



8<sup>th</sup> June 2020

The Chairman,  
Code of Conduct Bureau  
Federal Secretariat Complex  
Aliyu Shehu Shagari Way  
Maitama  
Abuja



Dear Sir,

**DEMAND FOR URGENT INVESTIGATION AND PROBE – MR. JOHN ASEIN OHIREIME**

The above subject matter refers.

We write concerning the above subject matter as a non-governmental organization and non-partisan human rights and development league with the mandate to protect and promote universally recognized human rights, accountability and environmental justice in Nigeria and Africa, following international standards.

As part of our work as civil society organization keen on strengthening and ensuring public awareness and participation in governance, our organization devised a means for the public to reach our organization directly and other law enforcement agencies indirectly by availing the public the privilege to blow the whistle on cases relating to corruption and human rights violation via our toll-free line. We received an anonymous call relaying allegation of corruption against the above named with documents sent to our office.

In the light of the report and the allegations by the anonymous caller and documentary evidence provided, we have distilled the following actions/allegations initiated against the Director-General of the Nigerian Copyright Commission as follows;

1. The collection of remuneration after retirement, allegations of receiving salary between January – April 2016 after retiring in December 2015 which is contrary to the Code of Conduct for Public Officers. Attached to this letter are payment slips.
2. Whilst serving as a director at the Nigerian Copyright Commission, he doubled as a director of the Books and Gavel, private Company Limited by Shares. Attached are the incorporation documents of the private company.
3. Also, the allegation of receiving salary from a public office and holding the position of Executive Director of the Reproduction Rights Society of Nigeria (REPRONIG), a Collective Management Organisation (CMO) regulated by the Nigerian Copyright Commission. Attached are bank statements of accounts showing receipt of salaries.

The above conveyed constitutes a flagrant abuse of office and the undue exercise of privilege and impunity by a public officer. It portrays total disrespect for democracy and the Constitution of the country. We most humbly hold that the above allegations levelled against



2022-03-17

the Director General of the Nigerian Copyright Commission is a strong disdain for public accountability and established checks and balances under the laws.

The above allegations run afoul of the following:

1. **Code of Conducts for Public officers, Part 1, of The fifth schedule in the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (As Altered), Section 1 of the Code** which states that a public officer shall not put himself in a position where his interest conflicts with his duties and responsibilities.
2. **Section 2 of the Code** states that without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing paragraph, a public officer shall not receive or be paid the emoluments of any public office at the same time as he receives or is paid the emoluments of any other public office.
3. Also, **Section 10 of the Code** which states that a public officer shall not be a member of, belong to, or take part in any society the membership of which is incompatible with the functions or dignity of his office.

We believe strongly in due process and the rule of law which is why we are forwarding this petition to your office for an urgent action. We humbly demand that an urgent and immediate investigation be initiated on the above report and documentary evidence provided to uncover the true position of these allegations with the aim of ascertain the verity and possible prosecution.

We anticipate your usual prompt response.

Yours faithfully



**Olanrewaju Suraju**  
Chairman

CC:

1. **The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria**  
**Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR**  
**Aso Villa**  
**Federal Capital Territory**  
**Abuja**
2. **Tonye Clinton Jaja**  
**Chairman of the Nigerian Copyright Commission Board**



