



**THE GAGDI PLAN**  
ONE NATION, FORWARD TOGETHER

**A Manifesto for the  
10th House of Representatives  
(2023 – 2027)**





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# TABLE OF CONTENT

Introduction by Rt. Hon Yusuf Adamu Gagdi

## **SECTION A - REFORMS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

1. Legislative Agenda
2. Oversight Responsibility
3. Consideration of Establishment Bills
4. Voting Procedures
5. Inclusive and Structured Debates
6. Legislative Human Capital Development
7. Participatory Governance and Public Engagement
8. Women, Youth and Persons With Disabilities
9. Open Governance and Public Accountability
10. The Appropriations Process

## **SECTION B - PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES**

1. Constitutional Reform
2. Justice Sector Reforms
3. Police Reform
4. National Security
5. Economic Growth and Development
6. Equal Participation in Public Life
7. Education and Human Capital Development
8. Healthcare

Conclusion



## INTRODUCTION

**M**y name is Yusuf Adamu Gagdi. I represent Pankshin/Kanke/Kanam Federal Constituency in the House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. I have offered myself for consideration by my colleagues for the office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives in the 10th National Assembly. This document, the Gagdi Plan, is a concise manifesto of the organisational and policy ideas that motivated my desire to be Speaker of the House and will underpin my leadership if elected.

Parliament is the beating heart of the democratic system of government. It ensures that the multiplicity of perspectives and interests, the diversity of cultures and values in a society are accommodated in the decision-making process. In parliament, we have critical conversations about the present and future, about who we are and who we hope to be. Through the appropriations process, parliament can define policy priorities and ensure those priorities are well served. And it is to parliament that citizens look to hold the executive accountable and prevent abuses of executive power. These enormous responsibilities define democracy, and we must do better at them for the sake of our country.

Improving the performance of the House of Representatives begins with changing the way the House operates. It requires ensuring that the limited financial and personnel resources of parliament are judiciously allocated to those objectives that best serve the constitutional mandate of the House of Representatives. It also demands that the limited time available to parliament in a year is equitably structured to ensure that the most critical policy issues are prioritised for informed debate and contributions by representatives. Proposals to achieve these outcomes and more are outlined in this manifesto. I invite you to read them and be inspired by my vision of a House of Representatives that can be much better and more worthy of our mandate.

**This Nigeria is possible.  
I am convinced in my  
heart that the House  
of Representatives, the  
people's parliament,  
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occur.**

Nation-building is a continuous effort; each generation is called to learn from the mistakes of their predecessors, build on past achievements and march the country forward towards a better future. For us in this generation, we are called to an even greater objective; to give meaning to Nigeria. It now falls to us to define Nigeria as we wish it to be for us, for our children and for all of history – a place of remarkable diversity, a people united by the shared values of hard work and excellence, a land where the best aspirations of our hearts can find fulfilment through dedication and with the support of our communities. A nation where kindness and compassion are valued as their own reward, where poverty is surmountable, and peace is honourable.

This Nigeria is possible. I am convinced in my heart that the House of Representatives, the people’s parliament, is where the critical conversations necessary to define this new Nigerian future must occur. I want to be Speaker of the 10th House of Representatives so that I can ensure that the green chamber of that honourable House will be the arena where men and women who believe in the worthy cause of Nigeria can, with character and courage, wisdom and humility chart the course of Nigeria through these turbulent times towards a future of abiding peace and shared prosperity for all.

This is the promise of one nation, moving forward together. Join me, and we will make this dream a reality with God on our side.

God bless you all. God bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

**RT. HON. YUSUF ADAMU GAGDI**  
**Member of the House of Representatives**  
**Pankshin/Kanke/Kanam Federal Constituency**





SECTION  
A

REFORMS OF  
THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES



**T**wenty-four years since the return to democracy, the Nigerian people have rightly come to expect more from their representatives in the National Assembly. The ability of the House of Representatives to effectively meet the expectations of the Nigerian people depends first on the quality, capacity and dedication of the members who serve in the parliament. It also depends on how the internal operations of the House are structured, designed and funded.

