

## **Martin Luther Agwai**

**General Martin Luther Agwai is a hardworking consummate professional; this has not only garnered him the respect of the military, but also the academic and international community. His ascendancy to the pinnacle of his military career began when he won the Sword-of-Honour and the Gold Medal at the Nigerian Defence Academy Kaduna, Nigeria by emerging as the Best – All – Round Cadet and first in the order of merit amongst his colleagues.**

**He has since his commission, in 1972, held several staff and command appointments both at home and abroad culminating, in 2006, to his rise to rank of Four Star General. He has served as Chief Instructor at the Armed Forces Command and Staff College Jaji, Nigerian and was the Nigerian Defence Adviser covering the entire Southern African sub-region stationed at Harare, Zimbabwe from 1993 to 1996. In 2000, he was appointed Deputy Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL). At UNAMSIL, General Agwai made a mark when he introduced the ‘Hot Spot’ disarmament that assisted the Mission greatly during Disarmament, Demobilization and Re-integration (DD&R). In November 2002, he was at the United Nations Headquarters in New York as the Deputy Military Adviser.**

**The General holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Public Administration with distinction from the Administrative Staff College of Nigeria (ASCON) and a Masters of Science Degree in National Resource Strategy from the National Defence University (NDU) in Washington DC, USA. While at NDU, General Agwai won the Ambassador’s Award for excellence in research and writing, being the first foreigner to win the award.**

**In June 2003, the then Nigerian President requested that he serve his country and appointed him the Chief of Army Staff. Due to his achievements and efforts at refocusing the Nigerian Army, he was promoted to the rank of General and appointed the Chief of Defence Staff of the Nigerian Armed Forces in May 2006.**

**General Martin Luther Agwai has attended several conferences, seminars and workshops around the globe as participant, moderator and presenter. The General is the holder of the prestigious Nigerian National Award – the Commander of the Order of the Federal Republic (CFR). He was the last Force Commander of the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) and is currently the Force Commander of the African Union/United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID). He is responsible for the implementation of the Force Commander’s (FC) Directive and the concept of operations as issued by the United Nations (UN) and the African Union (AU); which encapsulates the command of the military force, military observers and liaison officers.**

**General Agwai is married with 3 children.**