

CDD NEWSLETTER

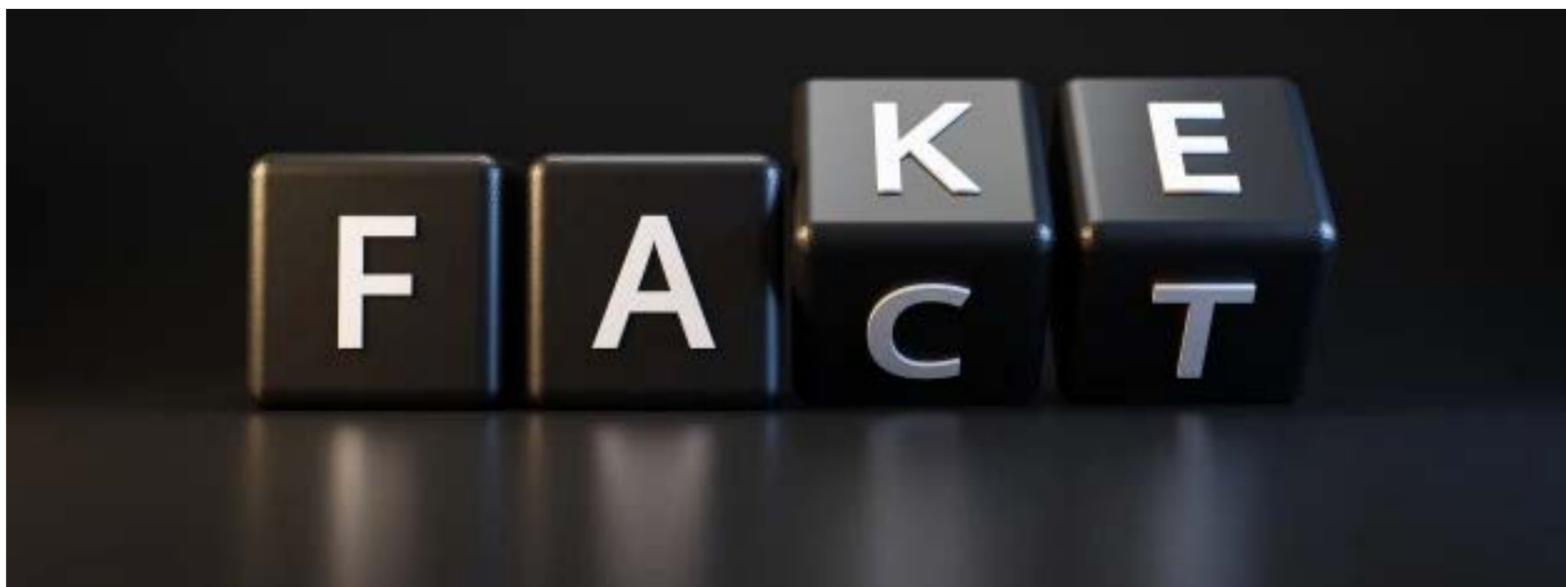
FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 15, 2020

CDD Disinformation Weekly takes a closer look at the spread of fake news. The Centre continued to sort fiction from facts. As the world faces information disorder, staying connected with CDD fact checks brings you informed opinion on important issues, from government to politics, to healthcare and development.

This week, the Centre spotted the spread of disinformation on WhatsApp, Twitter, Facebook, in addition to transfer of videos offline with the aid of Bluetooth and Xender. Effort by Twitter to mark some content on its platforms as possible disinformation received our commendable attention. Of particular mention was the United States of America's presidential election 2020. Unverified contents were marked with a warning signal.

Worthy of note this week, is how disinformation spread at the community level - local markets, churches, mosques and social gathering by word of mouth. The damage done by the spread of disinformation cannot be overemphasized because sometimes these false narratives degenerate to hate speeches. In other cases, it could turn an already volatile situation to a violent case and can cause harm or death to the people.

FACT CHECKS FOR THE WEEK



HAS RAHMA SADAU BEEN SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR BLASPHEMY?

On Tuesday, November 10, 2020 fact-checkers at the Centre for Democracy and Development spotted a claim reported by several online platforms that northern actress, Rahma Sadau has been sentenced death for blasphemy.

The news reports claimed that the alleged sentencing followed Rahma's photoshoot outfit which drew controversy in the north and among Muslims in the region.

Read more [Has Rahma Sadau Been Sentenced to Death for Blasphemy?](#)

CDD Fact Check

Has Rahma Sadau Been Sentenced to Death for Blasphemy?



FACT

Actress Rahma Sadau has not been sentenced to death for blasphemy, President Muhammadu Buhari has also not endorsed death sentence on the actress as reported by many online platforms.

CDD is urging Nigerians to always verify the authenticity of stories before sharing them. You can forward suspicious messages for verification via +2349062910568 or contact us on twitter @CDDWestAfrica

Verdict:
False

#StopFakeNews



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FORMER BAUCHI GOVERNOR NOT APPOINTED ACTING INEC NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

On Friday November 13, 2020 fact-checkers at the Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD) spotted a story shared WhatsApp groups with the claim that a former Governor of Bauchi State, Ahmed Mu'azu has been appointed the new national chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

The story published by [CityNews](#) had the picture of Mu'azu with the caption: **BREAKING: Ahmed Mu'azu now acting INEC chairman.**

Read more [Former Bauchi Governor Not Appointed Acting INEC National Chairman](#)

CDD Fact Check

Former Bauchi Governor Not Appointed Acting INEC National Chairman



FACT

The claim that a former governor of Bauchi State has been appointed the acting chairman of INEC is false and misleading. The new acting chairman of the commission is retired Air Vice Marshal Ahmed Muazu.