The reform proposals outlined below intend to significantly improve the performance and reputation of the House of Representatives by ensuring more effective management of parliamentary time, creating room for robust debate of national issues, improving public participation in the legislative process, and ensuring transparency, inclusivity, and accountability in the decision-making processes in the House of Representatives.

## **1. LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

The Legislative Agenda outlines the policy and reform priorities of the legislature and provides a framework for prioritising legislative interventions. In the 9th Assembly, the Legislative Agenda has been a useful tool for managing legislative priorities and ensuring responsiveness to the needs of the Nigerian people. In the 10th House of Representatives, with the support of my colleagues, we will constitute a Standing Committee on the Legislative Agenda of the 10th House of Representatives to articulate the views and interests of members into a coherent governing agenda, to operate as a policy clearing house to ensure the implementation of the agenda and to do all other things necessary to facilitate the full implementation of the Legislative Agenda of the 10th House of Representatives.

## **2. OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITY.**

The oversight function of the House of Representatives is central to the constitutional mandate of parliament. The House of Representatives oversees the implementation of laws, the formulation and

execution of policies and the expenditure of funds from the public purse by the executive. The purpose of oversight is to ensure that government resources are used efficiently and effectively for the public good and that the exercise of executive power is within the constraints defined by law. For the 10th House of Representatives to perform this function optimally, the following reforms will be adopted:

- i. **Standardisation of Oversight Reporting.** The 10th House of Representatives will collaborate with the National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS) to create a uniform template for oversight reporting for all Committees to adopt and use. This template will be embedded in the Standing Rules of the House of Representatives.
- ii. **Uniform Oversight Calendar.** The 10th House of Representatives will adopt a uniform oversight calendar for all standing committees as part of the standing orders. Chairpersons, Deputies and Clerks of the committees will be responsible for ensuring their committees conduct oversight within the timelines.
- iii. **Publication of Oversight Reports.** Oversight reports will be laid and considered on the floor of the House of Representatives as per the Standing Orders. They will also be published on a dedicated website open to the public as part of efforts to improve transparency and open government.
- iv. **Budgetary Provision for Oversight.** The oversight responsibilities of parliament often require travel and other logistics. Without funding, committees often rely on the agencies under their supervision to fund oversight activities. This is a constitutional aberration. To correct this anomaly, oversight funding for House Committees will be financed through the regular appropriations process. Standing Committees in the 10th Assembly will be required to prepare and defend their annual budgets for consideration and passage as part of the appropriations process.

### 3. CONSIDERATION OF ESTABLISHMENT BILLS

Bills to establish agencies of the Federal Government of Nigeria take up significant legislative time. When these bills become law, they add to the cost of governance. An intentional effort is required to reorganise the procedures for establishment bills. The reorganisation will allow for more effective use of parliamentary time, promote robust debates, reduce the cost to the government of creating institutions that cannot be fully funded and ensure that when establishments are created, they have the informed support of Nigerian people. The proposed changes are as follows:

- a. Consideration of establishment bills in the 10th House of Representatives will be limited to one plenary day a week.
- b. Establishment bills listed for consideration must include the following:
  - FINANCIAL IMPACT ANALYSIS from the Budget Office of the Federation, assessing the initial cost to the Federal Government of establishing the proposed agency, the long-term costs of the proposed establishment and the viability and sustainability of the proposed agency; and
  - NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT from the parent Ministry of the proposed agency or from the office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation. The Report will include information on the proposed agency's development objectives, details of other similar existing institutions, and any additional information to inform parliamentary debate and aid decision-making.

