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BY

OUTLINE

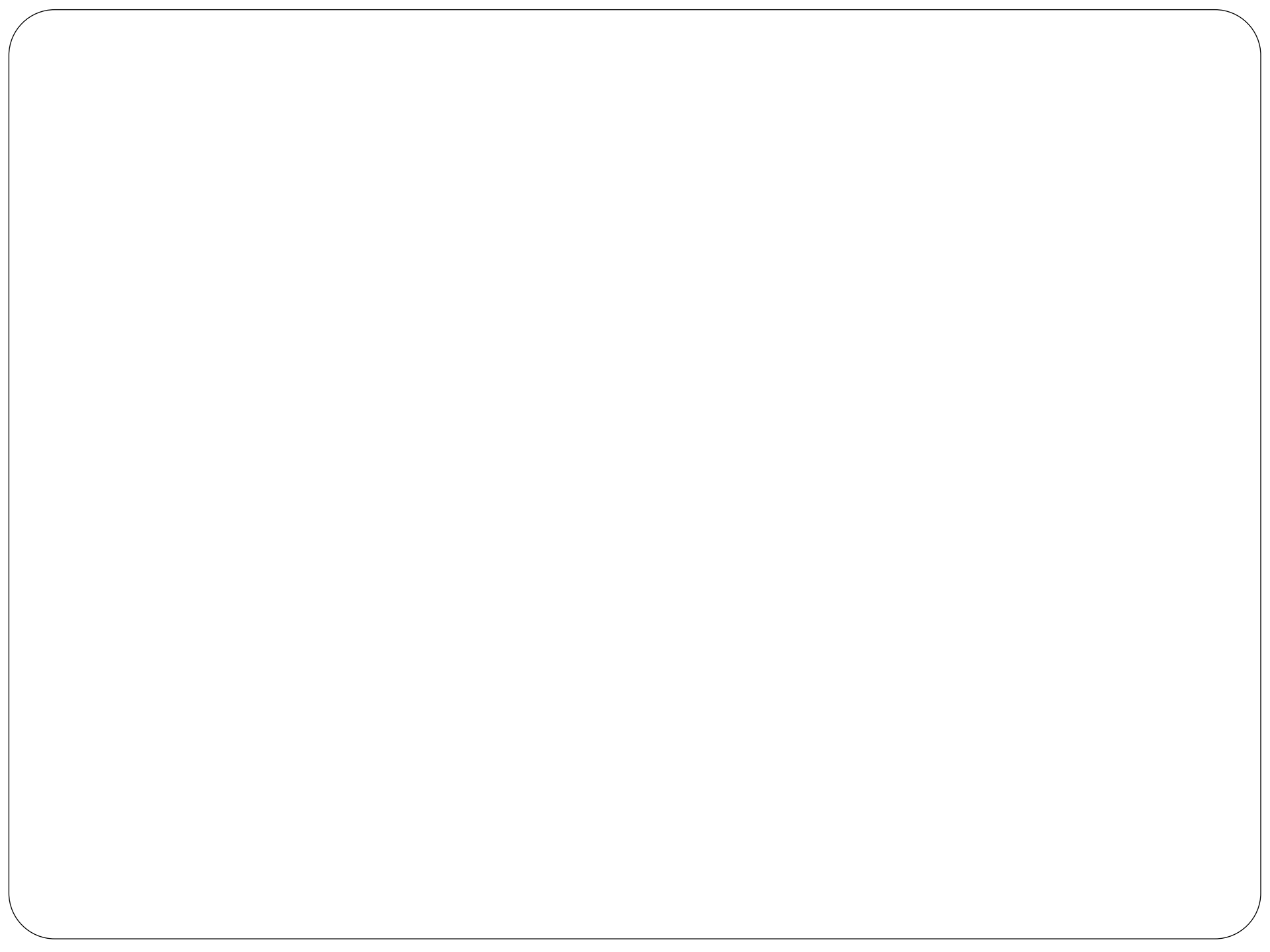
Introduction

Importance on NPOs

Vulnerability of NPOs to Terrorism Financing

Suggested actions to be taken to check abuse of NPOs

Conclusion



Importance of NPOs

Though driven by different ideals and concerns, activities of NPOs are essentially designed to help and render assistance to members of the public with the aim to save, respect and improve life and conditions of living .

