As members of National Assembly resume from Christmas and New Year vacations on Wednesday for legislative activities, Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC) observed that:

1. In Nigeria, year 2014 was marked series of socio-political unrests greeted by subsequent economic dilapidations attributed to high cost of cost of governance, fall in price of crude in the international markets, and the proposed several austerity to augment the nation’s revenue.

2. The members are left with little period, considering the upcoming general elections to seriously pay attention and address some critical pending issues affecting the citizens and nation at large.

3. As at December 2014, 2015 Appropriation Bill was presented before the two Chambers by Minister of Finance, Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala; while in response, the Chambers promised to take critical scrutiny of the Bill during vacation and take informed decision on resumption.

4. All attempts to get Petroleum Industrial Bill (PIB) passed have waned considerably coupled with collective shifted attention towards upcoming elections, neglecting the negative consequences such neglect will pose to growth and significant progress of the oil and gas sector.

5. Many other important Bills including the Comprehensive National Tobacco Bill, which suffered a setback under the Sixth National Assembly remains at the corridor of both Chambers awaiting passage despite the horrific health damage many Nigerians have suffered from tobacco smoking.

6. A meeting with the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and stakeholders slated to discuss current burning issues on 2015 general elections and to proffer necessary solutions was recently postponed by the House of Representatives Committee on Electoral Matters owing to alleged ill-health of the INEC chairman, Prof Attahiru Jega.

**Recommendations**

CISLAC therefore, recommend as follows:

1. Timely scrutiny, deliberation and consideration of 2015 Appropriation to cater for the nation’s financial need for effective growth and development.

2. Prompt passage of Petroleum Industrial to curb endless corrupt practices, promote transparency and accountability, and enhance significant growth and progress in the nation’s oil and gas sector.

3.