

CACOL Urges ICPC to Query CBN Over Missing N55b

The Centre for Anti-Corruption and Open Leadership (CACOL) has called on the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) to probe the Central Bank of Nigeria over allegations that N55b allocated for the funding of the Federal Government's Anchor Borrowers Programme (ABP) has been misappropriated.

This was on Wednesday expressed by the Executive Chairman of CACOL, Mr Debo Adeniran.

The CACOL Chairman cited section six (b) of The Corrupt Practices And Other Related Offences Act 2000 as the statutory provision which empowers the anti-graft agency to investigate corruption cases pertaining to public institutions in the country.

Adeniran further condemned the manner in which the huge government revenue which was approved to provide support for rice farmers was allegedly diverted to strangers and political hangers-on who are not involved in agriculture.

Adeniran further urged the anti-graft body to

beam its search-light on how the ABP funds were disbursed in five states of the federation which include Lagos, Kebbi, Kaduna, Ekiti and Ebonyi.

The CACOL boss also urged the anti-graft agency to investigate the role played by the affected state governments in this scam, adding that anybody fingered should be arrested, prosecuted and jailed over the diversion of this huge public revenue.

The group expressed outrage that the misappropriated fund which ought to have been used to finance the Federal Government's plan to boost rice production across the country in pursuit of the nation's self-sufficiency agenda for this staple crop, now appears to have been jeopardized due to the activities of corrupt elements and their accomplices within the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN).

Adeniran wondered how corrupt individuals at the nation's apex bank could have authorized the release of such a huge sum in cash thereby violating basic rules which stipulate that such transactions ought to be carried out through the nation's banking system.



The Centre for Anti-Corruption and Open Leadership (CACOL) was established in August 2007 to exert pressures on anti-graft agencies to investigate and prosecute known corrupt leaders in Nigeria. CACOL also undertakes to sensitize Nigerians to Name, Nail, Shame and Shun Corrupt Leaders Anywhere, Everywhere to serve as deterrent that corruption does not pay. CACOL is primarily funded by affiliate and individual members but also seeks support from public-spirited individuals, corporate bodies and donor agencies. This DIGEST is supported by First Faculty Ventures - an organizational development consultancy firm. For further information contact: The Executive Chairman, CACOL, The Humanity Center, 610 Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway, Ijaye-Ojokoro, Lagos, Nigeria. Phone: 01-4736534, 08037194969, 08023226276. E-mail: cacolc@yahoo.com, cacol@thehumanitycentre.com, Website: www.corruptionwatchng.com, www.cacol.thehumanitycentre.com. Acting Editor: Aghagbobi Ikenna

CORRUPTION is any act of DISHONESTY

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CACOL Hails Arraignment of Suspended SEC DG

The Centre for Anti-Corruption and Open Leadership (CACOL) has commended the Independent Corrupt Practices and Related Offences Commission (ICPC) over the arraignment of the suspended Director-General, Securities Exchange Commission, (SEC) Mounir Gwarzo, before an Abuja Federal High Court over corruption charges.



and followed up, because of our unshakeable conviction that Corruption is at the very base of much of our underdevelopment and economic frustration of majority Nigerians”.

“Imagine what the billions of Dollars that have disappeared into private pockets could have done in providin

g infrastructure and pushing our technological drive to curb unemployment, low level of education and general backwardness in the country” he further stated.

Mr. Adeniran in concluding opined that, “We therefore call for a speedy prosecution of both the SEC Director

The Executive Chairman of CACOL, Mr. Debo Adeniran, on Tuesday, while expressing the views of the Centre stated that: “When we first blew the lid on the corruptive acts of the SEC DG, the impression was given that nothing would come out of it and that the allegations leveled against him would be swept under the proverbial carpet. But we persisted

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CACOL Frowns at NNPC's Antics

The Centre for Anti-Corruption and Open Leadership, CACOL, has frowned at the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation's (NNPC) refusal to abide by the extant laws while remitting revenue to the federation account.

The CACOL's Executive Chairman, Mr. Debo Adeniran, cited a media report in which the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) stated that the NNPC, contrary to the governing laws of the petroleum industry, has been remitting lump sums as revenue into the federation account without separating such payments from royalties and petroleum profit tax (PPT).

