

## b. Serious (non-political) crime

### *GUIDANCE NOTE*

*Last updated: February 2019*

Criminal violence constitutes a serious security and public safety concern in Nigeria, especially crimes committed by organised groups, such as cults, traffickers in human beings, bandits engaged in cattle rustling, etc. An increasing level of violence and firearms proliferation is noted across the country, particularly manifesting in ransom kidnapping along highways, armed robbery and other forms of violent crime committed by gangs.

The cases of several profiles must be carefully examined, taking into account the applicant's activities, role, responsibilities, etc. Examples include members of student cults, traffickers or members of other criminal organisations, members of militant groups in the Niger Delta, etc.

The personnel of some Nigerian authorities and of the *hisbah*, may also be found responsible for serious (non-political) crimes.

Child marriages, domestic violence, FGM/C, and other widespread practices in Nigeria could also potentially amount to serious (non-political) crimes under [Article 12\(2\)\(b\) QD](#)/[Article 17\(1\)\(b\) QD](#).

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