



# NIGERIAN JUSTICE BULLETIN

A PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE HONOURABLE ATTORNEY-GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION AND MINISTER OF JUSTICE

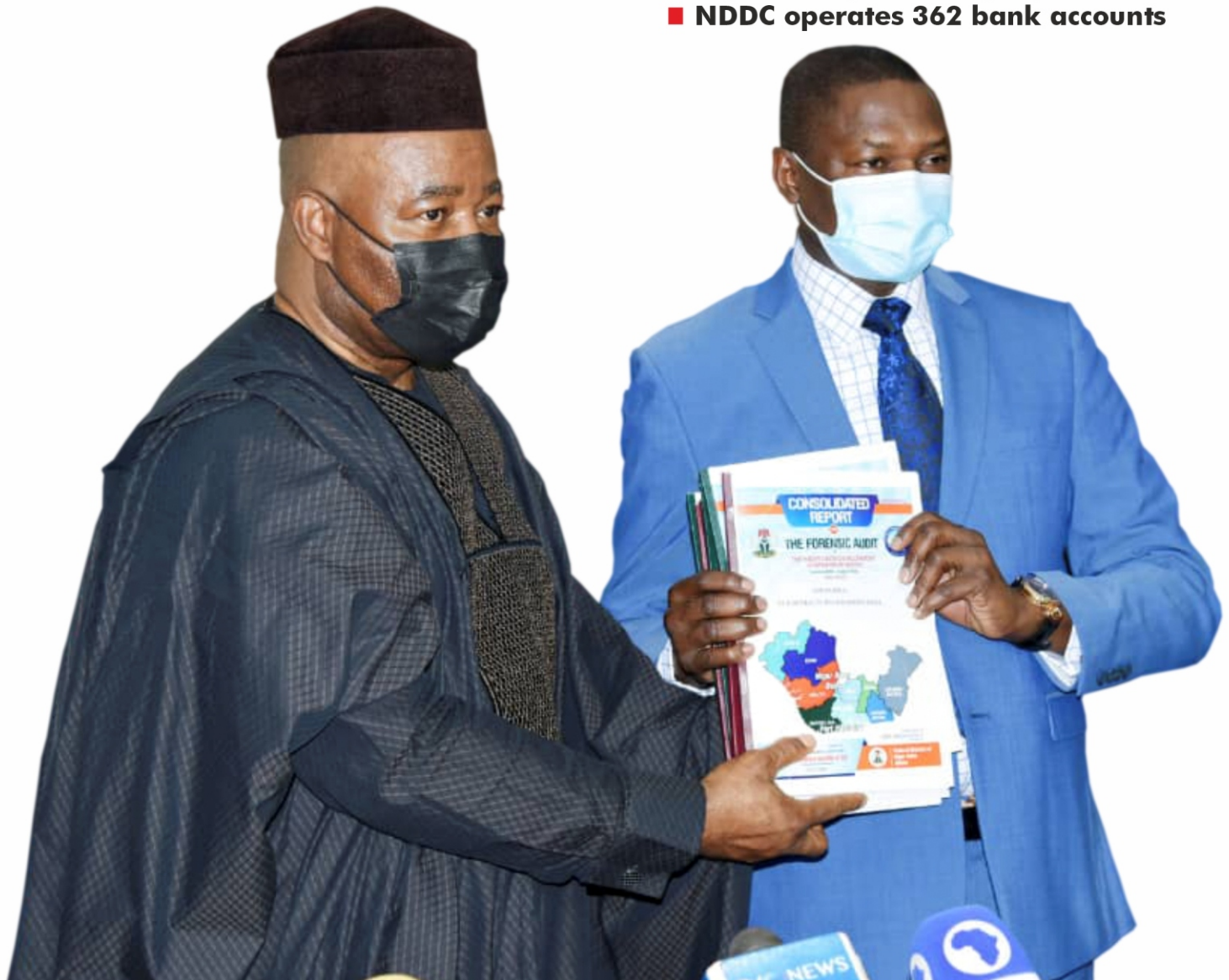


Vol 2: Issue 1

September, 2021

## NDDC SUBMITS **FORENSIC** **AUDIT** REPORT

- NDDC gets N6trn
- 13,777 compromised projects
- NDDC operates 362 bank accounts



