

**UPR-Universal Periodic Review Nigeria.**

**(Item 6 United Nations Human Rights Council)**

**Geneva, 14th March 2019**

Mr. President,

CitizenGO and its more than 10 million of active citizens registered and joining its alerts and programs are concerned by the situation of religious freedom in countries such as Nigeria.

The over 229,000 citizens who have joined our alert <sup>1</sup>are concerned about the life of Leah Sharibu and the other women who accompany her. Boko Haram already killed two nurses who were also kidnapped with her and has threatened to kill her the next.

CitizenGO commends the already done efforts to fight terrorist and extremist groups, like Boko Haram, while reinforcing the protection of the life and religious freedom of all the Nigerian citizens.

CitizenGO welcomes recommendations from countries such as Moldova, Greece, Cameroon, Austria, Italy, Chile, the Holy See, Kenya, and Montenegro who made recommendations to Nigeria on issues related to the protection of religious freedom for all believers, the fight against impunity or trafficking in persons. We thank Nigeria for accepting those recommendations.

We suggest Nigeria to keep on increasing the effort to implement the following recommendations:

- Reinforce the legal and political measures to guarantee religious freedom and the rights of all believers in Nigeria.
- Establish legal protections that defend and promote religious freedom, without discrimination against believers.
- Defend and protect the life of the girl Leah Sharibu and all the other women, currently kidnapped by the terrorist group Boko Haram.
- Guarantee that regarding issues of importance to marriage and family the deep religious, cultural and moral beliefs of the Nigerian population are respected.
- Fight against trafficking, abduction and kidnapping of human beings.

Thank you Mr. President.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.citizenngo.org/en-af/node/161377>