

PRESS RELEASE

CISLAC condemns attack, threat on EFCC

The Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC) condemns in totality, the recent unwarranted but suppressed attack by an unknown armed group on the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC)'s facilities with subsequent baseless death threat against the Commission's operatives.

While in recent times, the on-going war against corruption has continued to yield appreciable impacts with looted whopping sums traced, intercepted and repatriated through various anti-graft activities including whistleblowing, we are not unaware that the recent open display of rascality at EFCC Office located at Wuse Zone 7, Abuja by the unknown armed group was predominantly ridiculous effort to frustrate the fight against corruption in the country.

We are disturbed but not surprised at such sponsored immorality and dubious move by some individuals or groups to divert the Commission's attention and frighten anti-graft operatives from the progressive struggles at digging deep into and uprooting the major corruption cases in recent times.

We find it worrisome that instead of collective encouragement and support towards upholding successes against corruption for the betterment of all citizens and progress of our beloved country, some unpatriotic individuals or groups have resolved to engage the service of armed bandits to backpedal anti-corruption gains with a wild threat to suppress anti-graft operatives under a susceptible tension to halt recurring investigative activities.

The gruesome attack on the Commission was glaringly nothing but an endorsement of its commendable efforts in waging war against corruption in all ramifications which must be supported, upheld and sustained by all well-meaning Nigerians for socio-economic development and prosperity of the country.

We call on the EFCC never to succumb to threat or intimidation by any person or group, but instead strengthen the fight against corruption through enhanced strategies and support for whistleblowing activities.

We demand proactive legislative process to hasten the passage of Whistleblower Protection Bill to discourage potential victimisations treatments against whistle-blowers; continuous legislative oversight activities to interrogate corruption without fear or favour; and vibrant judicial system for judicious prosecution of corruption and appropriate interpretation of anti-graft legislation.

We further encourage the Acting President, Prof. Yemi Osinbanjo on continuous support and enabling policy environment for anti-graft institutions to successfully uphold and sustain the on-going war against corruption in the country.

Signed:

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