**Justice not Commodity for Sale to the Highest Bidder -Malami**





AGF Malami, (2nd from right) flanked by acting Solicitor General of the Federation and Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Justice, Muhammad Umar Estu (right), Ministers and Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs (Left)

# NDDC SUBMITS FORENSIC AUDIT REPORT

- NDDC gets N6trn
- 13,777 compromised projects
- NDDC operates 362 bank accounts

Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN has on behalf of President Muhammadu Buhari, received the final report of the forensic audit of the Niger Delta Development Commission, NDDC.

The report was presented by the Minister of Niger Delta Affairs, Godswill Akpabio.

In his address after receiving the report Malami disclosed that the Federal Government approved about N6trillion for the NDDC.

He lamented that the bulk of funds the Commission received for the development of the Niger Delta region, were not properly accounted for.

He said that execution of 13,777 projects awarded to the region were substantially compromised.

Malami said the essence of the forensic audit was to ensure



Minister of Niger Delta Affairs, Godswill Akpabio submitting the Forensic Report to HAGF, Abubakar Malami

probity and accountability in the use of public funds.

"It is on record that between 2001 and 2019, the Federal Government has approved N3, 375, 735,776,794.93 as budgetary allocation and N2,420,948,894,191.00 as Income from Statutory and Non Statutory Sources, which brings the total figure to the sum of approximately Six Trillion Naira given to the Niger Delta Development Commission".

He expressed concerned that the NDDC operated a total of 362 bank accounts, leading to "lack of proper reconciliation of accounts".

## Justice not Commodity for Sale to the Highest Bidder -Malami

Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN has urged judges in the country to maintain the sanctity and credibility of the Court and not make Justice a commodity for sale to the highest bidder.

Malami made the warning in his address at the 2021 legal year ceremony of the Court Of Appeal held in Abuja.

Malami charged them to ensure that the sacred integrity reposed on the judges remain unshaken at all times in order to foster and promote public confidence in all rulings that emanate from this Court.

"Your resolve as a temple of justice in ensuring that justice is not trivialized to a common bargain and is in effect accessible to all is highly commendable," he said.

**“Your resolve as a temple of justice in ensuring that justice is not trivialized to a common bargain and is in effect accessible to all is highly commendable”**



"I hereby also extend a call of solidarity, reverence and respect for the Courts and Court processes, to all our Learned Distinguished Colleagues here present to ensure that justice is not trivialised to a commodity bargained for and taken by the highest bidder, at the detriment of the indigent who for want of equal bargaining power, wallow in the shadows of judicial neglect".

He said uniformity, consistency and universality of judgement and rulings in the face of judicial precedent is an exceptional value of judicial system that must at all times strive to uphold as a way of upholding the sanctity of the judiciary in re-enacting the confidence of the common man in our judicial system.





AGF, with members of the 5th Governing Council of National Human Rights Commission

# Buhari's Government **Respects** Human Rights -*Malami*

**A**ttorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN has reassured Nigerians of the continued observance of human rights by the present administration, insisting that the Nigerian citizens have since the beginning of President Muhammadu Buhari's government had their fundamental human rights respected.

Malami made this known while speaking at the inauguration of the 5th Governing Council of the National Human Rights Commission on August 2nd, 2021 in Abuja.

He explained that the Federal Government has complied with various rulings on human rights and has paid damages awarded against it.

The Minister explained that measures have been taken to ensure that the National Human Rights Commission would be able to advise the government properly in the fulfillment of its international human rights obligations and protect as well as promote the human rights of Nigerians and persons living in Nigeria without fear or favour in line with the Paris Principles.

“It is a known fact that the present government had complied with the award of damages for victims of the 2012 Apo killings of Okada riders by security agents, as well complied with the 2018 White paper recommendations on Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) of the Nigerian Police.

“The disbandment of SARS and the setting up of various panels of inquiry investigating and awarding damages for human rights violations by SARS is a clear testimony to the fact that this government is fulfilling its international obligation to set up an independent National Human Rights Commission for the promotion and protection of the rights of Nigerians.

