CISLAC Condemns Pocket-Serving Politics in Nigeria

Following the recent developments on unchecked massive and rampant corrupt allegations permeating Nigeria socio-economic atmospheres, Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC) observes as follows:

1. Apart from high cost of governance identified with the present administration, in recent times, series of lopsidedness, undemocratic and injudicious efforts have been employed in combating corruption in Nigeria.
2. The present administration has dedicated no sincere effort in tackling alleged corrupt practices attributed to various sectors of the economy such as the N255m car scandal in Aviation sector, unchecked wasteful spending of public fund in Security and Exchange Commission (SEC), N1billion Pension scam, non-remittance of about $50b oil income to the Federation Account by the NNPC between 2012 and 2013, massive stealing of about 400,000 barrels of crude every day.
3. The ongoing agitations for the removal of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Governor as a result of his whistle blowing activity in exposing the $18 billion corruption perpetrated by the NNPC is another evidence unveiling the total support for corruption by the administration.
4. The inaction of President Goodluck Jonathan to these scandals The inability of the Minister of Finance and the Coordinating Minister of Economic, Dr. Ngozi Okonjo Iweala, to provide a true picture and the right data on the financial position of the country.

The lethargy of the various established anti-corruption institutions like Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offence Commission (ICPC) and Bureau of Code of Conduct Bureau (CCB) in carrying out their mandates as enshrined in the various Acts and provisions of the 1999 Constitution as amended setting them up to the perpetrators of these alleged offences accountable.

CISLAC recommended as follows:

1. Exhaustive and forensic investigation by the National Assembly into the financial statement of NNPC, especially between January 2012 and December 2013;
2. That the President make open the report of the Presidential panel on the N225M aviation industry car scandal and take necessary action to reassure Nigerians that he is not in any way shielding alleged corrupt persons
3. Judicious efforts by the National Assembly to safe Nigeria socio-political and economic integrity re-install public confidence.
4. The President should strengthen the existing anti-corruption institutions like EFCC, ICPC and Bureau of Code of Conduct to ensure workable strategy and sincere effort to combat massive corruption and lead by example by declaring his assets publicly.

5. Immediate efforts by the National Assembly and Bureau of Code of Conduct to ensure all public officers are mandated on assets declaration before and after their tenure in office; and

6. Concerted efforts by National Assembly to hold Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of Economic, Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala and the Presidency accountable for their inactions and indecisions to sincerely report the true statement of Nigeria economic position and judiciously combat corruption.

Finally, CISLAC calls on CSOs, the media and all Nigerians to remain vigilant, and vocal to ensure that the peace, tranquility and commonwealth of our nation is safeguarded in the interest of all citizens

Signed

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