### 4. VOTING PROCEDURES

Voting on bills and motions in the 10th House of Representatives will be by recorded division instead of voice votes, where any member on the floor moves a motion to that effect, and it is seconded by two other members. Records of votes and proceedings of the House of Representatives, including the details of individual members' votes, will be public information. This will ensure that members' contributions to legislative proposals are well-informed and allow citizens to track their representatives' voting records.

## 5. INCLUSIVE AND STRUCTURED DEBATES

Debates and deliberations in plenary are essential parts of the operations of the House of Representatives. These debates provide an opportunity for members from across the country to contribute their perspectives and concerns and advocate for the interests of their constituents. To ensure the diversity of perspectives and ideas represented in the House of Representatives are adequately reflected in decision-making, debates on the floor will be structured according to geo-political zone and political parties. Speaking time will be equitably allocated to provide sufficient floor time for members to amplify the voices of their constituents and provide for a more robust debate.

## 6. LEGISLATIVE HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

The 10th House of Representatives will improve the quality of its work and better serve the Nigerian people by investing in legislative capacity building. Through training workshops, certified short courses and other specialised programs offered by the National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS) and other development partners, we will build the capacity of members and staff of the legislature and improve our ability to pass effective legislation and serve the needs of constituents.

## 7. PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The 10th House of Representatives will hold at least six nationally televised town hall events annually. These town hall events will bring the leadership of the House of Representatives to interact directly with citizens across the country, explain legislative actions and decisions, hear from the people, give citizens a voice in the decision-making process and help to build and deepen a culture of participatory governance in the country. Each town hall event will be held in a different geo-political zone to ensure all parts of the country are carried along.

## 8. WOMEN, YOUTH AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Gender, youth and physical disability should not determine an individual's ability to participate in the governance of their society or stand in the way of their contributions to national development. I will ensure the voices of young people, women, persons living with disabilities and other Nigerians who are too often left out of the critical conversations about our nationhood are included and heard in the 10th House of Representatives. As Speaker of the House of Representatives, I will:

- Appoint qualified young people into senior policy, political and administrative positions where they can have a direct influence on policy design and implementation and get a better understanding of the internal workings of government and politics at the highest levels.
- Build on the legacy of Rt. Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila, by institutionalising and sustaining the Legislative Mentorship Initiative (LMI) to identify, engage and train young people to work effectively in government, politics and public service roles, especially in the federal and state legislatures and in local government administration.

## 8. OPEN GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

The credibility required to govern effectively is earned through a deliberate effort by those who control the levers of power in a society. Nothing discredits government more than the appearance of opacity in decision-making. The 10th House of Representatives will make deliberate efforts to bridge the trust deficit between the House and the people by :

- i. ensuring more access to the public galleries, where visitors can watch and observe proceedings in person;
- ii. publishing the weekly records of attendance, proceedings, and votes in the House of Representatives;

- iii. making it easy for the public to track legislation as it makes its way through the House of Representatives by publishing on a dedicated website the list and text of bills under consideration, and their status; and
- iv. establishing a House of Representatives Visitor Centre as a one-stop shop for the public to access information about the history and workings of the National Assembly and the House of Representatives in particular, get information about their representatives, and organise interactions with the legislature.

## 9. THE APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS

Control of public funds in the Federal Government is the constitutional duty of the National Assembly. The Assembly must make appropriations in law to authorise expenditures from the public purse. It is from the constitutional authority to make appropriations that the parliament derives the secondary power to oversee the details of spending by the executive. The following reforms are proposed to improve the appropriations process in the National Assembly and ensure the budget design and implementation meet the Nigerian people's expectations.

- i. **National Assembly Budget Office.** Most members of the National Assembly come to their role without any knowledge of budget functions and processes. This problem will be exacerbated in the 10th House of Representatives, where nearly 80% of members will be new legislators. The National Assembly Budget Office will be an independent, non-partisan, statutory office comprised of economists, lawyers, and budget analysts. The office will work with the Budget Office of the Federation, the Ministry of Finance, and the Central Bank of Nigeria to produce independent analyses of budgetary and economic issues to support the legislative budget process and advise members and committees of the National Assembly on decision-making regarding the appropriations process.