**“I am happy to note that in recognition of the compliance of the Commission with the Paris Principles, the Commission has been graded with 'A Status' in the comity of Human Rights Institutions by the Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI).”**

“I am happy to note that in recognition of the compliance of the Commission with the Paris Principles, the Commission has been graded with 'A Status' in the comity of Human Rights Institutions by the Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI).

“The Commission has affiliate status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights. This gives the Commission access to all necessary meetings at the UN and AU levels. This is indeed gratifying and it behooves the Governing Council to uphold and improve on the standard achieved by the previous Councils and the Management of the Commission before now,” he said.





AGF, Abubakar Malami, flanked by (L) Dr. U.J. Gwandu, SA Media, (R) Justice I.U. Bello, Chairman, Presidential Committee on Correctional Service Reform and Decongestion and Mrs. Leticia Ayo Daniel, Secretary

## Decongest Custodian Centres, Rehabilitates Inmates

- Malami Charges Committee

**T**he Federal Ministry of Justice in collaboration with the Presidential Committee on Correctional Reform and Decongestion has set to reposition Borstal Institutions and Remand Homes, with the mandate to rehabilitate and reintegrate inmates, most especially juveniles, back into the society.

This was disclosed at the virtual meeting with Justice Sector Stakeholders from Ogun State on the Implementation of Amnesty and Decongestion Programme for Juveniles held on Friday, 9th July, 2021 in Abuja.

In his Opening remarks, the Honourable Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice (HAGF) Abubakar Malami, SAN said the Federal Ministry of Justice in collaboration with the Committee, under the directive of President Muhammadu Buhari, flagged off the Presidential Pardon and Clemency, granted in April 2020 to convicts in Correctional/Custodial Centres across the country. This was done, he said, as part of measures to decongest the custodial centres nationwide in the wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Malami explained that the primary focus then was to decongest the custodial centers of adult offenders, since strategies had to be put in place to properly handle juveniles in custody, being that they are more delicate and vulnerable group. Afterwards, the Committee saw the challenge and the need for a comprehensive master plan to address

**Malami explained that the primary focus then was to decongest the custodial centers of adult offenders, since strategies had to be put in place to properly handle juveniles in custody, being that they are more delicate and vulnerable group.**

the situation and welfare of juveniles in correctional centres.

Following this, the Federal Ministry of Justice in collaboration with the Committee and the UNICEF held the first phase of the Juvenile Decongestion Programme on the 29th September, 2020 in a Virtual Interactive session with the HAGF and Attorney General, Head of Courts and Commissioners of Women Affairs of all the 36 States of the Federation.

HAGF further explained that the second phase commenced in May 2021 with the Committee/Assessment Team visiting remand homes and Borstal Institute in Lagos and Abeokuta, to assess the necessary needs and requirements of the juveniles to be released. Details of the challenges observed and recommendations made by the team were contained in the Report forwarded to stakeholder institutions.

According to Malami, the meeting was aimed at organizing a coordinated judicial action with the Ogun State Hon. Attorney-General and Commissioner of Justice, Ogun State Chief Judge, Ogun State Commissioner of Social Welfare Department and the Controller, Nigerian Correctional Service, Ogun State, Principal of the Borstal Institute Ogun State, UNODC, UNICEF, Legal Aid Council, FIDA and CSOs in Ogun State would provide legal and psychological support to the released juveniles for proper re-integration back into the society".

"While I applaud and appreciate the dedication and commitment of all stakeholders towards the implementation of the Juvenile Decongestion Programme, we shall continue to welcome the support of Development Partners and Donor Agencies in the ongoing programme". Malami expressed. He charged the benefitting children to be of good behavior and responsible and wished them the best in their future endeavours.

In his welcome address, the Hon. Justice I.U. Bello, Former Chief Judge of the FCT and Chairman, Presidential Committee on Correctional Service Reform and Decongestion disclosed that the Committee, after visiting over 32 Correctional Centres in 18 states, observed that there were only three (3) Borstal Institutes in Nigeria; Ogun, Kwara and Kaduna states and detected that these institutes were grossly inadequate, and overcrowded which has resulted in the ugly practice of sending juveniles to adult Correctional Centres.