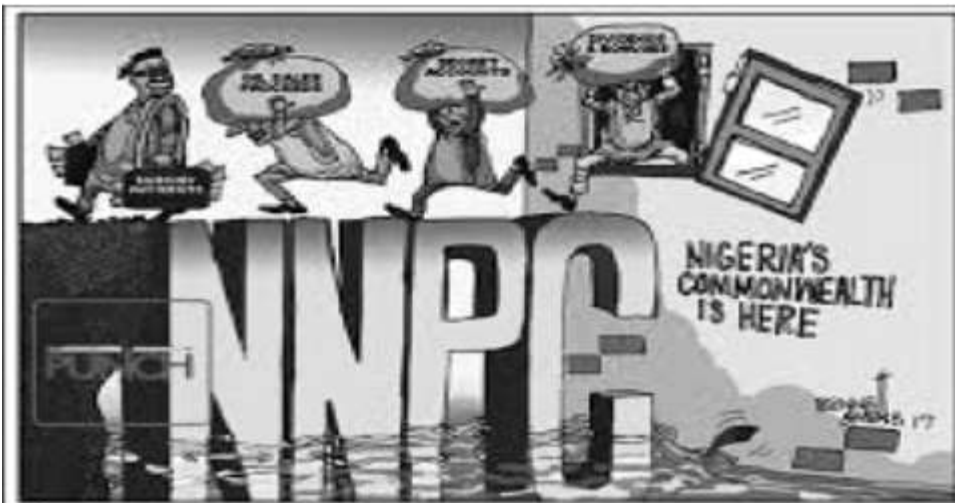
The CACOL boss further noted that remitting monies contrary to the stipulated format creates room for sharp practices and

looting of revenue that should be paid into the federation account.

Adeniran asked: "Is it not ridiculous that institutions that are supposed to show examples to others by adhering to the laws and regulations are the ones violating them?"

He further stated, "It is preposterous that a corporation as huge as NNPC, whose activities determine the state of the nation's economy, will in its dealings make it difficult for the Government to determine its profit or loss margin after investment.

"CACOL therefore calls on the DRP to initiate a comprehensive audit into the monies previously remitted to the federal coffers to ensure there are no irregularities."



Rickey Tarfa: CACOL Calls for Speedy Trial

The Centre for Anti-Corruption and Open Leadership, CACOL has expressed reservations over last Monday's stalled trial of Mr. Rickey Tarfa (SAN) who is standing trial in Lagos for allegedly offering bribes to some judges.

The trial was reportedly adjourned as a result of the absence of a defence witness who was supposed to be present for cross examination on the day of hearing.

CACOL's Executive Chairman, Mr Debo Adeniran, while expressing the group's views stated that:

"We hope the non-appearance of the witness has not been instigated by threats or the use of other tactics to truncate the course of justice or buy time to delay justice".

According to CACOL: " We are aware that Mr. Tarfa who was arraigned for bribing two judges of the Federal High Court has pleaded not guilty to the 26- count charge leveled against him by the Economic Federal Crimes Commission (EFCC)."

CACOL recalls that Tarfa was arraigned for allegedly bribing Justices Hyeladzira Nganjiwa and Mohammed Yunusa with over N6m.

The CACOL boss further called on

Nigerians to be vigilant so that the gains of the anti-corruption war are not lost.



According to him: "We must ensure that the ongoing investigation and prosecution of corruption cases are

not subverted, so that derailment of the anti-corruption war is averted".

Adeniran in conclusion stated that: "We want to urge the witnesses for the senior lawyer's trial to show up in court and give their testimonies as this will not only help in the diligent conclusion of the case, but also serve as a courageous example to others to testify against alleged corrupt individuals".

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CACOL Hails Arraignment...
 General and all his accomplices so that the proceeds of crime are not only recovered, but adequate punishments are meted out to serve as a deterrent in order to return our society to a path of sanity and accountability in the public service."

He added: "There is simply no other way to go, if Nigeria would ever have any hope of breaking away from its ugly past."