



9th November, 2020

The Chairman,
Committee on Justice House of Representatives
Federal Capital Territory
Abuja

Dear Sir,

**CHANGE OF COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF BUDGET DEFENCE OF THE NIGERIAN
COMMUNICATION COMMISSION**

I write on behalf of HEDA Resource Centre, 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 extracted from the Nigerian Copyright Commission website, ¹*"In implementation of the Federal Government White Paper of Year 2000 on Harmonisation of Government Agencies and Parastatals, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria at a Federal Executive Council meeting in February 2006, ordered the transfer of the responsibility for the supervision of Nigerian Copyright Commission from the Federal Ministry of Culture and Tourism to the Federal Ministry of Justice. The objective of the transfer was to properly align the mandate of the Commission with the overall administration of justice in Nigeria as well as ensure conformity with international best practices in the copyright system."*

However, according to Section 52 of the Copyright Act 2004, the ministry saddled with the supervisory role over Nigerian Copyright Commission is Ministry of Information and Culture. Based on the above relayed, the current supervisory role exercised over the Nigerian Copyright Commission by the Federal Ministry of Justice is not only illegal but also a total disrespect for the National Assembly and separation of power under the Constitution.

It is in relation to the above that we write to you to use your good offices, not to support the inherent illegality perpetuated by the executive and consider the Commission's budget but rather, transmit same to the Committee on Information and Culture and demand the immediate undertaking of the budget defence of the Nigerian Communication Commission by the Committee on Information and Culture as against your Committee, as expressly stated in the provision of the law alluded above.

We look forward to your prompt and speedy response.

¹ <https://copyright.gov.ng/about-ccc/>



Thank you.

Yours Faithfully,


f **Olanrewaju Suraju**
Chairman