# Nigeria committed to End Gender-Based Violence - Malami

The Federal Government of Nigeria has focused significant attention on the issue of sexual and gender based violence and therefore working towards the establishment of specialized courts and Judicial Divisions focused on sexual and gender-based violence.

Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN made this known while speaking at a virtual session on “Special Event on Gender Dimensions of Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism” organized by the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime as part of events commemorating the International Women Day held at Kyoto, Japan.

Malami recalled that last year he inaugurated the Inter-Ministerial Management Committee on Eradication of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence with the hope that these will be important tools in helping Nigeria to address the crime.

He said in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, the Complex Case Group at the Office of the Attorney General of

**“He said the current administration also knows that giving voice to women is an important aspect of development as women are integral agents of positive change.”**

Investigation Centre, in North-East Nigeria.

He said the current administration also knows that giving voice to women is an important aspect of development as women are integral agents of positive change.

He noted with dismay that terrorists groups continue to kidnap



**Abubakar Malami (SAN)**

Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice

and commit sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls noting that preventing these crimes and bringing those who commit these acts to justice remains a priority of the Government of President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR.

“Another emerging area of grave concern is the abduction and kidnapping of teenagers in boarding houses for ransom. The perpetrators targeted this group of people possibly to scare them from schooling. This is indeed a sad situation.

The Nigerian armed forces and law enforcement agencies are working day and night to combat insecurity, terrorism, kidnapping and abduction of people in the country”.

“We must work to prevent both male and female perpetrators from carrying out these acts and support those who have been victims,” he said.

He said in partnership with UNODC as well as the European Union, the Federal Government launch the “Nigeria Training Module on Gender Dimensions in the Criminal Justice: Response to Terrorism”.

According to him, the Module provides practical guidance based on Nigeria's legal framework as well as international and African regional laws and good practices to support Nigerian officials in addressing the issues of gender in the counter-terrorism context.

He said “The Nigerian National Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism” notes the important role women play not only as policy-makers and law enforcement officers, but also wives and mothers in preventing violent extremism and in de-radicalisation, rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders.

The Minister said that Nigeria has also developed a National Action Plan on the Implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 on the Women, Peace and Security agenda which he said was relevant step to respond to the needs and promote the role of women in efforts to address terrorism.





## Malami vows to Uphold Child-friendly justice system

- Inaugurates Justice for Children Forum

**A**ttorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN has said that the Federal Government of Nigeria remains unwaveringly dedicated to improve children's access to child-friendly justice system.

Malami made this known while inaugurating the Justice for Children Coordination Forum at the launch of the EU-UNICEF access to justice programme for children on the move and other vulnerable children held in Abuja.

Malami was represented by the Special Assistant to the President on Research and Special Duties, Office of the Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Professor Muhammad Lawal Ahmadu.

Malami said through age and gender-sensitive juvenile justice mechanisms and alternatives to detention for children on the move and vulnerable children, the Nigeria child would benefit from the child-friendly justice sector.

The Minister lamented the pathetic situation of some children saying that "this administration will continue to do its best in the protection of the rights of children and vulnerable persons". He disclosed that the office of the Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice currently engages respective Heads of Courts to establish Specialized Courts for the speedy and seamless trial of Rape/Gender-Based Violence Offences in the country.

According to him it is hoped that these specialized courts will fast track such cases and result in justice for child victims of sexual violence.

### The Minister inaugurated Justice for Children Forum

The Forum chaired by the Solicitor General of the Federation and Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Justice has representatives from the Federal Ministry of Justice, Federal Ministry of Women Affairs, Federal Ministry of Education, Federal Ministry of Health, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development and the Nigerian Police Force.

Other Members of the Forum were drawn from Legal Aid Council of Nigeria, National Human Right Commission, National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons, Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps, and University of Abuja.

The remaining members of the Forum were representatives from Buni Yadi Foundation, United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC), United Nation Development Programme (UNDP), UNICEF, FIDA, Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), Nigerian Judiciary Institute, Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS), International Labour Organisation (ILO), International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and Office of the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights (OHCR).