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Verdict:
False and Misleading

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NEWS ON DISINFORMATION FROM CENTRE FOR DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

CDD Trains 24 Members of Africa Young Female Advisers Initiative on Social Media for Good Governance Read more



FALSE NEWS FROM AROUND THE WEB

Below are some suspicious information on the internet which fact-check reports were not written for:

MTN GIFT

Check if Your number has been chosen by MTN to receive ₦15000

As Party of customer REWARD Program For Who have been using MTN for more than three months

MTN USERS ONLY
Deadline: 2020-12-9

Click http://bit.ly/MTN_GIFT



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THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT APPROVED A NEW SALARY FOR THE NIGERIA POLICE.

There are no evidence to prove that the Nigerian Government has approved a new salary scale for the Nigerian Police Force.

First, the alleged increment was not captured in the budget for the year. The Police has also come out to day the news is false.

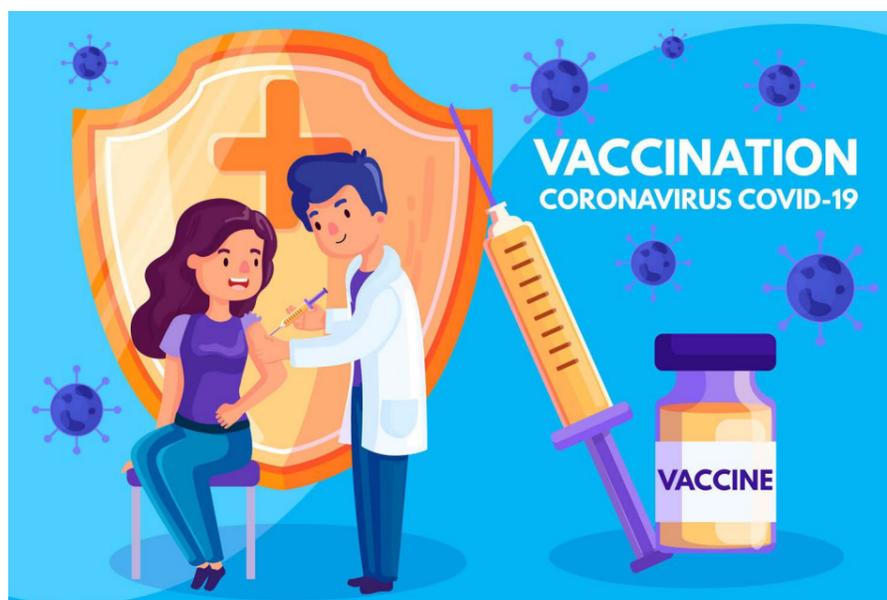


THE FAKE AND THE FACT

Yes, there is a vaccine on the way

In the last week we have read positive news about the efficacy of the Pzfier/BioNTech vaccine for COVID-19 and today about Moderna's.

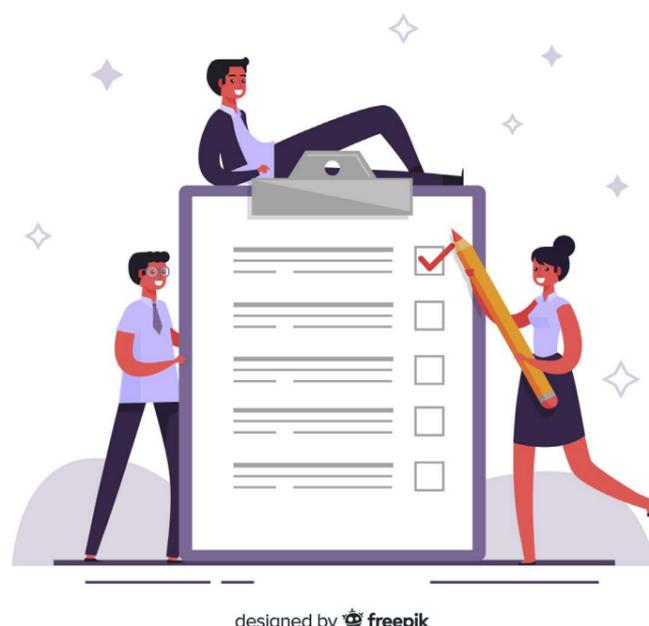
Unlike conventional vaccines, which are produced using weakened forms of the virus, both are mRNA vaccines, which trick the body into producing some of the viral proteins itself.



COVID 19 DOES NOT GO AWAY?

There is increasing evidence that a significant number of people who become infected with COVID-19 continue to have debilitating symptoms for months. The condition, known as “long COVID”, can affect many parts of the body, and can include symptoms ranging from fatigue, a cough, shortness of breath, inflammation and injury to major organs, and neurological and psychological effects. And it can impact anyone, including young healthy people.

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus [spoke to three survivors](#) and called for governments to take action to support those suffering from long COVID. [Share Verified](#)



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#StopFakeNews #StopDisinformation

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The Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD) was established in the United Kingdom in 1997 as an independent, not-for-profit, research training, advocacy and capacity building organisation