

REVENUE WATCH NEWSLETTER

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EDITORIAL

THE MO IBRAHIM 2012 REPORT ON NIGERIA

The reason for Nigeria's underdevelopment has been blamed on bad leadership. Poor leadership coupled with acts of indiscipline, corruption and misappropriation of public funds has been linked to the continuous backwardness of Nigeria. The nation has not been able to harness the full potentials that abound in the country, even the little resources that the country has been able to source, has been poorly managed. The Mo Ibrahim Index of African Governance 2012 report, indicate that human rights, political freedom, transparency and accountability have deteriorated in Nigeria as the country was ranked 14th out of the 16 countries in West Africa and 43rd out of the 52 countries listed overall.

This report tells it all and the countries leadership needs to rise beyond rhetoric and take the issue of corruption and bad governance seriously. They need to

scourge and return the richly endowed country on the path of prosperity.

Furthermore, Oil and Gas being the mainstay of Nigerian economy has been roundly described as the paradox of plenty by many. This paradox has kept millions of citizens in poverty leading to dissatisfaction among the citizenry. About 60% of the over 160 million people still live below poverty line.

Nigeria's Human Development Index (HDI) value for 2011 is 0.45, in the Low Human Development category, positioning the country at 156 out of 187 countries and territories. Nigerian leaders have not been able to deliver services to the nation above personal interests and it is regrettable that the country has rigmarole for too long because of bad leadership.

Nigeria desires a purposeful leadership who can transform the country using available resources. Such leaders must be patriotic in their services to the nation with clear ideology and vision.

CONTENT

Editorial – PAGE 1

**Implement Transparency
Laws, Niger Delta States
Urged - PAGE 2**

**Anti-corruption Rally –
PAGE 2**

**Upcoming events –
PAGE 3**

**CONTACT US - PAGE
3
International day to end
impunity – PAGE 3**

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**Implement Transparency
Laws, Niger Delta States
Urged**

States in the Niger delta region have been urged to go beyond mere domestication of the public procurement and Fiscal Responsibility Laws, and to ensure strict implementation of such laws to enshrine budget

transparency and accountability. Also, the Budget office across the States in the region, in collaboration with Ministry of information and other relevant MDAs and stakeholders, were enjoined to embark on citizens' enlightenment on the budgetary process. The calls formed part of a

Communiqué issued at the end of a recent two-day Budget Tracking Enhancement Training Workshop, organized by the Niger Delta Budget Monitoring Group (NDEBUMOG), for its partners, Civil Society and the Media, in Calabar, Cross River State.

ANEEJ HELD ANTI-CORRUPTION RALLY IN LAGOS - DEMAND SPEADY PROSECUTION OF FUEL SUBSIDY CORRUPTION CASES IN NIGERIA

We, members of the undersigned Civil Society Organisations who have been part of the critical mass of Nigeria citizens who were among those in the streets protesting the abrupt removal of subsidy on petroleum products in Nigeria on January 1, 2012 and who also have been following the issue from thence, hereby express concern over the slow pace of prosecution of fuel subsidy corruption cases.



We therefore are making the following demands:

- The federal government should speed up the prosecution of fuel subsidy corruption cases that are currently pending in court where notable oil marketers and their companies are involved.
- Presidential candidates standing for the February 14, 2015 polls should tell Nigerians how they will end fuel subsidy corruption.
- The Nigerian Bar Association, other Civil Society Groups and even individual lawyers should immediately provide Pro Bono Services to the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), to fortify their prosecution team.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 2-day Workshop for CSOs in the Niger Delta on “Improving civil societies engagement with the legislature” – March 7th to 8th, 2015. Warri, Delta
- Domestic election observation in Edo, Delta, Bayelsa and Cross River States

ANEEJ, NHRC MARK INTERNATIONAL DAY TO END IMPUNITY – URGE NIGERIAN LEAFERS TO PUT AN END TO THE CULTURE OF IMPUNITY



The Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEEJ), in collaboration with the National Human Rights Commission, Benin City Office and the Citizen’s Wealth Platform, organized a symposium and rally to mark International Day to End Impunity, at Bishop Kelly Pastoral Center, Benin City, on Saturday 23rd November, 2013. The event was attended by over 72 participants drawn from the National Human Rights Commission, Benin City office; International Federation of Female Lawyers (FIDA), Academia, Students, Civil Society Organisations in Edo State and Journalist.

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