

7th Feb, 2018

The Senate President,
4th floor, New Senate Wing,
National Assembly Complex,
Three Arm Zone, PMB 141
Abuja, FCT.

Dear Sir,

RE: CONFIRMATION OF PENDING NOMINEES OF THE PRESIDENT

Human and Environmental Developmental Agenda (HEDA Resource Center) is writing this petition to demand your House's commencement of the confirmation process of nominees submitted by the executive to the Senate through your office.

Human and Environmental Development Agenda (HEDA Resource Center) is a non-governmental and non-partisan human rights and development organization established to provide leadership in advancing human rights and environmental protection in public policy and programs.

As an organization and a stakeholder in the governance and development of Our country, we are deeply worried and concern over the failure of the Senate under your leadership to discharge its Constitutional duty with respect to confirmation of political appointees nominated by the executive, to administer over strategic institutions responsible for governance, economy, development and anti-corruption agenda of the government.

Newspaper headlines are speculating political motive not unconnected with differences between the Senate and the Presidency is responsible for Senate's deliberate withholding of a constitutional duty in the confirmation of about sixty nominees from the President. The Senate under your leadership as delayed some of the nominations for a period of over 6 months. This has not only affected the confirmation but it has also continued to affect the smooth running of the affected Federal Government Agencies who are still having problems clearing their nominees in the Senate.

The Daily Times of 5th Feb, 2018 reported that the sixty nominees of President Buhari are still having their fate hanging in the balance since the Senate continued to put their case in abeyance in alleged protest against the retention of Magu by Buhari as the Acting Chairman of the EFCC. The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission has been incapacitated with the absence of an Acting or Substantive Chairman. That institution with enormous responsibility in the fight against corruption is on the long list of Government Agencies adversely impacted by the inexplicable constitutional dereliction on the path of your

Senate. Failure to screen and confirm the Chairman designate is an utter disregard for your responsibility as provided in section 3(6) of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) Act which states that:

"the chairman and members of the commission who shall be persons of proven integrity shall be appointed by the President, upon confirmation by the senate and shall not begin to discharge the duties of their offices until they have declared their assets and liabilities as prescribed in the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria."

Failure of the Senate to exercise its statutory duty in confirming the ICPC chairman designate is undermining and frustrating the ongoing fight against corruption in the country.

We therefore, by this letter, call on the 8th Senate under your leadership to activate the process of confirming the sixty nominees within seven days of the receipt of this petition, failure of which we shall institute an action in court to compel you to discharge your statutory duties.

Please accept the assurances of our esteem regards.

Yours Faithfully

for: 

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Olanrewaju Suraju
Chairman