May 28th, 2012

THE SENATE,
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
ABUJA, NIGERIA

Dear Sirs,

PETITION FOR TO INVESTIGATE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT’S TRANSFER OF ONE BILLION DOLLARS ($1,000,000,000,000) TO MALABU OIL.

HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDA (HEDA) a registered non-governmental organization (NGO) whose mandate includes advocacy on human rights issues, the rule of law and good governance amongst others.

On 21st and 24th May 2012, Premiumtimesng.com (an online news journal) reported allegations of conspiracy corruption, breach of trust, theft and money laundering by the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) and Malabu Oil.

In 1998, under the Sani Abacha administration, Malabu oil was awarded an Oil block OPL245. In 2001, under the Olusegun Obasanjo administration, the award was reversed on the grounds that the allocation process was dubious and the block was allocated to Shell in 2002. Following protracted legal battles between Malabu Oil, Shell and FGN several agreements were reached between the parties.

In the agreement between Malabu Oil and FGN, the FGN agreed to pay Malabu oil the sum of $1.1 Billion as full and final settlement of all its claims, interest or rights relating to OPL 245 and that the block will be reallocated to Shell and Agip.

In the agreement between Shell and the FGN, Shell and Agip agreed to pay the same sum to the FGN for the purposes of the FGN settling and any existing claims and/or issues over BLOCK 245.

On August 16th, 2011, The Federal Government was said to have transferred this sum of $1.1 billion dollars to Malabu Oil despite having repeatedly insisted that the award of the oil block was in violation of laid down procedures.

The EFCC was said to have investigated transaction, concluding that there was opacity to the transactions associated with fraudulent dealings.

The premiumtimesng report further stated that Malabu Oil is owned by Former Minister of Petroleum Dan Etete who had been earlier convicted in 2007 in France on money laundering charges, further EFCC investigations established Mr. Etete as a money laundering machine as the $1.1 billion transferred to Malabu oil were discovered to have been transferred to various accounts owned by real and artificial persons.
The Premiumtimesng states that its sources at the presidency confirmed that the EFCC has intimated the President and Attorney General of The federation, Mr. Adoke of its findings but nothing has been done about it.

In pursuit of Good governance and transparency we as representatives of the public owe it as a duty to ensure that corrupt acts and injustice do not continue to mar Nigeria quest for a transparent and accountable Democracy.

In is on this basis we request that the National Assembly carries out an investigation on this transaction as it owes it to the people of Nigeria to uphold and protect the country’s funds from being squandered and embezzled by a few unscrupulous citizens.

Yours faithfully
HEDA RESOURCE CENTRE

OLANREWAJU SURAJ
Executive Director.