- ii. **Core Competence Budgeting.** An emerging trend of ministries, departments and agencies budgeting for and executing projects outside their core competence has created a crisis of confidence amongst Nigerians about the use of scarce resources in the Federal Government. In the 10th National Assembly, we will seek to end this practice. Budget proposals by ministries, departments and agencies must reflect the core competencies of the proposing agencies. Amongst other things, this will help end the perennial issue of duplication of projects across multiple MDAs.
- iii. **Budget Defence.** Ministries, departments, and Federal government agencies must provide written justification for the line items in their budget proposals. Except in instances where the publication of such information could have adverse national security consequences, these written justifications will be public documents to help the Nigerian people understand the reasoning behind expenditure proposals and aid in tracking budget implementation across the country.
- iv. **Budget Office Law.** As a matter of the highest priority, the 10th House of Representatives will seek to pass a bill establishing the Budget Office of the Federation as a statutory body empowered by law to manage the budget functions and processes of the Federation. Additionally, the Budget Office Law will define budget offences and their penalties and empower the Budget Office to drive enforcement of these provisions.
- v. **Additional Reforms.** In the 10th House of Representatives, we will additionally consider the following:
  - **Change from an annual to a biennial budget process.** This will give the executive adequate time to fund and implement budgeted projects, provide more certainty in the operation of federal activities, and allow lawmakers more time to focus on oversight and longer-term policy development.



- **Portfolio Budgeting.** Under the portfolio budgeting framework, decisions regarding aggregate spending and program priorities in the various principal policy areas are integrated into a single process that pulls together all related programs scattered across agency and committee jurisdictions. For example, whereas budgeting for healthcare is currently siloed across multiple agencies, the federal healthcare budget will be considered a uniform entity under portfolio budgeting. Funding for specific projects will be allocated to various implementing agencies. This will eliminate project duplication and allow more effective and targeted utilisation of limited resources.





**SECTION  
B**

**PUBLIC  
POLICY  
PRIORITIES**

**T**he 10th House of Representatives will focus its legislative activities on achieving measurable improvements in those areas of public policy that offer the best hope of improving the lives and circumstances of the ordinary person. Nigerians need to feel safe in their own country, and foreign investors require a guarantee of safety for their investments. We need an educated workforce to compete in the global economy and ensure that the opportunities for individual advancement are not limited by gender or disability. The justice system must be fair. Citizens must be confident that judicial pronouncements are grounded in facts and law rather than obtained by malfeasance or prejudice. These things will make for a better Nigeria; they are the objectives to which we must devote ourselves in the 10th House of Representatives.

## 1. CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS

The constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria is the foundation of our nationhood; it defines who we are and determines to a large extent, both our ability to aspire to greatness and our capacity to reach our highest aspirations. As Speaker, I will endeavour to lead the 10th House of Representatives to build on the constitutional reforms of the 9th Assembly to ensure that we have for Nigeria a constitution that allows a better definition of our nationhood, that heeds the lessons of our history and will enable us to look forward to a future of promise and possibility.

- i. **Local Government Autonomy:** The House will push for local government autonomy as one of its key priorities in the ongoing constitutional reform agenda. This move aims to grant local government authorities direct access and greater control over their respective territories and resources, thereby promoting more efficient and effective governance at the grassroots level.
- ii. **Separation of the office of the Attorney General and the Ministry of Justice.** The House will legislate for the separation of the office of the Attorney General and the Ministry of Justice. Separating the two offices will ensure independence in per-

forming duties, specifically in prosecuting cases and advising the government. The Attorney General’s dual role as a political appointee and a legal adviser can result in conflicts of interest and undermine the justice system’s integrity.