## Malami condoles Shagari's Family in Sokoto



**Abubakar Malami (SAN)**

Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice

**A**ttorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN has paid a condolence visit to the families of Late President Shehu Shagari over the death of Hajiya Hadiza Shehu Shagari.

Malami who was in Sokoto at the residence of the late President Shehu Shagari on Friday described the late widow, Hajiya Hadiza Shehu Shagari as woman of integrity whose virtues will ever be remembered.

He prayed Allah to grant eternal rest to the deceased and give the families the fortitude to bear the loss.

Responding the representative of the family who received the Minister at the residence Alhaji Ahmad Shehu Shagari thanked the Minister for his care and concern demonstrated through condolence visit to the family.





# Prison Decongestion: 31 Inmates Released in Kano

**N**o fewer than 31 inmates have been released from the Nigerian Correctional Centre in Kano on Friday 27th August, 2021.

The Presidential Committee on Correctional Centres Reform and Decongestion facilitated the release of the inmates during their visit to the Kano correctional center.

The Committee was in Kano for an on-the-spot assessment of condition of Correctional Centres and inmates with a view to making payment of fines for inmates who were convicted of minor offences with option of fines but unable to pay the fines as well as general review of peculiar cases.

During the visits 19 inmates were released through payment of fines by the Federal Ministry of Justice, 3 were released through payment of fines by the Buni Yadi Foundation and 2 were released as well through payment made by Policy Vault Africa.

Similarly, additional 7 inmates released due to old age.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) brought to the attention of the chairman Hon. (Dr.) Justice I. U Bello(Rtd), the case of Rahama Hussein.

In 2015, Rahama said to be Fourteen (14) years at the time, was alleged to have been forcibly married off by her father and three days after, whilst her husband attempted to consummate the marriage, a struggle ensued which led to his unfortunate death.

While granting State Pardon to Rahma, Governor Abdullahi Umar Ganduje of Kano State promised that the State Government will support her rehabilitation process.



Some inmates released from correctional centre

The inmate is said to have been in custody for almost seven (7) years now.

Representatives of UNODC and Buni Yadi Foundation were also present to lend their voice and support to the release of Rahama.

It might be recalled that on the 30th of October 2017, the Honourable Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN constituted and inaugurated the Presidential Committee on Correctional Reforms and Decongestion.

Over 10,000 inmates have been released through the Committee.

In recent times the Committee focused more attention on reformation of the juvenile Justice.



# Malami calls for more support to **return** Nigeria's **stolen wealth**



**A**ttorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN said the Federal Government of Nigeria is working assiduously to narrow the gap between confiscated assets abroad and the actual assets returned to the country.

Malami, therefore, called for International Cooperation in facilitating Mutual Legal Assistance for tracing, freezing, seizing, confiscating and return to Nigeria proceeds of corruption stashed abroad.

Malami made the call while virtually delivering Nigeria's Country Statement at the 14th United Nations Crime Congress held in Kyoto, Japan.

According to the Minister there was the need for the international community to demonstrate political will in removing all barriers and obstacles to the full implementation of the provisions of United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) particularly Article 51 on Asset Recovery and Return, including cases that make use of settlements or other non-trial resolutions.

Malami stressed further that "Our major objective should be to narrow the gap between confiscated assets and actual assets returned to their legitimate owners". He said Nigeria was hopeful that the adoption of the Political Declaration on crime

prevention and criminal justice will spur more action and greater efforts in crime prevention and criminal justice.

While maintaining Nigeria's commitments to the 2030 Agenda, Malami pointed out that Nigeria continues take measures to fulfill her obligations under the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) and United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) by improving domestic conditions through comprehensive Strategic Action Plan.

"Nigeria condemns cybercrimes and terrorism in all manifestations and calls on states to strengthen cooperation at all levels to combat the threat posed by terrorism through enhancement of timely information sharing, logistical support and capacity-building activities to affected states, including combating the linkage between terrorism and corruption, illicit financial flows, cybercrime and trafficking in drugs," he said.

