosecutions of crimes should be handled by legally trained persons, thereby abolishing prosecution of criminal cases by non-lawyers. Where, a state meets this standard, such state will be awarded a score of 100% under this point. However, where a state’s ACJL still permits lay prosecution, the State will be scored based on the quality control measures it has established to ensure quality and compliance with the standards stipulated in the ACJL. A few of these quality control measures are spelt out elsewhere in the booklet.
  - **Section 306 ACJA** prohibits stay of trial proceedings on account of an interlocutory appeal. No exception is permitted for falling short of this minimum standard. This is to remove unnecessary preliminary objections thereby ensuring speedy trials.
  - **Section 396 ACJA** – this provides the time frame for trials, and other trial case management including day-to-day trials and limitations on number and duration of adjournment of criminal cases. However, day-to-day trial does not necessarily mean trial on daily basis or on consecutive days. It simply connotes **effective case management** to ensure expeditious trials of criminal cases.
  - **Section 496 ACJA** – creates the Administration of Criminal Justice Monitoring Committee (ACJMC) or its equivalent under the ACJLs, as the institution responsible for monitoring and coordinating compliance with and implementation of the Act/laws. Apart from having a functional secretariat for the ACJMC or its equivalents, there is need for budgetary provision for the ACJMC or its equivalents.

The ACJMC or its equivalent must submit its Annual Report to the Chief Judge or Attorney-General of the State or other relevant body as provided in the law.

## Part 2

### 2.1 NATIONAL MINIMUM STANDARDS ASSESSMENT

Sequel to the questionnaire filled by the respective actors and reviewed by the Centre, the level of implementation by each was assessed with reference to the points highlighted below:

### 2.2 Passage of the Administration of Criminal Justice Law



- The minimum standard is that all states in Nigeria are required to enact the Administration of Criminal Justice Law. So far 35 States have passed the ACJL.
- Borno State is the only state that is yet to enact the ACJL, however, at the time of collating this report, it was gathered that the ACJ Bills were pending at the Borno State House of Assembly awaiting passage and assent by the Governors.
- States that have enacted the ACJL will score 100% while the state without the ACJL will score 50% for having a draft bill which is undergoing legislative process.

### 2.3 Efforts by each State to Create Awareness about the ACJL



- Passage of the ACJL is the first step.
- The next step is conducting stakeholders' sensitization workshop, trainings of the criminal justice agencies.
- This is because the law is not meant for only judges and lawyers alike, the public must also be carried along, hence the need for sensitization of the public.
- A needs assessment must be conducted by each state to ascertain what the agencies require for effective implementation of the law.

**2.3.1 Efforts made by each state in creating awareness on the ACJL will be measured with reference to:**

- Conduct of stakeholders' sensitization meeting/workshop(s);
- Education or sensitization of the public;
- Training of criminal justice operatives; and
- Needs assessment of the implementing agencies for effective use of the law.

States that meet the requirement will be scored higher as opposed to states that fulfilled one, two or three, as the case may be.

**2.4 Progress with passage of the ACJL Bill**

- This indicator applies only to Borno State because it is the only state that is yet to enact the ACJL.
- The State is assessed based on the stage at which the ACJ bill is currently at.
- This is to enable the Centre and other civil society organizations to identify the areas of needs and the necessary actions that would be taken by stakeholders to ensure speedy passage of the ACJL.

**2.4.1 Progress made on the ACJ Bill will be measured with reference to:**

- Existence of a draft bill or
- Lack of a draft ACJL bill
- Bill pending in the house of assembly
- Bill passed but awaiting assent

## 2.5 EXISTENCE OF CRIMINAL RECORDS REGISTRY



- The minimum standard as provided in ACJA 2015 is for the establishment of Criminal Records Registry (CRR) at each State Command of the Nigerian Police, to collect data from the various police stations and other arresting agencies in the State which will be transmitted to the Central Criminal Records Registry (CCRR) at the Police Headquarters. Section 16 ACJA 2015.

### 2.5.1 The assessment of the FCT and the States will be based on:

- Existence of equivalent provision in the ACJL;
- Existence of Central Criminal Records Registry or Criminal Records Registry;
- What form of data collection, Manual or Electronic;
- Whether other arresting agencies transmit records of arrests to the Central Criminal Records Registry or Criminal Records Registry;
- Whether the IGP/COP remit records of arrests made to the AGF/AGs of the state.

## 2.6 AVAILABILITY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE DATA OR STATISTICS



- ACJA/ACJL presupposes that every state should possess some basic data on Criminal Justice Record such as records of Arrests; Prevalent offences; Convictions, etc. Section 15 of ACJA provides for records of arrests.
- The ACJA Minimum Standard is availability of such basic data in the criminal justice system.