- iii. **Enforcement of Legislative Summons.** The effective exercise of oversight power by the federal state legislatures requires that the power of the parliament to summon executive officers, including the President and the governors, the process for exercising that power and the penalties for failure to comply be clearly defined in law.
- iv. **Repeal of Section 315.** Section 351 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria embeds the Land Use Act, the National Security Act, the National Youth Service Corps Act and the Public Complaints Commission Act in the constitution. It makes amendments to these statutes subject to the same procedure as amendments to the constitution itself. This provision has long prevented overdue reforms of these critical institutions and sectors. Repealing S.325 will make it possible to amend these statutes in regular order.

## 2. JUSTICE SECTOR REFORMS

Dr Martin Luther King, Jr reminded us that “the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.” With this turn of phrase, the late Dr King articulated, as only he could, that a society that opposes the ends of justice is an amoral society at war with itself. Such a society is thus hindered from achieving its greatest and best aspirations. The goal of one nation, moving forward together, depends on having a justice system that relies on truth to dispense equal justice under the law yet offers the possibility of mercy, rehabilitation, and redemption to the deserving.

- i. **Digitisation of courts nationwide.** The administration of the criminal justice system in Nigeria is still largely dependent on the use of archaic manual tools for everything from filing cases to transcribing testimony in court. This contributes signifi-

cantly to the lethargy in the judicial process. Digitisation of the court system to automate specific processes and functions will expedite these functions and free up the court's time for activities better suited to the ends of justice.

- ii. **National database of criminal reports, biometric information of arrests, and convictions.** A national database of this sort is useful for tracking crime patterns, locating criminals and ensuring that repeat offenders bear the full consequences of their crimes. The 10th House of Representatives will establish the framework for managing this database as a matter of law.
- iii. **Audit of prisons and correction centres.** The 10th House of Representatives will exercise the authority of parliament to conduct a comprehensive audit of jails, prisons, and correction centres in the country and work with federal and state stakeholders to reduce the number of prisoners in 'awaiting trial' limbo in our criminal justice system.
- iv. **Automatic access to legal services.** Access to legal services for persons arrested on suspicion of crime should be a fundamental human right to limit abuses of police authority and prevent miscarriages of justice. The 10th House of Representatives will take action to ensure the deployment of Legal Aid Officers in police and law enforcement stations across the country. Law enforcement officers will be prohibited from interrogating and questioning suspects absent legal counsel.
- v. **Prohibit the use of tainted testimony at trial.** Where evidence exists to suggest that the testimony offered by a suspect or a witness may have been obtained by coercion, deception, force, or the threat of force against suspects or their family members by law enforcement officers or persons acting under their direction, such witness testimony cannot form part of the evidence considered at trial.



- vi. **Expediting administration of justice.** The 10th House of Representatives will convene a Special Summit on the Administration of Justice in Nigeria to consider constitutional, statutory reforms expressly intended to expedite the time it takes for cases to make their way through the judicial system until final determination.

### 3. POLICE REFORM

Making the Nigerian Police Force into a more effective crime-fighting organisation that operates within the rule of law and is accountable to the people may be the most consequential achievement of any administration in Nigeria. The Nigerian Police Force is a constitutional creation. As such, several of the substantive reforms to the way we police our country can only be achieved through amendments to the constitution of our republic; others may be achieved through amendments to the Police Act and the Police Service Commission (Establishment) Act.

- i. **Repeal of Section 215(5).** This provision of the constitution vests ultimate authority to hold the Nigeria Police Force accountable for their actions in the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. This is an undemocratic aberration left over from the days of the military. The police exist to serve the people, not the government. As such, accountability should rest in civil democratic institutions, most especially the courts.
- ii. **Police Service Commission.** Empower the Police Service Commission to operate more effectively as the internal affairs accountability and standard-setting mechanism for the Nigeria Police Force. Define the role of the PSC in the recruitment, training, promotion and disciplining of police officers, men and women.
- iii. **Department of Police Accountability in the Office of the Attorney General of the Federation.** Advocate for the establishment of a dedicated department in the office of the Attorney General of the Federation, mandated to pursue prosecution of police and law enforcement officers found to have acted illegally in the conduct of their duties.



