

for, just as history and experience of countries that had faced the challenge of terrorism revealed no quick fixes.

He disclosed that the country was bothered about sponsors of the sect, as well as sources of its sophisticated arms and ammunition.

The minister described the declaration of an Islamic caliphate in some parts of the North-East as ludicrous and untenable, vowing that the government would never surrender to terror.

He told the participating countries that they, together with Nigeria, needed to track both local and external sources of funds, logistics, arms and ammunition to the terrorists, with a view to cutting them off and denying the insurgents the oxygen that nourished their actions.

"The Chibok girls are still in captivity. The terrorists have continued to strike sporadically at locations and times of their choice.

"Time has come to critically assess the overall impact of these meetings in order to ensure the safe rescue of the girls and stem the increasing tide of terrorist attacks in certain parts of northern Nigeria.

"Together, we need to identify what is working and what we need to do more better or differently, both in the immediate and

Ambassador to Nigeria, James Entwistle, at the ministerial meeting on security, in Abuja, on Wednesday. PHOTO: NAN.

Fulani mercenaries kill 15, set houses ablaze in Nasarawa

ADEMOLA ADEGBITE -LAFIA

AGAIN, some Fulani mercenaries, on Wednesday morning, besieged another Eggon settlement in Lafia East Development Area of Nasarawa State and killed 15 people.

Eyewitnesses told the Nigerian Tribune in Lafia, the state capital, that the Fulani mercenaries, who invaded Gidan-Mai-Akuya rural community around 10.00 a.m., started shooting at sight and set many houses ablaze.

It was gathered further that the whole community had been deserted, as villagers are now taking refuge at public schools and with relatives in the state capital.

One of the eyewitnesses, Mr Pila Kyia, told the Nigerian Tribune on phone that immediate response of the security operatives prevented the assailants in wreaking more havoc on the villagers.

According to him, soldiers drafted to the area had earlier given the villagers their phone numbers to contact them in case of any attack by the Fulani, who

had, so far, ransacked over seven villages in the space of two weeks.

Kyia said the armoured personnel carrier (APC) used by the soldiers got trapped while chasing the attackers out of the community, a development that rendered them incapacitated in containing the attack.

CBN to print electoral materials for 2015 elections

JACOB SEGUN OLATUNJI -ABUJA

CHAIRMAN, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Professor Attahiru Jega, on Wednesday, said the commission would explore ways to collaborate with the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) on the printing of electoral materials for the elections.

This came contrary to rumours doing the round that INEC would print electoral materials for the election abroad.

Professor Jega disclosed this in Abuja, on Wednesday, while receiving in audience the governor of the CBN, Mr Godwin Emefiele, who paid him a visit.

Professor Jega, while acknowledging that the CBN

"The Fulani attacked us and started shooting sporadically. People scampered for safety before soldiers arrived.

"As I am trekking towards Akurba town towards Lafia now, I saw 10 corpses and a corpse of one Fulani man by the roadside," he added.

As a result of the violence,

commuters were stopped from plying the route, to allow the security agencies to contain the attack.

When contacted on phone for confirmation, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Ismaila Numan, said six persons were killed, while two houses were razed.

had been strategic partner of the commission in ensuring free, fair and credible elections in Nigeria, pointed out that since 2011, the CBN had provided services in term of securing sensitive election materials for the commission.

He applauded the apex bank for its services, adding that "I assure you that INEC is willing to discuss the proposal and will continue to explore more ways to collaborate with CBN and look at global picture in terms of what is best for the country.

"INEC and CBN will continue to partner and I hope that the interest of the larger society should be up most."

Speaking earlier, the CBN

governor had said the visit was in line and in tandem with directive by President Goodluck Jonathan that printing of all security materials be done in the country.

According to him, "we have come to collaborate with INEC to ensure that the objectives of ensuring that the printing of materials, as well as transportation of materials from the printing press to the various voting centres, are discussed."

He noted that the Nigeria Security Printing and Minting Company was seeking way through which it could work with INEC, particularly in the area of printing of security documents, especially as it concerns 2015 elections.

September 4 to 6.

According to him, "terrorism has been compromising Nigeria's territorial integrity. Since a group of persons have declared a territory independent within this nation, this calls for serious concern on the part of the government and the citizenry.

"I hereby call on the Federal Government of Nigeria to take the bull by the horn and wipe out terrorism in this nation. This calls for a decisive action against the agents of terrorism and the perpetrators.

"The need to free the Chibok girls, who have spent 144 days in custody of terrorists is paramount in putting end to their activities in Nigeria."

While explaining the rationale behind this the conference, Reverend Jaiyesinmi said the yearly conference was for both spiritual and evaluatory purposes, with a special focus on family.

He also urged both the federal and state governments not to rest on their oars on the war against Ebola virus, disclosing that the church had since joined the crusade against the deadly virus by educating members on the preventive measures against it.

"The Women Missionary Union of Nigerian Baptist Convention were not allowed to attend their regional congress in Togo, in order not to import the virus to this nation," he said.