A STATEMENT ISSUED BY CIVIL SOCIETY LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY CENTRE (CISLAC) ON THE FINANCIAL MISCONDUCTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE 2015 RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN OF PRESIDENT GOODLUCK JONATHAN

The crime of embezzlement and mismanagement of public treasury has gained tenacity in the present-day Nigeria public services. It has impaired the property relationship protected by the law and the reputation of state organs and personnel. The present administration has shown no sincere and appreciative effort in fighting corruption, instead it continuous to explore different strategies to encourage corrupt practices and protect erring officers from facing the wrap of the law. The pocket serving politics has transformed into the ongoing undemocratic struggles by the present administration that bullies government agencies to contribute in kinds to facilitate campaign materials and logistics for the re-election of President Goodluck Jonathan into the office in the forthcoming 2015 presidential election.

OUR CASES

We observed that:

1. In recent times, Nigeria political campaigns have intensified the existing corrupt practices and economic mismanagement rocking public sector; as political candidates deepen hands into the nation’s public treasuries to fund their campaign projects.
2. Persistent undemocratic moves by loyalists of President Goodluck Jonathan to extort whopping sums from various government agencies primarily to raise funds for the campaign towards 2015 president’s re-election.
3. Government agencies are compelled to embark on massive printing and circulation of posters, billboards and other campaign materials at the expense of public funds, as parts of their unlawful contributions towards 2015 presidential re-election.
4. An introductory letter demanding N30,000,000 (thirty million naira) for the presidential campaign logistics were reportedly circulated to various government agencies; and signed by the Senior Special Assistant to the president on Political affairs Ali Ahmed Gulak, who reports directly to President Jonathan on any failure to comply to the request.
5. Government’s agencies that are unable to raise the whopping sum are tagged as ‘anti-Jonathan’ and reported to the President accordingly for further actions.
6. The 2013 budget was delayed as part of the unpatriotic moves by the executive to scoop money with which to prosecute President Goodluck Jonathan’s campaigns leading to the 2015 general election.
OUR PRAYERS

1. Immediate imposition of various electoral sanctions by INEC against any failure to comply with the Commission’s rules and regulations guiding campaign financing.

2. Exhaustive scrutiny and forensic investigation by relevant anti-graft agencies into unjustified and unaccounted transfer of funds from public treasuries by various government agencies.

3. Institution of appropriate punishment and sanction by Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offences Commission (ICPC), Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and Code of Conduct Bureau against erring government’s officer(s) funding political campaign at the expense of public treasury.

4. Prompt and collective actions by EFCC, ICPC and Code of Conduct Bureau to recover all stolen funds geared toward political campaign from public treasuries.

5. Effective oversight by relevant committees of National Assembly on the financial conducts of various government agencies.

6. Continuous and radical demand by the media, civil society and all well-meaning citizens for accountability and transparency on the source and application funds for political campaign.