



7 December 2022

Dr Folashade Yemi-Esan,
Head of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation,
Office of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation,
Federal Secretariat Complex, Phase II, Shehu Shagari Way,
Three Arms Zone, Abuja.



Dear Ma,

**CALL FOR INVESTIGATION AND ACTION ON THE ALLEGED VICTIMISATION OF
WHISTLE-BLOWER AND ILLEGAL DISMISSAL OF MR ABRAHAM TAIWO JOSEPH BY
PROF. ADEPOJU OLUSOLA, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH INSTITUTE
OF NIGERIA (FRIN)**

HEDA Resource Centre is a leading good governance, anti-corruption and environmental justice organisation in Nigeria, founded in November 2001 and duly incorporated in Nigeria in 2004 as a non-profit and non-partisan Non-Governmental Organization. HEDA is a member of the National Judicial Council Committee on the Monitoring of Trials of Financial Crimes and Corruption Cases across the Nigeria. HEDA is also a Member of the Monitoring and Evaluation Committee of the country's implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy. Among others, HEDA recently produced the 5th edition of a compendium of 100 high profile corruption cases in Nigeria, a publication which has attracted the interest of local and international partners including the UK's National Crimes Agency (NCA) which is now using the publication as a basis for some investigations.

I write on behalf of the Human and Environmental Development Agenda (HEDA Resource Centre) to call you attention to the distress call received from our organisation's Whistle-blowers' toll free line as well as media reports on the matter bordering on the fact that, a whistle-blower, Mr Abraham Taiwo Joseph was illegally dismissed since September 2021, over a year ago, by Professor Adepoju Olusola, Director-General (DG) of Forestry Research Institute Of Nigeria (FRIN), Ibadan.

Our organisation was privy to the dismissal letter which showed that Mr Abraham was dismissed for blowing the whistle about the missing third party deductions belonging to cooperative and union to the tune of fifty million Naira (N50Million) and the mysterious refunding of some seventeen million Naira (N17 million) out of the missing money. We are asking that you kindly investigate the matter, unveil the truth and as the case may be, ensure that perpetrators are brought to book and the victimised whistle-blower is adequately compensated, protected and reinstated.

The facts of the allegations raised against the DG of FRIN which led to the illegal sack of the whistle-blower, Mr Abraham, are briefly highlighted below:

- 1. Non-remittance of over N50Million deductions from staff remuneration and missing cooperative fund:** It was alleged that the co-operative funds, union dues and other third-party obligation for the