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PRESS RELEASE

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U.S. Human Rights Training to the Nigerian Police Force

Abuja, FCT – Today, Rosalyn Wiese, Director, U.S. International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) Nigeria, delivered remarks during a graduation ceremony for 28 officers from the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) that successfully completed advanced human rights training. The goal of the week-long training course was to provide advanced human rights training to NPF officers deploying to the northeast and to trainers from the NPF’s academies and colleges to facilitate a train-the-trainer program.

The course instructors are senior law enforcement advisors and police officers with over 20 years of experience with the Prince William County Police Department in Virginia, USA. The curriculum for the training was developed based on the current environment in northeast Nigeria and includes training on the importance of the promotion and protection of human rights, legal sources of human rights in Nigeria, human rights-based policing, and human rights challenges in post-conflict stability restoration operations. The training featured a hands-on, scenario-based approach to instruction that allows the students to work through practical exercises based on a scenario specific to the challenges being faced in areas affected by the fight against Boko Haram.

During the ceremony, Ms. Wiese said the United States government is partnering with the Government of Nigeria to support efforts to deploy additional civilian security, particularly police, to northeast Nigeria. She highlighted human rights as an area of study that is particularly important for all security forces when providing security for vulnerable populations. Ms. Wiese thanked the NPF for their partnership to continuously invest in their people by providing them the opportunity to gain valuable skills that will make them a more effective and professional police force.

The U.S. Embassy’s International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) Nigeria program provides equipment, training, mentoring, and capacity- building support to various Nigerian law enforcement and justice sector institutions.

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