



28th 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 – MRS. MARILYN AMOBI

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.

In line with our mandate, we write the above subject matter based on the report published by Premiumtimes¹ on the 11th June 2020. It was reported that the Managing Director of Nigerian Bulk Electricity Trading Company, Marilyn Amobi, has continued to manage and direct her private company in the United Kingdom. According to the report, ESL Economics and Management Associates Limited, with company number, 06413894, was incorporated in the UK in 2007 which the Managing Director is alleged to controls 100 per cent of its shares, according to the Companies House in London.

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

1. Whilst being a Managing Director at the Nigerian Bulk Electricity Trading Company, she allegedly served as a Managing director of the ESL Economics and Management Associates Limited, private Company Limited by Shares, incorporated in the United Kingdom. Attached are the incorporation and evidence documents of the Mrs. Marilyn Amobi's signing financial documents on behalf of the private company.

The Code of Conduct for Public Officers has been breached. 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 citizens as a whole. We most humbly hold that the above allegations levelled against the Managing Director at the Nigerian Bulk Electricity Trading Company is a strong disdain for public accountability and established checks and balances under the laws.

¹ <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/397081-bulk-boss-amobi-violates-code-of-conduct-law-runs-private-business.html#:~:text=Xui-KB18iec,whatsapp>

The above allegations run afoul of the **Paragraphs 1 and 2 of The fifth schedule to the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (As Altered), Section 1 of the Code** states that a public officer shall not put himself in a position where his interest conflicts with his duties and responsibilities.

Section 2 of the schedule states that without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing paragraph, public officer shall not a) 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; or b) **Except where he is not employed on full time basis, engage or participate in the management or running of any private business, profession or trade; but nothing in this paragraph shall prevent a public officer from engaging in farming or participating in the managing or running of any farm** (Emphasis added)

The Code of Conduct of Public Officers states in **Section 18 of the Code** that

"(1) Where the Code of Conduct Tribunal finds a public officer guilty of contravention of any or the provisions of this Code it shall impose upon that officer any of the punishments specified under sub-paragraph (2) of this paragraph and such other punishment as may be prescribed by the National Assembly.


(2) The punishment which the Code of Conduct Tribunal may impose shall include any of the following -

- (a) vacation of office or seat in any legislative house, as the case may be;
- (b) disqualification from membership of a legislative house and from the holding of any public office for a period not exceeding ten years; and
- (c) seizure and forfeiture to the State of any property acquired in abuse or corruption of office."

We believe strongly in due process and the rule of law which is why we have forwarded this petition to your office an urgent action. We humbly demand that an urgent and immediate investigation be initiated on the above report to uncover the true position of these allegations with the aim of shedding light 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