Malami said Nigeria develops laws and policies to prevent crime and ensure justice for victims, offenders and society.

"Nigeria is simultaneously addressing the socio-economic challenges at the root of crimes. It is, therefore, pertinent to underscore the importance of more international community investment in stakeholders' capacity building in order to improve crime prevention and criminal justice efforts," he said.



## AGF advances measures to tackle global illicit financial flows

**A**ttorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN says in order to address the challenges of illicit financial flows internationally, there was the need to enhance consensus building and multilateral approach in Africa and beyond.

Malami made this remark in a goodwill message at the International Conference on Illicit Financial Flows (IFFS) and Assets Recovery organised by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) holding 18th and 19th May, 2021 in Abuja.

"There is no doubt that international and regional cooperation is key in achieving this goal as no country can do it alone. Therefore, we must all work together. This is what the



**Abubakar Malami (SAN)**  
Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice

Financial and Accountability, Transparency and Integrity (FACTI) Panel's report released in February 2021 is telling us.

"How we meet the recommendations of the panel in order to achieve the 2030 Agenda for sustainable Development is a global and regional challenge," he said.

Malami who was represented by Special Assistant to the President on Justice Reform and International Relations, Mrs. Juliet Ibekaku said the government was working to ensure that the recovered assets benefit all Nigerians through investment in social development programs and infrastructure.





## ECOWAS Court Dismissed SERAP's Case Prosecuted by Falana against FG

**T**he Community Court of Justice of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has dismissed six year application (ECW/CCJ/JUD/08/21) filed by the registered trustees of the Socio-Economic Rights and Accountability Project (SERAP) against the Federal Government.

In a judgment which was delivered on 26th April, 2021 the Court which was presided over by Hon. Justice Edward Amoaka ASANTE comprising two other members including Hon. Justice Gberi-Be OUTATTARA and Hon. Justice Januaria T. Silva Moreira COSTA declared the application inadmissible.

SERAP through its solicitors; Olufunmilola Falana (Mrs) Esq, Olusola Egbeyinka, Esq of Falana and Falana Chambers had on 4th April, 2016 filed an application at the ECOWAS against “violation of human rights of Nigerians and other individuals”.

Such rights according to the applicants included the rights to life, to security of the human persons, to the respect of the dignity inherent in a human being and right of property, guaranteed by Articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 14 of the African Charter, Articles 1, 2, 3, 7, 8 and 17 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Articles 2 and 6(1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

The Federal Government solicitors; T.A Gazali, SAN and Adedayo Ogundele, Esq all of the Office of the Attorney General of the Federation, Federal Ministry of Justice, Abuja advanced responses ranging from:

- (a) Denying committing any violation against some groups,
- (b) Settlement of compensation, and
- (c) Contention that most of the issues were either settled, or at the appeal courts for further interpretation and final resolution.

The Court further maintained that even where jurisdiction of Court is established, according to Article 10(d) of the Supplementary Protocol of the Court as amended, an application whose subject matter concerns human rights violation shall only be admissible when three criteria are met: the Applicant's status as “victims” must be established, the non-anonymity of the application and the absence of litis pendency before another international Court or Tribunal.

According to the judgment:

“The Applicant having purportedly initiated the instant action

on behalf of a community or group which lacks proper identification, Applicant's locus standing in the matter cannot be sustained to admit the case for determination.

“Consequently, the action cannot be admitted under such a fatal capacity of the Applicant and same is dismissed in its entirety”.

“It must be further observed that the Applicant NGO has not been directly affected by the alleged violations, therefore it does not fulfill the requirement of being a victim on its own right”.

The Court judgment further stated that “the only ground to admit the case is on proof of the action being action popularis. However, the principles of public interest litigation and action popularis appear non-applicable to this case since the rights complained of, such as the right to life, to property, etc which primarily belongs to the victims and may only be claimed by them or their next-of-kins where necessary, have not been succinctly linked to the general public interest contemplated in the context of an action popularis.

**“ Applicant's locus standing in the matter cannot be sustained to admit the case for determination ”**

“In the instant case, all the communities or groups on whose behalf the action is purportedly initiated to vindicate any alleged violations of their rights have themselves already taken various legal steps to remedy any wrongs if any.

