PRESS RELEASE

CISLAC condemns Alison-Madueke’s $250 million offer to boycott investigation

Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC) condemns in totality the ongoing worthless lobbying by the former Minister of Petroleum, Mrs. Alison-Madueke to boycott accountability process with her offer to refund $250 million to President Muhammadu Buhari’s government in exchange for immunity from further investigation and possible prosecution.

We are aware that while serving as Petroleum Minister, Mrs. Madueke had anchored and facilitated numerous money-laundering scandals and non-remittance of monies due to the federation account among other deals that characterized the era of the just-ended Jonathan administration, including the unremitted about $11.6 billion (N2.32 trillion), which represents outstanding total dividends arising from loans and interest repayments from Federal Government’s investment in Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG).

We find it worrisome that massive stealing of over 200,000 barrels of crude per day as contains in Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) Audit Report among others happened under the watch of Mrs. Madueke as Petroleum Minister.

We observed under the administration of Mrs. Madueke, other monumental frauds in fuel subsidy management, controversial crude for oil swaps and collapse or sabotage of Nigerian refineries were largely perpetrated and encouraged.

We also observed that the former Petroleum Minister oversaw several oil swap deals, the disposition of oil wells handed over by Shell Petroleum to the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), and the direct looting of funds through the NNPC. The removal of Former Central Bank Governor, Sanusi Lamido Sanusi, from office after he revealed that the NNPC under Mrs. Madueke had failed to remit more than $20 billion in oil revenues with the CBN is another evidence unveiling the high level of corruption that permeated the regime of the former Petroleum Minister.

We commend President Buhari for the abrupt rejection of the $250 million and urge him to shun all manners of negotiation for “soft landing deals” by the former Petroleum Minister and all persons; as this will sabotage effort and determination of the present administration to probe questionable financial recklessness that landed Nigeria in its present financial crisis that renders the Government incapacitated to finance development, and recovery of stolen billions of dollars.

We urge President Buhari to ensure prompt and exhaustive investigations into the dealings of NNPC under Mrs. Madueke, and expedite action on the recovery of all the monies due to the
coffers of the Nigerian people that would have been channel into people oriented development as a way of ushering in the change that citizens voted for and in fulfillment of campaign promises.

Signed:

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