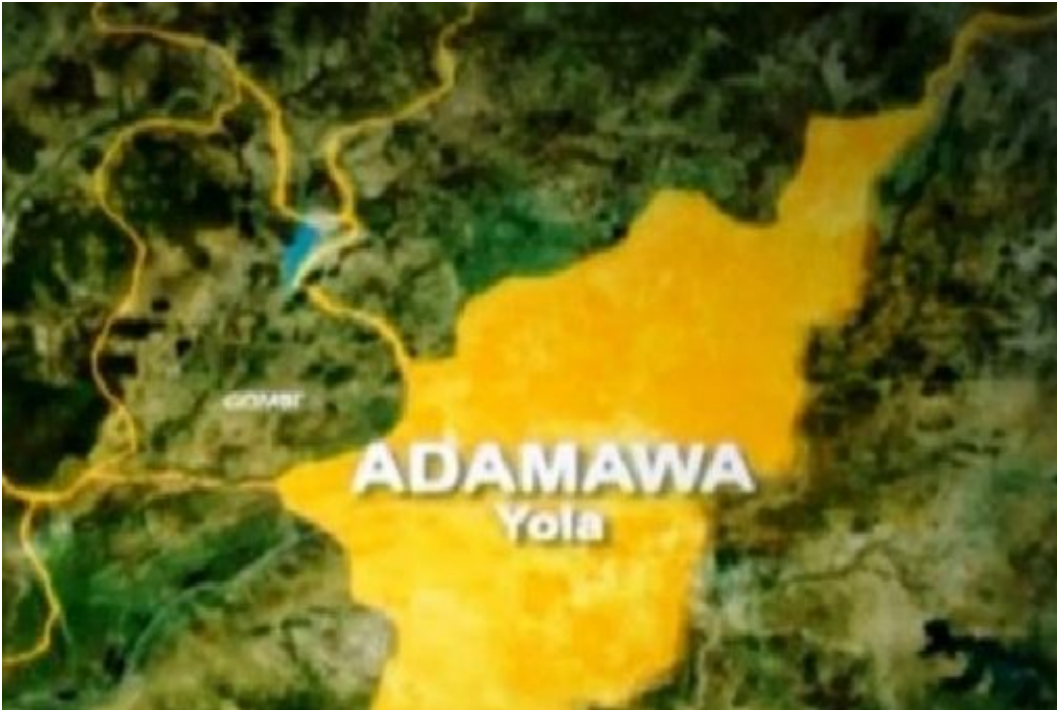


Deaths in Yola flood hit 23



- *Fintiri visits scenes*
- *Governors' Forum consoles victims*

The number of deaths in the floods in the **Adamawa State** capital on Sunday, has risen to 23.

The number was put at between two and five by the evening of Sunday after the rains earlier on that day.. But many were declared missing.

By the time Governor Ahmadu Fintiri visited scenes of the floods in the late afternoon yesterday, however, the number increased drastically, according to officials who received the governor.

Fintiri, who was outside the state at the time of the floods, visited the scenes upon his return yesterday afternoon and commiserated with the victims.

Addressing the victims at the temporary camp at Aliyu Mustafa College Yola, after inspecting several affected areas, the governor described the situation as tragic,

“We will constitute a technical committee to carry out a thorough assessment, in collaboration with the state Emergency Management Agency (ADSEMA) and National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA). From there, we will take the necessary steps,” he assured.

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The governor was accompanied on the tour by his Deputy, Prof. Kaletapwa Farauta; Speaker, House of Assembly, Bathiya Wesley; Secretary to the State Government (SSG), Awwal Tukur; and other top

government officials.

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The Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF) has expressed its grief over the loss of lives and properties as well as displacement of residents occasioned by heavy flooding in Yola North and South Local Government Areas, Adamawa State.

Chairman of the forum, who is also the Kwara State Governor, Abdulraman AbdulRazaq, in a statement said: "The Forum identifies with the people and government of Adamawa State under the leadership of Governor Ahmadu Umaru Fintiri as the state mobilises resources to mitigate the effect of this incident. "

"The forum, similarly, commends the Police and Nigerian Army for their swift deployment of marine units on the invitation of the state government to help residents who are caught in this unfortunate situation.

"The forum stands in firm solidarity with Fintiri and the people of Adamawa at this difficult moment, and will offer its own support to complement the various help that the state can get and deserves to cope with this humanitarian situation."