**2.6.1 The availability of statistics or otherwise will be measured with reference to:**

- Whether the Inspector-General of Police/Commissioner of Police remit records of arrests to the Attorney-General of the Federation/Attorney-General of the state.
- Whether the courts remit judgements in criminal cases.

**2.7 USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM**



- Technology can assist in crime-solving by providing a more efficient way of working, that allows investigating officers to review all the relevant evidence quickly. Section 15 (4) ACJA provides for recording confessions electronically. ACJA permits court proceedings to be automated and the judge or magistrate in deserving cases may take evidence through video links or through other electronic means. Of recent, Courts in Nigeria conduct virtual proceedings. (Section 364 of ACJA).

**2.7.1 Use of technology by each state is measured with reference to:**

- E-recording of Confessional Statements by the Police
- E-recording of Confessional Statements by Other Law Enforcement Agencies

- Electronic facilities in Court
- E-recording of Court Proceedings

## 2.8 ABOLITION OF LAY PROSECUTION?



- The ACJA minimum standard is that prosecution of criminal cases shall be conducted by legal practitioners. (Section 106).
- By implication, ACJA has abolished lay prosecution.
- Only a few states have abolished lay prosecution due to the cost involved in employing lawyers. Consequently, many States still allow lay prosecutions.
- Where lay prosecution is operational, the State will be assessed by the quality control measures available in the State.

### 2.8.1 Measures to control the quality of Lay Prosecution

- Where lay prosecution is still practiced, states are required to develop quality control measures such as:
  - a. Oversight mechanisms of the lay prosecutors;
  - b. Regular training of lay prosecutors;
  - c. Guidelines for lay prosecutors.
  - d. Accountability by lay prosecutors.
  - e. Proper record keeping by lay prosecutors.

## 2.9 COMPLIANCE WITH TIME LIMITS

- ACJA provides timeline for the performance of almost every responsibility it imposes. By ACJA standard, the timeline DPP's legal advice is 7 working days.
- The minimum standard with respect to criminal trial after arraignment, is that trial must proceed on day-to-day until judgement. Section 396(3) ACJA. However, day-to-day does not mean trial on consecutive days but effective case management

where the judge and the parties agree on dates for different stages of a trial and follow same scrupulously.

**2.9.1 Compliance with the time limits will be measured by:**

- Average Time within which the Police sends Case Files to the DPP for issuance of Legal Advice
- Average Time within which the DPP sends Legal Advice to the Police
- Average Time within which a criminal case is assigned to a Court after filing.
- Average time it takes to complete a criminal case from arraignment to judgment, in the:
  - (a) Magistrate court, and
  - (b) High Court.

**2.10 SYNERGY BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND OTHER OVERSIGHT AUTHORITIES**



- Section 1(2) of ACJA provides that the courts, law enforcement agencies and other institution or persons involved in criminal administration shall ensure compliance with the ACJA for the realization of the purpose of the law.
- Section 111 of ACJA obligates the Controller-General of the Nigerian Correctional Service to make return to the heads of court and AGs every 90 days of Awaiting Trial Persons (ATPs) held in custody beyond 180 in the correctional centres. This is to ensure trials of the ATPs.

- Section 33 of ACJA provides for supervisory visits of magistrates and judges to detention centres other than the correctional facility.
- To ensure compliance with the ACJA the minimum standard required of each is expected to have synergy amongst law enforcement agencies. For example, Kaduna and Plateau States make provisions for early engagement between the Nigerian Police and the Ministry of Justice.

#### **2.10.1 Synergy between criminal justice agencies in the state will be measured:**

- Existence of forum for meeting or coordination between the police and the Ministry of Justice.
- Early engagement of the Ministry of justice in the investigation of cases.
- Remittance of quarterly report of persons awaiting trial to the Attorney-General by the Nigerian Correctional Service for more than 180 days to the Attorney-General and other oversight offices.
- Magistrates' periodic visits to police stations and other places of detention and how often such inspection visits are conducted.
- What data is available on ATPs
- Efforts to decongest the correctional facilities
- Whether the Nigerian correctional service in the state remit quarterly reports of persons awaiting trial for more than 180 days to the AG, the Chief Judge, the Legal Aid Council, the NHRC, and the NBA.

#### **2.11 AVAILABILITY OF LEGAL AID TO INDIGENT SUSPECTS**



- Provision of legal aid to indigent suspects is one of the hallmarks of ACJA. See sections 6, 17, 349 and 376(9).

- The ACJLs is expect to have similar provisions on provision of legal aid to indigent suspects.

