

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3833

To require a regional strategy to address the threat posed by Boko Haram.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 26, 2015

Ms. WILSON of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Select Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require a regional strategy to address the threat posed
by Boko Haram.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. REGIONAL STRATEGY TO ADDRESS THE**
4 **THREAT POSED BY BOKO HARAM.**

5 (a) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
7 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
8 retary of State and the Secretary of Defense shall
9 jointly develop and submit to the appropriate com-

1 mittees of Congress a 5-year strategy to help enable
2 the Government of Nigeria, members of the Multi-
3 national Joint Task Force to Combat Boko Haram
4 (MNJTF) authorized by the African Union, and rel-
5 evant partners to counter the regional threat of
6 Boko Haram and assist the Government of Nigeria
7 and its neighbors to accept and address legitimate
8 grievances of vulnerable populations in areas af-
9 fected by Boko Haram.

10 (2) ELEMENTS.—At a minimum, the strategy
11 shall address the following elements:

12 (A) Enhance, pursuant to existing authori-
13 ties and restrictions, the institutional capacity,
14 including military capabilities, of the Govern-
15 ment of Nigeria and partner nations in the re-
16 gion, as appropriate, to counter the threat
17 posed by Boko Haram.

18 (B) Provide humanitarian support to civil-
19 ian populations impacted by Boko Haram’s ac-
20 tivity.

21 (C) Specific activities through which the
22 United States Government intends to improve
23 and enhance the capacity of MNJTF member
24 nations to investigate and prosecute human

1 rights abuses by security forces and promote re-
2 spect for the rule of law within the military.

3 (D) A means for assisting Nigeria, and as
4 appropriate, MNJTF member nations, to
5 counter violent extremism, including efforts to
6 address underlying societal factors shown to
7 contribute to the ability of Boko Haram to
8 radicalize and recruit individuals.

9 (E) A plan to strengthen and promote the
10 rule of law, including by improving the capacity
11 of the civilian police and judicial system in Ni-
12 geria, enhancing public safety, and responding
13 to crime (including gender-based violence),
14 while respecting human rights and strength-
15 ening accountability measures, including meas-
16 ures to prevent corruption.

17 (F) Strengthen the long-term capacity of
18 the Government of Nigeria to enhance security
19 for schools such that children are safer and
20 girls seeking an education are better protected,
21 and to combat gender-based violence and gen-
22 der inequality.

23 (G) Identify and develop mechanisms for
24 coordinating the implementation of the strategy
25 across the interagency and with the Govern-

1 ment of Nigeria, regional partners, and other
2 relevant foreign partners.

3 (H) Identify the resources required to
4 achieve the strategy's objectives.

5 (b) ASSESSMENT.—The Director of National Intel-
6 ligence shall submit, to the appropriate committees of
7 Congress, an assessment regarding—

8 (1) the willingness and capability of the Govern-
9 ment of Nigeria and regional partners to implement
10 the strategy developed under subsection (a), includ-
11 ing the capability gaps, if any, of the Government
12 and military forces of Nigeria that would need to be
13 addressed to enable the Government of Nigeria and
14 the governments of its partner countries in the re-
15 gion—

16 (A) to counter the threat of Boko Haram;
17 and

18 (B) to address the legitimate grievances of
19 vulnerable populations in areas affected by
20 Boko Haram; and

21 (2) significant United States intelligence gaps
22 concerning Boko Haram or on the willingness and
23 capacity of the Government of Nigeria and regional
24 partners to implement the strategy developed under
25 subsection (a).

1 (c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
2 gress that lack of economic opportunity and access to edu-
3 cation, justice, and other social services contributes to the
4 ability of Boko Haram to radicalize and recruit individ-
5 uals.

6 (d) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-
7 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate commit-
8 tees of Congress” means—

9 (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the
10 Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on
11 Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intel-
12 ligence of the Senate; and

13 (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the
14 Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on
15 Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Com-
16 mittee on Intelligence of the House of Representa-
17 tives.

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