

26th October, 2018

The Inspector General of Police,
Nigerian Police Force Headquarters
Louis Edet House
Shehu Shagari Way
Central Business District
Abuja.

Dear Sir,

**PETITION FOR THE INVESTIGATION, ARREST AND PROSECUTION OF THE
EMBATTLED NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME (NHIS) EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY; MR. USMAN YUSUF FOR FORCEFUL ENTRANCE INTO THE ABUJA
NHIS HEAD OFFICE**

The above subject matter refers.

The Human and Environmental Development Agenda Resource Centre is a non-governmental organization 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.

We hereby write to request for the investigation, arrest and prosecution of the suspended Executive Secretary of the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) and officers of the force for the forceful entrance into the scheme's head office in Abuja on the 22nd October, 2018 with the aid of security operatives.

According to reports from PremiumTimes Online Newspaper dated the 22nd October, 2018 the suspended Executive Secretary; Mr. Yusuf in a flagrant display of high handedness and disregard for official protocols, used unknown police officers in his entourage to overpower workers, staff, union and security officials at the head office while trying to gain access inspite of his suspension by the governing council of the scheme, who had set up a panel to probe allegations of fraud and infractions against the Executive Secretary. There are also allegations of the use of tear gas on workers by these officers of the police force.

The Force Public Relation Officer subsequently dissociated the force from that action and those officers involved in the illegal act of brigandage and harassment of public officers on official duty at the NHIS head office. Mr. Yusuf refused to

adhere to the suspension order of the council and forcefully gained access to his office while being guarded by police officers.

It is worth noting that Mr. Yusuf was previously suspended by the Minister of Health, Isaac Adewole, in July 2017 over alleged gross misconduct and fraud but was in February controversially reinstated by President Muhammadu Buhari. This was before his second suspension by the Governing Council over similar allegations of fraud and infractions.

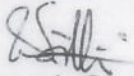
The above is quite devastating and alarming as it suggests that an individual can make attempts to sabotage an entire system with the cooperation of the police as against the existing structure of an agency of the federal government.

This situation is one that can cause chaos and a breakdown of law and order in the scheme's office and as such requires the arrest of anyone found wanting or trying to jeopardize the security of the institution.

We look forward to your prompt action and response.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,


f Olanrewaju Suraju
(Chairman)