



15th May, 2018.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF A ONE-DAY VALIDATION WORKSHOP ON THE INDEPENDENT CIVIL SOCIETIES' REPORT ON PROJECTS BY NIGER DELTA INSTITUTIONS IN PORT HARCOURT, RIVERS STATE.

On Tuesday 15th of May, 2018, a coalition of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) led by Leadership Initiative for Transformation and Empowerment (LITE-AFRICA) and Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEEJ) held a workshop to validate an independent report by CSOs on projects executed by Niger Delta Institutions (NDIs) including the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs (MNDA), Delta State Oil Producing Area Development Commission (DESOPAC), Edo State Oil and Gas Producing Area Development Commission (EDSOGPADEC), Imo State Oil Producing Areas Development Commission (ISOPADEC) and Abia State Oil Producing Area Development Commission (ASOPADEC).

The meeting held at Dannic Hotels, GRA Phase 2, Port Harcourt, Rivers State and had in attendance CSOs from all nine (9) states of the Niger Delta region who had participated in the monitoring of the projects and production of the report. Also present were officials of the NDDC who had been invited to participate in validating the report.

Following the formal presentation of the report and extensive feedback and deliberations thereon, the following resolutions were reached:

1. That NDDC will provide a formal response to the findings in the report within two weeks of the workshop. The response shall constitute part of the final report to be formally released in the coming weeks.
2. That the release of the final report shall take place at a roundtable to be held in Abuja. The roundtable will be a platform for CSOs and NDDC to jointly address various issues that have ramifications for development efforts in the Niger Delta. A joint World Press Conference would also be held to disseminate the outcome of the roundtable event.
3. That NDDC will commence a comprehensive CSOs consultation process within one month of the workshop. The process shall encompass all nine (9) states in

the Niger Delta region with the underlying objective of aggregating meaningful civil society input in the policies, projects and activities of the Commission.

4. That CSOs and NDDC will continue to participate in meaningful engagement with each other to review the implementations of decisions and actions taken as a follow-up to the outcomes of the workshop and on other issues generally, for the development of the region and its people.

Signed:

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REV. DAVID UGOLOR

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