**iv. Community Policing:** The House will push for constitutional reform to establish community policing within the federal police system. Some of the proposals in this reform package include:

- **Community Police Committees.** These are joint committees of police, citizens, civic, traditional, and religious leaders in the community. These committees will allow for regular interface between the police and the community for the purposes of intelligence gathering and joint accountability. Leaders will be recruited as the country is currently facing security challenges including kidnapping, Boko Haram, banditry, and unknown gunmen. The absence of state policing has hindered states from effectively combating these threats, as they rely on federal government support.
- **Police where you're from.** Police officers from cadet through to Superintendent will serve in their communities where they are recruited from. Communities need to be policed by people they know, and people who know them. This will help reduce the incidence of police officers operating like occupying forces in the areas they are posted to.

#### 4. NATIONAL SECURITY

The constitution of our republic makes clear that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government. The last decade has seen the metamorphosis of security challenges bedeviling the country across every region. While our armed forces have recorded and continue to record significant feats against the purveyors of violence against Nigerian citizens, the evolving threat matrix requires an ongoing effort to adopt and implement new strategies against our enemies, both foreign and domestic.

- i. National Security Summit.** The 9th House of Representatives convened a National Security Summit that brought stakeholders together to holistically consider our national security chal-

lenges and recommend how to revamp our national security architecture to be more effective against these threats. The 10th House of Representatives will continue implementing the statutory reforms recommended at the summit.

- ii. **Balkanisation of National Security Functions.** In multiple arenas, the balkanisation of national security functions and resources across multiple, often competing institutions has been identified as a significant mitigating factor against our national security interests. In the 10th House of Representatives, we will seek to exercise legislative authority to achieve a more streamlined national security framework better suited to our needs.
- iii. **Accountability and Oversight for Law Enforcement Agencies.** The House is dedicated to upholding the rule of law by ensuring accountability and oversight for all law enforcement agencies. This is crucial in preventing any abuse of office, preventing human right violations, and keeping law enforcement officers in check.
- iv. **Improving intelligence gathering.** The House will work towards passing laws and policies aimed at improving the intelligence gathering capabilities of security agencies, to enable them to detect and prevent security threats before they occur and improve their capacity to carry out intelligence-based interventions on a cross-agency basis.
- v. **Addressing the root causes of insecurity.** The House will work towards passing laws and policies aimed at addressing the underlying causes of insecurity in Nigeria, including poverty, unemployment, and inequality.
- vi. **Strengthening border security.** The House will work towards passing laws and policies aimed at improving border security to prevent the influx of arms and ammunition, and to curb the activities of criminal gangs that operate across borders.

**vii. Protecting critical infrastructure.** The House will work towards passing laws and policies aimed at protecting critical infrastructure such as airports, seaports, power stations, and telecommunications facilities, from sabotage and attacks.

viii. Welfare of armed forces and law enforcement officers.

## 5. ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Two and a half Nigerians fall into poverty every minute, with one out of four Nigerians or 71.3 million people living on less than \$1.90 daily. According to the World Poverty Clock, 18 Nigerians must exit poverty every minute for Nigeria to achieve a zero-poverty rate by 2030. The House will focus on pushing policies for the economic development and advancement of the Nigerian economy.

- i. Encouraging Foreign Direct Investment.** The House will encourage foreign direct investment by creating an attractive investment climate for foreign investors through policies such as tax incentives, streamlined business registration processes, and providing a conducive environment for investment.
- ii. Infrastructure Development.** The 10th House of Representatives will be committed to addressing the infrastructural deficiency across the country. The House will prioritise infrastructure development by allocating more funds for the construction and maintenance of roads, railways, airports, and power supply. This will enhance connectivity, reduce transportation costs, and promote economic activities across the country.
  - **Utilise public-private partnerships.** The House will push for policy and law reforms that encourage building partnerships with private companies to finance and construct infrastructure projects which will help reduce the burden on taxpayers and accelerate project timelines.