The applicant case fails to clearly establish any community or groups whose public interest is allegedly breached and needs vindication as claimed,” the Court declared.

Responding to the development, the Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami described the judgment as a clear vindication of the Federal Government's efforts towards respecting human rights and international conventions.

Therefore, Malami renewed the commitment of the Office of the Attorney General of the Federation and that of the Federal Government to protecting the rights of citizens in ramifications as well as protecting the public interest in the discharge of constitutionally recognized mandate.





that the public trust reposed in me is not destroyed but objectively sustained even when subjected to the public perception of other opinion shapers such as the Press, the Societal Elites, opposition Politicians and even the Non-Governmental Organizations," he said.

Malami noted that during the P&ID he "sadly, as duty calls, I have also had to personally make Deposition on Oath before the English Courts on far-reaching allegations of fraud and corruption against a Senior Member of the Nigerian Bar; a Brother Silk! all out of attempts to promote public interest as against an individual or private interest".

Such, he said was the weight of responsibility imposed on the Attorney General of the Federation.

# All AGF **toil** through thorny terrains - *Malami*

**A**ttorneys General of the Federation and Ministers of Justice in Nigeria have to toil and travail through thorny terrains and are generally vilified in their quest to serve public interest while in office.

Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN made this known in Sokoto on Monday while delivering a lecture "Justice Dispensation in Nigeria: Navigating Through Thorny Terrain" at the annual Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) legal week.

This is contained in a statement by Dr. Umar Jibrilu Gwandu, Special Assistant on Media and Public Relations, Office of the Attorney-General of the Federation and made available to newsmen.

"The task entrusted on the shoulders of whoever is the Attorney General of a nation so diversified and complex like ours, with responsibility for the maintenance of the Constitution and all Laws made by the National Assembly could be daunting and extremely enormous in view of public interest vis-à-vis conflicting interests of private entities," he said.

Malami said this was the rationale for the Office being the only Ministerial position specifically provided in the 1999 Constitution.

In this wise, he said, Section 150 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) provides that there shall be an Attorney General of the Federation who shall be the Chief Law Officer of the Federation and a Minister of the Government of the Federation.

"I have modestly towed this same path of honour and will in the following paragraphs attempt to state some of our achievements and explain the challenges of carrying out the enormous responsibilities of the Office in National Interest while maintaining fair dealings with political associates, professional colleagues, and other stakeholders while ensuring

## Insecurity: Nigeria, US Harp on Positive Messaging



Ambassador of the United State of America to Nigeria; Mary Beth Leonard, and the Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice Abubakar Malami, SAN

**F**ederal Government of Nigeria and United States of America have identified positive messaging and consensus building among Executive, Legislature and Judiciary as part of ways to address security challenges in the country.

This was the hallmark of bilateral discussion between the Ambassador of the United State of America to Nigeria; Mary Beth Leonard, and the Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice Abubakar Malami, SAN.

At a meeting held at the Office of the Attorney General of the Federation in Abuja. The two nations emphasized the need for effective partnership in ensuring safe, secured and prosperous Nigeria.

According to the two nations laws are meant to achieve collective peace among people and governance about improving the welfare of the majority of the people maintaining that holistic approach is needed in striking balance between public interest and rights of individual citizens.

Malami expressed satisfaction with the support and mutual understanding between Nigeria and the United States of America in the fight against corruption, repatriation of looted funds and extradition of people involved in terrorism financing.

Responding, the US Ambassador Mary Beth Leonard expressed willingness and determination of the United States of America to Support Nigeria in the fight against insecurity in the county.





Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN  
and Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary- General For West Africa and Sahel, Mahamat Saleh Annadif

## Nigeria, Cameroon Committed to Border Demarcation - *Malami*

**F**ederal Government of Nigeria says it is committed to finalization of the boundary demarcation exercise between Nigeria and Cameroon.

Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN made this known while receiving the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary- General For West Africa and Sahel, Mahamat Saleh Annadif who paid him courtesy call .

