

AFRICA NETWORK FOR ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

A quarterly newsletter of the Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice

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Editorial

- **Rev David Ugolor**, *executive editor*
- **Leo Atakpu**, *deputy executive editor*
- **Bob MajiriOghene Etemiku**, *editor-in-chief*.
- **Ovie Assurance**, *reporter/correspondent*.

ANEEJ PARTNERS PUBLIC EYE TO FIGHT DIRTY FUEL FROM SWITZERLAND

Public Eye formerly Berne Declaration, report « *Dirty Diesel: How Swiss Traders Flood Africa with Toxic Fuels* » shows how Swiss commodity trading companies take advantage of weak fuel standards in Africa to produce, deliver and sell diesel and gasoline which is damaging to people's health. Swiss traders are very important fuel importers in Nigeria and some of them even own petrol stations now. No fuels were sampled for our report even, because at the time of sampling no petrol stations were owned by Swiss traders. Vitol only acquired Oando in 2015 together with Nigeria's second most important network of petrol stations. However, evidence from samples taken in other West African countries between 2013-2015 shows that Swiss traders typically sell fuels with a sulphur level of up to

27 times the European standard for gasoline and close to 400 times the European standard for diesel. Despite this lack of samples, we have no reason to believe Swiss traders import fuel in Nigeria which is of considerably better quality than elsewhere in West Africa. The relatively high Nigerian standard on the sulphur content of fuels (3,000 ppm for diesel and 1,000 ppm for gasoline) indicates that the situation in Nigeria is probably the same as in other countries supplied by Swiss traders in the region. From 15th –16th September 2016, and led by its executive director, ANEEJ carried out a massive campaign in the city of Abuja, Nigeria's capital. The objective was to sensitise Nigerians on the dangers that dirty fuel from Switzerland posed, especially since 4 cities in Nigeria—Kaduna, Onitsha, Umuahia



Berne Declaration

and Aba - had been designated by the World Economic Forum as the most air polluted cities in Africa. Highpoint of the campaign against Dirty Fuels in Africa was a World press Conference addressed by the Rev David Ugolor. In attendance at the world press conference were media representatives as well as representative of the Honourable minister of the environment. Excerpts of the press statement can be found on ANEEJ site: <http://www.aneej.org/world-press-conference-africa-network-environment-economic>

EMULATE THE UK ON ASSET RECOVERY, ANEEJ TASKS THE US AND EU

ANEEJ has expressed satisfaction with the memorandum of understanding, MOU, which the UK government recently signed with the Nigerian government, to facilitate the return of all stolen funds from Nigeria hidden in forty jurisdictions of the United Kingdom including

its overseas territories and crown dependencies. A representative of the UK Government said that the pledge to return the Nigerian loot is a follow-up on the commitment made by the UK Government at the London Anti-Corruption Summit in London in May.

The expression of satisfaction was made by the Rev David Ugolor, Executive Director of ANEEJ, as a reaction to the MOU signed between the Nigerian and UK governments to work together to mop up Nigerian loot stashed in safe havens all over the world.

See full statement here:

<http://www.aneej.org/emulate-uk>

ANE EJ/RAPEWATCH DEBUTS WITH BUSTED...!

ANE EJ has produced a video skit, the first of its kind in the organization, on the rape menace. It is titled BUSTED. At the Homevida Workshop for Scriptwriters/Filmmakers at the Pan At-

lantic University school of Media and Communication, Lagos 15th - 16th September 2016, BUSTED received critical reviews by top notch Film and Video producer, Chris Odeh of Sozo Film Academy. According to Chris, 'Apart from the fact that BUSTED has thematic and social relevance, it easily captures the mood of society and tries to proffer solutions. It has issues with sound and lighting but as a first movie I give it thumbs up'.

Set in Benin City, it has a story of corruption and abuse of power along three educational institutions: primary, secondary and university. Teachers and lectures solicit for sex from students. Eventually, all of them were busted through a collaborative effort of parents, civil society organizations and the security services.

The Premier/release of this ANEEJ debut movie as a tool of advocacy will be carried out soon. WATCH OUT...!



Head of School of Media & Communication, PAU, discussing BUSTED

Executive director the Rev David Ugolor, a senior advisor of the African Bar Association on Corruption and Governance and graduate of the University of Sussex Centre for the study of Corruption and Governance, UK, is billed to attend all of the events on behalf of ANEEJ.

PRESIDENCY INVITES ANEEJ AS THINK-TANK

Sequel to the Anti-Corruption in May 2016 organised by former British PM, David Cameron, together with follow-up anti-corruption activities embarked upon by the Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice, ANEEJ, the Presidential Advisory Committee Against Corruption, PACA, has invited ANEEJ to be part of a

think-tank which will facilitate the effective engagement of relevant stakeholders in Mr Buhari's administration.

In a letter signed by Prof. Bolaji Owasanoye, Executive Secretary of the PACA, ANEEJ will be part of a the think-tank of top NGOs in Nigeria which will take part in a one-day interactive session

planning a broad range of activities for the year 2017. Specifically, the PACA seeks to:

elicit objective feedbacks from CSOs on PACAC's activities for the last one year and

get constructive suggestions on how to make PACAC more effective within the next one year.

ANE EJ VISITS TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

At Transparency International UK Roundtable on Legal Resources to fight corruption today. Exploratory Meeting to discuss the

role of civil society to use innovative legal framework to recover stolen

Assets stashed in Western banks.