NGOs, Nigerian Perspective

A large number of NPOs operate across the country

The legal regime in Nigeria allows both local and international NPOs to operate

The people use NPOs as a platform to help the poor and fight injustice and to ensure effective and equitable distribution of resources.

Some trust the NPOs more than some institutions of Government

Some privileged persons in the society often set up NPOs as a vehicle through which they can give back to the society.

There is no detailed continuous monitoring process of as a

Vulnerability of NPOs

They enjoy the trust and acceptability of the people and therefore can be very attractive for criminals to hijack and use it to carry out their criminal activities, including supporting or financing terrorism

NPOs attract less scrutiny from the authorities and as such are most likely to be overlooked and are thus allowed unwittingly to beat certain checks by appropriate authorities

They are open to funding from all sorts and therefore a very attractive vehicle to raise funds for terrorist activities

Vulnerability

NPOs have the capacity to gain access to all the nooks and crannies of any given environment with less stringent monitoring of the services and messages rendered by the NPOs

A great number of them are not captured in the official database of government and could therefore operate clandestinely to perpetuate evil

Some local NPOs seek and obtain international affiliations and therefore subject themselves to the dictates and directives from their international partners. This sort of affiliations can lead to change in ideals and objectives overtime, either consciously or unconsciously

Suggested actions to be take to prevent abuse of NPOs

Engagement with NPOs and training and sensitization

Clear legal framework to govern the ownerships and governance structure of NPOs

Proper documentations and registration of NPOs is vital to aid in recognising the official ones from the one not known to the authorities

Continuous monitoring of all financial transactions connecting NPOs

Continued

Proper identification of trustees of the NPOs and a detailed fit and proper test should be conducted on persons and entities before they could be allowed to run an NPO

NPOs should be encouraged to form self regulatory associations with the aim of reporting shady activities of any NPO to government authorities

Financial institutions must continually work with the FIUs and Regulators to regularly work on red flags on suspicious transactions as it relates to NPOs

Continue

For the purposes of supervision, NPOs are designated as DNFBPs and are regulated by the Special Control Unit on Money Laundering.

SCUML regulates NPOs with the following Legal and Institutional framework.

Money Laundering Prohibition Act 2011 (as amended)

Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment (DNFBP) Regulations 2013 and

The Terrorism Prevention Act 2011 (as amended)

Special Control Unit on Money Laundering Regulation, 2013

Continue

According to the records provided by the Special control Unit on Money Laundering in Nigeria only 3869 NPOs were registered in Nigeria.

The European Union, in 2009 stated that there are over 46,00 NPOs operating in Nigeria.

Most foreign NPOs operate directly with the Federal Ministries in the provision of Health Care, Education Etc. and most recently, the provision of assistance to the Internally Displaced Person (IDP)

Inflows by NPOs between 2010 ÷ 2014 stood at 13.85 Billion United State Dollars.

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NPOs are therefore considered to be vulnerable to abuse by terrorist financiers.

Cash transactions are very prominent within the lower value chain, this makes NPOs to enjoy the trust and comfort of the citizens as the beneficiaries of NPOs are mostly victims of abuse, as well as victims of terrorism.

Most NPO funds are from foreign donors and it is observed that some donations to NPOs are anonymous.

When donations are anonymous, there are usually not captured by official means.

Measures to Prevent Abuse

The Money Laundering Prohibition Act 2011 as amended provides that transactions above threshold should be through

Measures to Prevent Abuse

The Ministry of Trade has powers to directly inquire and obtain records from any NPO and they are expected to keep records of all their transactions for a period of 5 years after the transaction.

Financial institutions are

Measure ContiA

Under the Terrorist Prevention Act 2011 as amended, Financial Institutions are under an obligation to report within 72 hours transactions suspected to relate to terrorism.

CONCLUSION

It is evident that Nigeria as a Country is conscious of the impact of terrorism financing and the importance of doing the needful to

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THANK
YOU
FOR LISTENING