**2.11.1 The Federal/States will be assessed with reference to number of:**

- legal aid officers available;
- indigent suspects provided legal advice at the police stations.
- indigent defendants provided legal aid in court;
- How often, rarely or very often are indigent suspects provided legal aid services before their matter is taken to court.

**2.12 WITNESS PROTECTION**

- Section 232 of ACJA provides for witness protection. ACJ permits witnesses to some offences to give evidence through video link, witnesses to be screened or masked, receive written deposition of expert evidence.

**2.12.1 Implementation of witness protection will be measured with reference to:**

- Provision for witness protection measures in the ACJL;
- Facilities put in place in the state for witness protection.
- Awareness of witness protection measures and extent of use of such measures.

**2.13 CASE MANAGEMENT**

- To live up to the purpose of ACJA which guarantees speedy dispensation of justice as provided in section 1, one of the tools that can be used by courts to determine criminal matters quickly is case management. Section 396 of ACJA.

**2.13.1 Effective use of case management in courts is measured by reference to:**

- a. How long it takes to conduct individual cases in the state;
- b. Are individual cases conducted on a day-to-day basis.
- c. Are criminal proceedings stayed on account of interlocutory applications in the state and how often, or are cases *rarely* stayed on account of interlocutory applications.
- d. Are ruling on objection deferred to judgment immediately they are moved and such rulings is not deferred to the time of judgment.

## **2.14 EXISTENCE OF FORMAL STRUCTURES OR DESIGNATED PERSONNEL FOR NON-CUSTODIAL SENTENCE**

- ACJA 2015 has introduced non-custodial measures into the Nigerian Criminal Justice System as alternatives to imprisonment to decongest the custodial centres. These non-custodial measures are not limited to community service, rehabilitation, suspended sentence, parole, fines, etc.
- It is expected that the ACJLs would have equivalent provisions on non-custodial measures.
- There are tools each state needs to have to effective implementation of the ACJL such as issuance of practice Directions to address gaps in the law; clear guidelines on registry practices; existence of help desks in court registries and any other complimentary policy or rules.

### **2.14.1 The existence of formal structures or designated personnel for non-custodial measures will be accessed on:**

- Availabilities of alternatives to incarceration in the ACJL.
- Available tools in the state for effective implementation of non-custodial measures.

## **2.15 AVAILABILITY OF COMPLIMENTARY POLICY OR REGULATIONS TO SUPPORT ACJL**

- Section 490 of ACJA empowers the Chief Judges of the Federal Courts to make rules for effective implementation of the law. Such rules include Practice Directions or ACJ Rules for the effective application of the ACJL, Sentencing Guidelines, Plea Bargaining Guidelines and Bondsperson Regulation.

2.15.1 The above indicator will be measured by reference to the existence of the complimentary policy or regulation listed above.

## **2.16 EXISTENCE OF MONITORING BODY**



- Section 469 of ACJA established the Administration of Criminal Justice Monitoring Committee (ACJMC). The body is charged with the responsibility of ensuring effective and efficient application of ACJA by the relevant agencies. The minimum standard expected is not only for the establishment of ACJMC in the ACJL or its equivalent but also to have a functional ACJMC.

#### **2.16.1 This will be measured with reference to:**

- ACJL provisions for a body to coordinate the activities of the various criminal justice institutions;
- Existence of such a body with a secretariat or desk;
- Provision of funding for the body;
- Creation of a work plan or programmatic action plan or road map; sub-committees;
- Evidence of co-ordination such as submission of quarterly reports to the chief judge.

### **2.17 AVAILABILITY OF STATISTICS IN THE JUDICIARY**

- This unit measures the workload of courts and the state of physical facilities for justice administration in the states, FCT as well as the Federal Courts.
- Basically, the quantum and quality of judges, magistrates, court staff, infrastructure; gadgets; ventilation, furniture; power supply are critical components.

#### **2.17.1 This will be assessed with reference to:**

- Number of judicial staff available;
- Number of lower court and high judges conducting criminal cases;
- Adequacy of court rooms;
- State of offices; toilet facilities and vehicles.

### **2.18 FUNDING AND BUDGETARY ISSUES**



- Funding and budgetary are critical component in implementation of the criminal justice. In this regard, the federal/states criminal agencies will be assessed with reference to:
- Budgetary provision for judges, magistrates and support staff; and
- Budget approved and percentage released in the last three years.

## **CONCLUSION**

The foregoing will guide the user of this pamphlet in familiarizing with the objectives, purpose of the national minimum standards and the indicators for evaluating the performance of the criminal justice stakeholders of every state and the FCT in the implementation of the Administration of the ACJA/ACJL.

The user can use the guide as a tool for advocating improved implementation of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act or Law as the case may be.



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