



TRADE UNION CONGRESS OF NIGERIA

RIVERS STATE COUNCIL

... building a greater Rivers State & Nigeria

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State Secretary: Comrade Jonas Ogundu Okere JP (08035254099)

September 10th, 2015

His Excellency

Muhammadu Buhari GCFR

President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces

Federal Republic of Nigeria

Through

His Excellency,

Chief Barr. Ezenwo Nyesom Wike (CON)

Executive Governor of Rivers State

Port Harcourt

His Excellency Sir,

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST CORRUPTION AND FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE 10TH SEPTEMBER 2015

On behalf of the National Executive Council of Nigeria Labour Congress and that of Trade Union Congress of Nigeria, We bring you warm fraternal greetings.

The NLC and the TUC as well as its Civil Society allies have decided to embark on this National Day of Action and Protest to draw attention of the Political Authorities to the State of our Country and the damage that Corruption in all ramifications has caused our Country's quest for development and well being of its teeming Population.

We are similarly engaging in this action today across the Country to underscore our deep concern about the unsustainable cost of Governance in the Country. We are convinced that this action has become necessary to bring to the forefront the urgent need for a National discourse to drastically reduce the Cost of Governance at all levels (Federal, State and Local Governments) against the background of the fall in the Price of crude oil, our main source of foreign revenue.

All correspondence should be addressed to the State Secretary

In the interest of the Progress and wellbeing of our Country, we wish to submit the following demands through your Excellency for onward delivery to Mr. President, and commander in Chief of the Armed Forces.

We call on Mr. President:

1. To ensure that all funds identified to have been illegally taken from the common treasury are traced and recovered fully, to be kept in a special account and appropriated for job creation, funding of educational infrastructure from primary to tertiary institutions, and for upgrading of our health care infrastructure.
2. To know that we support and call for the establishment of special anti corruption courts to try corruption cases in the country. Realising that those who have looted our treasury have become adept at using the loopholes in the procedure of regular courts to delay and in several cases subvert the cause of justice, it is our firm belief that the enactment of special anti graft courts akin to the electoral tribunals, complete with timeframe within which cases once started are to be concluded, will give a renewed impetus to the fight against corruption. For this to become a reality, the executive and the National Assembly must work together to give us the necessary laws for an enduring fight to defeat this national malaise.
3. To ensure that all Public Officers,(elected and appointed) should publicly declare their assets & liabilities upon assumption of office, to boost the anti corruption efforts.
4. To know that there is an urgent need to review and strengthen our anti-corruption Legislations. In this regard we challenge the Prof. Itse Sagay Presidential advisory committee on corruption to comb all our anti-graft legislations and make the appropriate recommendations for effective fight against corruption. Integral to the above is the necessity to identify the required personnel and infrastructure which will be needed in this renewed fight against corruption, and provisions made for them. In this direction, we call for the appointment of anti-graft judges provided for in the ICPC Act, which is supposed to be for each of the 36 States of the Federation to exclusively handle corruption related cases only.
5. During the ICAN Conference which recently held in Abuja, the former Minister of State for Finance, Remi Babalola recommended the expansion of the whistle blowing and fraud protocol by the EFCC to include the payment of 10% of the

forfeited undeclared assets to whistle blowers/informants if successfully prosecuted. Although, we think 10% is on the high side, we believe a form of incentive; say 5% will be in order. And we are of the firm view that this protocol should be extended to the work of other anti –corruption agencies like the ICPC and the Code of Conduct Bureau. A similar incentive should also be worked out for those working with the Federal Inland Revenue Service to fish out companies and other corporate bodies not paying their real tax revenues to the Federation.

6. The anti-graft agencies should as a matter of urgency extend their search light to the two other tiers of government in the States and Local Governments, as it is a commonly known fact that the level of impunity and lack of accountability at this level is even more brazen than at the Federal level.
7. And finally, joint account between State and Local Government should be abolished as this is a very big bastion of corruption at the state level.

These are our positions which we want Federal Government to embrace in pursuit of the anti corruption crusade.

Thank you



Comrade Chika Onuegbu JP, FCA

TUC Chairman

For: Bobboi Bala Kaigama

President, TUC



Comrade Hon. Jonas Ogundu Okere JP

TUC Secretary

For: Com. Barr. Musa Lawal

Secretary General, TUC