



# HUMAN & ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

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4<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Professor Bolaji Owasanoye SAN  
Chairman

Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission  
Plot 802, Constitution Avenue  
Zone A9, Central Business District  
Federal Capital Territory  
Abuja



Dear Sir,

## PETITION AGAINST EMBEZZLEMENT AND MISMANGEMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS BY MDAs OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA AS CONTAINED IN THE AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT

I write in respect of the above subject matter.

Human and Environmental Development Agenda (HEDA Resource Centre), a leading Anti-Corruption Organization in Nigeria is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) and Non-partisan Human Rights and Development league. It has the mandate to protect and promote universally recognized human rights, accountability and environmental justice in Nigeria and Africa, in accordance with International standards. These objectives are pursued through research and publications, campaigns, human rights education and empowerment projects and programmes.

At the submission of the audit report to the Senate and House of Representatives' Committee on Public Account for further legislative action, it was reported that the Auditor General of the Federation indicted the Nigerian Security Printing and Minting Plc, the Nigeria Ports Authority, and others for irregularities in payments/expenditures and unexecuted projects worth about ₦138.8bn.<sup>1</sup>

The report indicted 20 MDAs for irregular payments amounting to ₦132.53bn, with the Nigerian Security Printing and Minting Plc having the highest amount of ₦97.98bn.

The report said, "The sum of ₦132,525,040,862.97 was the amount of irregular payments/unapproved allowances to staff by 20 Ministries, Departments and Agencies. The Nigerian Security Printing and Minting Plc has the highest amount of ₦97,975,031,778.79 while the National Commission for Colleges of Education, Abuja has the least amount of ₦2,892,200".

The report revealed that between 2018 and 2019 financial year, ₦15.2bn was moved from the Nigeria Special Economic Zones Company Limited into the account of Nigeria Export Processing Zones Authority (NEPZA). NEPZA did not provide justification for the movement as of the time of audit and as such, the OAuGF termed the transaction an irregularity.

Records from the Calabar Free Trade Zone (CFTZ) showed that the sum of ₦16m was paid for fuelling of motor vehicles and trucks at the FTZ and the payments were made into the

<sup>1</sup> <https://punchng.com/agen-report-indicts-npa-nspm-others-over-n138-8bn-irregular-payments-unexecuted-projects/>



personal account of a staff on monthly basis to purchase fuel for vehicles. It was also discovered that two of the vehicles fuelled monthly are not in the vehicle list of NEPZA because they belonged to the Nigeria Custom Service and Nigeria Police Force. It was gathered that these two vehicles were grounded, yet CFTZ collected money for their fuelling monthly.

The management of NEPZA said that the practice had been stopped and officers concerned have been redeployed from this schedule. The report also noted that FCT Social Development Secretariat paid a total of ₦27m to members of staff of the secretariat to attend training, workshop, conference and the other activities without any evidence or certificate of attendance to authenticate the genuines of the activities. But the expenditure could not be accepted as a legitimate charge to treasury and was therefore disallowed, the report added. There was no official response to the allegation, the OAuGF said.

The office also disclosed that five agencies paid ₦6.3bn for contracts and services not executed. According to the report, the Nigeria Ports Authority (NPA) paid the highest amount, ₦4.5bn, for projects not executed while Federal Government College Enugu paid the least amount of ₦3.1m.

Other defaulting agencies are the Nigerian Police Force (NPF) and the Anambra-Imo River Basin Development Authority, Owerri.

Between 2018 and 2019, the NPF spent ₦925m on 11 contracts involving construction of three units of Gunshot Spotter System, supply of 50 units of Ballistic Roller Trolley and 20 units of Ballistic Mobile Surveillance House in some selected Commands and Formations. As of June 2019, when physical verification of the purported contracts was carried out, no evidence of execution was found. The NPF didn't provide any explanation for this anomaly, the report stated.

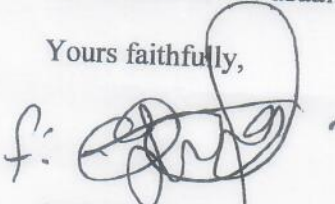
The Anambra-Imo River Basin Development Authority was indicted by the report on three charges relating to the payment of services not executed. The report noted that a contract of ₦49.3m was awarded for the training and empowerment of women with HIV/AIDS and widows in Anambra South Senatorial District but was not rendered.

Also, between 2018 and 2019, the Authority awarded 28 contracts for a training programme valued at ₦127.8m which were not executed as at the time the audit was conducted. The Authority, however argued, that all documentary evidences supporting the procurement, execution and payment for the trainings were available in its office for verification.

In view of the above report which raises suspicion of fraud, corruption and sharp practices, and also on the mandate of the ICPC, we kindly request the Commission to investigate the MDAs indicted by the report and prosecute anyone found culpable in this distasteful act of corrupt practices and financial misappropriation which has drastically diminished Nigeria's reputation internationally.

We thank you and look forward to a diligent investigation and action on this petition as you are assured of our usual cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

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**Mr. Olanrewaju Suraju**  
Chairman