

20<sup>th</sup> November, 2017

Secretary to Government of the Federation,  
Federal Secretariat,  
Abuja.

*Received  
Ibrahim  
24/11/17*

Dear Sir,

**RE: THE DISMISSAL OF MRS. MARYAM DANNA MUHAMMED: A CALL ON MR. PRESIDENT TO INTERVENE.**

Human and Environmental Development Agenda HEDA, congratulates you on your appointment to the exalted position of the Secretary to Government of the Federation. We at HEDA are of the belief that your depth of experience will in no little way contribute not only to the upliftment of the office but the overall efforts at transparency, accountability and nation building.

The main trust of this letter is the unlawful dismissal of Mrs. Maryam Danna Mohammed and the refusal by Chief of Staff to the President, Mr. Abba Kyari, to carry out a presidential directive for the reinstatement of Mrs. Mohammed.

Human and Environmental Development Agenda (HEDA Resource Center), 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, had observed with shock, the unlawful dismissal of Mrs. Muhammad of Niger-Delta Power Holding Company (NDPHC) and the entire drama surrounding it. Instructively, we observe that given the several complications involved in the whole saga, the ignoble action of your predecessor can not be over-emphasized. The intervention of your office is therefore urgently needed.

According to reports in the media, <http://saharareporters.com/2017/10/12/how-abba-kyari-defied-president-buhari-s-order-reinstate-sacked-niger-delta-holding> Mrs. Maryam Danna Muhammed who worked for 24 years with the defunct NDPHC conducted a company-wide staff audit which indicted 3 senior staff of the organization namely; Mr. Louis Edozie (Executive Director Technical services), Mr. Anthony U. Muoneke (Executive Director Finance and Administration) and the General Manager (contract management) which resulted in resignation of the concerned individuals.

Following the resignation of the afore-mentioned individuals in which Mr. Louis Edozie is a known associate of Mr. Abba Kyari, your all powerful Chief of Staff, whose daughter works under Mr. Louis it was gathered that Mrs. Muhammed received a letter on 10 June, 2016 from Mr. Babachir David Lawal, disgraceful suspended former Secretary to Government of the Federation, stating that she had been relieved of her duties with immediate effect which did not give any reasons for her sack or mention her offences. It simply claimed the disengagement was authorized by the President.



It was also gathered that eleven days after receiving this letter, a dissatisfied Mrs. Muhammed wrote to the Vice President, Professor Yemi Osibanjo, raising issues on circumstances surrounding her dismissal, especially when she was neither invited nor indicted by any committee set up to investigate any wrongdoing on her part.

Frustrated by an endless wait for a response to her letter from the office of the vice president, Mrs. Muhammed again wrote a comprehensive letter to your office which led to a letter from the office of the Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice Mr. Abubakar Mallam (SAN) claiming that Mrs. Muhammed's reinstatement has been ordered by Mr. President. It was also learnt that the said Attorney General's letter was addressed to Mr. Kyari to convey the President's decision for Mrs. Muhammed's reinstatement.

In respect of this development, HEDA Resource Centre sent a petition to the President, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Mr. Muhammadu Buhari, demanding the reinstatement of Mrs. Mohammed in accordance with the Attorney General's letter referenced above. Please find attached the said letter. Having said all these, the fact remain Mrs. Muhammed had still not been reinstated and the said presidential directive yet to be complied with by appropriate government officials. Hence, the following questions;

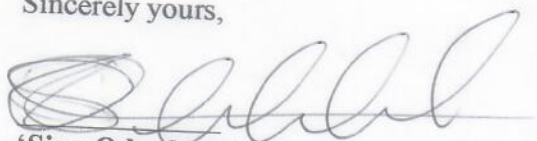
- 1) Why was Mrs. Mohammed sacked in the first instance?
- 2) On whose directive was Mrs. Muhammed sacked?
- 3) Was Mrs. Mohammed ever indicted of any wrongdoing before the termination of appointment?
- 4) Could Mrs. Muhammed's dismissal be as a result of stepping on powerful toes as a consequence for her audit report and indictment of the afore-mentioned individuals?
- 5) Why was the letter under the directive of the President to Mr. Kyari to have her reinstated not acted upon?

Sir, for a leadership that is premised on integrity, rule of law, accountability and most of all a genuine fight against corruption, justice must not only be done, but seen to have been at all times, without let or hindrances, in accordance with the highest level of public accountability, morality and transparency on which the high opinion held by the general public of your administration is premised. This is why HEDA is calling on your office to institute an enquiry into this case to ensure that justice is done.

It is only your timely intervention to redress the injustice in this case that would stop HEDA from taking legal actions within the period of 14 days upon the delivery of this letter.

While we await your prompt action on this case, please accept the assurance of our esteem regards.

Sincerely yours,



**Sina Odugbemi**  
Manager, Whistleblower Protection Program