“I wish to assure you that the Nigerian Delegation is confident that under your leadership, the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission (CNMC) will continue to achieve more success in its efforts to permanently demarcate the boundary between Cameroon and Nigeria in line with the Judgment of the International Court of Justice and other relevant Treaties and Declarations,” Malami has said.

Malami expressed optimism that the steps taken in resolving the outstanding areas of disagreement on the boundary, between Cameroon and Nigeria the boundary will be fully and legally demarcated distant time.

According to the Minister, it will be appreciated if all aspects of the disagreed areas of boundary between Nigeria and Cameroon are resolved and demarcated in accordance with the judgment of the International Court of Justice without fear or favour.

Malami said the proposed session of the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission (CNMC) that will be convened soon in Yaounde will pave the way for landmark achievements including the demarcation exercised.

In his remarks, Mahamt Saleh Annadif said his visit has opened an outstanding chapter in the international relations and diplomacy with a view to promoting peace among brother nations.

He said the engagement is a proof that African problems can be solved using African solutions by Africans empassing on the cordiality of the relationship and mutual understanding between the Two neighbouring countries.



Special Representatives of the United Nations Secretary- General For West Africa  
on a courtesy visit to AGF, Abubakar Malami (SAN)

## Editorial Team

Editor-In-Chief

**Abubakar Malami, SAN**

Honourable Attorney-General of the Federation (HAGF)

Associate Editor

**Mohammed Umar Etsu, Esq.**

Ag. Solicitor General/Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice

Editor

**Dr. Umar Jibrilu Gwandu**

(SA, Media & Public Relations)

Office of the Honourable Attorney-General of the Federation (OHAGF)

Deputy Editor

**Mrs. Ogundoro T. Modupe**

Deputy Director, Press





## TECHNOLOGY DEPLOYMENT ENHANCES SPEEDY JUSTICE DELIVERY SYSTEM -MALAMI

**T**he Honourable Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami SAN has asserted that the launch of Q-Soft Denovo Court Recording System will in no doubt enhance delivery of Justice in Nigeria by reducing delay tactics by lawyers, improve court output, reduce travelling of court witnesses and reduce cost deployment.

Malami made the assertion at the launch of Q-Soft Denovo Court Recording System (CRS) in his Conference room on Monday 26th July, 2021.

He explained that the Q-Soft Denovo Court Recording System, a technology based audio-visual recording and reporting technology is aimed at improving the speed and accuracy of court proceedings.

According to him, “a major challenge to the Nigerian Court system and processes was taking of notes manually which has led to slow dispensation of justice. This phenomenon has further engendered a plethora of issues such as backlog of cases, loss of investment and dwindling confidence of Nigerians in the judiciary”. He revealed that it was against this background that “the Federal Ministry of Justice is collaborating with Funmilayo A. Quadri & Co. to launch the Q-Soft Denovo CRS”.

He further explained that some of the key features of the Q-Soft Denovo Court Recording System include but not limited to audio, video, recording devices, registrar and judges annotations, multiple microphones and cameras, customisable reports, analysis and performance evaluation based on key performance indicators and in real-time converts speech to text with 90% accuracy amongst other notable effective features tailored specifically for the Nigerian court system and processes.

Malami used the opportunity of the launch to assure the public of the Federal Government’s dedication towards strengthening the Nigerian Court System.

The brain behind the technology, Mrs. Funmilayo A. Quadri SAN, explained that the intention of her team was to help the judiciary and judges to do a better job of dispensation of justice. She mentioned Malaysia, South Africa, United States of America, United

“ a major challenge to the Nigerian Court system and processes was taking of notes manually which has led to slow dispensation of justice. This phenomenon has further engendered a plethora of issues such as backlog of cases, loss of investment and dwindling confidence of Nigerians in the judiciary”. ”

Kingdom and Thailand as some of the countries her team visited to understudy the technology in use in those places. She highlighted some of the advantages of Q-soft Denovo to include but not limited to 100% proudly Nigerian Solution, increasing the number of cases heard in court, reducing deliberate delay tactics easy to maintain, reduced cost of deployment and reduced travelling of witnesses, among others.