- **Investment in sustainable infrastructure.** The House will prioritise investment in infrastructure that is environmentally sustainable, such as renewable energy and public transportation systems.
  - **Innovative funding mechanisms.** The House will explore alternative funding mechanisms such as user fees, congestion pricing, or tax increment financing to support infrastructure development.
- iii. Supporting Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises:** The House will support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) through policies such as tax breaks, access to finance, and technical support. This will help to create more jobs, increase income, and promote economic growth.
- iv. Agricultural Development.** The House will prioritise agricultural development by promoting policies that support farmers, increase access to finance, and provide access to markets for agricultural produce. This will help to increase food security, reduce poverty, and promote economic growth.
- v. Trade Policies.** The House will promote trade policies that support the Nigerian economy by creating a favourable trade environment for Nigerian businesses. This will involve reviewing and negotiating trade agreements that protect Nigerian businesses, products, and services.
- vi. Innovation and Technology.** The House will encourage innovation and technology development by supporting research and development, providing access to technology, and promoting technology transfer. This will help to enhance productivity, competitiveness, and economic growth.
- vii. Good Governance and Accountability.** The House will prioritise good governance and accountability in the management of public resources. This will involve promoting transparency,

accountability, and the rule of law in the management of public funds, contracts, and other resources. This will help to promote economic growth and development by creating an enabling environment for businesses and investors.

## 6. EQUAL PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC LIFE

Nigeria cannot achieve the success we desire unless we determine to build a nation where women are free to pursue their highest aspirations and achieve their maximum potential. To achieve such a society, we must create opportunities for women to thrive in politics and commerce, and we must make sure that the laws of our land do not take away the rights of Nigerian women to participate fully in every sector of our national life.

- i. **House of Representative Women in Leadership Mentorship Program.** The House of Representative Women in Leadership Mentorship Program aims to develop young female leaders in politics across the country. The program will provide targeted mentorship to equip these women with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in leadership roles.
- ii. **Women in Politics Support Fund.** The Women in Politics Support Fund aims to provide financial support for women who want to enter the political arena. This fund is specifically designed to address the challenges women face when accessing funding for their political campaigns. By eliminating these barriers, the fund will help level the playing field and encourage more women to participate in politics. Funding will be sourced from political parties through their election ticket sales monies and other donations.
- iii. **Advocating for Women's Rights.** The House will push for policies that support women's rights, gender sensitivity and gender equality, which can help to create a more favourable environment for women's participation in politics.

- iv. **Women’s Representation in Public Service:** The Public Service is the backbone of every government and contributes to the success or failure of every nation. The House will push for more women representation in the public service.

## 7. PUBLIC HEALTH

Access to quality and affordable healthcare is an essential requirement for a good quality of life. Unfortunately, for too many Nigerians, access to quality health care is an unaffordable luxury. As a result, millions of our fellow countrymen die every year from preventable and treatable diseases. The central question for government is how to fund access to healthcare in the face of dwindling revenues, and how to improve the health and well-being of our citizens.

- i. **Improve Benefits and Welfare Package.** Within the limits of available resources, the 10th House of Representatives will seek to improve the welfare and benefits package of public sector health workers in the country.
- ii. **Ensure availability of working tools.** The absence of working resources is often sighted by departing doctors as their reason for either departing the profession or departing Nigeria to practice the profession somewhere else. In the 10th House of Representatives, we will improve the working conditions of medical health professionals by ensuring the provision of adequate equipment, facilities, and supplies across federal government owned healthcare facilities.
- iii. **Support for Private Sector Investment in Healthcare Provision.** Private healthcare service providers play an important role in the healthcare services value chain, particularly by offering high-end services to clients who will otherwise seek such services overseas. The 10th House of Representatives will engage with the organised private sector in a partnership to explore policy and legislative actions to encourage and support new and existing private health care service providers in Nigeria.

