



**FEDERAL MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM RESOURCES**  
**OFFICE OF THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF STATE**

11th Floor, Block 'D' NNPC Towers, Herbert Macaulay Way,  
Central Business District, P. M. B. 449, Abuja.

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17<sup>th</sup> March, 2017

Mr. Olanrewaju Suraju  
Chairman  
Civil Society Network against Corruption  
20 Mojidi Street, Off Toyin Street Ikeja  
Lagos

Dear Sir,

**RE: INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF SUSPECTS IN THE MALABU FRAUD VIZ A VIZ  
AND LATEST EXPLORATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ENI-AGIP IN ITALY**

Please refer to your letter dated 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2017.

2. The position of the government is to await the outcome of the on-going court actions in respect of OPL 245 before taking any far reaching decisions in terms of its dealings with ENI. In the meantime, and to the extent that ENI is involved in a thorough-going relationship with the Government of Nigeria as a Joint Venture partner, the Government must continue to engage with the company for the benefit of the country.
3. Please note that my recent visit to Italy is one of the number of visits that I have scheduled over the coming months to the home country and headquarters of every international oil company in my supervisory role over the industry and to strengthen our bilateral relationship with our funding partners. To further clarify, the trip was in fact helpful in finalizing the terms for ENI's commitment to take over the funding of the Government's 60% interest in the NNPC/ENI Joint Venture. You might agree that this is a significant milestone in the history of the industry and with potential enormous positive impacts to the economy.
4. Please be assured that the Federal Government has no interest in interfering with the court processes and investigations into the issues surrounding the award of OPL 245 to Malabu oil, least of all in matters relating to corrupt dealings. Hence, whilst we will continue to superintend the interest of the Federal Government in our commercial relationship with the upstream partners, the Government will not refrain from pursuing the enforcement of our laws.
5. Please accept the assurance of my best regards.

Dr. Emmanuel Ibe Kachikwu  
Honourable Minister of State