Rev Ugolor with an official of the TI in the UK 7th October, 2016

ANEEJ MONITORS EDO ELECTIONS

28TH September, 2016.

In collaboration with the Centre for Democracy and Development, CDD, ANEEJ assisted with the monitoring of the Edo State governorship Election. As part of our initiatives at transparency and opening the space up for all parties involved in the elections, ANEEJ organised an interactive session with 19 governorship aspirants with Civil Society organizations in Edo state. At the end thereof, there was a white paper compiled by ANEEJ

monitoring and evaluations experts, Charles Iyare and Ovie Assurance.

ANEEJ staffs were armed with iPhones, and they relayed reports/photos to a central base coordinated by the CDD. Even though there were isolated incidences of cash inducement the elections were largely peaceful.

The outcome of the election was that the candidate of the All Progressives Congress, Mr. Godwin Obaseki, was declared winner, while his



Edo governorship election, September 28, 2016

rival Pastor Ize-Iyamu has challenged the outcome of the elections and will proceed to the election tribunal

NIGERIA AND AN ECONOMY ON TENTERHOOKS—BY CHARLES IYARE

The Mo Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG) has released the 2016 governance statistics for African countries. A highpoint of this year's survey is the celebration of the 10th year anniversary of the IIAG and the humanitarian contribution of its leader, Dr. Mo Ibrahim in supporting economic growth in Africa. The organiza-

tion provides tools to support progress in leadership and governance in Africa, through its economic, developmental programs. While we celebrate the impact of such an illustrious icon who has shown continuous support for Africa's economic growth over a decade, this year's assessment has seen Nigeria in the familiar position of

36th among 54 African countries. For a decade, Nigeria has constantly lagged behind in the IIAG rating. Among development practitioners, our rating behind less endowed countries raises fundamental issues: why is our economy always standing on tenterhooks? Find out more here: <http://www.aneej.org/nigeria-economy-tenterhooks/>

Leadership must be seen as true service to one's country, and not an avenue for the few to enrich themselves

REPORT UNTIL SOMETHING HAPPENS

High Profile Corruption Cases involving politically exposed persons who have been arraigned since 2007 are still in court. Why? Several factors like frequent adjournments, too many charges filed, weak evidence and frequent changes of counsels.

To resuscitate these dormant cases, the Department for International Development, Dfid, under the J4A programme organized a three-day strategy

meeting to try to put the cases at the front burner of national discourse. The Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice, ANEEJ, led a team of four journalists from TELL Magazine, Vanguard Newspaper, The Authority Newspaper



CSOs and Journalist @J4A

and Daily Independent. The thrust of the 3-day seminar was for CSOs like ANEEJ to coordinate the journalists writing about these high profile corruption cases.

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Vision

Africa without poverty.

Mission

To contribute to the emergence of a just and equitable Africa society through socio-economic and environmental right protection, institutional strengthening and people empowerment.

ABOUT ANEEJ



The Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEEJ) is a non-government organization whose goal is to amplify the voice of the weak, the less privileged and the marginalized groups in the society including women and youths, in order to increase their participation in the democratic decision-making process. As its basis, ANEEJ believes in a democratic system for managing human interest and operates within two broad focal areas namely environmental and economic justice. Specifically, ANEEJ implements projects relating to governance and democracy, human rights (including migration and development issues) and anti-corruption, peace building and conflict resolution, environment including water, sanitation and hygiene among others. ANEEJ worked with over 100 civil society organizations while hosting the Secretariat of the Publish What You Pay (PWYP) Campaign, Nigeria from 2004-2008 and the Nigerian Network on Stolen Assets. The organization also coordinated CSOs that were involved in monitoring repatriated Late General Sani Abacha loots under the Public Expenditure Management and Financial Accountability Review (PEMFAR), a tripartite agreement between the World Bank, Civil Society and Nigerian governments. ANEEJ in 2003 established the Society for Water and Sanitation (NEWSAN), a coalition of over 300 CSOs working in the area of Water and Sanitation. ANEEJ is currently engaging the Nigerian government, international community as well as local and international civil society groups on the recovery of stolen assets to finance development.

CONVENE A STAKEHOLDERS MEETING TO SAVE THE JUDICIARY, ANEEJ URGES NBA & NJC

The Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEEJ) has frowned on the sundry cases of counter-judgments on political cases, and has called on the Nigeria Bar Association, NBA, and the National Judicial Commission, NJC, to convene a stakeholders meeting to arrest the obnoxious trend. ANEEJ position was made known by the Rev David Ugolor, in a statement released to the media, as a reaction to the recent Abuja division of the Court of Appeal that nullified an earlier judgment by a Federal High Court, which sacked Dr. Okezie Ikpeazu as governor of Abia State. ANEEJ believes that the incessant flip-flops in the judicial pronouncements tend to be politically motivated rather than based on legal precedents, antecedents and precepts. 'Justice is one of the pillars upon which humanity stands. It must not be bought and sold. If the perception that it can be politically driven gains ground, then it no longer is the hope of the common man. The Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) must intervene and convene a stakeholders seminar or meeting to give the NJC powers to redeem the image and reputation the judiciary as the arm of government which interprets the law impartially and fairly', the Rev David Ugolor said.

See full statement here: <http://www.aneej.org/2379-2/>