- iv. **National Health Infrastructure Development Fund.** The 10th House of Representatives will consider the enactment of a National Health Infrastructure Development Fund to enhance and promote the health and well-being of Nigerians through the provision of critical health infrastructure, by funding long-term credit facilities to Nigerian-owned health and wellbeing infrastructure or projects in Nigeria at such terms as may be directed by the Federal Government, being rates and terms designed to support the sustainability and to accelerate operational efficiency of the enterprise or project.
- v. **Patients' Bill of Rights.** The 10th House of Representatives will enact a Patients' Bill of Rights to formalise into enforceable legislation, the rights, duties, and responsibilities of healthcare providers to patients in Nigeria. Medical service providers, responsible for people's lives must be held to a higher standard of professional conduct.

## 8. EDUCATION AND HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

In the 10th House of Representatives, we will seek to make access to quality and affordable education a policy priority of the Federal Government. We will work with stakeholders to enact new approaches to financing public tertiary education in the country, we will revamp the structure and operations of our universities, polytechnics, and specialist colleges to create an education system that is inclusive, innovative, and responsive to the needs of our society.

- i. **Education Curriculum Reforms.** We will work with the executive to include information technology, artificial intelligence expertise, and other innovative skills in the primary and secondary school syllabus. These reforms aim to equip students with the necessary skills to succeed in a rapidly changing global economy.



- ii. **Increase public investment in education.** The House is committed to increase its funding for education to improve access to quality education. This will be done by taxes and the education budget, introducing education taxes, and partnering with private organisations to support education.
- iii. **Education Loan Fund.** We will seek to enact a system of education loan financing into law for tertiary education as part of a reform effort to make public tertiary institutions independent of direct government funding and encourage innovation and competition in the public tertiary education sector.
- iv. **Support vocational training.** The House will push for investments in vocational training programs to provide skills that will prepare Nigerians for the job market. This will be achieved through funding vocational schools and apprenticeship programs and partnering with private sector organisations to provide job training.
- v. **Encourage entrepreneurship.** The House will push to create policies that encourage entrepreneurship and support small businesses. This will be achieved through providing access to funding, reducing bureaucratic hurdles, and creating tax incentives for new businesses.
- vi. **Disability Rights Enforcement.** Nigeria has one of the highest levels of income inequality in the world. For those less able, the conditions are even more dire as they are deprived access to opportunities for advancement. Both the Nigerian constitution, our labour laws and the Disability Rights Act prohibit discrimination based on disability. However, there still exists structural unconscious biases in policy and procedure that have the ultimate effect of depriving the less able from taking their rightful place in society. For example, whilst it is prohibited to discriminate against a qualified job applicant based on his or her disability, there is no mandate on recruiters in the public or private sectors to advertise to the

disabled or make special provisions to accommodate their participation in pre-employment tests and interviews. The 10th House of Representatives will work to remove these barriers and ensure the full and faithful enforcement of disability rights laws in the country.



## CONCLUSION

**N**igeria's place in the world is still being negotiated, and our future is not yet settled. The ultimate destiny of our nation's will depend on the choices we make today. And there are a lot of critically important choices to make over the next few years as we try to fix the structural, political and governance problems that stand in the way of our nations progress.

From the farthest North to the deepest South of our country, talent, capacity, and ambition abound. The biggest task for government today is to figure out how to make Nigeria a place where talent blooms, ambition is rewarded and capacity is all you require to succeed.

Our work would not be complete until every Nigerian child can grow up in the knowledge that by the effort of their own hands, they can achieve the success they desire. This is the cause that must motivate every governing decision we make in the 10th House of Representative.

I thank you most sincerely for taking the time to read this manifesto. Now, let's get to work and make this country the place of our best dreams.

**Rt. Hon. Yusuf Adamu Gagdi**





